

**Hertz**  
 Speak to us anywhere in the world and we always use the same expression  
**A Smile ...**  
 Tel: (01) 268 748  
 Universal Building, 60 M. Road - Sana'a

# YEMEN TIMES

**DHL**  
 WORLDWIDE EXPRESS  
**Every Second Counts**  
 Sana'a: (01) 268551, 249878  
 Aden: (02) 221223; Taiz: (04) 225383  
 Hodeida: (03) 217490; Mukalla: (05) 354844  
 Seyoun: (05) 404288; Tbb: (04) 407418

**C.E.W**  
**DELL**  
 No.1 Cooperate in the world  
 YEMEN-P.O.BOX :19243  
 Tel:(9671)-414180/413330 Fax: 414179  
 E-Mail Address: cew-yemen@y.net.ye  
 brother ORACLE MapInfo  
 UMART EPSON GENICOM 3M

**Konica**  
 COLOR CENTURIA FILM  
 CAMERAS, MINILABS  
 Taha M. A. Anam Trading Est.  
 P.O. Box 1000 Sana'a, Yemen Tel: 240946 Fax: 240979  
 Sana'a Photo Express, Sana'a, Haddah St. Tel: 240946; Aden, Tel: 240946; Taiz: 240946

**This is a free space for your AD.**  
 Call: 268661

**LEADERS ON COLOUR SEPARATION**  
**Quick Time**  
 Design Color Separation Printing

**ALSAEED TRADING CO.**  
**LEADER OF YEMEN EXPORTS**  
 Tel.: 00967-4-232727  
 Fax.: 00967-4-223851  
 P.O.Box: 5351  
 Taiz-Republic of Yemen

**ALAMERY العامري**  
 Fax: 03 234860  
 Showroom phone: 03 246526  
 Office phone: 03 253311  
 Home: 245234  
**BASF**  
 Plant Protection Products  
 MAIN DISTRIBUTOR in Yemen

**CANADA DRY**  
**Hodiedah**

**SysSoft**  
 حلول متكاملة  
 "متعددة الوسائط للأجهزة الحاسوبية"  
 للأجهزة الحاسوبية  
 Tel: 413873

**JOTUN**  
**Jotun Paints in Yemen**  
 Aden: (02) 240500 - Sana'a: (01) 209915  
 Taiz: (04) 214352 - Hadramout: 7951278

شركة الملا واللاصطن (صن) المحدودة  
**ADEN EMULSION & PAINT CO.**  
**HEMPEL TROPALINE GRADE A**  
 Quality is our sign  
 Aden - Tel: 02 - 242953/240993 Fax: 02 - 240998  
 We distributors all over the country

Over 2000 flights a day to over 190 cities worldwide  
**Continental Airlines**  
 UNITED TRAVEL, TOURISM & CARGO  
 المتحددة للسفر والسياحة والتسويق  
 Sana'a: TEL: 283062, 278668, 272718  
 Fax: 278669, 272719  
 Taiz: TEL: 221529  
 P.O. BOX: 8038  
 E-mail: alsumidar-group@y.net.ye

**Lufthansa**  
 Winter Schedule effective from 31st October, 1999 - 25th March, 2000

	Sana'a - Frankfurt		Frankfurt - Sana'a		
	DEP.	ARR.	DEP.	ARR.	
Monday	00:45	07:35	Sunday	13:00	23:10
Thursday	00:45	07:35	Wednesday	13:00	23:10
Friday	00:45	07:35	Thursday	13:00	23:10

From Sana'a to Frankfurt and from Frankfurt to the world  
 We are just one-phone-call-away  
 Telephone numbers: 213400 - 219252-344166

**Watani Bank**  
 For Trade & Investment  
**WB**  
 البنك الوطني  
 للتجارة والاستثمار  
 The Bank you can depend on and trust  
 Tel.: 208613 Fax: 205706/215679 Zubayr Str.  
 E-mail: watani@y.net.ye P.O. Box 3058 Sana'a, YEMEN

Monday, 31 January, 2000 - VOL. X • Issue No. 5 • Price 30 Yemeni Riyals • Founded in 1991 by Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

## The 99th and The Most Professional and Unusual Kidnapping Incident So Far Who are the Kidnappers? Where is the Hostage? KENNETH WHITE'S FATE: STILL UNKNOWN!!

Indeed, the latest kidnapping incident had left security forces and the ones concerned puzzled and without much sleep. The unusual story goes like this:  
 On Wednesday's very early morning, a few armed men sneaked into the complex of Halliburton - a contracting company with Yemen Hunt Oil co. - in Mareb. The men cut off the barbed wires surrounding the complex and entered the complex where they bypassed two rooms that had a French and another foreign expert, and silently knocked the door of Kenneth White's room, 55, and silenced him in order not to make any racket that would wake the other men whose rooms were quite close. Then they took him away walking through the same path they came from for almost 700 meters, where there was a vehicle awaiting them. Then they drove away without leaving any trace behind them as they attempted to drive over the desert which covers

all marks left by cars with the effect of wind and sand.  
 It was only in the morning that the people in the complex realized Kenneth was not there. They reported that he was missing, and it was not long until they saw the cut wires and realized he was kidnapped. Then the security forces were on high alert in an attempt to track down the kidnappers, but to no avail as there were no marks of the vehicle and they were not able to trace them, because the wind had blown off any tire marks on the desert. On Friday (two days later), and upon some reports that the hostage was seen heading to Al-Jowf province, forces consisting of a large number of artillery and troops headed to Raghwan area where they thought the kidnappers have hidden the hostages. However, as the troops were not able to identify the exact location, random search and chaos was evident in the way they searched for the kidnappers. The vil-

lagers in the area were upset at the violent way the security forces reacted. Soon, the forces realized that they are wasting time as they found no single clue about the location of the kidnappers. They will be waiting for more accurate reports.  
*Continued on Page 2*

### German Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development in Sana'a

German Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development, Ms. Heidmarie Wiczorek-Zeul accompanied with a delegation of high-ranking representatives of several German development organizations arrived in Sana'a yesterday.  
 During her visit, Ms. Wiczorek-Zeul will meet with her counterpart, Minister of Planning and Development, Mr. Ahmad Sufan and Prime Minister, Dr. Abdul Karim Al-Iryani and will call upon the President Ali Abdullah Saleh to discuss matters of mutual interest in the development field between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Republic of Yemen. Furthermore, the delegation will visit Yemeni-German projects in Taiz, Ibb, Djibla and Aden.



On another level Ms. Wiczorek-Zeul held a press conference on the outcome of the visit in the Sana'a Sheraton Hotel yesterday.  
*Excerpts from the Press Conference on Page 2*

### Vice P.M., The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Abdulqadir Ba Jammal Admits: TENSE RELATIONS WITH THE SAUDIS

Political sources in the Yemeni capital Sana'a have confirmed that the state of tension in the Yemeni-Saudi relations is still going on. This could be clearly inferred from the recent media wranglings published in the Saudi dailies Al-Riyadh and Al-Madina to which the Yemeni daily AL-Thawra has responded rationally and calmly in its editorial on 29 January, 2000.  
 Political analysts have made it clear that the verbal message to president Ali Abdulla Saleh from King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz lately conveyed by the Yemen's foreign minister Abdul Qadir Ba Jamal has not pointed to any breakthrough in the tense relations between the two countries' leaderships. President Saleh's verbal reply implies that the two parties have not reached an agreement on the disputed issues. The recent visit of Yemen's deputy premier, the foreign minister to Saudia has failed to bring

closer their points of view regarding the two countries renewable border dispute. The same sources pointed out that the recent clashes caused the killing of ten Yemeni army soldiers stationed on the borders. During the confrontation, Saudi troops advanced into Yemeni territories more than 7 kilometers deep at the area of Bakil Almir and occupied the highest and biggest Gihaf mountain nearby Alazraq area of the district of Bakil Almir in the north-west area of the Yemeni borders with Saudia.  
 In a brief statement to Aljazeera TV. channel early last week Yemen's deputy premier, the foreign minister Abdul Qadir Ba Jamal had confirmed that clashes took place between troops of the two countries but did not elaborate about casualties or consequences of the clashes.

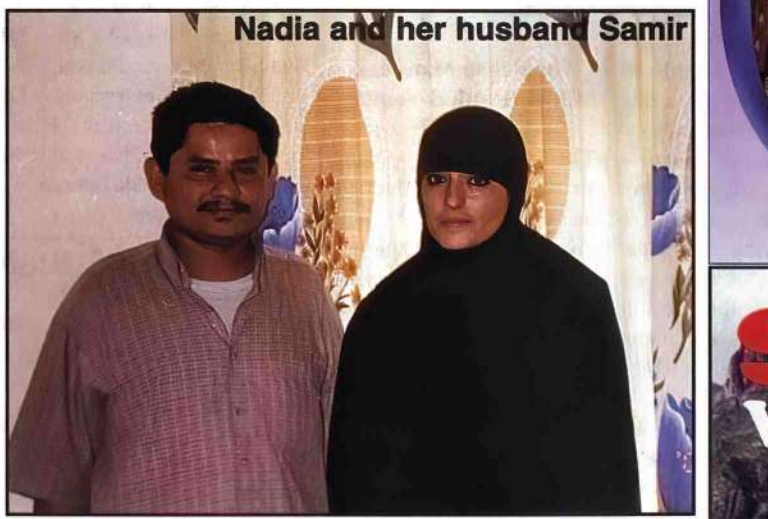
**LEXUS LX470**  
 The majestic composure of the Lexus LX470 is the automotive embodiment of serene dignity and total refinement.  
 Only US\$54,800

**AMC TOYOTA**  
**Automotive & Machinery Trading Center**  
 المركز التجاري للسيارات والمعدات  
 Head Office: Tel: 1-416832/3 Fax: 1-415488 E-mail: amtc@y.net.ye

**LANVIN PARIS**  
 Royal Sana'a Trade Center  
 Tel: 212875

### NADIA MUHSIN: THE MYSTERY UNVIELED

This issue of Yemen Times is a special edition for its tremendously interesting report on a controversial story that has been puzzling thousands of people all around the world. Yemen Times committed itself to revealing the truth in this story.  
 Seeking the truth in a story that has been misinterpreted many times, was never an easy task. Nevertheless, Yemen Times made it, and made the first ever interview with the heroine of this story by a Yemeni newspaper about this story.  
 It is a story of a girl named Nadia Muhsin whose mother is British of Pakistani origin, and whose father is Muthanna Muhsin, a Yemeni originally from the governorate of Taiz. Nadia along with her sister Zeyne traveled to Yemen from Britain in 1980 when she was 14. She then married a Yemeni man, Samir and stayed in Yemen ever since then. In 1987, Zeyne left her sister and headed to Britain where she continues to live until today. Allgations have been told that Nadia has been forced to marry a Yemeni man in an early age of 14 for USD 2,500. Other stories say that she lived a difficult life in the village where she used to bring water from wells, and walk bare footed, and collect wood from trees, and do other tasks of a villager women. The claims continue saying that her mother did not want her to stay and tried her best to get her back to Britain without use.



In the last few months, we received more than 3,000 requests asking us to interview Nadia and report her conditions to know how she is doing and how true the stories are.  
 Based on that, after a lot of efforts, Nadia Muhsin agreed to clarify the truth and enable us to make an extensive interview with her to reveal the truth, which is simply astonishing and amazing. The truth was collected in one report that can signal a turning point for the public's view point towards this issue that has been attracting international attention for years.  
 Turn the pages over to find the most extensive and recent interview with Nadia Muhsin, and know the truth with her own words..

*Complete Report on page 6*

**ups**  
 Consider it done  
 P.O. BOX: 1696  
 Haddah Street  
 Sana'a - Yemen  
 Tel :967 1-416715  
 Fax :967 1-418264  
 Internet :www.ups.com  
 E-mail:Sun.ups@y.net.ye

Yemenia  
 Happy to Serve You!  
 نساعد بخدمتكم!  
 الحجز: 250800 مبيعات: 250850  
 Reservation: 250800, Sales: 250850

A new shopping experience  
 Sana'a Trade Center - Algeria St.

**SUZUKI Water Pumps**  
**VP30X VP20X**  
 Suzuki Yemen (Member of Bamarooft Group)  
 Head Quarter: Al-Mimlah Road, Sheikh Othman Aden; Tel: 346000, Fax: 340049



## Words of Wisdom

"Unfortunately, the government has not yet developed a social security system which attends to the needs of the poor and vulnerable."

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



## Editorial

Walid Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf  
Chief Editor

Gentlemen,

Look for a solution, a true solution....

We have all been watching carefully what the government has been doing in order to secure the peaceful release of the poor American that is still captive in the time this issue is released. We have been keeping an eye on what the Ministry of Interior would do, what the President would do regarding this unusual kidnapping incident. However, unfortunately, all that they have done was simply not enough to release the hostage, but it was not enough to even have a simple clue to whom the kidnappers are and where the hostage is.

The government of Yemen has a lot to worry about if the release of the hostage is not guaranteed. It is true that the US Embassy is polite in dealing with the government. It is true that they trust their efforts and good will to do its best to release the hostage. However, even if they don't express their true feelings, I don't think that they would be satisfied with how kidnapping incidents have developed through the years until they have reached a level where the whole government feels helpless and clueless without the simplest idea about the fate of the hostage.

It was not surprising for me to hear the latest report from a fellow journalist saying, "security forces are in complete disappointment as they have failed so far to identify the kidnappers. They are still waiting for any mistake by the kidnappers so that they could get any clue whatsoever. They feel helpless and aimless as they have been facing a lot of pressure from the leadership, all to no avail. It is interesting how a few tribesmen could generate chaos within the government."

Frankly speaking, this was expected because the government has never made a true solution to kidnapping. It always was lucky in providing temporary solutions that would satisfy some of the parts involved for a limited time, but a solid and concrete solution was out of question.

The strategies that have been implemented recently regarding using force against kidnappers have been of some success. But now we see a direct consequent to this pressure: the kidnappers are not revealing where they are. This way the forces will not be able to crush them, as they do not know where they are! This strategy seems to have been implemented as a counter attack by the kidnappers, which so far seems to have put the whole government in a tough and embarrassing situation.

It was not the way that the government dealt with kidnapping which concerns me most, but what rather concerns me most is the government's inability or unwillingness to seriously fight corruption in all fields (economy, administration, justice, security, etc.)

The government had the illusion that using force against kidnappers without improving their standards of living would be the right way to go. However, after some limited success, their theory proved itself wrong. Why? Because to find a solution to a problem, we need to look at the source of the problem. We need to seek the original reasons why kidnappers kidnap foreigners. Obviously, the true reason is the down falling economy. It is the corruption that has been eating away the country's resources. Corruption is in fact, the only reason why the country has been held back of much improvement in life standards overall. Kidnappers are like me and you, they are also human beings who need money to feed their families and teach their children, and need services to live a decent life. Why then doesn't the government give a greater deal to this vital issue of corruption which is every year increasing intensively, in ministries, in governmental offices, and even in courts. Why couldn't the authorities get rid of the corrupt figures who are the main cause of the miseries we are going through? How much do we need to repeat our request to do something serious in an attempt to replace the decayed officials with honest and highly qualified noble people? Is it too difficult to do so? Yemen has more than 17 million Yemenis of which I believe a reasonable number would be qualified to run the government in a more responsible and honest manner.

Dear Gentlemen at the top,  
Why are you ignoring the practical steps towards a true solution? You can see the conditions around you and understand why all these things are happening. If you ignore them, then it would be as if you are trying to block the sun and pretend it is not there. Isn't it time to dedicate yourselves to a national and noble mission, which is to take the first steps in the right path, in the path of transparency and developing good strategies for the national benefit of the country?  
After all, like other kidnapping incidents, this incident may end up with the release of the hostage and the capture and punishment of the kidnappers. However, is this the way it should continue? Don't we need to have an end to these incidents? A Question that needs to be answered, and answered soon.....

## YT Weekly Opinion Poll

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

Question  
Why is the government simply not able to stop kidnapping incidents from occurring?

Result  
Because it cannot control the tribes and their actions because they are armed. 48%  
Because it is not able to provide the facilities that tribes ask for. 22%  
Because of other reasons. 30%

## In Brief

## Strong Letter from the President to Eritrea

In a brief statement to Aljazeera TV, channel early last week Yemen's deputy premier, the foreign minister Abdul Qadir Ba Jamal had confirmed that clashes took place between troops of the two countries but did not elaborate about casualties or consequences of the clashes.

The Yemen Times has learned that Africa Department at the Yemeni foreign ministry last week had summoned to the ministry the Eritrean charge d'Affaires and handed him a tough-worded note, accusing the Eritrean government of having responsibility for the killing of three Yemeni fishermen on the high seas in 1996, in addition to retaining a group of fishermen for more than three years, 8 of whom were released at the end of last year.

The note demanded the Eritrean government to give full and clear clarification on such unjustifiable acts which do not serve the improvement of good neighbourly relations between the two countries. Following the verdict of the International Tribunal on demarcation of marine borders, the Eritreans living in Yemen began to complain about being subject to continuous harassment at the hands of Yemeni authorities.

Yemen's deputy premier, the foreign minister Abdul Qadir Ba Jamal surprise visit to Asmara last week represented a kind of hiding the state of disinclination that appeared after the second phase of border award.

Some political analysts believe that there is a number of Yemenis still in Eritrean prisons since the military confrontation between the two countries over the Hanish island. We are still hoping that there are some living ones in the Eritrean prisons at a time a number of families are still hoping to find out about their missing sons since that time.

## PFF Refuses to Give Noman's Privileges

The problem of Mr. Noman Qaid Saif is still existing in spite of the decision of judicial committee No. 96, which is approved by Sana'a appeal court under the number (311) dated on December 17, 1999.

The decision of the court was to give Mr. Noman a salary as a compensation of six months of discharge.

Noman was Chief editor of Ashoura newspaper.

Mr. Noman sent a letter to the Chairman of the Opposition Coordination Council and the members of the council requesting their help in implementing this judgement, and to put an end to the aggression by The Popular Forces Federation. On his own side, Mr. Hassan Abdulwarith, vice security general of Yemeni Journalistic Syndicate expressed his solidarity with Mr. Noman.

## New Trial of Aden-Abyan Islamic Army

The trial of the second group of Aden-Abyan Islamic Army, led by Haidara Al-Atwi will begin on next Saturday February 5, 2000 at Jaar Primary Court in Abyan. The court will interrogate those guilty concerning charges which fallen on them by the prosecution. Yesterday Sheikh Othman court in Aden heard to the argument presented by defense staff and prosecution concerning Sheikh Othman's kiosk explosion.

## Arab Afghans Expected to Arrive in Yemen

Private sources indicated that a number of Yemeni strugglers who went to fight in Chashnia, return to Yemen to receive their treatment in the Yemeni hospitals. The sources mentioned that there are six Yemeni Afghan who arrived in Yemen recently. Some sources indicated that those groups who came from Afghanistan have a connection with some Islamic groups, located in Shabwa and Abyan.

## Training in Maternal, Child Health &amp; Family Planning

The United States Embassy, working through the United States Agency For International Development USAID inaugurated Saturday a six-week training program in "Training of Trainers of Maternal and Child Health and Family Planning," at the Office of AMIDEAST. The goal of the training program is to prepare 16 trainers from the Ministry of Public Health and its Health Manpower Institute to provide in-service training in a variety of Maternal Child Health/Reproductive Health/Family Planning (MCH/RH/FP) skill areas to paraprofessionals in rural health care centers and hospitals

## UNICEF Workshop Started on Saturday

In cooperation with the UNICEF, the Ministry of Public Health inaugurated Saturday a workshop on communication at the Taj Sheba Hotel. The workshop aims at reinforcing the communication activities in order to create positive changes in fields of Health, educational, social, children activities. The Workshop was inaugurated by Mr. Abdul Karim Al-Sheibani, Deputy Minister of Health and Habib Hammam, representative of the UNICEF in Yemen.

## New Historical Discoveries

Excavations led by a Yemeni-Russian-German team in Al-Banwah, Aden have resulted in the discovery of earth-stones and stony-tools dating back to 400 BC. Dr. Rajaa Bataweel, head of the Yemeni side in the excavation said Saba that such discoveries related to human residence in Aden give the city a historical importance. She also added that the discovered pieces will be carefully studied.

## Egyptian Warning Against fishing in Yemeni Water

Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs warned the Egyptian fishermen against violation of roles of fishing in the Yemeni regional waters in the Red Sea. Ambassador Ahmad Ragheb, director of Traveling Guidance Unit in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said that Egyptian fishermen who fished in the Yemeni regional waters without a permission would be fined or even imprisoned. According to the cooperation agreement between Yemen and Egypt in the field of fishing 20 Egyptian fishingboats are allowed to fish in the Yemeni regional waters according to conditions of the Ministry of Marine Wealth.

## First Ever Yellow Pages Guide Issued in Yemen

The company is run by Mr. Nuaman M. Al-Badani, who has a well experience of issuing directories in Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the U.S.A. The directory has been displayed at many

distribution points throughout the year. This directory mainly targeting the Yemeni market and commercial houses and all kinds of small business.

Mr. Badani pointed out that 360 companies participated in the success of the 1999/2000 for the first nationwide Yemen yellow pages directory. 1400 businesses are expected to participate in the next issue from all over the country. The Yemen Yellow Pages will distribute 25000 copies of the directory distributed free of charge to all businesses and all government authority, traders, hotels, travel agencies, industries and variety of commercial establishments. Inside the guide there are numbers of phones, faxes and E-mails of companies.

## RAY League Holds A number of Meetings

The branches of the Sons of Yemeni League (RAY) held meetings in Aden, Mareb, Taiz and a number of governorates of the Republic. They held these meetings to discuss the affairs and problems that face those branches. The members discussed a number of matters like unemployment and its social dangerous affects, which lead to the rise of crimes in society.

## Jecom Exhibition to be Inaugurated

Mr. Ahmad Mohammed Al-Aanisi, Minister of Transportation, will inaugurate Al-Jazeera Exhibition fro Information and Communication Technology organized by Apollo for International Exhibitions on 20-25 in Expo Sanaa hall. Mr. Omar Al-Nahmi, Marketing Manager of Apollo said that the exhibition is held for the second time and it would be larger and more important than the first one. The exhibition will embrace famous international computer and communication companies such as: NIIT, Compaq, Nokia, Acer, Epson, Yemensoft, IBM, Motrolla, Dell, Siemens, HP, and AT&T. During the Exhibition, a number of scientific symposiums and other parties will be held.

