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This Week, President Saleh Starts His North America Tour

President Ali Abdulla Saleh is scheduled to begin a tour of North America, the first leg of which will take him to Canada on March 26, 2000, while the United States of America will be his second leg. The president's tour comes within his continued efforts for finding many sources for consolidating Yemen's national economy and for expanding political and economic relations with friendly countries. President Saleh's visit to Canada will be the longest in his tour as it would last to the end of March, after which date he would begin his U.S. visit till the 4th of next April when he would meet president Bill Clinton. President Ali Abdulla Saleh's visit to the U.S. acquires particular significance. The visit is to open new horizons for the Yemeni-American

relations and to cement the existing partnership of the two countries in addition to expanding scopes of their joint cooperation. There are now so many U.S. investments in Yemen ranging from oil, gas and minerals areas to those of energy and other various economic and trade fields. The president is also seeking to increase opportunities of cooperation and investment in Yemen. During his stay in the U.S., president Saleh's talks with president Clinton will focus on bilateral relations, joint cooperation at all levels and current regional and international issues, particularly the developments of the Mideast peace process. His talks are also to tackle with developments in the African Horn and Red Sea region and to acquaint president Clinton on latest developments of Yemeni-Saudi border issue. Saleh-Clinton talks are also to deal with discussing many international affairs and exchange of viewpoints about them. President Saleh is also to hold meetings with American secretary of state, the committee of foreign relations and many other sides. President Ali Abdulla Saleh will leave the U.S. for the Vatican state on a first visit of its kind since the estab-

lishment of diplomatic relations with it where he is to meet Pope John Paul II. During his stay in Italy president Saleh will on April 5, 2000 open the exhibition of Yemen's ancient civilization to be held in Rome. The exhibition includes 800 Yemeni antiquities transferred from Germany and Yemen to be on show for the Italian people and European visitors as a promotion for tourism in Yemen. In a statement to Yemen Times the minister of culture and tourism Abdul Malik Mansour said holding the exhibition in Rome coincides with a huge Christian pilgrimage where millions of pilgrims are expected to arrive in Rome and expected to visit the Yemeni ancient civilization exhibition. He added that we hope that this occasion would encourage the exhibition visitors to come to Yemen as tourists. The exhibition will be held in Rome for six months and will be permeated with conducting various Yemeni cultural folkloric activities.

Sheikhs of Kholan Apologize to Polish Ambassador



A number of senior Sheikhs of Kholan tribe had on 13th March, 2000 paid a visit of apology to the Polish ambassador to Yemen Mr Krzysztof Suprowicz at the Polish Embassy in Sana'a.

More on page 2

Increasing Complaints about Internet Connectivity

The number of Internet Subscribers complaining about their internet activity has increased significantly within the few past months. Among the complaints are the slow connection rate, the sudden disconnections, the difficulty in logging in, the freezing of the connection after logging in, and the continuous busy line during dial up attempts. "In Sana'a the conditions seem to be better, but in Aden, we sometimes keep on dialing for more than 100 repeated times to no avail. The line is simply busy." "I don't believe that we are getting the service worth the high subscription fees we pay." Those were some quotations taken from two Internet subscribers. This is a good and bad sign in the same time. The good indication is that people have started connecting in the Internet in large numbers, and the Internet phenomenon has become a popular one. The bad

indication is that, with the continued monopoly over this service, people fear that the number of subscribers might exceed the improvements and the number of lines added by Teleyemen, hence resulting in a burden on the company and a pain for the subscribers. "Some computer experts suggest that the only way to improve Internet services is allowing the private sector to help carry off the extra burden Teleyemen is handling. With the every day news of enhancements to the backbones in Europe, Asia, and the Middle East, it is expected that within a few years, subscribers will be able to subscribe to regional and international ISPs such as America Online (AOL). The fact that the subscription prices and Internet service quality are not impressive, people's complaints will not end until a permanent solution is carried.

Silent March at Dhala'

About 8,000 Yemenis staged a silent demonstration on Tuesday at Dhala' Governorate. The demonstrators marched solemnly from the center of Dhala' town (90 km north of Aden) carrying slogans demanding a national reconciliation and the cancellation of the strict security measures being implemented in the Governorate. They also carried several photos of ex-leaders of the Socialist Party of Yemen who were killed during the 1986 fighting. The march was concluded at the same place at which it began were a

ceremony was held and several opposition leaders delivered their speeches. They renewed their demands of releasing detainees by security forces and the removal of military camps from the town. Threats were made if their demands were not met. There were no clashes of any kind between the demonstrators and the police. This was the second march within the last 30 days as 20000 demonstrators participated in a similar march last month for the same demands.

Continued on page 2

Second World Water Forum Starts at the Hague

The second World Water Forum started last Thursday at the Hague, the Netherlands, and will continue until the 22nd of March. The Yemeni delegation along with journalist and invited Yemeni personalities, are representing Yemen, covering the event, and contributing to the forum. Senior Yemeni official delegation are: -Jamal Mohamed Badr: Chairman of the General Committee of Water Resources -Nasser Mohamed Nasser: Chairman of the Monitoring and Investigative Committee -Abdulmalek Badr: Manager of the Rural Projects in the General Committee of Water Resources Other Yemeni participants not in the official delegation include: -Dr. Mohamed Al-Sayyeedi Head of the State Establishment of Water and Sewage -Anwar Al-Sahooly (Chairman of the Technical Secretariat of Ministry of Electricity) -3 Journalists (From Yemen Times, Al-Ayyam, and Al-Thawra) in addition to some female participants in Gender and Youth sessions. Hundreds of other delegate members arrived to discuss various water issues of concern to their countries. Well over 3500 participants, 158 delegations and 115 ministers gathered in The Hague, Netherlands for the Second World Water Forum and Ministerial Conference, a unique interactive event and platform for developing sustainable water management. In response to an extremely bizarre act of protest by a group of activists who had disturbed the opening session of the conference, chairman of the event His Royal Highness the Prince of Orange said, "During the Second World Water Forum all individuals can vent their opinions on water related issues, but in a civilized manner." The Prince got an ovation from the vast majority of the crowd attending the festive opening-ceremony for his improvised speech facing the activist group using the forum to demonstrate against the Itoiz Dam in Spain. Organizer of the forum Bert Diphooorn said the disturbance demonstrated the open character of the Forum, but he strongly objected to the offensive method the activists had chosen for presenting their statement. Two activists undressed on the stage in front of World Council Chairman Abu-Zeid, preventing him from delivering his speech. It is expected that the forum will concentrate on political conflicts because of shared water sources. From the Middle East, the delegates of Syria, Turkey, Jordan, Israel, and Palestine will thoroughly discuss ways of resolving water issues peacefully through mediation and treaties. However, the case for Yemen is not of a political background, hence the discussions on water problems in Yemen will be about agriculture, rain harnessing, and harvesting.

Correction
In issue 10 of the Yemen Times it was mistakenly mentioned that Anwar Al-Sahooly, Chairman of the Technical Secretariat of Ministry of Electricity and Water will be representing Yemen in the 2nd World Water Forum. Even though he will also be participating in the event, he is not among the official delegation members.

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Words of Wisdom

One of the main problems in building a modern state in Yemen is that three blocs of our society perceive themselves as above accountability. The sooner we see this and address it, the easier it will be to build a meaningful government based on law and order, and modern values.

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

**In Brief****Al-Tahrir Square, Sana'a, Scene of An Armed Clash**

A fierce armed clash last Tuesday took place in Al-Tahrir Square, in downtown of Sana'a, between Security forces and bodyguards of a young man, son of an influential man. The clash took place at a time the square was crowded with pedestrians and shopping people who came to buy their needs for the Eid. The clash caused panic among people especially that this square is considered the biggest and most important commercial center in Sana'a. There has not been any immediate account of the number of casualties or the causes of the clash. However, some eye-witnesses said that the clash lasted more than 10 minutes and that the Security chased the car of the attackers. Usually, police patrol units take position in Al-Tahrir Square to maintain security and order there.

The person in responsible for this panic and disturbance of public safety is a well-known reckless young man who is known for immoral conduct acts and chasing girls. He has also caused lots other safety-disturbing incidents previously. However, he was not subject to any sort of questioning or apprehension by the authorities in charge because his father is a very powerful and well-connected person.

Leading Investment Companies, to be prosecuted

A very important issue has recently surfaced in Yemen related to future of some investment companies in which many Yemenis have invested their money. The Ministry of Supply and Trade in Sana'a announced last Monday that three of the most prominent investment companies will stand before the Prosecution. These companies are accused of violating the valid regulations. Leading

among these companies is the well-known investment company Al-Monkid (earlier accused of kidnapping the American Oil Specialist Kenneth White). Approximately more than 20000 citizens hold stocks in this company. The company was investing in a large Real Estate project in the Free Zone in Aden and is now in a dispute with government. The company tries to reclaim a sum of 60 Billion YR in return for a land it says the government confiscated after the company had purchased it with funds of shareholders. This situation has aroused concern and fear on part of shareholders who do not know what would be the fate of their invested money especially after the declaration of the illegitimacy of these companies investments particularly following Al-Monkid kidnapping incident of Mr. White. Mr. Hamoud Hashim Al-Thirahi, Representative of Al-Monkid, asserted that his company started its business with a license from the Ministry of Supply just like other companies. He also said that the president was the only person able to resolve this complex dilemma. The Ministry of Supply and Trade has warned citizens through media against dealing with such organizations. It stated that this business is not licensed and is jeopardizing people's money.

Yemen Participates in the Third International Conference on De-mining

A Yemeni delegation headed by Colonel Kasim Abdul-Salam Al-Shaibani left for Geneva to attend the Third International Conference for De-mining Program Specialists and Directors. The conference, which is organized by the UN Mas in cooperation with G.I.C.H.D, will be held during the period 20-22 March, 2000. Yemen will participate with a thirty-

minute presentation on the Yemeni De-mining National Program. Worth mentioning is that Queen Nour will address a speech in this conference.

Salafi Destruction Is Back To Business

So called Salafi groups are again roaming all parts of the country doing their unholy job. Claiming to be the guards of true and genuine Islam, they are believed to be responsible for the destruction of a number of historical, religious and invaluable art works and monuments. The most prominent of these victimized monuments by their aggressive behavior was the grave of Queen Arwa Bint Ahmed of the Sulaihi dynasty. Queen Arwa was the wife of King Al-Mukarram Al-Sulaihi and jointly with him ruled Yemen first from Sana'a and later from Djiblah. After his death her reign was one of the longest in Islamic Yemen. Apart of being the only Queen of post-Islamic Yemen, she is one of the few who ruled over a united Yemen. Yemeni authors and historians usually call Queen Arwa Bilqis Al-Sughra, i.e. little Queen of Sheba, in comparison to the older and greater queen mentioned in the Holy Quran and Bible. Other main monuments that suffered at the hand of these groups are the graves -mosques built over or near them- of some of the most holy and popular Walis, or Muslim Saints. The most important of these is that of Al-Hashimi of Aden. Recently it was reported that these ignorant and stubborn Salafis spoiled Al-Mihdhar Mosque of Tarim, Hadhramout Governorate of which the most important and world famous minaret is part. It is noticed that the relevant authorities responsible for these very important historical and religious monuments including police are very relaxed in their reactions to the behavior of these groups which are began as remotely activated and charged.

Eid Celebrations in Aden

As an unusual phenomenon for this Eid, the commercial and economic capital of Yemen, Aden, is at present swarmed with large crowds of visitors

Continued from Page 1**Sheikhs of Kholan Apologize to Polish Ambassador**

A number of senior Sheikhs of Kholan tribe had on 13th March, 2000 paid a visit of apology to the Polish ambassador to Yemen Mr Krzysztof Suprowicz at the Polish Embassy in Sana'a. Kholan tribe delegation was consisted of sheikh Abdulaziz al-Bukeir, brig. Mohammed Abdulla Al-Kibsi, sheikh Abdulaziz al-Hader, col. Ali al-Housni, col. Abdulla Atef, Mr Mohamed al-Kasimi, Mr Muttahir al-Dilami, sheikh Abdulkarim Ali Murshid, sheikh Naji Hajer, sheikh Abdulkarim Atef, Mr Saif Abdulaziz al-Bukeir, Mr Naif Abdulaziz al-Bukeir.

Continued from page 1**Silent March at Dhala'**

In his speech in the name of the Coordination Council of the Opposition Parties at the Dhala' peaceful march Mr. Mohammed Ghaleb Ahmed, Politburo Member of the Socialist Party of Yemen began by praising the population of Dhala' Governorate and congratulating them and those of Aden, Lahj and Ebb on the occasion of the Eid. He said that the population of Dhala' is really a civilized one, adding that in addition to their struggle against imperial rule and injustice Dhala'is abroad avail themselves of their democratic

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coming from Sana'a, Taiz, Ibb and other governorates as well of diplomats and foreigners to spend the Eid holidays. What is most interesting is to see a new phenomenon that started to occur, folklore dance "Al-Baraga". During the last few days, citizens have been seeing tens of military cars carrying soldiers in civil clothes transporting them to Aden. Groups of musicians have also accompanied them playing all different kinds of folklore dance music tools like drums and flutes. In addition, more than 2000 people from Yafe'e gathered to perform folklore dances in Al-Mansoura where many of them live. What's more, many families who came from other governorates complained of the unavailability of residence. Some families in Aden have even started renting their houses to visitors for YR 5000-9000 a day. Groups of youths have camped on beaches instead of renting in hotels which had been reserved long time before Eid for wealthy people and foreigners.

inviting him to pay a visit to Kholan tribe as their guest of honour.

On his part the Polish ambassador expressed his thanks and gratitude to all who did not spare efforts for his quick release, reassuring that the incident would not harm the traditionally good relations between Poland and Yemen.

**Yemen- Vatican Relations, Consolidated**

Yemen- Vatican relations are witnessing good development. For the first time in the history of the two friendly countries' relations, they exchange permanent diplomatic representatives.

His Excellency Giuseppe De Andrea, the charge d' Affaires of the Holy See had on the 4th of March, 2000 presented his credentials as Vatican diplomatic representative to Yemen's foreign minister Abdul Kader Bajammal. Mr De Andrea was accompanied by Bishop Bernard Gremoli, the Apostolic Vicar of the Arabian Peninsula.

During the credentials presentation ceremony the Vatican's Charge D'Affaires reiterated expressions of high esteem and best wishes of His Holiness Pope John Paul II for president Ali Abdulla Saleh, the govern-

ment and the people of Yemen, expressing his satisfaction and sincere appreciation for the establishment of the diplomatic relations between the republic of Yemen and the Holy See, which certainly will be instrumental in strengthening the cordial relationship between the two states.

Yemen's foreign minister Abdul Kader Bajammal gave very warm welcome to the Vatican diplomats and reiterated great esteem and honour that president Ali Abdulla Saleh, the government and the people of Yemen have for His Holiness Pope John Paul II.

The republic of Yemen had already appointed its ambassador to Vatican Mr Mohy A. Al-Dhabbi, Yemen's ambassador to Germany, who presented his credentials to His Holiness the Pope in July 1999.



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Why are Yemenis Immigrating from Villages to Cities?

