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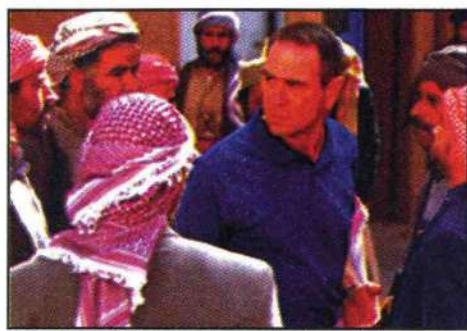
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"RULES OF ENGAGEMENT", IRRESPONSIBLE MOVIE DEGRADING YEMENIS

SHAME!

It is unanimously agreed by all the Yemeni viewers that the latest Paramount movie, "Rules of engagement" is a shame on Hollywood, and will continue to be considered a monstrous movie production for years to come. The movie, starring Tommi Lee Jones and Samuel L. J has explicitly degraded Yemenis, and brought disrepute to Yemen as a country of armed terrorists too dangerous to deal with



A caption of the movie taken in Sanaa City

without using heavy weapons and artillery fire. Here is a quote taken from the producers about how it pictured portraying Yemenis as dangerous terrorists: "When the Embassy of the

USA in Yemen is surrounded by a large crowd of demonstrators, Col. Terry Childers, USMC, is ordered to lead a squadron of Marines to bolster security at the embassy. He has orders to evacuate the ambassador and his family if the situation turns violent. A few short hours after Childers launches his mission, the ambassador's safety is secured, but three of Childers' men are dead, along with more than the 80 Yemeni men, women and children killed by Marine gunfire. Childers now faces a court-martial for violating the rules of engagement by killing unarmed civilians. He denies the charge, contending the protesters were armed and had

opened fire on the Embassy. But it appears that the government has made the colonel the fall guy for an ugly diplomatic crisis: the men who could have testified on his behalf have been killed in action, one of the witnesses seems to be lying, and the President's National Security Adviser destroys evidence that might help Childers' case. Childers refuses to go down quietly and turns to his longtime friend, Hays Hodges, to defend him." Several entertainment reporters smell a racist mood in the way the story has unfolded. The film portrays Yemenis as a people who call for Jihad and indulge in killing of Americans and foreigners wherever they find them. It is expected that strong protest to the movie would continue and intensify.

Complete report on P 7.



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	DEP.	ARR.	DEP.	ARR.	
Monday	02.10	09.45	Sunday	14.15	23.35
Thursday	02.10	09.45	Wednesday	14.15	23.35
Friday	02.10	09.45	Thursday	14.15	23.35

Yemenia		Yemenia	
FRANKFURT	SANA'A	FRANKFURT	SANA'A
LONDON	DEP-SAH	DEP-SAH	DEP-SAH
PARIS	DEP-SAH	DEP-SAH	DEP-SAH
ROME	DEP-SAH	DEP-SAH	DEP-SAH

Islamic Groups: Intensified Activity to Recruit Students to Fight in Chechnya

Several students have reported to Yemen Times that they have been asked to join an Islamic Jihad group and travel to Chechnya to participate in the holy Islamic rebel fight against the so-called "Russian occupation" of the Islamic republic of Chechnya.

Similar requests and offers were made to young Yemenis in mosques in a confidential manner. They said the Islam is calling us for Jihad, and that they will sponsor our travel and living expenses once they arrived in Chechnya.

More on Page 2

Memorial Ceremony for Ms. Wendy

A memorial ceremony in memory of Ms. Wendy Van Der Lubbe from the Netherlands was held at the Police Academy Club on Wednesday, April 12.

The ceremony was attended by a large number of people who came

to condole the demise of Ms. Wendy, who worked as the UN-AIDS coordinator in Yemen since March 1999. Ms. Wendy was found dead in her car on Tuesday April 4 in mysterious circumstances. After the initial investigations, it was found that she was killed by her Yemeni husband called Ali Al-Bahlouli for personal problems between them. The Dutch embassy in Sanaa paid condolence and expressed sympathy to her bereaved family.



Discussion of US Human Rights Report on Yemen

The open discussion meeting that took place last Tuesday morning in Hadda Tower was concluded in Sana'a after tense debate over the controversial points of the report. Other discussions will be run in Aden and Taiz as well. Among the main conclusions of the discussion was the lack of coverage of

remote and rural areas in which various human rights violations are said to have occurred - some of which were reported in Yemen Times. The response of the embassy was that it could not find enough information resources nor to contact people regarding these incidents. However, it hopes to be able to report them in its next year's report, sources added.

More on P 5

President Saleh Leaves for Tehran

On Wednesday April 19, President Saleh will be leaving for Tehran, on an official visit in response to the invitation of President Khatami.

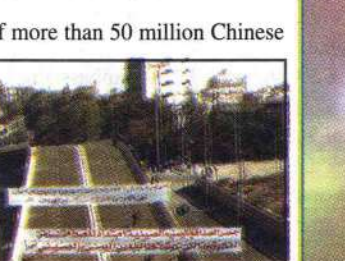
Mohamed Khatami, the Supreme Leader, Ayotallah Ali Khomani, and other senior Iranian officials. Topics of discussion will include ways of strengthening bilateral relations, and regional security issues.



It is worth mentioning that this is the first ever visit of President Saleh to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Friendship Bridge Inaugurated

On Thursday, April 13, the Friendship Bridge was inaugurated nation by President Saleh, in the presence of several government officials. The bridge, located in the crossroads of Zubairi and Abdulmoghni streets, is expected to reduce the crowded traffic at the crossroads. The Bridge, covering an area of 1 sq km, is the first of its kind in Yemen. It will enable 4 cars to pass at the same time, 2 from each direction. The Chinese government presented the bridge, which was built at cost



of more than 50 million Chinese Yen, and gifted to Yemen as a symbol of friendship and cooperation. The ones that would be quite relieved by the successful completion of the bridge would be Taj Sheba Hotel, as they have been waiting for the construction to complete for so long.

Non-stop Progress of Yemen Times

Not Steps, but Leaps Forward...

After reading the thousands filled questionnaires we realize that we are on the right track. 95% of the readers believe that the newspaper generally registered impressive progress after the death of its beloved founder, Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf. There are some criticism regarding the language, categorization, and other things. We assure our readers that we have taken them seriously, and have unleashed efforts to improve as much and as rapidly as possible. After all, we are all human, and some mistakes are natural to happen. However, our increasing circulation and readership motivates us and encourages us to continue to not only step forward, but leap forward to conform to international standards. Dear reader, keep in touch and witness the growth and progress yourself.

Successful Classifieds Section
After publishing the classifieds section for more than 4 issues, the response was simply incredible. "Where were you all this time" a reader said. We expect the circulation to double because of this section within a few months. Thanks to our readers and sponsors whom we will continue to serve with this excellent service for free.

Enhanced Categorization of Pages
Finally, the enhanced categorization of the Yemen Times that was long awaited, is now implemented. This issue's categorization is a result of months of research and feedback. We expect to have more exciting reports and surveys, we just don't want you to get bored. Unlike other newspapers, YT is creative & will stay that way!

Upcoming Supplements & Magazines
We are happy to announce that we will, in the near future, be publishing a deluxe supplement on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of Yemen's Unity. We will also publish a commercial Banking Guide as well. We are working on things that by far exceed your expectations. All you have to do is sit back and relax and we will do the rest!

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Military Spending Amounts to 70% Of The State Total Debt

A recent study by the Yemeni Center for Strategic Studies, headed by ex-president Ali Nasser Mohammed has revealed in absolute numbers the rapid spread of poverty in Yemen. The study expected that the number of the poor would rise to 7 million, 48% of Yemen's population, this year.

Yemen is one of the poorest countries in the Mideast. About 10% of its population benefits from 40% of the national wealth and revenues. The average per capita in a year has noticed a sharp fall from US\$ 686 to US\$ 275 while the budget deficit for 1999 reached YRs 83 billion. The study pointed out the increased number of poor people in Yemen from 4 million in 1996 to 7,922,000 in 1999. This is even less than what the ESCWA has recently reported as 47% which is the highest in the Mideast and Northern Africa.

Yemen's external debts have amounted to US\$ 7,735 billion in 1999, marking an increase of about US\$ billion in one year. In a table showing where debts go, the study came at the fact that about 71% of the total debt was spent on the military sector, while only 1.7% on the education sector and 4.3% on the agricultural sector.

Residents of Dhalie, Subject to Imprisonment by Authority

Chairman of the people's committee for solidarity in Dhalie Ameen Mohammed Thabet said the idea of founding the committee came out of realizing of the volume of suffering the inhabitants of Dhalie have been suffering since the war of 1994.

In recent press statements Mr Thabet has added that the war represented a violation of the simplest criteria of citizenship. It has at the beginning frozen all business activities and seized properties and to be developed then to chasing and imprisoning the sons of Dhalie without any legal bases.

Mr Thabet confirmed that the main conditions of the committee was that it had to be popular in formation whose major target was to establish solidarity, taking into consideration not to adopt programs of any of the political parties and not taking directives from any of them.

Al-Iryani Angry

Close sources have accused a number of government members and the ruling party of being behind the press campaign against Dr. Al-Iryani that accompanied the visit of a group of Israelis to Yemen. Two journalists who are very close to the government have reported Dr. Al-Iryani meeting with the Israeli tourists at his house, which caused his anger. The same sources added that Dr. Al-Iryani had asked a well-known journalist to provide him with the names of those who try to hold him responsible for Yemeni-Israeli relationship.

In a statement to the Middle East newspaper Al-Iryani denied having met with the Israeli tourists. Moreover, he said that the visits of Israelis to Yemen had been going on

since 1984 and that they would not stop since they were not holding Israeli passports.

Inmates Appeal To Human Rights Organizations

A number of inmates of Jahran prison district, Dhamar governorate, have sent an urgent letter of appeal to the representative of human rights organization in Yemen complaining of their suffering from bad health conditions and maltreatment at the hands of Jahran security administration.

In their letter of appeal the inmates demanded the organization to pay a visit to their prison to see its deteriorated too small building and its unhealthy and disease-breeding condition.

The 20 appealing inmates, imprisoned in one small room, said they were being treated in a way worse than animals. They say they are treated with severity and deprived of the simplest attention a human being needs.

Changes in Security Apparatus in Sana'a

Yemen's ministry of interior has recently begun a large-scale changes in high ranking security posts included tens of police officers at 16b security stations, replacing them by young commanders from the Police Academy graduates.

Yemen Times sources said the changes came in response to sharp criticism from Human Rights Organization against some security men accused of committing violations against some citizens.

Interior minister Hussein Mohammed Arab said in a meeting with security commands that the said changes came in implementation of the principle of award and punishment and as a result of a series of mistakes and violations committed by former security commands. He added that his ministry was keen to make those changes as comprehensive in order to rectify security conduct and practices.

New Oil Exploration Deals in Yemen

An official at the Yemeni oil ministry said Tuesday that a group of international oil companies led by Occidental Petroleum had signed an agreement to explore for oil in Yemen's block 20, an area located between the governorates of Marib and Shabwa. Yemeni state-owned and private companies are to carry out initial studies and exploration, investing an estimated amount of \$ 16 million.

Yemen is a petroleum producing country with a current output of around 390,000 barrels of crude per day.

Qatari Emir and Iraq's Vice President Expected to Arrive in Sana'a

The Emir of the State of Qatar, His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifea Al Thane and the Iraqi Vice-President Taha Yassin Ramadan are expected to arrive in Sana'a to attend Yemen's celebration of Unification Day anniversary on May 22, Yemeni sources said Wednesday. President Ali Abdullah Saleh who had

sent invitations to all Arab heads of state to attend the said celebrations had earlier said he thought that the circumstances of sanctions imposed on Iraq could not allow Iraq's president Saddam Hussein to attend the celebrations.

Yemen that has only recently restored normal relations with Kuwait, has repeatedly called for ending the UN sanctions imposed on Iraq since 1990-1991 Gulf crisis.

Al-Esbo's Newspaper Chief Editor Attacked

An 8-man armed group attacked Thursday 14 the house of Mr. Hassan Al-Odayni, Chief Editor of Al-Esbo's, beating his nephew black and blue and stole an attache case containing a sum of money in addition to other things from the house. The victim was taken to hospital for treatment.

The incident was reported to Criminal Investigation Office and the Ministry of Interior but no measures were taken to arrest the 8 offenders. Instead of that the victim was subject to interrogation for three times.

On his part the Deputy Minister of Interior remarked that since the victim's age was 20 he was longer a teenage and he could bear the assault. Mr. Hassan Al-Odayni had last August survived an assault and kidnapping attempt and filed a charge against the Minister of Interior. The primary court gave a verdict in his favor but the minister appealed the decision.

Tribal Fighting in Khawlan Stopped

Mediators managed on Thursday to stop a fighting between Al-Makhrif district and Al-Ma'ayin district, who belong to upper Yamaneen tribe in Khawlan. The battle continued for three days. One person was killed and three others were injured. Some mediators said the fighting was caused by a single quarrel between two persons of both tribes.

Sheik Khalid Mohammed Al-Ghairi, sheik of Al-Yamaneen tribe, Khawlan said that mediators reached an armistice between the two parties to avoid more problems. He pointed out that there were some hidden hands behind the fighting. They aim at creating tension within the tribe, especially after the earlier kidnapping incident of the Polish ambassador.

Israeli Visits To Yemen Frozen

Israel has recently decided not to go ahead in conducting visits to Yemen after the latest of Islah's leaders' warnings that the Israeli government described as serious.

Israel's retraction coincides with the hopes of Yemeni leaders to have a secure and peaceful atmosphere, especially during the celebrations of the 10th anniversary of unification.

Many parties, as well as outstanding social figures have condemned the visit and accused the Yemeni government of beginning the normalization course with Israel. On its part the government stated that people of Yemeni origin have the right to come back home as far as they do not hold Israeli passports.

Children Parliament 2000

The Elections Supreme Committee has announced winning members of the children parliament 2000. The election took place in 31 schools, 11 of which are girls governmental schools, 10 boys governmental schools, 4 mixed private schools, 3 boys private schools, Yemeni handicapped society, Al-Noor Center for Blinds and Sana'a Orphanage.

The election targeted 20 thousand students of the elementary classes in the 31 schools. The number of voters reached 16,159, candidates 386, 205 boys and 181 girls. 57 polling stations were distributed among the schools under the supervision of 26 electoral committees. On April 12, 12,927 voters participated in the elections to choose 31 representatives.

Yemeni Student Brutally Beaten In India

A Yemeni student was brutally beaten up by Indian security police during a demonstration staged by Muslims in New Delhi. Indian policemen broke into the students' apartments and beat them with clubs.

The Yemen Times has received a letter from the Yemeni victim who, at the same time, informed the Yemeni ambassador to India on the incident, wondering about such practices.

Mrs. Assoswa Ambassador To The Netherlands

The newly appointed ambassador to the Netherlands Mrs. Amat Al-Aleem Assoswa took constitutional oath before the President Ali Abdullah Saleh on Saturday. On the occasion, Mrs. Assoswa expressed her happiness to represent Yemen in the diplomatic corps that had been confined to men. A Republican decree to appoint Mrs. Assoswa an ambassador of Yemen to the Netherlands was issued last Wednesday.

Gas Export Postponed

The government has recently announced postponement of gas exportation to 2004, canceling the previous date 2001. "The period was needed for the company to clinch its sale contracts for the Indian market," a source from the Yemen Gas Company said.

Jean Paul Azalbert was quoted as telling a recent energy conference in Oman that the construction of gas pipelines, and a liquefaction plant would be announced at the end of this month to be awarded in 2001.

The construction would take more than 41 months before launching exportation.

Yemen Gas Company revealed in December 1998 that it aimed at signing an agreement with British Gas for Pipavav with 2.65 million tons of gas a year.

The Yemen Gas Company has gas reserves of 10.2 trillion cubic feet which is planned to be exported through at least 25 years as well as to be supplied for the domestic market of Sanaa through another pipeline.

Post Graduate Studies Fees Zoom

The Sana'a University Board issued last week a decision concerning fees of post graduates studies. According to the new decision, students should afford all fees of their post graduate studies which are estimated at YRs 750 thousand for Master students and YRs 1 million for Doctorate students. Academics and students protested against the decision and regarded it as disappointing and does not take into consideration conditions of Yemeni students.

A reliable source has told the Yemen Times that the decision was agreed upon on February 12, 2000.

Aden Receives 244 Tourists

Japanese ship, Aswaka, anchored at Aden port, carrying aboard more than 422 tourists from different nationalities on a tour of Aden.

"A number of tourist programs as well as organized trips to tourist and ancient sites have been planned to receive tourists in Aden," a source told the Yemen Times in Aden indicating that more tourists are expected to arrive in Aden in the coming days.

Towards A Pollution-Free Environment

More than 100 university teachers from 7 Arab countries participated in the first conference on Natural Resources which took place on Saturday at Taiz University. The conference discussed issues related to the protection of the environment, conservation of natural resources, as well as prevention of careless use of water. In his inaugurating speech, governor Ahmad Al-Hajry highlighted the importance of such a conference. On behalf of the private sector, Mr. Shawqi Ahmad Ha'el delivered a speech in which he asserted the private sector's commitment to support the environmental issues, as well as those

related to natural resources.

President of Taiz University Dr. Abdullah Al-Sheibah also delivered a speech in which he hailed the event as a milestone in the history of the University.

The conference which has adopted the motto "Towards A Pollution-Free Environment" will continue for over a week. An interesting sidelight of the conference is organized visits to a number of sites in the city.

Educational Meeting in Aden

Under the motto "A Step Towards Evaluating the Past", General Authority for Scientific Institutions held an educational meeting in Aden. The meeting took place at Al-Baihani scientific institution hall, on last Thursday, April 13, 2000. The meeting was attended by directors of schools, vice-directors of scientific institutions, inspectors of Qur'an schools, and more than 56 participants.

The General Manager of Scientific Institutions, Mr. Abdhakeim Hamid Ahmed welcomed Mr. Waheed Ali Rashid, Deputy Governor of Aden, Mr. Salem Mughlas, General Manager of Inspection Office at the Ministry of Education, and all guests who attended the meeting.

The participants discussed the papers presented on this meeting that recommended strategies for developing the educational level of students and ensuring qualitative and improvement of scientific institutions.

Halaqa Exhibition to Start

The Halaqa Yemen is organizing an exhibition in the Samsarat at Mansurah, the National Arts Center in the old city of Sana'a. About 22 German artists will show their work for the first time in Yemen. In May, 1999 the International Cultural Circle (Halaqa) organized Yemeni art exhibition in Aichach, in Germany. Further, in December 1999 6 Yemeni artists participated in art exhibition for a month in Germany.

The exhibition will be open from 16-26 April.

Training Course on Science and Technology

A 5-day training course on using computer in mathematics, co-sponsored by Aden University of Science and Technology and UNESCO, and financed by Italian government started April 15.

In the opening speech Mr. Abdulaziz Habtoor, Assistant Rector of Aden University pointed to the importance of the course and to the benefit of its technical side. He added that it will be moving from the theoretical to the practical work.

Official Source in Al- Jifri's Office States: "Al-Jifri has no idea of what has been reported in the official media."

An official source in Al-Jifri's Office stated that what has been reported nowadays in the official media pertaining to restoring Al-Jifri's estates including his house inhabited currently by the vice president, Abduh Raboh Mansoor, is not at all true and that Al-Jifri has no idea about what has been said about the reported case concerning his confiscated estates.

The same source confirmed that there has never been a verdict passed to confiscate his estates, nor there has been a case filed. However, he said all his estates were rather occupied illegally since war 1994. He also added that he has not received anything so far. One of his son's houses, for instance, has been taken to be used as a police station while the other one is occupied by a political security officer in Al-Baida. The same source concluded his statement saying that it will be a positive step if the news of restoring this estates is true.

Sony New Sales Center

Sony new sales center is going to be inaugurated on April 23, 2000 in Taiz city, Jamal Street in front of Himiar Hotel There will be big sales reaching for a month



World News

G - 77 Summit Concluded

The G - 77 states' summit concluded Friday evening its meetings in the Cuban capital Havana by adopting a unified stand on urging the rich countries to follow a fairer trade system, along with loan deals to put an end to "an economic racial discrimination order", as the Cuban president Fidel Castro had described it.

