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Editorial

Walid Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf
Chief Editor

WHEN TIME HAS NO MEANING..

I dedicate this view point to answering a question that jumps to the minds of many visitors and foreigners who come to Yemen. That question is, "why are developments and improvements so slow in Yemen?" It is the immediate question that comes to mind when seeing that Hayel Street has been suffering from floating of sewage all over the area, with the same smell intensifying and getting worse year after year. It also is asked when looking at how the very same neighborhoods suffer from the lack of water services that have been promised years ago. The same question arises again when looking at the traffic at Al-Tahrir where you could barely cross the road because of crazy cars and 'dabbabs' here and there moving around as if they were in a race zone. We see that things have stayed the same over the years.

For example, walking into Hayel street gives you the impression that people like it that way, even if the poisonous gases flow in the air 24 hours a day, they simply don't care. Dabbabs (minibuses) in that street are used to go through the messy areas that were created by the fluids emerging from the sewage pits here and there. The way cars move around making crossing the street a risky task sometimes, gives the impression that traffic authorities in the country have been promoting this over the years. What is going on in this country? Why aren't we able to improve? What is holding us back?

A straightforward answer is, "because we were raised to be passive, do what we are told, and if we are still alive, we don't care to make our conditions better." The process starts from childhood, when mothers show no care for their children when walking in the streets bare footed with dirty -or no- clothes on them throwing stones on cars and playing around with mud, etc. When a child with such a childhood grows up, he continues to walk barely footed and with dirty clothes insulting this person and that.

A Yemeni is taught at school to only do his homework in the same old fashion, he is never told to promote his own ideas, or develop new solutions. Consequently, when he grows up, his job routine is repeated every day. He goes to work at 8:00 am and comes back at 2:00 pm, chews qat, sleeps, and so on. He never thinks that he should develop new ideas, or improve his standard of living by learning another profession, or even developing more skills in his work. The same implies for 'dabbab' drivers. As long as they get the money enough for qat and food, they just continue living on with the same routine without even thinking of earning money and obtaining their own dabbabs instead of working for someone else. It sometimes reaches the extent where if a driver's fuel cover is lost, he just covers it with plastic bags, until the bag is torn apart, he gets another plastic bag. In other words, he doesn't think of buying a new cover for his car. There are yet many and many examples that share something common, and that is, Yemenis are taught to be passive and continue doing what they do without improving themselves.

This passiveness while being an obstacle in front of the development of Yemen, it has become a chance for creative person to rise and be successful in such an environment. This is what happened to many businessmen who took advantage of the laziness of the majority and worked hard to establish new businesses and enterprises, that in time grew fast and brought them prosperity. These people are the ones who become successful, and they are the ones that are valued in developed countries. If every minister continued to live with the same old mentality (mentioned above,) what would we expect? But if creative and hard working people replaced them, we expect the country to flourish and begin competing with other countries in the area.

I have been asked many times why Yemen Times improved in such a short time of 9 years. All I had to say was, "because it hires creative people. Because we give freedom to develop, improve, and bring about good changes."

This creativity is what we need, and it is what our children should be taught at schools. Let them for once begin feeling they have minds that should be used instead of doing just what they are told. Let us give them the opportunity to invent to do something that is out of the routine work. Only then, will our country have hope for development.

Yemenis are smart and clever, however, they are not given the chance to use their minds. They have been educated in a way that kills talents, ambitions, and any hope for self-improvement.

Again I repeat, the cornerstone for any future is in our children, we need to begin acting now if we want any change to the better. We need to implement a good educational system that would convert our citizens from passive creatures who live to eat, to creative intellectuals who can build a modern state.

Words of Wisdom

"The Republic of Yemen is an example of a nation trying the twin transformation (of Democratization & Development.) Democratization proceeds along with economic reforms. Unfortunately, the perception is that the economic reforms are not doing well. Unemployment, especially among the young, is growing; poverty is hitting hard leading to serious malnutrition; the infrastructure is falling apart due to lack of maintenance; inflation continues to haunt Yemenis, especially the fixed and/or low income people; etc."

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



In Brief

Archaeological Discovery in Shabwah

After a long period of searching, the French-Italian delegation discovered archaeological sites in Shabwah governorate, dating to 2000- years. The delegation discovered a temple of some goddess in Qataban States. They found pottery, sculptures and gems at that place. During the first drilling, which extended from December 5, 1999 to January 4, 2000, they discovered Tomno'a city, the capital of Qataban State. The discovery was a temple of goddess, which was called 'Athbert'. There are variegation drawn on the Northern gate of the temple. They also discovered the Eastern side of the temple, which appeared clear with some white walls. It appears clear through drilling that this temple was built in different stages. The temple was destroyed in some periods. It was built in three stages. The oldest period relates to the fifth century B.C and the others relate to the end of the first century B.C and the first century A.C. The delegation also discovered quantities of different kinds of pottery, and parts of sculptures, which are made of bronze, white ivory and iron.

Poverty Kills People in Hadramout

Journalistic releases have noticed that there is a number of people in 'Mahroh, in the city of Hajer in Hadramout governorate died because of the lack of food and malnutrition. The citizens who came from there illustrated that this area is the poorest area in the governorate of Hadramout. They have mentioned that the authorities did not do anything to help those poor people. The area is deprived healthy, agricultural and developing program. The other citizens who live there are threatened by contagious diseases. It has been noted that Hadramout governorate suffered from different diseases, but the authorities did not do their duty towards citizens. We can say that negligence of authorities in the governorate caused all of these.

International Leprosy Day

The anniversary of

International Leprosy Day will take place on January 30, 2000. The National Project will organize a ceremony on January 29, 2000 at 10:00 a.m in its head center in Taiz. The Minister of Health and Governor of Taiz will attend the ceremony. The Minister of Health will honor Dr. Yassin Al-Qubati on this occasion. It has been noted that Yemeni Project of Leprosy Combating is one of the active projects in the Arab World. Dr. Qubati was asked by International Health Association to do many activities to combat Leprosy in some of Asian countries.

Scientific Conference in Hadramout University

The university of Science and Technology in Hadramout governorate will organize the first scientific conference about clay architecture in the 21st century. This conference will take place from February 10 to 12, 2000. In addition to the Yemeni universities, there are a number of the Arab and international universities, which will participate in this conference like Emirates, Saudi, Iraq, Britain and UNESCO for culture and arts.

The conference will seek for mechanism of development of architecture. It will deal with the designing and planning characteristics of the clay buildings, and the way through which we can preserve them. The conference also will make a comparative study between those buildings and the new style of the modern buildings. There will be an inauguration of the big exhibition of clay architecture in Yemen, and other activities in the cities of Sayoun, Tareem and Shibam.

Symposium on Human Rights to be Held in Sana'a

Organized by the High Commissariat for Human Rights belonging to the United Nations and with cooperation with the High National Committee for Human Rights in the Republic of Yemen a seminar titled "The Economic, Social, Cultural Rights And the Right of Development in Asia - Pacific District" is going to be held on February 5-

YT Weekly Opinion Poll

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

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)?

Result
Yes, he will decide to form a new coalition government headed by a new Prime Minister. 20%
No, he will maintain the same government and maybe will apply minor and insignificant changes. 80%

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION
Why is the government simply not able to stop kidnapping incidents from occurring?

7, 2000 in Sana'a. The delegation will be headed by Mary Robenson.

The symposium objectives are to focus on implementation of these rights and procedures top be taken on the regional as well as international level. The participating countries are Asian countries and Pacific countries.

Faisal Saeed Attends Cairo Book Exhibition

Mr. Faisal Saeed Fare Director-General of Al-Saeed Institution for Science and Culture has left the country for Cairo to attend the Cairo International Book Exhibition which will start on January 25. Mr. Faisal is looking for new titles to be added to the Al-Saeed Public Library in Taiz. Mr. Faisal will also take the advantage of being in Cairo to invite a number of Egyptian and Arab intellectuals to attend the ceremony of inaugurating the Al-Saeed Library and the ceremony of announcing winners of Faisal Saeed Anam's Prize for Science and Literature.

Evaluation of Students of Medicine

Three professors from Liverpool University, Britain are expected to visit Yemen at the end of January 2000. During the visit, the professors will evaluate students of medi-

cine in Sanaa, Aden and Dhamar Universities as well as University of Science and Technology and present a report to Dr. Abdullah Abdul Wali Nashir, Minister of Public Health. Dr. Nashir graduated from the same university which accepted his request of the visit of the three professors. Expenses of the visit will be covered by the British Council and the Ministry of Health.

New Journalistic Card, next Month

The Yemeni Journalists Syndicate will hold a meeting on February 7, 2000, chaired by Mr. Mahboob Ali, Chairman of the syndicate. Mr. Hassan Abdulwarith, secretary of the syndicate said that the meeting will deal with the date of determining of new card distribution campaign. He added that it is expected the campaign may begin in the capital city of Sana'a and continue to the branches of the syndicate in Lahij, Aden, Hadramout, Taiz, Abyan and Hodeidah.

On the other hand, an agreement was signed between the syndicate and the Arab Institution for Human Rights in order to organize cooperative session to improve awareness and culture in the field of human rights in Sana'a during the last few months.

Continued from Page 1:

2 Killed In Hajja

Many social dignitaries assembled Sunday including Sultan Al-Barakani, member of Parliament to discuss the case, however results of this gathering were not known yet. Informed sources in Hajjah told Yemen Times that security forces were able to arrest 12 convicted people in the killing. However, this news were not confirmed by the official sources. This is done after a solidarity campaign was leashed two days ago included all districts directors to have a one firm stand in regard to the case.

YEMEN CLUB FOR TOURING & AUTOMOBILE (YCTA)

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A Campaign Launched by Yemen Times

"Let's Join Hands to Save Adnan's Life"

As a patient with the disease of hemophilia, Adnan Al-Nidhari, 29, has since his childhood faced bruising, painful internal bleeding, potential joint damage, and complete dependency on regular blood product injections to supply him with the clotting factor missing from his blood. However, during the last five months, his case has deteriorated and turned to a severe hemophilia. He is currently surviving with the total dependence on the blood that is injected to him on a regular basis. However, his family is running out of money, and the blood available in the area will not be enough for him to live long.

If Adnan is not taken to a hemophilia treatment center within a few months, he will most probably die without any cure. We as Yemen Times, ask you as our readers to join hands and start providing whatever assistance you can to save this young man's life. We have raised a campaign for Adnan under the slogan "Joining hands to Save Adnan's life", which we hope will secure the USD 50,000 needed for his treatment abroad. The campaign is planned to continue until the money is collected, and all the participants, even with small amounts of money will be honored by Yemen Times when Adnan comes back from his medical treatment, with a hopeful future.



A Report saying that treatment in France is vital for Adnan's survival

All Embassies, international organizations, businessmen, and readers are encouraged to participate in this campaign. We have hope in saving his life, and we know that will do something for him. Anything you give will contribute to saving his life. Contribute also by telling others about this.

Call us at 268661 and ask for Anwar Al-Sayyadi, or send us an email to save_adnan@yementimes.com & get Adnan closer to saving his life.

"Let's Join Hands to Save Adnan's Life": A Campaign launched by Yemen Times for a Humane purpose to save a young man's life.

Message from the Director General of UNESCO on the occasion of the International Year for the Culture of Peace

The century now coming to a close has seen remarkable progress in science, technology and communication. Unfortunately, however, it has failed to put an end to the practices of violence and war. For this reason the year 2000 has been declared by the United Nations as the International Year for the culture of Peace.

More than a half century ago, UNESCO was created with the mission to build the defenses of peace in the minds of men. Its founders provided it with an effective arsenal for peace whose linchpins are education, science, culture and communication. Municipalities, schools, institutions and associations in every corner of the world are putting into practice the values of a culture of peace. They are trying to eradicate poverty and reduce inequalities by striving to achieve sustainable development and respect for human rights, reinforcing democratic institutions, promoting freedom of expression, improving the status of women and preserving cultural diversity and the environment.

Peace cannot be guaranteed exclusively by political, economic or military agreements. In the final analysis it depends upon the unanimous, sincere and sustained engagement of people. Each one of us, no matter what age, sex, social position, religious affiliation or cultural origin is called upon to create a peaceful world.

Peace can only be achieved through our behaviour, attitudes and everyday acts. The culture of peace is the universal culture that is shared by all people. It is essential to our common humanity.

Together, let us construct this world of peace, beginning by signing Manifesto 2000 whereby each of us undertakes to practice the universal principles of culture of peace, non-violence and harmony in our family, our community and our place of work. Together, let us cultivate peace. Let us each ask ourselves, "what can we do for peace today?"

Koichiro Matsuura



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Yemeni Press Scanner



INTERNATIONAL NEWS DIGEST

RA'Y Sons of Yemen League

Security Issues Top Agenda
Informed sources told Ra'y that security arrangements in the area and solving the crisis of Somalia were at the top of agenda of summit that was held yesterday night by the presidents Saleh, Al-Bashir and Djele. These sources linked the meeting held by the National Council for Defense the day before and headed by the President and the topic of security arrangements in the area discussed at the summit. They added that discussion of the summit on the Somali crisis centered on initiative forwarded by Djibouti, by which the Somali fighting factions agree to surrender their arms and become political parties and take part in an election campaign through which a new legal regime shall emerge. The initiative give a special role to the intellectuals and the forcibly absent civil sections of the Somali society.

75 Victims of Violence in 10 Days in Al-Baidha and Shabwa

22 were killed and 35 injured in several violent incidents during the last 10 days [of holiday] in Shabwa and Baidha governorates. In Shabwa, 10 were killed and 3 injured on the Eid Al-Fitr (Lesser Bairam) in a fight between two tribes after one of them refused to forgive in a dispute that was started by children at their school.

A couple of days before one Ba-Haider man was killed by a man of the same tribe in a revenge case; the culprit's father was killed 20 years ago.

Another fighting between two branches of the Musa'abain tribe of Baihan left three killed and five injured. While five persons were injured at Habban when a man from Al-Mihdhar family opened fire after a dispute. At Al-Baidha a Suwadia district tribe opened fire on another killing three and injuring two. An attacker was also killed in the incident. After all it became clear later that the attacked group wasn't the one intended.

At Habban a big lorry carrying a number of workers towards Mayfa'ah was opened fire at. The lorry overturned, killing two and injuring 21.

At Hada location two women were killed after passing over a bomb. The women were shepherding their goats.

Abusive Acts Against Taiz Qat Sellers

Taiz Taxes, Housing and Municipality departments arranged a wide campaign of arrest affecting tens of nationals who make live by selling Qat. They were accused of activity outside outlined locations. Eyewitnesses at Taiz say that tens of people are subjected daily to abusive treatment that includes in addition to arrest confiscation of goods and high fines.

Local Taiz authorities had named three localities only as markets for Qat. All three locations are far from the center of Taiz.

AL-WAHDAWI Independent

The Arab People Observe Nasser Anniversary

Last Saturday the 16th. of January the Arab people observed the 82n anniversary of the birth of its leader Gamal Abdul Nasser amid full silence and disregard by the ruling governments in the Arab countries.

Nasser was born in 1918 during a time when the Arab clock was going counter clockwise all over the Arab homeland over which abhorrent foreign colonization was ruling. Nasser raised high the banners for change and freedom.

Between his birth and death on 28 December (sic) 1970, victories were clear landmarks in the history of Nasser and the Arab homeland.

The Safe Disappeared

An iron safe belonging to a Dutch project disappeared from the premises of the Ministry of Public Health without leaving any traces. Sources at the Ministry said that the safe was smuggled outside the Ministry and the incident was discovered only after the Eid holiday during the first day of work. But other sources raised doubts about the said timing, remarking that the disappearance of the safe which contained amounts of money that belonged to the Medicine Fund which is subsidized by the Dutch project might have been in the first day of duty after the holidays.

AL-BALAGH Independent

An Attempt To Torch Ma'bar Holy Koran School

An extremist group torched last Thursday the windows and some furniture of Al-Mua'yyad school for memorization drilling of the Holy Koran. If it were not due to the alertness a neighbor the school could have burnt completely. Al-Balagh is informed that two Ma'abar citizens are suspected to have caused the fire. The population of Jahran district has denounced the aggression calling upon security authorities to act firmly against such behavior.

AL-WAHDAH Official

Call For Normalization with Yemeni Jews Abroad

Depriving the Yemeni Jews at their countries of emigration including Israel from the right to keep their Yemeni nationality is definitely unconstitutional. Whatever are the reasons behind this regard by government of the rights of its nationals, the right of Yemeni Jews inside and outside Yemen to enjoy full Yemeni nationality is a right that can not be nullified depending on any causation. It is the duty of the government of Yemen to begin educating [the public] about this right and to end by setting up of the procedure for granting it and organizing such a process. More than 500,000 Yemeni Jews are up to now deprived of the right to feel that they belong to the breast of homeland. The state is obliged to mending this shortcoming and to treating the results caused by the alienation psychology especially those results regarding rights. Article by: Sanad Abdulla.

AL-GAMAHEER Ba'ath Party

Anti-Qat Taiz Moves Comfort Citizens

Taiz police began a campaign against Qat sellers at a number of city markets aiming at forcing them to leave those markets. The move comes in implementation of very high level instructions that selling of Qat within Taiz City should be abolished. Except for the main market at Usaifirah which is 7km. from down town. A number of citizens expressed their satisfaction with these measures saying that the result will be less traffic jams in Taiz.

AL-THAWRI Socialist Party

Disappeared 15 Years Ago after Leaving Security Police Position

Sheikhs and the people of Harf Sufian and Dhu Talea' tribe addressed a call to all human rights concerned organizations, authorities and civil society establishments and all dignitaries inside Yemen and abroad asking them to help the search for the civil pilot Captain Hadi Nasher Al-Sufiani who disappeared since 1985. The call remarked that the said pilot had worked with the political security police and was responsible for the

security zone around Sana'a up to the early eighties when he left for the United States where he studied civil aviation. He joined the Yemenia Airways later until his disappearance. But before that he asked the sheikhs to help him against what was called harassments by the political police. The statement pointed that the Harf Sufian sheikhs through their long search received different and controversial information. Some observers remark that the disappearance of the said person is related to the settlement of political disputes within the old regime of the Yemen Arab Republic, while others think that a better cause might be that he knew more than what he should, especially as he abandoned his police position and moved into a civil job.

26TH. SEPTEMBER Armed Forces Journal

President Saleh to Belgium and Canada

President Saleh shall pay an official visit to the Kingdom of Belgium at the beginning of next February. He shall conduct important talks with Belgian high officials aiming at enforcing bilateral cooperation between the two friendly countries. President Saleh shall receive also prominent Belgian and European businessmen, Investors and Media dignitaries.

Meetings shall be held also with the officials of the European Commission and the European Union in the light of the agreements made two years ago between Yemen and the European Union.

It is recalled that the European Parliament has witnessed last week the establishment of the 'Friends of Yemen' group by some very important European politicians. The Yemeni endeavor for democracy, human rights and press freedom attracts the attention of European countries and organizations.