## German Minister in Sanaa

Continued from page 1;

In the press conference held at Sheraton Hotel yesterday afternoon, the German Minister told the German cooperation is a continuation to the work that started in the past where the focus was on the developmental projects like water, education, society development. She said that Germany gives annually around 50 million mark in addition to the other aid that comes through the World Bank. She also told the press that Germany will do its best in cooperation with other international organizations to help the developing countries including Yemen.

Mr. Ahmad Sofan, Minister of Planning and Development appreciated the Germany aid to Yemen which started in 1969 with the construction of the Sanaa Airport and Sanaa-

Taiz Highway.

Talking about German potential investment in Yemen, the German Minister said that the government can not force the German companies to invest in Yemen but they will their best to encourage them to come to Yemen and invest particularly in the field of water provided that they should be given insurance. The German Minister also pointed out that she went to the Yemeni parliament and met with the blocs representatives adding that Germany supports the questions of human rights, democracy, local councils, etc..

She finally said that she brought with a gift to Yemen; it is a medical aid estimated at 50,000 Mark to relieve the sufferings of the people of Soqatra.

## YEMEN CLUB FOR TOURING &amp; AUTOMOBILE (YCTA)

Proudly announces its efforts to assist all concerned to obtain an International Customs Passage Document (Known as Trip Tyck) which enable one to temporarily export their own vehicle cross countries without paying any customs duties and facing any procedural hurdles and obtain Int'l Driving license also.

The requirement to obtain such documents are:

- a valid visa from the desired country/ies
- application form to be filled out
- a commercial guarantee attested by the Chamber of Commerce in the prescribed application form
- all related documents of the vehicle
- a fee of US\$ 120 either in cash or certified bank cheques

To obtain an International Driving License:

- an application form must be filled
- valid driving license (Yemeni, Mid-eastern, European or American)
- Two 4X6 photographs
- Fees: YR 4500 for Yemenis and US\$ 45 for non-Yemenis

For more information, please visit or call:

Head Office: 01/413466,  
Branches: 02/241534, 03/226980, 04/407423  
04/225384,05/354843 , 05/404288.

Continued from page 1:

## Kenneth White's Fate Still Unknown

Without doubt, this kidnapping incident is the most professionally conducted incident ever to be witnessed on Yemen soil, and the Ministry of Interior until the very moment of printing this issue has no clue that would help in identifying the location or identity of the kidnappers as the initial reports that they were from Al Fahaid in Aba Al-Harith turned to be false. In fact, it is not even know whether the kidnappers are tribesmen or not.

The official press organs have once again accused foreign forces of being behind this strange kidnapping incident, that seem to be so professional in the kidnapping incidents that have been conducted by normal tribesmen.

Analysts suggest that this type of kidnapping could increase as a direct result of the government's decisions to crush kidnappers and surround their villagers, etc. In other words, this incident warns the government of new tactics the kidnappers could start if it continues its strong measures against them.

In fact this new type of kidnapping concerns more the relatives of the hostage as his fate is not known while in previous cases, the fate would be known as he/she were treated well by the kidnappers.

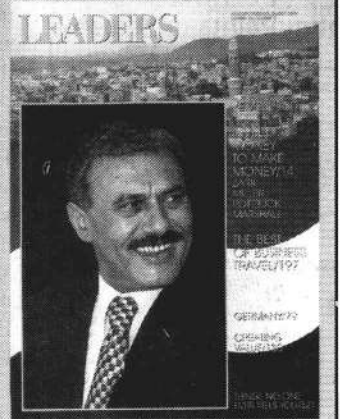
It is expected that if the Ministry of Interior fails to provide information and act responsibly in releasing the hostage, pressure from the USA would increase, resulting in the possibility of forcing the Minister of Interior to resign, as it would be a shame on the government to fail to have the simplest clues of Kenneth White's fate, after a week since the day he was kidnapping.

Are liable source in the Yemeni Congregation for Reform regretted for what has happened by some groups that gave false information which affects the reputation of Yemen at the regional and international level. He indicated that the Yemeni Congregation for Reform refuses kidnapping and all works that negatively affects the country. He called upon all Yemeni people, political parties and governmental and non-governmental organizations to stand against those groups. The source indicated that there is no relation between the Yemeni Congregation for Reform and Al-Mongith company.

## Yemen in Leaders

LEADERS Magazine, New York has published volume 23 of the quarterly LEADERS for January, February and March 2000. The volume contains a special report- perhaps the most comprehensive collection of interviews with Yemeni political and business leaders ever published in an international magazine. The magazine presents a special thank to Mr. Mahboob Ali, President of the Yemen Journalist's Syndicate for his efforts in coordinating the interviews and collecting the photographs that appear in the report.

Yemen Times contributed to the magazine with an article about the Emerging Democracies Forum.



## Yemen Times Campaign Continues "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.

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.



First English Newspaper in Yemen  
Founded in 1991 by  
Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

Publisher & Editor-in-Chief:  
Managing Editor:  
Head office:

Walid Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf  
Mohammed Hatem Al-Qadhi  
Telephone: +967 (1) 268-661  
Fax: +967 (1) 268-276  
P.O. Box 2579, Sana'a  
Email:yementimes@y.net.ye

Branches:

Aden Bureau Chief: Rihwan Alawi Ahmed  
Tel: +967 (2) 347-057;  
Fax: +967 (2) 347-056  
Email: ytaden@y.net.ye

Taiz Bureau Chief:

Imad Ahmed Abdullah  
Tel: +967 (4) 227-717  
P.O.Box: 5086, Taiz

Website: <http://www.yementimes.com/>  
Email: [yementimes@yementimes.com](mailto:yementimes@yementimes.com)





# Yemeni Press Scanner



## INTERNATIONAL NEWS DIGEST

### AL-BALAGH Independent

#### Acrobatic Computers

Some countries are trying to get rid from clone computers by selling them to third world countries. Everybody should be alert to such moves. Concerned authorities should adopt deterrent measures against those who might try to bring such computers into our country.

#### MP Complains: Not Allowed To Speak

Najib Al-Sha'abi, MP and candidate in last year presidential elections said that not allowing any MP to speak in Parliament, and voting without debate are unlawful and contrary to the Constitution and Parliament rules, adding that there is no need at all for Parliament when MPs are not allowed to express their views on topics in motion in Parliament.

### AL-WAHDAMI People's Nasserite

#### Saudi Forces Occupy Jahfan Mountain

It was confirmed by political circles and some non-official media sources that border clashes at the border with Saudi Arabia were renewed. Clashes at the border in Sa'ada governorate left three martyrs from the Yemeni Armed Forces, while six others were lost at the [north-western] border; were the Saudi forces penetrated into Yemeni territories and occupied Jahfan Mountain near Al-Azraq check-point on the Haradh-Malahidh

Highway.

Sources expect the Jahfan Mountain occupation to further raise tension in the already tense Yemeni-Saudi relations as the Saudis refused to withdraw from Jahfan which as considered a strategic point that commands the Tihama Plain.

Despite the official silence, it was unofficially confirmed by diplomatic sources that the visit to Saudi Arabia by the Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Ba Jammal aimed at convincing the Saudi side to withdraw from the mountain. Mr. Ba Jammal, who carried a letter from President Saleh to the Saudi Monarch King Fahd, limited his statement to the press to his hope in a new push for the implementation of the 2nd. Article of the Note of Understanding between Yemen and Saudi Arabia.

#### Local Government Draft Law A Retreat on Democracy

Mr. Abdulla Al-Maqtari, MP and chairman of the Parliamentarian Popular Unionist Nasserite Organization Caucus, confirmed the voting by Parliament on those articles of the Local Government Draft Law that contradict the Constitution is a serious indication on the retreat from democracy and a defame to Yemen. In a statement to Al-Wahdawi, he said that the Nasserite Caucus at Parliament rejects the issuance of any law that contradicts the Constitution, which is the only authoritative source accepted by all...

Mr. Maqtari expressed his hope that the President shall not allow such a law to be issued, and would order re-

examination of the said articles as it shall be an insult to Yemen and its system.

#### A Deaf-mute

Taiz secret service detained last Friday a child, Adnan Mahmood Nagi.

The detained deaf-mute child, a student at the Taiz Handicapped Development Institute, was passing near the secret service premises and due to children anxiety tried to have look behind the gates. The courageous policeman caught him red-handed and put him in jail. Neither his situation as a handicapped was considered nor the earnest pleadings of his family were heard.

### AL-WAHDAAH Officia

#### Solid Yemeni-German Cooperation

The German Minister for International Cooperation for Development and Economic Cooperation arrives at Sana'a by the end of January, at the head of a 20 man strong delegation of Ministry, Parliament, Donor and executive organization experts.

Mr. Anwar Sahooi, Chairman of the Technical Secretariat for Water Reform told Al-Wahdah the visit shall continue for 3 days and aims at discussing all aspects of future development in all fields, especially in water supply and sewage projects that are financed by the Federal Republic of Germany.

The delegation shall meet also the meet the ministers of Planning and Development, Public Health, Education, Agriculture and Electricity and others who are concerned with German Cooperation side.

#### \$12.2 M, for Mahra Country Development Projects

The Council of Ministers gave the OK yesterday for loan agreement drafted between Yemen and the International Fund for Agricultural Development, [IFAD] on the amount of 8,9 special drawing rights, i.e. \$12.2 millions to finance the country development project. The draft agreement was turned over for the finalization of Constitutional procedure.

The project aims at improving the social and economic situation and raising the standards of living in Almahra. It shall finance basic development services and Almahra population capabilities in the development process and raising production capacities.

### AL-AYYAM Independent

#### Ba Jammal: Rumored Saudi-Yemeni Clashes Are Nonessential Incidents

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Abdul Qadir Ba Jammal said ' What is rumored about clashes or engagements between Yemen and Saudi Arabia are only mild nonessential incidents which are being contained within the joint military and security committee and local border-guards frame.

Mr. Ba Jammal was speaking after he concluded a visit to Saudi Arabia, which, he said, is part of consultations between both leaderships, very necessary for facilitating those committees responsible for border marking.

### AL-THAWRI Socialist Part

#### Tension Continues Between Yemen and Saudi Arabia

Sana'a political sources confirmed that a state of tension in the Saudi-Yemeni relations continues and that the visit paid to Saudi Arabia by the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs has failed in decreasing the gap between the points of view regarding the joint border.

Observers noticed that the verbal letter Mr. Ba Jammal brought back to the president bore implied indications that no agreement was reached on those issues disagreed upon.

#### An Open Breach to the Constitution

The People's General Congress concluded its breaches of the Constitution by its members' voting on the Law of Local Government as MPs and Yemenis looked unbelievably towards those grief breaches of the Constitution.

Voting was taken by the relaxed majority of the PGC while threats and shouts were exchanged between Mr. Al-Raa'i who was chairing the session and some MPs who openly expressed their anger of the way he run the meetings since last Saturday. Well-informed Parliament sources disclosed that the breaches against the Constitution continued to the last minute, as forgeries were made in the results of voting through adding votes in the name of absent members such as Abdulla Khairan, Ahmed Al-Aansi, Ahmed Sofan, Saleh Al-Junaid and others.

#### Israel, Palestinians launch new round of peace talks

Israeli and Palestinian negotiators launched 10 days of intensive talks on Sunday aimed at forging the draft of a U.S.-brokered permanent peace treaty, senior Israeli diplomatic sources said. They said the negotiating teams met at an undisclosed location between Jerusalem and the West Bank town of Ramallah.

The talks are expected to pick up pace after the last Wednesday arrival in the region of U.S. President Bill Clinton's Middle East envoy Dennis Ross, and a Friday summit between Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Palestinian President Yasser Arafat.

The sides have pledged to seal the framework accord by February 13. A permanent peace deal, covering such core issues as the fate of Jerusalem, Palestinian refugees, and Jewish settlers, is to be sealed seven months later.

#### China warns Taiwan about making 'two states theory' legal

Already angry at Taiwan for suggesting it is an equal, China on last Sunday warned Taiwanese leaders that trying to write the island's claim to separate status into law would be "playing with fire." The warning, carried in a front-page editorial in the People's Daily, a newspaper of the ruling Communist Party, came two days after a top Chinese leader renewed threats that China would wage war if Taiwan declared independence.

#### Plane waits in Britain to bring Pinochet home

A Chilean air force plane sent to fetch embattled former dictator Augusto Pinochet has landed at an air force base northwest of London, the Defense Ministry said Sunday.

The Boeing 707 arrived Saturday at Brize Norton, some 20 miles outside London. The plane came from Bermuda, where it had waited for two weeks while legal wrangling continued over the fate of the 84-year-old former ruler whom Spain wants extradited to face charges of human rights abuses during his 1973-1990 rule.

#### A Fatal Mosque Blast In Pakistan

Two bombs have left four dead and almost 40 injured in the Pakistan city of Karachi. The most powerful blast literally blew a Sunni Muslim mosque to pieces in a densely populated area of the city. All the fatalities and at least 35 of those injured were victims of this bomb that was believed to have been disguised by being wrapped in a prayer mat hidden in a bag.

A smaller bomb, strapped to a motorcycle and detonated with a timer, exploded outside a court building injuring at least five.

On the other hand, Pakistan commemorated the Kashmir Solidarity Day on the 5th of February 2000. On this day, Pakistani people express solidarity with the Kashmiri people in their struggle for peace and harmony.

#### Snowstorm kills 3 in Iran

A snowstorm that swept parts of western Iran has killed three people, newspapers reported.

Three people who were on their way back to their village near the town of Baradust in northwestern Iran on Saturday died after getting caught in the storm. A fourth person with them survived with minor injuries.

Heavy snowfall in many Middle Eastern countries in the past few days has blocked roads and caused power cuts. Even parts of northern Saudi Arabia, near the border with Jordan, experienced a rare snowfall Friday.

#### Arab ministers open security conference

President Abdulaziz Bouteflika, opening a conference of the Arab world's interior ministers, said Saturday that the violence ravaging Algeria for eight years could have happened anywhere. Such violence "is not (our) fate," Bouteflika told the ministers.

"It is due to the errors of men and politicians who, in a difficult context, weakened society by ignoring its fundamental realities and its primordial needs."

More than 100,000 people have been killed since the start of an Islamic insurgency in 1992. Bouteflika has said that one million people have been affected by the violence in some way.

The ministers at the three-day conference—their 17th such meeting—are increasingly concerned by the rise of militant Islam and the threat of terrorism.

#### Agencies Appeal for Ethiopia Aid

Six U.N. agencies are appealing for \$190 million in aid for more than 8 million people in Ethiopia hit by natural disasters or displaced by fighting.

There are about 7.8 million people threatened by famine due to drought and flooding in Ethiopia, and hundreds of thousands of others who have been forced to leave their homes.

Other U.N. agencies joining in the call for Ethiopian aid include the World Health Organization, UNICEF, the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, the Food and Agriculture Organization and the U.N. Population Fund.

## VACANCIES ANNOUNCEMENT

The Embassy of United States of America would like to advertise of vacancies within its organization:

#### 1) Administrative Secretary

The position is located in the General Service Office, American Embassy, which will perform office management tasks and secretarial duties for Facility and Maintenance and Shipping sections.

#### Major duties and Responsibilities:

Organizes/maintains all files/references; prepares correspondence in English and Arabic, types dip notes, packing list, cables, exemptions, and letters to (MFA, Traffic department) using both typewriter and personal computer (PC). Answers telephones; sends faxes; keeps calendar, unclassified conference room; sets up and maintains reminder files for projects and work schedules. Assists with database management and other tasks as assigned by supervisor.

#### Desired Qualifications:

**Education:** completion of secondary school, business school is required. Secretarial training/experience may be substituted for university training.

**Prior work experience:** 1-2 years of progressively responsible experience in an office environment.

**Language abilities:** Arabic (fluent). English level III (good working knowledge) is required.

**Knowledge:** Thorough knowledge of Microsoft Windows and Windows based application such as MS Word, Access (Database) and Excel.

**Skills and abilities:** Level II typing: 30 wpm (English); 20 wpm (Arabic). Prior experience working with Windows applications; ability to organize and maintain a filing system; ability to use modern telephone equipment ability to keep calendar. Translates simple to moderate difficulty documents or packing list from Arabic to English and vice versa.

**Salary:** The minimum starting annual gross salary for this position is YR566,822 of which one third is paid in U.S. Dollars.

#### 2) Personnel Clerk

The position is located at the Administrative Section, of the American Embassy, and will be responsible of performing a variety of clerical and administrative support duties in the Personnel Unit. Duties may include typing of correspondence, telegrams, announcements, and forms. Assists other members of staff in preparing and typing periodic employment or informational lists and reports. Translate routine correspondence or documents from Arabic in to English, and vice versa, and other duties as assigned by supervisor.

**Minimum qualifications:** Completion of elementary school is required.

**Experience:** One to two years of clerical experience is required.

**Language:** Level III English ability (good working knowledge) is required.

**Abilities:** Level III typing (minimum 40 words per minute with a small number of errors).

**Salary:** The minimum starting annual gross salary for this position is YR566,822 of which one third is paid in U.S. dollars.

#### 3) Mechanic (Generator)

The position is located at the General Service Office and reports directly to the General Service Officers, which is responsible of establishing schedule, and performs electrical/mechanical repairs, trouble shoots and preventive maintenance on the Embassy's Power Generation system and equipment including to diesel engines, and all its associated linkages.

**Minimum qualifications:** Completion of vocational or apprenticeship training that is recognized as producing journeyman level skills specializing in electricity and generators set mechanic is required.

**Desired Skills/Abilities:** Ability to use a variety of powered and non-powered hands tools and trade is required.

**Knowledge:** Knowledge of the U. S. Electrical code and background in electrical system for large building, along with knowledge of Power generator sets.

**Prior work experience and language:** At least three years of electrical or generator set mechanic is required. Level III English (good working knowledge) is required.

**Salary:** The minimum starting annual gross salary for this position is YR541,058 of which one third is paid in U.S. Dollars.

**How to apply:** Interested applicants should fill application form (OF 174) attached to it a C. V. and reference letter if available, and contact the Embassy Personnel Office, American Embassy, Dhahr Himyar Street, P. O. Box 22347, Sanaa. Tel 238-842, no later than February 23, 2000.

## EVENT AT THE TAJ SHEBA HOTEL Bilquis

### SPECIALITIES AT THE Restaurant

	<b>MONDAY</b>	Lunch (12.30pm-3.30pm) Y.R. 3,100 Dinner (7pm-10pm) Y.R. 3,100
	<b>TUESDAY</b>	Lunch (12.30pm-3.30pm) Y.R. 3,100
	<b>THURSDAY</b>	Dinner (7pm-10pm) Y.R. 3,600
	<b>FRIDAY</b>	(12.00pm-3.30pm) Y.R. 2,600 Kid's Buffet is also available.  Free Coca Cola

**For Reservations Call: 272372 Ext. 131/132** Taxes Extra.



# LOVE AT FIRST BITE

14th of February 2000

Indulge your partner with an intimate candlelight dinner with special Valentine's menu prepared by our Executive Chef Jean Pierre-Neu with added entertainment from our Filipino Band "Art and Rhythm Band".

Art & Rhythm Band



Flown by EMIRATES Airline

Special Valentine's for your loved ones can be ordered from our Hadda Pastry Shop or Hotel Lobby Lounge with different kinds of pastries, cakes and heart shaped goodies for all to enjoy.



Experience your taste with authentic Chinese cuisine at the Chinese Restaurant where special menus were prepared for this occasion.

Or

Have drinks with your loved ones or friends overlooking illuminating cities of Sana'a located on the 8th floor Al-Mandhar Lounge.



Judges will be around to choose for the "Best Couple" for this occasion.

For more information, please contact F & B Dept. Tel. 237500 ext. 8135

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



# CHINESE NEW YEAR



## At the Chinese Restaurant Sheraton Sana'a Hotel

5th of February 2000



Come and enjoy the Chinese New Year with joyousness abound with your loved ones and friends.



A sensational 4 course specialty menu, party all night long...

As the clock strikes at midnight for A New Year's Celebration!!!



For more Information Please contact F&B Dept. Tel. 237500 Ext. 8135

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

# Yemen-Shell Fruitful Cooperation Built over Generations

Interview with Caspar Ridley, the Country Chairman for Yemen for the Royal Dutch/Shell Group of Companies and General Manager of HASCO and Shell Marketing Y.S.C., shortly leaving to take on the position of Managing Director Shell Gas (LPG), Italy.



loyalty and affection in which many of our customers, new and old, hold Shell. I won't forget a small boy coming up to me whilst we traveled across the Empty Quarter. Once he knew I represented Shell he recited word for word in Arabic one of our television adverts from six year ago. Much of this affection for Shell has been built up over many generations. We are fortunate to have this brand heritage and are continually working to strengthen and further build this loyalty to Shell and its products such as the No. 1 selling Motor Oil in the region, Shell Super Plus Motor Oil.

**Q: When did this relationship start?**

**A:** I am not sure of the earlier history, in fact it is something that I would welcome any memories from any of your readers. Occasionally we come across very old photographs of some of Shell's earlier activities in Yemen. I hope that we may preserve some of this heritage in today's rapidly evolving world.

**Q: Tell us about yourself**

**A:** I am 32 years old, British, married with one daughter. In 1997 I arrived in Yemen with my family having spent one year in France and before that two years in Oman with Shell; so I knew a little bit about the region. We came to Yemen having heard a lot about the country whilst in Oman. We were keen to work in Yemen and explore a country, which we had heard was one of the most original and exciting in the world. We were not disappointed!

**Q: When did you start working in Yemen?**

**A:** I first came to Yemen at the beginning of 1997 when I was appointed by Shell International as the General Manager of HASCO & Shell Marketing Y.S.C. and the Country Chairman for Shell's activities in Yemen.

**Q: How do you evaluate the relationship between your company and the Yemeni Market?**

**A:** Shell has a long history of close involvement in the Yemeni Market. Over the last century Shell has been involved in a range of different products including petrol stations, crude oil trading,

exploration, lubricants blending, lubricants, chemicals, kerosene and bitumen marketing and distribution.