In its final statement, the 122-state G - 77 summit has called for the establishment of a just and democratic new world order allowing to bridge the gap between the rich and the poor countries. The statement has also called for restoration of confidence to the multi-lateral trade system and encouragement of dialogue between the north and the south, demanding at the same time the industrialized countries for granting the developing countries a favorite dealing in exports, especially through removing protectionism measures.

Although the G - 77 summit statement did not include any reference to issues that could instigate differences between the countries of the north and the south, the south protest against the north would be ineffective because of the economic relations network that pushes it to give priority to its interests in all events.

Yemen has participated in the summit conference in person of deputy premier, the foreign minister Abdul Qader Bajamal.

Denmark's Queen Margrethe - a 60th Birthday Celebrated

On April 16, 2000, it is the 60th birthday of Denmark's Queen Margrethe II, a monarch who scores top marks in domestic opinion polls, when it comes to

personal elegance, knowledge, intellectual and artistic abilities and not least her aptitude to communicate with her subjects in a way which captures their imaginations. She is the 54th in a direct line of Danish monarchs. She also rules over territories over and above the Danish mainland, since Denmark is in commonwealth with the Faeroe Island and Greenland, both of which have been autonomous since 1948 and 1979 respectively.

Queen Margrethe adopted the motto "God's help. Love of the people. Denmark's strength."

The tapestries will be put in place on her 60th birthday in the Great Hall of the Christiansborg Castle, which also houses the Parliament and where the queen often gives audience.

Oman negates signing an agree- ment for the joint defense with Iran

Sultan Qabus Bin Saeed of Oman negated last week that his country signed an agreement for joint defense with Iran, clarifying that his country signed an agreement for the security cooperation only with Iran. It is worthy to mention that the Iranian - Emirate relations are witnessing an obvious tension due to Tehran's domination of three Islands in the Gulf that the Emirates demands sovereignty over.

Blasts Rock Congo Airport Up to 40 Killed in Munitions Explosion
Distracted relatives milled through the hallways of a hospital overwhelmed by the dead and injured after explosions rocked Kinshasa's airport, killing at least 40 people. There were conflicting explanations of what caused the blasts, ranging from a short circuit to a soldier's dropping ammunition while unloading a plane full of weapons. Congolese state authorities did not release any casualty figures from the last week explosions.

Continued from page 1

Islamic Groups: Intensified Activity to Recruit Students to Fight in Chechnya

Yemen Times' informed political sources have this week disclosed that some groups of Islamic factions in Yemen are carrying out wide-scale campaign among university students to persuade them volunteer for fighting in Chechnya in return for tempting sums of money.

The sources told Yemen Times that those Islamic groups had taken students to some remote mountainous areas to listen to lectures and sermons about sacredness of Jihad as a religious duty. They added that many students were not able to sit for examinations because of their being busy in this matter. The sources have further mentioned that a long list of names of these Mujahideen is in possession of these groups who offer them a monthly salary of US \$500 in

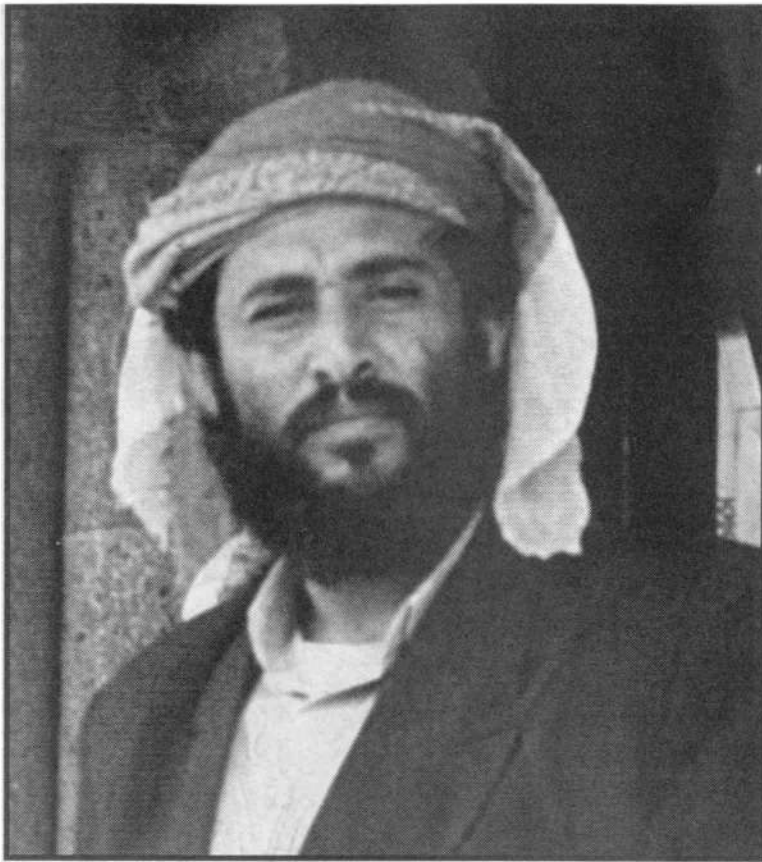
addition to housing, clothes and food. More than 200 Yemeni Mujahideen had earlier went to Chechnya, some of whom got killed and others wounded and brought back Yemen amidst strict official secrecy. Some other 30 Mujahideen had also gone to Pakistan to get military training before leaving to fight in Chechnya. One of them was wounded while trying to infiltrate into Afghanistan. Some reliable sources have confirmed that these groups receive direct help from Bin Laden who transfers millions of dollars to their account to help them be able to carry out their activity. One of 28 Yemeni Mujahideens was arrested in Jordan after the discovery of his involvement in such activity.

Sheik Ameen Al-Ukaimi to Yemen Times

“Conflicts Between Al-Jawf’s Tribes Emanate from Political Disputes”

Yemen is suffering from tribal disputes and kidnapping incidents, both of which have grave effects on our country.

Sheik Ameen Al-Ukaimi is a Member of Parliament for Al-Jawf governorate and member of the Consultative Council. He is also a member of the Islah party. Sheik Ameen has asserted that kidnapping of the American expert Kenneth White was masterminded by Al-Monkid Company because some officials in the government refused to settle its case. He also said that the incidents of Marib and Al-Jawf in July 1997, were a direct result of the government’s declaration of war against the citizens of these governorates which aimed at silencing their protests against raising kerosene prices. To shed light on this serious matter of kidnapping and its reasons and some other related issues, Hassan Al-Zayedi of The Yemen Times met Mr. Al-Ukaimi and filed this interview.



Q: What are the biggest and most important tribes living in Al-Jawf governorate?

A: All the inhabitants of Al-Jawf are tribesmen. There are many tribes living in Al-Jawf, the largest of whom is Dahma, and many other tribes branch from it like Bani Nawf, Hamdan and many others.

Q: Why are there continued wars and conflicts between these tribes?

A: Conflicts between Al-Jawf’s tribes result from political disputes. After the eruption of 26 September revolution Jawf’s tribes constituted a very big striking force possessing all types of weapons that pose threat to both Yemeni and Saudi sides. This has led to create seditions and wars among them. What is occurring now is the product of the current events in our country whether by officials in the government or by political parties.

In the past the family of Hameed Al-Deen used to think that if the tribesmen were educated that would pose a danger threatening their rule. Now, the politician say if these tribes calmed down and got reconciled, that would endanger their rule, which in my opinion, is a wrong conclusion.

Q: What about the incidents of Marib and Al-Jawf of 1997 between civilians and army units where more than 53 were killed? How you feel about the clashes with army units occurring every now and then in Al-Jawf?

A: Most of the clashes between tribesmen and the government are resulting from suffering of tribesmen and their unemployed youth as well as from the misbehavior by some government officials. As regards the 1997 incidents, they resulted from the government oppression of the citizens’ peaceful protests against the increase of prices the government tried to implement.

Q: What were the tribes’ requests and what means were used to have them met?

A: I was in London during that period, but the means the tribes had used were that they placed blocks on the main roads against government vehicles by uprooting trees and putting them across the roads, in order to calm the situation down so that nobody -not even the media- would know about it; The government declared war against these tribes.

Q: Al-Jawf governorate is one of the arable governorates where the civilization of Himyar and Ma’aeen were born. Many tourists come to visit Al-Jawf. However the kidnapping incidents may hamper tourism prospects there. What’s your comment on that and what measures do you think should be followed to put an end to them?

A: Al-Jawf has many arable lands and lots of water springs. However, agriculture does not flourish in it as it should be. The reason is that the gov-

ernment itself does not care much and fights agriculture and farmers in the governorate by following futile economic policies.

As regards historical places, Al-Jawf is famous for its ancient civilizations and ruins like the cities of Barkeet, Ma’aeen (the original city), Al-Sawda’a, Al-Bayda’a and many other cities. Unfortunately, the government is not bearing its responsibility in taking care of these ancient cities. Now, regarding the kidnapping phenomenon, I consider it a phenomenon that arises from inside the authority or as a result of pressures against the government from within itself. There are cases when citizens express their demands. Some of their demands focus on paving a road or building a medical unit or a school or even granting social security pensions. They want through these ways to send a message calling the attention of the government to their needs.

Q: What about the kidnapping incident of the American expert Kenneth White?

A: Sultan Al-Arada and I were not aware of the incident of kidnapping the American expert White until we were informed by the authority in Sana’a. We had no idea of the identity of the kidnappers till Sultan received a phone call from the kidnappers and it was then that the authorities in Sana’a were informed. Therefore, as members of the parliament we were accused of being responsible for this incident by some analysts and officials because they do not have enough information about the nature of the incident although in reality they are the actual people in charge. So, I would like to assure that we only knew about the incident after the news came from Sana’a.

Q: Was Al-Monkid really responsible for White’s kidnapping? How was the incident solved?

A: Basically, the incident was personal and then it was politicized. Several parties took part in triggering it. There were tribal parties as well as Al-Monkid company. The tribes, on the one hand think that their internal disputes are not paid due attention by the government to settle them Al-Monkid company wanted to press the government to settle its issues. I have learnt that the company had for some months before the kidnapping incident drawn a plot to execute the incident. It had then put it into action by using persons from Ma’areb and Al-Jawf.

Q: What details do you know about the mediation to release the kidnapped?

A: As I have said earlier, Sultan was told by telephone about the demands of the kidnappers. Then, we received the American expert and handed him over to Sana’a after reaching an agreement with them. As for mediation for solving the company’s issue, I believe

that the president, vice president and Sheik Abdullah Al-Ahmar are engaged as a commission for discussing it; Undoubtedly they would find a solution.

Q: Was the motives of the kidnapping to retrieve the rights of Al-Monkid Company?

A: Yes, that was a clear demand from them and it was discussed in a meeting with Sheik Abdullah Bin Hussein Al-Ahmar. This took place before the release of the American expert, but then things developed to separate the kidnapping incident from their case.

Q: People look at citizens of Al-Jawf as kidnapers and highwaymen and that Al-Jawf is a stronghold for them; What is your comment?

A: I would like to clarify that stealing cars and kidnapping incidents are means through which citizens to cause more troubles for the government. It is the authorities who passed its problems to Al-Jawf, but as for the people of Al-Jawf, they honor nobility, dignity and are famous for generous hospitality.

Q: Is it true that Al-Jawf has become a location for car stealing gangs? And are they merely inhabitants of Al-Jawf or do they come from other governorates as well?

A: Yes, that is true. However, those gangs come from all governorates like

Sana’a, Marib, Aden and others as well. This is an outcome of unemployment and deteriorated economic conditions.

Q: Is it also because Al-Jawf is situated close to Yemeni borders and due to continuous accusations against its residents?

A: Residents of Al-Jawf and Marib are not agents to anybody and the real

agents are inside the authorities and the proofs are many and clear.

Q: We notice that Al-Jawf area is a deserted governorate that lacks many public services. Why? What is your role as a parliament member?

A: It is clear that Al-Jawf governorate is neglected and this is the government’s policy. They do not want the inhabitants of Al-Jawf to be educated.

Moreover, they do not get equal treatment in employment. They are deprived of senior posts. firm that Bedouins are the genuine Arabs. There are many educated persons from Al-Jawf qualified for such posts. However, they are blamed to be Bedouins. I would like to confirm that Bedouins are the genuine Arabs.

Continued on page 4



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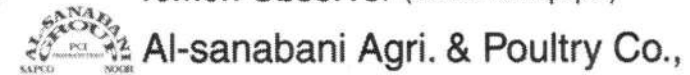


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Continued from Page 3

“Conflicts Between Al-Jawf’s Tribes Emanate from Political Disputes”

Q: Are you implying that if the people of the governorate run the administration they would do better and solve their problem?

A: Yes, that would have solved so many problems. However, the government does not want to do that. I believe that our people here are more qualified since they have better knowledge of the traditions and cus-

toms of their people and subsequently they would be more able to solve their own problems and disputes.

Q: Does this mean that officials in Al-Jawf cannot deal with the residents of Al-Jawf?

A: Yes, these officials are not aware of the traditions and habits of the inhabitants and therefore they cannot deal with them. How can they do so when they are not even familiar with the dialect of the people there?

Q: What is your task as a parliament member in providing public services for the government?

A: Our job is to spare not a single effort to end the clashes and disputes between tribes. We are also attempting to provide education and health facilities in the governorate. Unfortunately, the government is exercising an unethical policy against the citizens of Marib and Al-Jawf.

Q: Being one of the main Sheikhs and a parliament member, do you meet with the president and inform him about your needs and problems?

A: Of course, we meet sometimes with the president and officials in the government and inform them about our problems and the ways there are to be solved. However, this has led us to nowhere because there is not an honest will from the government to do anything in this regard.

Q: As Sheikhs, do you try to solve the problem between tribes and does the government help you in this?

A: I frankly say that the government only helps when this would in a way or another serve its interests. However, if there was problem regarding the rights or disputes of the tribes, the government creates other problems, and puts hindrances

against any constructive efforts.

Q: Being aware of all aspects of these problem, why do not the sheikhs do something to end it?

A: Many of the Sheikhs are subject to pressures and threats of losing their personal interests. Moreover, there are still some people who are weak and those are used to ignite problems and this as I said is the policy.

Q: Nowadays, we can observe many young men who have managed to survive these problems and come to the capital to pursue their education, but they soon get killed? What is the reason behind this?

A: I would like to say again that officials in the government have taken the share of Al-Jawf’s civilians jobs and scholarships. At the end of the year they send their sons to Al-Jawf so they would get the scholarships. In addition, those who want to pursue their education in the capital either get killed in front of his college or in the capital’s streets. We can take for instance what happened to Bin Al-Kadi who was killed in front of the Medicine Faculty and Bin Al-Aradah and Bin Ka’alan who were murdered in front of the Police Faculty. The government cannot provide safety for those students even in Sana’a. It is probably because officials do not want people of Marib and Al-Jawf to be educated because they are known to be smart and to always secure the first rank in their colleges and universities. These officials would like to save all government positions for their sons and they fear that if there were educated people from this governorate, they would be forming a potential danger to the government. Finally, I would like to thank the Yemen Times for publishing the truth always without fear of any party or running after a personal interest.

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US Human Rights Report on a Public Discussion

Human rights violations are a stigma in countries claimed to be democratic. It is this violation that has been blocking the establishment of the civil society.

Unfortunately, human rights are no more than files kept in drawers of the International organizations while many repressive activities are practiced by repressive governments.

The file of Human rights in the Arab world in general, and in Yemen in particular presents the worst images of suppression and freedoms constraint. This can be easily shown through how the state's establishments perceive democracy, as well as through the mechanism of decision-making.

In the public discussion held recently by the American Embassy on the Yemen Report on Human Rights, Mr. Steven Walker made clear some of the important points mentioned in the report and answered the questions raised by the attendants.

Mr. Walker highlighted the steps the report has gone through before its last version with taking into consideration the Yemeni officials' views. However, political sources are of the view that the American report on Human rights in Yemen contains less than what should really appear.

Steven Walker statement:

The human rights report was begun in the Carter administration, in the mid 1970s. At that time human rights became an important focus of the US foreign policy. During the mid 1970s, Congress mandated required that the Department of State write a report on the human rights situation of all countries in the world every year. The purpose for the report is to provide Congress with more information about different countries in the world. Congress is based to make the allocations for humanitarian assistance and overseas the foreign affairs. Here in Yemen, the United States and Yemen are engaged in a very lively dialogue on democratization and human rights. Our report forms the basis for this dialogue every year. The US views itself as a partner with Yemen on democratization and human rights. On a personal level, I have to tell you that my job is fascinating because my job is to try to understand and watch the dialogue as Yemen emerges into a democratic country. The Yemeni politics and society are a complex, not easy to be understood, but very interesting. Compiling the process of writing the human rights report every year is one piece of my effort and the embassy's effort of trying to understand Yemen. Regarding the preparation of human rights report I talked to a wide variety of people. I talked to government officials, members of the opposition, and all groups in the opposition. I also spoke to human rights activities and journalists. My desire is to speak with people who are anti-government, pro-government, and people who are relatively neutral. The idea behind that is so at the end of the process I have a reasonable idea. My goal in writing this year report and the next year report is to be as balanced, objective, and neutral as possible. We will identify problems and call attention to violations of human rights and try to be as accurate as possible. We will also report in this report on the progress that the Yemeni government has made. That is, we will make sure that the government gets credit for the progress it has made. The report is designed to be an assessment, not something just to criticize. The important point is that there are no politics behind the report. We get the instructions from the Congress which are the same instructions either here, in China, Canada, or Rwanda, etc. The final report that you get is the product of the input from the embassy, and the Human Rights Bureau of the State Department. Just as I have my sources so the officials in the Human Rights Bureau have their sources. So, in July, we receive and all embassies receive a

set of detailed lengthy instructions. One of the reasons that they are detailed is that both the Department of State and the Congress want to avoid the accusations that the report is political. So what happens is that I write my draft and then send it to the State Department and the Human Rights Bureau will look at it and review it. Then, they send it back to us, after editing it. Next, we will look at it and check these changes to see which ones are appropriate and which ones are not. After that, we send it back to the State Department which will check the report again. They may agree on some points and on some others may not. However, we insist on some points that they are the right ones. Therefore, it is just like being bargaining. Then, the final report is issued and it represents the agreement of the Embassy and the Bureau of Human Rights in the Department of State. One thing I did not mention in the process is that this year, for some but not all of the new things in the report, I discussed and drafted them to Khalid Al-Akwa at the Supreme National Committee for Human Rights. I did not give everything, but a good many. My intention on doing this was to say here is what we have "How does the government feel about this?" Perhaps there are mistakes, or exaggerations, or perhaps I have some information but not all of it. What Mr. Akwa did is that he met with different members of the government concerned and discussed these violations. For example, some of these violations belonged to the press, so he went to the Ministry of Information and so forth. Mr. Akwa convoked a group of representatives from different ministries and they discussed them. Then, we met with Mr. Khalid Al-Akwa, and discussed the committees' and government's reactions. Some of the changes he suggested, I accepted while some others I did not accept. One of the reasons on describing this process here is that there is nothing secret or mysterious about the process of human rights report. I told the same thing to people in the opposition, to people in the government and to human rights activists so that they give me their views or examples of problems or violations of human rights. I told each side that I will discuss their stories confidentially with the other parties.

The last note I would say on the preparation of the report is that we need your input. I mentioned before that I have met with some of you, and others I hope to meet with, but everyone here and people anywhere in Yemen concerned with human rights should please feel free to come and talk with me.

There are numerous examples of specific human rights violations, and some examples of improvements, but the two main human rights problems in Yemen are first problems of judiciary, and the second is that security forces often are not held accountable. I point out here that although I am talking about problems in Yemen, Yemen is not alone in having these problems. Human rights is an issue in every country including the United States. The first problem in judiciary is of corruption. Often times, unfortunately, judges can be bribed to decide in favor of one side. There are also instances of governmental interference in judiciary system. Although, we know it is not government policy to do this, but some members of the government are doing that. Many of the judges are also poorly trained. As for the issue of accountability in the security forces, unfortunately, in many cases when human rights violations are made public, the security officials responsible for them are not prosecuted. And again torture is not a government policy, but it still takes place. The same problem with arbitrary arrest. The main point that I would like to make is that the goal is not to have a perfect human rights record.