Our newspaper is also informed that President Saleh shall visit Canada upon the invitation of the General Governor of Canada early march. His talks with High Canadian officials and businessmen aim at enforcing mutual cooperation and establishing additional development investments in a number of fields and discussing development cooperation between the two friendly nations.

American Band Performs In Yemeni Towns

The American Embassy and the Ministry of Culture and Tourism arrange a rich artistic and musical program by the end of January to be given by The American band 'Bop and Rave Levingestone'. The band is expected to arrive in Yemen by mid-next week and shall give a number of parties in the Capital, Aden and Taiz. The band is considered one of the most famous bands in the United States especially in Cowboy songs.

AL-UMMAH Al-Haq Party

Reports About Famine Death Cases in Hajr

Reports from Mahruh area in Hajr district, Hadhramout governorate say that several people died there because of undernourishment. Arrivals from this area to the district capital said that those living at Mahruh are very poor. The same area had witnessed in the near past the spread of famine and the local authorities have declined to fulfil their duties toward the people of this area which is deprived from any health, agricultural or development project.

Is Abu Hamzah Al-Masri Hiding in Abyan?

It was heard in the southern and southeastern areas that Abu Al-Hamzah Al-Masri is now in Abyan governorate. It is claimed that Al-Masri arrived in Aden after concluding

the Lesser Haj (Umrah) and moved into Abyan incognito. It is said that he is trying to revive the 'Jihad' group. It is recalled that Al-Masri is demanded by the Egyptian government, as he is one of the Arab 'Afghans' who had fought in Afghanistan. It is claimed that Abu Al-Hamzah holds the Yemeni nationality and is married to the daughter of a Marib sheikh where he dwells. He has been fleeing the authorities in Yemen for nearly one year.

Israeli Goods in Yemen

Some citizens have noticed Israeli goods offered for sale at Aden markets. It has been reported for some time now that checking these materials was never fully effective or forceful by the relevant authorities, which gives these (subsidized) goods multiple passage points into the country. Some reports say that these goods arrive through [Arab] Gulf countries and that they include clothes, electronics and mobile telephones that might bear the names of other countries [as countries of origin].

AL-AYYAM Independent

German Cooperation Minister Visits Yemen

The German Minister for Cooperation and Economic Development shall visit Yemen at the head of a 42 member high level delegation of Government, Parliament and Media dignitaries.

The delegation shall visit Aden governorate between 30th. January and 1st. February and hold meetings with the Governor and other high level local officials. The delegation shall pay visits to development projects financed by the Federal Republic of Germany including the National Technical Institute.

Body of Missing Russian General Found

Maj. Gen. Mikhail Malofeyev's body was found in the Chechen capital Grozny Sunday. The acting Russian President's aide Sergei Yastrzhembsky has told Interfax that the body was discovered at the place of the battle where Malofeyev died several days ago. Today, after bidding farewell to the general, his remains were sent to Vladikavkaz. Thus, the version that the general was taken prisoner falls off in full, Yastrzhembsky said.

Egypt Air crash to get up to \$116 million

EgyptAir's Chairman Mohamed Fahim Rayan said families of victims of flight 990, which crashed in October off the coast of Massachusetts, will receive 300 to 400 million pounds (\$87.2-\$116.3 million) in insurance, a daily newspaper reported on Saturday. The state-owned al-Gomhuria quoted Rayan as saying the families of the 217 victims could receive their insurance money immediately without having to wait for investigations into the crash to be concluded. It said 20 families had already received insurance from the state-owned Misr Insurance company, adding that the father of one of the victims received 476,000 pounds from the company. No comment was immediately available from EgyptAir.

One million protesters defy bomb attack in Madrid

More than one million people marched in central Madrid on Sunday to express outrage at what is feared to be a return to violence by Basque separatists. The demonstration came two days after a double car bombing shook Madrid. Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar marched beside Socialist opposition leaders, leading the demonstrators in a rare show of unity ahead of the March 12 general elections.

Libya to buy planes from Russia

As part of its efforts to modernize its fleet, Libyan Arab Airlines said on Sunday that it planned to acquire Russian transport and passenger planes. "We have decided to acquire a certain number of aircraft built by Russian manufacturers for transporting cargo and passengers," airline chief Sabri Shadi said, according to the official JANA agency.

More fighting in Indonesia kills 16

Violence in eastern and western Indonesia claimed at least 16 lives, authorities and news reports said, as bloodshed continued to plague this sprawling Southeast Asian nation. In the strife-torn Aceh province, 1,750 kilometers (1,100 miles) northwest of Jakarta, eight people were killed and scores injured in clashes Saturday between separatist rebels and security forces, military spokesman Lt. Col. Priyatna said.

North Korea Threatens to Restart Missile Tests

Angered by ongoing US tests of a missile-intercept defense system of a type that could be installed by its neighbor Japan, North Korea said Saturday that it was reconsidering a self-imposed suspension of its long-range missile tests. Although the latest test of the problematic missile-intercept system was deemed to be a failure, North Korea has repeatedly voiced its concern at the prospect of Japan being given access to such technology.

Israel, Palestinians set January 29 summit with U.S.

U.S. President Bill Clinton will meet Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Palestinian President Yasser Arafat in Switzerland on January 29 to try to boost Middle East peace, a Palestinian official said on Sunday. It was agreed in the United States that President Arafat will meet with President Clinton and Barak in Davos, after which the way the negotiations will be conducted will be agreed. Planning Minister Nabil Shaath told Voice of Palestine Radio.

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EDUCATION IN YEMEN: A Crying Need for Improvement

Yasser Abdo Al-Odaini

The world witnessed in the last century great changes and high developmental phenomena which were historically considered of great benefit to civilization in our little "globe". Since man was found on this planet, he started constructing and making it a good place for living. Man did his utmost to achieve this mission on earth. And since man is not eternal on earth, he used to instruct and educate generations to follow up this endless mission. He gave education top priority and importance for it is the only mean that keeps generations aware of what is around and able to construct and inhabit this planet.

Without education everything appears impossible and out of hand. Imagine there is no education: what will be the state of man! There were no civilization or something called history. Suppose there were, through which means or media those civilizations would have been communicated to generations, if education is not the mean.

No doubt history abounds with ancient and great civilizations of different nations and cultures. We learnt about them through education, of course. And all of them gave education its due right otherwise they would never have existed.

In modern, great civilizations, education performed its role sufficiently and perfectly so much so that the result was amazing, surprising and beyond man's dreams. The various

technological revolutions, space invasion, multimedia, computer systems and so on and so forth, owe much of their success to education. According to the Arabic proverb "Knowledge is Light" and in reverse "Illiteracy is Obscurity".

To drive the point home, everything goes forward and everywhere, except education in our country which goes backward. This is a sour fact that schools cannot hide. It is commonly realized that in the 1980s and early 1990s education was at the peak of its glory in our country. This is very clear from the successful professionals in the different fields who belong to that period of time. Students were willing to learn and teachers were willing to teach as well. But in the last five years, things became upside down. So that education is suffering the negligence of all the administrative officers, teachers, students and the parents as well. What justifies my statement is what I have heard from several teachers working in the field. I myself know some facts about the bad status of education in the country but those teachers add things that I did not imagine would really exist. It sounded to me like exaggeration, because I did not believe it. I cannot even judge whether you would believe it or not. Could you believe that there are students in the last year of high school and never know English not even the alphabet. A friend of mine, Adel Shameeri, who was graduated last year from the college of education, is now teaching at a secondary school. Mr. Shameeri told me that he was very optimistic and hopeful to serve the country by bringing up well-educated generations and contribute to developing Yemen into a country able to compete with others

in our modern world. But what he faced was something frustrating. He tried several times to make use of the procedures, methods of teaching he learnt at the university, but his attempts were in vain. Neither students nor parents helped him to do so. As an English teacher, he learnt not to use the native language in the classroom while conducting lessons but it is impossible, according to him, for he was changed to teach Arabic instead. His task is only to do the translation work and the rest to be done by the administrative team at the end of the year. Mr. Mohammad Al-Ahdal is a Teacher of History in another secondary school confirmed that students do not want to study anymore. He referred students' carelessness to bribe that decreases the motives of learners all over the country. A student can work in any town and come at the end of the year, pay "HAQ BIN HADI" (money to the headmaster or/and teacher). Believe me that there are university graduates who can hardly spell simple words in Arabic. Moreover, those of literary sections can not do a simple exercise in mathematics. What do you expect from generation these are its characteristics.

I wonder if this is what the Ministry of Education aims at achieving from Yemeni generations. Is this the way to compete in the third millennium with other countries? Do senior officers and those who are responsible of education feel satisfied of their commitment? Who will be held responsible of the loss of this helpless country? We wish this is not our real provisions for the new millennium. Our society is truly in a great crying need for improvement in Education.

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The Arab Planning Institute A Successful Joint Arab Work

Fifteen Arab countries including Yemen attended the meeting held for the Arab Planning Institute's Secretaries Council on Monday 7, 2000 in Sanaa. The meeting was headed by Dr. Mohammed Al-Duwaihees, Minister of Planning, Minister of State for Administrative Development in Kuwait. During the meeting, some items in the agenda of the institute were discussed.



Dr. Mohammad Al-Duwaihees,

Mohammed Bin Sallam of Yemen Times met with the Kuwaiti Minister and also with Dr. Essa M. Al-Ghazali, Director General of the Arab Planning Institute and filed the following:

Q: Is it the first time you visit Sana'a?

A: Yes, it is the first and I am happy to have the chance to know a country that I always wanted to visit. On this occasion I would like to thank Mr. Ahmad Sufan, Minister of Planning, Deputy Minister and Ministry staff for the warm reception I have received. At the same time I thank the Prime Minister, Dr. Abdul Karim Al-Iryani and President Ali Abdullah Saleh for hosting this meeting which I hope will lead to further cooperation.

Q: Can you give us an idea about the issues that were discussed in the meeting in Sana'a?

A: The meeting was the first for secretaries of the Arab Planning Institute. One of the most important issues we discussed was the Institute's activities in 1998, 1999. There were also other issues that were discussed such as, the budget for the year 1998-1999, the plan for funding the Institute, following up some of the previous decisions, appointing Dr. Essa Al-Ghazali as Director-General of the Institute and other issues.

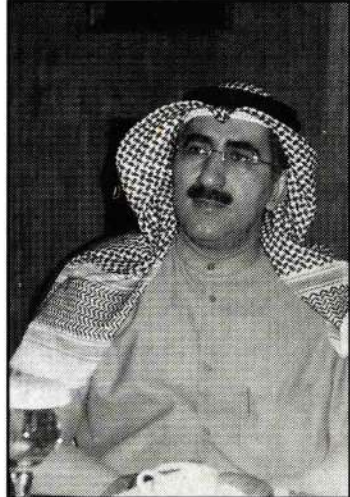
Q: What are the fields of cooperation between the Institute and the Arab countries in general, and Yemen in particular?

A: In fact, the institute offers a lot of services and activities to the Arab countries including training services. In this regard, the Institute offers more than 50 training programs every year and it offers diplomas and consultations as well. The institute also publishes books, holds and organizes conferences and sessions, makes studies on related fields and so on. On the other hand, the Institute tries to cooperate with other regional and international institutes in order to make available better services. Of course, Yemen benefits from our services especially from our training programs, meetings, seminars, etc. We, of course, encourage all Arab countries to benefit from the services offered by the Institute.

Q: The Institute provides decision-makers in the Arab countries with consultations and advice, how do you evaluate the work of the Arab Institute during the last phase?

A: Let me first tell you something, in the strategy we discussed there was a trend to benefit from the information technology and long-term training in addition to provide the decision-makers in the Arab countries with consul-

tations, especially in relation to administrative development and planning. Concerning your question I think that many countries have benefited from the institute, at least there has been an exchange of points of view and expertise. They have benefited from the experiments of the advanced countries participating with us in some of our discussions, seminars etc. Yemen is an active member in the council and always participates in training courses, seminars and confer-



Dr. Essa M. Al-Ghazali

ences and I appreciate what the Yemenis do in this regard. Yemen also benefits from the experiences of the other countries like Egypt, Tunisia and Kuwait for example. At the same time Yemen can avoid the mistakes done by these countries in their previous experiments. I am very optimistic about Yemen and I am sure that it will make remarkable steps in the near future.

Q: What about the interval periods for studying the activities of the Council?

A: The council holds a meeting twice a year to discuss the budget and follow up what has been decided before. The Director-General is always in touch with members of the Institute and in addition to this, we can hold an emergency meeting if it is required.

Q: How do you foresee the future of cooperation between your ministry and the Ministry of Planning in Yemen?

A: In my talks with Mr. Sofa, Minister of Planning, we felt that there was going to be cooperation between us, for example, in exchanging expertise and information. At the same time we can activate the Institute to serve Yemen in all fields.

Q: Any last word?

A: I am very happy that I am in Yemen and I thank people in Yemen for their warm reception and solidarity. I also thank the government hoping it more success under the leadership of President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

We have also conducted an interview with Dr. Essa Al-Ghazali, Director General of the Arab Planning Institute. Excerpts.

Q: What are your new plans to build the new Kuwait in the new century?

A: The Ministry of Planning is trying to keep abreast with the new developments taking place in the world, like globalization and information revolution. We are also trying to improve the training activities to cope with the new changes in the information systems especially long distance training. Two weeks ago we were aware of the millennium bug, fortunately Kuwait was able to overcome this problem. In the near future we will make available a trained administrative team to be ready for the 3rd century. In addition there will be new changes in some of the legislations and systems serving the Civil Service and the administrative development in order to improve efficiency of the government offices.

Q: When was the Institute established? What are its objectives?

A: The institute was established in two phases. The first one was in 1966 and it was called the Middle East Institute for Economic Development and it was established and run in cooperation with Kuwait and the United Nations, the UNDP. Some Arab countries liked the Institute to continue after the end of the cooperation with the United Nations. Therefore, in 1980 the Institute started with a new name, The Arab Planning Institute, headquartered in Kuwait. 15 Arab countries joined the institute in addition to the Arab Fund and Kuwait Fund. The UNDP also has a representative in the Institute.

The main objective of the Institute is technically supporting the Arab countries in fields of social and economic development. This role is practiced through three activities:

- 1- Qualifying Arab cadres through the annual training courses it holds either inside or outside Kuwait and also through seminars, workshops and meetings and the like.
- 2- Doing researches that aim at providing decision-makers in the Arab world with details and information they need. The institute spreads the scientific research through researches done by the Institute staff, organizing international conferences and inviting experts. Such researches and studies are always published in a periodical owned by the Institute.
- 3- Providing the decision-makers with specialized consultations whenever they need. These are the three dimensions the Institute work is based on.

Q: What about the strategy for the coming five years?

A: The strategy, of course, is wide and it will result in the five coming years in many different plans. Within these five years the institute will try to enlarge the base of beneficiaries and verify the training programs for the Arab countries. Of course we take into consideration the great technological development in the world and we try to take advantage of it to serve the Institute. We also take into consideration the new challenges facing our Arab world like globalization, privatization, etc.

Q: Do you think that Yemen really benefits from the services of the Institute?

A: Certainly. Like the other Arab countries it benefits from it and I would like to mention that the Institute

offers its services to all Arab countries be them members or not. Yemen is a member in the Institute and it benefits from all its services through sending students to the Institute or benefiting from the experts of the Institute to make specialized studies to Yemen.

Q: Were all the previous decisions of the Institute implemented?

A: Of course, our decisions are technical and not compulsory. We just offer our consultations to a country if it requests us to do so and it is up to it to benefit from it or not.

Q: What is the budget of the Institute and who finances its activities?

A: The estimated budget for the five coming years is about 6.5 million Dinars. Members and the Institute administration.

Q: Do members pay equal shares?

A: No, each country pays as much as it can.

Q: Does Yemen pay its share?

A: I prefer to let such information for the Institute Secretaries Council.

Q: What are the conditions required in the Director-General?

A: The agreement stipulates that the Director-General must be from Kuwait.

Q: How was Sana'a chosen for this meeting?

A: Simply, we were invited by the Yemeni representative to hold the meeting in Sanaa and the Secretaries Council accepted the invitation.

Q: Can this be considered part of the bilateral approach between Yemen and Kuwait?

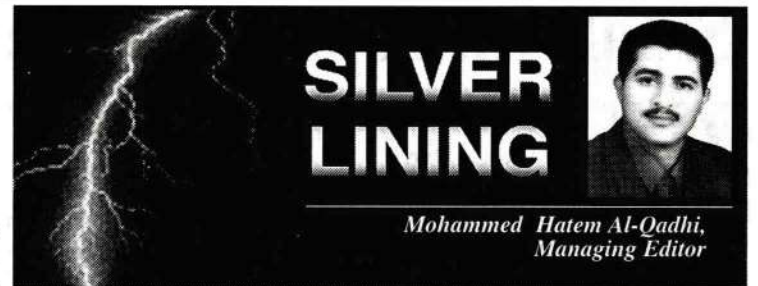
A: This is not my business. I speak just as the Director-General of the Institute.

Q: How do you evaluate the work of the Institute?

A: I think that it is one of the most successful joint Arab action through its non-stop activities and its international relationship. This goes back to the members' determination to present a scientific pioneering institution. I think that it has been successful over the 30 past years.

Q: Any last word?

A: I thank Yemen. I am happy to be in Yemen and I hope I will be back here again.



SILVER LINING Quiet ... Please Quiet !

People who visit Yemen and live in it confirm that it is beautiful with friendly people. But there are some things which do not make them enjoy their stay or visit like rubbish, exhausted fumes coming out from exhausted pipes, noise...etc.

Among the worst and most annoying is noise. Yes, noise in the streets which is completely unnecessary and which can easily cease to exist. Bus and car drivers are the main cause of this noise. They continuously keep blowing their cars' horns without stop. What a terrible noise they create! Our streets become crazy with the noise. The horn was made in the car to be used when necessary and to avoid accidents. For our drivers it is meant for other purposes. Bus drivers use it to attract the attention of the people in the streets. That is very silly. They do not realize that if some wants a dabab they will signal for it to stop.

Car and bus drivers also use it at the traffic lights. Why it is necessary to use the horn while the light changes to green. It does not speed things up. It is just a bad habit which they should stop. They do it even when there are traffic jams. What is worse is that they use it most of the time only for fun.

Some time back a foreigner dropped into my office in the Yemen Times premises. I could notice that something has disturbed him. He started telling me with pain "it is unnecessary. It is bad and horrible. I like hudu" quiet." I started laughing. But he was very serious. He told me that he was very much annoyed by the noise in the Yemeni streets. He also added that he would like all the mass media, mainly the radio and TV stations to address this nagging problem very quickly. Moreover, he wants to meet all the people concerned to explain the problem to them. "I will leave Yemen if noise does not stop, though I like Yemen and I want to stay in it" he observed painfully.

I believe everybody is irritated by the noise of the buses and cars' horns as well as sound of the motorbikes. Actually I wanted write about this problem earlier. But now this foreigner, who has become a friend, pushed me to address the issue. He further appealed to me saying "Mohammed, please try to do something about it now, not tomorrow".