As I have traveled the country I have been so impressed with the



I believe Shell brands first appeared in Yemen near the beginning of the 20th century. In about 1950 Shell were looking for an Agent for the former North Yemen for Kerosene Fuel sold in cans which were imported from a Shell Refinery in Sudan. They found a young trading company near Steamer Point in Aden that matched Shell's needs. I understand this young traders business consisted of a one-door shop at that time. The Trading Name of the small business was Hayel Saeed Anam Company.

**Q: What is the amount of your export?**

**A:** We have no major exports at the moment although it is always under review. I suggested in a recent meeting with the Prime Minister of Yemen, His Excellency Abdul Karim Al-Iryani, that it would be a good idea to give manufacturing plants in Yemen a 'Bonded Status' in which no duties are paid in advance on all exported product. It should not be dependent on trying to claim back duties from any authorities, it should be clean, guaranteed and in advance. I gave detailed examples of how this assistance is given to other Blending Plants in the region. I feel this is an opportunity the Yemen economy is

missing. Many businesses are keen to export but they have to be able to cover as many of the risks in advance whilst remaining cost competitive.

I also want to find cheaper freight rates than those currently available in the market from Yemen to East Africa. I am sure there is a business opportunity there for someone.

This concept of helping all local manufacturers to export should be addressed especially as the export zone in Aden is developed. I hope 'the pioneers' of the existing industrial base will not be penalized for investing in Yemen before the Aden Free Zone was developed.

blending plant, built to Shell international specifications, in Taiz with our local partner, Hayel Saeed Anam

**Q: What memories will you have of your time here in Yemen?**

**A:** We will carry so many memories of Yemen with us as we head off for my next assignment in Italy. Many are unique to such a wonderful and beautiful country. The landscapes and scenery across the country are spectacular; we are lucky to have explored so much of the country especially in travelling off the main roads. It gave us a chance to get to know a little more about the 'real' Yemen out of the cities. Wherever



**Q: What is your contribution to the Free Zone?**

**A:** We have not yet made any major investment in the Free Zone, although we are always looking at new opportunities. Shell made a significant investment five years ago in an advanced lubricant

we went we felt safe and were made to feel welcome by the generous Yemeni hospitality. Finally we are fortunate to have made so many close friends in our brief time here and to have had a chance to learn more about a country with such a rich culture.



# MPs Angered by The Approval of The Local Authority Law

The Parliament endorsed the local authority law last Wednesday January 26, 2000 despite the fact that it was the subject of much controversy between the government and different political blocs of the opposition which constitute a fraction, if compared to the ruling party which controls more than two thirds of the members.

Many politicians have talked vigorously about the law of local governance as the real and the only way out of the current crisis the government is going through. However, this law was replaced by the local authority law which has actually deformed the local governance law from its content. In other words, all the wide-range authorities used to be granted to people in terms of electing general directors and governors are no more in the new draft of the local authority law. This is so mainly because these officials are to be appointed by the ruling power and not elected by the people. The law has been endorsed despite all the limitations as well as violations it contains of the constitutional articles. The opposition forces, being very few, could do nothing to stop this except presenting a letter of complaint to the president which has not yet been responded to. Yemen Times interviewed some members of parliament and politicians representing different political blocs and parties, both from the authority and the opposition, and inquired about the way voting was conducted, the pros as well as the cons of the law, whether it was voted for by the majority or what other measures used to pass it. All this has been presented by Mohammed bin Salam of Yemen Times who filed the following:

The ruling party has also oppressed the opposition members while discussing the draft law by not giving them the chance to talk. Besides, the amendments of the draft of the local authority were made by the parliament presidium without allowing members to check them or know what they were.

**Mr. Mohammad Al-Shaddadi, MP and Member of the PGC**



**Q: Could you please tell us how the law was approved?**

**A:** What happened inside the parliament last week was not expected from some members. In fact, it is the institution that organizes our life and since we have agreed on it we should not agree on something that does not agree with it. The items that go against the constitution were those related to electing heads of the local authorities either in governorates or districts. It is crystal clear that the items did not agree with the constitution, despite the attempts made by some members to convince others that it did. However, it was very clear, especially to those who are good at Arabic. Since the constitution gives us the freedom to elect or choose, we can begin with choosing which is not mostly different from electing and this was the opinion of the majority in the parliament. The majority agreed that there should be a gradual shifting of the law. For example, we begin with choosing 15 or 20 members from the Capital city and then 3 of them and from these three the president will choose one.

**Q: How was the vote? Did the law really get the number required to be passed?**

**A:** According to law there should be an agreement of the majority of the attendants and not the majority of the MPs as it used to be. There has been a heated discussion over this point, however, it is a healthy sign to have such arguments for the sake of the country.

**Q: It was said that the attendants were not more than 150 and the result announced by the parliament was that 169 were for and 22 opposed and 19 abstained from voting. What is your comment?**

**A:** I think the answer to this question should be by the Parliament presidency and Secretary because it was they who counted the attendants.

**Q: Some members said that some names which were announced to be in favor of the law were actually of dead and absent members. What is your comment?**

**A:** I have heard about the same thing.

**Q: How such names appeared on the screen?**

**A:** Actually, it seems that some colleagues try to do it on purpose.

**Q: Was it not the Parliament presidency that is responsible for names appearing on the screen?**

**A:** I do not know a lot about computers. In fact, I heard the Presidency warning against writing names of absentees.

**Q: Local Authorities are important for strengthening and expanding democracy in the country. Do you think that the law passed by the parliament is satisfactory?**

**A:** I think that the law is deficient and it will not meet the people's ambitions and it will not solve the problem?

**Q: What is the difference between this law and the Administration of Local Authority?**

**A:** Of course some power has been given to the local authority. However, the local council will not be able to practice this power. I do not think that there is a difference because the control will be centralized.

**Q: What about the different nomenclatures; the local authority, local governance and local administration, which one seems to suit our society most?**

**A:** Of course, the constitution talks about the local governance and the government's draft speaks of the local administration.

**Q: Some members suggested that they would bring the case before the Constitutional Court if the President did not reconsider the law passed by the Parliament. Do you think that articles (143) and (144) upon which the draft of the local authority has been based need to be reconsidered?**

**A:** In fact, we need to reconsider the articles of the law, not the constitution itself. The constitution was prepared and discussed by intellectual people. The ambiguity is in the law and not in the constitution. The constitution is very clear and the law in fact goes against it, in my opinion.

**Q: What are advantages and disadvantages of this law?**

**A:** The disadvantage is that the local authority will not be able to enjoy any power. The advantage is that it can be considered as a good beginning and a thing is better than nothing, at least we get used to such experience. However, I do not think that this will solve the problems and bring an end to the difficulties faced by the governorates and districts.

**Q: Many MPs think that such a law in fact has been passed to reserve the system of centralization? What do you think?**

**A:** This is right. If the district's director gets orders from the governor and the governor gets orders from the minister and the minister gets orders from the Prime Minister and so on, where is the local governance? But as I have already stated that something is better than nothing.

**Q: It is said that the PGC is in a real dilemma because it forms only 62% and it is facing the upcoming parliamentary elections, so it had to create this law in order to ensure its existence in all over Yemen and thus guarantee its success in the upcoming elections. What is your comment?**

**A:** I should say the PGC and the Islah. It was clear in the Parliament and all members realized this and one of the members announced that the Islah party agreed on the law. In fact we do not know the justifications of passing such a law. It is right that in some districts and governorates like Al-Jawf, it is difficult to get a response. But since we are determined that this experience should be lived, at least we should start in a right way. In fact we should believe in the peaceful transfer of power and in success and failure be us in the PGC or Islah or others.

**Q: Any last word?**

**A:** I hope that the law will be brought back to the parliament and that the president will amend what does not agree with the constitution.



**Sakhr Mohammed Al-Wajeh Member of the PGC Permanent Committee**

**Q: The law of the local governance was passed by the parliament last Wednesday January 26th.**

**How did the vote take place and did it get the required majority?**

**A:** Formally, it did get the required majority. There was a good number of the PGC members who voted for the law as it was. However, there was a hurry in voting for it. Members were supposed to read the last version before voting. In fact, there was a trend to pass the law despite its violations of the constitution. The members who opposed the law were motivated by those violations. The rest of the members voted just to please their party. There were also some members of Islah who voted for the law. I can say that the leadership of the two big parties were determined to pass the law.

**Q: It was said that the attendants were not more than 150 and the result announced by the parliament was that 169 were for and 22 opposed and 19 abstentions. What is your comment?**

**A:** I can not tell. It is difficult to know if the attendants were 150 or 170. However, this is not the point, the point is that the law was passed by the majority of the attendants and there was a desire to get the majority of the

whole members and not only the attendants in order to make it strongly passed. Of course, some names of absent and dead members appeared on the list of the voters, however I can not tell who played with the computer keyboard. I think that this mistake resulted from the fear of not passing the law and the determination to pass it.

**Q: Local Authorities are important for strengthening and expanding democracy in the country. Do you think that the law passed by the parliament is satisfactory?**

**A:** I think that this law has nothing to do with the local governance or the local authority except the nomenclature. The law in fact is a reinforcement of centralization. It, in fact, establishes branches for centralization in all administrative units. I think that centralization will be even more strong because this law gives the right to the central authority to appoint heads of the administrative units. The law also gives them many authorities while members of the elected local councils are entitled to formal authorities. When the head of the administrative unit is appointed of course he will do what the central authority wants because he will be afraid of not being appointed the next time, consequently he will serve the party which appointed him more than the people. In addition, this law goes against article 4 in the constitution. If the people are not entitled to choose whom they know is able to serve them, where is democracy?

**Q: What is the difference between this new law and the Ministry of Local Administration?**

**A:** No difference. Just adding a decorated picture that the present system is democratic and decentralized. We hope that the president will realize these points and reconsider the law.

**Q: If this does not happen, will you go to the Constitutional Court?**

**A:** Some members have this idea but will they do it, I am not sure.

**Q: What about the different nomenclatures; the local authority, local governance and local administration, which one seems to suit our society most?**

**A:** The local authority, because it agrees with the constitution and I think that the nomenclature does not matter much if the content of the law does not really aim at establishing the local authority.

**Q: What is the law that we desire?**

**A:** We are looking for a real authority that care about people and has authorities parallel to that of the central

authority. This is what we are dreaming of. I think that without electing the local authority and heads of administrative units there will be no real local authority.

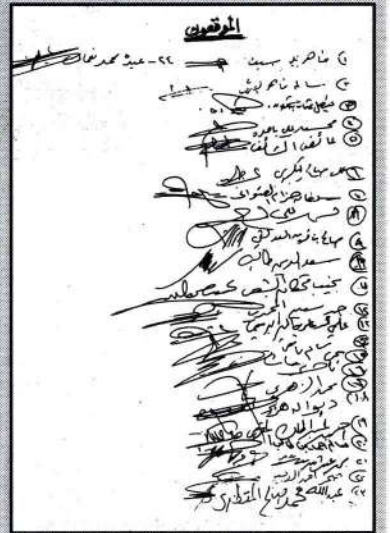
**Q: What are the advantages and disadvantages of the law?**

**A:** I think that there will be no advantages for the law. As far as the advantages are concerned, I think that we will give the society a false picture about the existence of a local authority while in fact there is not. What will be there is nothing more than enhancing the system of centralization which has been proved to be a failure.

## Statement about The Local Authority Draft Law

We the undersigned have studied vigorously the draft law of the local authority as it is considered to be of prime importance to life, stability, development, prosperity and national unity of our people and our democratic process.

It has become clear since the discussion of article (2) that the government has been determined to pass this law despite its violation to article (143) of the constitution. This led to postpone voting for the law many times despite the opposition of many members. When discussions on the issue of appointing governors in spite of its violation to article (143), we were surprised at the determination of the Parliament presidency to pass article (33) as it was without discussing the postponed articles. This, of course, caused some dissatisfaction among the members. With passing this law and the support of the majority of the attendants a certain kind of disappointment overshadowed the place. Consequently, this led to passing the rest of the articles: (34) to (113) without discussions. Even when the members got rid of their shock articles (113) and (164) were not seriously discussed. After this a number of members requested the re-discussion of articles: (33, 43, 44, 56, 60, 73) hoping that the majority will reconsider its attitude that was against the constitution. Unfortunately, the



majority did not pay this any attention, for this reason we would like to clarify the following:

- 1- Appointing the Head of the administrative unite is against article (143) in the first place, and appointing the chairman of the local council instead of electing him is against article (4) of the constitution.
- 2- The content of the law does not agree with the contents of articles: (4,143,144,145) of the constitution.
- 3- We have noticed that sessions of the parliament are run in a way that does not agree with its standing order, especially when discussion important projects.

**EVENT AT THE TAJ SHEBA HOTEL**

**14th February Valentine's Day**

**Elegant 5 COURSE DINNER**

**AT THE GOLDEN BASIS**

**WITH THE STREET SOUND BAND**

*Vive La Valentine!*

*Love's fires are kindled - just this valentine's night. With a memory. A lingering look. A cosy dance. A warm embrace. Enchanted moments you wish will last forever!*

*A whole range of emotions from starters to desserts!*

**La Patisserie**

*Cake shop of the Taj*

Say "IT" with Sugar Chocolates, Apples...

- 'Be my Valentine' Cakes
- Valentine Chocolates
- Raspberry Chocolate Medley
- Cupid Blueberry Hearts
- Apple & Calvados Tartlets

**TIME :**

8pm-Midnight

**TAJ SHEBA HOTEL**

SANA'A, YEMEN

**For Reservation :**

Tel.: 272372 Ext. 131/132



## NADIA MUHSIN:

## The Mystery Unveiled

Part 1

By: Yemen Times Staff

\*Some Photos are taken from the book "sold"

This page is dedicated to an issue that has been puzzling the public for many years. It is dealing with Nadia Muhsin, the girl of a Yemeni father and British mother. Thousands of people all over the world have heard of her name. She has been mentioned for almost 3,000 times in emails coming to Yemen Times office. There were letters coming from everywhere in the world, from England, Canada, USA, France, Sweden, Austria, Germany, and Yemen asking us about Nadia; where she is and how her conditions are. Several stories have been told about Nadia Muhsin.

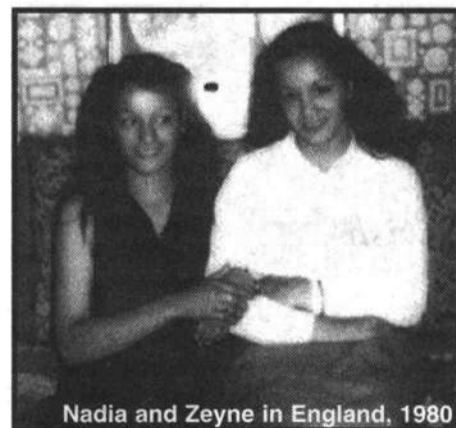
As the story goes, Nadia was taken with her sister Zeyne to Yemen in 1980. Both sisters married at an early age of 14 and 15 respectively in Taiz governorate where their father originated. In 1988 Zeyne went back to Britain leaving Nadia behind. Ever since, Nadia has been living in Yemen- that is, for more than 20 years.

There are two versions of this story, and in order to be completely neutral, we had to bring the two versions without censoring or cutting any details.

## The mother's version of the story:

This is the version given by the mother's side, who is still residing in England along with her elder daughter Zeyne. This story is also reflected in two books "Sold" and "Without Mercy", that have been written about Nadia and Zeyne's story. Here we provide excerpts from this version of this story as displayed at [web.infiniweb.ca/nadia](http://web.infiniweb.ca/nadia): "In July of 1980, at the age of fifteen, Zeyne Muhsin went on a holiday to Yemen, accompanied by Abdul Kadir (a friend of her father) and his eldest son, Mohammed. She went for six weeks, alone but for these strangers, to a distant foreign country. Her sister Nadia was to join her in two weeks' time. She went to enjoy the sun and the vast plains of Yemen, to ride horses and lie on the beautiful palm-lined beaches of her father's homeland that he had so often described to her. A dream holiday. The same holiday that her father had arranged years before for her older sister and brother, when Zeyne was just a baby. Aged 3 and 4 when they went to Yemen, they never came home.

From Syria to Sana'a to Taiz, the journey was long and tiring. Enduring suffocating heat and unsanitary conditions, Zeyne was already homesick. In Taiz, they stopped to spend the night at the home of one of Abdul Kadir's friends. The host's wife was very

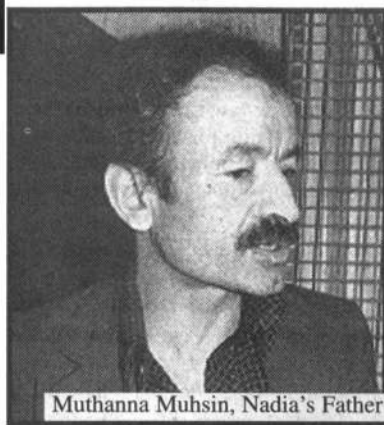


Nadia and Zeyne in England, 1980

kind and friendly to Zeyne, but after some time of trying to communicate with her, she began crying. Zeyne realized much later that this woman knew what was going to happen and wanted to warn her. Everyone knew about Zeyne. And yet she knew nothing. Blinded by the innocence of her 15 years, she trusted Abdul Kadir.

His house in Hockail, near the village of Moqbana, would be her prison. Two hours from Taiz, it was perched on a dry rocky mountaintop, half an hour's rugged trek from the ground. On arrival, she met his parents and his wife Ward, his son Mohammed's wife Bakeela and their two daughters, Shifa, 8 and Tamanay, 5. All of them in this house. The living conditions were horrific: a ragged 6 cm mat to sleep on, an unlit cave-like chamber with a bucket which passed for a bathroom, and a hole in the ground for a toilet. Bare mud floors, walls lined with cow dung and stifling heat to intensify the pungent air...

But it was only for a few weeks. It was her holiday after all. And Abdul Kadir was nice enough. He had a T.V. for her and brought



Muthanna Muhsin, Nadia's Father

her special food, and was polite and courteous towards her. She suspected nothing. Then, three days after her arrival, he introduced her to his youngest son, Abdullah, a 14-year-old boy, and said: "This is your husband." "What do you mean, 'this is my husband?'" "This is your husband. You are married."

Zeyne didn't understand. She refused to accept it - she objected, she fought, she



Nadia before coming to Yemen, 1980

denied. To no avail. Her father had arranged everything in England, and Abdul Kadir had paid for her marriage to his son. Her father had sold her for \$2,500.

She was alone and abandoned on a remote mountaintop in a strange country with not a soul to help her.

On the very night of this atrocious announcement, Abdul Kadir locked her in her room - with Abdullah - to consummate the "marriage". Abdullah slept alone; Zeyne spent a sleepless night in shock curled up in a corner. The following night, forced to submit or be tied down, Zeyne was raped for the first time. The ritual would continue night after night, and any time she refused, Abdul beat her viciously the next morning. A high-spirited girl, Zeyne fought back, but he easily overpowered her. He promised that as soon as she fell pregnant she could return to Birmingham. It was the first of many lies.

Realizing the awful fate awaiting her little sister, Zeyne desperately wrote a letter home: "To my dear Mother, Please don't let Nadia come to Yemen. They say I'm married. I don't know what's going to happen now. I'm scared. I need help. I'm begging you, please don't let Nadia come, I beg you Mummy darling. Help me. Most of all do not let Nadia come."

She had no choice but to give the letter to Abdul Kadir to mail. It never reached her mother. In desperation she tried to run, to no avail. Mohammed caught her in no time. In any case, there was nowhere to go. She was in the midst of a hostile, rocky desert. And a woman in the Middle East, in western clothes, with neither money nor passport, can't get very far.

A week later she met up with Nadia at the home of Gowad, another acquaintance of their father. Nadia couldn't understand her sister's distress at their reunion, and Zeyne could do nothing to prepare her. In tears, she was made to tell Nadia of their new fate: that they were married, that their father had sold them off, and that Nadia was now the wife of 13-year-old Samir, Gowad's son. Same shock, same horror. In that moment, Nadia lost the carefree oblivion of her fourteen years, and became a listless slave to these men.

But Zeyne was more obstinate than Nadia; she was stronger, she would fight. Nadia was susceptible; she would tolerate, submit. And Zeyne didn't want to leave her that day.

She knew what was in store for her, but her protests were in vain. Nadia was taken into Gowad's house in the village of Ashube, with her new "husband", Samir, and Zeyne was sent back to Hockail. The plan was to separate the sisters so that they might assimilate more quickly.

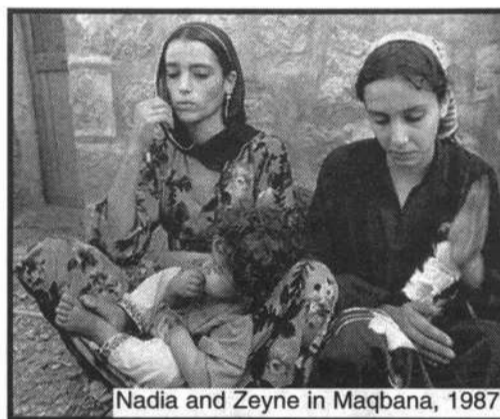
For a while, Abdul Kadir allowed Zeyne to visit her sister in Ashube, a half-hour's walk away. She went every day, always accompanied by her jailor, to speak to Nadia in English, keep her dreams and hopes alive, to console her, comfort her, and fight for her.

After a time, Abdul brought the girls a tape recorder and forced them to record a happy, well-meaning message on cassette for their mother:

Dear Mummy...Nadia arrived safely, we are in a pretty village, Yemen is magnificent. They're going to kill a sheep for a celebration in our honour. We are very happy. Send my love to everyone, Ashia and Mo. Tell them I love them. My love to you, from Nadia as well. See you soon Mummy.

She recorded these lies in the dulllest monotone she could muster, and Nadia added a few words at the end. Zeyne could feel the emptiness in her sister's eyes; she only hoped her mother could hear it.

As time went by, with no word from the outside world, the girls had no alternative but to participate in the menial tasks of a Yemeni wife - fetching water on foot from wells five miles away, gathering wood on the rocky plains, cooking in crude stone ovens, minding children

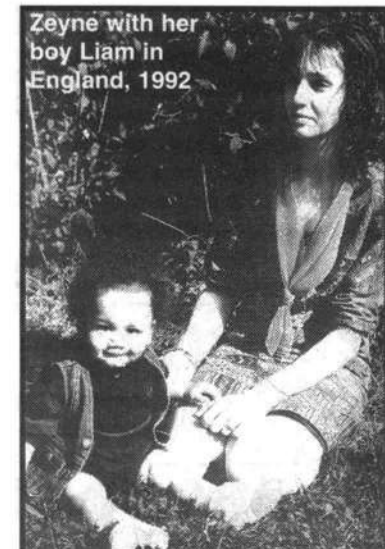


Nadia and Zeyne in Maqbana, 1987

and enduring the rape of a child husband, day after day, night after night.