By: Abdulhakeem Hashem

Yemen is considered to be as one of the countries that does not have any factors of attraction. The evidence of the history is shown clear since the destruction of Mareb Dam in BC 570. The old Yemeni interior migration is distinguished that it is a collective in taking decision, and in residing in the country of settlement. It is not like the modern personal migrations that do not aim at settlement. There are such normal and human factors that played an effective role in migration volume. One of those factors is population topography, and the fertile soil, which encourages settlement. The second factor is the problem of climate where people can not stay in those areas that do not have any factors of attraction like the desert of the empty quarter and some other Eastern places. In addition to this, we find the political circumstances and the absence of stability that Yemen is witnessing up to the present time. All of these factors made Yemeni people to leave their country.

Why did Migration Moved into inside?

Because of the bad economic circumstances that prevailed in Yemen before independence, and the inability of the state to control whole Yemeni land, therefore, Yemeni people migrated inside the country instead of migrating abroad. Political, economic and security circumstances that witnessed a little improvement after the Revolution, and the appearance of new cities made people emigrate towards inside. The economic progress in the Gulf and Peninsula states, and the availability of vacancies in those countries made those countries as attractive places. But the Gulf War which took place in 1991 was the turning point in migration process, where we found thousands of migrants returned back to their countries. This problem increased more and more throughout the time. Then, migration turned from traveling abroad to migrate inside the country. The difference in vacancies, services and health improvement between governorates caused by health awareness of people amongst the traditional behavior of procreation, polygamy and earlier pregnancy. This increased the rate of sustaining small children. The increase of unemployment and the inability of agricultural sector to absorb these outputs, besides the normal phenomena as draught and the change in soil made laborers seek for work inside country to improve their living.

Factors of migration:

1- It is represented by the distance between birth governorate and residence governorate. We find that most of those people who leave to Aden are from Taiz, Lahj and Abyan.
2- Vacancies: Vacancies and progress of the petroleum establishments played an important role in migration determination. We find that the Capital Secretariat, Hodeida, Hadramaut, Shabwah and Mareb are the governorates that attract population.

Kinds of Migration: It is divided into two kinds:

a) **Coming Migration:** It deals with the distribution of migrants amongst governorates that have factors of attraction like the Capital Secretariat, Aden and Hodeida.

The Capital Secretariat:

It is one of the most cities that attracts migrants because it is the center of works and services. The rate of interior migration in it accounts to 52%. Twenty-seven per cent of people came to it from Sana'a governorate, 20% from Taiz and 18% from Ibb governorate.

Aden:

The rate of migration in this city accounts to 12%. 28% came to it from Lahj, 21% from Abyan and 20% from Taiz.

Hodeida:

Hodeida is considered as one of the new governorate that is full of the economic activity. This makes it receive 11% of migrants. 36% of migrants come from Taiz and 17% from Sana'a. Hadramaut, Taiz, Sada, Haja and Mareb are considered as the governorates which do not have any factors of attraction.

b) Outward migration:

It deals with the study of those people who migrate from governorates that do not have factors of attraction. We find that Taiz governorate is one of the governorates that does not have any factors of attraction because of the increase of population, diffusion of education, narrowness of soil area and unbalance of the process of development. It participates with 20% of the total migrants. 50% of Taiz migrants direct towards the Capital Secretariat, 20% to Hodeida and 13% to Aden.

Sana'a Governorate:

It comes in the second position, where we find 18% of migrants move to the Capital Secretariat up to 76% of the total migrants, 11% to Hodeida and 03% to Taiz.

Ibb:

The rate of migrants in this city accounts to 16% of the total migrants. Most of the migrants directed to the Capital Secretariat up to 58%, 22% to Taiz and 04% to Aden.

Some governorates as Dhamar and Lahj are the governorates that do not have factors of attraction, while Aden and Mareb are less attractive cities.

Demographic, Social and economic Features of Migrants are:

Migrants have certain features that are different from others. Some of these features are as follows:-

1- Age:

According to the statistics of 1994, there is 08% of resident population were moved from place to place. The rate of males is 60% and 40% of females. It is clear that about 25% of males are between (20-24-years), while females are between (10-19). The reason of this matter is that this age of males is the age of work, while females in this age are working at homes.

2- Educational Features:

As we compare migrants with residents, we find that illiteracy increases amongst residents more than migrants. We also find that those who have educational degrees leave the country to find better vacancies. It is shown clear that the rate of females amongst migrants is decreased. This is due to that females migrate with their husbands and families, but there are a few of them who migrate in the sake of studies.

3- Marriage Features:

The rate of married migrants increased in comparison with residents because of the requirements of marriage that compels them to migrate to insure their living. The total rate of married migrants' accounts to 56% , and the rate of those women who are married accounts to 60%.

Working Power Features:

1- The relation with working power: According to the economic activity, population is divided into two categories:

- a) Those who are economically active by doing certain works.
- b) Those who are not active and do not work at all.

Hence, we find that the active migrants are more active than residents. The rate of migrants who are working accounts to 70%, while the rate of those residents who are not active accounts to 57%. On the other side, we find that the rate of the residents' females who are active accounts to 16%, and the migrants' females' accounts to 08%.

Unemployment rate is decreased with migrants up to 08%, and with those who are not migrants it accounts to 05%, in females it is vice-versa.

Regarding those who are not active, we find that the rate of students accounts to 83% of males, while the rate of migrants females who are working at homes accounts to 71%, females students 23%. But the rate of females who are not migrants and do not work is 15%.

2- Practical Status:

In this case, we find that the high rate of migrants who are working accounts to 75% of both males and females. This is because of that the sake of migration is to get money.

Regarding working with family, we find that there is an increase in the rate of those who are not migrants. It is 11% of

males and 75% of females.

Those who work for themselves are bound to stay at the place where they are working. However, working with family refers to the tradition of Yemeni society, where we find women work at farms. This makes women stay at the rural areas instead of migrating abroad.

4- Economic Activity:

The increase of the rate of migrants belongs to that most of them are employees in the public or private sector, while the rate of those who work in agriculture and fishing accounts to 51%. The rate of educated woman migrants accounts to 25%. Public sector takes 16%, and agriculture and fishing sectors take 19%. The reason behind this is that women migrate because they want to marry. The second reason for women's migration is that they are educated and migrate to work in the public sector and in the other sectors.

Negative Phenomena of Interior Migration:

The random interior migration causes many negative phenomena in the plans and programs of development. It also causes other bad effects as:

1. Labor force emigrates from rural areas, the agricultural sector and soil areas decline. The statistics indicate that agricultural sector lost more than half million of workers.
2. Prevailing unemployment because of the decrease of supply in vacancies with comparison demand increase.
3. Making the city as a rural area, where we find a setback in the process of national development. A huge number of people emigrated to live in the city as they were living in rural.
4. The social deviation amongst juveniles because of the situation of life on those groups.
5. Declining of traditional and handicraft industry caused by migration, and the need of better and easy works. In addition, there is the influence of import on the local industries.
6. Depending on women and children working in soil areas. This is caused by students who left schools, and the inability of women to continue working in soil areas.
7. Services sectors are not able to fulfill the needs of those people who come to live in the city.

The Required Governmental Role:

We can say that there is a fault in the development program. This needs more work and cooperation by the state. The solution of this problem represents by the following:-

1. Attempting on the agricultural sector through finding projects in the rural areas to make vacancies, to preserve soils and to fulfill the need of local market.
2. Expanding reconstructing dams and water partitions to preserve water, and finding marketing policy to encourage continuity in agricultural work.
3. The development program must include all governorates to harmonize with the rate of population and their economic and social levels. The equivalent distribution and appropriate use of natural materials serve stability of population.
4. There must be an accurate planning for the main cities to absorb any increase of population and avoid negative results of migration.
5. Putting programs to protect traditional and handicraft industry, opening markets for that industries and observing importing similar goods.
6. Preparing a map for distributing the different economic activities and the industrial and invested establishments throughout the Republic. This must be done in order to reduce random interior migration.

RATE OF MIGRATION: (Coming Migration)

| Birth Governorate | Residence Governorate | | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|------|--------|------|---------|-----|
| | Capital | Aden | Sana'a | Taiz | Hodeida | Ibb |
| Taiz | 1951 | 21 | 10 | - | 36 | 53 |
| Sana'a | 27 | 5.57 | - | 08 | 17 | 05 |
| Ibb | 18 | 05 | 10 | 51 | 04 | - |
| Lahj | 01 | 28 | 0.4 | 03 | 01 | 04 |
| Dhamar | 12 | 1.5 | 13 | 15 | 14 | 16 |
| Hodeida | 02 | 7 | 04 | 06 | - | 03 |

RATE OF MIGRATION: (Outward Migration)

| Birth Governorate | Residence Governorate | | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|------|--------|------|---------|-----|
| | Capital | Aden | Sana'a | Taiz | Hodeida | Ibb |
| Taiz | 50 | 13 | 1.6 | - | 20 | 6.1 |
| Sana'a | 76 | 0.4 | - | 03 | 11 | 0.7 |
| Ibb | 58 | 04 | 02 | 22 | 2.8 | - |
| Dhamar | 59 | 02 | 04 | 10 | 15 | 04 |
| Hodeida | 29 | 22 | 03 | 10 | - | 02 |
| Lahj | 07 | 72 | 0.3 | 04 | 02 | 0.1 |
| Mahweet | 69 | 0.6 | 07 | 01 | 19 | 0.3 |



Yemini Press Scanner

ASHUMOA' Independent

A God-Fearing Minister

A minister who is very keen public interests and very God-fearing left at the head of the annual pilgrimage to holy Mecca. The God-fearing minister took the official stamp of the Ministry he heads in his pocket!
"The Minister knows that it is not appropriate to go to Haj [pilgrimage] before the returning of custodies to their legal owners" a commentator said. We only add that such a degree of God-fear may kill!

AL-EHYA' AL-ARABI Ba'ath Party (Iraq),

Shots at the Republican Hospital!

Several shots from a silencer rifle were shot at the pharmacy of the Republican Hospital last Saturday, only marginally missing a man who was standing at the entrance. The culprits are still unknown. It is being rumored that the office of the Attorney General is closing the pharmacy.

Our sources report that two pharmacies within the hospital belong to the National Drug Company, something causing irritation among the owners of neighboring pharmacies against the claimed monopoly of sales inside the hospital. It is claimed that this situation is causing losses to the other pharmacies and pushing the owners to demand the same privilege, or the dealing with all pharmacies on equal terms.

Saudi Forces Kill Two Yemenis

Saudi forces killed two Yemenis and injured two others (including a woman) during a clash with Yemeni forces in Eastern Yemen during February

The body of Yemeni citizen of the Gariri tribe of Hadramout was thrown by Saudi forces inside Yemeni territories at a location in North Hadramout. The aim was to make it

appear as a victim of tribal clash between border tribes. Another Yemeni citizen was injured two weeks earlier in a similar incident at Thamoud. An additional incident happened when a Yemeni family named Sankar was travelling to Asharoorah and Saudi forces attacked them , killing the man and injuring his wife. Three members of the Saudi patrol were later arrested by Yemeni units and brought to Sayun, Wadi Hadramout.

Five Hostages Offered and 11 Oxen Slain as Apology

The latest reports regarding the kidnapping of the Polish Ambassador to Yemen by people of the Qiyari family of Khawlan tribe say that the family made an apology to the military force that was besieging the area for four days. The procedure was an implementation of an agreement reached 'in principle' with President Saleh and Brigadier General Ali Mohsen Al-Ahmar.

It is reported that several Sheikhs of Khawlan tribe led by Sheikh Abdul Elah A'atef did arrive to Qa'a Al-Qubbatin accompanying 11 oxen which were slain as Hagar [a Yemeni tribal tradition meaning apology]. An agreement was later reached by the Governor of Sana'a, Khaled Al-Shareef and the Sheikhs of Khawlan that the tribe surrenders five men as hostages and the military campaign against Khawlan withdraws.

AL-AYYAM Independent

Ex-President: Al-Ayyam is Patriotic Ex-President Ali Nasser Mohammed expressed his uneasiness with the reports that Al-Ayyam is the victim of a campaign of unjust accusations and attacks. Ex-President Mohammed said in an interview with Azzaman of London that he felt upset with such painful reports because Al-Ayyam has been a patriotic newspaper since its establishment by the Master of press in

Yemen Mr. Mohammed Ba Shraheel. He added that Al-Ayyam was a strong voice against [British] occupation and imperialism and accompanied our people along its march.

He added that the Ba Shraheel is one of the most prominent families of Yemen and that he is confident that President Saleh shall not permit any attempt by whoever -especially by officials- to have the audacity to raise suspicion over its honor and history.

A Tribal Congress on Kidnappings

The speaker of Parliament, Sheikh Abdulla Al-Ahmar, Chairman of the Yemeni Congregation for Reform (the Islah Party) said that he is preparing for congress to gather sheikhs of the tribes of Yemen to discuss the phenomenon of the kidnapping of foreigners and blastings of the oil pipes which are increasing.

Sheikh Al-Ahmar, who was speaking to Al-Khaleej of the United Arab Emirates said that the said congress shall be aimed at the criminalizing of the said phenomenon which has extremely defamed Yemen and hurt the economy. Harsh penalties shall be executed against the culprits. They should also be ostracized from their tribes, Sheikh Al-Ahmar added.

A Judge Asks for Justice!

Judge Mohammed Al-Washali of the Ebb Governorate Court of Appeal wrote to Sheikh Abdulla Al-Ahmar, the Speaker of parliament complaining a piece of land owned by him at Damt is being confiscated by (N. A. A) despite instructions to the contrary by the Court, the Office of the Attorney General and Sheikh Al-Ahmar himself. Judge Al-Washali said the culprit is taking heart from a brother of his (A'. A'. A) who is a member of Parliament!

Al-Washali called upon Sheikh Al-Ahmar to interfere in order to stop such mockeries and for the reconsolidating of Islamic Sharia'h (law) Principals which guarantees the safe ownership of properties.

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Benefits of Life Insurance

Nageeb Baggash

The idea of prohibiting the system of insurance concentrates on life insurance because it is against Allah's wish and fate. This issue is very serious to be discussed.

Life insurance is the most useful type of insurance because it offers great services and advantages to people. It is wrong to evaluate or judge it by its name or by the general definition heard or imagined by us. We should study it and know its types and its benefits. The title "life insurance" is a collective name for the different types of insurance which are in connection with a person's life, ability and activity and his continuity. Its aim is not to prevent Allah's wish and fate, as some understand it. It is also not made for the sake of preventing death or stopping the occurrence of injuries and harms. It deals with the influences of injuries and harms on the insured people. Its work is to reduce losses and damages resulting from an accidental occurrence of damages, not before. If no accident has taken place, the insured will not benefit from this type of insurance along the declared period. Moreover, insurance including life insurance concerns with expected risks, not actual risks. In other words, it covers anticipated risks that possibly to happen to the insured. As we know, death is a real phenomenon and no one can avoid it. Death is not a risk to insure against it. Here, insurance deals with the issue of stopping a person's activities in life. Indemnity will not be paid to him but to his relatives. What is more, life insurance does not cover natural diseases which may attack the person's health. In fact, it covers dam-

age and injuries that result from incidents and calamities with certain clear provisions and exclusions, agreed by the two parties and declared on the faces of policies. Thus, we must take these benefits into account to be able to give real and true opinion about this type of insurance. Prohibition of things must be based on the religious instructions and teachings. If we see that the exercise of life insurance is in contradiction with Islamic instructions or against the people's interests, we must leave it. If it is advantageous, there will be no reason to leave or prevent it.