When talking with him about this problem, the annoyed Westerner told me that the noise is brought out because of bad driving. That is, people stop the car suddenly, blocking the road and causing those behind them to start blowing their horns in anger. Or they drive in the middle of the road so that if any one wants to overtake them, they have to use their horns. It is also used at the round corners. This is really an indicator of bad driving and lack of common sense.

A part of the noise producers is the cassettes recording studios. They start blowing their tape recorders with huge amplifiers where the noise can reach you even if far off from the studio.

Even in restaurants we lack quietness and hudu. Once the waiter asks you for your order, he starts shouting loudly. The cracking of plates never stop too.

Finally, I think the problem is not that difficult. The solution is very easy and at hand. Discipline has to be enforced by the Traffic Authority. It has to inform the drivers that it is a bad habit. Bus and car drivers have to stop it. Otherwise, they would be fined. Motorbikes drivers should not take off the silencers. Then everything will be fine and people will enjoy walking on streets. Being quiet is a sign of being civilized and cultured. So, will the traffic authority contend with this tedious problem seriously. I hope so and remember "hudu"... please some "hudu"!



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Small Enterprises: Reality and the Horizons of their Development in Yemen



Ismail Al-Ghabiri,
Yemen Times

Small industrial enterprises in Yemen account to 31,738, or 95% of the total industrial institutions, constituting 48% of the total labor force in this sector. The industrial survey and analysis conducted by the ministry of industry in 1996 had shown that there was a dysfunction in the small businesses, where food industries come in the first place and there was a drop in the level of its participation the economic indicators. Small enterprises participation in economic shares amounts to 25% of production value, 48% of employment value, 21% of wages value and 32.6% of the additional value. Most of those industries are concentrated in Sana'a and Ibb and in less amount in other governorates. This sector depends on personal activity and without definite direction or program. In addition to this, production of this sector for the local market is mostly characterized by the imitation along with absence of the idea of exportation due to bad quality of its products.

First of all there must be an illustrative definition of small enterprises as a basis from which we can move to

explore the essence of the subject. Concepts and criteria differ about defining small industrial enterprises. Among these prevalent criteria are those of labor and capital. Or as some define them as industries that form a productive unit employing ten workers and the value of production machines used in it amounts to 1-2 million riyals and that of a production unit, the value of its machines exceeds 2 million riyals and uses ten workers. As for the criterion of development unit depended for small industries, it is the criterion of the invested capital that does not exceed a sum of 200 thousand dollars.

Out of this we can infer that the tendency towards such industries has increased nowadays. The main reason is the big challenge facing big businesses and their incapability of keeping pace with the technological development and the fierce competition of prices and quality, the present policy of openness is now imposing, added to that the big businesses failure to realize the balance between the economic and social requirements and the difficulty of implementation and adjustment with the goals for which they have been built. Against this situation the importance of the tendency of light industries increased because of their ability to depend on limited materials and due to their having social and economic dimension and concept.

The reality of small enterprises and handicraft in Yemen is weak and simple. It is still confined to old stereotype and has not been upgraded to the level of small enterprises that have largely developed. It could not reach a high quality or achieve developed growth. This conclusion is based on indicators of the first industrial survey of 1996. If we look at the geographical distribution of small industrial enterprises, we find that they are concentrated in the cities of Sana'a and Ibb, and this could be attributed to population density. The woman role in this field is mainly confined to work depending on the skill of careful use of hands such as sewing and embroidery. Woman labor in this field forms 2.4% of the total volume of labor, i.e., 1258 employees.

Among the reasons behind weakness

and inability of these industries in Yemen are attributed to their dependence on self efforts without any specified program. This sector did not rise to the level of small industrial enterprises due to its incapability of providing big industries with their needs of materials and therefore those industries are mainly dependent on importing their needs from abroad. Moreover, this sector cannot benefit from products of big enterprises because of non-existence of integration and absence of modern technology, added to that is that these industries based on handicraft profession based on individual skills. To develop this sector and make publicity for it abroad, industrial zones or industrial complexes must be founded without making it sustain large sums of money for buying pieces of land

and for erecting buildings and also prevent its random spread in Yemen. To enable this sector to develop and be qualified to play an effective role in the national economy, we have to amend the commercial banks credit policy by allotting part of their funds for financing this activity through easy conditions regarding interest rates and encouraging the establishment of associations patronizing small enterprises. There must be encouragement of founding a social fund in which the government must participate through financing houses, associations, industrialists and assistance from sisterly and friendly countries. To develop this sector in order to participate in the process of development, the state should take a host of measures represented by the following:

1- Systematic arrangements represented by founding a supervising party to regulate its work and activity.

2- Promoting its products by holding commercial markets and exhibitions through different information media.

3- Improving the level of production by creating qualified and well-trained cadre capable of dealing with advanced technology and activating the role of woman, also by training and qualification.

4- The geographical distribution of the handicraft industries must be according to the aims of those industries.

5- Distributing the utilities on industries dependent on local raw materials and industries feeding medium and big industries.

6- Developing and adjusting the financing policy of local funding institutions and the foreign donors.

DISTRIBUTION OF SMALL INSTITUTIONS IN THE GOVERNORATES OF THE REPUBLIC

Governorate	Food	Mineral	Non-metallic	Clothes	Wood	Other Activities	Electricity	Total of Industries
Capital Secretariat	881	627	969	722	600	666	106	4670
Sana'a	2123	209	290	52	84	178	601	3537
Aden	289	164	40	82	84	58	—	717
Taiz	1200	409	90	629	63	120	292	2803
Hoddidah	613	273	240	155	190	227	367	2065
Lahij	1236	82	40	—	84	62	42	1546
Ibb	2423	336	220	402	179	118	482	4160
Dhamar	1549	245	120	206	95	233	162	2610
Hadamout	1117	227	130	52	369	519	52	2466
Other Govs.	4443	619	380	350	255	502	714	7164
Total	15874	3191	2519	2650	2003	2683	2818	31738

The National Company for Tobacco and Matches and Stray Arrows



By: Mutahar
Al-Ashmory

Of course, the budget of a state must be accurate in its figures and estimates. Discussion of every institution must be carefully studied through associating each year's budget with that of the previous one. Proceeding from the fact that we have already entered the 21st century and the third millennium - an age of information, technology and computer - a stage that has overcome the possibility of committing mistakes in the state budget, then committing a mistake or let it happen is something regrettable, particularly in Yemen.

What has aroused my attention is a news regarding a tendency for the privatization of the National Company for Tobacco and Matches "Kamaraman". As much as I was surprised by the new drive of privatization, I was astounded by the news that contained information in regard to the budget of the company. This information is presented by the Ministry of Finance indicating that the company has showed a mark-down in its revenues for 2000,

estimated at YR10 million.

I have been very much interested in following the conditions of the company as part of my interest in the privatization campaign, especially regarding successful state institutions. I have written about privatization and said that privatizing the tobacco Company was a grave mistake implying a tendency against the public interest. Capitalist countries such as Canada or South Korea or Jordan usually makes the industry and importation of tobacco the responsibility of the state as its being considered a highly profitable merchandise. They may redouble cigarettes prices according to certain social policies. However, with the statistics presented by the Ministry of Finance in the general budget, it becomes quite difficult to defend such a national establishment in the face of Privatization.

After weeks of investigation, I could uncover the underlying mystery of this puzzle that agitates me for a while. It was a grave mistake made by the Ministry of Finance and its staff who used figures different from those presented by the company. These figures are far much different, for billions were replaced by millions and millions and thousands by hundreds and by very small coins. I can't say for certain whether this mistake was done

intentionally or was an oversight. However, what is apparent is that this has negatively affected the public sector and has been used much for the privatization drive which appears like a monster eating away many successful organizations of the public sector. The news was not a mistaken one, but unfortunately it was based and derived from wrong information given in the state budget presented to the parliament.

It is true that we have stepped into the third millennium that is characterized by and considered to be the age of information, technology and computer. This makes the possibility of making such mistakes very unlikely to happen. However, making such a mistake and in the general budget of the state is a sorrowful event and means a lot, for it may have never happened in the 19th century.

Any accountant or a trainee in the financial or accounting work would never believe the revenues of a company go down from YR 11 billions to YR 1 billion within a year. It is also quite unbelievable that a public organization spends and earns YR1 billion. What is more unreasonable and unacceptable that such procedures and standards used in discussing budgets to be ratified, are adopted by the ministry of finance and its experts. The real budget of the company for 2000 presented to the Ministry of Finance was YR11,126, 000,000. This means that there was not any kind of fall back in the company's activities nor a slump in its revenues. On the contrary,

the activities have prospered and developed, especially as Mr. Tawfeek Saleh, a qualified and competent personality, is the chairman of its board of directors.

As we are dealing with a very important issue of public interest, I very much trust Mr. Alawi Al-Salami, minister of Finance who has showed his understanding of this horrible mistake. He made those responsible for it hold accounted. He has also followed the procedures to correct the mistake and

to make a new report that would be presented to the Parliament. Though this won't compensate the harm that has befallen the company, it will disclose a fact and prove that the public sector is not at all that depicted failure, and that what it needs is sincere people and commitment.

What has happened may be the result of "privatization drive" plague that tends to spoil all the successful organizations of the public sector. What I want to stress in this context is

that we are not against privatization, as a modern economic concept, but refuse to use it as a slogan to destroy the public interest, as it was about to happen to the National Tobacco and Matches Company. Irrespective of all the aggressive campaign launched against the company, we express our appreciation of the good efforts and achievements of the Administration of the company and all its workers.

From Al-Thawrah Newspaper

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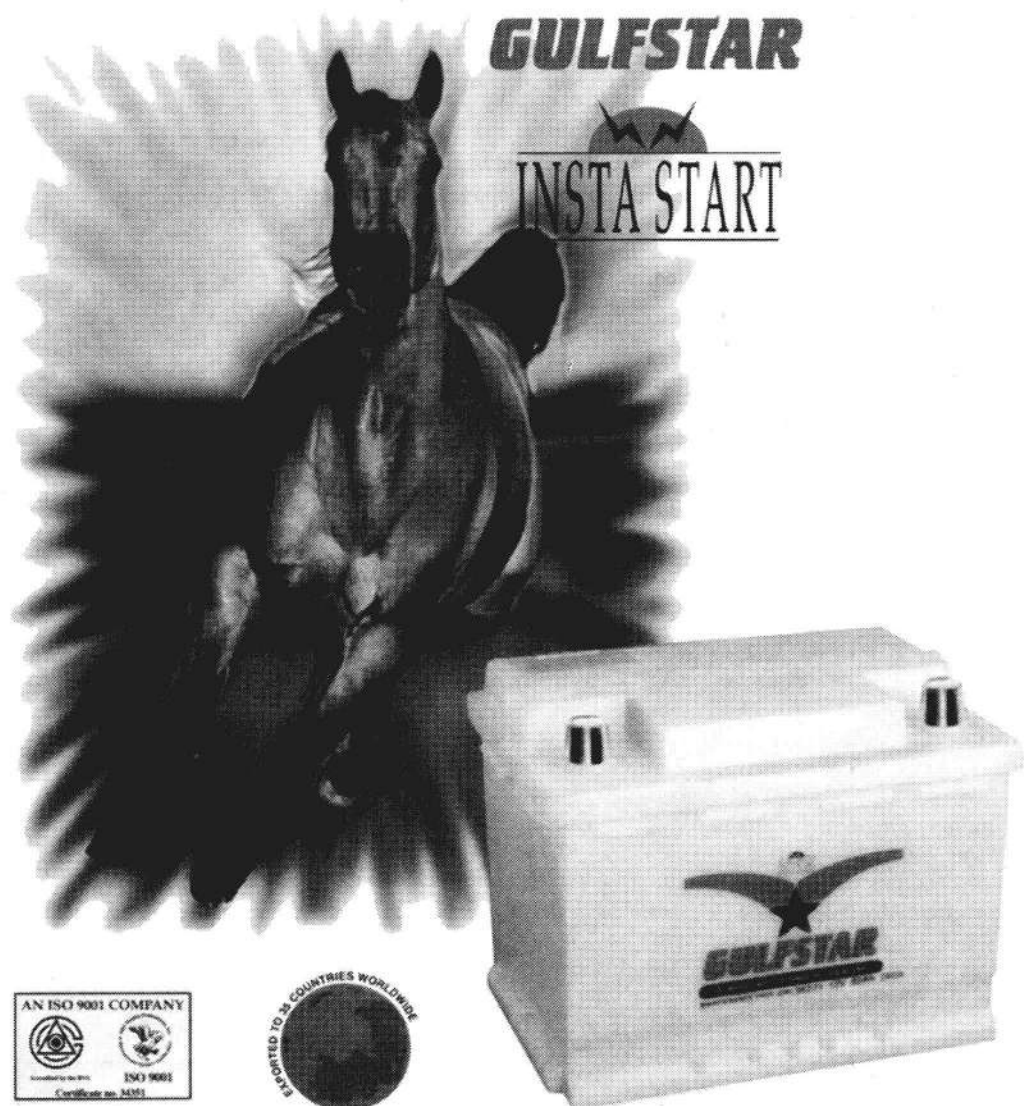
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A survey by Yemen Times over the views of Yemeni intellectuals about the third Millennium

Yemen on the 3rd Millennium Map

By: Yemen Times Staff

The world has already stepped into the 21st century and the third millennium armed with astonishing scientific and information revolution, while we, Yemenis, still suffer our ignorance and negligence. I wonder with what we should welcome the third millennium. With Qat? Financial and administrative corruption? Kidnappings? Inflation? Deteriorated health and educational services? Poverty? Illiteracy? Dirty water? Unpaved streets? Shaky judiciary system? Tampering with public wealth? Abiding conflict between the government and the opposition? Mediation? Bribe-taking? Favoritism? Tribal mentality? Are we going to maintain our being just consumers of the west products, beginning from the tank to the needle? Tribes and weapons? Breaking laws? Disorder?

Despite all the above mentioned we boast of the state of law and order. We are welcoming the third millennium with an increasing number of beggars and insane people swarming the streets, large numbers of child labor at very early ages instead of attending school, and disguised unemployment with no silver lining in the offing.

The whole world is looking and searching for new horizons and better futures for its nations and new amazing inventions while we are still stay put in our caves. We spend our life-time arguing about what is forbidden and what is not. We do our best to possess the weapons and technology of the West, only to use them against ourselves.

What have we achieved during this century? We have done nothing but

lamenting the past, narrating the glories of our ancestors and our lost glory. We enjoy all the inventions of the West and curse them. We buy TV and argue if watching it is forbidden or not. We practice polygamy and abandon ourselves to delectations. We argue about women and are they allowed to drive cars or not. We look at Nill Armstrong steps on the moon, Einstein invents his theory of relativity, etc. and we still look at our large numbers of unemployed people. Israel changes its president each four years and Arab leaders do not change unless they die or be ousted by coups. We drawl and harangue of democracy and respect of human rights whereas we behave the way tyrants do. We speak highly of freedom of thought and expression and at the same time murder our thinkers and prominent figures such as Faraj Fawdah, Dr. Abdul Aziz Al-Saqqaq, Abdul Habib Salem and all who want us to lead a good life. I believe that, it is the curse of Martyr Al-Tholaya who said before he was beheaded, "Damn the people that sought my death while I have been fighting for their life." We are welcoming the third millennium with our backward ideas and beliefs, with hands that reject pens for weapons and many contradictions.

Where is this country heading for? Is it really driving towards the third millennium?

I hope I could turn the clock back because it is better to stay where we are.

What has Yemen prepared for the third millennium? A number of intellectuals have answered this question:

Dr. Abdullah Al-Dheifani, Taiz University

In fact, it is a difficult question. I think that it should not have been asked, especially when we take into consideration the current situation of Yemen.

We are away from all scientific and technical changes and we have no contributions to such fields. We are mere users and consumers of what scientific and technological revolutions have produced in the world. So it is better not to answer at all. But you may ask why such a question should not be asked? In fact, it is enough to look at situation of scientific and research institutions that do studies and researches. These institutions are supposed to make a turning-point in science. However, researchers in such institutions are busy reading newspapers and discussing their uncertain future. University teachers and lecturers and research centers depend on static programs. In addition, they are not evaluated. This, of course, has made them unable to innovate or create something new. If conditions of universities and research centers are like this, how can we be optimists about the third millennium? In addition to this, administration in Yemen lacks the basic means for development and stability and is unable to make a positive transfer. This has been noticed by many experts who have studied our situation. In short, I do not want Yemen to enter the third millennium, I would rather want it to choose a starting-point to start building a country that is able to develop according to what is available for it in reality.

Dr. Abbas Al-Soswah, Dean of the Languages Center, Taiz University

I would like to say that we have just recently entered the 20th century and it was only by the chance of time. We have not actively contributed to the 20th century. We have rather enjoyed some of its technological inventions

in the field of communications, medicine and entertainment. I think that we will enter the third millennium only chronologically and with the following:

- 1) Shortage of ground water
 - 2) Deterioration of educational, health and judicial services
 - 3) Not facing the problems of education and health services and holding others responsible for that.
- The only positive thing I can mention is people's being getting used to democracy, although it is still in the beginning.



Dr. Yasin Al-Qubati
Head of Leprosy Center

Entering the 21st century would not be so happy an event for a country born in the modern age less than forty years ago, in a world where the industrial revolution had begun more than two hundred years ago.

This wide gap of time has greatly affected the position of Yemeni people on the ladder of modern civilization. How would our people coexist with this century while they have not experienced modern education and developed technology but only a short time ago? This short period gives them only a narrow scope for building cultural and technical infrastructure enabling them to enter the coming age of information and technology revolution.

Illiteracy is still widely spread among the Yemeni people. The percentage of illiterate people represents over 70% of the entire population. Yet, the elite of the society attain their positions of decision-making by using unfair means. What's more, the majority of these leaderships have attained their posts by means of nepotism, sycophancy, bribery or through accomplishing illegal services to higher leaderships.

These are the reasons why many leaderships lack the ability to make sound plans for their own time. So what would be the case of future generations? The lack of sound planning is not their sole problem; they also suffer from greed, weakness in soul and in making decisions, and also the absence of applying the principle "reward and punishment".

Therefore, their authority does not accomplish its tasks in protecting citizens from the power and influence of despotic people. Such an authority would be always in search of means through which it can maintain its power rather than planning for the coming century.

The entrance to this century requires a revolution which is no less than that of the 26th of September. It should be a social and educational revolution that amend behavioral systems and scientific strategies of our schools and universities. It should also develop experiences to rectify techniques of administration in all ministries, especially those of education, health, planning, finance, internal security and justice.

In the past forty years Yemen has had the opportunity to achieve progress and prosperity. It has unified the country and firmly incorporated the democratic system which, although blemished by personal dispute, has insured itself through establishing an infrastructure which renders some hope. For, example the cable and wireless communications networks in Yemen emulating its counterparts in other countries.

Now we see important decisions being made and enforced before the end of the second millennium.

For example, the decision of combating the Qat plague, the ruiner of mind and money. These decisions should be supported by all and so we should react towards the decision of banning carrying weapons in cities.