Zeyne constantly wrote pleading letters to her mother, Miriam, but they were always intercepted by Abdul Kadir or his collaborators. Miriam had discovered what her husband had done to their daughters, but was at a loss as to how or where to begin finding them. Her husband tortured her with lies and half-truths, delighting in his own shallow power.

Three years after their arrival, Nadia fell pregnant. On February 29, 1984, she gave birth to a son, Haney in barbaric conditions: delivery on a bare mud floor with an old woman to assist and a rusty razor blade to cut the cord. No medical help, nothing, if something went wrong. And Zeyne knew she would fare no better when her time came. Having succumbed malaria several times, Zeyne eventually found an ally in a doctor stationed in Hockail. He agreed to post a letter for her without its falling into the hands of Abdul Kadir's agents, and told her she could use his return address. She immediately wrote to her mother, confident that the letter would get through. Two weeks

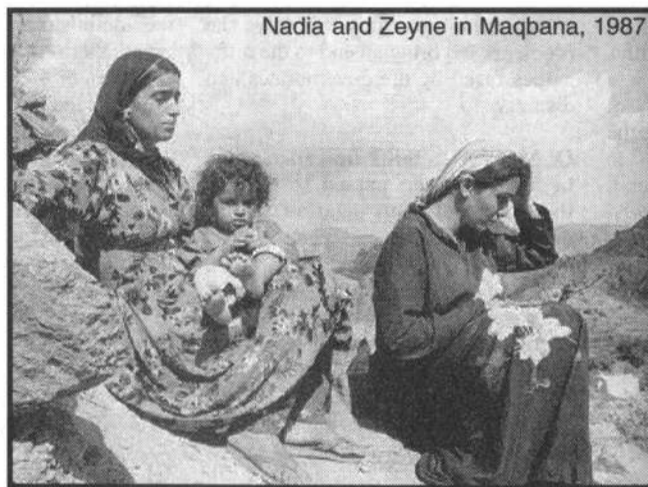


Zeyne with her boy Liam in England, 1992

passed before she heard any word, but when she did, they had regular contact. Finally she could tell her mother where they were and the truth about the situation.

After four years of complete darkness, Nadia and Zeyne could finally see a glimmer of light at the end of the tunnel. Zeyne urged her mother to contact the media and make their story an issue. This was the theft of all thefts, the rape of all rapes, and not "just another kidnapping".

Then in 1986, Zeyne fell pregnant, and Nadia for the second time. In May Zeyne gave birth to a son, Marcus, and Nadia delivered a daughter, Tina, who would suffer genital mutilation four days after her birth. The sanitary conditions in Nadia's "house" were worsening, and her health deteriorated. The laceration from the birth, inflicted with the same rusty blade as



Nadia and Zeyne in Maqbana, 1987

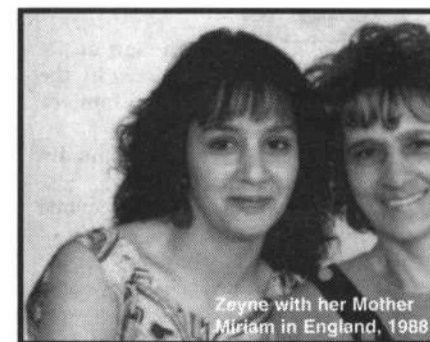
before, was a long time healing.

After seven years in their mountaintop prison, their mother finally found the girls, having received no help from their father or any Yemeni authorities. She brought with her two British journalists posing as relief workers. For the time being, there was not much they could do for the girls, but the photos they took and the subsequent story they ran created a lot of pressure and embarrassment for the British and Yemeni governments.

As a result, the Head of Police in Taiz arranged for the two sisters to come and stay with him, minus their "husbands" and children, and tell him their story. He was a fair and kind man, but did his utmost to change their minds about

going home to England, and to stop the publicity. They were to stay with him for several days, and their children were to join them later. The girls thought the nightmare was coming to an end.

Days turned into weeks, and then into months. The "husbands" came with the children to join their "wives" in Taiz, and the two families were crammed into one small, dingy apartment. Dingy, but a far cry from village life in Moqbana. And while it



Zeyne with her Mother Miriam in England, 1988

seemed that everyone in Yemen was trying to convince them to stay there and be happy with their lot, they could think of only one solution: going home to England where they belonged.

In this final struggle, their mother joined them for a second time. And as escape loomed closer, a new obstacle emerged: if the girls truly wanted to leave Yemen, they must first apply for divorce. Once divorced, they would be free to go - alone. They could not take their children with them. The Yemeni law states that custody goes automatically to the father in a divorce, and the children's fathers would never allow them to leave.

So the sisters made a pact: the first one to get out would leave her children in the care of the other until they could all follow. Zeyne was prepared. She would leave Marcus behind. But Nadia couldn't bring herself to leave her children. So Zeyne would be the first to go.

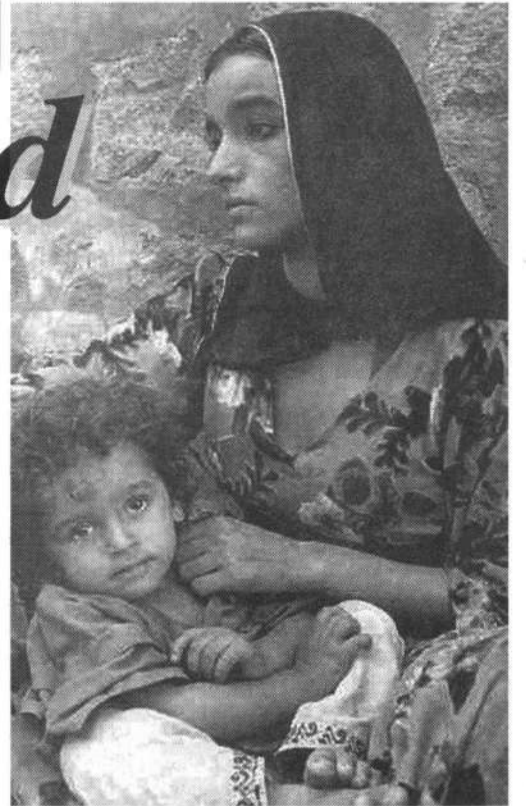
Every effort was made to dissuade her: intimidation, corruption, threats, lies. But in 1988 she had a new passport and a plane ticket, and all alone she finally flew home to England.

Zeyne is free now, but her liberty weighs heavy as long as her sister and their children are held against their will.

It's now 1999. Nadia has been a prisoner of Yemen for 19 years. She is 34 years old."

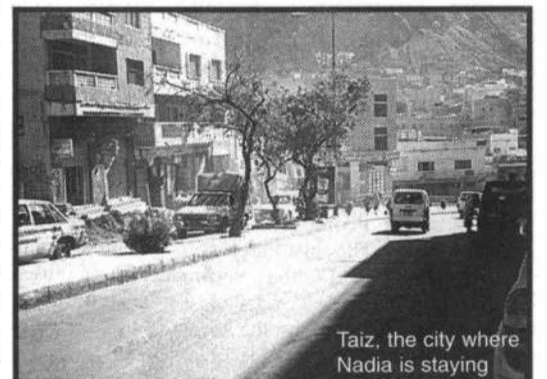
## Mission of seeking the truth begins

We -Editor in Chief of Yemen Times-, and a journalist-arrived to Taiz in the morning



of Monday January 24<sup>th</sup>. As soon as we arrived, we phoned a person who we were told that would help us in our mission and will be our guide in the trip. No more than 10 minutes passed before the guide came to the Yemen Times Taiz Bureau, where we were awaiting him. He explained that he would be helping us in getting permission from Nadia Muhsin to make the interview and guide us to her house. Later in the day, the guide was able to contact Nadia telling her that Yemen Times wants to interview her. We were surprised, as the guide was able to contact her so fast. We thought that he would need to go all the way to the village of Al-Shuba where she lived. Consequently, we asked, "doesn't Nadia live in Al-Shuba village far away from the city?" The guide, replied, "of course not, don't

wants to interview her. We were surprised, as the guide was able to contact her so fast. We thought that he would need to go all the way to the village of Al-Shuba where she lived. Consequently, we asked, "doesn't Nadia live in Al-Shuba village far away from the city?" The guide, replied, "of course not, don't



Taiz, the city where Nadia is staying

"As we approached the targeted address, we found a two-floor fancy building that seems to have been completed soon. We asked our guide, "is this where Nadia Muhsin lives?" He shook his head positively leaving a question mark in our minds about the amazing contradiction of what has been said in the story mentioned in the book "sold" describing her 'terrible' accommodation conditions."

you know that she has been living in Taiz city for more than 4 years now? She moved a long time back."

But as expected, Nadia was shy and was not willing to be interviewed. She rejected the request thinking that it is just another report that media people want to make money from.

We began whispering to each other, "Oh no, it cannot be that we return all the way to Sana'a empty handed..." so we urged the guide to do his best and convince her.

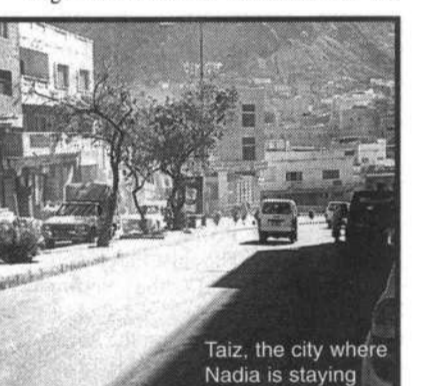
At long last, the guide succeeded and finally, after a long conversation, he was able to convince Nadia to be interviewed as he explained to her that our only aim is to know how she is doing and the conditions she is living in. However, we were not able to get the green light, until her husband, Samir Gawad was in the house and agreed.

We were relieved that Nadia had agreed to be interviewed, and immediately, along with our guide drove to the neighborhood where she lived.

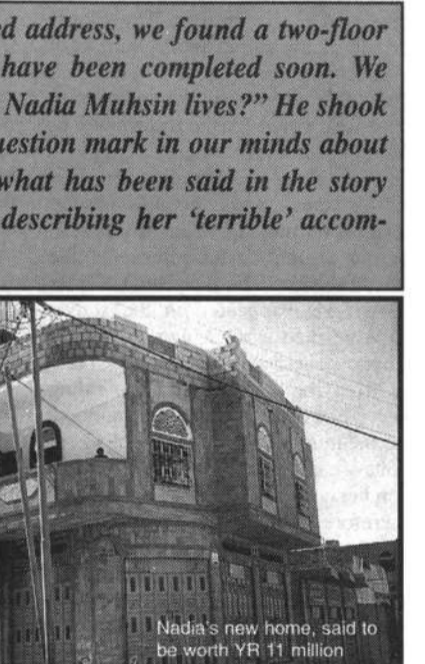
As we approached the targeted address, we found a two-floor fancy building that seems to have been completed soon. We asked our guide, "is this where Nadia Muhsin lives?" He shook his head positively leaving a question mark in our minds about the amazing contradiction of what has been said in the story mentioned in the book "sold" describing her 'terrible' accommodation conditions.

We rang the bell of the door and were received by Samir Gawad, who welcomed us with a smile. The way Samir welcomed us made us feel comfortable from the first minute we entered his house. We then were delighted to see a young girl of around 4 years old welcoming us and shaking our

hands, later we realized that she was Nadia's youngest daughter. As we entered the dining room, we witnessed how neat and organized the room was. We then started chatting with Samir about the house, Taiz, the weather and other things. Then we realized that we are running out of time and that we should get into the subject. We explained our mission to Nadia's husband who interrupted us asked his elder son to serve us some cola. "We have come all the way from Sana'a to investigate the truth of the story of Nadia Muhsin. We want to see with our own eyes how she lives, her house, and her children, and want to know if -as the book says- is living under tremendously tough conditions and circumstances." He



Taiz, the city where Nadia is staying



Nadia's new home, said to be worth YR 11 million

replied, "let me get out of your way and call Nadia to meet you personally to ask her yourself. I don't want to be in the picture, so you can interview her in English and ask her whatever you want."

Then within two minutes, a lady with the traditional female costume -fully covered with black- entered the room. We immediately realized that she was the one concerned, she was Nadia Muhsin. Then we began asking her questions, in which some she felt very emotional and in some quite angry. One thing that made us feel that she was frank is that she said, "I do want to visit England, but not now." The interview with a lot of shocking and interesting statements will be published next issue.

To be continued next week.

## AKNOWLEDGEMENT

Yemen Times would like to thank:  
-Mr. Abdulsattar Al-Shamiri  
-Mr. Ahmed Al-Garzooimi &  
-Mr. Amin Al-Gazroomy  
for their kind efforts in helping us reach Nadia Muhsin and facilitating our seek for the truth in her story.



# Celebrating the International Day to Combat Leprosy and Honoring Dr. Yasin Al-Qubati



By: Imad Al-Sagqaf  
Taiz Bureau Chief  
Yemen Times

**A** ceremony was held last Saturday January 29, 2000 celebrating the event of the international day to combat leprosy in the headquarters of the Yemeni Association For Fighting Leprosy in Taiz.

The ceremony was commenced with some recitation from the Holy Qura'an. Then a speech was made by Dr. Yasin Abdul Al-Alim, chairman of the project to fight leprosy spelling out the stages followed to control this disease. He pointed out that they have made great achievements in controlling this disease. Then, a word was presented by Mr. Ahmad Abdullah Al-Higri, the governor of Taiz expressing his high appreciation of Dr. Yasin's efforts and recommending the support of Hail Said Group and the concerns of the Minister of Health. Al-Higri also said "I wish that the success of this project won't be like our success for we officials talk more than we act. We carry our 10% of the projects and leave the 90% for the propaganda."

After that Mr. Shawk Ahmad Hail delivered a speech illustrating the activities of the association promising that they will continue to do their best to back up this center and fight this disease. At the end of the ceremony Dr. Abdullah Abdul Wali Nasher delivered a speech thanking Dr. Yasin and the international organizations that have contributed to the success of fighting leprosy. He said "What we have achieved was the basis to control leprosy and eventually inaugurate the second ten-year period. We have achieved a conspicuous success since Dr. Yasin came to be the chairman of this project. Reports say that the ratio of outbreak of this disease is 3% for 100,000 people which is considered to be of the least ratios all over the world." He also referred to the letter of Mr. Abdul Karim Al-Aryani, Prime Minister in which he expressed his gratefulness and thanks for Dr. Yasin for his commendable efforts in fighting leprosy.

Dr. Yasin was also honored by the Minister of Health and the governor of Taiz.

Lepers in Yemen, as is the case all over the world have suffered a merciless social war. They were ostracized by society because of the deformations caused by leprosy disease. It was mistakenly believed that this disease is a punishment for those who had committed reprehensible deeds and the only way to treat it is to isolate lepers. Lepers were deprived of many rights even of performing their prayers from in mosques and were isolated in cottages providing them no shelter at all. As a result of this social attitude, lepers formed small segregated societies haunted by rancor towards the society that have ostracized them. Therefore, they grew aggressive and in despair of forming normal social relationship with the healthy people and even with those who render help to them. Under these circumstances, only few people did risk to help the lepers. Such a decision requires a lot of fortitude, courage, self-denial and honesty in feelings and deeds. These are the common characteristics among those who deal with lepers all around the world without which they cannot embark on such a risk. It was God's will to put lepers in Yemen and their tragedy on my way. I was still a student in the

medical college in Egypt when I saw Mother Teresa's nuns in their unfamiliar clothes in the streets of Taiz. I would usually visit them in their center in Al-Nour city and sometimes I would go with them to the leprosy hospital in the city where one could see despair, deprivation and suffering on lepers' faces. I could see the disease eating into their bodies destroying their cells and tissues resulting in the most horrible of scenes. However, despite the manner in which lepers treated us with, we endured their insults and we were not spared even of their blows, which rather strengthened my determination to work for finding ways for offering help to them. I graduated in 1980 from the college of medicine and got my degree as venereal and dermatological diseases doctor and this was the point when I started my real work as a doctor in treating leprosy.

At the second meeting of the International Health Organization for the Middle East held on 30 October 1982 in Mogadishu on October, 1982 to discuss the strategies of combating leprosy I presented the second national report on leprosy in Yemen and how to fight against it (there were only 174 cases back then). During the course of the meeting, I met Dr. Shiek Nour Al-Deen, Leprosy-Combating Unit chairman in the International Health Organization, and Dr. Howard Bruce, head of the Ophthalmology Department in California University, San Francisco, through whom I was acquainted with methods and means that would, in the future, enable me to find resources to fund the leprosy combating project in Yemen. Few months later, I hosted both of them in Taiz where we were able to know the reality of leprosy in Yemen and to draw the first lines for the policy of combating it. Together we published our first article in a world magazine about the conditions of lepers in Yemen. The article aimed at attracting governmental and non-governmental organizations to help Yemen fight against leprosy. We hoped we could at least find its roots and reduce the risk of infection in the society and aid the government introduce modern means of treatment for the benefit of lepers in Yemen.

At this point, the World Health Organization started a training program in Yemen. Egyptian, Nigerian and Indian specialists were sent to Yemen to train Yemeni Doctors.

I was the first Yemeni sent to receive training on the ways of combating leprosy at the world's largest specialized institute, i.e., the American Army Hospital, Carvel, Louisiana, USA.

This training program was like a brainwash for all the attendants where they get confident in being able to fight leprosy in the whole world. During this course we knew the addresses of organizations that could help us combat leprosy. Few months later, I participated in the 12th conference on combating leprosy on 20 February 1984 in New Delhi, India. There I met Dr. Hostler and Dr. Nour Al-Deen. We decided to seek help from large organizations. It was decided that I travel to Britain and Dr. Hostler to Germany for making contacts with the British and German leprosy-combating organizations. Then, I would go to Holland, France and talk to French, Dutch and Belgium organizations. We continued our work for 4 years looking for a funds from international organizations.

Since 1982, and with the beginning of the compound chemical medicine was being applied, Dr. Sheik Nour Al-Deen was regularly supplying our project in Al-Nour city in Yemen with free and sufficient amounts of leprosy medicine.

In 1983, I was appointed Director in Al-Jomhori hospital in Taiz. The capabilities of the hospital were quite big so I used cars to visit other governorates like Dammam, Sana'a, Hajja and Sa'ada. I searched in all places for cases of leprosy like Bakim mountains, Razih in Sa'ada, Al-Ja'afariah mountain in Sana'a and Malhan, Hafash in Al-Mahweet and Abyan, Al-Shafidarah, Najarah in Hajja and in all Tihama's valleys. When I was still the Director of Al-Jomhori hospital, I assigned lepers the task of renovating the hospital in return for a daily payment. Because by this people got used to the presence of lepers around them. I was regularly publishing articles and stories about lepers and the difficulties they face in their life in an impressive style to make people who read them begin

to sympathize with lepers.

International efforts continued to fund my business here in Yemen through Dr. Hostler in the USA, Dr. Roshdi Moharib in Egypt and Dr. Buhtani in India. At the end we were able to convince Glara organization to send Mr. Girshon, chief of the Leprosy-Combating Project in Al-Tami Nido in India and chief of Glara's organization projects in Asia. The Ministry of Health has greatly welcomed Mr. Girshon and the presidency has even provided him with an official car which took him all the way to Sa'ada, Hajja and Marib to check the conditions of lepers. When we came back to Taiz, we had not enough time to visit the city so I had to ask for the aid of the air forces. Fortunately, Mr. Hamoud, Commander of the Air Forces, was too generous to provide us with a helicopter to visit Taiz and Ibb and know its geographical nature in the last day. When the late Mr. Girshon presented his report to his boss back in Germany, the latter was amazed by the generous hospitality that his agent has received in Yemen. He also knew about the suffering of lepers here in Yemen and the paucity of resources despite the little help that Mother Teresa's nuns were providing. Therefore, he ordered a contract to be signed with Ministry of Health in 1988. The contract was put into force in 1989 as a field project starting from Taiz, Dammam, Ibb and Hodeida. Yemeni doctors were trained for this purpose and the Glara organization donated 4 cars for the project and the World Health Organization another 2. The medical record commenced on 1982 with 174 cases. The following table shows the progress of detecting and treating leprosy cases since then:

Year	Number of cases	Year	Number of cases
1985	140	1993	2,209
1986	280	1994	2,504
1987	420	1995	3,110
1988	532	1996	3,462
1989	729	1997	4,090
1990	1,176	1998	4,756
1991	1,663	1999	5,442
1992	1,887		

And we are still discovering cases through 36 clinics in all governorates. The doctors who supervise these clinics use transportation only for field works. We are proud that in this project we have refused the decision of buying the project cars and thereby depriving ourselves of a privilege. Therefore our transportation means remained as follows:

- Glara German Organization, 8 Cars (TOYOTA land cruiser and 7 motorcycles)
- International Health Organization, 3 motorcycles
- Ministry of health, 1 car (Hileux) and 1 lorry for water transportation.

- Yemeni Society for combating leprosy 2 cars (Hileux) and a bus (16 passengers)

Since the start of the training program we have trained 1199 health cadres for combating leprosy and another 203 for combating tuberculosis. I resigned from my job in the hospital in 1988 and devoted all my time to be a Director of the project. My battle was not just with leprosy, but also with some greedy people who wanted the Ministry of Health lands. My own children were kidnapped in front of my house and the lepers stood beside me courageously using stones and sticks against those greedy aggressors. When the situation grew worse, I traveled with my children to Egypt to save my life and my family's and to pursue my PHD degree. After the reunification of Yemen I left my studies and returned home to continue my job as a director of the project which had decayed since I left it.

Within one year we were able to cover all southern governorates like Hadramout, Mahara and even reached Gadib mountains near the Oman borders. Therefore, I asked for the aid of Glara's Organization and the Minister of Health and they provided us with another four cars. We opened new clinics all through the Republic making them 64 from Sa'ada in the North till Al-Kaytha in the south-east. Our work has drawn the attention of Dr. Ahmed Al-Hamli who was a Director of health education in the Ministry of Health. So he launched an intensive TV health campaign. He took his stories and scenes in the Bedouin tents in Dawa'a valley and in the lepers' cottages in Hajja, Sa'ada and Sana'a mountains. The stories had a great influence on people who started to sympathize with lepers instead of abandoning them.