To give you a clear idea about life insurance, I shall give a good definition about it. Life insurance may be defined as a plan under which large groups of individuals can equalize the burden of loss from death by distributing funds to the beneficiaries of those who die. From the individual standpoint life insurance is a means by which an estate may be created immediately for one's heirs and dependents. In the developed countries like US, UK and Japan life insurance policies in force exceeded the national income. The same is true of other countries, in which life insurance has become a major channel of saving and investment, with important consequences for the national economy. Benefits of life insurance can be more known through its classification. It can be classified either according to contracts or according to type of customers. According to the type of consumers it is classified as ordinary, group, industrial and credit. Under group life insurance, for example, an employer signs a master contract with the insurance company outlining the provision of the plan. The amount of insurance depends upon the employees' salary or job classification. Usually the employ-

er pays a portion of the premium and the employee pays the rest, but sometimes the employer pays the entire cost of the plan. A major advantage of group life insurance to an employee is that usually he may obtain coverage regardless of his health. An employee can benefit from life insurance in paying the cost or expenses of treatment in the case of any accidental occurrence. Almost all the claims under life insurance find acceptance from the insurers. That is because life insurance exclusions of risks are very little in comparison with other types. It excludes coverage to losses or damage caused as a result of risks against human nature, as suicide and self-inflicted harm.

Let's compare the situation of both a person who has life insurance policy and another without it. The two are employees with defined salary for each. Suppose an accidental treatment and the supply of artificial limbs. Then the amount of indemnity must be stated according to the type of injury and its influence, whether it causes temporary incapacity or permanent incapacity to the insured. In the event of his death, the heirs will receive the declared compensation, which may help them much. The second person, who does not have life insurance policy will have different situation. He may not find the expenses of treatment or he may borrow them from others. If he dies, he may leave nothing to his children.

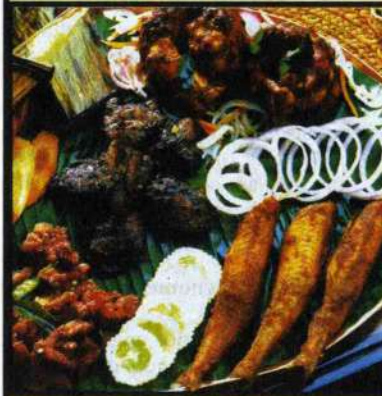
To conclude, life insurance is very useful for all people because it offers great benefits. Our Islamic figures have to study it carefully before passing judgement on it. If they do, they will not find any reason to prohibit it. Life insurance is not against Allah's wish and fate, as some claim.

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Emirates

BE GOOD TO YOURSELF. FLY EMIRATES.

NDI's Resident Representative in Yemen to YT:

"Press should be free to present the problems and aspirations of people"

The National Democratic Institute (NDI) was very instrumental in preparing for the Emerging Democracies Forum held in Sana'a late 1999. The NDI is now having some programs in Yemen related to democratic development. They have now a program with the parliament. This program is designed to help the people through the Parliament as it is the only elected institution in the country. It is the backbone of democracy as people elect the members of the Parliament. It is important for the members of the Parliament and citizens to interact and communicate and for the citizens to understand the rights and duties of the citizen in a democracy, so that they can play meaningful role in developing democracy. So, NDI works on areas relating to promoting a healthy relation with the public, but it also works with people in the constitution, and with people who can work in the society to help organize the communities for public meetings with NDI, creating awareness about the role of the members, institution of Parliament, and citizens in democracy as well as to help citizens to talk about the problems and issues they face with the constitution, organizing public meetings for the discussion groups in promoting awareness of Parliament of citizens role in discharging their responsibilities.

Mr. Nick Green is the current resident representative of the (NDI) in Yemen. He has been in Yemen for ten months now, working with the external relations program in the Parliament. Before working with the NDI in Yemen, he was in Bosnia, working for about fifteen-years in the Civil Society Development. Mohammed Hatem Al-Qadhi, Yemen Times Managing Editor met him and filed the following interview. Excerpts.

Q: How far do you think you succeeded in your programs?

A: I think we need more time, and with the national agency coming here, we need more time to work. I think that we may succeed helping the people to understand the value of holding public meetings in the constitutions. The people need to know how to address their issues of concern, which in my opinion has been a very important program involving working with citizens and people in the community. We help them to understand that it is heartening to hold a public meeting of all discussion groups. Our success does not make me feel complacent. However, we need working with more people in the community who have not yet got any attention.

Q: You have been launching a lot of programs, what is your next program?

A: We hope to continue with the Parliament program depending on certain funding situations. We are actually going to start next week, at the beginning of March. It is a political development program. What we are going to do is to work with the political parties, helping them to develop their skills regarding campaigning for elections such other activities. That includes things like strategy planning, message, development, and platform development. Things that would prepare them for involves running effective campaigns in the forthcoming elections in order that the people in Yemen have a clear understanding of what the political parties represent, what they stand for and what they talk about. It aims at the parties relating their campaigns more meaningfully issues, their future planning. That is the goal of the programs.

Q: Can we consider this a change in cooperating with the Parliament to the political parties?

A: NDI has different programs to be implemented. We have programs in some places relating to civil relations. We have programs with the parliament. We have civil society development programs for community group NGOs. We have election monitoring pro-

grams. We have a lot of different programs that are related to the development of democracy and we would like to work with the parliament for certain time, and to continue working into the year 2000. So, we do not intend to stop our work, but to supplement that, we have this political party development program, and beyond that have a political party development program to enhance competition between the parties. We also want to monitor the process of campaigns. We would invite cooperative endeavor to reinforce our efforts regarding this political delegation monitoring not only the elections but the campaign process, the election process; this would ensure that the people have their access to the media get educated about standard practices all over the world. The NDI thrives or public support, and looks forward to my coming here, we need more time to work. I think that we may succeed helping the people to understand the value of holding public meeting in the constitutions. The people need to know how to address their issues of concern, which in my opinion has been a very important program involving working with citizens and people in the community. We help them to understand that it is heartening to hold a public meeting of all discussion groups. Our success does not make me feel complacent. However, we need working with more people in the community who have not yet got any attention. our rigorous efforts is to monitor the process of the elections themselves. That will increase the reliability of the elections and make people realize their responsibility in the process. This would go long way helping political parties to campaign effectively in the elections, and elections are free and fair.

Q: Your cooperation with the media and NGOs is not visible, why?

A: The NDI has limited resources and limited money, and we can not tackle the challenges of the democratic development in all its ramifications. At the same time program that you talk about, monitoring the process of the elections. We hope to partner with some local NGOs that are interested in collaborating with us. For example, local NGOs may be aware that the media is closely keeping a watch on the elections and invite people to have free access to the media. Local NGOs will be responsible for covering one constituency and doing their best to give people confidence in the process, so that the voting becomes actually meaningful. So, there are different areas that we want to work with local NGOs in future.

Q: Regarding the elections, you said that one of the most important aims of the NDI is monitoring the elections, but you did not participate in the presidential elections, why?

A: We wanted to make sure who was going to monitor the presidential elections because we were going to see how it is going on. Then, we wanted to pool resources to do that. We brought the people to monitor the process. We did not do an official monitoring the process because we took some strategic steps to revitalize the process because the competition was so low.

Q: There are a lot of changes are taking place in Yemen like the presidential elec-

tions; what is the stand of the NDI in this context?

A: The elections were great because they are the first such phenomenon in the Arab World I think they are a big leap for the future. However, they were not competitive enough. There were two people from the same party. So, I think we have to look to it from this point of view. The positive aspect in this process is that people have the opportunity for the first time to go and elect their president. Hopefully, in the next elections there will be more competition and there will be more candidates from different parties.

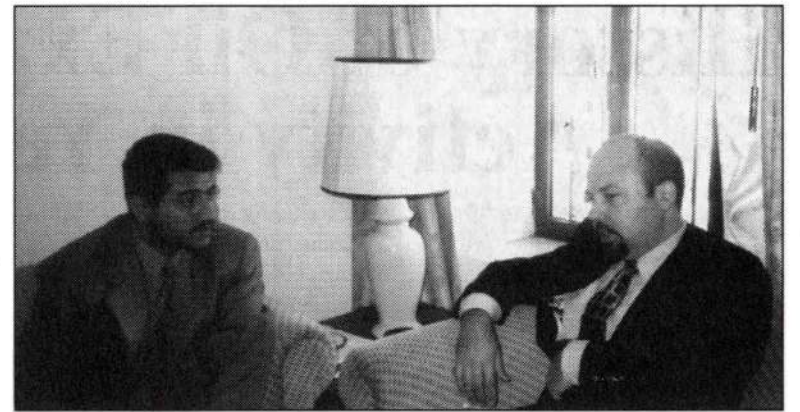
Q: We have some kind of democracy here in Yemen, but the press continues to face hassles and a lot of news-

papers are on trial. What is your comment?

A: I do not know the details regarding the individual newspapers, but in principle in order for democracy to function, it has to be free and fair. Press should be free to present the problems and aspirations of people. So, in principle, I support free and fair democratic press that should be open to publish different view points.

Q: Launching the local authority law, was for the opposition and the public very frustrating? What is the NDI's comment about this law?

A: As the process unfolded only few months back, there are members of the parliament that asked the NDI for some pertinent examples regarding local self



administration in other countries and how they coping with problems on emerging democracy. So, what the NDI did was that we translated the relevant laws into English and presented these to different people from different local administrations, to experts from the local law, experts from the U.S.A, from Africa and ...etc. So on in order to enable them to have a look at the current draft of Yemeni local law and give their professional comments for the benefit of people in Yemen who are eager for an efficient rule system in

their own country and who are struggling to define their own level in democratic press. That was also presented to the members of the Parliament, government, press and civil society. When they were discussing the process in the parliament, the agency responsible for local administration would then be able to have their own reactions and perceptions. The NDI wants people in Yemen to decide the course of law that is best for them. NDI have to promote the discussion in this regard by providing these comparative examples.

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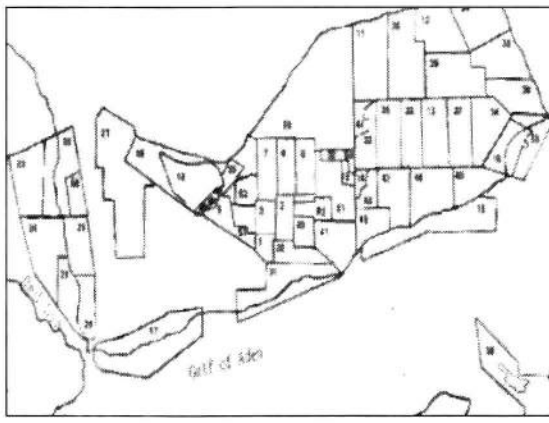
History of Oil Exploration Activity in Yemen

By:
Eng. Mohammed Al Zubeiry

Future petroleum and gas effort in the Republic should be directed towards the sedimentary Basins. The discovery of oil and gas in commercial quantities and encouraging results from geophysical and geological analysis suggest the Yemen area has great exploration potential and augurs well for future oil and gas discoveries in other parts of the sedimentary Basins. In the 1920's, the discovery of several oil fields in the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf prompted many oil companies to expand their efforts to new locations. As a result, began to look to Yemen as possible new sources of oil. The first detailed research for oil in Yemen took place in 1938 when the Iraq Petroleum Company (IPC), at that time a British-owned company, conducted a geological surveys in Hadramout and Mahara. Although the IPC collected seismic data, no wells were drilled at that time. In 1953, when a German firm signed an agreement with Yemen government to carry out geophysical and geological exploration in a coastal zone north of Hodeida. The company also conducted a survey of the Salif region of Yemen, although no wells were drilled in either of these parts. However, gravity and magnetic studies were conducted at that time. Yemen Shell exploration, a subsidiary of Deutsche Shell, was awarded a license in 1974 for a 19,000 Sq km offshore acreage in the Red Sea

between the port of Hodeida and the Saudi border. It relinquished that license at the beginning of 1977 and was awarded another tract in July 1977. Exploration operations were no more successful in that acreage than the first, and the company relinquished it in 1981. And also, in August 1975 the YNPC signed an agreement with Sibens Oil and Gas of Canada to explore for hydrocarbons in a 178,000 sq km area and around Socotra Island for six years. At the end of 1975 the Soviet concern Technoexport agreed to begin preliminary exploration work in a 10,000 sq km area, while a Cuban team was also brought in to explore a 37,000 sq km zone in the Thamud region near the Saudi boarder. Altogether eight wildcat were drilled but no oil shows were reported.

After many years of disappointing results, finally in July 1984, the first commercial oil discovery was made by Yemen - Hunt Oil Company in the Marib - Al-Jawf Basin. In addition, in 1987 an oil discovery in the Ayad - Masilah Basin - Hadramout by Canadian Occidental (Canadian). All these discoveries put Yemen on the world oil & gas map. Since this discovery Yemen has become one of the most active areas for Hydrocarbon exploration in the Arabian Peninsula,



brought into sight the promising hydrocarbon potential in this country, and any way has forced exploration to rethink their ideas about this region's Petroleum geology. It has raised the question: Are there any more oil rich areas still to be discovered in Yemen? It is worth mentioning that petroleum concession activity map covers 415426 sq km (see chart) divided in to 59 sectors which constitutes about 80% of the total area of Yemen.

Reference:

Report Exploration Activities, from Internet: www.momr.gov.ye. Ministry of Oil and Mineral Resources, Years of endeavor for more prosperous Yemen. The Preparatory Committee of Oil & Gas Conference, 1998; page 14.

Acknowledgement:

Deep gratitude to the Ministry of Oil & Mineral Resources and the Petroleum Exploration & Production Board for help and information.

Why Aren't Yemenis Happy with the World Bank and IMF Reforms?

The technical consultations of the World Bank (WB), as well as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) proposed to the Yemeni government on the implementation of the Economic Reform Program have become a stock subject of criticism and looking at them with skepticism for the majority of Yemenis particularly as for their results. Although these institutions have contributed with suggestions and support to the establishment of a network of social security and reduction and limiting gravity of poverty in the society, they are not supported by a good number of Yemenis, especially after seeing their lives being negatively affected. Since 1994, united Yemen has been facing deteriorated economic situations with prevailing low production, high rate of inflation amounting to 105%, over 16% budget deficit, 35% unemployment and decline in per capita annual income to around \$ 275. Reforms program was introduced in coordination with experts from the WB and IMF. It was planned that its implementation covers four phases, the first of which started in March 1995. The Yemenis, especially opposi-

tion parties assert that it has added insult to injury; more people have fallen into poverty, prices soared to high levels, measures for fighting corruption has soft-pedaled. Opposition parties are of the view that the mistakes made by the WB and the IMF in the process of rectifying economic problems of Yemen were represented in offering conditioned funds for financing plans of the program. Thus implementation of the program necessitated that Yemen had to follow an austerity policy associated with lifting subsidy on necessary foodstuffs leading to the rise in their prices by 1500% and also led to raise oil products prices by more than 500%, electricity, water and telecommunication services by 245%. These realities and results have made Yemenis think that consultations of the WB, and the IMF have led Yemen economy to recession, unemployment, inflation and high cost of living. The people of Yemen describe these suggestions as proposed by fraudulents that have failed to do anything to rescue from collapse economies of a number of third world countries among which Chile, Argentina, Peru, South Korea and Indonesia and others.