That is impossible. What is possible is to have a mechanism, so that when human rights abuses take place, the violators are punished, the justice is served and the citizens have legal recourse, when they have a problem that they can get it solved. It is essential that citizens have faith in their security forces and police. I would like to offer a personal comment and observation from my discussions with Yemenis. This comment is that there seems to be a difference in political culture. Usually, in the United States when a human rights violation occurs, raising the issue in public, prosecuting the guilty people, and having those who are responsible accountable for that is seen as a sign of strength of the system. In the Arab political culture, there seems to be some shame associated, and so the desire is not to make that accountability public. In my view identifying and fixing this process is a sign of strength. As you know, for example, two years ago in New York city 4 or 5 police men detained a person from Haiti, and they mistreated him. They beat him, and with apologies to the ladies present here, he was raped with a stick. That was an extremely terrible case of human rights violation in New York city. The police officers responsible for this violation were brought to trial, found guilty and sentenced to jail. That strengthened the fact that the police department could isolate and prosecute the bad people and that showed that most of the police officers respect human rights and are good police officers. The fact that the victim was black and the guilty were white created a public debate in the United States and especially, in New York about whether police officers treat the black people differently than white people. That is a very controversial topic in the United States. But the fact that the public is talking about this and that the police is criticized is a sign of strength and healthiness, not a sign of weakness.

My final comments are as follows: The first, there are many Yemenis who are very interested and committed to democracy and human rights. Several people have talked to me at length already about the report. A criticism that has emerged of the report is that the political and social system of Yemen is very complex, very difficult and to understand it, it requires a greater analysis, a deeper treatment. You cannot really accurately describe Yemen in a report just this long. That criticism is true, I think you could write a book every year about human rights and democratization in Yemen dealing, for example, with the influence of tribe in Yemen, of religion, and that of Yemeni tradition. Unfortunately, the report that we need to submit every year has to be limited in length. I should mention for those of you who are interested in the State Departments' human rights reports in other countries besides Yemen that if you want to compare between what is happening here and outside Yemen, these reports are on the internet. The State of Department has a web page called US department of state and all the reports are there.

Secondly, one of the things I have sometimes heard in various discussions or meetings of human rights is that the focus on human rights and democracy is a Western input, something strange and foreign for the Arab society or that human rights is Zionist propaganda. I am not an expert on Islam, but I have read some parts of Qura'an and Hadith. I have also talked to religious experts and Moslems and lived in several Islamic countries. I have found personally that the idea that human rights are either foreign to Islam or that Moslems are not concerned with human rights is just false and offensive. There are certain differences between some aspects of Islamic law and some aspects of international human rights law, but, in gen-

eral, I have found in Moslem religious practice an emphasis on brotherhood, justice and on respect for the things that we would consider human rights. For those in the Arab society that would say that the Arabs should not be concerned with human rights, I would say that they are wrong. The final comment I have is that, as I have said earlier, the US views itself as a partner with Yemen. Yemeni democracy will be and should be different from American democracy, just as British democracy is different from US democracy. Your input is important to us, whether that input is through participation in group meetings like this or individually.

Yemen Times question:

Q: Many observers see that the report focused on violations that took place in Sana'a. Will this be the case in future reports?

A: This is a good comment. It is unintentional that there are many violations in Sana'a. I will be open as I travel more around the country to hearing about violations and improvements all over the country. I urge everyone to provide me with information. The Embassy does not have an information gathering mechanism. We have no organization to go out and get information. Mr. Steven Walker makes some visits outside Sana'a when he has time. Therefore, you must provide information because we have no mechanism to do it.

Ahlam Abdurqaeb Salam, Chairman of child and mother department at Saba Information Agency, managing editor of Al-Ehya Al-Alamia

Q: What are the standards that you depend on when writing the report? The report did not come up with information about women issue and

the hurdles they face. so what are the basis of this information? Have you launched field survey and visited jails to see their conditions there? and have you also reflect their suffering in the practical as well as political life?

A: First, there are a variety of sources to collect information. One such source, for example, is that I take Yemen Times where I come to read an article about torturing a person in a prison. This will show that there is some kind of a violation. So, I properly call and ask him to give me more details about this. Then, I would contact perhaps Khalid Al-Akwa, or any other person who could give me more information. I may also contact some officials at the prison. I may also ask

about his event in social sessions "Makyal". At the end, I would look at all the information I had and make the best assessment possible. This is, an example, on how can I collect information. But the very nature of human rights problems, you cannot have a document with a perfect prove, so you have to do the best you can. Regarding women, one of the things I would hope to focus for the coming next year's report is to focus on issue of women on prisons.

The issue of women in Yemen is a very big and important issue. It has limited space in the report. However, I think that some of the changes we have made in this year's report on the section of women have made it a bit more accurate.

Adel Imam Holds Press Conference Today



Good Offices ambassador of the UNHCR in the Mideast and North Africa Adel Imam arrived on Saturday in Sana'a on an official visit to get acquainted with problems of refugees in Yemen. Mr. Adel Imam visited refugee camps in Aden and Abyan and met with a number of senior government officials to discuss the refugees issue. Mr. Nabil Dawood Othman Director of UNHCR, Aden, said in a press statement that the visit was a success. He also said that during the visit Mr. Imam had seen that how each Somali refugee was receiving a sum of 50 dollars while on their way back home. The Egyptian Embassy gave a dinner party in honor of Mr. Imam at the embassy premises yesterday evening. Mr. Adel Imam holds a press conference today at the Sheraton Hotel in Sana'a to highlight the outcome of his visit.



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The Business of Weaving and Embroidery in Yemen

Mahyoob Al-Kamali

Embroidery of national popular clothes is an art and profession in Yemen, communicated through successive generations. One of the factors that helped the spread of this profession is the difficulty to find other job opportunities, a matter which forced some sections of our people to turn to practice of this craft.

Despite huge development in clothes industry, a great number of Yemenis are still clinging fast to the handicraft of clothes embroidery. Markets are rich with products of this artifact, reflecting cultural traditions rich with historical and social meanings of Yemeni generations who have not departed from their popular handicraft.

Hand weaving profession in Yemen is one of the genuine crafts that has become a popular industry depended upon by thousands of families for their livelihood. One remarkable thing is that the new embroidered products have been given new names and decorations while preserving of their traditional features, mixed with a sense of modernity.

In an attempt to preserve these handicrafts, the government has adopted a small loans project to revive these crafts and compensate people for lack of job opportunities and ultimately to limit unemployment. The project received support from the World Bank and donor countries, especially Holland, amounting to \$ 9 million. A number of sewing and embroidering centers were established in different villages to help women earn livelihood and at the same time preserve this valuable handicraft.

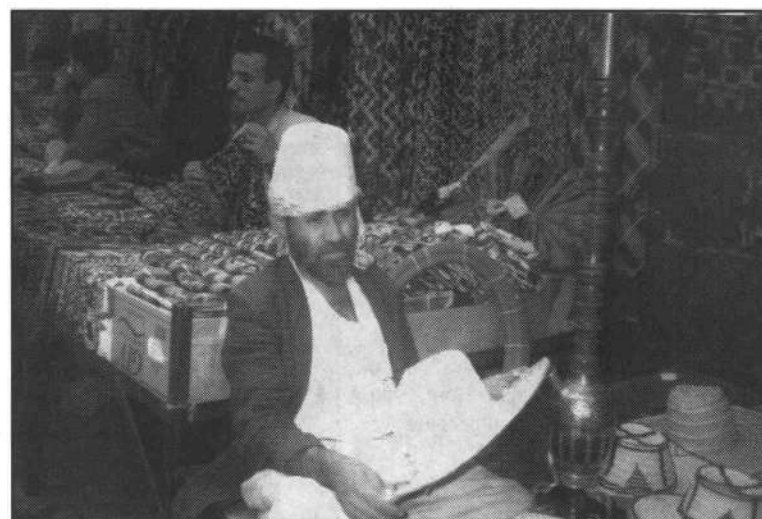
Artisans are intent to apprentice their sons and daughters on the basics of hand weaving including adorning



clothes with certain symbols representing natural surroundings, planets, stars, names of God, verses from the Holy Qura'an, prayers to God, etc. The implementation of the National Center for Protection and

of expression of their sensitive feelings and latent talents.

Interestingly, some social beliefs are associated with wearing these hand-made clothes; for example, in some



Development of Handicrafts in Sana'a is really a timely step forward to protect our heritage and history. The center provides training in various kind of richly embroidered costumes combining artistry and social traditions. Women have actually excelled themselves in this art for they find it a way

villages the bridegroom has to wear a waistcoat, most often in black and white. This is actually very important, especially in some families in the old city of Sana'a who believe that such costumes emphasizes the bridegroom's strength and capability to breed children and live happily with



his wife. Therefore, this costume was commonly called "Yalak" meaning waistcoat.

In the West of Yemen, Tehamah, for instance, bridegrooms prefer to wear a cap commonly referred to as a

monies. Such costumes lend on old people a sense of reverence.

There are many types of such costumes made for me, most popular of which is "Zanah" meaning a brocade.



"Khawzaran". It is made of palm leaves and is embroidered with some colorful threads that bestows on the wearer a magnificent beauty.

There are special costumes for old people as well; for example, there are special robes to be put on their shoulders in religious as well as social cere-

It is an embroidered garment made of silk with golden threads ornamenting sides of the garment.

This garment has assumed different textures in different parts of Yemen; for example, in many workshops in Sana'a, this garment takes a circular shape covering the lower part of

man's body.

In Hadramout it takes the same shape and is referred to as "Ma'awaz". In other places it is called "Fotah".

In fact, each part of Yemen has been famous for a special craft that its people are skilled at.

In general, most of the those practicing these handicrafts import silk from Iran. Most of them use traditional tools made of wood; in addition to imported weaving and embroidery equipment.

Visitors to such markets are much impressed to see such hand-made products by women, who are usually skilled at embroidery, particularly brides' clothes. Most of the embroidery are made to match beauty of nature. You can see, for example, some bees that have been magnificently woven to indicate the honey moon. However, embroidery vary from one area to another.

There are also different women's dresses, for example, there is the Sana'ani veil, dress, nightdress, pantslets which have lots of embroidery at the bottom.

In some areas of Yemen there is a belief that the bride and the bridegroom have to wear costumes on which names of God and verses from the Holy Qura'an have been embroidered which would protect them from envy. The bride does also wear some gold as well as silver jewelry.

Silk-made carpet industry is one of the common handicrafts in Yemen. Most often one finds that these carpets are embroidered with religious and historical verses that perfectly match the furniture of traditional houses.

Therefore, preserving these handicrafts has become an important issue not only to maintain and sustain livelihood of those working in this profession but also to boost tourism industry in our country. Thus, the government as well as donor countries should give such crafts the attention needed to keep them alive.

CONDOLENCE

The Royal Netherlands Embassy at Sana'a herewith expresses the great shock with which it received the news of the death, and the violent circumstances leading to this death, on 3 April 2000 of

Ms. Wendy van der Lubbe (1973-2000)

Wendy's funeral took place in IJsselstein, the Netherlands, on Tuesday, 11 April 2000

Wendy worked in Sana'a as UN-Aids coordinator under the UNDP-program in Yemen. she was very dedicated to her work and to helping the people of Yemen, which was highly appreciated by all who worked with her. She was known for her enthusiasm for her work and for Yemen. She loved living and working here. She was an ambitious young Dutch woman, with a lot of plans for the future.

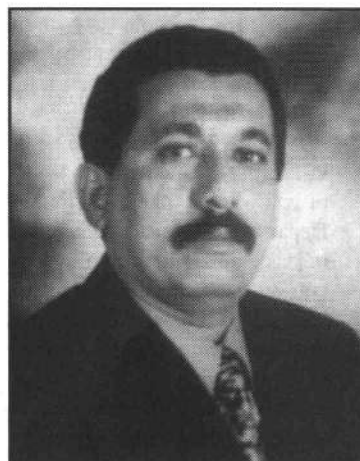
The Embassy wishes Wendy's family and friends, but especially her mother, all the strength which is needed to deal with this immense loss.

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

Aden Exhibition and Conference for Construction

Ridwan Al-Saqqaf
Aden Bureau Chief

While preparations for the forthcoming Aden Exhibition for Construction scheduled to be held from 24 to 29 of April, 2000, are in swing, Yemen Times met with Mr. Nabeel Ghanim, General Manager of al-Ghanim Corporation, sponsor and organizer of the exhibition to know this perspective:



"We are shortly going to finish the preparation for Aden Exhibition for Construction. There will also be a conference for construction on April 25. Four papers will be discussed in that conference. I shall present one of those papers in which I talk about the importance of construction. I would like to mention here that we delayed this exhibition because the hall was busy. I thank the Minister of Reconstruction and those who cooperated with us in the matter of preparations for this exhibition. I also appreciate companies that understood the importance of organizing this exhibition, which is considered as the first of its kind in Yemen. every thing is going quite well as planned. In view of the progress that Aden is witnessing, and due in the back drop

of Aden being a Free Zone, we are going to organize this exhibition to give a chance to construction companies and those who are specialized in this field to display their products and market them. On the other hand, this is also a chance to importers to take stock of the latest additions in this sector. We are satisfied for what we have done, and we hope to achieve all that in foreseeable future.

There are 31 local and foreign companies that are expected to participate in this exhibition. There are still some vacant places to be the opportunity to put up their stalls.

We face many problems and obstacles. One of problems crops up because of some people who do not realize the significance of such exhibitions. Although there are no exhibition halls in Aden. There are a number of dynamic companies that help us to sort out the problem. We have a plan to organize seven such exhibitions during this year.

Embassy of India
Sana'a

سفارة الهند
صنعاء
اعلان

Notice

The new telephone and fax numbers of the Embassy of India are as follow:
Telephone No. 508084
508085
Fax No. 508105

نود الاحاطة بأن الأرقام الجديدة لتلفونات وفاكس السفارة الهندية هي على التالي:
تلفون: ٥٠٨٠٨٤
٥٠٨٠٨٥
فاكس: ٥٠٨١٠٥

VACANCIES

The Universal Group of Companies is seeking experienced crew to join one of its hotels, specifically, to fill the following posts:

- Engineers / Technicians in the Group's chain of hotels located in Taiz, Marib, and Hadramaut.
- Chief Accountant, experienced in hotel accounting
- A/C & Refrigeration Mechanic
- Hotel equipment technician (Elec.Mech.)
- Laundry worker (experienced in Dry Cleaning)
- 5-Star standard Chef
- Restaurant waiters
- Experienced Health Club supervisor.

Conditions:

- All applicants should be able to read/write in both Arabic/English languages.
- Ages of applicants should range between 25-45 years.

All CV's / references to be mailed (not later than 25/4/2000) to:
General Manager - Universal Hotels
Universal Group of Companies
P. O. Box 18226
60 m St. - Sana'a

Or deliver documents to the General Manager of Universal Travel Office in Taiz (Gamal St.)

Demonstrations Apprehended in Chicago and Washington against "Rules of Engagement", the Movie Intimidating Yemenis

Here we provide you with a review on the Paramount movie, "Rules of Engagement" by Paul Clinton in CNN. The critical opinion of independent source would only prove the objective assessment of how it contain several objectionable points on Yemen and tarnishes its image to the world.

"The film opens with a bang. Picture it: Vietnam 1968. A major battle is in progress. Jackson, playing Terry Childers, is trying to help his fellow Marines caught in a fire-fight. After a few "unpleasanties," he saves the only surviving Marine — Hays Hodges, played by Jones.

A party, a siege
Flash forward 30 years for a two-minute scene in Washington. Col. Hodges is retiring from the Corps. Col. Childers is there to wish him well.

Bang! Suddenly, Childers is heading for another conflict. Picture it: present-day Yemen, where the United States embassy is under siege. The American ambassador, played by Ben Kingsley, and his wife, played by Anne Archer, are under fire, along with their young son.

Why is the embassy in danger? What has happened? Who are the people rioting? We never know, but we do know this: Those pesky, dark-eyed people in Arab dress, holding protest signs, have become international shorthand for "terrorist bad guys."

You're tempted to wonder what the filmmakers had in mind. "Oh, it's the Middle East," you imagine them saying. "There's always something going on. Let's just make up some generic crises and toss a few hundred cliches at it."

So filmgoers find themselves watching a huge battle scene that has no known motive, and in the middle of it Childers is stoically calling the shots. The surging crowd is out of control. Snipers line the rooftops of surrounding buildings. The Marines are undercover, but trapped.

At the height of all this mayhem, Childers literally calls the shots, ordering his men to open fire on the crowd in front of the embassy — a throng containing old men, women and children. His men, who can't see the crowd from their crouched position, protest but obey. Bullets spit, people fall and all is quiet as the Marines gather their dead and wounded and retreat in the helicopters that brought them in.

Eighty-three people are left dead in Yemen; 100 more are severely wounded. We're 20 minutes into the movie. It's too late to get your money back.

Coverup, confusion
Now the film really begins to stink. There apparently are no witnesses in the entire company of Marines to back up Childers' story that gunfire was coming from the mob in front of the embassy.

Also, for some unknown reason, the U.S. national security adviser, William Sokal, played by an uninspired Bruce Greenwood, wants Childers' head on a platter. Greenwood, by the way, specializes in evil characters. He played Ashley Judd's no-good husband in "Double Jeopardy."

With a stunning, numbing lack of motive, Sokal destroys evidence proving Childers' innocence while letting the "terrorists" in Yemen totally off the hook. Why? We don't know. — never will, either.

At this point, Childers hires the soon-to-retire Col. Hodges — happily, he's a military attorney — as his lawyer. Now, finally, filmgoers understand why Jones' character was in the movie in the first place. He promptly goes to Yemen, alone, just days after the battle, where the Yemen government gives him total access to everything and everybody — the same government that seemingly is justified in crying for American blood.

Yeah, right. Wanna buy a bridge? He, too, finds no evidence that guns were in the crowd — surprise, surprise — and comes home to defend Childers with no more his client's outstanding military record as his entire case.

A few good scenes?
Enter this film's resemblance to "A Few Good Men" as the courtroom battle begins with the U.S. government vs. Childers. The main point here, apparently, is that Jackson gets his moment to shine, to act! Director William Friedkin pulls out all the stops — extreme closeups, angles, fast editing. In a shameless rip-off of Jack Nicholson's performance in "A Few Good Men," Jackson vents and rages on the witness stand. He doesn't actually scream, "Truth! You can't handle the truth!" a la Jack — but he comes close.

Filling in for Tom Cruise, who played the prosecuting attorney in "Good Men," is Guy Pierce. He looks slightly embarrassed to be caught in this film. He should be. The ending, of course, is a foregone conclusion, and it's all treated as a "real event." The closing credits are preceded by written information about the people who tried to frame Childers and how many years in prison they're supposedly serving. No doubt, some people will leave the theater thinking this "war in Yemen" actually took place.



low for anti-Arab racism and defamation. It stands out even among the crop of Hollywood movies in recent years, many of which, including "True Lies" and "The Siege" were highly offensive, as particularly relentless and vicious in its negative portrayal of Arabs and Arab culture.

Indeed, "Rules of Engagement" can only be considered in the same light as other films whose purpose is to deliberately and systematically vilify an entire people, such as "Birth of a Nation" and "The Eternal Jew." While the film contains countless negative portrayals of Arabs, sympathetic or positive images of Arabs are easy to list: there are none. There is not even the semblance of an effort to balance the negative images with anything positive or even neutral.

Offensive material in "Rules of Engagement" includes:
- Repeated portrayals of Arab children as hateful, vicious and murderous. These children are shown several times shooting guns at the film's US Marine protagonists and shouting curses.

- The portrayal of Yemeni society as an anti-American mob just waiting to erupt at any second. The images of Arabs in the film are solely stereotypical - veiled women, men in headscarfs and all shouting fanatical, angry slogans and firing automatic weapons at a peaceful US embassy.

- Everyone in Yemen is complicit in the anti-American violence. Witnesses lie. The police lie. Doctors lie. Everyone in Yemen lies. Meanwhile, the streets are literally strewn with cassette tapes calling, again without any apparent reason, for "all good Muslims" to kill any and all Americans they can find. Yemen, we are assured, is a "breeding ground" for terrorists.