However, in this new century we are still in lack of cadres having intellectual minds to ensure and enhance good performance. In order to achieve this goal, workers should not be worried about food, education and health expenses. They, in return, should perform their jobs according to standard rules under supervision and control of the principle of "reward and punishment". Finally, our entrance into the 21st century with concepts and creeds different from these, we would remain fighting for survival and there would not be a glimpse of hope for future development.



Dr. Yasin Al-Shaibani
Professor of International Law, Sanaa University

In the beginning of this century, Yemen has achieved its independence and, in its latter half they revolted against suppression and injustice and buried the Imam system for good on the 26th of September. In the late of the 20th century, on May 22, 1990 the Yemenis achieved their solemn promise through the reunification of the homeland under leadership of president Ali Abdullah Saleh who set a foot in history through this door. Today we have already entered the third millennium hoping for a stable and dignified life free from fear and poverty. We hope the future would be better for our children for we would not have rest until Yemen gets its right position among world civilizations.

21st century
Yasseen Abdullah Al-Himyari

With the succession and development of events it has become necessary that

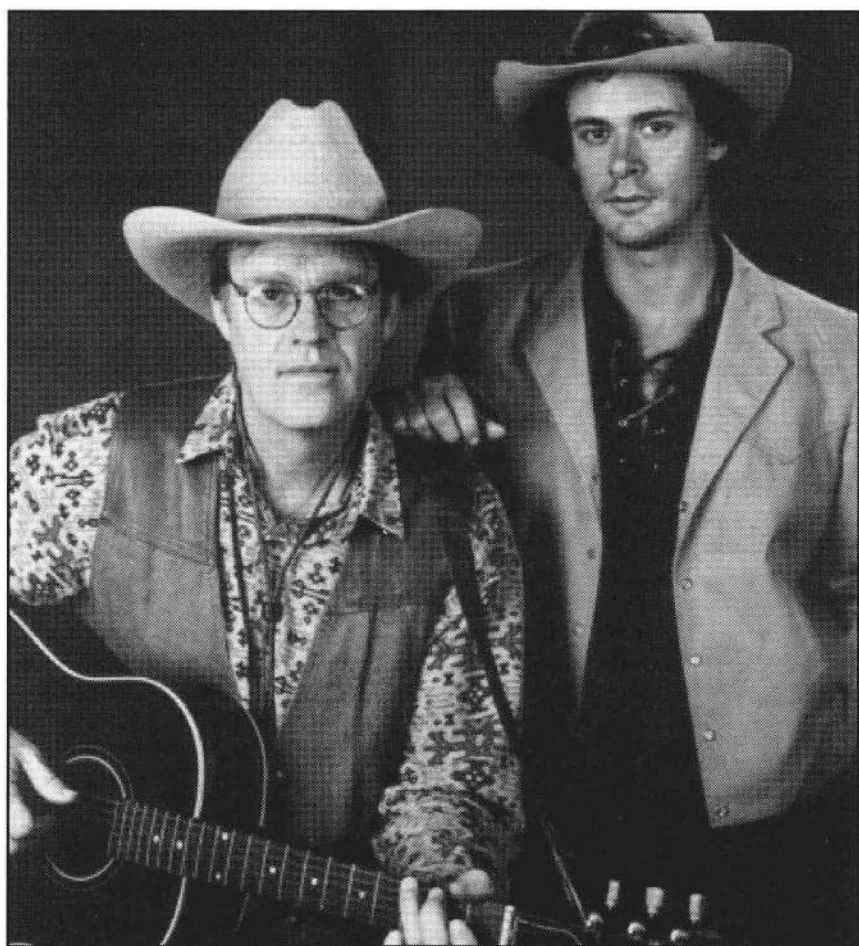
we step into the new century with all world countries. Rich, poor and even poorer countries will enter the new century together. The question is how and with what will we meet the new century? Are our preparations in Yemen equal to those of industrial and developing countries?

We have witnessed large-scale transformation in science and knowledge "technology" in the 20th century, especially in its latter half. While some countries made great developments in this field, others kept on retarding.

The typical policy of some countries with which they try to build military powers at the expense of their citizens' economic and social development have proved to be a failure. On the other hand, some countries have developed and prospered in the fields of technology, knowledge and society. I believe that countries would evaluate their development and retardation based on how they use technology and qualify the civilized man. We shall not forget the importance of groupings and opening world markets in a manner surpassing geographical barriers, but those pertaining to quality and technology used in manufacturing products that are to be sold.

In Yemen we are entering the new millennium with a modest weapon with which we hope we can easily coexist with other countries. The political and presidential elections and the government's efforts in providing technological training are all clear signs of the awareness of the leadership and government of the importance of this side. I also hope the new millennium would be full of peaceful coexistence especially after the end of the cold war. Arab leaderships should understand the meaning of cooperation in withstanding difficulties that face the developing countries so we would keep abreast with the world around us and never become less than countries ahead of us in the field of technology.

Music from Texas to Sanaa



Bob & Ravi Livingston
At the Yemen Cultural Center
7:00 PM, Sunday, January 30

In cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the American Embassy is proud to bring to Sanaa Bob Livingston, Director of Texas Music International, and founder of the *Lost Gonzo Band*, and his son Ravi, to perform Cowboy Country Western Music at the Yemen Cultural Center. Bob's first album was Geronimo's Cadillac recorded in Nashville. He has recently written, produced and staged a concert series in Texas called *Cowboys and Indians*, blending music of the American West with that of India. Yemen is one of eight countries on their tour from Amman, Jordan to Mumbai, India. Admission to the performance is free.

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Write the answers to the following questions beneath every question, then cut off the coupon and send it to P.O. Box 2579 - Sanaa. To guarantee their arrival, you can directly submit them to Yemen Times by placing them in the Millennium Competition Box at our Sanaa, Taiz, and Aden Bureaus. All the coupons with the correct answers will be eligible of winning the first prize, which is YR 1,000,000 in cash. Prizes worth hundreds of thousands of Rials will also be distributed to the other 10 or more winners. Coupons that arrive after the 15th of February 2000 will not be accepted, no photocopies or faxed coupons will be accepted.

1- Question: When was the first issue of Yemen Times published (indicate date/month/year)?

Answer: _____

2- Question: In which village and province is the Shammr fortress?

Answer: _____

3- Question: What are the two products produced by National Cigarettes & Matches Industry Ltd. ?

Answer: _____

4- Question: What are the cooking oil products whose agent is Salim Bagirsh & Sons Est.?

Answer: _____

5- Question: What are the main ingredients of Kaha Mango Juice?

Answer: _____

6- Question: Which group does United Insurance Company belong to?

Answer: _____

7- Question: Mention three brands that Artex Agency sell?

Answer: _____

8- Question: In which city is United Company for Industrial Metals' main office?

Answer: _____

9- Question: Mention three Suzuki Models being sold by Ba Maroof Group in Aden.

Answer: _____

10- Question: What is the old name and location of the Gen. Est. of Furniture & School Equipment?

Answer: _____

11- Question: What is the most famous and prestigious hotel located in the heart of Sanaa City?

Answer: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Telephone number: _____

Address (City/Region): _____

ID Card No.: _____ Nationality: _____ (*All entries MUST be filled)

المشاركة في المسابقة، ما عليك إلا تعبئة الأجابات والمعلومات الشخصية لكوپون واحد على الأقل، ولكن لضمان احتمال الفوز بالجائزة الكبرى ننصح بالإجابة على كل الأسئلة التي فيها الأمل في حصولها من عدة آخر. شارك بإحدى الاستراتيجيات الإنجليزية أو العربية (وليس كليهما) ويمكن لنفس الشخص المشاركة في أكثر من كوپون واحد!

أجب عن الأسئلة التالية (كل إجابة تحت السؤال) ثم قص الكوپون وأرسله بالبريد إلى ص.ب. ٢٥٧٩ - صنعاء. إذا أردت ضمان وصول الكوپون، يمكنك توصيلها إلى صندوق مسابقة الألفية الثالثة في مكاتبنا الرئيسية في صنعاء، عدن، وتعن. جميع الكوپونات التي تحمل الألفية الصحيحة ستكون مرشحة للفوز بالجائزة الأولى التي هي مليون ريال نقداً. كما سيتم توزيع على الأقل عشر جوائز أخرى تقدر بمئات الآلاف لبقية الفائزين. الكوپونات التي تصل عبر الفاكس أو التي قد صورت (فوتوكوبي) لن تقبل. عليكم قص الكوپون كما هو محدد بالمقص، والكوپونات التي تصلنا بعد تاريخ ١٥ فبراير ٢٠٠٠ لن تكون مقبولة.

السؤال الأول: متى تم إصدار أول عدد من صحيفة يمن تايمز (اليوم/الشهر/السنة)?

الإجابة: _____

السؤال الثاني: في أي محافظة وقرية تقع قلعة شمر?

الإجابة: _____

السؤال الثالث: ما هما المنتجان اللذان تنتجهما شركة صناعة السجائر والكبريت الوطنية?

الإجابة: _____

السؤال الرابع: ما هي ماركة الزيوت التي ويكلمها مؤسسة سالم عبد الرحمن باجرش وأولاده?

الإجابة: _____

السؤال الخامس: ما هي المكونات الرئيسية لعصير 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 ويكلمها 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 ويكلمها مجموعة بامعروف - عدن?

الإجابة: _____

السؤال العاشر: المؤسسة العامة للأثاث والتجهيزات المدرسية ماذا كان اسمها سابقاً وأين موقعها الرئيسي?

الإجابة: _____

السؤال الحادي عشر: ماهو أشهر فندق سياحي يقع في منتصف العاصمة صنعاء?

الإجابة: _____

الإسم: _____ العمر: _____

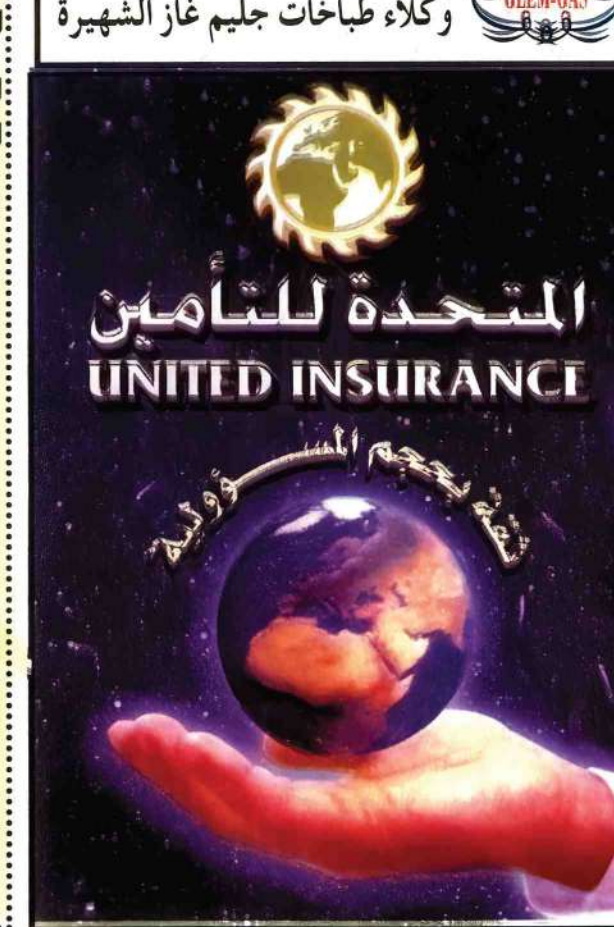
الهاتف: _____

العنوان (المدينة/المحافظة): _____

رقم البطاقة الشخصية: _____ (من الضروري تعبئة جميع البيانات للمشاركة)



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تلفون: ٢٨٤٤٧٦ / ٢٨٤٢٩٨٣ / ٢٨٣٦١٩ / فاكس: ٢٤٤٦٢٢

سوزوكي اليمن

عضو مجموعة بامعروف - عدن

مؤسسة سالم عبد الرحمن باجرش وأولاده

وكلاء منتجات شركة ظفار للزيوت النباتية

شركة صناعة السجائر والكبريت الوطنية المحدودة

مؤسسة مسلم التجارية

وكلاء منتجات قها بقوليات وعصائر

TAJ SHEBA HOTEL SANA'A, YEMEN

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Eritrea - Yemen Arbitration Documents

4 in a series

Phase II Maritime Delimitation

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.

132. The Tribunal has decided, after careful consideration of all the cogent and skilful arguments put before them by both Parties, that the international boundary shall be a single all-purpose boundary which is a median line and that it should, as far as practicable, be a median line between the opposite mainland coastlines. This solution is not only in accord with practice and precedent in the like situations but is also one that is already familiar to both Parties. As the Tribunal had occasion to observe in its Award on Sovereignty (paragraph 438), the offshore petroleum contracts entered into by Yemen, and by Ethiopia and by Eritrea, "lend a measure of support to a median line between the opposite coasts of Eritrea and Yemen, drawn without regard to the islands, dividing the respective jurisdiction of the Parties". In the present stage the Tribunal has to determine a boundary not merely for the purposes of petroleum concessions and agreements, but a single international boundary for all purposes. For such a boundary the presence of islands requires careful consideration of their possible effect upon the boundary line; and this is done in the explanation which follows. Even so it will be found that the final solution is that the international maritime boundary line remains for the greater part a median line between the mainland coasts of the Parties.

133. The median line is in any event some sort of coastal line by its very definition, for it is defined as a line "every point of which is equidistant from the nearest points on the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial seas of the two States is measured" (Article 15 of the Convention), although the same definition will be found in many maritime boundary treaties and also in expert writings. The "normal" baseline of the territorial sea as stated in Article 5 of the Convention - and this again accords with long practice and with the well established customary rule of the law of the sea - is "the low-water line along the coast as marked on large scale charts officially recognised by the coastal State". There do arise some questions about what is to be regarded as the "coast" for these purposes, especially where islands are involved; and these questions, on which the Parties differ markedly, require decisions by the Tribunal.

134. First, it is necessary to deal with a complication that arises in the present case concerning this general rule of measuring from the low-water line. The domestic legislative definition of the territorial sea of Eritrea is still the 1953 enactment by Ethiopia which fixed Ethiopia's territorial waters as "extending from the extremity of the seaboard at maximum annual high tide". This was done even though an Ethiopian customs enactment of 1952 had provided for a customs zone measured from the "the mean low-water mark at neap tides". The Yemen claim was that, in view of this 1953 legislation, the Tribunal should measure the median line boundary from the high-water line instead of the low-water line along the Eritrean coast (and indeed Yemen's median line does).

135. In this matter the Tribunal prefers the Eritrean argument that the use of the low-water line is laid down by a general international rule in the Convention's Article 5, and that both Parties have agreed that the Tribunal is to take into account the provisions of the Convention in deciding the present case. The median line boundary will, therefore, be measured from the low-water line, shown on the officially recognised charts for both Eritrea and Yemen, in accordance with the provision in Article 5 of the Convention. The officially recognised charts used by the Tribunal are BA (British Admiralty) Charts; those Charts use as a Chart Datum approximately the level of the Lowest Astronomical Tide. These Charts were among those relied on by the Parties in the present Stage of the Proceedings.

Northern and Southern Extremities of the Boundary Line

136. There is also a problem relating to both the northern and the southern extremities of the international boundary line. The Tribunal has the competence and the authority according to the Arbitration Agreement to decide the maritime boundary between the two Parties. But it has neither competence nor authority to decide on any of the boundaries between either of the two Parties and neighbouring States. It will therefore be necessary to terminate either end of the boundary line in such a way as to avoid trespassing upon an area where other claims might fall to be considered. It is, however, clearly necessary to consider the choices of the base points controlling the median line first, and then to look at the cautionary termination matter when the line is to be thus terminated at its northern and southern ends has been produced.

137. The construction of the international single boundary decided upon by the Tribunal, working generally from the north to the south, will now be described.

The Northernmost Stretch of the Boundary Line

138. In this stretch, where the two lines claimed respectively by Eritrea and Yemen differed so markedly in their courses, there were three main problems: what to do about the Dahlak islands on the Eritrean side; what to do about the lone mid-sea island of Jabal al-Tayr and the mid-sea island group of Jabal al-Zubayr; and what to do about the cluster of islands and rocks off the northern coast of Yemen. These three questions will now be considered in that order.

The Dahlaks

139. This tightly knit group of islands and islets, or "carpet" of islands and islets as Eritrea preferred to call it, of which the larger islands have a considerable population, is a typical example of a group of islands that forms an integral part of the general coastal configuration. It seems in practice always to have been treated as such. It follows that the waters inside the island system will be internal or national waters and that the baseline of the territorial sea will be found somewhere at the external fringe of the island system.

140. A problem that arises here, however, is that the Dahlak fringe of coastal islands is also suitable for the application not of the "normal baseline" of the territorial sea, but of the "straight baselines" described in Article 7 of the Convention (as there distinguished from the "normal" baseline described in Article 5). The straight baseline system is there described as "the method of straight baselines joining appropriate points". Yemen appears to have little difficulty in agreeing that the Dahlaks form an appropriate situation for the establishment of a straight baseline system.

141. Eritrea for its part claimed that it has such a system already established. In answer to a question from the Tribunal, Eritrea did give the coordinates for the base points on the Eritrean side for both versions of its claimed "median line". But these base points in the region of the Dahlaks appear to have been located on a line touching two or perhaps three of the outer islands and the Negileh Rock (for which see below paragraphs 146-147) and then continuing in a more or less straight line out to sea in a south-easterly direction. This scheme is probably part of the "quadrilateral" straight baseline system to which Eritrea referred in argument.

142. The reality or validity or definition of this somewhat unusual straight baseline system said to be existing for the Dahlaks is hardly a matter that the Tribunal is called upon to decide. The Tribunal does however have to decide on the base points which are to control the course of the international boundary line. In plotting its own claimed median line boundary, Yemen has employed as its western base points the high-water line of the small outer islets of Segala, Dahret Segala, Zaubur and Auacan. These islets could reasonably be included in a straight baseline system of the ordinary and familiar kind.

143. Eritrea, however, has in particular suggested a feature called the "Negileh Rock" which lies further out than these larger but still small and uninhabited islets. Yemen objected to the use of this feature by reason of the fact that on the BA Chart 171 this feature is shown to be a reef and moreover one which appears not to be above water at any state of the tide. A reef that is not also a low-tide elevation appears to be out of the question as a base point, because Article 6 of the Convention (which is headed "Reefs") provides:

In the case of islands situated on atolls or of islands having fringing reefs, the baseline for measuring the breadth of the territorial sea is the seaward low-water line of the reef, as shown by the appropriate symbol on charts officially recognized by the coastal State.

144. This difficulty about the Negileh Rock is reinforced if there is indeed a straight baseline system in existence for the Dahlaks, for paragraph 4 of Article 7 provides:

Straight baselines shall not be drawn to and from low-tide elevations, unless lighthouses of similar installations which are permanently above sea level have been built on them or in instances where the drawing of straight baselines to and from such elevations has received general international recognition.