Nevertheless it is not to be denied that proposals and consultations of those two organizations have helped decrease percentage of Yemen's debts by rescheduling them according to Paris Club conditions and aid of the donor countries. However, Yemenis want to realize positive results reflected on the standard of their daily living and achieve sustainable economic growth. The visits to Yemen by WB and IMF experts have become subject of sarcasm for the Yemenis because of the state of their affairs and fallback in the state performance of its services to the citizens in health, education and fulfillment of development projects under pretext of cutting state spending for facing the deficit in the public budget. Despite this pessimism about the economic reform and donors' consultations, the WB seems to be determined to continue carrying out the remainder phases of the reforms project, especially in financial and administrative domains. On the other hand, the government is also going on in its program of reforms. Economists think that, in view of the present state of economic conditions, further austerity measures and rise in prices will not be tolerable, suggesting that the government should seriously study the results of the reforms program and looks for alternatives. To conclude, Consultations of the WB and the IMF are viewed as evil by the majority of Yemenis who call upon the government to review the record of failure of these institutions in many developing countries.

The Dark Side of Privatization in Yemen

By:
Mahyoub Al-Kamali

Privatization policy in Yemen is usually fraught with many challenges adding to the burdens on a big portion of employees in the public sector. Despite the fact that government is slowly going ahead with plans for privatization of certain projects however, the non-existence of alternatives for social security and scarcity of job opportunities reduce the chances of investing the revenues, gained from selling or leasing those projects to private sector. Privatization measures do create fears and suspicion among employees working for the projects to be privatized. The reason is that the process is being carried out in a country having very few infrastructure represented by productive projects whose industrial and agricultural output constitutes a small proportion of exports to external markets, let alone it meets only 10% of local markets consumption needs. State farms have already been privatized and three state agricultural institutions are to be liquidated through privatization. As for the industrial sector, 16 establishments have been privatized so far, and 9 tourist hotels have been given back to their former owners in Aden and Hadramout. Seventeen tourist enterprises have also been rented to local and foreign

investors.

In transportation sector, loading and unloading activities in the National Navigation Company and some shares in Aden Petroleum Refinery have been privatized.

Certain measures have been taken for selling shares from the National Bank of Yemen and study has been made on privatizing specialized state banks: The Agricultural Bank, The Industrial Bank and The Housing Bank. Other projects are on their way to be privatized.

Privatization is not a good solution to the economic and industrial problems in a country like ours, especially from the economic and financial standpoints. It creates additional numbers of unemployed. The government could reach better solutions if it allocates part of its revenue to revive those unsuccessful projects. Investors are even worse because they are essentially materialistic people, always after their own interests.

Employees of the public sector institutions are concerned about being incapable of purchasing any stocks of the privatized companies or possessing reasonable proportions of shares in such unsuccessful projects because they are from the section of limited income employees. Therefore, giving employees the right to own shares does not agree with their real status.

The government has established a social fund to support victims of pri-

vatization, offering temporary financial assistance to those employees who had been laid off, but that can be a social time-bomb for thousands of poor people who have become at their wits' end.

It could have been better if donors, such as the World Bank and the International Fund provided technical advice to help revive the government's unsuccessful establishments and projects.

If we were to agree with some economists' points of view that some projects or establishments form a burden on the government's general budget without searching or looking into the reasons behind their failure, we will be wronging thousands of people. In addition we will be using unscientific solutions.

There still can be some alternatives to privatization. Increasing production of the Cement Factory and exporting part of it abroad will certainly help the government gain hard currency to improve the state's balance of trade. This is better than selling such factories and preventing the country from investing its wealth.

We need to reform our establishments' administrations and encourage them to increase production to cover the local market and reach the stage at which we become an industrial as well as agricultural producing society, instead of importing what we need.



Embassy of India Sana'a

BOOM AHEAD FOR INDIAN SOFTWARE

Indian exports of software recorded impressive increase in the financial year 1998-99 reaching 3.01 billion U.S. dollars as against 1.81 billion U.S. dollars in the previous year. According to India's Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ECSEPC), Information Technology (IT) related services, E-Commerce and value-added products contributed to the sharp increase.

The prospects in the current financial year, 1999-2000, for the sector are even brighter. **The National Association of Software and Service Companies of India (NASSCOM) estimates that software exports are growing at a healthy compounded annual growth rate of 55 per cent.**

Vigorous efforts are being made to diversify the 'range and sweep' of the Indian software exports. Currently, Indian software exports are dependent on the U.S. market, which accounts for more than half of the total software exports from the country. The industry is also making inroads in the markets in Western Europe and Japan. The share of software exports to West European countries has touched almost 30 per cent. The industry is actively looking for business in Australia, Canada and countries in the Pacific region.

While the Indian States of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh have already emerged as leading software exporting states, serious efforts are on to make the State of Kerala a software centre. Despite stiff competition from the historic city of Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh State), Bangalore (Karnataka State) continued to account for nearly half of the total software exports from the country.

No wonder, the widely-circulated 'Newsweek' magazine featured Bangalore along with Cambridge, Seattle, Singapore and Boston as one of the six hottest high-tech centres shaping on the lines of Silicon Valley in the United States.

To boost the prospects of Bangalore as a 'software mecca par excellence' the Karnataka Government has set up an office in Milpitas in Silicon valley. This office has undertaken the task to develop and promote IT business in and out of Bangalore and other IT centres in the state.

It is forecast that India's export of software and related services could reach 50 billion U.S. dollars before the target year 2008 if priority is given to development of value-added products.

A Task Force on IT has been set up by the Prime Minister of India. IT industry representatives say many of the recommendations of the Task Force on IT have given a boost to software exports. The government now

recognises IT as an agent of transformation of every facet of human life which will bring about a knowledge-based industry in the 21st century.

India's IT policy aims at speeding up development of world-class information infrastructure. This includes extensive spread of fibre optic networks, satcom networks and wireless networks for seamlessly interconnecting the local, national and global informatics infrastructure.

It also aims at providing IT for all by 2008, accelerating the rate of personal computer/set-top-box penetration in the country from one per 500 in 1998 to one per 50 along with universal access to Internet, Extranets and Intranets by the year 2008.

A recent study by NASSCOM says Indian software firms are poised to export software and services worth three billion U.S. dollars for Euro-related information technologies in the next three years. According to NASSCOM the main opportunities will come from banking and insurance companies and the Euro conversion opportunities are likely to continue beyond the year 2001.

The Indian software export industry has developed into a high profile industry providing high quality services to foreign clients and netting substantial foreign exchange for the country.

Professor Emeritus, at the Pune-based National Centre for Radio Astrophysics, Dr. Govind Swarup, has urged the government to declare the first decade of the 21st century as the decade of information technology to encourage software exports to the tune of 25 billion U.S. dollars a year.

With the demand for software professionals growing, India is likely to face a shortage of trained manpower in the years ahead. In recent years, India has become a favourite destination of computer majors and multinationals for setting up their businesses.

Today, more than 130 'Fortune 500' companies have set up their software centres in India. Comparatively cheap labour and supportive government policies are the factors which have attracted the foreign IT companies to India.

So far no headway has been made in Yemen by the Indian software and IT related enterprises. However, this Mission will make all out efforts to help such Yemeni parties who are interested in marketing Indian software in Yemen.

The interested parties may please contact Mr. E. Martin, First Secretary in the Embassy (Phone: 508087, Fax: 243439). We are also available on E-mail indiaemb@y.net.ye and indcom@y.net.ye

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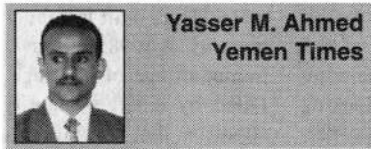
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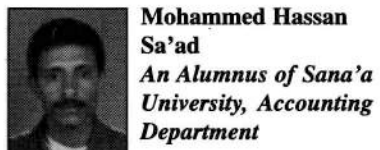
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The Eid of Today, as Yemenis See it : Is The Joy of Eid Still There?!



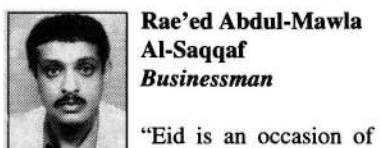
Yasser M. Ahmed
Yemen Times

Eid is a well-known religious occasion, which Allah legislated for many reasons. It is connected with Hajj the biggest religious assembly and it is a chance to get rid of rancor, hatred and envy. The days of Eid are unforgettable especially for kids who become overwhelmed with ecstasy and keep playing all day long. However, as one grows up things change to the worst because of the economic conditions. Now, instead of being a ceremony where every body is happy, Eid turned into an unwelcome occasion. Eid is the occasion where different people meet their families after being separated because of work conditions. It is also the days when one forget all their struggle in life. We, in the Yemen Times, tried to find peoples opinions and speculations about Eid.



Mohammed Hassan Sa'ad
An Alumnus of Sana'a University, Accounting Department

"For me and for lots of my friends Eid is not an occasion that we await with excitement because we are still worrying about finding a good job to make living. So, we do feel happy few days before Eid, but soon our happiness vanishes when we remember all our duties and it turns into sadness. I believe that it is the life conditions and lack of job opportunities that kill our joy."



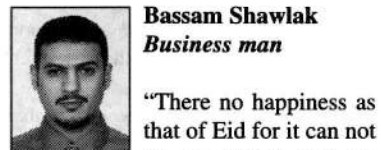
Rae'ed Abdul-Mawla Al-Saqqaf
Businessman

"Eid is an occasion of cheers for believers that strengthens their bonds with their religion. It is a chance for Muslims to rejuvenate their lives through celebrations, joy and entertainment. However, Eid in the eyes of parents is that periodic beast which brings along

with it tons of responsibilities and financial expenses. In recent years, Eid has become like rituals which we have to do and then soon get rid off. Despite all this, Eid is still a good opportunity for us to forget our hatred and start with clear hearts. As for children, it is still that occasion that is so exciting that it steals their sleep on that night."

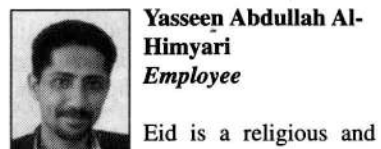
Faheem Yasseen Ahmed Sa'a'eed
Private Sector Employee

"Every body in this world has a moment of cheerfulness that he enjoys and this is Eid. Eid for me is full ecstasy and joy. It is an occasion when I can visit my friends outside the work atmosphere. All people enjoy Eid because it makes them forget all their problems until after it goes. So, if you really want to see the joy of Eid, just look at the happiness and cheer in children's faces for they are the most ones who enjoy this blessed occasion. Every one could make all his days an Eid if he just overcomes the black days and abandons alienation and hatred."



Bassam Shawlak
Business man

"There no happiness as that of Eid for it can not be measured and no matter how dull the conditions are it always bring the smiles and cheers with it. It is also a religious occasion when Muslims come together forgetting all their troubles and grieves. So, no matter how life is, showing happiness in Eid is a religious and humanitarian obligation. Moreover, you can see the biggest happiness of Eid in the eyes of innocent children. As for me, Eid means meeting with relatives and friends and exchanging talks and congratulations."



Yasseen Abdullah Al-Himyari
Employee

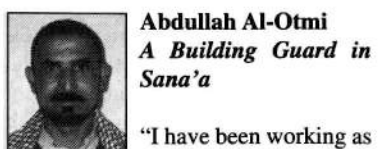
Eid is a religious and Islamic event when thousands of Muslims gather from all around the world to perform the fifth pillar of Islam "pilgrimage" in uni-



form manner, cloths and words. It is the occasion when every one forgets hatred, sorrow and when children become filled with joy and happiness making it the best day of the year. However, these days because of the bad economic conditions of the country, Eid has become more of a burden. Parents need to buy new clothes for their children and Eid sweets. Therefore, I call on every body do disseminate cooperation and feeling of brotherhood for Eid has beautiful moments which we should not waste because they would become part of our unforgettable memories.

Mahyoub Ghaleb Abduh
Worker

"To me, Eid is a scary ghost because it comes with all sorts of burdens. I am a father of eight children and they all need new clothes for Eid not mention meat. So, I would only talk about Eid joy only if I could find these two needs. However, despite all this I think it is an occasion when people meet to congratulate each other, talk and forget all their disputes."



Abdullah Al-Otmi
A Building Guard in Sana'a

"I have been working as guard for 10 years now and this type of work demand my presence 24 hours a day. So, Eid is big problem for me especially that I receive only 10 000 YR per month. I have a family composed of 7 mem-

bers who live in the village and I have to take care of their needs. Many Eids have passed and I could not see them because I had to stay here and do my job. However, even in these conditions I think that Eid is a chance for people to forget their rancor and envy."



Sabah Mohammed Al-Koutayli
Employee

"Eid is beautiful occasion when people meet and take a breath from life's troubles. I consider Eid the best day of years because it reminds me of my innocent childhood when I would play and be filled with joy. It is an occasion when one can abandon his troubles and sorrows. Eid is also a religious and social ceremony which helps bring hearts together. I was hoping to see my father who works abroad for Eid reminds ones of his beloveds. Finally, I say happy Eid for every one."

Nasreen Al-Jawfi
University Student, French Literature

"Those old days arise sorrow in our souls. We used to be happy to receive Eid and we would always prepare carefully for it. However, we grew up and our Eid joy did not grow and we gradually forgot it. Now, we have even Eid has become like any normal day which brings nothing new. Eid is rendering us an invitation to celebrate it but how can



we accept this invitation? We really need a lot before we can celebrate it. We need love, peace, hope and clear smile that render comfort to whoever sees it. Despite all this, Eid remains a joy in kids' hearts and a smile in parents' faces."

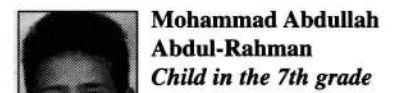
Hayfa'a Mohammed
University Student

"Eid is a religious occasion that assembles Muslims in all Arab and Islamic countries. On the first day of Eid family members greet each other and sons and daughter kiss their parents as a sign of gratitude. Then people greet their neighbors, friends and relatives and this strengthens the social relations with in the society. We should not forget also that Eid is for children more than it is for adults because they get new clothes, toys and sweets. They also go and play in gardens all day."

Fadle
Worker

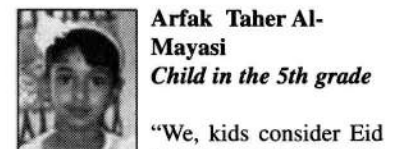
"I arrived to Sana'a directly after Ramadan hopping I would gather enough money to cover the expenses of the Big Eid. Unfortunately, I could not even cover my own work expenses because of the lack of job opportunities. We work one day then stop for 3 or 4 days. I had this big hope of being able to provide Eid clothes and meat because those two things are connected with Eid. The problem is that children do not differentiate between their needs and the paucity

of resources." Therefore, no matter how harsh the conditions are, we still have to make Eid that chance to draw a smile on kids' and adults' faces. So, will this chance remain to us or would it vanish as time passes so that the smile becomes an impossibility?