- Needless to say, this is a grotesque defamation and complete distortion of Yemeni society. But for most Americans who see it, "Rules of Engagement" will contain the most "information" about Yemen that they will ever receive in an hour and a half, and possibly in an entire lifetime. Why Paramount chose Yemen for this outrageous exercise in national character assassination and slander, apart from the fact that it is an Arab country, remains a complete mystery.

- Paramount refused to cooperate with Arab-American organizations that attempted to set up a constructive dialogue on the film in the months before its release. ADC first contacted Paramount with concerns about "Rules of Engagement" in January, but received no cooperation. In retrospect, it is easy to understand why Paramount stonewalled all attempts at dialogue and refused even the elementary courtesy of a pre-release screening. It is because this movie is absolutely indefensible in its portrayal of Arabs and Arab culture.

ADC sample flyer on "rules of engagement": "Rules of Engagement" promotes Anti-Arab Racism

Paramount Pictures new film, "Rules of Engagement," sets a new

herding and slaughter to demonstrate the right and might of the U.S. policeman's role." - Toronto Sun

Nothing can redeem this film's deep immorality." - Peter Brunette, Film.com "What distinguishes "Rules" is its use of xenophobia to bolster its legal arguments, and presumably tap audience's deep-seated prejudice.

... The movie paints Muslims as bloodthirsty villains plotting unspeakable violence against the United States. In other words, even if they had been unarmed, Col. Childers should have mowed 'em down

anyway." - Steve Murray, Cox News Service "At its worst, it's blatantly racist, using Arabs as cartoon-cutout bad guys, and unrealistic in its depiction of a conflict in the Middle East... Why is the embassy in danger? What has happened? Who are the people rioting? We never know, but we do know this: Those pesky, dark-eyed people in Arab dress, holding protest signs, have become international shorthand for 'terrorist bad guys.'

You're tempted to wonder what the filmmakers had in mind. "Oh, it's the Middle East," you imagine them saying. "There's always something going on. Let's just make up some generic crises and toss a few hundred cliches at it." - Paul Clinton, CNN

"...an angry Arab mob is for the umpteenth time serving as convenient and clichéd villains hostile to our way of life. While the mob is chanting untranslated slogans likely to be variants of the traditional "death to the spineless, running dogs of American imperialism" and aiming bullets and Molotov cocktails at the poorly defended embassy..."

- Kenneth Turan, LA Times

"Friedkin also risks accusations of racism. Little attempt is made to humanize Yemeni people. On screen, except for a doctor and a one-legged girl on crutches, they are stock villains, human cattle ready for herding and slaughter to demonstrate the right and might of the U.S. policeman's role." - Burce Kirkland - Toronto Sun

"What if the Americans really do lack an understanding of Arab culture? — the drama ultimately retreats to safer, duller, more illogical and more reactionary impulses and stereotypes." - Lisa Schwarzbaum, Entertainment Weekly

"Seems the Yemenis are upset about the U.S. presence in the Persian Gulf. That's all we know, and director William Friedkin and screenwriter Stephen Gaghan seem to believe that that's all we need to know, since, you know, we're talking about Arabs here. The words 'terrorists' and 'jihad' are tossed in to reinforce the stereotype." - Austin-American Statesman

"Little attempt is made to humanize Yemeni people. On screen...they are stock villains, human cattle ready for

herding and slaughter to demonstrate the right and might of the U.S. policeman's role." - Toronto Sun

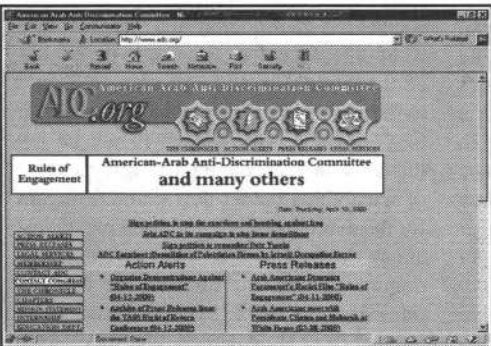
"the continuing scandal of Hollywood's Arab-bashing smells to high heaven, but this film manages to stun nonetheless." - New York Press

"The biggest question — one, incidentally, which Rules certainly never asks — is what those demonstrators outside the embassy were upset about in the first place." - Mike Ward, PopMatters

In sharp reaction to the release of the movie, the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) launched a campaign movie and asked honorable Arabs and Yemenis to participate in the demonstrations against the film in the USA. Here we publish the complete message of the ADC:

"ADC is asking its members and supporters to organize local demonstrations against the new Paramount film "Rules of Engagement," one of the most racist anti-Arab films ever made by a major Hollywood studio. ADC's analysis of the film can be read on ADC's website at <http://www.adc.org/action/2000/11aprilb2000.htm>. Demonstrations have already taken place in Chicago on Saturday and others are scheduled to

take place in Washington, DC next week. ADC urges everyone to join in the effort of making sure that Paramount does not release such a film without serious and significant opposition and condemnation. We should make sure that this film, which was the top grossing movie last weekend earning \$15 million, is thoroughly and utterly exposed and denounced. ADC has created a sample flyer, which will be available on our website <<http://www.adc.org>> as a formatted PDF file for downloading and printing. This flyer should be handed out during any demonstrations to all bypassers. It is also reproduced below in plain text. For help in organizing protests, issuing press releases, or local contact information please contact ADC National Office. Please also note the outrage of numerous critics whose denunciations of the racism in "Rules of Engagement" are presented below.



ADC's website (www.adc.org)

Words of Wisdom
 "We have reached the stage whereby the tribo-military clique has to give way to capable technocrats and specialists in order to move the country forward. Otherwise, the country is headed for trouble, and the fat cats are going to be the biggest losers."
 Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Sagqaf (1951-1999)
 Founder of the Yemen Times

Our Opinion
BRAVO
Teleyemen..

It is indeed a great thing to see that change is taking place in Teleyemen's Internet and telecommunications services. As a newspaper deeply associated with the Internet and with an IT department depending on Internet activity, Yemen Times hails Teleyemen for its recent enhancements in their system.

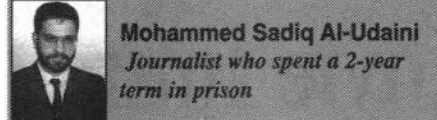
We sometimes do criticize Teleyemen for their inefficiency, but we also praise and encourage it once we see positive steps taken by it, and we are happy that it has responded to our critics positively.

The importance and wide spread of the use of information technology is evident everywhere in the world, and Yemen is no exception. We are finding difficulty in dealing with the thousands of emails we get in one month. We are feeling that our presence online has become a major positive point for us, and will continue to grow, and maybe someday exceed the significance of the hard copy.

Teleyemen's new services of detecting the caller and canceling the call if it seems to not belong to the account owner received the blessing of all its customers, and prevented them from losing thousands of rials wasted by hackers who use accounts of others. But still, Teleyemen needs to do more.

The connections continue to be disconnected abruptly, the prices of subscription are still high, and the CGI services still are not installed on their servers. Much is to be done, but for it has done so far, I would like to say "Bravo Teleyemen!"

Harassment of Press Needs Direct Interference of the President



Mohammed Sadiq Al-Udaini
 Journalist who spent a 2-year term in prison

"Say whatever you want. Stability is based on freedom and I will never file a case against a journalist." Emil Lahood, Lebanese President.

After a series of postponements, the West Secretariat Court pronounced its unprecedented verdict on Al-Wahdawi Newspaper and its journalist Mr. Gamal Aamer in February. Al-Wahdawi was suspended for a month while Gamal Aamer was, besides being fined YRS 5,000, forbidden from writing for good.

Suspension of newspapers, as well as journalists has become a common phenomenon in a country that seems to abandon all ideals of the 22nd of May.

Since the War of 1994, many journalists and writers had been sentenced to prison terms and newspapers sued. Such practices are no longer surprising for many people. It is right that they arouse local, and international condemnation, but this would always end up with some letters or statements expressing dissatisfaction. May be because it is a natural phenomenon in countries of emerging democracies.

However, what has distinguished this verdict and made it a target of condemnation is the forbidding Mr. Gamal Aamer to writing. Such a verdict has not been heard of in countries of emerging democracies. People may ask why the judge did not sentence him to imprisonment. Is there anything worse? The judge felt that if he gave his final verdict to imprison Aamer he would be doing nothing meaningful, given that under the present situation the country looks as a large prison and thus it would make no difference for Mr. Aamer to be locked up in a prison, forming a part of a large

er one.

In this verdict, the judge satisfied enemies of freedom of expression. However, he tarnished the image of the leadership. I do not find fault with the judge for his verdict because he might find be rewarded for his verdict amid the disorder and chaos prevailing in the country.

In my opinion, the verdict did not target journalism and its constitutional rights but it rather aimed at the ruling party, because such verdicts put the state in a dilemma. This is what has really happened to the state in the eyes of the world in the contest of the Yemeni government's commitment to the international organizations and donors to respect and protect human rights and freedoms.

Observers of what is happening in the political life in Yemen during the past few years would notice an abnormal situation being strengthened through a series of activities and policies, the least of which is that it has trampled on its commitment to the democratic principles. This situation requires a direct interference by the president to salvage the situation.

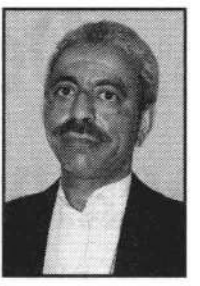
President Ali Abdullah Saleh always emphasizes his support for the freedom of press. He always calls upon journalists to take advantage of pluralism to address what is wrong. In his electoral manifesto, he committed himself to supporting, as well as protecting freedom of the press and expression and working for the independence of the judiciary. This is what the entire country really hopes for.

At the end, Mr. President, let me repeat what I have once said while in prison that your people are pinning all hopes upon you. Undoubtedly, you realize that the new era must witness brave legislation and measures to enhance freedoms and democracy, otherwise the "promise" would be meaningless one and there would be no one in future to hail you.

COMMON SENSE

By: Hassan Al-Haifi

What Is There to Celebrate



Anniversaries are great occasions that give continuous prominence to important moments in our lives - as individuals, families communities and societies. On the other hand, there are anniversaries of religious significance that relate us to those in the past who helped shape our spiritual heritage and gave us the causes for which we give our time, dedicate our souls and sometimes give our lives. Throughout most of man's presence on this planet religious anniversaries were the predominant festivities enjoyed by human beings on a collective basis - beyond the family. More often than not these were tied to the occupation that most people engaged in - agriculture and providing their own means of livelihood. Thus seasonal feasts were concocted to motivate people towards harder work and to have a greater affinity with the Earth and the elements surrounding them. There were also feasts tied to harvests as occasions to celebrate the results of man's achievements. As nationalism became a significant form of affiliation for people to band together into, celebrations were also established to remind the population of their national heritage, most of which were tied to important victories for the assertion of the nationalist pride. As people became cultured, cosmopolitan and urban life took over the inertia of mass popular activities; celebrations became more institutionalized and, to a large degree, commercialized, as corporate entrepreneurship and the media took over the role of clergies and other prominent social dignitaries to guide the people as to the proper enjoyment to pursue in these festivities. Moreover, specific forms have taken the more spontaneous and almost free form expression of joy and creativity that prevailed in the festivities enjoyed by our forebearers.

presence in the new Yemen for a long time to come, but it seems that he underestimated the Northerners' ability to manipulate popular support, and the lack of political awareness among the Yemeni population in general. In any case, initially unification was viewed as a new dawn for Yemen and the exuberance was exhilarating then. Because of the popular support unification was greeted with at start, the unification date was moved up six months from 30th November 1990 to 22 May 1990. No one is exactly sure why the move was made, but some chroniclers, in retrospect, believe it may have been in view of the oncoming Gulf Crisis that may have been foreseen by some of the Yemeni leaders, who may have had an idea of what was about to occur in the Northern parts of the Arabian Peninsula. Whatever the case nobody complained and 22 May 1990 was indeed the most festive day Yemen has seen in a long time.

That was 10 years ago and many of the players of that fateful day had gone out of the political arena and many had been forced into exile. Moreover conditions in the country are far from being anywhere near comparable to what they were then, politically, economically and socially. Of course, the democratic atmosphere envisioned by its sponsors and the many people who on all ends of the political and geographical spectrums cheered and applauded their appreciation for, has become nothing more than some token elements of democracy that lacks any real appreciation of popular political will and detriment. It seems clearer now that democracy is just not something that can be spoon fed to people; *people have to appreciate it, want it, and strive for it.* Otherwise, the guarantees for upholding democracy vanish into thin air and it becomes nothing more than a façade that polishes the image of a quasi-totalitarian state that is almost out of touch with the people it professes to govern by the will of the people. But that is another issue. The issue now at hand is that 22 May has now approached its tenth turn and the mood of the people is not in parallel with that of the government, and for sure not with that same feeling of exuberance felt ten years before.

In getting a feel of popular reactions to the big festivities that the government is planning for the anniversary of Year No. 10 of the Republic of Yemen, one senses that there seems to be two separate directions now meted out for the country: that of the government and that of the people.

While it is not exactly for certain public wise what the government intends to do, the overwhelming feeling is that it is going to be big and more important it is going to be expensive. Most people tend to question the wisdom of the government in laying out so much money and carrying on so extravagantly, for celebrating 10 years of a general decline in just about every facet of the lives of the general population of the country, in addition to the political instability, that eventually had to be resolved violently and expensively, the economic depression and the general state of lawlessness that seems to prevail throughout the country. There are many who would suggest that this money would be better exploited if channeled to areas of greater priority than to satisfy the egos of the senior elements in the regime and to fill the pockets of all those who will be involved in managing various aspects of the boisterous event. Of course, most people have a fairly good idea that the whole event is geared to maximize the benefits of those who will "work night and day to insure that the festivities project the best that Yemen can do". When you ask people in the street their views, the overriding impression gets is that "it is their holiday and their money", what difference does it make to us, even if all the world's leaders converge on Sana'a to "share the Yemeni people's joy". For the Yemeni people, there will not be joy this 22nd of May, but an increasing feeling of see nothing but let-downs and disregard for the overall welfare of the people, in just about everything that the government is doing, whether for holidays or for any other day. So they tell you: "What is there to celebrate? How pathetic the state of the nation is in? Give us a break!"

Letters to the Editor

Arabs Must Boycott the Movie "Rules of Engagement"

I watched the movie "Rules of Engagement" yesterday and I agree with you that it is just another example of Hollywood's policy of propagating of misinformation and stereotypes about anything that has to do with Islam. The executive decision before release of this film also created the same notion in the Arab-Moslem community all over the world. But sadly the governments and the politicians in the Muslim world are so divided that they can not take a effective stance against Hollywood. For example the Arab league could issue a warning to those Hollywood production companies that produce movies with outright stereotypes of Arabs and Muslims. If the company refused to cooperate and continued to portray the same stereotypes, then the company and all the movies it produces (including those that have no stereotypes) should be banned in the Arab world. Believe me, sooner or later Hollywood will realize that it is incurring major losses sales particularly if other Islamic states followed suit and its stock prices at NY began to drop. Soon share holders may start complaining specially knowing that other Hollywood companies who cooperated with the Arab league and their local Arabic and Islamic community are reaping the benefit of a market of 300 million consumers. Both sides will work together to eradicate stereotypes and work on to eliminated the anti Muslim bias in the American and western media. Sadly the leaders of the Arab and Islamic world are only serving their own interest but Inshallah it will not last for long.
 Nasser Abdo
 Email: nas-abdo@mindspring.com
 USA

another without giving a peremptory answer. Here, I will attempt to answer this puzzling question. I say if I were a girl I like any girl in Yemen living under the repression of Yemen's customs and traditions that are still ruling and governing us, I would be prone to scandalmongers to tell rumors against me and I would be afraid for my reputation being soiled because this threatens my future.

As a girl belonging to this country, I would never be allowed to go out in the evenings alone and without permission. I would never be able to make any relationship with the other sex. Moreover, I could not talk to anyone I don't know. Also, I would never be allowed to go to the public places such as cafeterias, coffees, clubs or something like that. In short, I would absolutely lose the trust of my own closest relatives. Rather, I would be a paltry creature neither more nor less as one said. Any way, this is not my viewpoint at all.

In general, I can say that the rights of females here in Yemen are less conspicuous in comparison to those of the males. I would enjoy less freedom than what they do. I would be forced to clean, wash, wrap and sweep. Yet, I would have my own dreams, but not any dreams. I would never be over ambitious or else I would be a day-dreamer. Because this is sometimes not allowed, either. I might face some problems and obstacles which obstruct me. So, I might dream of enough education. As a girl I might dream of building a new family in future, of living a happy marital life. Is this right, I wish I wouldn't raise any question marks!

Mohammed Ghanem

Dear Editor,
 Let me first express my admiration for the excellent magazine. Every week, this newspaper gives us happy surprises. It is obvious that this newspaper reinforces that Yemen has many creative talents. There are many innate talents all over Yemen whatever the positions they are holding.

I'm so happy at the corner, "Improve your English" as it is very important for all of us to learn English.

Also, I would like to say that I am very much interested in your series "Story of Nadia Muhsin, and that made me think to write to you to ask about publishing short stories in a series to make the readers more interested in reading the newspaper."
 Zaid Mohd Kassem Al-Madhagy

Dear Zaid,
 Thank you for your encouragement and interest for YT. YT is open for all kinds of stories. We appreciate your cooperation with YT. —Editor.

To whom Yemen Belongs?
 Yemen is one of the oldest countries in the world, whose history goes back to thousands years in the past. It inherited a great and valuable treasure of ancient ruins and antiquities which are scattered in the different regions of the country.

This old remains, if it does indicate something, it indicates the ancient civilization that the ancient Yemenis could create throughout centuries. But, regrettably, Yemen seems to surrender its civilization slowly at a time when some countries unleash their efforts to collect evidence from the past, even if it is not their own about their antiquities. A visitor to the historical and touristic places in Yemen even if he is not a Yemeni would feel deep sorrow for the blotted out beautiful ruins which are thus allowed to die out. Those beautiful monuments are about to die out. In spite of all, the responsible authorities keep silent, as if this does not concern them, or as if these remains belong to our enemies. If we thus leave this valuable, treasure trove, allow it to our wipe out and expunge, what shall we say to the new generation when they realize that the extant memory of their grand fathers in the past have been left to die out?

Yahya Abdullah Saeed, - Saada

Yemen in the eyes of Hollywood
 A key scene in America's current No. 1 box office hit, "RULES OF ENGAGEMENT," shows an angry mob outside the US Embassy in Yemen. US Marines scamper on the roof. One falls dead.

In the instant before a Marine colonel, played by Samuel L. Jackson, orders his men to fire into the crowd, he looks at the mob and sees Yemenite women and boys and girls firing rifles at them.

As the scene unfolded in a Washington movie theater, Yemen's ambassador to the United States, Abdulwahab Al-Hajjri, cringed. "A little girl shooting at Marines! Can you believe it?" Al-Hajjri said. "This movie reaches millions of people. It's a total ruin for us. It ruins our image. Why Yemen? Even if we launch a public campaign, how do you fight Hollywood?"

The movie (Rule of engagement) can make a big impact on the eyes of the American Public. 95% of American Public are brained washed and refilled by Hollywood Drama/fictions anti Arab campaigns. I was in the Movie Theater when "Rules of Engagement" came out; I was very surprised at the audience and the cheering they gave actor Samuel L Jackson when e won the case in court, after he was prosecuted of killing innocent women and children in Yemen. Everyone started clapping and cheering when the movie was over. From that moment I learned that Hollywood is making and changing the American Public views and believes.

Yemen was not recognized to most of the American Public, now the first appearance of Yemen to the America Public as a filthy, terrorists, camel jockeys, Arab Muslims who hate Americans to the fullest is accomplished by Hollywood.

Yemenis are the kindest people in the world. Yemen was scientifically studied and recognized in their famous generosity, kindness, caring, and friendly people. Is this how Hollywood treat Yemen and Yemenis?

It's obvious that Hollywood is trying to destroy the most respected image in the world "ISLAM" and stopping it from reaching the American Public. Which "Islam" is a religion that change the way we live, act, behave and treat each other's as brothers and sisters. Islam is the number 'ONE' fastest growing religion in America and Hollywood is trying to stop it from reaching and changing so many Hollywood corrupted souls in America.