Al-Nour hospital developed and became a place for treating various ailments like ophthalmic diseases, bones and even beauty surgeries. In 1992, an edict was released to make it a venereal and dermatological diseases hospital. The Ministry of health has provided the hospital with foreign nurses and a number of local doctors and nurses. Therefore, Mother Teresa's nuns left because their work under the title "Serving the poorest" and moved to the Elderly House. We have also made agreements with many organizations some of which are:

- (a) International Organizations:

1- Glara German Organization: since 1989 and up till now this organization still provides us with cars, maintenance, medicine, equipment; doctor's, nurses, field workers...etc wages, international and local training courses costs. It has been also funding the tuberculosis-combating program since 1996.

2- Malta system French Organization: form 1984 to 1990 this organization has been providing the hospital with visitor surgeons and paid them to work in Yemen as medical consultants.

3- International Handicapped Organization: this organization has established a workshop to train patients produce medical shoes and walking sticks for lepers. When the organization concluded its work in Al-Nour city we convinced it to open new workshop in Al-Thawra hospital in Taiz which is still working until today.

4- Saint Lazeryas Organization: has provided the hospital with books, periodic prints and also designed posters and printed them to educate people of leprosy in Yemen.

5- International Health Organization: this organization has been providing us with medicine since 1984 until today and has funded international and local training costs. In addition, it has chosen me to be a member of the Supreme Committee for leprosy specialists and a member in the International Supreme for reviewing the special business for terminating leprosy and a member of the supervisors committee for combating leprosy around the world. It has also assigned me a consultant for field-work or a training specialist in the following countries (Indonesia, India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Egypt and Libya). Moreover, the organization funded special projects in suburban areas like: Al-Masilah valley in Sayhout, Thamoud, Al-A'aber, Hajr in Hadramout, Al-Sa'aed, Nisab, Mayfa'ah in Shabwa and finally in Abyan. It has also established a special camp to fight leprosy in Hodeida.

6- The Mectizan Committee M.S.D. in Atlanta, Georgia, USA: has provided us with modern medicines to treat the Sawda (Hyper Reactive Onco Circosis) disease from 1990 until today. This medicine is distributed for free in all valleys which run through the middle plateau pouring in the red sea in Dammam, Sana'a, Taiz, Hodeida, Ibb, Hajja and Mahweet.

7- International Center for Eyes Health: this center continuously advertises our deeds to attract volunteers in the field of eyes health.

8- Arabian-Austrian Relationship Union: has made an agreement with the Yemeni Society to terminate Leprosy to provide the hospital with doctors and surgeons to cover all the needs regarding the repercussions of leprosy beauty surgeries. The union also renders old clothes for children and toys and wheel chairs for the handicapped. We have also worked through this organization to design a large project funded by the European Union that is to renovate the venereal and dermatological diseases hospital in Al-Nour city with a \$300 000 cost.

(b) Local organizations:

1- The Yemeni Society for combating leprosy, established in 22/1/1992, had supported in fields work and rendered the lepers financial aids to renovate their houses. They also funded other patient who had chronic diseases other than leprosy and helped their sons and daughters join institutes and universities. It has established an entertainment club and a soccer team which participates annually in the university league. It has also published lots of prints fighting the social disgrace of lepers. In addition, it had spent a 3.5 million dollars building a fence around the lands of Al-Nour city which were a matter of dispute. Moreover, it has built the administration building and training productive families with a cost of 7 million YR that it shared half-half with Hayel Sa'aed Ana'am Charity Society. Now, the society is constructing external clinics buildings in the hospitals and is expanding Al-Ihsan with a cost of \$ 60 000 with the aid of the social develop-



ment fund. It is also worth mentioning that Hajj Ahmed Hayel Sa'aed is the chairman of the Yemeni Society for Combating Leprosy who was the Secretary General of the society.

2- The Departed Hayel Sa'aed Ana'am charity society has participated in building Al-Nour city's mosque, Al-Ihsan school and a kindergarten in Al-Nour city alone. In addition to that, the society shared half the costs of constructing the administration building and renovating the rooms and ceilings of the hospital.

3- The Social Fund for Development: this organization participates now in expanding Al-Ihsan School in Al-Nour city and in building the venereal and dermatological diseases hospital Al-Nour city.

I have also traveled asking for the aid of expatriates in Saudi Arabia Kingdom and was able to get some funds from some traders there.

I would also like to add that executing these works and achievements would not have been possible without an international activity. I have attended 40 meetings and conferences all around the world from 1982 to 1999. I always was an active participant presenting working papers in all conferences not only about lepro-



rosy but also about Leishmania (Ivermectin) and venereal diseases. I had paved the way for my colleagues in Al-Nour city to attend international meetings and conferences in Ethiopia, Sudan, Egypt, India and China.

Moreover, I have published 15 articles in international magazines alone and with partners talking about leprosy, Sawda and Leishmania; wrote a chapter in international book which was published in India about the suffering of lepers. Furthermore, I have written a book of my own on lepers called "Together to terminate leprosy" and published 50 articles in Yemeni newspapers and magazines talking about lepers' problems.

After twenty years of work against leprosy, we have discovered about 6000 cases which could have been 30 000 if had not been treated. The rate of lepers has also decreased to as low as 3 patients in every 100 000 whereas the international rate is 1 in every 10 000. We may need 10 other years to destroy leprosy completely in Yemen if we continue on the same pace. Finally, I hope that with aid of God that the skilled, loyal and strong team I have left under the leadership of Mr. Abdul-Raheem Al-Same'ei in cooperation with Ministry of Health, International Health and Glara organizations will finish what I had started.

**AMIDEAST**  
اميد إيست

We wish to announce English Language courses at our Aden facility

**February 26-April 5, 2000**

General Information

Our program of study includes seven levels of instruction, from basic to advanced. Each level consists of two courses; courses consist of fifty hours over a five-week period. Each class meets two hours a day, five days a week, Saturdays through Wednesdays. Certificates of completion are awarded after each term.

In addition, a TOEFL preparation course may be offered if enough students register for this course.

Fee: One term (50 hours): \$100. (Fee includes cost of instruction, text book, and all necessary instructional materials).

Placement Test

New students will take a written and an oral test and be interviewed to determine their appropriate level. Students must register for placement tests at least one day before taking the test. Fee: \$20

Placement tests will be offered on the following date:

January 23-February 26, 2000  
Saturday-Wednesday at 10 A.M.

Test of English for International Communication (TOEIC)

This internationally recognized test is designed specifically for the business sector. It is corrected in Washington D. C. and the certificates are also from Washington. AMIDEAST offers TOEIC on Sunday and Tuesday. Fee: \$50

Institutional Test Program (ITP and local TOEFL)

Allows universities, English language institutes, or other agencies to locally administer an actual TOEFL test using their own facilities and staff. The exam is administered and corrected locally. The ITP is used to evaluate the English proficiency of people whose native language is not English. Note: It does not replace the TOEFL, which is required for college admission in the US. AMIDEAST offers ITP on Sunday and Tuesday. Fee: \$25

For more information, please contact AMIDEAST at 162 Miswat Street (across from British Consulate) in Khormaksar. Phone: 232345; fax 232345, from 8:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M., Saturday through Wednesday.

**Shammr Tourist & Trading Investment Co.Ltd.**  
**SHAMMR TOURIST SUITES**  
**(The Distinctive Marks in the World of Tourism)**

- \*Fascinating Location
- \*Warm Reception
- \*High Services
- \*Wonderful Furniture
- \*Different levels of Suites
- \*Special Services for Diplomats and High Class People
- \*Reception for Tourist Groups
- \*Dear businessman, do not forget our Suites. They are a world of luxury and comfort.

**Just One Visit to Our Suites Will Make the Bridge Through Which We Can Contact Each Other**

Shammr Tourist Suites  
Republic of Yemen- Sana'a-  
Demashq St. (Haddah)  
in front of Al-Rahman Mosque.  
Tel. 418546/7/8/9. Fax.  
418563. P. O. Box 16183.

☆☆ TOUCH STARS ☆☆☆ تاش ستارز ☆☆☆ (Tel. 261726)



# YEMEN TIMES 3RD MILLENNIUM COMPETITION مسابقة الألفية الثالثة الكبرى

To Participate in the competition, you need to fill out at least one coupon during the 1 month period (or longer) that the competition would continue in. You can send more than one coupon to increase your chances of winning. However, you can send either the Arabic or the English coupon, both languages will be acceptable. Do not forget to write your name and phone number.

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 Riials 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.

- Question: When was the first issue of Yemen Times published (indicate date/month/year)?  
Answer: \_\_\_\_\_
- Question: In which village and province is the Shammr fortress?  
Answer: \_\_\_\_\_
- Question: What are the two products produced by National Cigarettes & Matches Industry Ltd. ?  
Answer: \_\_\_\_\_
- Question: What are the cooking oil products whose agent is Salim Bagirsh & Sons Est.?  
Answer: \_\_\_\_\_
- Question: What are the main ingredients of Kaha Mango Juice?  
Answer: \_\_\_\_\_
- Question: Which group does United Insurance Company belong to?  
Answer: \_\_\_\_\_
- Question: Mention three brands that Artex Agency sell?  
Answer: \_\_\_\_\_
- Question: In which city is United Company for Industrial Metals' main office?  
Answer: \_\_\_\_\_
- Question: Mention three Suzuki Models being sold by Ba Maroof Group in Aden.  
Answer: \_\_\_\_\_
- Question: What is the old name and location of the Gen. Est. of Furniture & School Equipment?  
Answer: \_\_\_\_\_
- 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 لتكويون واحد على الأقل، ولكن لضمان احتمال الفوز بالجائزة الكبرى نضع بلاجابة على كل الأمداء التي فيها المسابقة إذ أن الأسئلة قد تطورت في صوبتها من مدة لاخر. شارك بإحدى الاستمارتين الإنجليزية أو العربية (وليس كليهما) ويمكن لنفس الشخص المشاركة في أكثر من كويون واحد!

أجب عن الأسئلة التالية (كل إجابة تحت السؤال) ثم قص الكويون وارسله بالبريد إلى ص.ب. ٢٥٧٩ - صنعاء. إذا أردت ضمان وصول الكويون، يمكنك توصيلها إلى صندوق مسابقة الألفية الثالثة في مكاتبنا الرئيسية في صنعاء، عدن، وتحت جميع الكويونات 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. الكويونات التي تصل عبر الفاكس أو التي قد صورت (فوتوكوبي) لن تقبل. عليكم قص الكويون كما هو محدد بالمقص، والكويونات التي تصلنا بعد تاريخ ١٥ فبراير ٢٠٠٠ لن تكون مقبولة.

- السؤال الأول: متى تم اصدار 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 وكيلها 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 وكيلها في اليمن شركة أرتكس التجارية?  
الإجابة: \_\_\_\_\_
- السؤال الثامن: في أي مدينة يمنية يقع المركز الرئيسي للشركة المتحدة للصناعات المعدنية?  
الإجابة: \_\_\_\_\_
- السؤال التاسع: أذكر ثلاث موديلات سيارات سوزوكي التي وكيلها 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: \_\_\_\_\_

الاسم: \_\_\_\_\_ العمر: \_\_\_\_\_  
 الهاتف: \_\_\_\_\_  
 العنوان (المدينة/المحافظة): \_\_\_\_\_  
 رقم البطاقة الشخصية: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (من الضروري تعبئة جميع البيانات للمشاركة)

**DeLonghi**  
الحياة حلوة مع ديلونجي

ARTEX TRADING CO.  
Sana'a Algeria street  
Tel: (400446).

شركة أرتكس التجارية  
- صنعاء شارع الجزائر تليفون: (٤٠٠٤٤٦).

المتحدة للتأمين  
UNITED INSURANCE

تحتة بصحيم المساهمة الوطنية

مفاجأة الألفية الثالثة - شركة شمر للإستثمارات السياحية والتجارية المحدودة  
يقسمها السياحي والتجاري

**The 3rd Millinnium Surprise for you**  
Shammr Tourism & Trading  
Investment Co. Ltd.

We have all that is new because we combine all the factors for modern use in a civil society to make our way through in the new millennium.  
We also have all that is necessary to provide exceptional services for our customers.

**The Components of Shammr Complex**

- \* Suites of different standards with bathrooms and a hal
- \* Restaurant & coffee Shop with the most splendid International meals.
- \* A dimming hall that can hold more than 150 person.
- \* A supermarket which satisfies all your needs.
- \* A health club for men and women.
- \* Room services 24 hours a day.
- \* Business Center
- \* Car renting services.
- \* Elevator services (one for the residents and another for customers).
- \* Electrical generator.
- \* Playground for kids
- \* Read-made cloth sections.
- \* Modern Laundry
- \* Parking area

**The Main Suite**  
الجنات الرئيسي

Luxurious Single room  
Wide Double room

Sophisticated Electronic Games قسم الألعاب الإلكترونية  
Hospitalitable services خدمات متميزة  
Arabian Diwan الديوان العربي

Ready-made Clothes Section قسم الملابس الجاهزة  
Supermarket with all your demands and Home Appliances سوپرماركت شمر يحتوي على جميع احتياجاتكم المنزلية (تومينية وأجهزة)

**شركة شمر للإستثمارات السياحية والتجارية المحدودة**  
Shammr Commercial & Tourists Suites  
Tel: 418545/6/7/8 - Fax: 418549 - P.O. Box: 16183

**المؤسسة العامة للأثاث والتجهيزات المدرسية / عدن**

أثاث منزلي - أثاث مكتبي - أثاث مدرسي - أثاث فندقي، وفق أحدث المواصفات، ترضي جميع الأذواق.

تلفون: ٢٨٤٤٧٦ / ٢٨٤٢٩٨٣ / ٢٨٣٦١٩ / 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**

**فندق تاج سبأ صنعاء - اليمن**

الشركة المتحدة للصناعات المعدنية

**من يعلم؟ قد تكون أنت الفائز بمليون ريال**

يمن تايمز بلاشك، الصحيفة الأولى الناطقة بالإنجليزية في اليمن!

**As powerful and informative as a newspaper can get!**

**مليون**

**First Prize YR 1,000,000**

**YEMEN TIMES**

1- شركة شمر للإستثمارات السياحية والتجارية المحدودة  
2- مركز صنعاء التجاري (الشركة العربية الليبية القابضة)  
3- سوزوكي اليمن - عضو مجموعة بامعروف التجارية - عدن  
4- شركة صناعة السجائر والكبريت الوطنية المحدودة المتحدة للتأمين  
5- المؤسسة سالم عبد الرحمن باجرش وأولاده  
6- شركة أرتكس التجارية  
7- مؤسسة مسلم التجارية  
8- فندق تاج سبأ - صنعاء  
9- الشركة المتحدة للصناعات المعدنية



# Eritrea - Yemen Arbitration Documents

## 5 in a series

### Phase II Maritime Delimitation

#### The Northern and Southern End Points of the Boundary Line

164. Reference has been made above to the need not to extend the boundary to areas that might involve third parties. The points where the decision of the Tribunal halts the progress of the boundary line are, for the northern end, turning point 1 and, for the southern end, point 29. The effect can, of course, also be seen on the illustrative Charts 3 and 4 in the map section of the Award. The Tribunal believes that these terminal points are well short of where the boundary line might be disputed by any third State.

#### The Test of Proportionality

165. The principle of proportionality was described by the International Court of Justice in the North Sea Continental Shelf cases as "the element of a reasonable degree of proportionality, which a delimitation in accordance with equitable principles ought to bring about between the extent of the continental shelf areas appertaining to the coastal State and the length of the coast measured in the general direction of the coastline, account being taken for this purpose of the effects, actual or prospective, of any other continental shelf delimitations between adjacent States in the same region". This was also described as one of the "factors" to be taken into account in delimitation. (16) It is not an independent mode or principle of delimitation, but rather a test of the equitableness of a delimitation arrived at by some other means. (17) So, as the Award stated in the Anglo-French Channel case, "it is disproportion rather than any general principle of proportionality which is the relevant criterion or factor". (18)

166. The Parties in the present case have disagreed strongly in their arguments of this matter, not so much about the meaning of "proportionality" as over the respective lengths of their coasts for the purposes of this calculation. There is in the Tribunal's view no doubt that the "general direction" of the coast means that the calculation of the Eritrean coastal length should follow the outer circumference of the Dahlak group of islands, although Eritrea was more inclined to have it follow the line of the mainland coast.

167. A much debated point was: how far north the Eritrean coast should go. Eritrea wished to include in the proportionality calculation the whole of its mainland coast up to the latitudinal line of 16N; and, indeed, this line was used by Yemen to define what it called its northern sector of the area in question. The Tribunal however doubts the appropriateness of employing a horizontal line of latitude to divide, for the purposes of the proportionality test, waters of the Red Sea which lie at an angle of roughly 45. The Tribunal has therefore considered the relevant proportion of the Eritrean coast, which can be said to be "opposite" that of Yemen, as ceasing where the general direction of that coast meets a line drawn from what seems to be the northern terminus of the Yemen land frontier at right angles with the general direction of the Yemen coast. In the same way the Tribunal determined the southern end point to be considered for the computation of the length of the Yemen coast.

168. The Tribunal through its expert in geodesy has calculated the ratio of the lengths of the coasts concerned, measured by reference to their general direction, and the ratio between the water areas it has attributed to the Parties. The first ratio, of coastal lengths, Yemen : Eritrea, is 387026 metres to 507110 metres, or 1 : 1.31. The second ratio of water areas, including the territorial seas, Yemen : Eritrea, is 25535 kilometres<sup>2</sup> to 27944 kilometres<sup>2</sup>, or 1 : 1.09. The Tribunal believes that the line of delimitation it has decided upon results in no disproportion.

#### CHAPTER VI Dispositif

169. Accordingly, THE TRIBUNAL,

taking into account the foregoing considerations and reasons,

UNANIMOUSLY FINDS IN THE PRESENT CASE THAT

The International Maritime Boundary between Eritrea and Yemen is a series of geodetic lines joining, in the order specified, the following points. The points are defined in degrees, minutes and seconds of the geographic latitude and longitude, based on the World Geodetic System 1984 (WGS 84). The line and the numbers of the turning points are shown for purpose of illustration only in Charts 3 and 4 in the map section of this Award.

Turning Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	15° 43' 10" N	41° 34' 06" E
2	15° 38' 58" N	41° 34' 05" E
3	15° 15' 10" N	41° 37' 31" E
4	15° 04' 00" N	41° 46' 43" E
5	15° 00' 12" N	41° 50' 42" E
6	15° 46' 06" N	41° 58' 47" E
7	15° 43' 30" N	42° 00' 42" E
8	14° 36' 05" N	42° 10' 02" E
9	14° 35' 14" N	42° 11' 35" E
10	14° 27' 16" N	42° 16' 54" E
11	14° 21' 11" N	42° 22' 04" E

12	14° 15' 23" N	42° 26' 09" E
13	14° 08' 39" N	42° 31' 33" E
14	14° 03' 39" N	42° 28' 39" E
15	14° 39' 30" N	42° 37' 39" E
16	13° 36' 13" N	42° 38' 30" E
17	13° 35' 51" N	42° 38' 14" E
18	13° 33' 38" N	42° 39' 37" E
19	13° 27' 28" N	42° 43' 25" E
20	13° 26' 39" N	42° 48' 21" E
21	13° 24' 01" N	42° 52' 47" E
22	13° 14' 23" N	42° 59' 47" E
23	13° 10' 54" N	43° 03' 03" E
24	13° 06' 57" N	43° 05' 21" E
25	13° 06' 08" N	43° 06' 06" E
26	13° 04' 05" N	43° 08' 42" E
27	13° 00' 27" N	43° 10' 54" E
28	13° 58' 10" N	43° 12' 45" E
29	13° 54' 23" N	43° 13' 58" E

Done at London this 17th day of December 1999

The President of the Tribunal  
/s/ Professor Sir Robert Y. Jennings

The Registrar  
/s/ Tjaco van den Hout

#### ANNEXES

##### Annex I - The Arbitration Agreement

Annex II - Yemen's Answer to Judge Schwebel's Question Put to Yemen on Tuesday, 13 July 1999 Eritrea's Answer to Judge Schwebel's Question

Annex III - Treaty Establishing the Joint Yemeni-Eritrean Committee for Bilateral Cooperation Between the Government of the Republic of Yemen and the Government of the State of Eritrea

#### ANNEX II

Yemen's Answer to Judge Schwebel's Question Put to Yemen on Tuesday, 13 July 1999

On day 6 of the proceedings (Transcript, Day 6, 13 July 1999, pages 99-100), Judge Schwebel put a question to Yemen's counsel as follows: "Ms. Malintoppi, during oral argument in the first round Yemen maintained that it was beyond the Tribunal's authority at that stage to consider matters of res communis condominia and the like, stating that to do so would prefigure topics which might be considered only at the second stage. An argument which was remarkable, since Eritrea had said nothing in such regards, nor had the Tribunal. Just now, you argue that it is too late for Eritrea to argue such matters indicating, if I understood correctly, that they were for the first stage. Are Yemen's pertinent arguments consistent?" In Yemen's submission, Yemen's arguments are consistent. This can be seen from reviewing the context in which Yemen raised the matter in the first stage, the points raised by Ms. Malintoppi in her intervention relating to the second stage, and the terms of the Arbitration Agreement. The matter first arose at paragraph 20 of Yemen's written submission on the relevance of the oil agreements and activities dated 8 June 1998. There, Yemen stated the following: "It is always attractive to seek to discover a basis for dividing a group of islands, not least in an arbitration. The attraction must be the greater when the task of the Tribunal extends to the process of maritime delimitation, and no doubt caution will be needed to avoid a prefiguring of equitable principles and concepts, which are in law only relevant per se.

Yemen's view was thus that the concept of equitable principles was particularly relevant to the second stage of the proceedings, and that this issue should not be prefigured in the first stage. Yemen made no specific reference to concepts such as res communis or condominia when it raised the matter. In the second stage of these proceedings, Yemen fully accepts that equitable principles form part of the applicable law of maritime delimitation. However, and this was the point discussed by Ms. Malintoppi, the application of equitable principles to maritime delimitation, when read in conjunction with the scope of the Tribunal's mandate as established in the Arbitration Agreement and the Agreement on Principles, does not encompass the creation or modalities of "joint resource zones" around Yemen's islands in the manner that Eritrea's Prayer for Relief requests. It follows that Yemen does not maintain that Eritrea's arguments in favour of the creation of such zones are too late at this stage, but rather that the applicable law, together with the provisions of the Arbitration Agreement and the Agreement on Principles, does not provide a legal or jurisdictional basis for acceding to Eritrea's requests.

