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Monday, 19th June, 2000 - VOL. X • Issue No. 25 • Price 30 Yemeni Riyals • Founded in 1991 by Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

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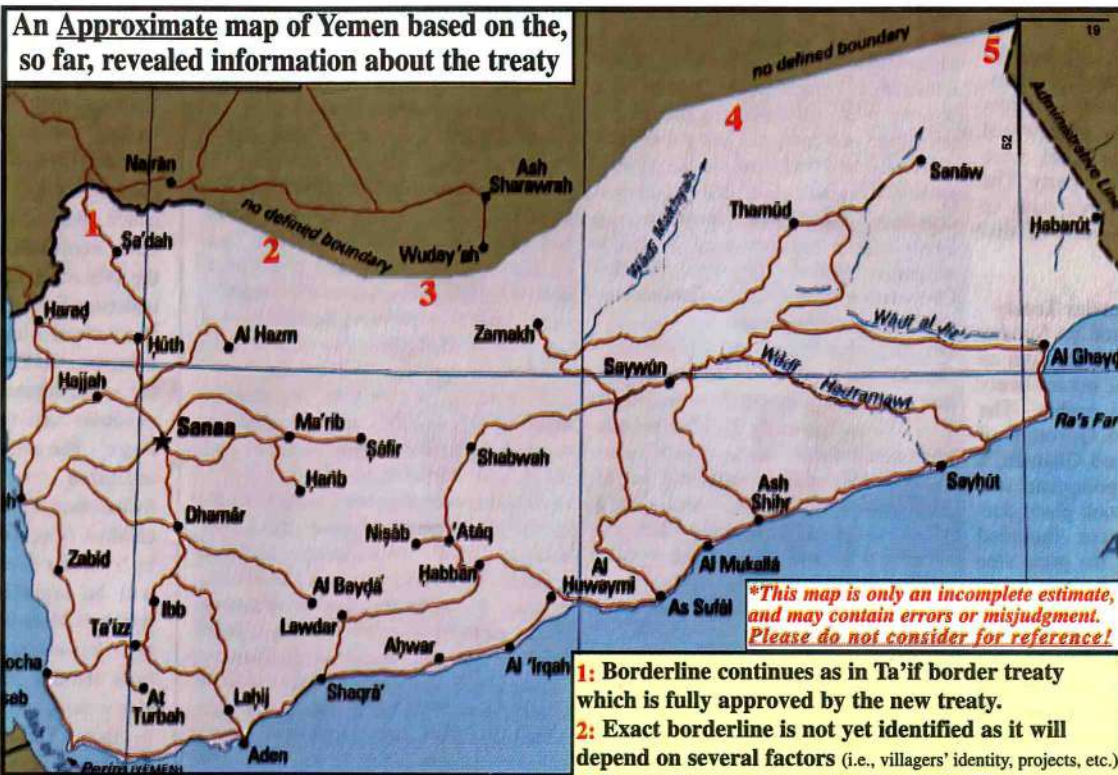
As Yemen and Saudi Arabia reach their historic border treaty TREATY TO BE PRESENTED FOR DISCUSSION TOMORROW

Tomorrow, the historic land and marine border treaty between Yemen and Saudi Arabia will be presented for discussion before the government. After approval, it will on Wednesday be passed on to the parliament for final approval. The historic treaty was signed by Yemen and Saudi Arabia to end a 66-year border dispute. Only after it is approved by the parliament will it be implemented. According to analysts, that the treaty has indeed ended a long period of unrest between the two neighbors by providing a solution that is satisfactory in all ways to both nations.

The only disappointment that was evident during the last week was the strict measures implemented by both governments in terms of not providing the text of the treaty, and as said by some newspapers, "it violates the right to know articles of the human rights declaration."

The Yemeni public, in general, was delighted by the signing of the treaty, which has given them hope for better economic circumstances as it is expected that

An Approximate map of Yemen based on the, so far, revealed information about the treaty



- 1: Borderline continues as in Ta'if border treaty which is fully approved by the new treaty.
- 2: Exact borderline is not yet identified as it will depend on several factors (i.e., villagers' identity, projects, etc.)
- 3: Borderline rises to the south of Sharawra and Wuday'ah, but where it exactly lies is still unknown.
- 4: Exact borderline is here also not clear and depends on several factors (i.e., villagers' identity, projects, etc.)
- 5: Borderline starts at 19:52.

economic cooperation will increase significantly. The details of the treaty were not provided to the public until early Saturday in preparation for its submission to the parliament for legal and ultimate approval. The complete text of the treaty will be published in a series starting from next issue.

Continued on Page 2.

2ND KIDNAPPING INCIDENTS OF EUROPEANS IN ONE WEEK: ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

Tribal sources indicated that the tribesmen from the Dhe Junah tribe of Murad kidnapped Alberto Alessio, 40, Chairman of the Italian Archeology Foundation BRUISCERASIO along with the director of Yemen's museums department, Sadiq Saeed Othman near the Mareb Prison in Mareb City at around 15:00 yesterday (Friday). According to the sources, it

was mistakenly mentioned in some news agencies that the kidnapers were from Jahm (Al Za'id), while they were actually from Murad tribe. The tribes demanded compensation for the flood damages, positions for their young tribesmen in the military, a share of oil revenues for development projects in their area, along with an unspecified amount of money as

ransom. It is worth mentioning that Alberto Alessio arrived on Wednesday to Yemen and signed an agreement with the minister of tourism and Universal Company. He agreed with the Yemeni government to transport the exhibition held in Rome and visited by the President "Yemen, the land of Sheba" to Torino City in Italy next September.