There is always a more intelligent punishment to Hollywood and Hollywood business. As Arabs and as Muslims we can punish Hollywood from associating, affiliating or doing any kind of business with Hollywood and its affiliates through out the Arab and Muslim World until Hollywood recognize and apologize to the Arab and Muslim World. Also, Hollywood will agree on future films that it will present the Arab world in a more mannered image, which it presents itself as a Jewish image.

sincere Yemeni/Muslim Brother,
Yasser Al-Gharazy
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MALNUTRITION, The Plight of Poor Communities

Abdulahkim Hashim

It is a fact that the most widely spread malady in the world, is malnutrition particularly in countries where poverty, and social and economic backwardness is prevalent. It is also the distinguishing phenomenon in the developing countries. However, the most severe cases of malnutrition are to be found in the poor countries. "About 2150 million people in the world are malnourished," the FAO reported. Half a billion of those people suffer from constant malnutrition. More than 65 of the developing countries suffer from the worst conditions of malnutrition and 5% of them are under critical malnutrition. 50% of the poor countries' population, 51% of expectant mothers and 60% of children below 6 are malnourished. The lack of energy and protein is reflected on their thin and pulled down bodies. When bodies fail to have sufficient food, less energy and nutrients are available for growth.

Reasons behind malnutrition are many, Some of which are as follows:

1- Poverty and inflation. Poverty and inflation are the major underlying causes of malnutrition. These factors affect choices of the kind, as well as the quality of food. The worst affected countries are located near the equator. Such countries enjoy fertile lands. Unfortunately, they are under the yoke of many kinds of animal, and herbal diseases. Moreover, inhabitants of those coun-

tries are mostly vegetarians.

2- Economic planning Economy is one of the most important problems for the developing countries. Many of them follow an out-of-date mechanism leading to production. For example, 70 developing countries have 60% of the animal wealth. However, they produce only 22% of meat and eggs. Whereas advanced countries possess 21% of animal wealth but they produce 50% of world's beef and 50% of the world's milk.

3- Sheer size of populations FAO's reports show that world population reached 6 billion in 2000. More important is the point that the majority of population in poor countries are more affected by malnutrition than in advanced ones. As a result, a gap between population and food productivity has been created. Consequently, this decreases the individual's share of food.

4- Geographical factors What makes the situation still worse is that food easily perishes in countries suffering from malnutrition, due to bad storage facilities and lack of transportation facilities, floods, dry seasons etc.

5- Social, cultural and religious factors

Some kinds of foodstuffs are forbidden in some religions ignoring the fact that those are essential to build up a healthy body. For example, meat is forbidden in East Asia. A meal may contain enough iron but this might be lost with having a cup of tea.

6- Wars and political conflicts Wars and conflicts are major causes of

starvation causing many laborers to leave their countries. Moreover, a large part of the budget is spent on weapons instead of foodstuffs. This helps widen the nutritional gap.

Nutrition in the Arab world Arab countries are among the less developed countries in the world. Their economies are undeveloped and they are greatly dependent on the West for nutritional security.

Malnutrition in Yemen Yemen is placed at the bottom of the scale of poorest and least-developed countries. Most of the people in Yemen do not seem to be fully aware of the importance of balanced nutrition. In fact, it is also the bad economic conditions that affect choice of foodstuffs.

Children and women are very much affected by the circumstances surrounding them. These circumstances can be of two kinds:

- The first kind relates to the infrastructure including drinking water sources, sanitation system, etc.
- The second factor concerns social, as well as economic condition of the family including the house, number of members in the family, cleanliness, etc.

Malnourished children A study has been made on 7501 malnourished children in Yemen to know the effects of malnutrition on them. The study focused on the following parameters:

- Length in relation to age (shortness)
- Weight in relation to length (thinness)

3- Weight in relation to age (low weight)

The first measure indicates the child's growth, in dependent on the constant malnutrition in the society. The second indicates the body's size in proportion to height, as thinness results from deficiency of food. The third indicator relates thinness or dwarfism.

Children's malnutrition levels

Studies show that 52% of children below 5 are malnourished. This is reflected in dwarfism as a result of not being well-fed and well-cared-for. Dwarfism rates are more in the countryside (56%) and mountainous regions (59%) than in the city (40%) and in coastal areas (48%). Deficiency of food, difficulty of transportation, small areas of arable land and dependence on seasonal rainfalls for irrigation are the contributory for reasons. It has also been noticed that it is more among children of illiterate mothers. As regards low weight measured to age, 46% of the Yemeni babies are born underweight. The rate of low weight at birth is found more in mountainous regions and among babies of malnourished mothers.

Mothers' malnutrition levels.

Body's mass and tallness are used as indicators for mothers' nutritional condition, where the negative effect of malnutrition is seen. Tallness is used as an indicator for nutrition level during childhood and adolescence. Delivery might be difficult in case of short mothers and their babies might be underweight. The average tallness of mothers is 153

cm and only 9% are under 145 cm. Short mothers average more in mountainous regions.

The body mass, which is the weight divided by the height, indicates the state of thinness or fatness of adults. The minimum here is 18.5. The average of Yemeni female body mass is 21. However, body mass of 25% of women in Yemen is less than 18.5. Such women are clearly malnourished.

Malnutrition and the social factor.

Some social behaviors, traditions and conventions negatively affect mothers, as well as children's health. Some of these factors are listed below:

- Repeated births
 - Many families are still not fully aware of the importance of birth control. The short periods mothers take between each delivery is not enough to restore their strength and health. At the same time it does not enable the newly born children to be well-cared-for and well-fed.
 - Qat chewing.
 - Inadequate breast feeding
- Sometimes breast feeding is avoided by mothers who have some health problems. Using feeding bottles for feeding children increases the chances of malnutrition.

5- Nutritional wrong habits

A good number of poor families are dependent on vegetarian foods due to the zooming prices of meat, whereas many of the rich families depend on animal source ignoring

many of the important kinds of vegetarian foodstuffs.

Drinking Tea, coffee and beverages prevents children from many important nutritional elements such as iron. Repeated intake of one kind of meals and canned foodstuffs as alternative of natural food, is also not advisable.

Alternative food

As mentioned before, due to some health problems, mothers depend on other alternatives such as milk, sugared water, fruit juice, tea, etc. to feed their children. However, many mothers seem to be allured by the development in food manufacturing and advertisements industry which affect their choice of baby food as well as time of feeding their children.

VACANCY

The German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) is looking for a suitable candidate for one of its projects in Sana'a as

Translator/Interpreter

Applicants should meet the following conditions:

- Yemeni nationality
- University degree of English speaking country, preferably a degree in English language/literate
- Minimum of 5 years professional experience in English/ Arabic/ English translation/ interpretation
- Familiarity with highly specialized IT.computer science terms both in English and Arabic
- Knowledge in computer software (Word and Excel) and typing capability
- Pleasant personality

Applications to be submitted both in English and Arabic prior to 30 April 2000 to:

Deputy Director
GTZ Office Sana'a
PO Box 692

Environmental Tourism in Yemen



Imad Al-Saqqaf, Taiz Bureau Chief

Yemen has one of the most deep-rooted ancient civilizations in the world. Our ancestors have founded a highly developed civilization whose remains are still standing out. These landmarks could be seen in various monuments spread in the country like skyscrapers, historical cities, castle and dams. Today, tourism relies on many factors of tourists' attraction and our country has many alluring features. Apart from eye-catching sites and attractive cultural and historical heritage, our country has an incredible landscape. This is embodied by the greenery prevalent in valleys, plains and mountain terraces along with its charming coasts, numerous islands and mild weather. Another feature of attraction is the Yemeni entrenched traditions and habits such as our generous hospitality. Experts say that tourism is "a no-smoke emitting industry" and the availability of certain natural features has helped expand tourism industry whether at the local level 'internal tourism' or at the foreign level 'international tourism'. What is meant exactly by environmental tourism is

traveling and visiting natural sites for the purpose of getting pleasure from watching nature and ancient or modern spots.

Environmental tourism could produce economic and social benefits for the local inhabitants if only studies and researches were carried out for the purpose of protecting nature and developing it without causing damage of any kind.

In the late 80s, large numbers of tourists developed an interest in the kind of tourism that associates them directly with nature and people's culture. Therefore, many became attracted to watching rare species of birds, organizing educational trips, climbing mountains, studying geological features of rocks and practicing sports like scuba diving.

This type of tourism relies on, as described by Mr. Abdul-Kawi Salim Al-Areeki (Deputy Director of the Tourism



Bureau of Taiz), traveling to suburban districts that are still intact and not spoiled by cities' modernization. Until recently, this kind of tourism was not

popular, but it has spread and this is attributed to many factors such as:

- International concern about protecting nature and preserving people's cultural heritage.
- Developing tourism appropriately and preserving nature's resources for the coming generations.
- Developing a balanced relationship

between preserving resources and tourist development.

- Adoption of eco-friendly projects by several international organizations.

Therefore, we notice that natural landscape constitutes an important pillar of environmental tourism that, in turn, could render benefits for local inhabitants and the government. Some of these benefits are:

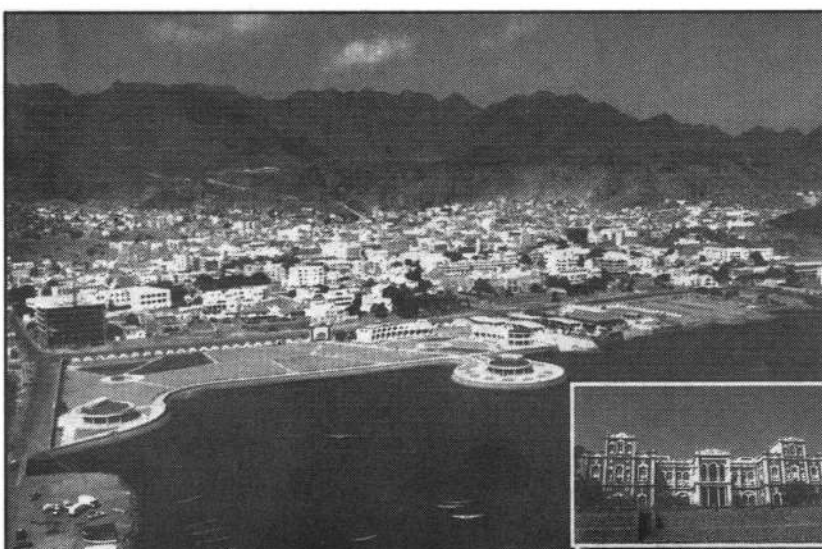
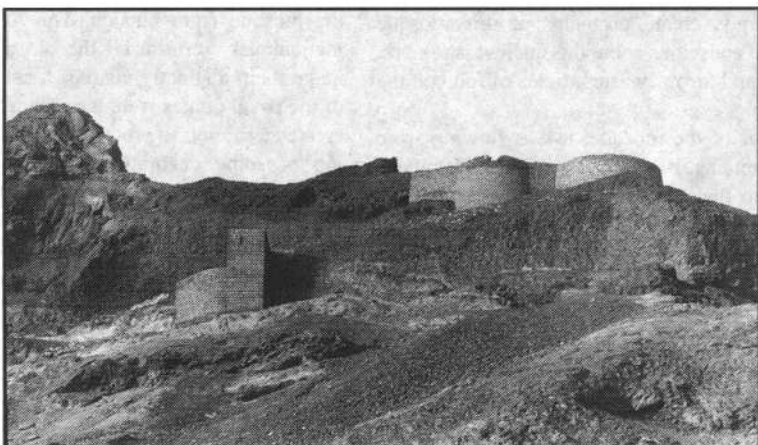
- Preserving the environment along with its cultural and natural features.
- Engaging the local society to tourism activities and thereby enabling them to socially and economically benefit from them. It could also create new job opportunities.
- Raising environmental and educa-

tion awareness.

- Developing local products and economic resources and earning foreign currency.

In order to enable tourism obtain its anticipated revenues, several facilities should be created:

- Establishing a suitable administration and an appropriate planning for designing and monitoring tourism services and facilities.
- Providing all necessary guarantees for the protection of tourist natural sites.
- Abiding by the administrative goals of each district separately, bearing in mind its accommodation capacity.
- Developing appropriate and well-designed facilities taking into account the accommodation capacity of the area.
- Developing cooperation between public and private sectors and the local society as well.
- Conducting a field survey and a full account of all tourist and historical sites, then, classifying them according to their natural category "mountains, forests, lakes, beaches, waterfalls, large trees, flowers, scarce plants, cavesetc."
- Creating guidance charts in the areas of each of the above classifications stating rules such as not destroying the beauty of the site or leaving trash on it.
- Encouraging local societies and inhabitants to engage in different cultural activities involving presenting our tradition, local costumes and artifacts to visitors and training them to be tourist guides in their districts.



LIVE HEALTHY, LIVE HAPPY
Weekly Health Tips

USING RELAXATION TO MANAGE STRESS

We know that stress can actually be good for you when it's balanced by periods of relaxation. But the fact of the matter is that many of us can't — or don't know how to relax. The following techniques can help you learn to relax, and lessen the adverse effects of stress.

Deep Muscle Relaxation

One of the most common reactions to stress is muscle tension. Deep muscle relaxation helps you to relax your entire body from head to toe by first tensing, then relaxing various muscle groups. The whole process takes about 15 minutes and can be done almost anywhere.

First, sit (or lie down) and close your eyes. Then, tense your facial muscles (purse your lips, squeeze your forehead, etc.); hold for 5 seconds then relax. Now move on to the neck and shoulders — tense, hold, relax. Keep on doing this for all the major muscle groups — arms,, back, abdominals, hips, legs, feet. By the time you're done, your muscle tension will have drained away and you'll feel revived and refreshed.

Breathing Deeply

Another reaction to stress is shallow, rapid breathing. Deep, slow breathing can actually interrupt your stress response and help you to relax.

First, clear the "stale" air from your lungs by exhaling slowly (through your mouth) until your lungs feel completely empty. Then, inhale (through your nose) until you begin to feel your abdomen rise. Hold for 5 seconds, then exhale and begin the cycle again. Repeat this exercise 4-5 times whenever you feel tense. Deep, abdominal breathing takes only a few seconds and can be done anywhere. So, when you find yourself tense and irritable, stop and take a breather.

The Power of Suggestion

Another technique for relieving stress is autogenic (or self-regulating) suggestion. With this technique you tell yourself how you want to feel. When you feel stressed, sit down, close your eyes and give yourself calming mental suggestions such as "My arms are light and airy, I am calm and peaceful," and so on. You can focus on any and all parts of your body that feel tense. By putting your mind to it, you can talk yourself into a more relaxed, tranquil frame of mind and body.

Relax and Enjoy Life

These are just a few of the many ways you can help yourself relax and relieve stress for a more enjoyable lifestyle. The important thing to remember is that it's not so much how you relax that counts, but that you take the time to relax. Relaxation is one of the nicest things you can do for one of the nicest people you know — you.

Manal Omar to Yemen Times

“The key for Yemeni Women to Play a Role in Development is Integration”

Manal Omar, Director of Development at the American Muslim Council which is an organization that was founded in 1990 to deal with the issues of Muslims women in America from a political and social perspective. She has been recently invited by the American Embassy in Yemen to Yemen to come close to women' NGOs' activities in Yemen. Mohammed Hatem Al-Qadhi, Managing Editor of the Yemen Times, met her and filed the following interview:

Q: Could you please tell us something about the purpose of your visit?

A: The main purpose of my visit was to come and give a few workshops on Muslim women in America, as well as the role of NGO's for women development in the Middle East. The primary objective is for me to get the Yemeni women's points of view. It is more of a dialogue and exchange of different views to understand the role of NGOs within the Yemen society, to share some of my experiences of the role of NGOs in development, as well as the Muslim women experience in America.

Q: You have met some women NGO's in Yemen. How did you find them, their work schedule and activities? How can the quality of their work be improved further?

A: I think that women NGO's in the region as a whole is a very new con-

cept. In terms of the Yemeni women's NGO's, I think they are very much at caring edge of most of the new projects. The NGO's are small enough group that needs to have strong links between each other. It is just a very positive aspect within the women NGO's internet, something that tends to be lacking. One of the ways I can see an improvement is to emphasize that communication, and to make sure that they coordinate together. Each NGO should focus on specific issue. The more focused the NGOs are the more productive they will be.

Q: How can the Yemeni women be integrated in the main stream so that they can play a vital role in development?

A: I think it is a really good question because the key for them to play a role in development is integration. It is very important that the women and NGOs are assimilated to the main stream, that they are not just left on one side. Through these workshops, awareness campaigns, I think women can be involved in social as well as economic process. So, they can, in the long run, be integrated into the larger community.

I think already the Yemeni women are playing an important role within society. I think it is more informal than formal, but you can clearly see that they do have definite programs and policies. That is kind of just beginning to impact the society. With the process of time it is going to become clearer.

Q: Is this visit going to be followed

be other ones, so that you can continually monitor people working in the women's NGOs?

A: I do not think so. But what I hope to do is to stay in touch via internet, e-mail to pass on new information to the women that I have met. I got to see some of their ideas and projects. Now I have a clear idea of what they might need. I can send them information either by fax or e-mail. It's just a kind of exchange of ideas via cyberbase. I am very interested to send information over that might be relevant to them.

Q: How are Muslim women doing in America?

A: Muslims as a whole have a very long history in America but the actual institutions have just come out in the last decade. Muslim women's religious institutions just came up 5 years ago.

From the beginning, there was a kind of force between two streams. Either we were completely defensive and we defend Islam or we were apologetic. Now Muslim women are finding the metal ground. We are proud of our identity, we are proud of our religion and we feel empowered by our religion. But there are still some problems.

We are integrating within the women's movements as a whole, within society as a whole. More Muslim women are taking part in school boards and in local elections. Hillary Clinton is a special assistant to Muslim women. In the more private sphere of jobs, we have come a long way with the Hijab issue. It is now completely recog-

nized. Employers can not take it up. They cannot even really question it. A lot of major organizations have made fashions about Muslims, Muslim women and about the dress code. From both the civil and political viewpoints, Muslim women are really asserting themselves in getting the rights guaranteed to them.

Q: Does this mean that you do not find any disturbance regarding the Hijab?

A: Of course we do. It is natural to find that. In different areas you find it more so than others. However, it is not too much nowadays. The whole beauty of the constitution is that you can hold someone accountable if you know the system. So, now Muslim women are learning there about their legal rights.

Q: How do Muslim women discuss the issue of gender in America?

A: I go back again to the idea of defensive and apologetic. One of the things that happened is that the Muslim women were forced to choose between either completely going with a strict Islamic framework or to be liberated and fully integrated. What is happening now is that the Muslim women are looking at gender issues from an Islamic perspective and are very careful not to associate themselves with things that do not pertain to them.

One of the criticisms of the feminist movement is that it tends to go with things that may offend the Muslim community. What we are trying to do

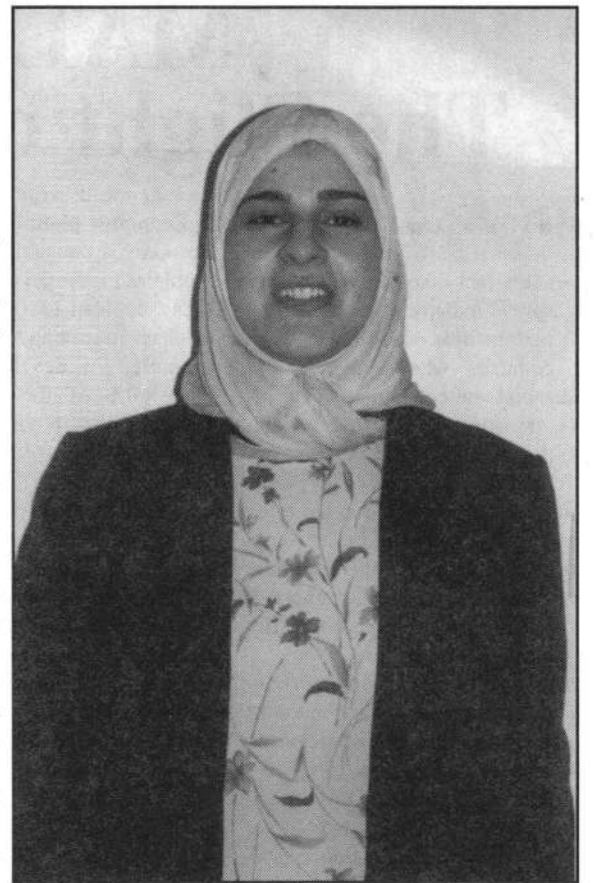
is to define our own agenda. So we do not adopt other terms like the labor feminism or even gender. We try to create our own terms and define our own terms in our context.