It should be noted, however, that the 1994 and 1998 Agreements between Yemen and Eritrea, particularly those sections related to fishing, clearly indicate that Yemen and Eritrea are currently involved in working together to administer the fish resources throughout the southern Red Sea region.

Yemen's Answer to the Tribunal's Question Put to Yemen on Friday, 16 July 1999

At the close of the oral hearings (Transcript, Day 8, 16 July 1999, page 45), the Tribunal put the following question to Yemen:

"The Tribunal has noted that, in the arguments of Yemen, relatively little has been said about the traditional fishing regime which the Tribunal recalls is an essential part of the

Dispositif of the Award of 9 October 1998. Would Yemen indicate how, if at all, the traditional fishing regime should be taken into account in the delimitation, particularly taking into consideration the agreements signed by the two Governments in 1994 and 1998?"

#### Yemen's answer was as follows:

Yemen recognises that, in deciding the issue of sovereignty over various Red Sea Islands in the first Award, the Tribunal stated in its Dispositif that the sovereignty found to lie with Yemen "entails the perpetuation of the traditional fishing regime in the region, including free access and enjoyment for the fishermen of both Eritrea and Yemen" (paragraph 527(vi) of the Award). This decision is final and binding between the Parties, as stipulated in Article 13(a) of the Arbitration Agreement. Yemen is fully committed to apply and implement the Award in all of its aspects, including with to the perpetuation of the traditional fishing regime for the fishermen of both Eritrea and Yemen.

As was clear from the Parties' presentations during the oral hearings, both Parties consider that the Tribunal's Dispositif must be read in conjunction with the reasoning that appears in the body of the Award. With respect to "the perpetuation of the traditional fishing regime in the region", Yemen has also taken note of the Tribunal's pronouncements in other parts of the Award which bear on the issue. For example, the first sentence of paragraph 526 provides:

"In finding that the Parties each have sovereignty over various of the Islands the Tribunal stresses to them that such sovereignty is not inimical to, but rather entails, the perpetuation of the traditional fishing regime in the region".

The historical basis of this finding was further explained in paragraph 128 where the Tribunal stated:

"This traditionally prevailing situation reflected deeply rooted cultural patterns leading to the existence of what could be characterized from a juridical point of view as res communis permitting the African as well as the Yemeni fishermen to operate with no limitation throughout the entire area and to sell their catch at the local markets on either side of the Red Sea. Equally, the persons sailing for fishing or trading purposes from one coast to the other used to take temporary refuge from the strong winds on any of the uninhabited islands scattered in that maritime zone without encountering difficulties of a political or administrative nature".

It is Yemen's view that the holdings of the Tribunal in the first Award with respect to the traditional fishing regime constitute res judicata without prejudice to the maritime boundary that the Tribunal decides on in the second stage of the proceedings. In other words, the traditional fishing regime that has existed for the benefit of the fishermen of both countries throughout the region is to be perpetuated notwithstanding the decision that the Tribunal reaches as to the delimitation of the maritime boundary between the two countries. Indeed, it is clear that both Parties understood this to be a mutual obligation which existed apart from the question of delimitation of their maritime boundary in that, as the November 1998 Agreement between the two Governments indicates, Yemen and Eritrea have been formulating a regime of cooperation with respect to fishing in the spirit of good neighbourliness and friendship which has prevailed since the Award in the first stage of this arbitration.

In Yemen's submission, the delimitation to be effectuated by the Tribunal in its second Award will have a different purpose than the preservation of the traditional fishing regime. For example, counsel for Eritrea admitted during its rebuttal presentation that issues such as mineral extraction were not included in the Tribunal's notion of the traditional fishing regime (Transcript, Day 8, 16 July 1999, page 27). Clearly, mineral extraction is related to the delimitation of the continental shelf, a matter which is relevant to the second stage.

Similarly, the delimitation of the column of water or Exclusive Economic Zone of the Parties, as well as of their respective territorial seas in the Central and Southern Sectors, involves matters which, pursuant to the 1982 Convention on the Law of the Sea, go beyond the preservation of the traditional fishing regime. It is in this connection that Yemen advanced the dependence of its coastal population on fishing and the incidence of Yemen's fishing practices in the region as relevant circumstances to be taken into account in the delimitation process.

In short, the perpetuation of the traditional fishing regime is not synonymous with the rights and obligations of the Parties that will be determined by a delimitation of a single maritime boundary throughout the relevant area. It is for these reasons that Yemen does not consider that the decision of the Tribunal on the traditional fishing regime should have any impact on the delimitation of the maritime boundaries between the two Parties in the second stage.

In this connection, it is appropriate to refer to the 1994 Agreement between Yemen and Eritrea to which specific reference is made in the Tribunal's question. As can be seen from its terms, the 1994 Agreement is entirely consistent with the preservation of the traditional fishing regime decided by the Tribunal in the first stage.

The Agreement was signed by the Minister of Fish Wealth on behalf of Yemen and the Minister of Marine Wealth on

behalf of Eritrea. The latter, of course, also acts as Eritrea's Agent in the present arbitration.

It is significant that Paragraph 1 of the Agreement specifically provides for a fishing regime that is remarkably similar to that recognised in the Tribunal's first Award. That paragraph provides, inter alia, that:

"Both the State of Eritrea and the Republic of Yemen shall permit fishermen who are citizens of the two States, without limiting their numbers, and who carry cards to engage in the occupation of fishing, to fish in the territorial waters of the two States, the contiguous zone and the Exclusive Economic Zone of the two countries in the Red Sea (with the exception of the internal waters), provided that the fishermen of the two countries be enumerated and that they be granted official licenses to engage in the occupation of fishing specifying the locations where they will be received and may market their products in Appendix No. 1".

Moreover, Paragraph 4 of the Agreement provides in relevant part that the persons included in Paragraph 1 shall be permitted to "market their fish products in the territory of the other State and in the locations specified in Appendix No. 1 of this Memorandum of Understanding". The Tribunal will note that these provisions are very similar to the Tribunal's findings set out in paragraph 128 of the Award in the first stage.

Unfortunately, the 1994 Agreement could not be fully implemented at the time due to the events of 1995. Nonetheless, the Agreement remains in effect, and Yemen remains fully committed to its implementation. As can be seen from its terms, the 1994 Agreement envisages a regulatory framework which is well suited to addressing the kinds of concern raised by Eritrea in its pleadings regarding traditional fishing in the region.

The Tribunal's question also makes reference to the Agreement signed between the two Parties in November 1998. In Yemen's view, this Agreement evidences the good faith of both Parties in pursuing mutual cooperation in a number of areas, including fishing. In particular, Article 1(d) of the Agreement provides for the formation of a Committee for Cooperation in the Area of Fish Wealth and Maritime Fishing. Pursuant to Article 3(4) of the Agreement, this committee would be expected to address the question of drafting a special agreement "in the area of fish wealth, maritime fishing and the protection of the maritime environment".

With respect to the relevance of the 1994 and 1998 Agreements to the perpetuation of the traditional fishing regime, it is appropriate to recall what counsel for Yemen had to say on this matter during the oral hearings:

"Indeed, as Mr. Picard has shown, the Parties have already established a framework for addressing the modalities of their fishing activities in the Red Sea with their 1994 and 1998 agreements. These agreements could well represent a very important context within which any further questions between the Parties as to the preservation of the traditional fishing practices mentioned in paragraph 526 of the Award could be dealt with" (Transcript, Day 6, 13 July 1999, page 88).

Implementation of these two Agreements would also be consistent with the letter of the President of the Tribunal, dated 8 November 1998, which indicated that these issues "are a matter for the Parties themselves to resolve in good faith, bearing in mind what the Tribunal has found in Paragraph 526 of the Award".

In conclusion, Yemen considers that the Tribunal has already deon the preservation of the traditional fishing regime between the Parties in its first Award. The Award as it stands is res judicata, and in view of the language of Article 13, paragraph 3 of the Arbitration Agreement, it is not appropriate to interpret the meaning and the scope of the Award in the first stage at this point in the proceedings. Therefore, and bearing in mind the framework that has been established by the 1994 and 1998 Agreements, Yemen does not believe that the traditional fishing regime needs to be further taken into account in the delimitation of the maritime boundary between the Parties at this stage of the proceedings.

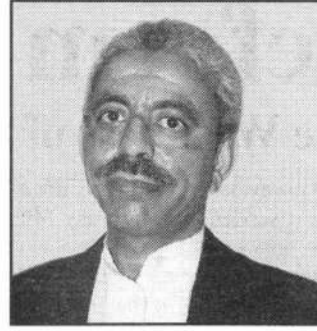
**Yemen Times Staff  
congratulates the Indian  
Government, Indian  
Embassy to Yemen, and  
all Indians in Yemen on  
the occasion of the 50th  
Anniversary of the  
Independence of the  
Republic of India  
Happy Returns to them  
all and towards more  
progress and prosperity**



# COMMON SENSE

By: Hassan Al-Haifi

## The Handicapped State



The ultimate hope of idealists is that mankind will not have need of government and that society will have reached such a state as to be able to provide for all of its needs on an equitable basis and a systematic manner. But ideals for the moment shall remain ideals and even the most progressive states are still lacking in the wherewithal to free their societies from the need for government to ensure the equitable access to the resources and services available to such states. However government has gone through many significant transformations over the ages whereby the citizens have now come to benefit from greater empowerment, more civil and human rights and accessibility to and ownership of the land's resources.

In addition to ensuring equitable access to the resources and services available to a society, government has the equally important function of providing protection and security for all of its citizens, their property and the public assets of the society (After all security is not meant to be just the security of the ruling regime and its key elements). In fact, one may surmise this function to be a prerequisite for enabling the government to undertake the former function with relative ease and satisfaction to the government and the governed alike. This task also provides the safe atmosphere

and stability for the overall functioning and progress of the society. Thus, it goes without saying that a government's inability to provide for the protection and safety of the citizens and their safe movement throughout the territory under its sovereignty is a clear sign that this government, for all practical purposes, is a handicapped one. Accordingly, such a government can be construed as having failed in the fulfillment of a fundamental cause d'être of government.

The Republic of Yemen has of late become the victim of a serious security lapse. Fear has become prevalent among most of the citizens, whether they are in the "safety of their homes" or on the move for leisure or work. When one leafs through the pages of the partisan and independent press (and sometimes the official press), one cannot fail to miss the rise of violent incidents, from week to week, with reports of some form of violence coming from all parts of the country. In most cases human life has been lost and bodily injury has been incurred in one form or another. Even government facilities have become targeted lately for robberies or subversive purposes, which are yet unclear. Nevertheless, it is clear that we are facing a serious security situation and certainly the government is failing in its ability to insure that the safety of the citizens of the country and their guests are guaranteed.

In the early part of the last decade, much of the violence that erupted then, mostly in Sana'a and Aden, was linked to the mounting tic for tat between the loosely tied factions that made up the ruling regime (the Yemeni Socialist Party, the People's General Congress and the Yemeni Congregation for Reform-Islah - Party). The decisive outcome of this unsuccessful marriage was concluded by the unfortunate and unnecessary civil war during the summer of 1994, where the two latter parties succeeded in taking the whole pie to themselves. That was all fine and dandy, but since the end of that war, and the end of the political reasons for the tic for tat, the other reasons for the increase of violence took the lead in making the security situation more unbearable than it was, even during the transitionally period. It is not clear if all these incidents can be tied politically, but it seems obvious that the government has failed in dealing with this serious menace that stands in the way of the country ever making any further progress in any of its development programs, or in attracting tourists and investments from abroad.

The security situation has really gone out of hand, to the point now, where one does not have to wait for the papers to come out, to get an idea where the latest violent outbursts are occurring. Even the city of Sana'a, which is traditionally regarded as a

demilitarized zone and free from any form of violent conflict, is now beset, almost on a daily basis, with loud outbursts of gunfire or explosions that disturb the peace of sleeping infants and adults alike. In addition one cannot fail to note that someone is bound to come across a tale of an assault on an unexpecting cross-country traveler by highway robbers, or kidnappers seeking to embezzle the government or a company of funds or other form of repatriation in kind for their release. The often-heard assumption that the government may be aware of who is behind such incidents makes the situation scarier. There are even cases heard by this observer where the offenders were in fact captured by serious minded security officers, who carry out their duties honorably and respectfully, only to be released a week later by God knows who!

This observer, who happens to reside in the periphery of the capital city, along with most of the residents of the vicinities surrounding Sana'a, would probably find it hard to sleep at night if there was not some outburst of gunfire - some of it very close indeed, or explosion, as it has become common noise to soothe the ears at night before going to sleep. All kidding aside, there is no clear sign of relief from the increasing violence that has erupted on a widespread basis throughout the country. While the government's alludes that this is something which all

societies are confronted with, it is surely a new development for Yemen, which has not seen this kind of violence among the citizenry. Of course no one is neglecting the political wars that ensued in the past, but on the whole the citizens lived peacefully and safely among themselves and murder and robbery were regarded as dishonorable and disgraceful. This observer can recall travelling cross-country, whether for work or family leisure, without having any second thoughts about being stopped anywhere. In situations where one was stopped (in the late Eighties), due to tribal disputes, etc. usually the road block "attendants" would let us pass very politely, once they see a family inside or foreign businessmen accompanying us, or when they realize that we are not their targeted foes. But now, one would be frightened at the thought of being sent anywhere without heavily armed escorts. We are not sure why this has all of a sudden become the atmosphere we must live under and we are not sure if there is really any reason why this should be an "acceptable norm", like the other societies are subjected to, if we can accept the government's alibi.

It is widely believed that the government is partly responsible for letting the security situation get out of hand and it is widely believed that the government is acting very laxly in dealing with the offenders. Moreover, it is widely felt that the inability of the government to tackle the economic slack has led to the need for finding illegitimate means for sustenance among a large unemployed population. Moreover, the increasing powers and influence given to the sheiks and other mob leaders has fostered an increase of violence as these people tend to enjoy their involvement in "settling" the various incidents of violence that erupt everywhere, which

they never really do anyway. It is time that the citizens of this country begin to taste peace again in their homes and on the road. This is paramount if any progress is to be made in any other areas. Farmers cannot be expected to produce, if they know that at least half of their harvests will be subjected to pilferage. Manufacturers cannot be expected to add new lines of production, if they cannot be assured that the existing lines will not be blown up the next day. Investors cannot be expected to put their funds in projects that have to cost four times their expected costs because of embezzlers and other carpetbaggers ready to swindle as much as they can out of the project before it even gets underway. Tourists cannot be expected to flock to a country, in which hospitality means being a sleeping guest with a gun pointed at the top of your head, no matter what the reason is, and no matter what assurances we give that these are really "friendly kidnappings". Donors cannot be expected to provide funds for government facilities that are threatened by pilferage or bombs thus rendering their support useless or meaningless before the Yemeni people have a chance to make use of them.

The point to be made here is that the government must act seriously and firmly against those traitors who disturb the peace and stability of the country, whether they are people of influence or not. Such people should not be allowed to take the law into their own hands and keep the government in such a handicapped state that it cannot even guarantee the safety and protection of the citizens, most of who already have had enough of the impotency of the government in all the other functions it is charged with. It the security situation is not dealt with effectively - and very soon, there is no telling what is in store for the future.

# Letters to the Editor

Any letter sent to the Yemen Times office is subject to correction and modification. Letters which are seen suitable for publishing will be published as soon as there is space. Letters without the name of the author will not be published. Yemen Times is not responsible for the contents of the letters.

**The Arabs Present**  
The Arabs present is like a wall that is about to collapse. Arabs have lost all the meanings of brother-hood and Arabic enthusiasm. That is not a random speech, all Arabs acts confirm that truth.

Although all the common factors and the participated destiny which gather them, the gap between them is getting wider and wider.

When the Arabi rulers think of meeting, the disagreements strengthen more and more. Even if they met, there would be no hopeful things.

In reality, it will be a great achievement if they just finished their summit conference as they expected. So, there is a saying of "Arabs agreed not to agree".

As a result of all these disappointing aspects, Arab rights have been neglected and their dignity has been insulted. When any civilization get rid of its values, it sentences itself to death. In other words, if we want to restore our glorious civilization, we have to go back to our original values, the values of brother-hood, honesty, tolerance, etc. Unless, we have to blame only ourselves.

**Abdulghafoor Nagib Awad Al-Hakimi, Sana'a**

**Dear Editor,**  
Let me first express my great admiration for YT newspaper. I hope you will continue the great job of the late Dr. Abdulaziz as you are his son. We all appreciate Dr. Saqqaf's role in human rights as well as defending democracy. I sent an article regarding the tribes of Yemen.

**Amal Al-Saidy**

**Dear Editor,**  
At the beginning of my letter I don't agree with Mr. Mohammed Hatem Al-Qadi in his Article. Because there is no relation between the Freedom of thought and Expression. And what's introduced

or applied in the conference. Because that's interferes in our religion at same time there is no need to bring New Ideas from outside "ABROAD" while we have the Quran between our hands full of rules just if we follow only!! and why do you cry for Morseel. For none Muslim person who sings with Quran words it's better to cry for the Quran. Thank you

**Aref Malek, Hajjah**

**Solar Drying in Yemen**  
The Republic of Yemen is located in the Southwest corner of the Arabian Peninsula. It is situated in the sun belt area of the word with monthly average solar radiation 18 to 26 MJ/m<sup>2</sup>/day with over 3000 hours per year clear blue sky.

Man has for long, used the sun for drying food product, more recently this simple utilization has been developed to meet the requirement of economizing on energy and minimizing its damaging effects on the environment. At present solar energy has been accorded increasing attention. Solar drying is one of the possible applications of solar energy in Yemen, which confirms with the society's economic, social and cultural levels of development. It is concerned with the utilization of solar dryers in drying of agricultural products. Their is evident information about sun and solar drying in the literature. The traditional sun drying of some local products in Yemen such as grapes, coffee, pepper and tomato have been discussed in some of our studies.

The need to assist in developing a self-help technology for minimizing the post harvest losses and to profit the seasonal height inexpensive production is the essential motive for giving more attention to solar dryers. Also in view of seasonal nature and scattered locations of agricultural products it is necessary to propose an easy way for using

the sun for the production of dried products.

**Dr. Mohammed A. Al-Kathiri Hadramout University of Science**

**Dear Editor,**  
I will be much obliged to you if you read my letter whole. How happy I am to write and express my happiness to success and continuity. Yemen Times after the death of our teacher Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, you really prove that YT stronger to die.

I used to read YT every week for 5 years to profit by all texts and articles and earn many information. Two months ago, I saw intensive advertisements in many English magazines and newspapers about Halloween.

I have only little data about Halloween that it's the last night of October and it becomes a time for parties where the children dress up like witches and play all kinds of special games such as "ducking for apple" AND "TRICK OR TREAT" and I hope that you will help me to know more and more about this occasion and how these games "Ducking for Apple" and "Trick or treat" might be played and why these games so called?

**Nabeel Ahmad Al-Udain Street, Ibb.**

**Dear Editor,**  
I want to thank you for your excellent viewpoint for this week. I wish if Yemen Times continue calling for the improvement of the educational system, so that the new generation is taught to be innovative and use his mind freely, not only memorizing for the sake of only getting useless certificates, degrees, etc.. Alhammedallah Unification and Democracy have been achieved, Ali Abdullah Salih will be ever remembered for these achievements and all the other wise elements in the government, in particular Dr. Al-Ariyani. These are very important

beginnings and would defiantly pave the way for such improvements, but we must put in our mind they are only the beginnings. This way they will gain the necessary confidence and work for the best of our country, and explore the hidden skills and talents. There is no worse than undermining someone's mind and ability, anyone, who leads to his/her acceptance that his/her existence is just an added number to the mass population, then to his/her being unproductive.

If this is the case, this will be the beginning of a real devolved modern Yemen that would produce great thinkers, innovators and restore Yemen to its normal position not only in the region but internationally, we deserve that, otherwise we will be damned by the next generation. Yemen is a great nation and our people are unique.

Once again I would like to thank Yemen Times and its Chief Editor Mr. Walid Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf for their endless effort to discuss and bring the attention to these important issues. Keep this excellent work and wish you all the best and success.

**Raouf Hussain**

**RE Article on Education**  
I understand the authors concern was to highlight difficulties in the schooling process, however lets evaluate the source of the cure. Is the teacher powerless to make changes or just a victim of the ministry of Education?

The teacher is in his/her class most of the time working alone and has little outside control compared to inside control. If change is to come, there can only be one source of a cure which has to be from the teacher himself. This means the Ministry while it could provide more professional development tools to teachers, really have little power over the teacher. If a teacher doesn't wish to change once he has his job and degree, which will really make him go to a higher standard. On the other hand a teacher who wishes to

become a better teacher can do so on his own. How? Reading books, using step by step trial and error process, there are so many ways! May Allah first bless all teachers, and secondly help them become able to show off Yemeni wisdom.

**Adam Quraishi**

**Dear Editor,**  
Thank you for your efforts, to make Yemen known. And allow me please to express my feeling and impression after I have red some pages of your newspaper. In fact first I felt very Happy to see my country mates producing such great thing "Yemen Times Newspaper", but frankly I felt very shame reading about the dirty streets and people bad customs, in your view point. This is not because I deny that we have such dirty streets and bad customs, but because talking about negative things does not serve me as a Yemeni abroad nor does it serve Yemen.

Make sure that you defame me and every Yemeni including your per-

sonal' You defame our love Yemen, in front of the outsider when you are writing about every bad thing in Yemen. Don't we have good thing to tell people about it? Doesn't Yemen have good thing to show the world, we want people to like us, we want people to respect us, we want to tell the others we are like any people we have small bad and we have lots of good things. You are showing Yemen to the world, show as you like it. To be more frank with you I am afraid of foreigners around me to read Yemen Times. I want to see something I can take pride of, I can introduce it to every friend and acquaintance near by me, something I can tell every one I say, come and see our newspaper come and see how beautiful our country, Yemen. Finally I would like to tell you that I am not interested in seeing my words published, but I am very interested to hear that you have read my letter carefully. Sorry if I misbehaved, but I think my good excuse that you believe in democracy.