145. Although Eritrea is not a party to the Convention; nevertheless it has agreed to its application in the present case; and since Eritrea claims the existence of a straight baseline system, that claim seems to foreclose any right to employ a reef that is not proud of the water at low-tide as a baseline of the territorial sea.

146. As will appear more particularly below, the Tribunal has decided that the western base points to be employed on this part of the Eritrean coast shall be on the low-water line of certain of the outer Dahlak islets, Mojeidi and an unnamed islet east of Dahret Segala.

Next, it is necessary to deal with the treatment of the mid-sea islands of al-Tayr and Zubayr, for on this decision depends the question of whether it will be necessary to consider base points on the coast of Yemen.

Jabal al-Tayr and the Zubayr Group

147. Yemen employed both the small single island of al-Tayr and the group of islands called al-Zubayr as control-

ling base points, so that the Yemen-claimed median line boundary is "median" only in the area of sea west of these islands. These islands do not constitute a part of Yemen's mainland coast. Moreover, their barren and inhospitable nature and their position well out to sea, which have already been described in the Award on Sovereignty, mean that they should not be taken into consideration in computing the boundary line between Yemen and Eritrea.

148. For these reasons, the Tribunal has decided that both the single island of al-Tayr and the island group of al-Zubayr should have no effect upon the median line international boundary.

Base Points on the Coast of Yemen

149. Since Jabal al-Tayr and the Zubayr group are not to influence the drawing of the median line boundary, it is necessary to decide upon the base points to be used for this part of the coast of Yemen. For here again there is, if not a carpet, at least a considerable scattering of islands and islets which are the beginning of a large area of coastal islands and reefs which, extending northward, ultimately form part of a large island cluster or system off the coast of Saudi Arabia.

150. There is also the relatively large, inhabited and important island of Kamaran off this part of the Yemen coast. This island, together with the large promontory of the mainland to the south of it, forms an important bay and there can be no doubt that these features are integral to the coast of Yemen and part of it and should therefore control the median line. One significant controlling base point is therefore on the westernmost extremity of Kamaran. It seems reasonable also to use as base points the very small islands immediately south of Kamaran and west of the promontory headland mentioned above.

151. The question remains as to the islands to the north of Kamaran. The relatively large islet of Tiqfash, and the smaller islands of Kutama and Uqban further west, all appear to be part of an intricate system of islands, islets and reefs which guard this part of the coast. This is indeed, in the view of the Tribunal, a "fringe system" of the kind contemplated by Article 7 of the Convention, even though Yemen does not appear to have claimed it as such. Indeed the Tribunal does not have the advantage of any views of Yemen about this part of its coast because it chose to deploy its arguments differently. It is however the view of the Tribunal that it is right to use as median line base points not only Kamaran and its satellite islets which appear in the Yemen Map 12.1, but also the islets to the northwest named Uqban and Kutama.

152. The above decisions having been made, it is now possible to compute and plot the northern stretch of the boundary line between turning points 1 and 13 (the list of the coordinates of the turning points is given below; see also the illustrative Charts 3 and 4). For this entire part of the line, the boundary should be a mainland-coastal median, or equidistance, line.

153. At turning point number 13, however, a simple mainland/coastal median line approaches the area of possible influence of the islands of the Zuqar-Hanish group, and clearly some decisions have to be made as to how to deal with this situation.

The Middle Stretch of the Boundary Line

154. It will be convenient for obvious reasons if the Tribunal first decides the question of the boundary in the narrow seas between the south-west extremity of the Hanish group on the one hand and the Eritrean islands of the Mohabbakahs, High Island, the Haycocks and the South West Rocks on the other. In this part of the boundary there is added to the boundary problem of delimiting continental shelves and EEZ the question of delimiting an area of overlapping territorial seas. This comes about because Zuqar and Hanish, attributed to the sovereignty of Yemen, both generate territorial seas which overlap with those generated by the Haycocks and South West Rocks, attributed to the sovereignty of Eritrea. It would appear from Yemen Map 12.1 that Yemen assumed that Eritrea is entitled only to a strictly 12 mile territorial sea extending from the Eritrean base points chosen by Yemen along the high-water line on the Eritrean coast; the outcome would be, according to Yemen, that the Haycocks and South West Rocks are thus left isolated outside and beyond the Eritrean territorial sea proper.

155. This proposition is questionable, quite apart from the obvious impracticality of establishing limited enclaves around islands and navigational hazards in the immediate neighbourhood of a main international shipping lane. There is no doubt that an island, however small, and even rocks provided they are indeed islands proud of the water at high-tide, are capable of generating a territorial sea of up to 12 miles (Article 121.2 of the Convention). It follows that a chain of islands which are less than 24 miles apart can generate a continuous band of territorial sea. This is the situation of the Eritrean islands out to, and including, the South West Rocks.

156. The point that the Yemen suggestion omits to take into account is that the effect of what has been referred to as "leap-frogging" the Eritrean islands and islets in this area is to extend the mainland coast territorial sea beyond the limit of 12 miles from the mainland coast. According to Article 3 of the Convention, the territorial sea extends "up to a limit

not exceeding 12 nautical miles, measured from the baselines determined in accordance with this Convention". This is permissible because each island, however small or unimportant of itself, creates a further low-water baseline from which the coastal territorial sea is to be measured. This "leap-frogging" point was invoked strongly in support of Eritrea's claims to sovereignty. This reasoning was not accepted by the Tribunal in its Award on Sovereignty, it nonetheless has relevance in the present context.

157. If any further reason were needed to reject the Yemen suggestion of enclaving the Eritrean islands in this area beyond a limit of 12 miles from the high-water line of the mainland coast, it may be found in the principle of non-encroachment which was described by Judge Lachs in the Guinea/Guinea-Bissau Award(15) in the following terms:

As stated in the award, our principal concern has been to avoid, by one means or another, one of the Parties finding itself faced with the exercise of rights, opposite to and in the immediate vicinity of its coast, which might interfere with its right to development or put its security at risk.

158. It will be seen that the international boundary line must therefore lie somewhere in a belt of sea no more than four or five miles wide. Once it is established that there is an area of Eritrean mainland coast territorial sea, potentially extending beyond the South West Rocks and the Haycock group of islands on the one hand and overlapping the territorial sea generated by the Yemen islands of the Hanish group on the other, the situation suggests a median line boundary. Under Article 15 of the Convention the normal methods for drawing an equidistant median line could be varied if reason of historic title or other special circumstance were to indicate otherwise. However, the Tribunal has considered these reasons and circumstances and finds no variance necessary.

159. Further bearing in mind its overall task of delimitation, the Tribunal also finds this line to be an entirely equitable one. The decision of the Tribunal is therefore that the median line is the international boundary line where it cuts through the area of overlap of the respective territorial seas of the Parties.

There remains, however, the part of the boundary line which is to connect the mainland coastal line and the line delimiting the overlapping territorial seas. To the description of this line the Award now turns.

The Boundary Line Which Connects Turning Point 13 and Turning Point 15

160. If the mainland coastal median were continued south of turning point 13, it would cut first the territorial sea of Zuqar and then the territorial sea of Hanish, and then cut through the land territory of the island of Hanish. It must therefore divert to the west round the Zuqar-Hanish group, also respecting the territorial seas of these islands if they are to be regarded as generating a territorial sea. That they ought to be regarded as having a territorial sea seems reasonable.

161. Various possibilities were considered by the Tribunal. If therefore the international boundary is, after turning point 13 where it meets a 12 mile territorial sea extending from the island of Zuqar, to be diverted in order to respect that area of territorial sea, it could trace the sinuosities of the Zuqar territorial sea boundary until it has to turn southward again in order to join the Article 15 boundary. The Tribunal has decided, however, that it would be better that the line here should be a geodetic line joining point 13 with point 14, making the necessary southwestwards excursion to join the territorial sea median line described above. Moreover, the Tribunal's task is, as mentioned above, to determine the maritime boundary; this does not include setting the limits of the territorial seas.

162. From turning point 14, again with a simple line in view, the southward excursion of the international boundary is a geodetic line joining points 14 and 15 where it becomes the Article 15 median. This boundary decided upon by the Tribunal between turning points 14 and 15 is also very near to the putative boundary of a Yemen territorial sea in this area, but makes for a neater and more convenient international boundary.

The Southern Part of the International Boundary Line

163. From turning point 20, which is the southernmost turning point on the overlapping territorial seas median line, the boundary needs to turn generally south-eastwards to rejoin the mainland coast median line. This it does through a geodetic line which connects turning point 20 and point 21, the latter being the intersection of the extended overlapping territorial seas median line and the coastal median line. Thence the international boundary line resumes as a median line controlled by the two mainland coasts. The Bay of Assab is internal waters, so the controlling base points of the boundary line are seaward of this bay.

Yemen Times would like to notify that because of technical reasons, the third part of the Yemen-Eritrea arbitration documents has been repeated twice. Our apology...!

COMMON SENSE

By: Hassan Al-Haifi

Advertising not for the Public Good

“Look at all that garbage that has been put on our streets. Everywhere you look there is an advertisement that haunts your eyes as you try to find some scenery that will appeal to your taste”, said the passenger as he boarded the mini-bus on the Sixty Meter Road intersection with Hadda Street.

Another wiry passenger who boarded before him said: “Why you can’t even see the mini-buses anymore in the streets because your view is blocked by these ugly posters that have come to cover just about every space of view there is in the capital city.”

“Drink this! Eat this! Wipe your nose with this! All along the city streets that is all one sees. In fact there is no more horizon left in the city and visibility has been reduced to a couple of meters only by these ugly posters that have occupied every ground, wall and air space”, said one of the two students who interrupted their discussion on the horrors of the blackboard jungle to talk about another horror that has overtaken the city.

The last riding passenger continued, “From all the advertising that one is finding on the streets of Sana’a, one would think that the city is the biggest market place in the world. Never has so much ugliness smeared the streets of any metropolis. Imagine the pains this brings to the thousands of poor people who are looking at those sumptuous meals in these ugly posters

when all they can eat only comes from the leftovers that the affluent have filled the city’s overfilled garbage bins. In fact it seems that our city was destined to become the abode for all kinds of garbage, whether leftovers or advertising garbage”.

The mini-bus driver adjusted the mirror after the departing obese passenger literally rolled out of the front passenger seat of the mini-bus, and expressed a sigh of relief at the departure of this overweight regular passenger of this mini-bus. The poor guy has contracted with this mini-bus driver to come and pick him up daily from the Endowment Government Offices just across from the UNDP office. The passenger had always knocked the mirror as he struggled to find the fare for the ride from his tight clothing. The driver expressed a sigh of relief at the departure of this passenger at the Mujahid Street intersection with Hadda Road: “I do not know why I always get stuck with the most difficult passengers. I felt sorry for the guy as I saw him always being rejected by the other bus drivers because of his weight. I decided to accept his offer to double the fare if I would pick him up daily during the workweek at 3:00 PM for the front seat. I thought, ‘well what the heck, if it guaranteed one passenger a day and it is along my route’. Little did I know the awesome difficulties of carrying so much weight. He displaces the rear view mirror at least five times during the ride with his head. His perspiration literally fumigates the air,

adding to the awful smell of all the garbage found in the streets. His breath always reeks of onions or garlic. God knows how many onions the guy eats! I suggested to him to reduce the intake of onions. But he protested vigorously, on the grounds that onions and garlic are medicinal foods! In fact his pockets always contained at least one oversize onion and at least three garlic bulbs. On top of that, there is the problem of shifting gears when this guy is on board. Because of him, I loose at least three passengers, who refuse to get on when the perspiration odor hits their nostrils.”

“Look pal, there is nothing that the City Secretariat could do about the problem you have with this passenger”, said the advertising complaint passenger, continuing, “but one would think that the capital municipality could at least not hurt our sense of sight by this ugly smear of our airspace. Wherever you turn your view is blocked by a poster or an oversize can of powdered milk, that can meet the milk needs of a family of five for ten years! It is hard even to tell what the weather picture looks like any more, as every time you want to see the sky in the horizon, you wind up seeing a naked infant with a fluffy diaper and his bare chest, stating that ‘not even Tarzan had it so good!’”.

The driver also remarked: “For us the problem is those ugly posters that are found in glass cases in the middle of the streets. The reflected car lights from those cases at night are driving hazard at nights, especially in rainy days. They also

block the view of pedestrians behind them who may at any moment jump into the paved road and then you have a dead or injured passenger under you. I tell you those people at the Capital Secretariat have no idea that they have become accomplices in half the traffic accidents in the city! The other half of the accidents are caused by poorly cleaned or maintained cars, which the city municipality should prevent from being on the streets. We have often tried to convince the traffic police of the hazards of these ugly advertisements, but they state that the Capital Secretariat uses the money from these advertisements for the clean up of the city. What a joke! I have not seen Sana’a clean in over ten years!”

One of the students said, after managing to get his books in stacked order after the rubber band that was holding them broke, because they were beyond what the rubber band was able to hold together: My father always spoke of how Sana’a was once the cleanest and most environmentally pure metropolis in the world, twenty years ago. Even despite the simple make up of the municipality structure then, and the relatively simple means at the disposal of those in charge of the city, the city had no garbage heaping up all over the streets of the city. The city trees did not have thousands of plastic bags hanging like fabricated fruit on them. There was absolutely no sign of this ugly commercial trash that has plagued the skyline of the city. Of course there was no

problem of obesity either as people only ate just enough to keep their bodies going, not stagnant as our last passenger was.”

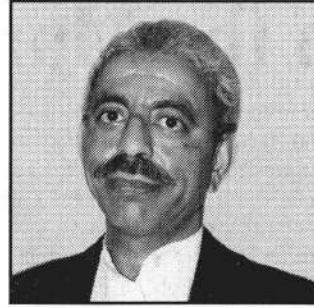
The other student, feeling sorry for his friend, passed an extra book strap he kept as a back up strap for his books to his friend and helped him tie his books together. He then said: ‘I am glad that the country side is still not smeared by the ugliness that has filled Sana’a’s streets and walls. In fact, every time we go back to the village, we make sure to knock down every advertising poster that is on the road, especially near our village. When the people ask us why we do this, we just tell them that we only come here to escape all the ugliness that has smeared Sana’a by all these posters.”

The guy who began all this talk about advertising posters commented: “The worst part of this all is that the pedestrians are finding that whatever little sidewalks they used to have now have been blocked by the oversized pipes and columns that hold these ugly advertisements on. Look at those poor pedestrians trying to find space to tread as they try to get from here to there. On top of that, street intersections can now only hold two pedestrians at one time trying to cross the street

because of the limited space left by these ugly posters.”

The problem really entails the poor taste that has overtaken the City Secretariat in letting this advertising fever get out of hand. What good is putting all this garbage in the city walls and grounds, when people are hit with such difficult economic conditions.” That was the statement of the passenger who replaced the obese passenger picked up one block later.

“I say the residents of the city of Sana’a should all sign a petition demanding that the Capital Secretariat remove and cease this ugly smear of our airspace within one month or else they will be all subject to destruction by the city dwellers”, said the student who is now happy after his friend has solved his problem of keeping his textbooks and notebooks together. He continued, “Nothing will make the school kids happier, after they have already destroyed half the schools in the city and ran out of things to destroy in the schools, then to be hit the city advertising trash, where they will find sufficient enough material to destroy in order to let off some steam from the pressure brought on them by the poor conditions of their schools.”



PASSION FOR PEOPLE
A T S H E R A T O N

Successful millennium party was held in Kawkaban Ballroom being organized by Embassy of Netherlands.

Shown in the pictures the arrival of VIP's and Embassy dignitaries of Yemen

GM of Sheraton Sana'a Hotel will be attending the Starwood global conference in Hawaii as well as to promote tourism in Yemen.

Who's taking care of you?
فندق شيراتون صنعاء
Sheraton Sana'a HOTEL

SECTION 1 INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

Credit No. ITF 34- YEM
IFB No. 01/ 2000

Section 1

1. The Government of the Republic of Yemen (ROY) has received a credit from the Interim Trust Fund (ITF) administered by the International Development Association (IDA), in the amount of SDR 9.2 million equivalent to US \$ 12. 5 million towards the cost of the Seeds and Agricultural Services Project (SASP) and it is intended that a part of the proceeds of this Credit will be applied to eligible payments under the contract for procurement of following fertilizers:-

- Item(1) Di Ammonium Phosphate -quantity 1000 MT
Item (2) Triple Super Phosphate -quantity 1000 MT
Item (3) Potassium Sulphate -quantity 500 MT
Item (4) Compound NPK 20- 20- 20 quantity 500 MT

for the General Agricultural Cooperative (GAC)

Bidding is open to all Bidders from eligible member countries of the World Bank, and Taiwan, China with the exception of following countries:

The Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Israel, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Singapore, United Arab Emirates, and United States of America.

2. The Seeds and Agricultural Services project (SASP) now invites sealed bids from eligible Bidders for the supply of above mentioned goods valid for ninety (90) days from date of opening bids.

3. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from following address and inspect the bidding documents at the office of:

(a) Director of Project Support Unit
Al-Daery (Ring Road)/ Algeria Street
Sana'a (ROY)

Tel/ Fax. No. 207848

(b) Or by writing to SASP, P.O. Box 15316

Sana'a- Republic of Yemen

4. A complete set of the bidding documents may be purchased by any interested eligible Bidder on submission of a written application to the above address upon payment of a non-refundable fees of USD 200.00. Documents may also be obtained by express courier on payment of an additional non-refundable fees of USD 60.00.

5. The Bidder must complete and submit with its bid the Bid Form and Price Schedule furnished in the Bidding Documents.

6. All bids must be submitted in Sealed envelopes and must be accompanied by a bid security of no less than two and half percent (2.5%) of the total bid value in a freely convertible currency, in favour of Seeds and Agricultural Services Project (SASP) valid for one hundred twenty (120) days from the closing date of bids, and must be delivered to the Head Office of SASP, Sana'a Aldaery/ Algeria Street on or before 10:00 a.m. on Sunday March 05, 2000.

7. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders or their representatives who choose to attend at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday March 05, 2000. At the office of PSU whose address is given in PARA (3) of this advertisement

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

الجمهورية اليمنية
وزارة الزراعة والري
مشروع البذور والخدمات الزراعية

إعلان مناقصة عالمية رقم (١/٢٠٠٠م)

١- تعلن وزارة الزراعة والري ممثلة بمشروع البذور والخدمات الزراعية أن حكومة الجمهورية اليمنية تحصلت على قرض من الصندوق الاستئماني المؤقت (البنك الدولي) بمختلف العملات الأجنبية لتمويل جزء من تكاليف مشروع البذور والخدمات الزراعية وقد خصص جزء من تحصيلات القرض لمقابلة المدفوعات المعتمدة تحت هذه المناقصة وذلك لتوريد أسمدة متنوعة للجمعية التعاونية الزراعية:

الضئنة (١) دي أمنيوم فوسفات كمية ١٠٠٠ طن .
الضئنة (٢) سوبر فوسفات ثلاثي كمية ١٠٠٠ طن .
الضئنة (٣) سلفات البوتاسيوم كمية ٥٠٠ طن .
الضئنة (٤) أسمدة مركبة كمية ٥٠٠ طن .