Q: Don't you feel isolated from the community in this way?

A: You see, the movement as a whole within women's movement is moving towards exactly the same thing. In the beginning feminists isolated themselves from the community and moved to gender studies.

I think that Muslim women are becoming a big part of American women's movements and I think that one of the things that American women realize is that the women's movement originally came out of the middle class white suburban movement. That alienated not just the Muslims but the west of America. A lot of Spanish women, African-American women and other different groups of women really protested this and said that they were not speaking for them.

I have worked within women's centers in America. They are very inclusive.



As far as they are concerned, Hijab and being a woman activist do not go together.

Q: How do you perceive the future of Muslim women in America?

A: I do not know. I think what Muslim women are trying to do is a kind of taking one step at a time. While we were working with the outside community, we had a lot of work within our community which is within the Muslim community as a whole. There are a lot of different groups within the Muslim community in America that have different views about women. Our primary objective is to deal with our own community and then we will start going outwards.

Ashrafya Mosque in Taiz Calls for Help

There are three outstanding landmarks in the city of Taiz. These landmarks are Cairo castle, Ashrafya mosque minarets, and Modafar mosque domes. As one passes by the two minarets of Ashrafya, one is struck by their beautiful architecture. He would unfailingly remember our ancestors who built these landmarks during Bani Rasool Era and how they were creative in architecture and building decorations.

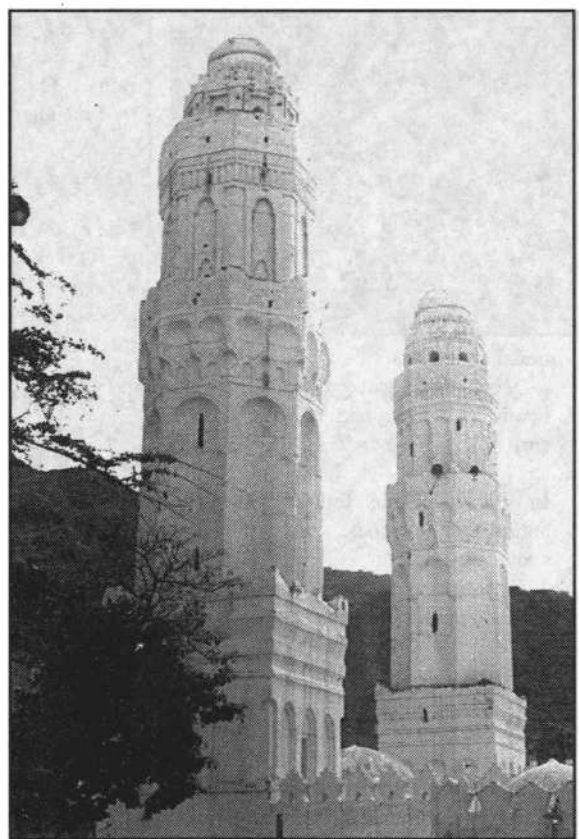
The old antiquities of Bani Rasool Era are located in old Taiz, where we find Modafar and Ashrafya mosques, fragrance of history, relics of the era of different sciences, literature, and architecture.

When you reach Modafar mosque, you are sure to be astonished by the attractive design of that mosque. You cannot but remember Modafar Omar Bin Ali Bin Rasool who built that mosque in 600 Hegira. After getting the full view of the breath-taking MONUMENT, I proceeded towards Ashrafya mosque. When I looked at that mosque, I thought it a giant guard standing at a high hill taking-care of the magnificent Modafar mosque. The two minarets of that mosque form a wonderful view as they are standing in majesty and grandeur behind that mosque.

When I arrived at the mosque, I found the gate open. Instead of finding the footsteps of king Ashraf, I was astonished to find a number of children playing and eating carelessly. They did not care about that place because they were not aware of its historical significance. I thought that it was my mistake to tread into that place. However, I stood still for a moment till I saw a person passing by. He was a teacher. I rushed to him and asked him about this precarious situation. He said that due to large number of students in the neighboring schools, and in view of the horrible event at Nasser School where many pupils were killed, they could not help decide to teach students in some of the rooms of the mosque. They were constrained to take this decision because Ashrafya school had been for long ignored by authorities concerned.

Had these ancient mosques with their beautiful variegations been in any other country, they would have paid them the attention they deserve and promote them into a major

tourist attraction. Ashrafya mosque consists of two floors. The first floor is used as an annex to Ashrafya school. The second floor forms the mosque. The mosque has the capacity for 200 worshippers. At the back of the mosque there are a number of classrooms. These classrooms are used to teach the Holy



Qur'an. This year they are converted into a primary school. The cemetery of King Ashraf and his family is located between the mosque and the school. There is a small room housing each tomb.

It is worth mentioning that the wife of king Ashraf, Jeha Attawashi Jamal'edden Matab Bin Abdullah Al-Ashraf built Matabya school, close to the Ashrafya mosque. This school is truly a symbolic expression of the revival of Bani Rasool Era. This school signals the prominent role of women during that golden era in the history of Yemen.

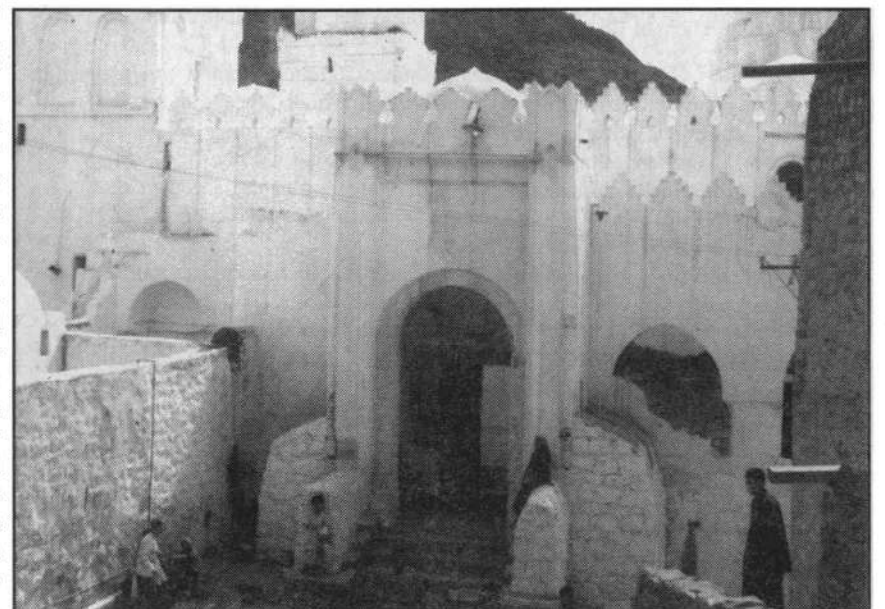
On the gate of the Ashrafya mosque, on its outer surface, there is an inscription on a stone which mentions the name of the architect who built the mosque and the date of its construction. The mosque was founded between the year 800 to 803 Hegira by King Ismail Bin Al-Abass Bin Ali Bin Dawod Bin Yosief Bin Omar Bin Ali Rasool. He was known as King Ashraf Al-Rasoli. You will be astonished as you look at the beautiful decorations on the walls and the ceiling of the mosque, especially those on the dome, in the middle of

ceiling. The decoration of the dome is the top Islamic design of the era of Bani Rasool. But the mosque needs to be renovated from inside by experts in order to protect the old variegations. There are also some variegations which have been erased and need urgent renovation.

When I reached the mosque, I talked with Mr. Ahmed Abdullah Abdulrazaq, the Imam of the mosque. He said: "Ashrafya mosque is used as a school for teaching the Holy Qur'an. Although this school has been subjected to gross neglect for many years, the Holy Qur'an is still taught in this school. Only in the morning pupils learn in that school.

It is because of the large number of students in the neighboring schools. Pupils create problems at this mosque because they are not conscious about this ancient landmark. They tamper walls and throw waste articles of food on the floor of the mosque.

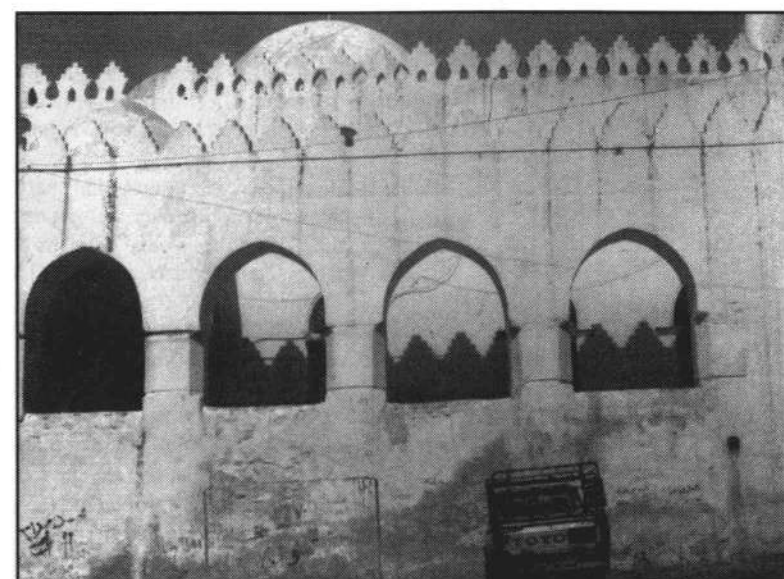
Regarding the water of the mosque, it was flowing from Sabir mountain fountains. But farmers cut those fountains and drained them to their qat farms. I remember my late father when he went to some officials in the Ministry of Religious Endowments to ask them to return water to the Ashrafya mosque. The official in charge replied: "Where is this mosque?!" The mosque suffered for long from want of water, but lately, we could solve this problem by connecting pipes from Sabir fountains to the mosque. But, we are apprehensive that one day water connection may again be cut to irrigate qat trees.



The Office of Endowments is doing some renovation for the mosque from outside. The Archaeology Department meticulously scrutinized the old decorations and tried to make them distinctly visible. A couple of years ago, some of the small domes were tarnished. The Endowment Office erected a support to protect the ceiling, but this caused erasing of some decorations. Rainwater leaks through the cracks appearing in the mosque. A number of tourists who visit this ancient landmark and the cemetery adjacent to it do not enter the mosque. This places heavy onus on the authorities concerned to pay more serious attention to this mosque. "We are doing an Islamic service, but we receive a low salary amounting to YR 2000 only. We want to stop children tampering the walls and the ground of the mosque. We also want to join hands with the Imam of this mosque so as to restore its tranquility and cleanliness."

Ashrafya mosque and other historical landmarks are in need of urgent attention and renovation because they reflect the excellence of our civilization, tradition of ancient Yemeni people who could engrave beautiful artistry on the walls of mosques. They proved their mettle in the field of ancient architecture and decorations. However, authorities concerned say that their resources being limited, they do not have adequate means to preserve their ancient historical landmarks. In conclusion, I can say that the one who does not have past does not have present nor future. To make a prosperous future, we have to preserve our past, our history and our identity.

By: Yemen Times Staff, Taiz



Press Scanner

Visits to Yemen by Israelis 'of Yemeni origin' continue to be the most dominant and controversial topic in Yemeni society and press. The opposition parties consider it a golden opportunity to hit at the government and to play on the religious Islamic and Pan-Arab feelings of the people. Despite that, it seems that most political parties, even those of the opposition just want to put for the record, while believing themselves that Yemen, and not only the ruling party or government had somehow to take this. The question is when and by whom is the bell to be hanged? However many attacks by opposition parties and their media were so strong that the ruling party had to hit back so strongly.

Al-Sahwa (Islah Party, 10th April) organ of the strongest opposition party that is represented in Parliament devoted its editorial, written by the party's Secretary General, Mohammed Al-Yadumi to the continuous and multi-facial war and conspiracy that is waged against Muslims. Al-Yadumi linked in the editorial between a long chain of aggressions and conspiracies aimed at openly pushing the Muslim nation out of its faith. Mr. Al-Yadumi spoke about the Crusades and the various aggressions and conspiracies 'against our nation since it embraced Islam' until nowadays, and [shall continue] till the end of the universe. He said: It is one continuous war with one program, but with many methods and ways. However, Al-Sahwa's editorial tactfully concentrated on the weakest point these days among the population: the government's policy, endorsed by the World Bank, on fiscal and administrative reforms which raised prices and spread poverty. He tactfully steered away from the Israeli 'delegations' issue, as it had become clear that some leaders of these delegations had visited high officials of the Islah party! However, things were soon put very clearly: They were

received as 'Americans of Yemeni origin' and not as 'Israelis of Yemeni origin'. Mr. Al-Yadumi continued saying: The weapon of economy is one of the weapons used by our enemies to destroy our societies from within, mercilessly and without any pangs of remorse. They fight us, aiming at dismantling our social structure. They endeavor to weaken the value of our currencies, to raise prices, to make the population needy, so that those hungry shall begin to break taboos when pushed into the hell of sufferings and poverty. Al-Sahwa devoted a full page for articles published by Arab newspapers commenting on the new policy of the government of Yemen towards Israelis of Yemeni origin. Three such articles were re-published by Al-Sahwa: The first was written by the Egyptian Islamic writer Fahmi Huwaidi and titled: Yemen On Board the Normalization Train, originally published in the Saudi London-based Asharq Al-Awsat. Another article was the editorial of Al-Quds Al-Arabi of London under the title: Yemen and the Booby-trapped Israeli Delegation. The third article was titled: Israelis and Yemen, published earlier in Al-Watan of Qatar. However, it seem nearly obvious that Al-Sahwa wants to keep the road open with the People's General Congress. It refrained from publishing strong statements on the same subject made by Islah Party's most prominent leaders: Sheikh Abdullah Al-Ahmar and Sheikh Abdul Majid Azzindani. Nasser Yahya, one of Al-Sahwa columnists, was very relaxed on the same topic. He was even able to discover at least one positive point in the statement issued by the government: that it re-confirmed the position taken by Yemen towards the peace process in the region. However, he added, we have to understand that opening the doors of Yemen for Israelis of Yemeni origin can be used as a mean tool for normalizing relations [with Israel],

unless effective procedures are implemented in order to distinguish those who are of true Yemeni origin from others. He seems convinced that if Israeli tourists are of true Yemeni origin then there shall be no kind of normalization [with the enemy], otherwise things shall be different. The respected columnist didn't elaborate on the 'effective procedures' needed nor how or were they shall be implemented.

Al-Ummah (Al-Haq Party, 13th April), the mouthpiece of another Islamic political force which is different from that represented by the Islah party, took a very similar position. It however was the only newspaper to quote 'informed sources' that several sheikhs of Yemeni tribes expressed their support to Sheikh Abdullah Al-Ahmar (leader of the Islah party) in his position of rejecting the normalization [with Israel] and any visits by Jewish tourist groups. Al-Ummah added that observers believe that this position taken by the tribes of Yemen was the real cause behind statement issued by the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which cautioned Israelis against visiting Yemen. As it is always the practice of Yemeni media, Al-Ummah didn't mention the name of any sheikh or tribe in regard to its report. The threat contained in the report contradicts the traditional and long established position, that any ordinary Muslim can give sanctuary to non-Muslims and his right should be respected by other Muslims, not to mention that in this case that an elected, legal Islamic government is permitting the visits. It may be noted here that amid all this debate neither government nor the opposition seem to remember that the Arab League issued a few years ago, upon request by the P.L.O. its member states to allow the Jews who had immigrated to Palestine to return to their countries of origin. The P.L.O. and the Arab League considered that

such a move should benefit the Palestinian people and its (then) legitimate and sole representative in its struggle to regain its rights. Nobody seems aware also that the return of nearly one million Yemenis from the G.C.C. countries in the aftermath of the disastrous Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and from the war ridden Horn of Africa continues to take its toll. If every returning immigrant used to support a wife and three children in addition to himself, that means that about five million Yemenis lost their source of living since the end of 1990 till now.

Al-Mithaq (People's General Congress, 10th April) stood up to these attacks against government. It highlighted the statement issued by a P.G.C. which concentrated on the following: (By Charging of Betrayal and Calling Others Unbelievers Islah Party Reflects its Ill Intentions Towards Democracy), (Tourists Visiting Yemen and Holding non-Israeli Documents has Nothing to Do with Normalization.) and (P.G.C. Denounces Narrow-Mindedness, Rejects Fanaticism and Intolerance, and Confirms that Government is Committed to its National Principles). The P.G.C.'s statement said that the Islah party is as any other party, to take whatever position it likes towards any issue. But, the statement continued, the Islah party exceeded all agreed upon limits for political rhetoric and over-stepped that prohibit accusing others of treason.

Al-Thawrah (Ministry of Information 7th April) had reconfirmed in its editorial the position of Yemen towards Israel. It quoted what President Saleh had told President Clinton: **There shall be no normalization with the Israeli government before a just and comprehensive peace is established, and then only within a move by the Arab League.**

As the newspapers that represent the parties of Pan-Arabism (Ba'ath, Nasserites, etc.) each one of them is shown separately.

Al-Ehya'a Al-A'rabi (Ba'ath Party, Iraqi faction, 10th April) concen-

trated completely on the situation of Iraq. It compared the continuing siege of Iraq to the one organized at early Islam by the pagan Quraish against the Prophet and his family, which was protecting him according to the rules of tribal law.

VACANCY The Embassy of Japan

(1) Maintenance / Cleaner

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1. Male
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4. Have general knowledge about electricity and generators.
5. Willing to work different jobs and odd hours.
6. Driving license.

(2) Butler

QUALIFICATION:

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Fax: 01-215226

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ريم علوي السقاف الى الشاب **منصور محمد هادي**
متمنين لهم حياة زوجية سعيدة وبالرفاه والبنين.
المهنؤون، آل السقاف، آل هادي، آل الاهدل، بيت معصار،
بيت سعيد الاديمي، عائلة نجيب خان،
عائلة عبدالرحمن الاصبحي،
وجميع الأهل والأصدقاء

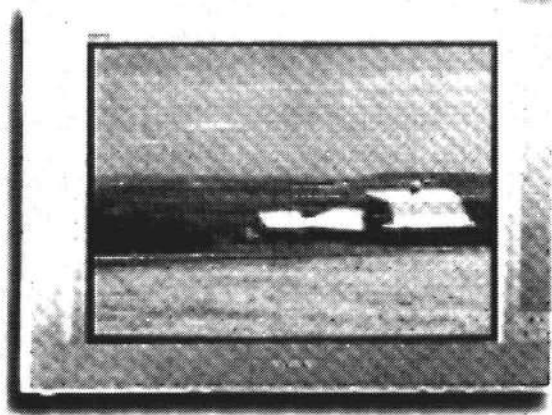
ألف
مبروك

ببالغ الأسى والحزن تلقينا نبأ وفاة المغفور له بإذن الله
يحيى محمد عضيف
ونرفع تعازينا ومواساتنا بهذا المصاب الجلل
الى آل بني مجلي عامة والي آل بني عضيف خاصة.
المعزون:
محمد قايم يحيى، علي قاسم يحيى
وجميع موظفي شركة ارض حمير للتجارة

البقاء
لله

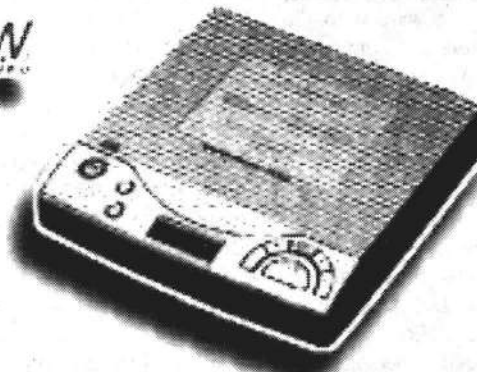
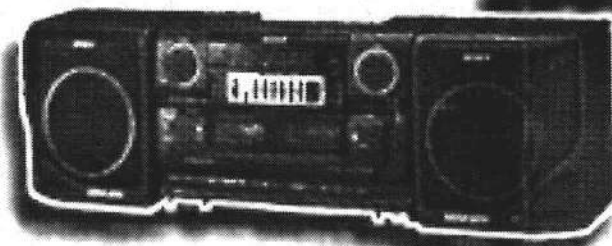
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The General Management of a Jordanian Private ISP in Jordan: Part 2 of 3 Parts

"Yemen May Be Our Second Destination!"