### CAREER OPPORTUNITY

**Sana'a Beverages & Industrial Co. Ltd., the franchisee of the Coca-Cola Company in Yemen is looking for Training & Development Manager.**

Reporting to the General Manager, the T&D Manager is responsible for:

- Recommending and developing training solutions to the Sales Department.
- Delivering training programs in particular to Salesmen and Sales Supervisors.
- Ensuring that training is implemented and used on the job.
- The overall development of the company's Human Resources.

The ideal candidate must have the following qualifications:

- University graduate in Business Administration or equivalent.
- Two to five years experience in Sales of FMCG or equivalent.
- Command of Arabic and English.
- Good communication skills.

Salary will not be a constraint for the right candidate.

Please send a detailed C.V. addressed to:

**The General Manager,  
Sana'a Beverages & Ind. Co. Ltd.,  
PO Box 456, Sana'a  
Republic of Yemen**



# The Economic Reform Program

## Less Duties for the Government, and the Weakness of Successful Authorities

Ali Abdulla Al-Gail

One is totally astonished when looking at the steps initiated and followed by the government since the implementation of the Reform Program. Every citizen feels that these steps are unfair to him and have taken the nice smile, the self-confidence, and the dignity away from the Yemeni faces, which were known for that forever. Nonetheless, the government is continuously arguing and insisting that the country was rescued by the surgeries that were conducted by the government which resulted in the stability of the exchange rate at YR 160 for \$1 forgetting that it was only YR 60 before implementing the Reform Program.

Besides this huge collapse of the individuals' incomes that caused an equivalent collapse of morals, social and

economical instability and an increase of bribery, cheating, and forgeries- an observer expects a similar collapse in the quality of the services provided by the state in the fields of road construction, health, education, water and electricity supply.

Apparently the state under misleading advice is getting away from its duties towards funding these services and putting them to organizations funded by loans and grants that will end one day. Only then we will all discover that the state has forgotten its responsibilities towards the citizens and it's stuck trying to find financiers for the urgent services.

Indeed, to prove, one can look through the repeated items of the government Investment Project List during the past years. Then a comparison of these to those funded by loans or grants with consideration of the degree of seriousness in implementing both, will give

all the evidence. When a visitor asking for a service project at any Ministry, the answer is always, "we have no budget" or "we are looking for loan!! So what is left for the government to do? Where are our own resources?"

What is more dangerous is that, there are hands trying to outreach the successful projects of this government and the previous ones. They are trying to remove or freeze the best achievements in smart ways such as emerging, dividing privatizing, reducing budgets and, ... etc.

One can not avoid the idea that the World Bank and the Donor countries have a role in convincing the government of taking some unfair steps against the successful authorities, funds, and organizations. This is taking in consideration reports of corrup-

tion of some types. Definitely, there is corruption in these authorities as well as in the whole system. However, it is less effective in damaging when accompanied by success, and achievements if there is a strong intention to fight corruption, it should start by those organizations that are less achieving and more corrupted. And to fight corruption we must not at all stop building the infrastructures.

It is significant, that the organizations, authorities and funds supporting the government has provided during few years more than what was provided by the state's investment program for many years. It has become the whole government in the eyes of people due to the significance of its services that can be found in the town as well as the country.

A good example is the GAREW, The General Authority for Rural Electricity and Water. Mr. President in one of his several visits to the country highly appreciated the GAREW. He said that whenever he sees a water net in a remote village he sees an evidence of the state, something really exists.

We too as people of the country must hail the GAREW for the services provided for the rural areas at a price that something goes to 50% of that of towns served by the EGC and the GCWS. When one looks at the GAREW budget and the implemented projects and the geographical area coverage, one would feel respect for its achievements and whoever participated in making them available.

The same applies to the rest of the authorities and funds such as the general authority for Roads and Bridges, the Agricultural and Fisheries fund, the youth fund, the Social Security fund, the general authority for insurance and Pensions, the Yemeni Board for Roads and Bridges, ... etc. These

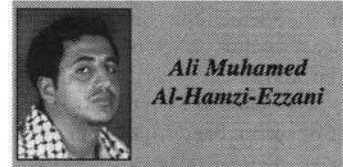
big names are providing services and support to the citizens during difficult times.

The government might be advised wrongly that the existence of more than one organization to provide the same service is an unnecessary load on the back of the budget and something that should be removed. It is said that this causes duality in implementing these projects. I completely disagree with that. Our country is vast and it needs great efforts toward development at least for a coming 10 years.

As for the duality problem, the existing laws and charters are able to organize and specify duties of every authority and every body in the administrative system.

To conclude, one should plead to the government not to destroy its major organizations and to think before feeling sorry. If you can not support them and increase their revenues please, at least, leave them alone. Remember, they might be of great value at the parliament!

## What is a Gabyala (Tribalism)? Pro's and Con's!



Ali Muhamed  
Al-Hamzi-Ezzani

1st in a series of 3

"We created you male and female and divided you into nations and tribes so you can know one another. Of you the most blessed by Allah is the most pious." - Holy Qu'ran.

This is what is mentioned in the Holy Qu'ran however, this isn't practiced. I wonder why?

In these series of articles I plan to first describe what Gabyala (Tribalism) is according to the Yemeni culture, as well as the pro's and con's. Second, I plan to describe what is being practiced in reality.



Third, I plan to describe what we need to keep Gabyala practiced in its purest form, as well as its importance in the Yemeni culture. Despite the fact that Gabyala has been associated lately with kidnapping, according to the Yemeni culture is a traditional set of values, customs, laws, attitude and dress that distinguishes Yemen from the rest of the Arab world and the world in general.

Gabyala has given Yemen the honor that has reached a level of respect unattainable by others. Gabyala has given Yemen its righteous respect because it is associated with mainly positive characteristics such as the demand for respect and honor, generosity, hospitality, Yemeni pride, wise judgement, fair laws and a gabili (one who follows gabyala) is judged and respected according to the extent of how much they follow the above code.

Although I have talked about what Gabyala is and its positive aspects, I feel I have to be truthful in giving the negative aspects of it in general, since I will get into the negative aspects in part II.

In general, I feel certain traditions such as the high dowry to get married, the extravagance of gatherings and the stubbornness to make peace with other tribes is very negative and gives Gabyala a bad name.

However, I feel the most negative aspect of Gabyala that has given it a bad reputation is not only the hypocrisy in the way it is practiced, but the unbalance of power among the tribes. The might makes right attitude is not what Gabyala is all about, but it has pushed its nose in.

What I have written here today is a brief description of what Gabyala is and in the next two parts I plan

on analyzing the hypocrisy in the way it is practiced and why we need to maintain it to maintain our righteous and deserving spot in the Arab world and the world in general.

The hypocrisy in the way Gabyala is practiced is the reason for the destruction of Yemen, when in reality if Gabyala was practiced in its purest form Yemen would be the model to the world socially, politically, economically, morally; as our ancestors were before us.

It was faith and Gabyala that fought the oppression from others on Yemen and freed Yemen from its oppressors.

It was also the reason why the prophet Mohammed (PBUH) respected Yemen so much. He said "Faith is Yemeni and Judgement is Yemeni."

This is an important tradition and the next two parts will analyze the problems and solutions.

تهانينا الحارة للشباب الخلق  
فخري محمد عبدالله المحضار  
وذلك بمناسبة زواجه  
الف مبروك، وبالرفاه والبنين.  
المهنون: عادل الرياشي، يحيى الغبيسي،  
علي محمد عبدالله المحضار، هشام العطاس،  
داود الحرزي، الزبير جلموز، أنور الصيادي  
ومن الولايات المتحدة: أحوالك  
فيصل وعبد الملك ونذيل

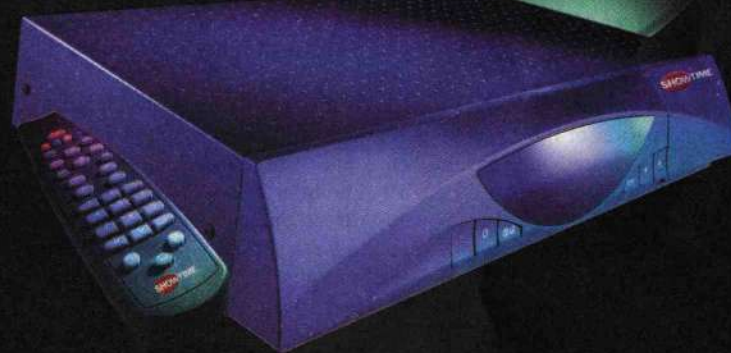


# SAVE UPTO US \$ 300



Only on Showtime

جميع الأفلام مترجمة الى اللغة العربية



## DISH AND DECODER ONLY US \$ 430

INCLUDING FREE INSTALLATION

When you take up an annual subscription to Showtime from as little as US\$ 33.33 a month

إمكانية الاشتراك مع ART

# SHOWTIME

Brings you the best in Western entertainment



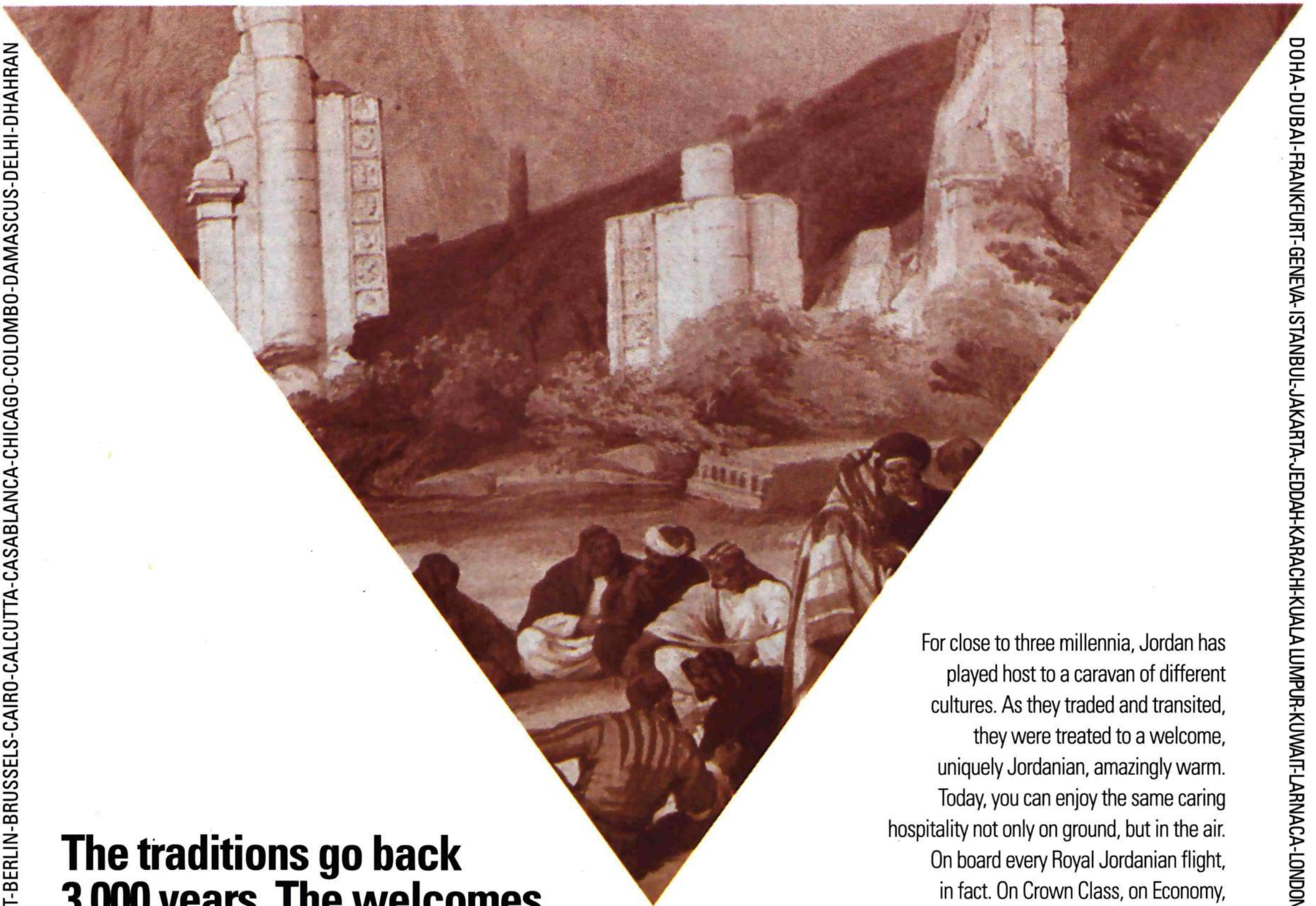
SANA'A - Al Ghamdan General Trading 1 500 700, General Electronics Co. Ltd. 1 269 098,  
El Aghil Trading 1 272 428/9

<http://www.showtimearabia.com>



ABU DHABI-ADEN-AL AIN-AMMAN-AMSTERDAM-ANKARA-AQABA-ATHENS-BAHRAIN-BANGKOK-BEIRUT-BERLIN-BRUSSELS-CAIRO-CALCUTTA-CASABLANCA-CHICAGO-COLOMBO-DAMASCUS-DELHI-DHAHRAN

DOHA-DUBAI-FRANKFURT-GENEVA-ISTANBUL-JAKARTA-JEDDAH-KARACHI-KUALA LUMPUR-KUWAIT-LARNACA-LONDON-MADRID-MOSCOW-MUMBAI-MUSCAT-NEW YORK-PARIS-RIYADH-ROME-SANAA-SHANNON-TRIPOLI-TUNIS-VIENNA



**The traditions go back  
3,000 years. The welcomes  
are just as warm today.**

For close to three millennia, Jordan has played host to a caravan of different cultures. As they traded and transited, they were treated to a welcome, uniquely Jordanian, amazingly warm. Today, you can enjoy the same caring hospitality not only on ground, but in the air. On board every Royal Jordanian flight, in fact. On Crown Class, on Economy, en route to all our 45 destinations. Come and enjoy its rare comforts. The time is just perfect.

ROYAL JORDANIAN **الشركة الاردنية للطيران**

Connecting Continents. Connecting Centuries.

<http://www.rja.com.jo>





مدخلك إلى الألفية الثالثة  
Your Pathway to the 21st Century

JITCOM2000

معرض الجزيرة لتقنية المعلومات والاتصالات

Al-Jazeera Information Technology  
and Communication show

Feb.20<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>,2000



مركز أكسيو صنعاء

Sana'a - Expo Center - Tel. 202400 - Fax : 216530 - E-mail : Apollo.Exb@y.net.ye  
OR.E-mail: Apollo.exb2@y.net.ye - P.O.Box: 11309  
Web Site : www.ye.net.com/apollo

## Ceilings Without Beams

I may presume that the present reality of state institutions indicates that they are still incomplete with structure and organisation, and are in great need of appropriate administration and efficient cadre. Active efforts must be exerted to straighten courses and reform administration and deficiencies prevalent in it. To revive the positive and constructive values in the society, and to get rid of all negative forms in this respect, it is necessary to work for upgrading the ideas needed for running work in such institutions. The objective will be to stand at the threshold of sound development.

Speaking about development, how to achieve it and what is the active power in our society for doing it, we would find out that renewal and updating human and material potentials is the major factor for fulfilling this end. Any

construction and reform program should be based on development in order to be successful and fruitful.

In order to start comprehensive development and implement a program for construction and reform it is necessary to pinpoint the major obstacles facing the program. We have to explore the ways and exert serious efforts for eliminating them.

Another major hindrance in this regard is the weakness of planning, supervision and local control by the central apparatus, in addition to weakness of local administration. Conflicting laws and decisions have also led to instability of economic legislations. This has made all try to look for legal gaps to escape and try to outflank the regulations and try to find unofficial channels and twisted ways. One of the causes of some serious consequences is that of the adverse relationship between politics and economy. It appears clearly in subjecting economy to political factors and that clearly leads to serious consequences the price of which is

paid by the innocent citizen. It is therefore inevitable and necessary to examine the relationship between politics and economy to be able to attain the level of comprehensive development and raise the standard of the people's life and provide dignified living.

There is no denying that the program of construction and reform has resulted in many accomplishments in the social services area, but the level of performance is unfortunately still low. In the sector of education for instance, the level of reform did not work to connect education outputs with requirements of economic and social development, which could be ascribed to the big professional and specialization shortage. There is also weakness in relationship between the university and the society. There is also a remarkable.

Weakness is also traceable in the field of health services, whether in treatment services or in local management in that of health securities and non-supervision on private clinics and pharmacies. It could be concluded out of all this, the absence of active contribution for achieving comprehensive development that all peoples seek to realize.

Najma Ali

## CONDOLENCES

"I would like to express my condolence and deep sadness over the death of Mr. James Ellis. James was a great friend to Yemen for nearly half a century, as well, as a personal friend. From the time he first came to Yemen in the early 1950s as a military commander of the bedouin army in Hadramaut and Mahra, later becoming advisor to the sultan of Hadramaut as well as the sultan of mahra showed his love for Yemen through his long and dedicated service. Even after he left our country in 1967, he remained a friend to Yemen until his death last week. Since leaving, he served both as vice president of the Yemeni British Friendship Society, and as president of Hadramaut friends Society as recently as 1997. He was very knowledgeable about Yemen and its history, and even after leaving, was called on to assist out country. He will be greatly missed."

Prof. Dr. Abdullah Abdulwali Nasher  
Minister of Public Health, Yemen

## Just An Opinion

By: Mohammed Khicir

As people working in the field of press and other mass media, we usually get acquainted with and follow up various kinds of news and reports on events and activities taking place in different parts of the Earth. One of the eye-catching news is that of world non-governmental organizations (NGOs) working in various fields of human life and active in different walks of life. These NGOs have abolished the natural and man-made frontiers dividing the nations and nation-states of the globe, adopting a humanitarian and international identity not taking into consideration racial, religious and national affiliation in their humanitarian work, in other words they have adopted a globalized identity and a global-wide sphere of action. They have so far managed to offer help to people and communities wherever they are in the world and have succeeded in defending their offended rights and publicizing their grievances in various effective ways of expression. Our Arab world is not excluded from its agenda and list of action. And these organizations are assuming many different names and having many specialties commensurate to the profession their members are affiliate of. I am not here to give an idea on what these organizations are or their work because this is not something new and they are well-known and existent long time ago. I mainly intend to call the attention to the absence of such humanitarian non-governmental organizations from even the Arab arena, let alone the international's. Does that mean that there are not such organizations in the Arab countries? Or if we presume the existence of such organizations, are they in a state of an all-season hibernation until further notice? For up to now I have not heard or known of any activity of such organizations playing any significant role, at least inside our Arab fold. Whatever problems or tragedies our Arab people are faced with at any time or place of our homeland we only come to know of activities done in our favor by such organizations from outside the Arab world, they are European, American or Japanese or from any other parts of the world but not Arab or even Moslem. Sometimes we hear of an Arab or Moslem organization offering help to peoples in other parts of the world though not on a regular basis but none or rather very rarely to their Arab or Moslem brethren. I not against or opposed

to such humanitarian activities on part of Arab groups or charitable organizations but I would rather insist on the principle that "CHARITY BEGINS AT HOME" first, without neglecting the playing of humanitarian roles.

Our professional syndicates, political parties and mass and professional organizations are called upon to establish their own NGOs and actively exercise their role for serving our Arab and Moslem society all over the Arab-Moslem homeland. Their task should not be confined to within the boundaries of their respective countries or be restricted to acts of charity and offering aids in cases of natural disasters. It should take a broader scope and dimensions, such as human rights. Arab-Moslem NGOs should set up a sort of coordination of action and alliance among themselves, rejecting to recognize the artificial borders demarcating and separating our Arab people into separate identities.

Let's for instance cast a scrutinizing look at the reality of our 22-state Arab homeland. Politically speaking, they adopt 22 different political regimes and systems, acting on an individual basis, internally and in foreign affairs, although the governments of all these states hold the same nationality, speak the same language and follow the same religion. Each of them pursues different political system and different economic and social policies, without the existence of coordination or actual cooperation. The nationals of in each country have to get entrance visas to travel from one country to another, like foreigners from various nationalities.

Economically, the rich countries invest their money and resources abroad, while the poor ones have to seek loans and assistance from abroad, i.e., from foreign countries, banks or monetary funds, and often must subdue to very strict and hard conditions. These policies have been reflected on behavior of the people in each of these countries towards their brethren.

Isn't it an abnormal, regrettable and shameful reality and state of affairs we are leading?

As the world nations are bent on forming large and strong blocs and groupings, we are determined to reinforce our division and individual identities. Multi-national Europe has vowed and succeeded not to bid farewell to

the 2nd millennium before the realization of its political, economic and monetary unity. I wonder and do not know why we have not studied the European experiment and followed suit. Could the reason be ascribed to the supposition that ours is a hopeless case? Personally I do not think so. We possess all ingredients and components of unity, or at least real coordination and cooperation and integration. An initiative is needed to be taken. We are in need of courage and courageous people to take the lead and step in the right direction in this respect. It is the responsibility of the Arab people and their organizations and political parties in the first place, not only the sovereigns and governments. The people and their organizations should adopt a pressure role. They can play the role of achieving reconciliation and rapprochement among the Arab sovereigns and bring them together to regain Arab solidarity and sincere cooperation for the benefit of the entire Arab nation. Arab political parties and organizations and NGOs have to stop their adoption of negative neutrality versus the serious challenges facing the Arab nation and homeland.

The first step is that these parties and organizations should unify their stands towards various questions in the Arab homeland, internally and externally. Then they can move to address these issues with their respective governments. All Arab sovereigns are not aliens and would not oppose to see their people united and cooperative. This, to be acknowledged, is not a simple task because it involves many complications and multilateral issues evolved across decades of disputes and division. It is also on the other hand an urgent one and an issue of destiny for the entire Arab nation, and time is running short before it becomes an incurable issue. Despite all the difficulties accompanying such efforts, the determination to achieve their goal is worthwhile to follow. It is a fact that the march of a thousand miles begins with one step. Let's take this step and now!

## CONDOLENCE

With deepest grieve we condole Gerrit's wife, Ms. Sonja, his family and all his friends and wish all the patience for his loss.