Mohammad Abdullah Abdul-Rahman
Child in the 7th grade

"We impatiently wait for Eid because we know that in Eid we buy new clothes, eat fresh meat, go out with our family to gardens where we play with other kids. Sometimes, we travel to our village where we see people slaughtering cows or performing folklore dance while the drums are beaten. Eid in villages is very enjoyable for you can see every body happy. Eid is full of joy and cheerfulness and I love it."



Arfak Taber Al-Mayasi
Child in the 5th grade

"We, kids consider Eid the best occasion for we go to gardens, wear new clothes, eat sweets, meet friends and visit relatives. Sometimes we spend Eid in the village and we find that really amusing because we see farms, domestic animals and go with kids to the Eid prayers ground to watch people praying then finally we go and see people slaughtering different cattle for meat."

Dar Sa'ad Charity Association: An Exemplary Success

The declaration of the reunification in 1990 was viewed as a turning point in the history of Yemen, for that was associated with adopting democratic policy convenient for setting civil society bodies, and freedom of press and expression. During the past ten years, a number of societies as well as organizations were established in many governorates, however, most of these organizations have proved to be a complete failure for they were exploited, either by the authority or the opposition, to meet some top officials' interests. Despite, this shameful present conditions of these organizations, there are few societies that could realize excellently tangible successes. One of such successful societies or associations is Dar Sa'ad Charity, Social & Sides Association. It is doing a great job though the limited resources it has. All the achievements are owed to the prudent administration running it. It is chaired by Mohammed Shamsan Mokbel who finances some of the society's projects. So far the society has no suitable location for its members to conduct their activities. The society is headquartered in a shanty built of tin sheets established and financed by its chairman. It renders services and aid to the residents

in Dar Sa'ad and the nearby areas. Since its establishment by Mr. Mohammed Shamsan Mokbel, chairman of the society, he has been providing the society with the money it needs to take roots. The society has never received any support neither from the authority in the governorate nor from the Ministry of Social Securities which endorsed the society's fund in January 2000. However, so far the society have received nothing. The society's main objective is to keep regular detailed lists of the poor families, crippled and handicapped old men. These lists are to be presented to the Fund of Social Care at the Ministry of Social Securities in Aden. The Fund of Social Care deems the society as one of its headquarters to distribute assistance among the people in the town. There is also another branch of the society in Al-Basatin district which makes things easier to distribute aids to poor families. In 1998, the Fund of Social Care distributed cards among those included in the society's lists so as to help organize distributing aids. The fund gave out about 1246 cards at Dar Sa'ad alone; 539 for poor families and old men, 63 cards for the handicapped, 602 cards for other poor people. The society played an important role in submitting the lists and making things

easy for the field supervisors from the ministry. In 1999, the society submitted lists to the 850 families in Dar Sa'ad and in districts such as Al-Basatin, Al-Maharik, Mosabin, Dar Mansoor, Al-Imad village, Al-Falahin village and Al-Lahook village. About 702 families from Dar Sa'ad, Al-Maharik and Mosabin were provided with aid, besides 263 families in Al-Basatin. The society also supplies shrouds to poor families in cases of death, a sum of money, and some medicines. The society also pays for medical treatment expenses to some poor families. Dr. Abdul Bari Dughhaish has already treated about 1200 poor patients during the past two years. Besides, he sometimes examines sick people in their houses.

Contributions of the Society to Education:

Ever since it was established in 1997, the society has played an important role in rendering services in so many fields, including education. It has distributed 300 bags for students in three schools in the town and 300 school uniforms. These were financed by the chairman of the society. Besides, Eid clothes and some notebooks and pens were distributed among orphans by a benevolent tailor in the town.

Other Contributions of the Society:

The society has also submitted a complete study including all the designs in regard to fixing electricity network in Al-Basatin area. It has also submitted lists of those who live in areas deprived of electric power. The society has also provided some help to the company involved in fixing the sewage system in Al-Basatin. The society does also distribute sums of money not less than YR1000 and not more than YR 3000 during the fasting month of Ramadhan. Dr. Abdul Bari Dughhaish, member of the Society's Board talked about Dar Sa'ad and said "I came to Dar Sa'ad for the first time with my family in 1964. During that time it was inhabited by the poor. In course of time things changed and civilization started to have its imprints on the residents there. Presently the area has grown bigger and inhabited by well-to-do and educated people including those coming from Somalia, returnees from Saudi Arabia during the Gulf War, or those who were the victims of free market system. When I finished my study in Germany, I came back to this town and started working and doing my best to relieve suffering of these people. The miserable conditions of people inhabiting this Dar Sa'ad attracted my and other

benevolent businessmen, literary men, social dignitaries and politicians' attention. Therefore, we took it upon ourselves to do something to improve the situation before it was too late. We established Dar Sa'ad Charity, Social & Sides Association in 1997 as a non-governmental organization. The society has been able to render services and assistance people despite all the difficulties standing at our face. Many of the difficulties we face are mainly because of the limited resources. I have treated at my clinic so many cases since the establishment of the society, however we did not keep a detailed record of their number. During January 1998 and November

1999 about 1215 cases were treated free of charge. Besides, medicines were also dispensed in some cases. Sometimes we have to visit patients in their houses; about twenty visits were conducted from January to November 1999.

We are highly conscious that these efforts are not much and are not what we aim at, however, this is the best we could do according to our limited resources. We do welcome any support and contributions from people from inside and outside the country if they are interested in doing charitable work to alleviate the suffering of the afflicted, poor people.

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As construction and maintenance operations are in full swing: Will the Resident's of Hael Str. & Dayeri Districts Realize their Dreams?



Tawfeek Al-Shara'abi
Yemen Times

It is a commonly held belief that a cleanly society is a civilized one. The more civilized the society is, the more developed. This is why there is a strong emphasis on cleanliness by all nations and religions. A friend of mine told me that during his visit to one of the European countries he came across, in a public place, a sentence on a board "Cleanliness is next to godliness, the Arab Mohammed said." Therefore, all the people across the world should pay due attention and importance to this matter. Consequently, the societies which give priority to cleanliness are characterized as most civilized and developed. However, our society seems to be different, for cleanliness seems to be an alien concept in many cities, especially in Sana'a, the capital. Wherever you go nothing will strike your eyes except the rubbish and filth littered all around. These streets are full of piles of rubbish that emit a terribly foul smell. One may think that such conditions are exceptional and restricted to some poor areas and districts. As such, it is of little consequence and do not deserve much attention. I also used to believe likewise till I came to give a send off to a friend of mine leaving the country. The time we approached Sana'a air-

port I was totally amazed. There were so many swamps of water which I mistakenly took for agriculture water. However, soon I was shocked by the terrible stench coming out of these swamps which could penetrate even the car windows.

It was unbelievable!

"My Goodness." Is this really the first view and impression and the maiden sight tourists come to see the moment they set foot in our country?

And if this is the case of the airport where tourists are received, the situation inside towns is any body's guess. As a matter of fact, all the entrances to the capital Sana'a are made in such a way as to give the newcomer a severe mental shock. At the airport, they are met with a hearty welcome accompanied by an unforgettable view and stench of swamps resulting from sewage water from different districts of Sana'a. When you come from Hodeidah you would also have the same impression as you would have to pass Asser. You are bound to get the horrible smell that comes out of the drainage water collected in there. If you are coming from Taiz, however, you would otherwise see so many piles of rubbish scattered on streets along Taiz road. The situation inside the city is even worse.

If such sights are frequent and common in the capital of Yemen, what to speak of the other towns? Localities such as Hael street and Al-Dayeri used to be very clean areas, but, they have become almost uninhabitable. The

spread of such stagnant pools of water in the streets and near houses have led to the spread of many epidemic diseases causing dreaded diseases in many residential areas. Streets have become almost inaccessible. A visit to such places will prove this. Bus drivers are also among those who suffer; each one is expressing his anger in some way!

One said "I have become fed up with driving in those so-called streets. My bus frequently breaks down and costs me a fortunes to have it fixed. Sometimes we stick in such streets and we can never dodge."

Restaurant owners, shop keepers, merchants are all suffering and are in a state of despair for they have been very much affected by such conditions. "We do not sell things as we used to nor can we afford the rents," they claim.

However, things seem to have a new turn for the better as we see a gleaming ray of hope turning up in the sea of disappointment and frustration. Those in charge seem to have finally woken up after a long tiring sleep and have responded positively to all calls of distress by these residents. Works in different parts of Sana'a including Al-Hasabah, Al-Dayeri and Hael areas are on full swing to fix new sewage drainage system. Roads are blocked and dug up so as to fix new equipment and retrieve the situation. Some people still do not believe that they will see an end to their suffering and will smell clean air again. They say "We



have been in such conditions for years and we have seen many attempts, to fix this system, melt in thin air. We very much doubt that this will be completed. Our children suffer every now and then from different diseases that have become endemic as a result of these horrible conditions we are living in."

One funny thing is when I talked to someone in Hael Street, he complained about the current works in these areas. He said "If these areas are fixed, landlords are bound to raise rents of flats which we cannot afford.

We will, eventually find ourselves with our families in streets."

Thus, what we sincerely hope for and keep our fingers crossed about is that works will be completed in due time and according to the designs and standards specified. If this happens the long-awaited dreams of these residents will finally come true. They will heave a sigh of relief that life is back on the right track in these areas. On our part, we do support and encourage such commitment and hope that this will continue to the end. We do also propose that instead of lingering, letting

things continue and reach a miserable and an irretrievable condition, why not move at the right moment and have full-fledged plans to fix things? There are by now so many places, for instance Al-Sonainah, many areas in Mathbah, and so forth that are in dire need of different facilities without which the condition will deteriorate like in Hael and Al-Dayeri districts. Won't it be better to move now and set things right before agonizing people and making them suffer? Will this produce an echo in the ears of the people in charge! I wish so.

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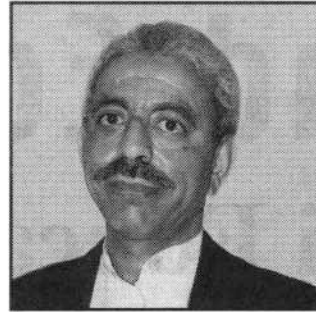
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COMMON SENSE

By: Hassan Al-Haifi

Are We On the Right Track?



Quite often people find comfort in resorting to their memories to reflect on the ups and downs of their life experiences. The reasons for this may vary from one person to the next. It is one of the means of escaping a present reality that seems to be outdone by a greater affinity with the past. This could be due to the fact that the present seems to be lacking in much of what the past had to offer to both individuals and society as a whole. More often than not it is due to the inability of the present circumstances to provide an environment of progress and overall enjoyment of life. Whatever the case may be it is clear from a consensus of the general public mood that Yemen has never had it so rough, since the end of the Civil War between the Republicans and the Royalists in the late 60s. The present state of affairs of the country seems to indicate that we have not been true to the aspirations of the overwhelming majority of our countrymen and the potential of our resources in creating a much more dynamic and vibrant society. For sure, anyone having extensive street contact with the general population and continuously mixing with the various constituents of the population is bound to detect that those sullen faces one sees have a lot more to say than express a mere state of bewilderment. There also signs that there is a lot of discontent hidden behind the lines on the faces and a feeling that somehow the government is pursuing a "who cares" policy as it stumbles through the management of public affairs. What is exactly wrong? Why are we lacking in any meaningful directions, not just as individuals but as a society as well?

In looking at the broad range of issues that Yemen is confronted with, at the present time, one seems to conclude that somehow these issues reach dead ends and appear almost unsolvable as they parade through the inefficient and almost mechanical bureaucratic jungle that has been enmeshed through the different institutional set up of Government. It is not really clear why issues just drag on and on and fail to reach decisive ends. Many of those involved in these issues tend to put the reason as being that the regime is in effect set up to keep people busy trying to reach solutions to the various issues they face in trying to lead normal peaceful and stable lives. The logic behind this is that people will then have little time to engage in political activity, or would not dare to engage in them because of the effect this will have on the issues that are trapped in the government do-nothing web. Even political discourse has become anathema to the regime as free public opinion encounters severe and sometimes brutal denouncement from the government. On the other hand, trying to come up with any foreseeable forecasts or trends on the future outlook of the country is an impossible endeavor for two reasons: For one, there is the lack of transparency evident throughout the government, where very little information is provided to the general public on a mass scale. Even the news that is blared out on the audio-visual airwaves or the government press merely covers ceremonial facets of any major event with information limited to who shook hands with whom or who met who and where and who was there to witness it. Very bland and very monotonous. We do not even know why they meet since the reason is

always to discuss matters of common concern or on the agenda. We are never given any figures of the major economic indicators that should be given periodically, as much as their reliability may be subject to doubt and questioning, but nevertheless it would be nice to hear them, even if they indeed do raise such doubt and questioning. It is not enough to say that all is fine and dandy and that all the senior public officials are giving their direct attention to the welfare of the society, when the overwhelming elements of the society see that most of these senior officials are very busy building large sumptuous palaces with entrance gates that are bigger than the all the buildings that house the residents of a typical Yemeni village put together, while others are busy buying the latest model landcruisers with all the auxiliary extras. We would like to see numbers aired as to the developments vis a vis the major economic indexes that tell us the effects that the increase in oil prices and the increase in oil production have had on improving the government budget and the chances for greater improvement of government services thanks to the rise in revenues for the government and the increase in incoming foreign exchange. We would like to see the status of the major economic projects and the impact they have had on the economy like the Aden Free Port Area and the Gas Deal, if any hope can still be maintained for these projects. So, the only indications that one has, as to the trends we are falling into, are the thousands of wrinkles and skin lines on the discontented faces in the street, when it comes to the general public, and the continuous construction activities and consumption habits of the senior government officials.