Walid Al-Saqqaf

As a follow-up to last week's article titled "When Internet Monopoly Takes its Toll", here we publish the complete interview with one of the most successful private Internet Service Providers in Jordan. Because Jordan opened the way for privatization of the Internet service, several companies have been operating under the ceiling of a supportive and encouraging government. This is yet to be the case in Yemen. Until that happens, I will only continue to bring the negative aspects of monopolization of Internet Services and bring it to the attention of a potential private ISPs and Internet users to the effort that the privatization law is drafted in support of privatization of media, including the Internet.

Just as I entered into the company's apartment, which was on the 4th floor of a deluxe building in one of the new neighborhoods in western Amman, I was warmly received and welcomed by Abdullah, brother of the General Manager who himself was a quite gentle person. Later I realized he was the person responsible for the administration of the company. As I came into the office of the company's General Manager, we was delighted to find a young man in his 30s welcoming me warmly and introducing me to his brother and sister in the room next to his.

Sami H. Jana is the owner and founder of DESTINATIONS, a 2-year old Internet Service Providing company in Jordan. Being an electrical engineer in the field of communications and digital switching, .. was able to have himself well established in the Information Technology (IT) sector in Jordan. Mr. Jana worked in ARAMCO of Saudi Arabia, and now, along with his brother and sister, run their own ISP, which is serving more than 1,500 subscribers (probably more than the subscribers of Teleyemen), and is ranked the first in

speed and quality of service. He as the technical expert and the one who knows every single networking operation taking place, his brother Abdullah, with a degree in Administration works in managing the company, and his sister Hala, as a computer programmer ad up to the team to develop software and web pages for the company. The three form an ideal group of people to found an efficiently managed and operating company.

To have an extensive look at his company's achievements and progress, YT met him and filed the following interview. Asked about whether he would like to invest in Yemen if the door was opened to him, he answered.

"Yes I will be glad to invest in Yemen. I know that Internet is not something of an extra feature, it has become an essential commodity in every-day life. It will continue to flourish and be more significant in Yemen as anywhere in the world. So I suppose I will be happy to come and invest in our brotherly country Yemen. As a matter of fact, one should always extend his vision to beyond his scope today. He should look beyond Jordan, and even beyond Yemen for a better opportunity in another place. This is the proof of globalization, in which the Internet played an important role. We have chosen the name of the company to be global and not restricted to any specific place. Whenever you open our website, you would not even know where it is at, because it is without an extension of the country (.jo). We are a company that thinks globally, and who knows? Maybe Yemen could be our second destination!"

"During the days I worked in Saudi Arabia in the Planning department of ARAMCO, I was interested in the networking phenomena and its usefulness in spreading information. As a matter of fact, I predicted that the Internet would be the information network of the future before it was even available in Jordan. Being a computer expert myself, I was able to realize the benefits and useful-

ness of the Internet, and was able to use it effectively for my own work. The commands of controlling the flow of information in the networked environment of the Internet used to be through a bunch of Unix commands. Today, it roughly does the same thing, but with a much friendlier interface.

Not only me, but all economy experts by then realized that the role of the Internet would become a prominent and vital one in the future.

Initially, I wanted the company to play a role in electronic commerce. However, later I realized that it is more important at that time to found the medium, in which users could get into the Internet, for without that, no one would be able to use e-commerce. Hence, I decided to establish it as an ISP.

We have gone a long way in establishing ourselves since August 1998 as a prominent ISP in Jordan. We have focused on some objectives in providing our business, which starts with providing quality service with acceptable rates. The rest of the objectives can be found in our website.

We could not have reached the level of success we are in without the direct support of King Hussein (Mercy upon his soul) and his son King Abdullah. They do this simply because they realize that we need a push forward to be able to match international standards and be beneficial for the public and for the country as a whole.

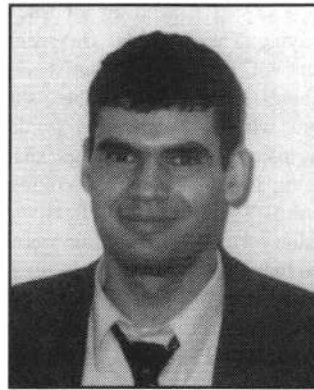
To a question about the number of private and governmental ISPs he said, "There are no state owned ISPs. However, there are some units that provide Internet services only to governmental offices. These units were not competing with us as private companies, and have not affected our markets. Today, all the commercial ISPs, which total to 16 licensed ISPs, 7 of them fully operational, are privately owned, something that is seldom found in other Arab countries."

Related to how companies get their license and begin operation Jana replied, "When we applied, to the government was offering licenses for private companies to set their companies,

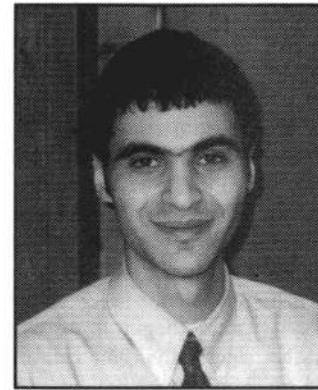
It is an evolving process, and the infrastructure of

the communication system in Jordan has been there since 1995 under continuous construction and update. Just around 1 year ago, the ISDN (Integrated Services Digital Network) was implemented and became a built in communication medium. This was a direct result of the demand by Internet users. Today, they are beginning to talk about installing the Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM). Speaking of enhancing the communication backbone, Jordanian Telecommunication Company (JTC) participated in the global fiber optic network extending through the red sea by establishing a node in Aqaba in the south of Jordan. The network extends from London to UAE, to Singapore to Japan going through the red sea; Hence I believe you have a node in Yemen as well. The link would continue from Japan to the USA which already has a fiber optic link to London. Hence, this would obviously compose a complete cycle of fiber optic.

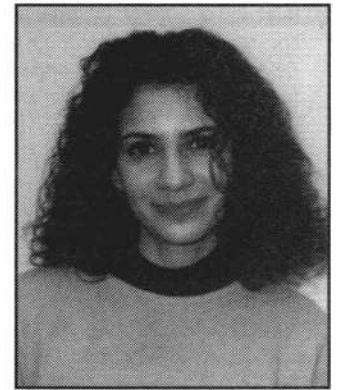
It is obvious from the government's action that they intend to use all the communication tools that would help the country cope with the digital age. To demonstrate these efforts, His Majesty, King Hussein ordered the conversion of a special station called Hashim 1, which was used to link Hussein Medical Complex to Miami Medical Complex, to a station used for the linking of private ISPs to the inter-



GM. Sami Jana



Abdullah Hana



Hala Hana

national backbone. Today, ISPs have the choice either to link to that station or to the JTC's own station."

When asked about how ISP can technically connect themselves to the backbone, and hence to the Internet, he said: "The Internet has no geographical or positional frontiers; it is open, it flows everywhere, and one cannot explain it in a specific matter like saying "this is the Internet". However, if we understand how it works, we will know how ISPs connect to it. The internet is the network of networks, and the backbone, and is the shared part of the network by all branching networks. In developed countries, we would see that telecommunication companies have their own sophisticated national networks. These networks are connected eventually to the backbones which carry the transactions and data to the rest of the world. However, the backbone itself is a mix of mediums that can transfer large amounts of data per second (usually of fiber optics and Satellite.) The backbone is not owned by anyone, but rather maintained by different large-scale international telecommunication companies such as WorldCom (MCI previously), AT&T, Deutch Telecom, France Telecom, and other telecommunication companies. They all cooperated in bringing this service to the world. Eventually it is in their common interest to maintain the backbone

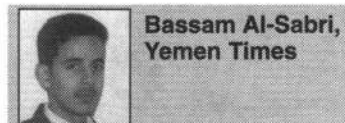
because of their dependence on it for all their telecommunications.

For an ISP, like ours, to connect to the Internet, it must connect through the backbone. We have a national network managed and operated by JTC, which has connected itself to the backbone, as I mentioned earlier, at Al-Aqaba Port, and through other mediums such as Intelsat, which is terminated with British Telecom, and other companies. In this case, we need to link our cable to a node of JTC, which is usually at a considerable distance from our company. In Jordan, we have a committee called the committee for organizing telecommunications. Its duty is to give licenses to ISPs and notify them of the certain JTC node they will be connected to, which is usually the closest to the site of the ISP. We literally enjoy a free market service companies, and suffer from no monopoly whatsoever. Whoever wants to establish his/her own company can try his/her luck if he is granted the license by the government and given the opportunity to do so without any restrictions. On the contrary, the government usually gives extra facilities to the companies such as technical assistance and encouragement."

We stop here for this week, and continue next week with the answer to the question: How easy it is to setup an ISP?

To be continued next week

US Government Controls IT Exports to the Middle East



Bassam Al-Sabri, Yemen Times

Many, if not all, of us may, perhaps, not be aware of the fact that the US government controls IT exports to the Middle East. Although not widely recognized or publicly declared, this remains an undeniable fact. The US export controls determines who shall receive US origin technology products and who shall not. It presides over how quick we take delivery of IT products- or whether we shall receive them at all? In 1996, the Bureau of Exports Administration (BXA) partitioned the world into several tiers (I, II, III and IV) depending on US national security and foreign policy interests. These divisions represent the level of potential threat that a country, government or even an individual poses on the US national security. Accordingly, it determines the technical level of computer systems these end-users could receive without having to obtain an export license. Nearly all Middle East countries in addition to the former Soviet Union, China, India and Pakistan fall in the tier III division. Unfortunate countries such as Syria, Iraq, Iran and Libya belong to tier IV. According to this classification, tier III members cannot purchase computer systems that can perform more than 2000 million theoretical operations per second (MTOPS). Beyond that, it is up to the BXA to determine their liability to receive such high-tech IT products. It entirely depends on who you are: a government, commercial or and individual IT buyer (end-user). Yet, in all cases, the BXA ought to be sure that you would not employ whatsoever IT product you purchase for carrying out any military or weapons

related research. Commercial end-users who intend to purchase an IT product that can exceed 2000 MTOPS should obtain a National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) certificate. Even now, the purchased IT product cannot exceed 12,300 MTOPS (previously 7000 MTOPS) or otherwise they should acquire an Individual Valuation License (IVL). In acquiring an NDAA, an application form (available at the BXA official Web site www.bxa.doc.gov/HPCs/SampleSafeGuardPlan.html) is forwarded to the Departments of Defense, Commerce, Energy and State plus the Director of Arms Control and Disarmament (the process consumes about 10 to 15 days). Besides, you should adhere to 11 conditions one of which is a promise not to re-export the purchased IT product. Furthermore, in cases of purchasing big American brands such as IBM, Compaq and Dell, the respective Middle East Offices of these brands assign specific personnel to carry out a preliminary assessment on application forms. Afterwards, they are presented before the BXA, and then routed through the above mentioned offices. If, for any reason, one of the government offices raised a particular objection on the transaction, the request will be immediately denied and a license application would be necessitated. Obtaining an IVL is harder and requires a very time-consuming process (5 to 6 months on average). As the term IVL implies, applications for obtaining this license are studied very meticulously. In this case, there are 36 conditions that IT buyers should abide by compared to 11 conditions in the case of an NDAA certificate. Those conditions are included in what is called "Supplement 3 to Part 742 of the Export Administration Regulations"

which is also available at the same previously stated Web site as stated above. They include loads of details howsoever small on varied subjects such as the nationalities of personnel who should not have access to the product, running modifications that could further enhance the performance of the device, re-export and security measures taken to protect the product against stealing. The measures taken in cases of government end-users are not quite the same because they need not obtain an NDAA certificate. Government IT buyers are allowed to purchase computer systems that could perform 6500 MTOPS without having to acquire an IVL or any other certificate. Past this level, government end-users are required to go for an IVL. However, defining the term "government end-user" is still a matter of dispute since governments are always related to military in one way or another. Moreover, the fact that the BXA along with 14 other government agencies are involved in the process of dominating the exports rules makes it hard to put standard measures in cases of government end-users. Last, despite all these restrictions from the BXA, it still cannot guarantee that none of the members of the "Denied Persons List" would receive one of its controlled IT products; the reason is quite simple. The broad availability of computer components in gray markets today makes it very simple for a local assembler in a tier III member country to build a computer system that could exceed 2000 MTOPS. In fact, it is simpler, cheaper and easier to maintain than a US origin computer and, on top of that all, the local assembler could not possibly be penalized by the BXA given that its authority is restricted to the US origin manufacturers.

Technology Flashes

The L&H Voice Express

Have you ever dreamed of a device that can record notes and dictation and then transcribe them without having to do the writing yourself? Well, technology has found a very compelling solution for this problem. The L&H Voice Express Professional package can hold up to 75 minutes of speech in its 8MB flash memory. This 2-ounce device has unique features like batch transcription and environmental noise compensation. You can navigate through the device, edit recordings and change settings such as date, time and microphone sensitivity by means of its easy-to-use menu button. This startling equipment has an LCD screen that shows the current folder, battery status, dictation mode and length of current recording. In addition, you can connect it through your PC's serial port and then transfer the files into the hard disk. After that, you can use the L&H XpressPad Mobile to listen to your WAV files or transcribe them directly into text. The XpressPad has features that could recognize punctuation marks by simply using dictating the commands "comma", "period" and so on. This amazing device costs \$229.99 and you can check the company's Web site for more details (www.lhsl.com).

Samsung's Wristwatch Phone

Marking its strong stand in the technology race, Samsung has released its new wristwatch phone with the birth of the new millennium. You will be able to make phone calls, send and receive e-mails messages and even surf the Web through your wristwatch. However, you may wonder how you would be able to perform all these tasks without having a keyboard? For this purpose, Conversa has developed a built-in voice recognition and text-to-speech support. So, all you have to do is speak to your wristwatch. In addition, you would be able to program your friends' phone numbers, place calls and pick up Call Waiting by voice and, moreover, it will read your e-mail messages aloud for you. Still, the primary version cannot compose e-mails or surf the web but those are main feature of the main design of this device. The product is now selling in Korea and is expected to be distributed to the rest of the world later this year. However, it is expected to arrive later to the Middle East since most of the countries in the region do not support the GSM system.

The Internet Pager

It is very likely that no one has ever expected that a small device like a pager could one day handle tasks such as emailing, faxing and information services. Now, a Weblink Wireless paging service has been established in the US. Therefore, if you have a compatible Motorola, Philips or Glynare Wireless you can receive your personal or business email via an ePager mailbox, notice of online faxes, updates of Internet contents as well as several other services. Moreover, you would receive a free My Yahoo! Email account and a Callwave online fax number. The prices of the pagers range from 60\$ to 170\$ but still the service is not available in the Middle East.

Continued from last week:

Great Opportunity for Yemeni IT graduates

Germany needs IT-specialists Emerging recruitment program

As a follow-up to last week's article about the opportunity for Yemeni IT graduates to work in Germany, here are additional excerpts from the press release:

With its initiative, the Federal Government of Germany hopes to eliminate the current shortage of IT specialists over the medium term and to use the employment potential provided by this sector to Germany's benefit.

Conditions and Method of Applying for IT positions in Germany:
The required qualification for computer specialists: University or Technical high school degree in IT technologies and/or communication technologies (bachelor's or master's degree)

Interested and qualified Yemenis or foreigners can apply for a work permit under the newly installed email-address:

bonn-zav.it-experts@arbeitsamt.de

The Federal Employment Agency (FEA) (Zentralstelle für Arbeitsvermittlung ZAV, 53123 Bonn, Villemomplerstr, 76) will inform the applicants on the details of the necessary procedures. The FEA will as well examine/recognize the different degrees of the applicants.

The FEA will have sole responsibility of placement of IT job applicants from abroad. It will simplify the procedures involves. With approval of the FEA, German companies will also be able to recruit top foreign specialists themselves.

The top specialists recruited will be able to work in Germany for a limited period of time (first three years, extendable up to a total of five years). The working conditions and payment for the foreign specialists will principally be the same as for domestic employees. The selected specialists can come with their families.

Several Activities at Rabia'ah Al-Adaweiah School Inaugurated

Yasser M. Ahmed,
Yemen Times

On Saturday 15 April, Rabia'ah Al-Adaweiah High School held a celebration for the inauguration of several new activities. The celebration was attended by the Minister of Education, Minister of Planning, Governor of the Capital Secretariat as well as members of the Parliament and the Consultative Council and the British ambassador to Yemen.

Rabia'ah Al-Adaweiah School is considered one of the most ideal female education institutions in the country because of its continuous developing

embassies like the British Embassy which supported the school's library with 600 Arabic and English books. On the occasion, Dr. Yahya Al-Shoa'aybi gave a speech saying that Rabia'ah Al-Adaweiah is a

model school deserving all support. He added that the Ministry of Education assists this school because of its great



contributions to Education. Headmistress Fatima Mashour said that inauguration of the new activities was pre-

arranged by the Ministry of Education and the Capital Secretariat. In addition, she said the school is very proud

with its educational and scientific activities and advanced levels of students due to great efforts of the teaching body. Then, she added that the school established a computer lab, granted by

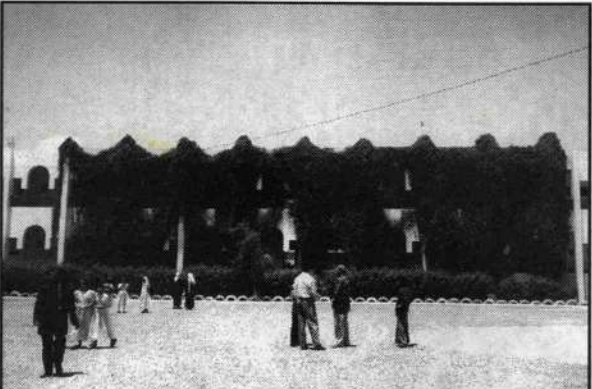
Ahmed Mohamed Sofan, Minister of Planning, as an advanced step to keep abreast with the developing computer age. Moreover, she expressed her gratitude to

the British Ambassador for his generous donation of 600 books to the school's library and the British Embassy for its magnanimous contribution of US\$ 10,000 towards the cost of building two halls last year. Finally, she thanked Hayel Saeed Anam Group for the continuous support for the school.

Mr. Vic Henderson, British Ambassador, delivered a speech in which welcomed all the attendants saying: "It is really a pleasure for me to find myself standing again in Rabia'ah Al-Adaweiah School. Last December, I was present here for the purpose of the "Children Draw their Rights" project. This project is sponsored by the British Government and is controlled by the British Council. The goal of the project was to develop the awareness of children among schools, families and children themselves." He has also assured the need of developing females' education since they represent 50% of the population and that, therefore, Yemen needs high-level girl schools so they can contribute to the building of the modern Yemen. Last, he added that he was really glad that his embassy has joined the contributors' group assuring the British government has donated a sum of US\$ 14,000 (approximately 2 millions and quarter a million) including a US\$ 4000 which was used to purchase the books.



educational performance. Under the leadership of teacher Fatima Mashour, the school was able to gain the support of several organizations and foreign



Built on Values Steered by Experience

Mercedes-Benz has a new class of heavy duty trucks. Actros, Setting new standards by uniting technology for the future with the experience of its predecessors. Actros has innovated values that have built the success of Mercedes-Benz generations. Actros is designed with a new type of suspension which ensures ideal steering characteristics and excellent vehicle stability, the Actros

was built for maximum load capacity at minimum wear and tear.