NABEEL ALGERMOZI  
GENERAL MANAGER  
CEW

## دليل السؤال الذهبي

برعاية «يمن تايمز» ينظم «رفاه للدعاية والإعلان»

دليل السؤال الذهبي وهي فكرة إعلانية متميزة للإشتراك

من قبل الشركات،

إتصلوا بنا (٢٠٥٠٩٩) رفاه للدعاية والإعلان.

## MAM International

Moh'd Abdul-Majed Showrooms  
(MAM, Royal & Majesty)

## مؤسسة مام العالمية

محلات محمد عبدالمجيد  
(مام - رويال - ماجستي)

ترقبوا نتائج السحب الثاني في العدد القادم

Next issue, we will list the names of the winners of the second draw



محللات مام  
MAM SHOW ROOMS

Last Week's Solution

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
H	E	A	V	E	S								
A	D	O	P	E	N								
R	U	D	E	U	W	E	T	H	I	L	I		
D	I	E	N	I	C	E		U	L	L			
W	I	D	E	G	O	O	D		N	E	T		
O		D		C	R	Y		G					
R		U											
K		A	C	O	M	P	A	N	Y				
I		A											
N	E	U	T	R	A	L	K		T	H	I	N	
G	R	E	E	D	Y	G	N		O				
A	D	V	E	R	S	E							
F	A	S	T	H	S	I		S	M	O	O	T	H
Y		O											
B	E	A	U	T	I	F	U	L					

## VACANCY

Al-Qimma Foods Co. Ltd. announces the following vacancy:

### Financial Manager

The candidate must be a university graduate, have 4-5 years of experience, must be fluent in both English and Arabic and has computing abilities.

All applications may please be sent to fax:  
01-413997  
Tel: 01-413996



## Vacancies

A Yemen Company needs:

- 1) Administration Manager with a degree in Electricity.
- 2) Sales Manager
- 3) Finance Director
- 4) Bilingual Secretary

Candidates should have:

- 1) ID.
- 2) Certificate of experience for at least 5 years.

If you are interested in any of the above jobs

Call: 7924884, Tel: 220883,  
P.O. BOX: 4983, Taiz  
Republic of Yemen



## Improve Your English Make and Do

Tawfeek Al-Shara'abi,  
Hisham Al-Kubati  
Yemen Times

Sa'ad: Good morning Omar  
Omar: Good morning.  
Come on, Sa'ad. We have got to hurry up. We will be late for school.  
Sa'ad: I've got to make my bed first.  
Omar: What! it is the first time you do that what's up?  
Sa'ad: I'm afraid I have a confession to make. Last week I made many mistakes in my homework and my teacher asked me to do it again. However, I haven't done it yet.  
Omar: What were you doing last night?  
Sa'ad: I had to do some shopping.  
Omar: Look Sa'ad I don't want you to make excuses. I can't believe that you spent the whole night shopping.  
Sa'ad: Come on brother. You should be helpful. Will you do me a favor and tell our teacher that I'm sick?  
Omar: Sorry brother. I can't do that.  
Sa'ad: I will make you a good offer for doing that.  
Omar: I think I have got to go. Go with me?  
Sa'ad: No. I think a holiday will do me a lot of good.

### Points to Note:

- 1) "I've got to make my bed" not do my bed.
- 2) "I made many mistakes in my homework" not do many mistakes.
- 3) "I have a confession to make." not to do.
- 4) "He asked me to do my homework" not make my homework.
- 5) "I don't want you to make excuses" not do them.

The same thing is applicable with words such as harm and favor as in the following examples:

To do any harm to anyone.

Will you do me a favor .....

As a general rule we can say **do** tends to relate to actions, **make** to causing, creating or constructing. In the following there is a list of some common expressions that will help students what to use:

Do:	Make :
one's best	an effort
damage	inquires
good	use (of)
a service	a decision
a kindness	a guess
an injury	a movement
wonders	progress
one's worse	a change
	a choice
	a complaint
	the best (of)
	a request
	welcome
	a phone call
	certain (of, about)
an exercise	money
a favor	sure
harm	a profit
homework	a demand
an operation	a mistake
evil	fun
one's duty	a journey
wrong	a report
the washing-up	a fuss (about)
the ironing	a difference
	arrangements
	preparations
	peace
	a search
	a noise
	one's bed
	a success
	an offer
	an excuse
	a speech
	a trip
	a voyage
	a mess
	one's bed

Q: complete the following exercise using an appropriate form of do or make :

- 1) Osama: If you want to improve your English, you have to ..... lots of efforts.  
Ashraf: Well, I'm ..... my best. I always ..... my homework.  
Osama: Yes, but you ..... too many mistakes. Still I think that this is a healthy sign that you're ..... some progress.
- 2) Would you mind ..... me a favor? I've got to ..... a speech on Thursday. I want to ..... certain that it's all right. Would you go over it and ..... any changes you see proper? It is my first time to stand speak to people. I have never ..... anything like this before and I do not want them to ..... fun of me.
- 3) Ramzi: He is the worst boss I have ever had. He is incapable of ..... a decision and I am tired of ..... excuses for him.  
Omar: Really! Has he ..... any harm to you?  
Ramzi: Actually, he neither ..... any harm nor any good to anyone. I do not know how he runs the company and how it ..... a profit if all the managers working here are like him. I could ..... his job better myself.

## Causes of School Failure and How to Help Our Kids Overcome Them

Ahmad Modhesh Thabet  
Mohammed Ali Othman School - Taiz

Failure of students in their schools is a major issue that concerns parents and educators on equal footing. The sad sentence "I flunked" has been spoken too many times; it has caused too many tears, and too much self-recrimination, too much resentment, too much surrender. Such evils usually affect both the failure student and his parents. A school is the child's first out-in-the-world testing ground. His success in school usually feeds his personality and failure can very well wither it. Therefore, it is extremely important for everybody to know the causes of failure so we can assist our children be away from.

### What causes failure

**1. The tension and fears:** Almost all students have some tensions and fears when they know they are about to sit for examination or test. Some can overcome the nervousness and do their best. With many others, not only on tests and exams but also in daily classroom work. Failure causes failure. Some students, especially those with over sensitive feelings are so frightened at the thought of failure that they do not do their best and they come out far below their best.

**2. Laziness and boredom:** A few students fail because they do not try hard enough. Perhaps they are not encouraged by their parents or teachers to put forth their best efforts. They are bored with work that is too easy for them, or they give up before they start because they have a vague, uneasy feeling that the work is too hard.

**3. Unsuccessful efforts:** Some students fail to meet the requirements of their grades, although they may try very hard and may have the ability. These students may be handicapped by day to day study habits or they may never have been taught how to prepare for a test. Some students, although they are making an honest worthy effort, actually are unable to achieve a remarkable success because they were absent or not paying attention when an assignment was explained. They think they understand what has been assigned to them to do but they really do not understand.

**4. Poor health and illness:** Some students fail to do their required schoolwork because of poor health. Through frequent absence, they miss many explanations of new ideas and new processes. It is hard for them to keep up with healthy, vigorous students, because illness has lowered their vitality and their capabilities.

**5. The parents may contribute directly to their child failure:** Many parents are so busy with their

own businesses, spending the major portion of their time out of their houses and usually come back home late. They usually leave their kids alone or with their housemaids or sometimes with their grandparents. Their children may waste their time watching TV programs for hours leaving their schoolwork aside. Some of these students especially the big ones may find it as a good time to phone each one of their friends talking about useless things. Moreover, some parents have no interest in their children's school tasks. In this case a like disinterest is created in the part of the child. Such children find success very hard.

**6. Teachers many contribute to the student's failure too:** Those teachers, who set impossible tasks for their students, those who show a lack of interest in helping a student when he is having a difficulty, or those who don't encourage him when he is doing his best will increase the likelihood of work that is under par. Some teachers expect all children to measure up to the same standards, they assign to the less able student work that is too difficult for him and don't give the brilliant student sufficient challenge. Under these circumstances, it is certain that some students will fail.

**7. Paying no attention to the individual differences:** A good many failures in school arise as a result of the individual differences - differences in capacity, in maturity, in temperament. Some students unquestionably do not have the mental ability to learn what other students do have. They will neither keep up nor catch up. Other students will fail because they are asked to learn something they are not yet mature enough to understand. Although any classroom contains a wide range of mental ability from the very dull to the very bright, almost all the Yemeni schools by tradition have a standard for each grade.

While many children meet such standards some will not and will have to repeat. In this case, especially for the young students, deciding "repeats" should be discussed by the teachers, principal and the parents together to figure out a suitable method to deal with that kid to get him not be shocked or frustrated by the news of repeating

decision.

### How to avoid this type of failure:

Competent teachers have to recognize that children are different and prepare to vary their teaching as best as they can according to the students individual rates of development. They also have to scale learning tasks of their students to somewhere near their abilities.

In first grade, for instance, the good teachers will encourage the bright children to be reading at once, let the average students proceed at an average rate, and reassure the slow that it is all right for them to wait a while.

If the parents have an interest in their child's work, that will reinforce the child's interest. Some parents never ask their child about anything related to their schoolwork so the child may become subject to failure repeatedly because they have no interest in learning. Then when they grow up they will be very likely to quit the school. Some parents do not keep in touch with the school so they have no awareness of poor work when it begins and it continues to be worse and worse. The result is that nothing is done before the situation gets out of hand. It will be very useful, if parents volunteer in schools. They can do wonderful things through helping the teachers in the classrooms and of it particularly with primary levels. Such positive activity is completely rare in Yemen. On the contrary, many

parents volunteer in different school programs in the other countries especially America.

Giving a child good study conditions at home is very crucial because it helps learning. That requires providing the child with a desk of his own in some quite corner of the house, establishing rules about turning on the television and not engaging him in other activities before studying.

Psychologists in schools can play an important role. They collect the data about each student - physical and psychological. The information gained could be used usefully for helping the students by holding a conference, which the parent of the student, the teacher and the principal discuss what they can do for helping the students. Some students have a high level of intelligence but because they are emotionally disturbed, their performance gets worse and worse till they get somebody who listen, understand and give them the proper advice.

Failures due to lack of ability can not be eliminated, but the severity of its effects on children can be reduced. A sympathetic teacher and an understanding parent, working in harmony with the child, can assist him in growing with some feeling of success. Let's create and grow that sort of feeling - "success" - in our kids and the results will be fascinating.

## A Spectacular Cowboy Music Night at the Sheraton

A spectacular cowboy music performance was held on Saturday at Kawkaban Ballroom in the Sana'a Sheraton Hotel by Bob Livingston, Director of Texas Music International, and his son Ravi. The event was attended by H.E. Ms. Barbara Bodine, Cultural Attache and a cowboy music lover, Dr. Chris Eccel, and a number of ministers, ambassadors, diplomats, journalists and other people who all were excited by the performance. The wonderful songs sung by the Livingston were: Country Roads, Oklahoma Hills, This Land is Your Land, Poncho and Lefty, South of the Border, Cowboys and Border, Cowboys and Indians, Mahatma Gandhi and Sitting Bull, Waiting for a Train, Take Advantage of You Chance, Whoopi-ki-yi-yo, Cool Water, Not Fade Away, That'll be the day.



## YOUTH FORUM

**Problems of Yemeni Youth**  
Youth Researchers and Development Centre (Y.R.D.C.) and the Equal Chances and Women Development Project (G.T.Z.) have co-sponsored 29-30 January, 2000 first discussion seminar on issues and problems of youths in Yemen. In his opening speech, head of the centre Dr Mohammed Awadh Ba Ubeid has said the YRDC is a scientific, training, and consultative organization established to deal with issues and



problems of Yemeni youths. The centre usually holds specialized training courses aimed at developing skills for dealing with youths. It also endeavors to prepare and carry out programs guid-

ing them in psychological, social and professional areas in addition programs to safeguard them against committing crimes and acts of violence. Dr Ba Ubeid has also shown the center's desire for joint cooperation with Yemeni non-governmental organizations and international organizations working in the country. He has reiterated his thanks and appreciation towards the GTZ program for funding the seminar.

Dr. Abu Bakeir Al-Qarbi has also talked in the seminar, stressing the importance of such seminars concerned with issues of youth and called for joining forces in cooperation to solve youth problems. A number of working papers were discussed in the seminar. Themes of the papers dealt with youth role in work and all fields of production. Other subjects tackled encouragement of youth to participate in production and providing opportunities for them in this respect. The theme "crime and youth" was given special attention in the working papers. For unemployment is a detrimental phenomenon on the family and society because it causes poverty

and consequently shortages in family necessities.

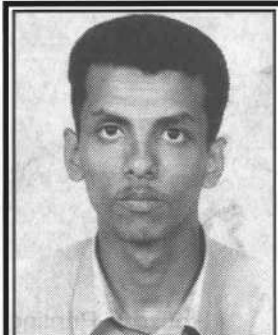
A study conducted in Yemen indicated that majority of deviant youths are from among sons of farmers and workers. Due to the very limited incomes of these families they are forced to send their children to work in the markets and some of them would follow dishonest ways to gain speedy incomes, such as stealing and other sorts of crimes.

Regarding health problems some papers called for upgrading the level of health awareness among all segments of the society and for coordination with mass media to spread health education among youth. There was also an emphasis on illiteracy problem in the society in addition to university education.

Dr. Salah'eedeen Hadash working paper shed light on the International Youth Declaration of 1998, following the convening of the world conference of youth ministers in the city of Lisbon, 8-12 August, 1998, called by the Portuguese government in cooperation with the United Nations.

Yasser M. Ahmed

**Note**  
Yemen Times would like to notify that the photo of Mr. Ahmad Ali Ba-Onaid, chairman of the General Authority for Ports and Marine Affairs was placed mistakenly beside the statement of Mr. Ma'atq Abdulbari, chairman of the Operation Department in the Middle East Marine Company in issue 3-2000. Our apology to Mr. Ma'atq and Mr. Ba-Obaid!



السفيرة  
أجل وأرق التهاني القلبية تهدي للمهندس  
عبدان سعيد هنيوب الجنيدي  
بمناسبة عقدا القران.  
فمليون مبروك وعقبال الفرحة الكبرى  
المهنؤون،  
عماد السقايف (مدير مكتب صحيفة يمن تايمز-تعز)،  
توفيق محمد الشرعبي، فؤاد حاتم القاضي، محمد ورضوان  
الجنيدي، خالد الهمداني وكافة الزملاء

# GET AHEAD

# STAY AHEAD

**GULFSTAR**  
INSTA START

AN ISO 9001 COMPANY  
EXPORTED TO 80 COUNTRIES WORLDWIDE

United Engineering & Automobile Co. Ltd.  
PO Box : 12657 , Sana'a - Tel. : 330 080 Fax : 320 030  
CPD Tel. : 330 080 Al Haseba Tel. : 223 842



**Islamic Bank of Yemen**  
for Finance and Investment

The First Islamic Bank In Yemen

البنك الإسلامي اليمني  
لتسويق والاستثمار

Sana'a, Zubairy st, P.O. BOX (18452)-Tel:(20568073), Fax: (206116), Tlx: (2789)

Hodeidah, Commercial Zone, P.O. BOX (4765)-Tel:(20568064), Tel:(2135167), Fax:(213528), Tlx:(5520)

**YYP**

إعلان في دليل الصفحات الصفراء  
Advertise in Yemen Yellow Pages

اقتصادي - انتشار واسع - توزيع مجاني - يعمل 24 ساعة  
في اليوم - نتيجة مشروطة  
High Circulation - Proven Usage  
Economic - Guaranteed Results.

260518/260519/7919600/7919666  
Fax: Ext.12 P.O.BOX:5588 Sana'a

**البنك التجاري اليمني**  
**YEMEN COMMERCIAL BANK**

The Bank You Can Trust

The Bank Grants  
**THE HIGHEST RATE OF INTEREST ON DEPOSITS**  
in Yemeni Riyal or US Dollar

البنك الذي يمنح أعلى سعر فائدة على الودائع لأجل بالريال اليمني والعملات الأجنبية

Head Office: Al-Zubairy street - P.O.Box: 19845 Sana'a - Republic of Yemen  
Tel:Off:213838/213665 - Fax: 209566- Tlx: 3373/4 Ycombk Ye  
E-MAIL: YCBHO@Y.NET.YE

**زهرة الزنبق**

ازهار طبيعية وصناعية - تزيين سيارات  
تنسيق حدائق - تحف وفازات وهدايا  
هاتف: ٢٤٨٠٠٥٢، صناعه، شارع حدة  
المدير العام: / منير علي الكاهلي

**Zahrat Al-Zanbaq**

Flowers-Gifts-cardecoration  
Tel:2480530, sanaa, hadda st.  
Director: Mr.Munir AlKahely

**Yemen Drugs Company**

الشركة اليمنية  
لصناعة وتجارة  
الأدوية

Tel: 234250/3  
Fax: 234290  
P. O. Box: 40, Sana'a

# Violence Against Women in Yemen

Jalal Al-Shara'abi  
Yemen Times

The violence phenomenon against women is a clear transgression for human rights and freedoms. Daily actions and dealings with women are blemished by many unjust acts which make women victims of different kinds of violence. Violence is an old social phenomenon which all societies suffer from regardless of its social, economic and educational effects. However, in Yemen, this phenomenon has taken new forms, some of which are physical, psychological and sexual.

What is meant by the term violence against women, as stated in the Universal Declaration on Human Rights "to terminate violence against women", is any act of violence based on sex which will or may lead to sexual or psychological harm or physical pain for women. It also includes threatening of doing such acts, coercion and despotic deprivation of freedom whether in private or public life.

Our religion has encouraged respect and entire equality between men and women in rights and duties. These acts are represented in murder, rape, abduction, committing suicide or attempting any of these.

Official statistics for the years 96 & 97 show that there is an increase in the rate of violence crimes against women in Yemen. In 96, (66) women were intentionally killed and the number increased to 108 in 97. This number has also doubled in 98 and even exceeded that as pointed out by the statistics in 99.

There are also, 56 women who were raped in 96, and 40 others in 97 most of whom have not reached the age of 15. Statistics also reveal that house ladies are more vulnerable to violence acts and female kids are also subject to different kinds of violence crimes (abduction, murder & rape)

The reasons behind these violence crimes against women in Yemen are family problems, carelessness, or money aggregation. There are several ways in which these crimes are carried out against women like guns, white weapons and hands. In addition, women are subject to other sorts of violence through the implementation of discriminated laws and legislations which do not put social gender into consideration like nationality and personal status laws. For example, not accepting women in the High Institute for Judiciary. Moreover, when women become subject to assault from others, they face a doubled tragedy for, on the one hand, they are a victim of men's crimes and, on the other hand, they do not get fair treatment from executive authorities especially when these crimes are committed by family members. Women are also prohibited from reporting these crimes and when the results of an assault are very big, usually one of the relatives would take the victim to the hospital where she can be treated. Doctors are not told the reasons behind these injuries and doctors themselves do not report these assaults and so cases become closed.

Women are also subject to violence in schools which make her fear education for she can not take the risk that come along with it. Despotic divorce is also another form of violence against women. Some husbands divorce their wives when marrying another woman and thereby depriving them of their heirloom. Women in villages are suffering even more. A village woman said: "We wake up early and work all day and at the end we do not get our simplest rights. We turn into slaves in our works and even risk our lives and in the end all we find is brutal family treatment and deprivation of education and other rights. Women in villages work all day suffering physical violence and tiredness with complete disregard of their physical formation and their rights as humans.

Some women are subject to despotic divorce often for no reason, only because the husband's financial conditions have improved or because of problems between the two families. A woman who has been a victim of despotic marriage said: "My father got me married when I was 14. I was still young then and I was not aware of what marriage was. I paid a high price for this marriage of my strength and youth during which I was subject to suffering and torture for two years. Then, I was dumped by my husband and now I got nothing because he has taken and sold all the gold and other things that I got. During our marriage I never refused anything he wanted from me and now my daughter and I are lost, so who is responsible for that?"

In Sana'a University the Women Studies Center was closed by the presidency of the university saying that this center runs suspicious activities. A teacher said; "The closure of the center is a mere violence against us and all women in Yemen. The center does not exercise suspicious activities, it is merely a scientific and research center. However, violence against women is being exercised by government and there are certain authorities which stand behind these decisions under the cover of religion."

Is not the discard of more than 150 students of different specializations and studies the worst of violence levels. In addition to that women in Yemen face violence even in accusation and punishment. They live inside half-broken cells which lack many life necessities where they become open for all kind so of diseases, violence and brutal punishment even if they are still at the accusation level.



Official reports, despite all fallacies they contain, revealed that there are more than 2000 women in the official prisons of the city of Sana'a only. Half of these were subject to violations and fierce beating and were forced to admit crimes they did not commit. There is also a great number who is subject to rape and physical assault by those who run these jails.

It is the government responsibility to put satisfactory and persuasive solutions to these violations through passing laws that recognize women rights. The government should also stop violence against women and keep good eye on women whether in villages or in prisons.

There are more than 15 non-governmental organizations to support women in Yemen and government organizations are even more. However, these mechanisms are nothing among the organized violence which is exercised against women who pay for a fault they have never made.

So these organizations should do something to protect women instead of living in the middle of political disputes. These organizations should perform their role and not just stand and represent certain parties.

Finally, when would the violence against women stop? And when would international conferences for women be effective in the middle of all this abuse and violence?

**KG HEUER**

PROFESSIONAL SPORTS WATCHES

Royal  
Sana'a Trade Center  
Tel: 212875, 212421

**CONSOLIDATED CONTRACTORS INTERNATIONAL COMPANY - SAL**

CONSTRUCTION OF MECHANICAL AND HEAVY CIVIL PROJECTS

- Petrochemical plants, refineries.
- Heavy, light industrial plants.
- Power and desalination plants.
- Fuel and water storage tanks.
- Oil fields ancillary installations.
- Air purification for industry.
- Marine docks, harbours, deep sea berths & refinery terminals.
- Offshore structures and underwater works.
- Pipelines construction and maintenance.
- Prefabricated accommodation & office facilities.
- Sewage treatment plants & collection networks.
- Airports, roads, highways, bridges & fly-overs.
- High quality buildings & sports complexes.
- Water treatment plants, reservoirs & distribution systems.

Sanaa  
Tel: (967-1) 247852  
Fax: (967-1) 263043  
E-Mail: cccyemen@y.net.ye

Aden  
Tel: (967-2) 377328  
Fax: (967-2) 377716  
E-Mail: cccadenl@y.net.ye

روثمان خفيفة نكهة السيقيل