٢- يدعو المستفيد من القرض - مشروع البذور والخدمات الزراعية المتقدمين المؤهلين بحسب شروط البنك الدولي والصندوق المؤقت لتقديم عطاءاتهم مختومة بالشمع الأحمر لتوريد تلك البضاعة الموضحة في الفقرة (١) من هذا الإعلان ساري المفعول لمدة (٩٠) يوم من تاريخ فتح مضاريف العطاءات . يجب أن تعبا البيانات للعقد والأسعار وغيرها على النموذج المرفقة بوثائق المناقصة ولن يلمت لأي عطاء يقدم بغير هذه النماذج .

٣- يمكن شراء وثائق المناقصة بموجب طلب كتابي إلى العنوان التالي:

المدير التنفيذي لوحدة دعم المشروع

الدائري / تقاطع شارع الجزائر

تلصون /فاكس - (٢٠٧٨٤٨)

صنعاء - الجمهورية اليمنية

مقابل دفع رسم لا يسترد (٢٠٠) دولار أمريكي اضافة إلى مبلغ وقدره (٦٠) دولار أمريكي لمن يرغب الحصول على الوثائق بالبريد السريع .

٤- يجب أن يصحب عطاءات المتقدمين ضمان بنكي بواقع (٥٠٪) اثنين ونصف بالمائة من إجمالي مبلغ العطاء أو شيك معتمد مقبول الدفع ساري المفعول لمدة (١٢٠) يوم من تاريخ فتح مضاريف العطاءات باسم مشروع البذور والخدمات الزراعية .

كما يرفق الآتي :-

ب - السجل التجاري .

أ - البطاقة الضريبية .

ج - شهادة تفويض من الشركة المصنعة .

٥- يجب أن تكون العطاءات صالحة لمدة (٩٠) يوم من تاريخ فتح مضاريف العطاءات.

٦- آخر موعد لتقديم العطاءات في أو قبل الساعة العاشرة صباحاً من يوم الأحد الموافق ٢٠٠٠/٣/٥ م. وتسلم المضاريف إلى سكرتارية المشروع في العنوان المحدد بالفقرة من هذا الإعلان.

٧- سيتم فتح مضاريف العطاءات المختومة بالشمع الأحمر بجلسة علنية وبحضور من يرغب من مندوبي المتقدمين في الساعة الحادي عشر صباحاً يوم الأحد الموافق ٢٠٠٠/٣/٥ م. وذلك بمقر المشروع المحدد بالفقرة (٣) من هذا الإعلان .

والله الموفق

Reformation Process in the Market and State in Yemen



Mohammed al-Maitami
Associate Professor of
Economics, Sana'a
University
Visiting scholar - University
of California, Berkeley

are widespread in Yemeni institutions and this poses a major obstacle to any corrective program and more generally to any development program in Yemen.

All economic and social indicators point to the Economic Reform Program, in spite of the achieved successes in the fields of monetary and fiscal reform in 1995 and 1996. Even those successes have dissipated in the years of 1997 and 1998 as a result of first external shock. Let us look in brief at the main economic indicators, which were the subject of the reformation process: real GDP growth, the rate of inflation, budget deficit, national account balance, the coefficient of investment. What do these indicators show us? The real GDP growth increased from -0.2% in 1994 to 5.1% and 4.3% in 1995, 1996. But it fell again to 3.6 and 2.5 in 1997 and 1998. Core inflation fell from 75% in 1994 to 20%, 10% and 5% in 1995, 1996 and 1997 respectively, but it rose again to 55% in 1998. The budget deficit as percentage of GDP was reduced from 17% in 1994 to 6%, 4%, and 2% in 1995, 1996 and 1997 respectively. Currently it is rising again to 12%. The deficit in the national account balance fell from -11.6% in 1994 to -10.1%, 3.5%, -1.5% in 1995, 1996 and 1997 respectively, but it is rising again to 10.0% in 1998. The exchange rate rose from 125-130 R/D the average designed level drawn by program to 160 R/D in 1999. Investment coefficient is less more 4 time than planned. The standard of living is falling according to UN sources. GDP per capita is less than \$ 240. Unemployment is more than 35%. The percentage of the population living under the poverty line is more than 50%. The Majority of infrastructure is deteriorating rapidly. We are witnessed of growing of collapse of Yemeni national industry. More than 30 firms were closed within the last two years, more than 5000 industrial worker were fired. The main sector in Yemen-agriculture produced only 13% of GDP, while 56% of the labor force in concentrated in this area.

There are in my viewpoint two major factors standing behind the impeding of the ERP: First- the fragility of the Yemeni state and Administrative Anarchy. Second- Theoretical weaknesses in the design of the ERP. I am not going to focus my presentation on the first factor. There are possibly others who will address this factor. I would pre-

fer to concentrate a little bit on the second factor. No doubt that without reforms the Yemeni people would be in far worse condition. There is also no doubt, that our people have faced far greater hardship than the current hardship resulting from the implementation of the reform program. These are facts with which it is difficult to argue. At the beginning of reformation process there were some positive results which we have previously mentioned. Those achievements were realized initially with financial support from abroad. But the main goals of growth and sustainable development (real GDP in material sectors, Coefficient of investment, unemployment remain static. The question of investment has not made any significant progress. Investments in Yemen has been due to the lack of an appropriate environment for investment. The FIAS report from Yemen of June 1997 stated that "...con-

strained public budget, low income level, decentralized population and difficult physical environment; underdeveloped legal system and weak institutional capacity; underdeveloped local capital markets; and (most critically) Yemen's high political risk rating, as well as....(the fact that) the state, the government of Yemen is still viewed as weak, unreliable and lacking credibility."

At the first external shock these achievements disappeared, because of lack of cohesion of the program. The architects of the economic reform program assumed that the problems of the Yemeni economy consisted primarily of government deficit, negative balance of payments, sharp fluctuations in the value of the Yemeni Rial and the existence of an inefficient and unproductive public sector. Based upon these assumptions the economic reform program anticipated that sim-

ply relieving the pressure on the balance of payments, reducing the government deficit through cutting expenditure and cutting government subsidies, making social services cost effective and privatizing the public sector business will allow these market forces mobilize and establish the proper levels of investment, production, consumption, importation and exports in light of current resource endowments. The program ignores that the deeper roots of the economic crisis which are not restricted to financial and monetary policy, but rather these are merely symptoms on the surface of more fundamental and ongoing contradictions and difficulties in the material production and administrative-political management. The question arises today, is it possible for the market to operate effectively in the absence of the state or even in its presence, but in a weak and fragile condition, The

answer for this question comes from the world bank itself in the statements made in the report of the World Bank in its yearly meeting held in Hong Kong on the 23-26 of September 1997: "In the absence of an effective state it is impossible to produce any economic or social progress...and without protection from theft and violence and repressive behavior by the state and without a fair judiciary which is able to enforce its rulings, it is difficult for markets to grow and develop. The final address by James Wolfensohn, President of the World Bank Group, to the Board of Governors of the World Bank Group, at the Joint Annual Discussion on October 6-8 1998, confirms our believes that any economic reforms and measures "...if they do not fight corruption and put in place good governance, if they do not introduce social safety nets, if they not have the social and political consensus for reform, if they do not bring their people with them, their development is endangered and will not last."

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Muhsen Bin Farid to Yemen Times:
"Clandestine Contacts Between the Government and MOWJ are Groundless"

When local and international media carries news about new and hot events on the political arena and there is confusion between credibility and skepticism, Yemen Times would usually seek to get information from its very sources to offer answers to all queries on the political arena.

Conflicting news reports of clandestine contacts between the regime in Sanaa and Abdul Rahman Al-Jifri, leader of the opposition National Front 'MOWJ', whose activities are banned in Yemen. He is also the President of the Sons of Yemen League 'Ray'. Reports say that he withdrew from the Opposition Coordination Council in order to arrange things in his party and then to intensify the party activities in the Southern and Eastern governorates so as to replace some opposition political forces and to prepare his opposition leadership to come back home. This has led to the rise of so many questions about what is actually happening around, what the opposition abroad demands to fulfill the national reconciliation, the attitude of the Sons of the Yemeni League versus the elections after its withdrawal from the Opposition Coordination Council? All these question marks and their implications have been presented to Mr. Mohsen Bin Farid, the Secretary General of the League of the Yemeni Sons 'Ray', member of the executive committee of the National Opposition Front (MOWJ), and the head of its information office.

"We, in the League, have embraced plurality and democracy, therefore elections (local, parliamentary, and presidential) should be the means to decide and settle disputes among Yemenis and are the only means for the peaceful transfer of power."

He says "We see the Yemeni opposition as one entity. We do not believe in dividing the opposition into an inside and an outside one. There are large numbers of political, military and civil leaders forced to flee the country after the 1994 war. Nevertheless, there is a human base for the opposition in inside Yemen. It is represented by the political parties in addition to other Yemeni opposition factions. There is also the silent majority of the people in Yemen. The Yemeni opposition whether inside or outside Yemen share the same major common denominator, their concern is one and their prospects and vantage points are close to a great extent. All of them are of the view to have a unity that will last and stand all difficulties and hurdles of time. All of them do also believe in democracy and discarding violence, seeking freedom, justice, and full equity among all the people, without any prejudice and respect of human rights in Yemen.

If we agree on these main issues, then the Yemeni opposition is one and there is no need to divide it into internal and

"it is believed that the Coordination Council is over by the time it reversed its course of action and breached the agreement it had made."

external opposition.

We, as well as the Yemeni people, were very hopeful when the unification was declared in 1990, holding out great hopes that our country will forget the past - characterized by violence, bloodshed, dictatorship, social as well as economic backwardness - and makes

amends. However, all these great expectations were aborted as a result of the composition of power share on which the unity was based and then came the power struggle, that bred the inevitable disaster of the summer of 1994.

After six years of that horrible war, our country is still suffering a strained political, economic, social and security situation. Conditions in our country in simple terms are as follows: a prevailing political imbalance, continuous deteriorating economic situations leading to hard and austere social living conditions of the

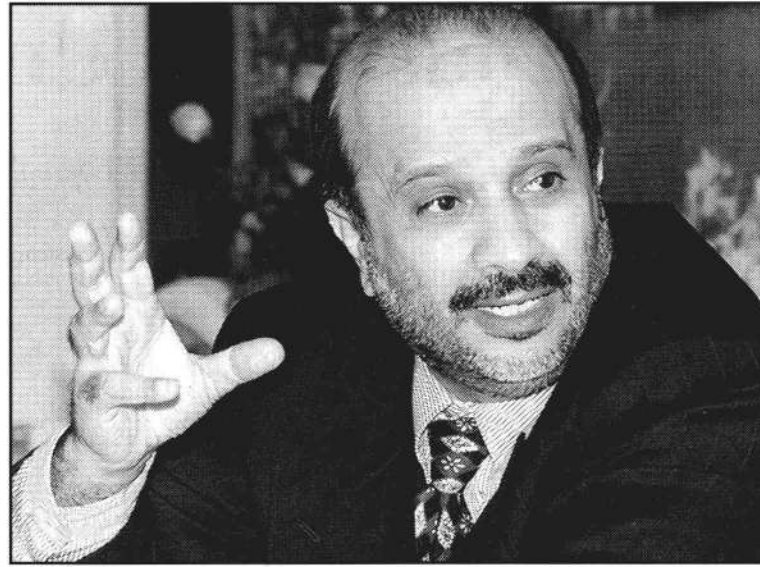
"some parties breached the agreement and participated in the elections for various reasons as a prediction that their participation would be in their favor or as a result of a deal with the authorities."

people, absence of the state of law and order leading to a state of anarchy and insecurity. All this can not be denied by anyone.

The Sons of Yemen League party has made various initiatives and concepts thought to be the ways out of the country's cumulative and present crises. The president of the League Mr.

Abdul Rahman Al-Gifri has given a brief account on the situation in a study titled "Yemen Where is it Going?"

We in the League believe that the way out lies in implanting the bases of a lasting unity within a coherent and solid ruling structure that meets the balance needed. A local authority with wide



"No contacts have been made between Mr. Abdul Rahman Al-Jifri, the president of the League and 'MOWJ' and the president of the Republic nor with any representative of the regime."

powers and independent, just and fair judiciary system should also exist and take roots enhancing the means of security, development, stability and comprehensive national unity.

Regarding elections we, in the League, have embraced plurality and democracy, therefore elections (local, parliamentary, and presidential) should be the means to decide and settle disputes among Yemenis and are the only means for the peaceful transfer of power. In order to meet the purpose of elections, the authority is ought to believe in elections and should ensure the conditions necessary to make them a success. We realize that democracy can never be achieved all at a time. It is rather gradual accumulative process. What is important then is to ensure a correct and good start for the one thousand -mile march begins with a step.

It is then essential to maintain a multi-power local authority, which is an indicator on the regime's seriousness regarding the question of reforms and elections. It is also essential that some con-

stitutional amendments are made to remove all the articles that hinder fair and just elections. We understand the deteriorated and complicated conditions of our country so we do not demand to have elections matching those of in Britain or America. However, it is important that we put an end to the process doctoring elections returns. We should also restrict the use of the public treasury. The The armed forces and mass media should be kept neutral and impartial.

The League and the Opposition Coordination Council:

The League party did not withdraw from the Opposition Coordination Council, besides this council was over by the end of the elections of 1997 for the parties composing the council had reached an agreement to boycott elections of 1997. However some parties breached the agreement and participated in the elections for various reasons as a prediction that it participation would be in their favor or as a result of deal with the authorities. We were taken aback when

the Opposition Coordination Council came back to the political theatre without informing us. As the League party has self-respect and observes agreements it concludes with others, it believes that the Coordination Council is over by the time it reversed its course of action and breached the agreement it had made.

We do respect other parties constituting what is called now Coordination Council and do not have any objection to cooperate and coordinate with any one of them to join the opposition forces. We have taken the initiative more than once in regard to this issue and the ball is now in the other's court.

On contacts between Mr. Abdul Rahman Al-Gifri and the regime in Sana'a:

The league party has embraced the peaceful democratic approach as a sole way for the political action in Yemen, hence we are heralds for dialogue and true national reconciliation. We seek to accomplish this noble and sublime goal before the very eyes of the public and not secretly.

So far no contacts have been made between Mr. Abdul Rahman Al-Jifri, the president of the League and 'MOWJ' and the president of the Republic nor with any representative of the regime. We have read what was reported in newspapers just like you. We hope that all the sides will realize that there is no way out of this except by accepting each other and by the positive,

"The League does not want to be an alternative for any one nor to replace any one, for it believes that the country should embrace all without any exception and discrimination."

constructive dialogue away from conspiracies, tactics, modus operandi and narrow partisan calculations.

The League does not want to be an alternative for any one nor to replace any one, for it believes that the country should embrace all without any exception and discrimination.

It is time to save our Fish wealth

Ismail Al-Ghabiri, Yemen Times

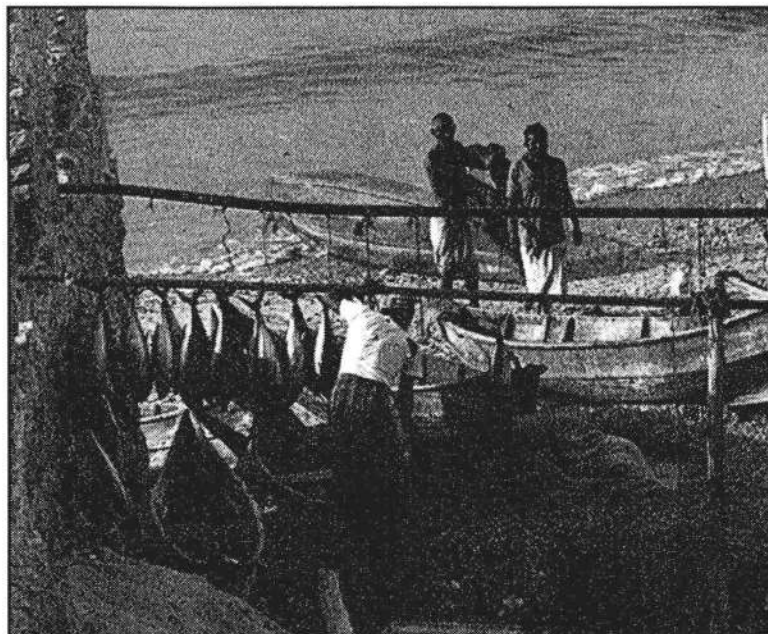
Yemen territorial waters are rich with fish wealth and other marine biology. This is a fact confirmed by studies and in reality. The coastline of Yemen extends to more than 2350 sq. km in addition to the Yemeni that total more than one hundred. Yemeni coasts and islands contain huge fish wealth both close to the surface and deep down the sea. Yemeni seas also have abundant commercial amounts of marine creatures such as mollusca and crustacea. This is ascribed to the seasonal and summer changes of the sea and coming of water currents from the Indian Ocean accompanied with

Somalian currents. This helps render the areas of the Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea distinguished and rich with various marine creatures. Studies, surveys, organizations and the international teams affirmed that the fish and marine creatures productivity of the Gulf of exceeds that of many of the region's countries. It is possible to fish an annual amount of about 320,000 tons of fish and other marine creatures.

Protection of Fish Wealth

Protection and preservation of this national wealth, as well as developing and investing it, is a strategic task. It is considered a renewable wealth and very significant contributor to the national economy. Studies and reports show indications of noticeable drop in fish stockpile and decrease in fishing rates in Yemen, especially when the volume of fishing reached 130,000 tons per year, and 80,000,000 tons in the world.

The causes of this drop in fish stockpile and rates of fishing can be directly attributed to two main reasons. The first is the concentration on fishing traditional kinds of fish and not looking for other types of fish and marine biology available in all our regional waters. The other reason could be the increased fishing in certain areas the matter which results in exceeding the production ceiling permissible in these areas and this leads to the destruction of environment of some kinds



of fish. It is well-known that preserving marine environment and creatures is a strategic task and the responsibility of the state and the citizen so that all work together to protect and not to inflict any harm on it.

Added to the above reasons is the fishing operations by foreign boats in violation of Yemeni regional fishing areas. This question must be given great attention by raising effectiveness of watching our regional waters and taking appropriate measures to prevent such acts of violation. We find that those who come to fish illegally, are violating treaties and agreements regulating the rights of all parties. What is happening in our regional waters is the very sabotage of our marine wealth. Foreign Fishing boats drop nets full of eggs of unwanted kinds of fish in our sea shores to get rid of them. This of course affects badly our sea and land environment, particularly our fish farms. Those are mostly equipped with weapons and designed as any gunboat. They are

trespassing the Yemeni regional waters and carrying out fishing operations along more than two thousand kilometers of our coast. For many years complaints have been issued by the Fishermen Union against these violations, demanding for putting an end to tampering with our fish wealth. In the light of this situation the Yemeni council of ministers has set up a committee charged with fact-finding mission and to submit a report of the issue. It has also been learnt that the government gave orders to the navy force to protect our fish wealth and not to allow any ship to violate permitted areas stipulated in agreements concluded between Yemen and some countries.