Between the two there is obviously a large discrepancy. The former reflects a people beset by unending problems, continuous economic decline and lesser standards of living. For the latter there is an increase in wealth and unabashed extravagance that would make Haroun Al-Rashid turn in his grave if he sees how much extravagance our government officials and the social dignitaries are submerged in. Somehow the gap widens and the suffering of the vast majority of the population continues to become entrenched as a normal part of life in the country. People tried to find answers to the perplexing problems of the day. They are becoming far less convinced today that it is the secessionists, the royalists or the foreign or regional powers. They are now certain that the fault lies within our borders and to be more specific within the ruling regime itself. There is not much anyone can really do. Protest is out of the question, although it is guaranteed by the Constitution, which seems to have been thrown out of the library altogether and not just out of the shelf. The government insists that we only have one more dose to go through, but for the general public, they would like to have some doses given to the public officials for having such a good time with public funds and public assets without so much as being asked to pay taxes on all their highly suspicious extravagance and wealth, which is really not theirs anyway, because they have yet to show that they have earned it. Even for those officials who have tried to do something, there is a disproportion between their net worth and the jobs they do or the service they have given to their country, if we can call plundering its resources service to the

country. Many people are wondering how long can the comedy they are playing up there in government land continue, because there is no more mood for laughter anymore. Sense of humor has become a thing of the past, as the pain of being unable to meet sustenance needs becomes exacerbated, as you work until your eyes pop out and still the income does not suffice to provide the minimum needs for normal life. It is getting harder and harder to convince people that a government reform program is in process when not one corrupt government official has been put to account for the plunder of public funds, which financed the sumptuous palaces and luxury cars and the fancy weddings of his children, while the majority of the employees under him are unable to meet the transportation costs of his children to school and back. Some of them have even wished that they would not come back to embarrass them anymore, until they realize that there is really no one to feel embarrassed in front of, because they are also going through the same plight. The kids have forgotten about midday snacks a long time ago. They have also forgotten what decent schools look like because the government does not have the money to maintain schools. However, it has money to dish out left and right to public officials who continue to insist that all is fine and dandy, thus emphasizing their incompetence to lead and to shoulder responsibility. As if

money is not enough they are also given government lands, or they just take over any land they like impulsively just because it is near their homes and because they should be rewarded for all that they have not done for the people they are really supposed to serve - the carriers of those sullen faces that have gone far below the poverty line and are feeling let down by a regime that they have given so much for, without even getting back a thank you folks for their gullibility and response to all the directions that have insured that the regime is not confronted by any force - legitimate or otherwise - that would tell the regime enough is enough! That is how it is out there in the streets and it is bound to come to a point where those sumptuous palaces and luxury cars can be mere targets to let off anger by a public that has no where else lower to go except to hell - which is really where the other side is supposed to go to, not the decent hard-working citizens who are getting the short end of the stick from an impotent government that has forgotten that it is supposed to do something for all the people of Yemen, not just for those who are riding high and mighty with the regime, without giving anything to the people in return or in gratitude, for being so quiet about the nonsense and the oppressive nature of it all. It seems like the right track has been derailed for a long time to come, not just with the regime but with the people as well, who can do nothing except show their discontent in their faces.



ألف مبروك
أجمل التهاني والتبريكات نزهة للشباب الخلاق
عماد أحمد السقاف
وذلك بمناسبة الزواج.
تمنياتنا له بحياة زوجية سعيدة، وبالرغاه والبنين.
المهنيون
جميع موظفي صحيفة "يمن تايمز"،
وجميع الأهل والأصدقاء

Letters to the Editor

Your 3 Stories About NADIA MUHSIN

I just wanted to say that I have very much enjoyed your series of articles on this lady and the controversy surrounding her case.

It is a fine example of unbiased, investigative reporting of top international quality.

You researched the FACTS. You presented them without playing favorite to one side or the other. You offered each side to give their version of the story.

It is my opinion that, had your late founder Professor Abdulaziz al-Saqaf been alive today, he would have been most proud of the Yemen Times staff and of this story. I wish you all every success for the future, Inshallah.

Blair Stannard
Ottawa, Canada

Response to Articles on Education

I understand the concern of the authors of articles on education was to highlight difficulties in the schooling process, however lets evaluate the source of the cure. Is the teacher is 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, who 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

Time to Respect Women

How is it that, in modern countries, we can look at woman as being leaders and people to look up to and there are no problems? Yet for a country as small as yours (in area,) woman are treated as slaves and not of human beings?

In most modern countries that we look at, where there is a huge religious diversity, woman are still treated as humans, and coming from many different religious beliefs we can accept that!

However, your country (as well as others in the surrounding area), with very few religions have all these problems, why is that?

I think that the government should sit down and realize that we are all equal, as humans!

Open the doors, and look at all the other countries around the world (Europe, North America inc. Canada, and USA), and Use the ideas that they used, to help you out. You may then become a stronger country! We are all different as individuals, and the rest of the world has accepted that, why are you unable to?

This letter is written from a 23-year old student from North America.

I hope that many people read this, and think about it!

Change is good, and from what we hear, Yemen and surrounding countries, need a change. It would take a while, but would be in the best interest for your people, and politics. I hope I do not offend anyone from my beliefs, and hope that you let me know what happens with the statement I just made.

A Women's Right Defender
Email: zoom118@hotmail.com

Going Back to Islam is the Solution

We need to address the need for a revolutionary change in Yemen. A change Yemen to a starting point for change in the Islamic world. We must not under-estimate Yemen's ability to become a civil nation with international power. The problem in Yemen is all due to the system it lives under. The people of Yemen need a system that agrees with their Islamic 'Aqeedah.' This wealthy nation of honorable Muslims should work to bring back the Khilafah and prove to Allah, and the world that they are not a backwards people who are fixated in the times of Jahilia, but the are those who the Prophet said Iman (faith) is in Yemen, and Iman is manifest through actions.

Abdullah bin Tayeb

Great Editorials

I read with great interest your editorial view points, especially the one titled "When time has no meaning" and felt sad and disappointed with the slow progress and development taking place in Yemen, while other nations within the Arab world, and in particular those in close proximity to Yemen have developed and flourished in recent Years. Your honest and factual reporting is admired and respected.

Nageeb Ali Aziz
British Columbia,
Canada

Salam from Germany

Having worked several Years in the Yemen in the subject of Archaeology, it is very nice to read Your news of your "Yemeni Times," which I enjoyed also during my stays in Yemen. Congratulation for that and please continue!

With best regards and greetings to Germany's friends, the people of the Yemen!

Dr. Heiko Kallweit

for a total solution on automobiles come to United Engineering & Automobile Co.

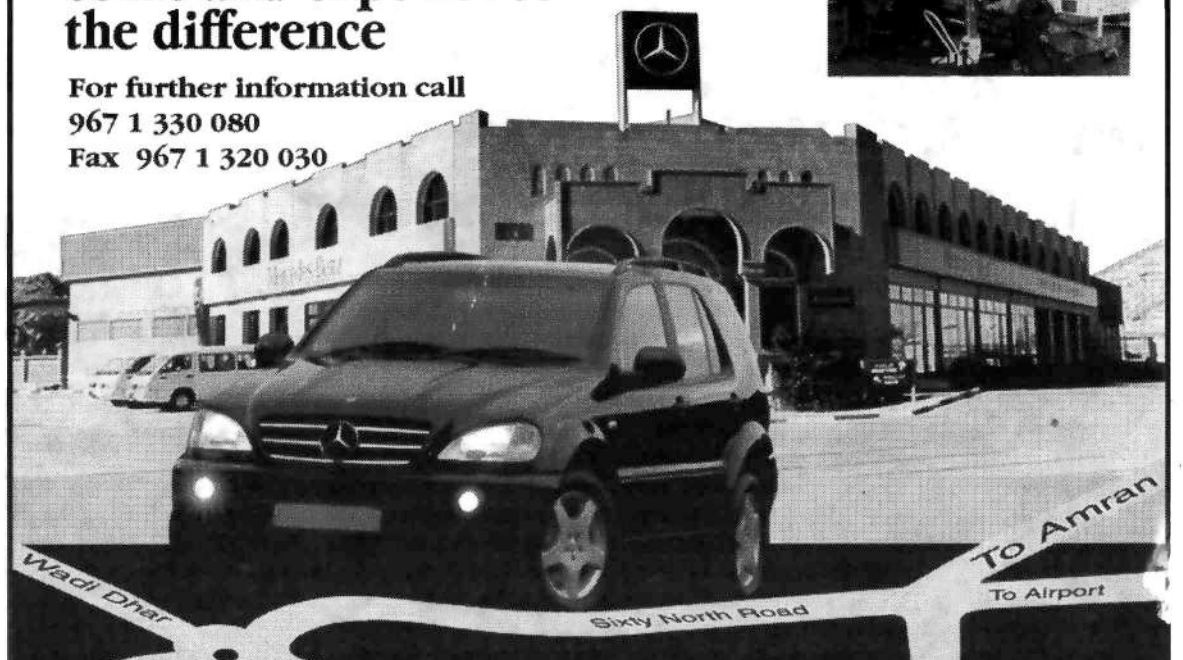
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Internet and Education: How Can Yemeni Educators Benefit?



Helmi Noman,
Director of the
American Internet
Information
Center

Why the Internet?

In addition to the fact the Internet has become an essential part of life, the Internet provides abundance of information and has the following educational values:

The Internet provides an excellent environment for improving education. There are literally millions of documents, information resources, and databases, which offer the opportunity to deliver and acquire huge amount of information.

The Internet resources available are for all of the different levels including high schools, undergraduate, and graduate education. There are also resources for distance learners. This article discusses some of the educational values of the Internet and provides some educational resources which are useful to educators, education administrators, parents and life-long learners. In this article, I assume a familiarity with basic Internet tools and services.

Experiential Learning

The Internet helps people learn by doing things themselves. They become the creators not just the receivers of education and knowledge. Learners develop thinking skills and self explore educational delivery tools. With email for example, students work harder to express themselves before sending messages. They choose vocabulary carefully and pay more attention to clarity.

Time and Space Disappear

Obstacles of time and space do not exit on the Internet. Information from online libraries are as close as one's keyboard. Educators can provide consultations remotely and create classes without walls.

Individualism

Learners choose the time and place of learning on the Internet. They also learn at their own pace to serve their special circumstances and needs. The Internet also teaches learners educational independence.

Motivation
The Internet provides excellent engaging environ-

ment for learners. The rich and dynamic environment makes the students gravitate to the Internet more than the traditional learning tools. The variety of activities available online offers learners an increasingly motivational learning tool.

Methods of Communications

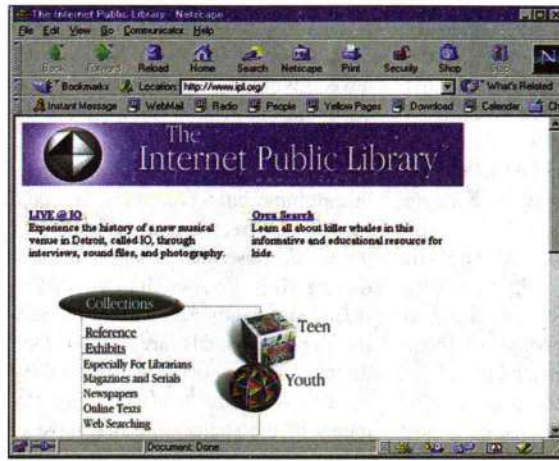
The Internet provides a number of methods of communications for learners and instructors to improve the quality of learning. Educators can choose and customize the methods which best serve any particular educational value. Here are examples:

Email, Internet Relay Chat (IRC):

- Person to person
- Newsgroups, Listserv:** Person to many people
- Newsgroups, Email:** Many people to many people
- WWW, Gopher, Telnet:** Person to computer
- WWW, Gopher:** Person to many computers
- Customized Information Services:** Computer to person
- Search Spiders, Net Monitoring:** Computer to computer

Internet Information Resources on Education

One of the many myths about the Internet is that there are no free full text books on the Internet. That is simply not true. Educators should learn advance search skills to help them locate full text books and articles in a short time especially because the cost of accessing the Internet in Yemen is very high. Educators should also familiarize themselves with the various free electronic libraries. The following are some examples:



1. Internet Public Library

<http://www.ipl.org>

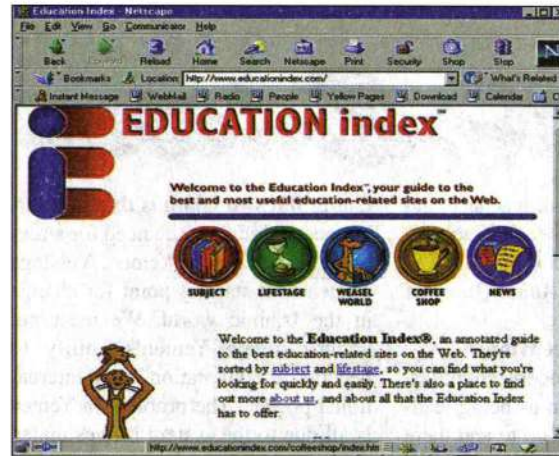
The Internet Public Library which began in a graduate seminar in the School of Information and Library Studies at the University of Michigan in the Winter 1995 semester provides an online texts collection of over 10,000 titles that can be browsed by author, by title, or by Dewey Subject Classification. They can also be searched using an inline form.



2. NetLibrary

<http://www.netlibrary.com>

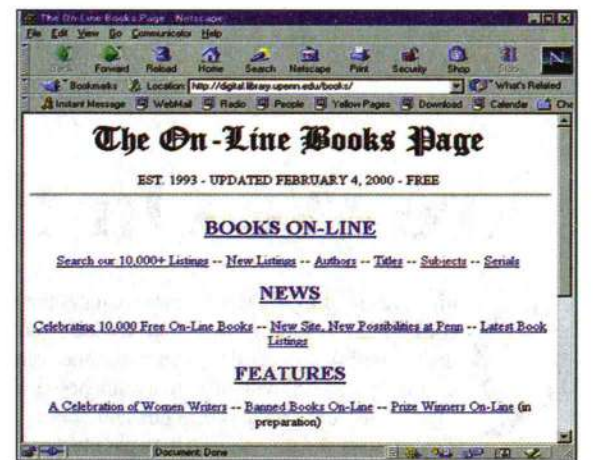
NetLibrary provides a free reading room area with a reasonable collection of public domain eBooks.



4. Education Index

<http://www.educationindex.com>

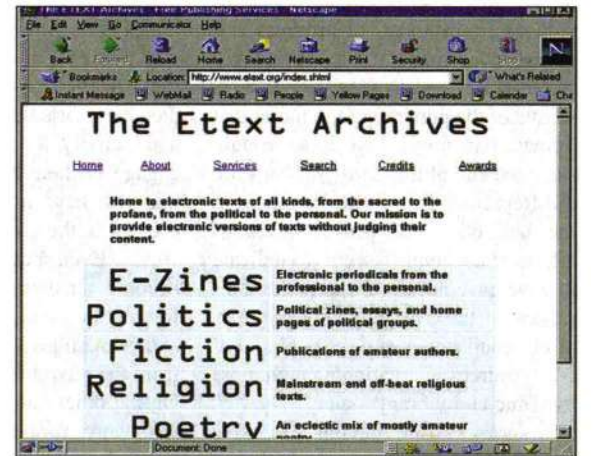
The Education Index has more than 3,000 sites in 66 categories listed by subject and by lifestage such as college students, continuing education, and careers. Education Index reviews the sites and summarizes what users will find on them.



3. The On-Line Books Page

<http://digital.library.upenn.edu/books>

Founded in 1993 at the Carnegie Mellon University, the On-Line Books Page is a directory of books that can be freely read right on the Internet. It includes: An index of thousands of on-line books on the Internet, pointers to significant directories and archives of on-line texts, and special exhibits.



5. Etext

<http://www.etext.org>

The ETEXT Archives were founded in 1992 by Paul Southworth, hosted by the User Services department of the University of Michigan's Information Technology Division. Currently, the ETEXT Archives provides content hosting services to people or organizations seeking to make their documents, periodicals, books, and/or works of fiction available to the public.

EDUCATION SEARCH ENGINES:

Yahoo! is not always the right one

Even though 'Yahoo!' is one of the best resource directories, there are other specialized Search Engines, which are dedicated for educational resources. Education World Search Engine is dedicated to educators and students that contains education news, chat forums, education site reviews, and links to educationally oriented commercial sites.