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Dr. Ramakanta Sahu
Associate Professor
College of Education, Mahweet

I What to say:

Asking information

- Dr. Salem:** Good morning. May I come in?
Dr. Ahmad: Good morning. Please come in. Have a seat please.
Dr. Salem: My name is Dr. Salem. I have moved to the neighboring flat. So we are neighbors. Thought it is a good idea to meet you.
Dr. Ahmad: You're welcome. My name is Dr. Ahmad. I'm in the department of Arabic studies. I'm from Syria. Which department have you joined?
Dr. Salem: I've joined as an Associate Professor in the faculty of Education. I'm from India.
Dr. Ahmad: That's nice. I'm glad to have you as my neighbor.
Dr. Salem: Thank you. Actually, I'm completely new to this area and don't know where essential provisions are available. I need your help to guide me.
Dr. Ahmad: I'll be glad to. What do you want?
Dr. Salem: Where is the provision store here?
Dr. Ahmad: If you walk down this street, two shops before the junction there are two grocery shops opposite each other on either side of the road. You can get all essential grocery items there.
Dr. Salem: Thanks. Where can I get fresh vegetables?
Dr. Ahmad: There is a green grocer's shop very close to this building. You can buy fresh vegetables there.
Dr. Salem: I would like to have pure cow's milk. Where can I get it here?
Dr. Ahmad: Well, for getting cow's milk you have to go to the 7th street. It is five to seven minutes walking distance from here. But there is a milk booth right below our building.
Dr. Salem: Can we get a reliable servant maid? You know my wife has joined a school here. And we have a one-year old kid.
Dr. Ahmad: Well, I'm not quite sure about that. But one of my colleagues who stays two houses after, also is in the similar situation. Let me ask him today.
Dr. Salem: It'll be very nice of you. Please ask whether she would agree to baby-sitting and how much she will ask for.
Dr. Ahmad: Don't worry. I'll get all the relevant details from my friend. Meanwhile, if you want, I may spare my servant maid to work in your house until alternative arrangements are made.
Dr. Salem: Thanks a lot. That'd, indeed, be a great help. You have been so kind. It's a privilege to have someone like you as a neighbor.
Dr. Ahmad: You are welcome.

II How to say it correctly:

Correct the errors, if any, in the following sentences:

- 1) I'm too glad to see you.
- 2) He went to foreign for higher studies.
- 3) Ahmad and Hamid are fast enemies.
- 4) He being poor, he can't buy good clothes.
- 5) I asked him that how could he trust a cheat.

Answers to previous weeks' questions:

1) What are your prospects in the firm?
Note: "prospect" relates to something in future. Naturally, there is no need of using "future" with "prospect".

- 2) The student got only pass marks.
- 3) I cannot get on well with my boss.
- 4) I very much like poems of Keats.
- 5) I have come to the conclusion that the future of democracy is bright in Yemen.

Note: "Conclusion" means "something finally done". So adding the word "final" before "conclusion" is not necessary. However, if we wish to retain the word "final", we can put the sentence this way:
 I have come to the final decision that

III How to express it in one word:

- 1) A place where young plants are reared.
- 2) The absence of a government in a country.
- 3) A state in which the government is carried on by the people, or their elected representatives, without a monarch.
- 4) Government carried on by an absolute ruler.
- 5) Government by the representatives of people.

Answer to the previous week's questions:

- 1) The science of reasoning: **logic**
- 2) A figure with many angles or sides: **polygon**
- 3) Belonging to all parts of the world: **universal**
- 4) An instrument for measuring temperature: **thermometer**
- 5) Compulsory enlistment for military or other services: **conscription**

IV Match the words with the phrases that tell the same thing. Put the numbers of the words before the phrase:

- | | |
|------------|---------------------------|
| 1) lagged | flowed with force |
| 2) gushed | moved slowly |
| 3) gurgled | moved rapidly along |
| 4) rushed | made a noise as it flowed |

Answers to last week's quiz:

- What do you hear
 When a stone hits water: **splash**
 When the branch breaks: **crack**
 When the gun goes off: **bang**

V. Quotable quote:

Sana'a: A Stranger's Tribute

Here there is no feast of forests,
 Nor even the normal share of greenery
 We find in the flourishing modern cities;
 We only have a ring of hills instead,
 A bounty of hills bare and brown,
 That adorns this desert city of Sana'a;
 And yet the wonder of wonders is that
 The soft and cool breeze that blows
 In this bare and brown valley of Sana'a
 Is not to be found elsewhere on earth
 Neither in the East of the mighty desert
 Nor in the West of this heart of the East;
 No coolers and conditioners needed here
 To create an artificial cool air,

Not even fans are needed, for sure,
 To stir an unmoving humid air.

"The cool refreshing breeze that blows
 All through the months of the summer
 Is the gift of the All-Mighty Allah
 To the chosen ones of His children."

They rejoice in the bliss bestowed on them
 And care not to look before and after
 To pine and whine for what is not.

Bhim S. Dahiya
Visiting Professor
Faculty of Languages
Sana'a University
Sana'a

اسماء الفائزين بمسابقة

دليل السؤال الذهبي برعاية صحيفة يمن تايمز والشركات المساهمة

المحافظة	أسماء الفائزين:	الشركات المساهمة برعاية هذا الدليل:
تعز	1- محمد عبدالوارث محمد هزاع	1- شركة يمن سوفت
صنعاء	2- محمد محمد عبدالله	2- شوق المتحدة للمشاريع
صنعاء	3- عبده قائد ناصر الجبلي	3- شركة القمة - بيتزا هت
الحديدة	4- عبدالسلام عارف احمد الزريقي	4- شركة أرتكس التجارية
تعز	5- وضاح احمد علي محمد القرشي	5- الشركة المتحدة لإنتاج المنظفات - كلوركس
صنعاء	6- محمد احمد سيف الحطامي	6- محلات مام
تعز	7- عبدالله عبدالله النهاري	7- محلات رويال وماجستي
صنعاء	8- عبدالله جازم محمد اليوسفي	8- شركة اليمن للتأمين
صعدة	9- سفيان محمد	9- شركة الشرق الأوسط للملاحة المحدودة
تعز	10- مروان علي عبدالواحد علوان	10- نست تكنولوجيا
		11- توكيلات القاسم التجارية - وكلاء سيكو
		12- يمياك للنقل
		13- باك فورد للنقل
		14- مؤسسة سالم عبدالرحمن باجرش وأولاده - زيت الطيبات
		15- يمسن تكنولوجيا - ايه بي اس
		16- النادي اليمني للسياحة والسيارات

إعداد رفاهه للدعاية والإعلان

YOUTH FORUM

Hatred for School

When I go to my school where I teach, I find a lot of students from the nearby schools out sitting on pavements with their books. They wait till it is too late to go to class. The phenomenon of truancy raises a lot of question marks. First of all, why students get up early? Why do they prefer to waste their time just sitting on pavements or walking around in streets aimlessly till the time of closing of school, and then go home pretending return from school? Are they careless or afraid of their future? Most of the students think that even if they finish their studies, they will not find jobs. This leads to an important question "Who is responsible?" I think there are two main factors here: the house and the school. Most of students do not have any kind of encouragement and guidance from their parents at home or from their teachers in school. Some families do not care for their children's school needs. As teachers, we cannot deny that there are some students who do not care about their lessons or homework and even about their future. Whenever

you ask any student about the reason of truancy, he would say that there is no benefit of education since there are no jobs after it. He would give you many examples from the real life. "Even if we have jobs, we cannot do anything with our salaries, as everything is so expensive and we cannot get everything we need." Their frustration seems to be justified; especially, when the youth think about the difficult life they face today. So, who is responsible to drive guys to the edge of despair? I think that students must be more serious in completing their studies because it is not a matter of earning money only. Students have to think about being educated, aware and intellectually sound. Most of the students nowadays have not got manners. If they are in school, they do not respect their teachers nor they maintain school's rules and regulations. In this case, school also shares a big responsibility. First, it has to provide everything that students need, such as books, qualified teachers, and all class equipment. The school has to inform the students' families if their children are late or absent for several days. Similarly, parents have to be

careful about their children at home by helping them review their lessons and homework. They have to visit them in their schools and inquire about their educational level. Finally, in my opinion, if we want to find a solution for such a chronic problem, school, family, and parents should cooperate together, so as to find a feasible solution. Do you agree with me that this question needs an answer and it is a problem which call for an urgent solution?
Anisa Asda
Teacher of English (PTC)
Say it
 You can say it.
 And you are free to make it.
 And I?
 What will I say?
 You must know it now
 That I will not bother what you have done before.
 And you have to know
 That life will onward go
 And your freedom will not cause me any pain
 As you sow
 You will have to reap the same..
Zeyad Taqi Al-ddin



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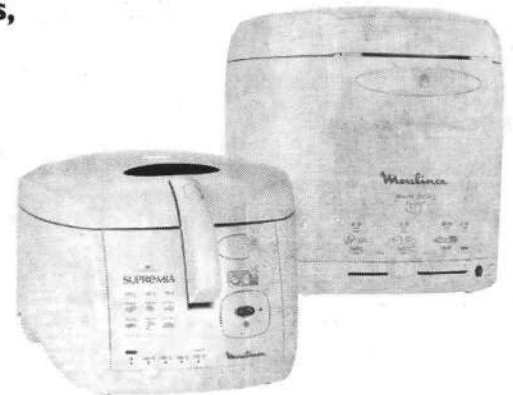
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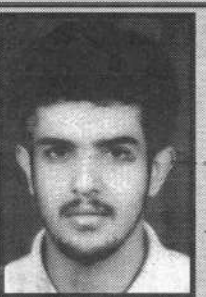
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 ياسر محمد احمد
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SPOT LIGHT

Welcome Back!!



Jamal Al-Awadhi,
Sport Editor

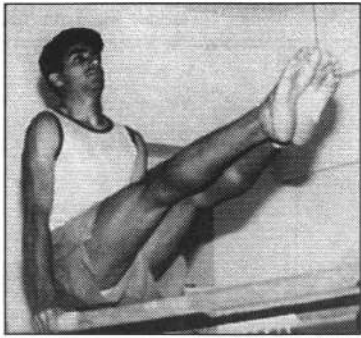
Yemen Times is happy to receive a lot of letters from its readers. All of those letters urge upon republication of the sport page and all sport events. We are very happy to announce that in response to their requests, Yemen Times has decided to republish that page under a new name, "Youth and Sports". All events concerning youth affairs will be published in this page. There will be a vacant space for readers' letters and comments. We would like to point out that Yemen Times is not only for politicians and economists, but for youth and athletes as well. Indeed, the success of any newspaper depends on catering to the needs of tastes of thousands of the youth. Yemeni youth are creative and powerful, but they need more encouragement by authorities concerned. Yemen Times will also devote a column for sports journalists and for the activators to ventilate their view points. They are welcome to send us their comments and discuss youth issues in Yemen for publication in this column.

Point of View

What is the Future Boxing?

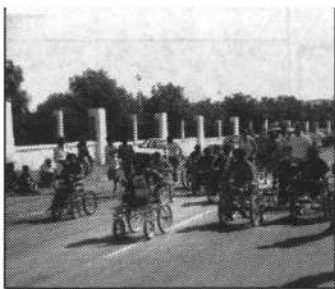
All of us feel proud for the spectacular achievement by Yemeni wrestling champion, prince Nassim Hamid Kashmin. Most people consider Nassim's championship as a high watershed in Yemeni sport activities. Ministry of Youth and Sports has constituted the Yemeni Boxing Union. This might be a liability on the part of the Ministry which does a lot of things without understanding their implications. Most of our youth go to clubs and gymnastics centers to seek training in wrestling. They consider wrestling an exciting game, but they neither find proper coaches nor encouragement. They are severely handicapped in the absence of an expert who can conduct this activity because the union and his members who are the ones to promote this sport are themselves busy in their own work. Ministry of Youth and Sport must take prince Nassim's championships as an example. It should take proper care of this game well in time instead of basking in the glory of prince Nassim. This unfortunately seems to be the reality of Yemeni sport. The weakness of the Yemeni sport is clearly demonstrated by the low profile participation of Yemeni teams in the international tournaments. When would the officials at the Ministry of Youth visit sport clubs to take stock of the current situations and the problems faced by youth? If the Minister of Youth pays more attention to the talented in boxing, it will go along way in promoting this game and bringing laurels for the country. *Yousif Al-Baidhani*

Gymnastics Course Concludes



The gymnastics course at the Olympic Center, organized jointly by the Yemeni Gymnastics Union, World Gymnastics Union and the Yemeni Olympic Committee concluded last week. About 25 participants, including two girls: Adeelah Abdulwadood and Huda Muhaidry took part in the course which was conducted by the gymnastics expert David Prosouv. On this occasion, the chairman of the Union, chairman of the Yemeni Olympic Committee and some participants addressed the gathering highlighting the importance of disseminating the information that participants had gained during the course to improve the game in Yemen. The British Gymnastics expert David expressed the hope that the game would prosper and improve during the upcoming years.

Yemeni Handicapped To Tour The Arab States



Yasser Hassanin, Khalid Taher and Abdullah Saeed of the Handicapped Society in Aden have recently arrived in Sana'a on their bicycles, passing through Lahj, Taiz, Ibb and Dhamar. On their arrival, they stated that the trip showed the courage and determination of handicapped to overcome any sort of difficulties in sport. They expressed their desire to go on an expedition through the Arab states and hoped to get the necessary support from the Minister of Youth and Sports Dr. Abdulwahab Raweh to enable them to successfully accomplish their mission which is the first initiative of its kind by some Yemeni handicapped youths.

Addawlah Ninth In The World Cross-Country Race

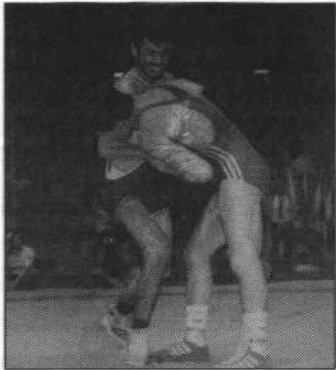
The Yemeni athlete Ismael Addawlah came ninth in the world cross-country race held recently in Sudan despite the high temperature of 40° celsius prevalent there. About 3500 athletes from Ethiopia, Kenya, Eritrea, France, Djibouti, Chad, Palestine, Syrian, Yemen and Sudan participated in the race. Mohammed Yacob (Sudan) came first, Kore Paul (Sudan) second, Vortnato (Eritrea) third. Luck, this time, was not on the side of the international Ethiopian athlete Kibara who came fourth. Mohammed Addawlah participated for the first time outside Yemen after winning the Republic Championship.

Handicapped Children's Club Inaugurated

A sports club for handicapped children was inaugurated last week in the Handicapped Training Center in Hodeidah. The club, which is the first of its kind, comprises three departments for registration of new cases, counseling mothers how to deal with their handicapped children, and providing entertainment facilities to the

handicapped respectively. The club is funded by leading businessman Abdul Jaleel Radman.

Al-Azani in Bright Colors in the International Wrestling Championship



The International Wrestling Championship, hosted by Syria, was kicked off last Tuesday. The participating teams are from Yemen, Algeria, Cyprus, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia as well as Syria. Abdullah Al-Azani, the Yemeni champion wrestler, has put up an exciting performance in the 54 kg category held in Tashrin, Syria. He defeated his Iranian opponent, Mahdi Manawifi, with 6 to 5 points. He also defeated his Syrian opponent, Tarek Abdul Baki, though he was defeated by the Syrian Champion Abdul Aziz Al-Sabaghi. He has also got a walk-over against the Algerian, Sa'adi Al-Mahmadi, as the latter could not participate due to a shoulder injury. In the 58 kg category, the Yemeni wrestler Abdullah Al-Hakim performed well and won a match against his Syrian opponent, Samir Fatan. However, he was defeated by the Algerian Saidoon Abdul Haq. In the 69 kg category, the Yemeni wrestler Mohammed Al-Kailami suffered defeats in his bouts with the Lebanese wrestler Rabia Al-Mawli and with Ali Mahdian, an Iranian wrestler.

Qatari Delegation Visits Aden & Taiz

On an official visit to Yemen, His Excellency Hamid bin Eid Al-Thani, chairman of the Qatari Youths' and Sports' Organization, arrived in Yemen on Sunday April 9, 2000. He met with Dr. Abdul Wahab Raweh, the Yemeni Minister of Youths and Sports, and held talks regarding future cooperation in sports between the two countries. The delegation also met with Dr. Abdul Karim Al-Aryani, Prime Minister, who appreciated the mutual cooperation between the two countries in different fields, especially in sports and youth affairs. A memorandum of understanding between Yemen and Qatar was signed on the occasion. His Excellency, as well as the accompanying delegation visited Aden last Wednesday. They also paid a visit to

the 22 May Stadium, Aden Containers Terminals, National Antiquities Museum and Aden Tanks. His Excellency along with his entourage attended a dinner organized in their honor by the governor of Aden, Taha Ahmad Ghanem. The delegation paid a visit to Taiz last Thursday and expressed high appreciation for its historic monuments.

Chairman of Sha'ab Ibb Club Resigns

Brigadier general, Najm Al-Din Harash, chairman of Sha'ab Ibb Club, resigned his post last week protesting the alleged interference of some extra

constitutional sources affairs. The administrative impasse regarding the club's participation in the tournament have further complicated. It may be pointed out that Yahya Al-Salwi, information and public relations official of the club, had also resigned his post last week.

Telal Celebrates the 95th Anniversary

The Telal Club, established in 1905, celebrates its 95th anniversary as the oldest club in the peninsula and the Gulf. The club's celebration synchronizes with the unification ceremonies. The Administrative Department of the

club has constituted a committee for this purpose which is chaired by Nabil Ghanem to prepare the agenda for the club's celebrations. The celebration will include different cultural and sports competitions.

A trade exhibition, with more than 20 participating trade companies, is to be held in Hukat Pool in Sirah, Crater. The club is soon going to organize a Football Tournament among all the Clubs in Aden which will be competing for the Cup of 22 May. It also plans to invite a Gulf team from the Gulf countries to play with some Yemeni teams after the football tournament is over.

Vacancies Announcement

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The vacancies are open to both Yemeni male and female candidates Applications, giving details of personal and career history together with relevant testimonials and recent photographs, may be sent to:

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Please Do Keep Birds Free

Yasser M. Ahmed
Yemen Times

One wonders if the rapid changes in today's world have made us also change and lose our sensation of the beauty of the nature crowned with birds' singing. However, we have become ignorants of this beauty and deprived birds of protection so in return they deprived us their melodious singing.



Birds are very valuable to us human beings. They help us hunt mice and rats that can destroy our crops and stored weeds. They have also been a source of inspiration for scientists and poets. We shall not forget that birds inspired the idea of aviation. This has pushed scientists to study bird's wings and how they thoroughly fly and made them capable of designing more powerful planes. Human beings should be grateful to birds for they worn them from eminent dangers. Nowadays large quantities of deleterious chemicals that may kill humans if spread into the air, seas, rivers or the food that we eat (it is what we call pollution). Birds and we breathe, drink and eat from the same sources, therefore, if birds die in large numbers this could be a warning sign to us, humans, that a great danger is awaiting us. Birds are the gift of God to us and should be protected for their necessity is not restricted to one human or one country; they are important to all humans in this universe. There are more than 9000 different kinds of birds in the world. They live in the highest mountain peaks, widest oceans, hottest deserts and coldest oceans and lands in the north and south of our planet. Each different kind is called "species". Birds need three important factors to survive: a place with plentiful

amount of food, another for breeding and building nests and to rest in at night. Each species has its own habits and moves that we call behavior. For example, there is a special hunting behavior for some birds, they move slowly and wait for the prey until it gets close to them. Some species move at very high speeds to hunt their preys and others make a combination of both. Birds have even their own language; they use certain sounds with a combination of moves of their wings and bodies to communicate. They usually breed when there are bountiful amounts of food that are enough to feed their babies. In many occasions they collect food near their nest. Birds have also their own special ways of breeding that prevent them from extinction. The breeding behavior starts with endearment where the mate tries to tempt the female by dancing and making musical sounds. Furthermore, birds are like humans in certain manner like in their need for immigration. Some species live, feed and breed in one place while other cross thousands of miles traveling from a place to another depending on the season and those are called immigrant birds. We face dangers in our daily life and so do birds. These dangers threaten their lives and make them more vulnerable to



extinction. They are being hunted and their environments like swamps and forests are being destroyed by human beings let alone the pollution that kills enormous numbers of birds annually. In our country there are approximately (370) different species of birds of which there are 13 that only exist in Socatra and nowhere else in the world. In addition there are many immigrant birds that arrive in winter from Europe and Russia and others that arrive in summer from Africa, Europe and Asia. Finally, God has created these birds to play an important role in this life not to mention that they were mentioned more than once in our holy Qur'an. I believe that by now we should understand the birds will always remain important to us. Therefore, we shall let them free and try not to be flippant with their lives.

Cartier



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