There happened a number of confrontations and sometimes those foreign boats opened fire on our navy force. They have for many times practiced act of piracy against our small fishing boats and took them hostage to some countries on the western side of

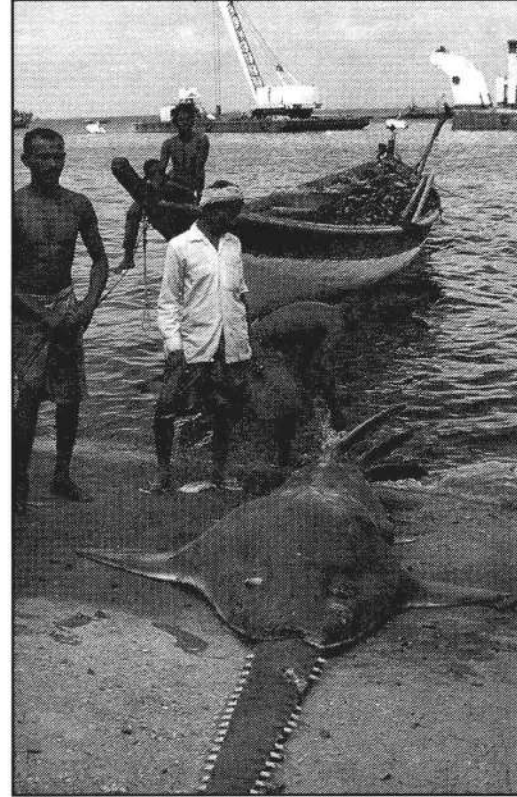
the Red Sea, retaining the Yemeni fishermen for several months and confiscating their boats and possessions. Leniency on part of Yemeni competent authorities has encouraged foreign pirates to go too far in committing their aggressive acts against our marine boundaries. This arouses the question on the side that would protect this wealth, and the fishermen who have become threatened and scared.

There are reports that a large number of foreign boats are still randomly fishing inside our regional waters and carrying out acts of killing, wounding and kidnapping Yemeni fishermen. Some said that they do not see that agreements concluded with some countries are being observed but rather the results are mostly to the contrary. The question is that why do we keep silently versus these acts of aggression? Finally, we hope to hear about strict measures taken by our government to stop illegitimate acts of fishing within our territorial waters a matter that poses a great threat to our fish wealth.

مع اشراقه يوم جديد، ومع زغردة الطيور والبلابل
 نرف ابات النهاني والتبريكات
 تلاخ الزميل
 حافظ البكاري - مراسل صحيفة عكاظ
 والأخت رحمة حجيرة - الكاتبة الصحفية المعروفة
 بمناسبة ارتزاقهما طفلا اسمياه
«نجم الدين»
 جعله الله قرعة عين ابويه، وأنف انف مبروك
 المهنؤون،
 وليد عبدالعزيز السقايف، محمد بن سلام، محمد حاتم القاضي

لا حول ولا قوة الا بالله
 بقلوب مؤمنة بقضاء الله وقدره
 تلقينا النبا المشجع يموت الزميل الصحفي الشاب
 وحيد عبدالوئي
 تقدم الله الفقيد بواسع الرحمة
 وأهله وأهله وذويه وأصدقائه الصبر والسلوان
 وإنا لله وإنا إليه راجعون.
 الأسيفون،
 طاقم صحيفة، يمن تايمز،

Omaimah Ahmad Saeed is afflicted with TB in her right hip and according to medical reports, she needs to have a surgical operation in Germany. The family is unable to afford the costs of travel and operation and it appeals for your help.
 If you can help, please call: 5819364
 أميمة أحمد سعيد طفلة تعاني من مرض السل في مفصل الورك الأيمن وتحتاج إلى معالجة في ألمانيا بحسب التقارير الطبية. ولعجز أسرتها على توفير تكاليف العلاج في الخارج فقد توجهت بالنداء إلى أصحاب الخير.
 الرجاء الاتصال بالرقم 5819364



QAT: A Dangerous Drug Under the Microscope

3rd and last in a series

2 of 5
TI: Qhat induced psychosis and medico-legal implication: a case report.
 AU: Alem-A; Shibre-T
 AD: Amanuel Hospital, Addis Ababa.
 SO: Ethiop-Med-J. 1997 Apr; 35(2): 137-9
 ISSN: 0014-1755
 PY: 1997
 LA: ENGLISH
 CP: ETHIOPIA
 AB: It has been established that Qhat plant leaves (catha edulis forsk) contain an active psychostimulant substance known as Cathinone that is similar in structure and pharmacological activity to amphetamine. There have been no previously reported cases of Qhat induced psychosis in Ethiopia despite heavy consumption of Qhat in most part of the country. We report here a case of brief and episode psychosis attributed to heavy Qhat chewing. We maintained that Qhat leaf is a substance of abuse and Qhat chewing has the potential to complicate psychiatric conditions and forensic events.
 MESH: Ethiopia - Homicide- legislation -and jurisprudence; Middle Age; Psychoses, Substance -Induced- diagnosis; Social -responsibility; Violence.
 MESH: *Central -Nervous-System-Stimulants -adverse -effects; *Plant-Extracts-adverse -effects; *Psychoses, -Substance -Induced -etiology
 TG: Case- report; Human ;Male
 PT: JOURNAL -ARTICLE
 RN: 0;0;0
 NM: miraa; Central -Nervous-System-Stimulants; Plant- Extracts
 AN: 1998237864
 UD: 199807

3 of 5
TI: A transcultural pattern of drug use: (Qhat) in the UK.
 AU: Griffiths-P; Gossop-M; Wickenden-S; Dunworth -J; K; Lloyd-C
 AD: National Addiction Center, Maudsley Hospital, London.
 SO: Br-J- Psychiatry. 1997 Mar; 170:281-4
 ISSN: 0007- 1250
 PY: 1997
 LA: ENGLISH
 CP: ENGLAND
 AB: BACKGROUND: This study investigate patterns of Qhat among 207 Somalis living in London. METHOD: Subjects were recruited using privileged access interviewing. Somalian interviewers were recruited who shared the same culture as the subjects. Data were collected by means of a structured interview. RESULTS: One hundred and sixty-two subjects (78 %) had used Qhat. The majority (76 %) used more Qhat than in Somalia. Some users reported moderate dependence; a minority reported severe problems. Adverse psychological effects included sleep problems, anxiety and depression. Medical problems associated with Qhat use were rare. CONCLUSION: Qhat users who continue to use this drug when it is transplanted from a traditional context may experience difficulties. Qhat use can also be seen as playing a positive role in supporting the cultural identity of the Somalian community. Severe problems were rarely reported. Qhat consumption should be considered when addressing health-related topics with those communities in which Qhat use is common.
 MESH: Adolescence- Adult- Attitude- Health; Ethnobotany-, London-epidemiology; Middle- Age; Plants, Medicinal; * substance -related- disorders- ethnology
 TG: female hman; Male ; Support-

Non-U.S- Government
 PT: JOURNAL- ARTICLE
 AN: 1997372983
 UD: 199710
 4 of 5
TI: Renocolic fistula as a complication to xanthogranulomatous pyelonephritis.
 AU: Majeed- HA; Mohammed -KA; Salman-HA
 AD: AL Sabah Hospital, Sulaibi Qhat- Kuwait
 SO: Singapore-Med -J. 1997 Mar; 38(3): 116-9
 ISSN: 0037-5675
 PY: 1997
 LA: ENGLISH
 CP: SINGAPORE
 AB: Four patients with xanthogranulomatous pyelonephritis were found to have renocolic fistulae. Coincidentally, the left kidney was involved in all four cases. All patients presented with renal mass. Two cases have had coexistent renal stones, one of them presented with massive suppurative gastrointestinal bleeding as a result of portal hypertension. Another patient had a history of Schistosomiasis. In none of the patients was the renal condition confidently diagnosed preoperatively, nor was the colonic fistula suspected. In all four patients, nephrectomy was performed together with resection of the involved colon followed by a satisfactory recovery. The possibility of a colonic fistula should be kept in mind as a complication to this rare renal condition in spite of the absence of colonic symptoms and normal finding in barium enema studies.
 MESH: Adult- Colic- diagnosis; Emergencies; Gastrointestinal-Hemorrhage-diagnosis; kidney-Calculi-diagnosis; kidney-Calculi-etiology; kidney Diseases -diagnoses; Middle-Age; Pylonephritis, - Xanthogranulomatous-diagnosis; Urinary-Fistula-diagnosis
 MESH: * Colic-etiology; *Kidney -Disease-etiology; *Pyelonephritis-Xanthogranulomatous-complications; *Urinary -Fistula -etiology
 TG: Case-Report; Female; Human; Male
 PT: JOURNAL- ARTICLE; REVIEW-OF-REPORTED-CASES
 AN: 1997414712
 UD: 199711

5 of 5
TI: Effect of Qhat chewing on the bioavailability of ampicillin and amoxicillin.
 AU: Affect -OA; Ali -AA; Ali-HM
 AD: Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Sana'a University of Yemen.
 SO: J-Antimicrob- Chemother. 1997 Apr; 39 (4): 523-5
 ISSN: 0305-7453
 PY: 1997
 LA: ENGLISH
 CP: ENGLAND
 AB: The study examined the effect of Qhat chewing on ampicillin and amoxicillin bioavailability following the administration of a 500 mg single dose each antibiotic at different times relative to Qhat chewing. Using a urinary excretion method the bioavailabilities of ampicillin and amoxicillin was only significantly reduced when the antibiotic was taken midway through the Qhat chewing session. It was concluded that the two antibiotics, particularly ampicillin-urine; Biological-Availability; Plant-Leaves-chemistry.
 MESH: *Amoxicillin-pharmacology; * Ampicillin-pharmacokinetics; *Central -Nervous-System-Stimulants-pharmacology; *Plant-Extracts-pharmacology.
 TG: Comparative-study; Human;

1 of 2 (1999)
TI: Genetic toxicology of abused drugs: a brief review.
 AU: Li-JH; Lin-LF
 AD: National Narcotics Bureau, Department of Health, Executive Yuan (Cabinet), Taipei, Taiwan, Republic of China. Nbjhlig (at)ms3.hinet.net
 SO: Mutagenesis. 1998 Nov; 13 (6): 557-65
 ISSN: 0267-8357
 PY: 1998
 LA: ENGLISH
 CP: ENGLAND
 AB: Although numerous studies have been conducted on abused drugs, most focus on the problems of addiction (dependence) and their neurotoxicities. Now accumulated data have demonstrated that the genotoxicity and /or carcinogenicity of abused substances, including LSD, opiates (diacetylmorphine, morphine, opium and codeine), cocaine, cannabis, betel quid and Qhat, are discussed for their potential genotoxicity/ carcinogenicity. The available literature in the field, although not as for neurotoxicity, clearly indicates the capability of abused drugs to induce genotoxicity.
 MESH: Areca-adverse -effects; Areca-toxicity; Cannabis-adverse-effects; Cocaine-adverse-effects; Cocaine-toxicity; Lysergic-Acid-Diethylamide-adverse-effects; Lysergic-Acid-Diethylamide-toxicity; Mutagenicity- Tests; Narcotics-adverse-effects; Narcotics-toxicity; Neoplasms-etiology; Risk-Assessment; Substance-Related -Disorders-complications
 MESH: *CARCINOGENS-ADVERSE-EFFECTS; *Carinogens; *Chromosome -Aberrations; *Mutagens-adverse-effects; *Mutagens-toxicity; *Street -Drug -adverse -effects;Drugs-toxicity.
 TG: Animal; Human; Support, Non-U.S- gov't
 PT: JOURNAL-ARTICLE; REVIEW; REVIEW,TUTORIAL
 RN: 0; 0; 0; 50-36-2; 50- 37-3
 NM: Carcinogens; Mutagens; Narcotics; Street-Drugs; Cocaine;

Male
 PT: CLINICAL -TRIAL; JOURNAL-ARTICLE
 RN: 0; 0; 0; 26787-78-0; 69-53-4
 NM: miraa; Central-Nervous-System -Stimulants; Pant -Extracts; Amoxicillin; Ampicillin
 AN: 199729121
 UD: 199709
 1 of 3 (1998)
TI: The Qhat-chewing elderly (letter)
 AU: Salib- E; Ahmed- AG
 SO: Int-J-Geriatri-Psychiatry. 1998 Jul; 13(7): 493-4
 ISSN: 0885-6230
 PY: 1998
 LA: ENGLISH
 CP: ENGLAND
 MESH: Aged -England -epidemiology; Mental-Disorder- chemically-induced; Middle Age; Somalia -ethnology.
 MESH: *Central -Nervous -system -Stimulant pharmacology; * cognition -drug-effects; *Mental-Disorders-epidemiology; *plant-extracts -pharmacology
 TG: LETTER
 RN: 0; 0; 0
 NM: Miraa; Central - Nervous -system-stimulants; plant- extracts
 AN: 1998360153
 UD: 199901

2 of 3
TI: Determination of (S) (-)- cathinone by spectrophotometric detection.
 AU: al-Obaid -AM; al-Tamrah-SA; Aly; FA; Alwarthan -AA
 AD: Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, College of Pharmacy, King Saud University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.
 SO: J-Pharm-Biomed-Anal. 1998 Jun; 17(2): 321-6
 ISSN: 1998
 LA: ENGLISH
 CP: ENGLAND
 AB: This study reports the demographic and social characteristics and level of psychological dysfunction in regular Qhat users compared with matched non-users. The results indicate that Qhat users resemble non-users on a number of psychosocial variables and GHQ scores, with no evidence to suggest higher morbidity amongst user. The two groups appear to differ only in the level of their use of nicotine and also in their perception of the harmful effects associated with Qhat use.
 MESH: Adolescence-; Adult-; Aged -England -epidemiology ; Middle age ; Socioeconomic - epidemiology.
 TG: Human; Male
 PT: JOURNAL- ARTICLE
 RN: 0; 0; 0
 NM: miraa; Central- Nervous -System- Stimulants; Plant _extracts
 AN: 1998268016
 UD: 199809

1 of 2 (1999)
TI: Genetic toxicology of abused drugs: a brief review.
 AU: Li-JH; Lin-LF
 AD: National Narcotics Bureau, Department of Health, Executive Yuan (Cabinet), Taipei, Taiwan, Republic of China. Nbjhlig (at)ms3.hinet.net
 SO: Mutagenesis. 1998 Nov; 13 (6): 557-65
 ISSN: 0267-8357
 PY: 1998
 LA: ENGLISH
 CP: ENGLAND
 AB: Although numerous studies have been conducted on abused drugs, most focus on the problems of addiction (dependence) and their neurotoxicities. Now accumulated data have demonstrated that the genotoxicity and /or carcinogenicity of abused substances, including LSD, opiates (diacetylmorphine, morphine, opium and codeine), cocaine, cannabis, betel quid and Qhat, are discussed for their potential genotoxicity/ carcinogenicity. The available literature in the field, although not as for neurotoxicity, clearly indicates the capability of abused drugs to induce genotoxicity.
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 MESH: *CARCINOGENS-ADVERSE-EFFECTS; *Carinogens; *Chromosome -Aberrations; *Mutagens-adverse-effects; *Mutagens-toxicity; *Street -Drug -adverse -effects;Drugs-toxicity.
 TG: Animal; Human; Support, Non-U.S- gov't
 PT: JOURNAL-ARTICLE; REVIEW; REVIEW,TUTORIAL
 RN: 0; 0; 0; 50-36-2; 50- 37-3
 NM: Carcinogens; Mutagens; Narcotics; Street-Drugs; Cocaine;

Lysergic -Acid-Diethylamide
 AU: selassie- SG; Gebre-A
 AD: Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia.
 SO: Bull-Narc. 1996; 48(1-2): 53-63
 ISSN: 0007-523X
 PY: 1996
 LA: ENGLISH
 UNITED STATES
 AB: A study of drug and substance abuse at Addis Ababa and in 24 towns across Ethiopia was conducted from June to November 1995. Five of respondents were selected for the study: street children, commercial sex workers and street vendors; medical, social and public health workers; law enforcement officials; leaders of religious institutions and educational establishments, youth leaders and personal of non-governmental organizations providing social service to communities; and focus groups comprised of men and women from the various places covered in the study. All categories of respondents agreed that the problem of substance abuse was becoming increasingly serious in

Ethiopia; that adolescents and young adults were the most affected group; and that addictive substance were easily obtained in the country. The study also found that there was a significant increase in the number of Ethiopians chewing Qhat (Catha edulis). Qhat, previously known to grow in the eastern part of Ethiopia, was widely cultivated in all parts of the country. Qhat consumption, traditionally confined to a certain segment of the population, had become popular among of the population. Some of the respondents reported that Qhat chewing often led to the abuse of illicit substances.
 MESH: Adolescence; Adult-; Child ; Drug -and-Narcotic-Control-Legislation-and jurisprudence; Ethiopia- epidemiology; Knowledge, Attitudes -Prevalence - Questionnaires- Time- Factors
 MESH: * Population -Surveillance - methods; *Substance -Abuse -Detection- methods; *Substance-Related-Disorders- epidemiology; Substance-Related -Disorder-Prevention-and-control; *Urban-health
 TG: Female; Human; Male
 PT: JOURNAL ARTICLE
 AN: 1999056414
 UD: 199904

Answer of 52nd Issue Competition:

"The Eritrean troops had occupied Greater Hunaish Island in December 1995"

Winners of the 52nd Issue Competition

First Prize (YR 8000)
Ashraf Mohammed Mos'ad, Sanaa

Second Prize (YR 5000)
Aref Mohammed Al-Dulal

Third Prize (YR 4000)
Ali Hussein Abdulla Mosa, Aden

Fourth Prize (YR 3000)
Rasheed Abdullah Mohammed Naje, Ibb

Congratulations to All Winners

To receive their prizes, winners should come with their IDs to the Yemen Times Sanaa Office, near the Palestinian Embassy, Hadda Street. Tel. 268661. No prizes will be given to winners who do not come within one month from the day of announcing their names.

Crossword Puzzle

Improve your English by solving the YT Weekly puzzle!