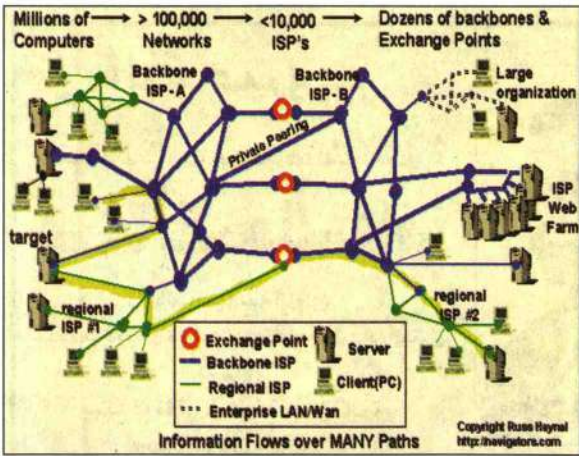
<http://www.education-world.com/>

LESSON PLANS:

Teachers share experiences

Educators can borrow lesson plans written by experienced teachers from around the world. Many of these plans can be used immediately or should be customized to be used in Yemeni classrooms. An example is the Encarta Lesson Collection, which features lesson plans and student activities designed and submitted by teachers. Currently in nine categories and searchable by subject or grade, these lessons form a valuable teacher resource.

<http://encarta.msn.com/schoolhouse/default.asp>



AL HANA
Natural
Strawberry Yoghurt

NATURAL STRAWBERRY YOGHURT
المانا
زبادي بالفراولة الطبيعية

الف الف مبروك يا ياسر

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ياسر حسين اليافهي

وذلك بمناسبة خطوبته وعقبى الزفاف الميمون،

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نصري ابو بكر السقاف
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وموظفي ابعاد للإعلانات

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شركة هنت اليمنية للنفط



STAFF AND WORKERS OF
YEMEN HUNTOIL COMPANY
Congratulate President

Mr. Ali Abdullah Saleh

Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hussain Al-Ahmer and Parliament,
Dr. Abdul-Karim Al-Iryani, Prime Minister
and his Government

Mr. Abdulaziz Abdulghani and Consultative Council,
and the Yemeni people

on the occasion of Eid Al-Adha Al-Mubarak

Many Happy Returns

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تتقدم بخالص التهاني والتبريكات لفخامة رئيس الجمهورية

الأخ / علي عبدالله صالح

وإلى مجلس النواب برئاسة الشيخ عبدالله بن حسين الأحمر،

والحكومة برئاسة الدكتور عبدالكريم الإرياني،

والمجلس الاستشاري برئاسة الأستاذ عبدالعزيز عبد الغني،

وإلى الشعب اليمني

بمناسبة حلول عيد الأضحى المبارك.

Yemen Times Customer Service

An efficient business and service guide to Yemen

دليلك الخدمي الأكثر انتشاراً لجميع القطاعات في اليمن

خدمات اليمن تايمز الإعلانية

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Job Vacancies

Looking for Muslims interested in Internet/Computer related jobs

Looking for enthusiastic, highly-motivated individuals to surf the Web and get paid. Great earning growth potential. No experience necessary. For more information, visit our website at "www.alladvantage.com/go.asp?refid=fhp843"

Contact:
Email: mohammedyasinkamal@yahoo.com
Name: Mohammed Yasin Kamal
Phone: (713) 383-0907

URGENT Yemeni Accountant Wanted

A qualified Accountant required to work in Yemen. Must be a Yemeni Citizen.

Contact:
Email: deslie@omantel.net.om
Name: Dinesh
Phone: +968 562238

Agents Required

As a Professional Migration Agent, we offer full assessment completion & lodgment services for Australia & New Zealand, Migration & Education Group is one of the multinational's most experienced immigration consultations. We are looking for immigration agents/brokers all over the world to represent our Group. Please send your company or Personal profile.

Contact:
Email: migration-agent@2ndpassport.com
Name: Migration and Education group
URL: http://www.2ndpassport.com

Job Seekers

Seeking Sales & Marketing Position

A 30-year old Kenyan citizen of Yemeni origin working in Saudi Arabia having a B.Sc. in Marketing (US) is looking for a suitable position in Yemen. Languages: Having fluent English, Arabic and some basic German language. Age: 30 Abilities: Sales/marketing. Logistics/Operations. Computer Knowledge. Good customer services/relations. Want to work in Yemen.

Contact:
Email: husseinabadi@hotmail.com
Name: Hussein Saleh Ali
Phone: +3 346 5541 (fax/tel direct)

Electrical Engineer

I am an electrical engineer looking for a job in Yemen with 14 year experience in field of substation design (AIS & GIS), HV transmission and distribution, Power Generation, Industrial Power Distribution, Relay Setting Calculation etc.

Contact:
Email: pkdey@brunet.bn
Name: Prakash Kumar Dey
Phone: 00673 2 663786

Freight/Shipping Position Required

5 years recent experience, running YKSFCA, looking for new position in Yemen to return. Ran major expatriate contracts '93-'98.

Contact:
Email: p.agents@net.ntl.com
Name: Anthony Phillips
Phone: +44+1639 842669

Networking

Hi, I'm from Karachi, Pakistan. Having a 1-year experience in Networking and computerization of diagnostic center. I can also deal in software, hardware, web site designing, composing and Networking. I establish a network on LAN, WAN and RAS in windows NT environment. I need a permanent job in Yemen preferably (Aden / Sanaa).

Contact:
Email: nomijojo@yahoo.com
Name: Syed Nouman Faheem
Phone: 92-021-6689932

Any Job Wanted in Yemen

23, Married, Equity Options Trader with 2 years experience working with an American stockbrokerage. Former graduate with BA Honours degree in History & Politics. Seeks career in Yemen Homeland. All suitable positions considered, not necessarily financial services.

Contact:
Email: Roboaya.Abdulla@schwab-europe.com
Name: Mr Roboaya Mohammed Abdulla
Phone: 00 121 200 4656

Logistics/Sales Manager (Airfreight)

Having an experience of 13 Years in Airline business, well known person speak and write fluent Arabic and English. Having the ISO9000 certificate (Quality). Strong personality and creating a new ideas. Seeking for a job requiring my experience in Yemen.

Contact:
Email: Mohammed RZ HU@aol.com
Name: Mohammed Abdulrazzaq
Phone: 001-714-997-7274

A job wanted in shipping or marketing

A managerial post in shipping wanted, I have 10 years experience in shipping and marketing two of them in Aden. Looking for a job in shipping or marketing in Yemen

Contact:
Email: ahmedb5@excite.com
Name: AHMED B.MOHAMED
Phone: (203)4840256

SAP consultant

A SAP CERTIFIED CONSULTANT having extensive knowledge of SD looking for a Job in Yemen.

Contact:
Email: chona@ibm.net
Name: AHMED AMIN
Phone: Ahmed Amin

Architect

I am from Sri Lanka and worked as a Chartered Architect (BSC, MSC, RIBA (UK), AIA (USA), SIA (Sri Lanka) SIA (Singapore), with 17 years experience looking for architectural assignments from Yemen on contract basis. Worked in Oman and Brunei as well.

Contact:
Email: sifar@itsq8.com
Name: Mohamed Jaward Mohamed Zhanar
Phone: 00941 739586

Media Planner/Buyer looking for a job opportunity.

I'm a 27-year old male from Cape Town, South Africa who is looking for a job opportunity in the Advertising industry.

Contact:
Email: nashid@mediashop.co.za
Name: Mogammad Nashid Anthony
Phone: 27216854137

Woman Looking for teaching job

An American Muslim women with /10 years teaching experience. seeking a job in Yemen or any other Islamic country. Married with 5 children.

Contact:
Email: bashshar@aol.com
Name: Lolita V. Jefferson
Phone: 1 609 486-0072 or fax @ 1 609 427-0328

Real Estate

House wanted

A small house + garden wanted to rent in residential area/suburbs of San'a, from Sep 2000. max \$350 per month

Contact:
Email: jgeels@multiweb.nl
Name: jane geels

Looking For Land

I am a Yemeni in the USA seeking for some farmland in Yemen. Please send location, acreage and price via E-mail. Do not over price the land as I am experienced in this field.

Contact:
Email: islamicearth@usa.net
Name: Sa'id Hamza

Automotive

Exporter of used Japanese heavy Equipment & Cars

We are Japan's leading exporters of all kind of used heavy equipment and used Japanese cars. We are interested in exporting used cards with low prices to Yemen. Whoever is interested should contact: Miss.Sasaki (Export Manager) FAX: 81-3-3428-8932 For more details, also please visit our web site.

Contact:
Email: batfa_japan@pop07.odn.ne.jp
Name: Batfa Japan Inc.
URL: www.cruch.com/batfa/heavy
Phone: 81-3-3428-8931

1998 Toyota 4*4 for Rent

A neat 4-wheel drive Toyota vehicle for rent/ I am renting the car because I am currently living abroad. So if you need a good car to transport with in Sanaa'a please let me know.

Contact:
Email: CoolIn@yahoo.com
Name: Jamal N.
URL: http://www.geocities.com/south-beach/island/2734

Car needed for use in Sanaa

I need a good working used car or S.U.V (4x4) to use in Sanaa. It needs to be in good working condition. NO FORMER TAXIS! Will fully inspect prior to final sale. Prefer automatic, but will settle for stick shift. Make must be later than 1986. All offers seriously considered. Will pay in US dollars - not YRs.

Contact:

Email: asaba84542@aol.com
Name: Saba Tobacco Grocery
URL: http://www.bcity.com/saba_123345
Phone: 3736 S. Mendenhall Rd Memphis TN 38115 USA

Goods to Import

Looking for importers

Indian exporter looking for Yemeni importers of Marine and fresh water fish, and also spices, handicrafts, fresh & processed fruits and vegetables imitation jewelry etc.

Contact:
Email: bobby@caltiger.net.in
Name: Md Shafiqur Rehman
Phone: 91-33-6657797/3396

Importers/intend to establish own business

Can supply quality Rice, Tea, Ready made clothes, disposable medical items, Black pepper & other spices etc.. Can export products f Kerala, India all the way to Yemen. Interested please contact immediately.

Contact:
Email: sreekumar@i2inet.com
Name: C.S.Kumar
Phone: 00966 2 6518814

Xenical diet products

Roché USA, available wholesale (bulk purchase), to interested resellers. Great price, big profit for you and for any interested person in Yemen.

Contact:
Email: evansw@indo.net.id
Name: Evans Winata (DDD Corp)
Phone: (62-31) 594-3180

Stationery at cheap wholesales price

Stationery for supplies to stationery shops. Cheap price, fancy design, great market, big profit.

Contact:
Email: evansw@indo.net.id
Name: Evans Winata (DDD Corp)
Phone: (62-31) 594-3180

Export products available from Penang, Malaysia.

Following products available 1. Rubber Glove's (Clean room & Surgical) 2. Paper 3. Rubberband. 4. Stationery products. 5. Other products upon customer request. Following are willing to import; 1.2 Toe Socks. 2.CD-R. Great opportunities to import to Yemen through good marketers and distributors to the Yemeni market and the general public.

Contact:
Email: andys@tm.net.my
Name: Bretecs Trading (Andy)
Phone: 604 - 5071581

Wheat Flour / Bakery Flour

Fine Bakery Wheat Flour No. 1 Quality readily available in 50

KGs HDPE Packing C.I.F YEMEN Port @ USD \$ 250/Ton in bulk quantities contact immediately on our.

Contact:
Email: asiad@nde.vsnl.net.in
Name: A.P. Agro (P) Ltd.
Phone: +91 98 360 25857

Goods to Export

Export to USA

American Muslim wants to import Yemeni-made handcraft goods to U.S. for sale. Looking for investors and Yemeni craftsmen.

Contact:
Email: washiga@wport.com
Name: Hamzah Abdul Quddus
Phone: 206 246-6134

Trade link with South Africa

If you have any products you would like to export to South Africa or products you would like to import to Yemen you can e-mail me or fax 2721 686 4961.

Contact:
Email: nashid@mediashop.co.za
Name: Nashid Anthony
Phone: 2721 6854137

Used Equipment

Needed: Construction Equipment

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Email: vaau@aol.com
Name: Bill Eaton

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Improve Your English



A weekly Education Supplement presented by:
Dr. Ramakanta Sahu
 Associate Professor
 College of Education, Mahweet

I. What to say

Farewell

(Your friend is going on a long tour. You are at the airport to see him off.)

- "Bon Voyage!"
- "Happy journey!"
- "Have a nice trip!"
- "Have a nice journey!"
- "Wish you a pleasant trip and safe return"
- "Enjoy yourself"
- "(Don't forget to) Send a cable as soon as you reach"
- "Contact so and so on arrival"
- "Don't worry. So and so will be there to receive you. I'll ring him once again."
- "Mr. — will be there at the airport to receive you. He'll take care of everything. Don't you worry."
- "Your accommodation is confirmed in _____ Hotel. Go straight and check in."
- "Don't forget to contact _____. In case of any need feel free to contact _____."
- "It has a different climate. Take care of health."
- "It may be very cold over there. Have you enough warm clothings?"
- "The weather may be chilly. Have you provided for yourself enough warm clothings?"
- "I know that you have a very tight schedule. But don't forget to visit _____. It is a famous tourist attraction."
- "Don't fail to see _____."
- "It is a new place. Be careful. Be cautious."
- "Don't you worry about things here. We will take care of everything. Rest assured."

II. How to say it correctly.

Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences.

1. They repent who do not look before they leap.
2. We all did not accept his invitation.
3. He bought a beautiful pen and gave the same to his sister.
4. It is the first time that I have seen you.
5. Divide this apple between me and him.

Answers to last week's questions

1. None of the three candidates is fit for the post.
2. The man standing beside the minister is a friend of mine

3. Such boys as are lazy hardly succeed in life.

4. Abdul's parents are richer than Khalid's
5. We went to Aden and enjoyed ourselves.

III. How to express it in one word

1. Expressions especially of ancient times, which are not now used except for special purposes.
2. Words which are no longer in use
3. The motive merely to get money
4. Existing for ever without any beginning or end
5. Animals which give suck to their young

Answers to last week's questions

1. A man whose manners are more like those of women: Effeminate
2. A medicine to counteract the effect of poison, or to prevent a disease from having an effect: Antidote
3. Remedy for all diseases, troubles, etc.: Panacea
4. A speech made without preparations: Extempore
5. A language that is no longer spoken: Dead

IV. Use the following in sentences of your own.

by fits and starts, by hook or by cook, at jeopardy, open and above board, in a fix.

Answers to last week's questions

- Cats and dogs** (torrential rain)-Yesterday it rained cats and dogs
- Helter and skelter** (quickly and without order or organization)-People ran helter and skelter when it started raining.
- Dead wood** (the people or things in an organization that are useless or no longer needed)-Don't bother about him. He is dead wood.
- Beat about the bush** (to talk about something in an incorrect or unsystematic way)- Don't beat about the bush. Come to the point.
- Be between the devil and the deep sea** (to be in a difficult situation in which you have to choose between two unpleasant things)-When you ask me to choose between the two it is like being between the devil and the deep sea.

Y. Quotable Quote

"A moment's insight is sometimes worth a life's experience."

Our Campus: Retrospect and Prospect

Abdul Basa, Dean of the Faculty of Education, Arts and Science at Sa'adah in conversation with Muneer A Latiff & M. Parsad.

Having set out into the educational sunlight in the 1970, the Republic of Yemen has since been expanding public access to higher education. Outside of university headquarters in the country the key academic establishments are the colleges of education in different provinces to cater to their respective catchment area. In the arrangement for higher education in Yemeni universities each faculty of college is headed by a den who plays a pivotal role in getting the academic program executed, in organizing the faculty and putting the staff on their mettle plus doing the administrative chores. Thus he is entrusted with a profound obligation to ensure the benefits of college education, diffuse learning and promote social change.

The Faculty of Education at Sa'adah presently headed by Dr. Abdul Basa is the principal seat of higher education in the northern fringes of Yemen. The seven-year old institution has come into its own from modest beginnings. With the addition of new teaching staff, administrative inputs and resources it has of late turned the corner, although the institution has still miles to go in meeting infrastructural needs and modern support facilities considering the increasing enrollment profile, the alliance of motivation and ambition among students who seem to have found in higher education a template for transforming their individual lives on the cusp of a new millennium. The dean, who is a professional academic as well as an able administrator, is committed to his calling and common enterprise of development. In a conversation with Muneer A Latiff and Murarai Parsad he fielded the following questions on the problems and prospects of the college right off the bat.

been looking after the academic and administrative affairs of the college for over a year. How do you rate its pace of growth in relation to other colleges in Sana'a University?

AB: Well, in the beginning the faculty had only a name and a habitation- habitation of sorts- but the required minimum has been raised now after great efforts. Those of you who have been around for some time can appreciate better the difference between the past and the present shape of things. Nonetheless, we need substantial support to create some basic facilities for students and faculty members. We are still facing shortages in several areas. We are the only center of higher education in Sa'adah, which is one of the most important governorates in Yemen. As regarding our growth in relative terms, I understand we all are coming along well.

ML & MP: On a scale of 10 how high or low would you grade it?

AB: You see the growth of an educational institution is a complex process, particularly in our context where variables are very many. So, we don't have a neat pecking order to locate who stands where. I can only say that we are not out of the league. I would like to add, however, that while an inquest on our highs and lows is always welcome, the moment of proper evaluation has to wait yet a while- at least until we are through with the formative phase.

ML & MP: Are we going to have more physical facilities to cope with the rising number of students?

AB: We have a lot lined up in this regard. A new site for extended campus is being located so that we can have adequate number of large classrooms, staff chambers, library, laboratory, study pavilion and halls of residence. These futuristic schemes are capital-intensive and will take time to get through. Meanwhile we have to manage with the facilities that are there, or at a pinch, with some makeshift arrangements.

Are you going to do something right away?

AB: We have organized a small library with a lending counter but the holding is limited. As I said, we are planning to expand this facility. I believe online facilities in Sana'a University library are in the pipeline; one the information distribution is streamlined, we will be its beneficiary too. We are also getting in touch with the British Council library in Sana'a and other agencies to request them to share their resources with us.

ML & MP: What about postgraduate studies program in the college? Is there any likelihood in a couple of years hence?

AB: I really don't know. At present, I am concentrating my efforts on organizing graduate studies. Maybe we can add a few disciplines like the Faculty of Agriculture and a center a veterinary studies that can answer needs of Yemeni society. I imagine a university requires secure institutional foundations to build academic activities on. I hope our faculty will extend into the future and from the nucleus of a university whenever it comes up.

ML & MP: Do you find the arrangements for higher education in Yemeni universities okay?

AB: Yes, we are getting along all right within the possibilities that are there. F course, we need better funding and support, even so we have to make adjustments because the government has to meet far too many competing priorities and we have to forge ahead despite all odds.

ML & MP: Would you like to add anything more?

AB: Well, we Yemenis are fortunate to be alive at this moment when our society is engaging with modernism in a big way and the government, our educational institutions and the media, particularly the Yemen Times are speeding up the process of social change and development. We need to take a long look ahead, work hard find our feet in the new world.

Excerpts:
ML & MP: Dr. Abdul Basa, you have

ML & MP: The College needs a reading room for students during their leisure.

YOUTH FORUM

We Should be Employed

All of us know that our government is doing its best to support the education system. It is encouraging education, the corner stone of any development in any country. If there is an educated generation, the society is a developed one. In addition to that, the government has taken an important step to support investment in this regard so as to provide students with the opportunities to improve and develop themselves so that they can help develop the future of their country. As a direct result of the government support for investment in education, there is a large number of universities. It was believed that these universities will work side by side with the government ones for the benefit of students and to produce a new enlightened generation of Yemeni youths. So many students joined these universities with the hope of doing their best and showing themselves well and up to the expectations of other people. Unfortunately they came to discover later that they were actually fooled by joining such universities. You know why? So far those universities do not enjoy the same legal status as the government ones. Hence, the graduate students passing out from these universities are not employed finding themselves in streets. Despite all the trouble they have undergone to graduate, they come to face the bitter truth of being idle nowhere to go. To make matters worse there was a circular by the Ministry of Civil Services not to employ these graduates as if they are not Yemenis. We are leaving this crucial issue to our government with the hope that it will do something to stop this practice. It is not at all fair to leave these students in the limbo.

Finally, we do hope that our government would give us a quick relief from this impasse.

By: Abdo Mohammed Al-Abadi
Taiz

Darling

let fools say whatever they care. Let us read our hearts' throbs oh dear. Make our love purge the foul atmosphere And absolve it by a drop of our tear. Remember the day when we broke all the bars, And our heart throbs surpassed the twinkling stars. Each other, we never caressed but solemnly vouched as a vicars. But fate wrought her magic by sending you so far. My heart is as dark as a char, And my figure's a broken guitar The red blood's darker than the tar Until I know, my darling, where you are.

Khalid A. Ali Al-Quzahy
College of Education, Mahweet

Hope is Still There for Yemen

Before my departure to Yemen, I met an old friend who happened to be in Yemen long time ago. In our conversation, he asked me why I decided to visit Yemen, and according to him, "Yemen is still in the Stone Age". I disagreed with him and headed for Yemen. Unlike what I headed for a friend, I liked Yemen, and in particular its people. Contrary to what I heard from a friend of mine, Yemen is progressing and in particular its free press is an envoy of its neighbors. Hopefully, the democratic process will eventually create a new democ-

cratic Yemen. I would also like to commend the contribution of "Yemen Times" in the development of the democratic process. Please keep up the superior job you are doing. Yemen Times will remain to be the beacon of hope for free journalism in Yemen.

Abdulhamid A. Mohammed
USA

Let's Side with Our President

Please allow me to jot these few lines for to the general public and Yemenis in particular. I would just like to advise all Yemenis to stand behind the President His Excellence Ali Abdullah Saleh. I understand that his job is truly tough. I would like to tell the Yemen people regardless of their political affiliation, that to build and establish a strong nation, people need to forget their differences. As a Kenyan citizen of Yemen origin, I always pray to The Almighty Allah to give patience, direction and energy for the President, the Yemen parliament (which I watch on the TV) and the People of Yemen. I believe that we can be the SUPERPOWER of the whole world if we really sit and work towards one AIM and one INTEREST (YEMEN) I really feel happy to have been able to put these few words of mine in the Yemen Times Online and hope to have this letter printed in the YEMEN TIMES for the general public. Long live Yemen.. Long live our beloved leader Ali Abdullah Saleh.. Long live the Yemeni people..

Hussein Saleh Ali

Crossword Puzzle

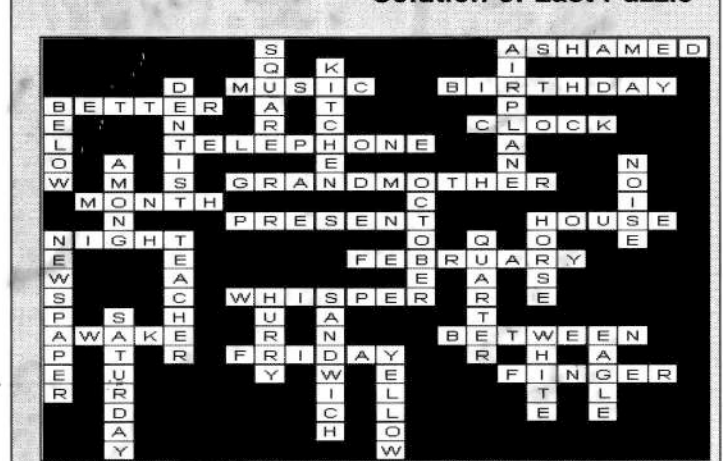
Find out the names of 30 countries and cities to make the title above. Look closely up, down, across, back and diagonally in both directions.

- A= Capital of Jordan.
- H= Country of the Dutch.
- A= In the Arabian Gulf, near Dubai.
- P= The language here is Polish.
- P= Land of the "lamas"
- Y= Country recently broken after a long war.
- E= The land of the pyramids.
- I= Famous for the Taj Mahal.
- D= The best dairy products are from here.
- M= A small country in the Mediterranean.
- U= An African country.
- B= The capital of Germany.
- A= A neighbor country of Canada.
- R= Country famous for delicious pizzas.
- A= Commercial capital of Yemen.
- K= A state in the USA.
- F= Home of the Eiffel Tower.
- R= A city in Morocco.
- O= A Japanese city.
- M= and Oman.
- Y= One of the oldest Islamic nations.
- E= A Country ruled by a Queen.
- M= City famous for bull fighting.
- E= Country in the west coast of Southern America.
- N= The capital of which is Oslo.
- T= The capital of Iran.
- I= The president Saddam is here.
- M= A holy city for the Moslems.
- E= A country opposite Yemen.
- S= The long-legged Italy kicked poor..... right into the sea.



PREPARED BY:
 Mrs. Ameena Nahed Ashraf

Solution of Last Puzzle



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Orchids in Yemen Part 3 & Final

Barbara Evans

The more we looked for orchids in Yemen, the more inquisitive we became about their recent history. From the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries onwards expeditions had been sponsored by the great and good of Europe, not only concerned with philological queries about the interpretation of the Bible, but also to forge trade routes, and answer many geographical, ethnological and archaeological puzzles. Not least amongst these unknowns was the natural history of the world. As well as this, in every expedition there was an element of rivalry. It could be argued that the 'Arabian Journey' to Egypt and Yemen- which was to have on board a philologist, a naturalist and astronomer, -was initiated by the King of Denmark and Norway to counter the success of the Royal Swedish Academy of Science whose first president was the brilliant botanist and taxonomist Linnaeus. To be fair, the expedition was mounted, with some courts; Pehr Forsskal, the chosen naturalist was, in fact, Swedish and has studied under Linnaeus, Carsten Niebuhr the surveyor was Hanoverian, whilst only the philologist, Frederick Christian von Haven, was Danish. Departing from Copenhagen in January 1761 the trials and tribulations

of this expedition are well documented and worth reading. It is a marvel that any material collected on the journey ever reached home, for the botanist died in Yarim on 5 July 1763; Carsten Niebuhr, the sole survivor, having traveled on to India and then home overland, was away six years in all. Great credit is surely due it him, for after working ten further years he had published not only his own reports but almost all of his perished colleagues' results too. Three orchids were found by Pehr Forsskal, *Holothrix aphylla*, *Eulophia petersii* and *Eulophia streptopetala* var. *rueppelii* (modern nomenclature) so when we first found the little *Holothrix aphylla* on the stony graveyard in 1983, it was as though we were in a time warp, for no one else, we thought, had discovered it since 1762. Our moment of glory was brief, however, for later we read in a Kew Bulletin published in 1979, that it had already been re-discovered that same year, as indeed had the other two, by John Wood who sent samples to Kew Garden in London for little orchid did not flower regularly each year, so perhaps both he and we were just lucky to find it. Far from being deterred, we were even enthusiastic to use every outing from Sana'a to search elusive exotics. Nobody we knew seemed to talk "orchids", let alone "botany", apart that is from an occasional visitor to Yemen, a French geologist called Patrice

Christman who once told us he had seen a pinkish orchid (*Eulophia petersii*,) near Taiz, on a previous visit, long before we saw it ourselves, in 1989. A great orchid enthusiast, he had eagerly photographed the tiny *Holothrix aphylla* (and us with it!)



As beautiful as can be

petersii is one of these. But some, such as the green *Habenaria*, are unbearable difficult, especially when out in the field with nothing more than a general book of flowers of Europe to use as a guideline. To pick them would be anathema; we knew they were rare, but 'rare' meaning 'possibly unknown'! Once in 1983, traveling mid-morning over the bumpy track from Ibb west to the Mashwara Pass, with a slightly impatient family aboard a tightly packed and therefore uncomfortable Landrover, we spotted several flowering heads of a *Habenaria*. There was no time to draw it, let alone paint, for the family had the Red Sea in mid-an empty beach, a cool swim and picnic under the shade of the doum palms. For them, to arrive was better by far to travel hopefully, or so it seemed. They were fretful as we still had an enormous journey ahead of us, a couple of hundred kilometers, and were not absolutely sure of where we would camp. But I have played Eurydice once too often; the thought of traveling on with only my memory to trust, was too great. My heart and soul would forever look back, for who knew when we could return to the same remote spot where we found them. For better or worse I picked one; the stem of this precious cargo was padded in damp newspaper an old drinks can, lodged in a corner of the wooden chop-box where flower heads would not be crushed. Then on we drove, back through Ibb and Taiz, down through Kuzayjah, and swinging north at Mafraq al Mukha we followed the concrete Russian road until we reached Wadi Urfan. By this

time black thunder streaked with threads of golden lightning were grumbling away to the south of us, and we were uncertain whether the powdery sandy soil of the wadi would be kind to us if the rain should come. Yet we bumped on across the empty landscape, arriving at the beach at Mawhij, not unusually with thumping headaches all round.

No doum palms! No shade! And the tide was out. Somehow we rigged up a merciful shelter, for although there seemed to be no sun, radiant heat came from the sky, the already traumatized orchid would otherwise curl up and die away from its cool mountain home. Whilst John and Mike went off fossicking and bird watching along the beach, I did my best to draw and paint; mad dogs and Englishmen- and women- they say, go out in the mid-day sun. Had we never found another, had the flowers perished, would this *Habenaria* attenuate be recognizable from my painting? Dire thoughts. Dire straight. I was allowed about an hour, then pack up we must. It was done, though, with never enough time to show the intricacies of its three dimensional structure and yet retain the soul, the essence- art, not all science. We packed again, and drove on and on until we came to Mansuriyah where we turned east and spent a marvelously moonlit night camped on a pottery -packed midden at al Midman, sleeping on Houndsfield in the open air, though under mosquito nets. When we did arrive home a few days later, the flower was alive, but of course we still had no books to lead us through an analysis of its exact structure, to find the name. In fact all of the orchids we found were drawn before I could find any way of identifying them. Only later did we find it, thanks to Philip Cribb's key in the 1979 Kew Bulletin; one or two other books were useful, if only by a process of elimination of photographs, and these books I also list here. Orchids in this land are rare and should not be picked unless with direct instruction on how to preserve and send them for identification to a well known herbarium for identification.

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