Fill in the ANTONYMS of the following words:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1													
2													
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4													
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12													
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14													
15													

ACROSS:

- Light adj (5)
- Close (4)
- Polite (4), dry (3)
- Live (3), nasty (4)
- Narrow (4), bad (4)
- Laugh (3)
- Clean adj (5)
- Forsake v. (9)
- Fearful (5)
- Biased adj (7), fat (4)
- Generous (6)
- Favorable (7)
- Slow (4), rough (6)
- Master (5)
- Ugly (9), beginning (3)

DOWN:

- Lazy (11)
- Subtracted (5), difficult (4)
- Illiterate (9)
- Old (5), cold (3)
- No (3)
- Happiness (5)
- Wealthy (5)
- Light n. (8)
- Out (2)
- Sated (6), from (2)
- Frown (5), hate (4)
- Innocent (6)

Last Week's Solution

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

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Improve Your English



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

Know Your Language

(Phrasal verbs and Idioms)

Student: Teacher, my brother says to me, "you are bright as a button." What does it mean?
Teacher: Oh well, it's an encouraging remark, or a compliment. You must lap it up.
Student: Lap it up? Again, it hasn't clicked. What do you mean?
Teacher: It's a phrasal verb. It means 'to receive something with pleasure'.
Student: But lap means something else.
Teacher: Yes, you're right. But some phrasal verbs are used as idioms; their meaning is different from the usual meaning.
Student: So 'bright as a button' is also an idiom.
Teacher: Yes, exactly. It means 'very clever, quick to understand.'
Student: Would you define a "phrasal verb" and an "idiom" in detail?
Teacher: Okay. A phrasal verb refers to a unit in English formed from a verb with the addition of a preposition ("put down"), or adverb ("put aside") or both ("put up with"). These adverbs or prepositions are called particles that can variously precede or follow an object: e.g. *He looked up that word in the dictionary.* *He looked that word up in the dictionary.* Particle shifting is not possible if the object happens to be a long and complicated noun phrase, but if the direct object happens to be a pronoun, it can come only before the adverbial particle: *He buttoned up all the important deals fixed for*

today. 'Button up' means 'to complete something successfully. *He knocked me down.* 'Knock down' means 'to hit somebody to make him fall to the ground'. The meaning of some phrasal verbs is easy to guess. However, the meaning of a phrasal verb used as an idiom is difficult to guess by looking at the meanings of the individual words it contains. For example: 'spill the beans' in *Someone has spilled the beans about the bank raid.* Here, 'spill the beans' means 'to reveal secret information'.

Student: Are all verbal idioms phrasal verbs?
Teacher: No. If a verbal idiom contains a noun, an adjective, or a conjunction, it is not a phrasal verb. For example: 'Keep house' ('to cook, clean and do all the other job around house') contains a verb and a noun. 'Fall flat' ('to fail completely to produce the effect intended or expected') consists of a verb and an adjective. 'Make or break' consists of a verb, conjunction and a verb. It means 'to be the deciding factor in making somebody/something either a success or failure'.
Student: Can we call all phrases idioms?
Teacher: No. You've to understand the difference between the two terms. Ordinarily, a phrase means a short expression formed from a group of words. An idiom is a phrase whose meaning is not clear from the meaning of its individual words. In other words, an idiom is a set expression whose meaning is like that of a single unit. For example, 'do one's buttons up' in *He is doing his buttons up* (meaning he is fixing parts of his clothes with buttons) is a phrase whereas 'on the button' in *Have you got it on the button?* (meaning exactly correct) is an idiom.
Student: Fine. Thank you. I think I've got it on the button.
Teacher: It's all right.

Poetry and Pleasure

Dr. Siya Ram Rai
Professor of English
University of Ibb

Of all forms of art, poetry is the most complex, the most refined and the most compact. Poetry is a sensuous art. It encompasses beauty and all her aspects. Beauty is vital, urgent, and dynamic. Beauty must have vitality. Beauty is sensuous and deeply related with sex. Sex is the root of all creation. Dylan Thomas holds that a woman figure is a poem. If not so, why is it that the whole world hates eunuch, who is neither a man nor a woman. So is the case with impotent men or sterile women. All creation is a sublime work of nature. To be a poet is to be romantic enough to arrest the voluptuous curves of beauty in the form of art. Poetry lies in the contemplation of beauty. Such a thing of beauty gives us joy for all times to come. In art, the lowly becomes holy and the vulgar becomes sublime.

In art, successful expression is Beauty and an artist creates the Beautiful - the Word laboring to articulate in and through words. In fact, the whole creative process is a spiritual exercise. Language is also a spiritual creation. Art experience is an intuitive identification of this self with that self. Inspiration is seminal to poetry. Poetry is not craft but spontaneous inspiration. It originates from the cosmic rhythm of creation. Rishi Valmiki, the first poet of the world, is about to have a dip in the water of Tamsa river. Suddenly he sees a couple of Kraonch birds busy in the obscure physical contact in the branch of a tree on the bank of the river. He finds a hunter under the tree almost ready to shoot an arrow. He hits the male partner who falls down on the ground and after a travail of suffering, dies. His female partner comes down near the male bird and keeps on crying bitterly for her lover. This pathetic scene creates such an impression on the mind of the saint that he curses the hunter, later to detect in his Ashram that his outburst is poetry. This pathetic incident leads him to write the greatest Aryan called **Ramayana**. Shelley rightly says that "our sweetest songs are those that tell of saddest thought."

Poetry is the sonorous echo of the soul. It is an expression of the inner urges of the human soul. It articulates the rare moods and the rare moments. One must know that all human transformation springs from within. Poetry lays emphasis on intuition and imagination rather than on rhetoric. When rhetoric comes inside the gate, poetry is bound to fly out of the window. Pure poetry lifts man from the individual feelings to the absolute universals. It is capable of producing

the desired effect on the reader. It refines our sensibility and taste. Poetry offers the experience of beatitude and felicity. Its experience is exalting and ennobling. It ultimately results in the liberation of our soul and in the purification of our mind.

Plato holds that poetic imagination is a kind of **divine madness** which arouses and waters our mundane passions. In fact, an aesthetic rapture is much akin to spiritual rapture. Poetry has the movements of a symphony, for it originates from music and dance. Movement is the essence of dance while sound—beating of time is the essence of music. In pure poetry, sound and sense blend into one, making it all the music of ideas and intuition. A poet unlocks his sensitive heart in his work of art which abounds in word-pictures sensuous and vivid. Numberless passions, emotions and feelings float in the imagination of the mind of the man creating. They force themselves down onto the paper like the water of a torrential rain rushing for the plain from the top of a mountain. It flows in the plains like a river yet in high flood. Chaos in fact is the shape of things. Coherence is an essential feature of a successful work of art, and **Rasa**... the aesthetic pleasure in the heart of the reader originates from the discovery of this coherence. A reader gets a unique experience of the beautiful which is ultimately leads him to the realization of delight. An aesthetic experience, which emanates from the work of art itself, gives a sense of elevation and upliftment in the human heart. This state of aesthetic pleasure is known as the state of the perfect bliss which is much akin to the mystic realization of Brahma—the self. Intuitive experience of the self offers an immediate awareness of the God's presence in the bosom of man. It is something like **Roso vai sah**.

I find **Rasa** theory is far greater in depth and dimensions than the theory of catharsis. While **Rasa** includes the creative experience of the artist as well as the aesthetic enjoyment of the reader, the theory of catharsis is based on the principle of homeopathic treatment: *similia similibus curantur*, i.e. like curing the like. Poetry produces illumination in the mind and a state of perfect rest of the self within itself. A poet spiritualizes the moods of nature and makes final raids upon the inarticulate. Sugar is universally sweet while salt is universally salty. But it is rather impossible to explain or articulate what is sweetness or saltiness — such experience are inarticulate. It can only be felt.

Art is in fact never vulgar or profane. Vulgarity like beauty lies in the eyes of the beholder, and not in the object. We see things not as they

are, but as we are. Art doesn't require the approval of the moralists.

It must not have any palpable design. It is for the sake of aesthetic delight. A reader rises above narrow individual self and forgets his mundane pre-occupations. Poetry breaks a new ground and renews our wit.

But no poet can claim that he will write a poem tomorrow. Poetry comes to the mind of the man as leaves come to a tree. A tree doesn't know what new leaves are coming to its branches. No doubt, there are many definitions of poetry—rather as many as poets but each definition only touches a fringe of poetry. Poetry is elusive, deceptive and mysterious. It is every thing and at the same time, it is nothing. Really speaking, first rate poetry is sung, second rate poetry is spoken and the third rate poetry is written. Homer, Virgil, Valmiki, Vyas, Kalidas, Tulsidas, Surdas, Meera, Kabir and many great poets of the world used to sing their poems and are all classics. Great poets combine their powerful feelings, tense passions and excited imagination together in an organic sensibility and much of it is visionary in tone. Great poetry tends to prayer as well as music. Here beauty extends itself into sublime.

Much of modern poetry, on the other hand, is either spoken or written. We find **methods** in place of inspiration in modern poetry. Some of the modern poets try to utter all in one—they use utmost compression, which is why, their language is the language of spare and strange. Modern poetry uses the language of telegram and ideogram. Modern poets believe in distancing the intimate and this they do by using the language of code which requires decoding. We find many dislocations in modern poetry, but all with a meaning to suggest that the modern man's personality itself is fractured. Here one finds the language in the search of a situation. Modern poetry is all crudite and

obscure. One must know that too much of crudition is bad for poetry. Teaching poetry is like threading a needle, and at times, threading a wild bull. It is so because beauty in the form of an emotional experience of life provoked and directed by poetic imagination requires a long courting—only then it yields. Never swim but float is the formula in teaching poetry. As a reader and lover of poetry, on certain occasions, I have found myself in tears and on other occasions, I have had peals of laughter also. But for this, a biological heart is not enough. A man with a mechanical heart can not understand it. A university teacher has to analyze and interpret things in such a way that the students are automatically transported to the same realm of creative imagination in the alchemy of the mind of the artist. Students find themselves floating with the creative imagination—poetic moments of the poet and enjoy **Rasa**—the aesthetic pleasure out of it. Students are made poets by proxy but this is possible only when a teacher is capable of producing the desired effect. Poetry is not meant for a prosaic fellow. Similarly, students of poetry must have literary imagination otherwise the effect would be reverse.

This reminds me of an academic incident faced by a professor of Hindi, while teaching a Hindi poem he thus explained, when **padmavati**, the heroine combs her long black rippling hair, it becomes all dark in the whole world and when she looks at in any direction, the lotus flowers bloom. All on a sudden, two students stood up in the class and told the teacher that it was all nonsense and bogus and later they changed their subject of specialization. Poetry requires a certain amount of imagination and literary taste on the part of the students as well — only then it offers a sense of pleasure and beatitude. It is never enough about a piece of poetry. It is always not like that — not like that.

YOUTH FORUM

Just Ponder
Before you speak, LISTEN
Before you write, THINK
Before you Spend, EARN
Before you invest, INVESTIGATE
Before you criticize, WAIT
Before you pray, FORGIVE
Before you give up, TRY
Before you retire, SAVE
Before you die, LIVE.

Adille Ahmed Awdah

Women rights in Yemen

Women rights is a very sensitive and controversial topic in most parts of today's world. But in Yemen this issue isn't one of very great importance. It's a well known fact that a majority of women in Yemen live under pathetic and appalling conditions. It is very sad that most women are not given their chance to pursue their education. In fact, most of them do not get further than sixth grade as far as their education is concerned. Most of girls are married at a very tender age which to me, is a form of child abuse! It's unfair to them because marriage is an enormous responsibility to shoulder. I always ask myself "How can one bring up a child when she herself is a child?" I don't know why men choose to exercise their dominance over women by depriving them of their basic rights but the only logical explanation I can come up with is that men feel threatened by educated and self-sufficient women so they try to bind the women to them by making them economically dependent on them. Finally, I believe that women do help

indirectly in these faults, this is because they have hardly raised any battle. Instead they simply accept things. So, for all these women I say "please be more sure of yourself and trust yourself" let's begin from this hour and "let bygones be bygones" In this moment I remind you that one crowded hour of glorious life is worth an age without name." Now, the time is late, are you ready?

Kawkab Al-Gazali
Faculty of Arts -
Dep. of English

Dear Editor,

About six years ago, when Mukalla was suffering of lack of both water and electricity, I write this poem. At that time I was a student at Mukalla Collage (English department). The poem is about suffering. So I send it to you as a participation in.

Mukalla
Lack of water, lack of electricity
People cried what a country
They are about to go to cemetery
Knowing not whether it is a fate or tragedy.
Awaiting hope after a century
To grand sons not to the majority.
Neither to me, you nor to our family
What a bad atmosphere
Makes you angry
But to me is good
Makes me write poetry!!

By: Abdullah Amer Moh'd Al-Jaaidi
Mukalla

Illiteracy

Our society suffers from various problems which hinder its growth and development. One of the most serious problems is illiteracy. As an example I live in a building which consists of 22 flats. In all these flats there are only three women who can read and write. Do you believe this? They are all mothers and they have at least five children in each flat. When I ask them why they don't join the illiterate classes, they say "when? There is not time!!!" But they spend the afternoon times in chewing qat, smoking Madaah and chatting. While their children play with dirt in the streets until late time in the evenings (even during the exam days), bothering the people and fighting with each other and sometimes bad accidents happen to them. When their results appear which obviously are bad, the mothers cry and wonder why they fail. I really wonder how can we have a good future in our country if our generation is being raised up by illiterate mothers like these. We need to eradicate this monster, illiteracy. We need to launch awareness campaigns to make these mothers aware of such dangerous results. We need to cooperate and we can do a lot of things. We mustn't forget that these children whom we see every day in the streets are the future of our country.

Aswan Abdullah Taiz

ANNOUNCEMENT

In commemoration of

Gerrit Meijer

whose life ended suddenly in Madagascar on 5 January 2000, there will be a memorial service in the Police Academy at 10:00 am on Sunday, 30 January, 2000.

Those who knew him are welcome to attend and give condolences to his wife, Sonja, her father and his friends and colleagues from NWRA and the United Nations.

Taj Sheba Hosts Familiarization Trip for Travel & Trade from UAE

The newly renovated Taj Sheba Hotel, jointly with Yemenia & Universal played hosts to a 13-member team from UAE. Besides top travel agents from Dubai, the popular newspaper in UAE the Khaleej Times had one editor to cover the destination. The team is seen here on the right outside the Taj Sheba with Mr. Shankar Bhardwaj, the Sales Manager of the hotel. It is remarkable that Taj Sheba Hotel has taken the first step this year to promote Yemen within the Middle East, when asked, Mr., Shankar said, there is a lot of potential in the Middle East for an Arab traveler to come to Yemen and feel at home due to the similarity of culture and bondage of religion. These FAM trips may in the long run help establishing Yemen into the GCC in the future. The guests paid a visit of two days to Aden and arrived back to Sanaa today. The visitors were so happy to be in Yemen and witness the beautiful weather and warm welcome. They compared the stay at the hotel Taj Sheba Sanaa to any of the best hotels in Dubai and Europe.

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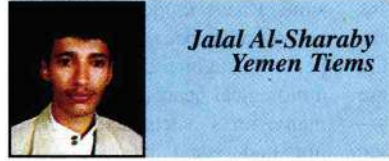
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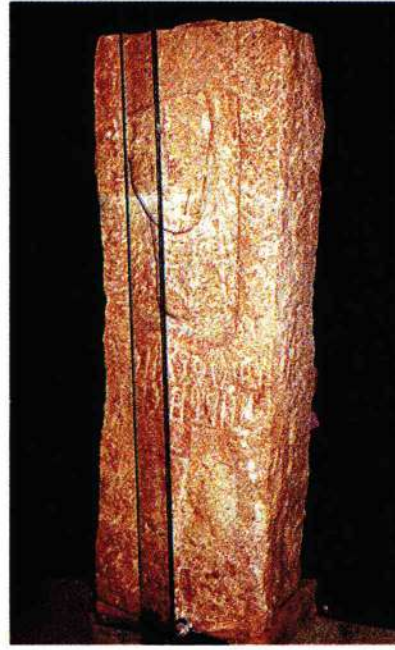
Yemeni Antiques: a Wealth Prone to Misuse



Yemen is gifted with a lot of antiques and historic places that distinguish it from other countries. Yemen's wealth in this regard is the ancient monuments, antiques and old manuscripts that amaze all archaeologists who come across them and the great civilizations of Kingdoms of Sheba, Homier,

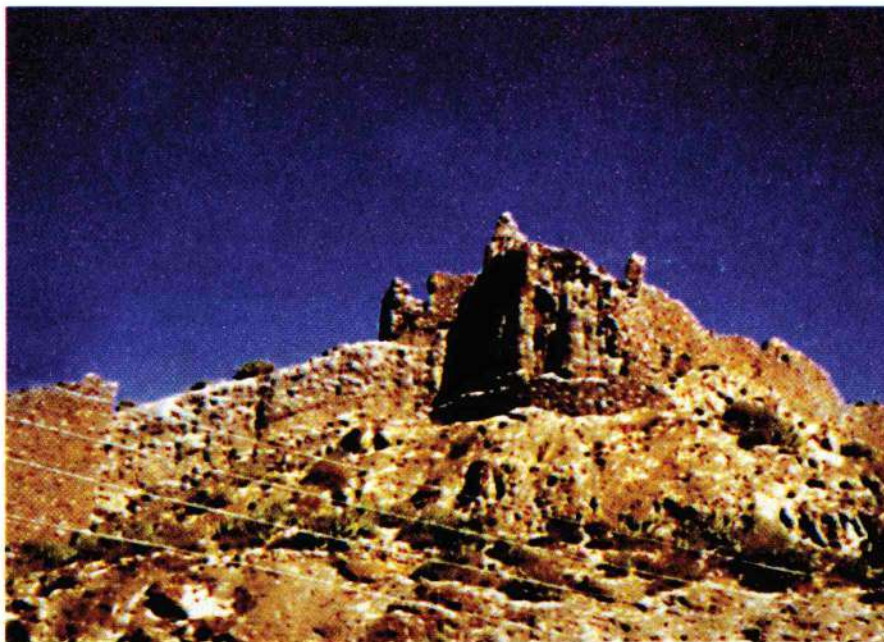


and statues found in foreign museums are more than found in Yemen's museums themselves. This situation makes us wonder about the role of the Ministry of Culture which in many cases proved to be against culture. Moreover, antiques smugglers are often related to it. In fact, I do not accuse specific people. I also know that Mr. Abdul Malik Mansour, Minister of Culture does his best to put an end to this muddle, however he has been proved to be the cultured minister of the uncultured ministry.



I really wonder who is responsible for those high ranking people who present such precious pieces to friends abroad in different occasions. You will be surprised if you visit a house of one of the high ranking people to find a lot of such pieces adorning it. What have such people left for the National Museum in Sanaa? The Imam's own clothes? His bars of soap? Food dishes? pale statues that are covered with dust? It has been really strange to find an

Kataban, Aowsan, etc. In fact, authorities must take care of what have remained from these civilizations and stop all attempts of marketing Yemen's property of antiques abroad. Many times we have heard about smuggling antiques and marketing them abroad. For example, in the previous year, Sanaa Airport Authority seized 3,000 pieces of antiques that were intended to be taken outside Yemen illegally. Local newspapers talked a lot about high ranking officials who take advantage of their diplomatic immunity to smuggle antiques. In the beginning of the last year, some pieces of antiques and statues were discovered in Al-Oud Mountain in Ibb. Unfortunately, these were either sold or tampered with carelessly. In the few past months, some old and rare manuscripts disappeared mysteriously from the Great Mosque in Sanaa. Authorities concerned, instead of trying to trace them was satisfied with denying any theft incident. This carelessness and negligence has been a matter of wonder for many people. Sometimes Yemeni antiques



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