Norway Warns against Travel to Yemen

The Norwegian Foreign office issued on Sunday, 11 June 2000, an official warning to all Norwegians against travelling to Yemen, unless it is absolutely necessary.



Killed Norwegian diplomat, Gudbrand Stuve

By this official warning, Norway has joined the United Kingdom in issuing a travel warning to its citizens.

The warning was issued after the Norwegian diplomat Gudbrand Stuve was kidnapped and killed on the night of Saturday 10 June, 2000 in a fire-fight in the Sanwan area 80 kms northeast of Sana'a.

The Norwegian government has insisted on bringing the ones responsible for the kidnapping, and the others responsible for the killing of the Norwegian diplomat to justice.

It is worth mentioning that the kidnapers' identity was known as their identity papers were found in their vehicle.

The tribe they belong to is said to be a well-known tribe in the Jowf area, yet it is not clear whether they were brought to justice or not. In the meantime investigations in this case are continuing.

Journalist Charged with Infidelity

A number of mosque preachers in Taiz, Sana'a, Hodiedah and Aden last Friday called for the closure of Al-Thaqafiah newspaper (a weekly cultural newspaper published in Taiz) for publishing 'Sana'a is an open city', a novel by the late Yemeni novelist Mohammed Abdulwali. The preachers said that the novel helped spread concepts of communism and atheism. Secretary general of the Yemeni Congregation for Reform (an Islamic Party), Mr. Mohammed Al-Yadomi, (from Sana'a) phoned the chief editor of the Al-Thaqafiah, Mr. Sameer Al-Yosofi (from Taiz) and threatened him with closing the paper. In this context, preachers are intending to send a memorandum to President Ali Abdullah Saleh demanding acceleration of the newspaper's closure. The President of the Republic gave orders to investigate the problem, according to Al-Thawrah newspaper issued on Saturday, June 17th.

Mr. Al-Yosofi was summoned by the Press and Publication Prosecution on Sunday, June 18th. He is likely to appear before court on Monday, June 19th. Mr. Al-Yosofi said that the novel was taught at universities and that 'Sana'a is an open city' was presented as a radio series in the 1980s. He wondered about the campaign against him which he described as being political. In addition, he said he was ready to go to court to see if he was guilty or not. On the other hand, the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate (YJS) has released a statement supporting the Al-Thaqafiah and its chief editor and condemning the aggressive campaigns launched against him. Journalists are irked by the infidelity campaigns launched every now and then against eminent personalities of the country.

The Medical Committee Report Confirms Crimes Outside the College

While investigations on the crime of the Medical Faculty are still in full swing under direct supervision of the Interior Minister, the two German anatomy specialists left last Wednesday for Germany. They took with them some samples of the victims' torn-off limbs to be analyzed by the two German specialists, presented last Tuesday its preliminary report to the Interior Ministry. It is expected that the final report, based on the results that will be achieved by the two German specialists, will be submitted at the beginning of next week. Continued on page 2.

and studied. The medical committee, assigned by the court to make a new report regarding the contents of the morgue assisted



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Al-Ayyam and Al-Tajamo'a Tried
Chief editor of Al-Ayyam newspaper, Mr. Hisham Bashraheel was summoned by the general prosecution of Aden for the third time last Wednesday for publishing a piece of news titled "Prisoner attempts to commit suicide."
On the same day, Hassan Ben Hussein of Al-Ayyam newspaper stood trial at the primary court of Sirah.
On the other hand, Al-Tajamo'a newspaper, mouthpiece of the Yemeni Unionist Congregation is being tried for publishing an article titled 'from the drawers of the supreme court'
Dr. Abdul Rahman Abdullah, chief editor of Al-Tajamo'a, protested the prosecution's decision to prohibit publishing the procedures of the trial.
The trial of the above newspapers coincides with more harassment of the press. It is worth mentioning that, Al-Wahdawi and Al-Ommah newspapers are also being tried, while Al-Shoura is still closed.

Hunger Strike in Prison
Muttahar Sharaf Al-Sideeq, who has been imprisoned for more than a month in Ibb, has announced a hunger strike until death as a protest as being imprisoned without being charged. Sources from the governorate of Ibb said that Al-Sideeq was imprisoned according to oral orders after he refused to dig for a sewage network to his new house.

Mohammed No'aman Harassed
Mohammed No'aman is still complaining about the treatment of the administration of Aden University, communication department which he described as aggressive.
No'aman has been deprived of his allowances, and his rights to have leave permitted.
The Yemeni authors Union and a number of journalists have appealed to the president of Aden University to intervene and stop such aggressive decisions against No'aman.

Seizure of Wendy Finder Property
The Primary court of the southeast of the Capital Secretariat gave its verdict last Tuesday concerning the property of the murdered Wendy Finder, from Holland, who was killed by her Yemeni husband Ahmad Ali Nawas and his brother Fuad Ali Nawas. The victim's property which includes her house in Al-Asbahi city was seized upon a request by the victim's mother and the Embassy of the Netherlands.

Training Course on Human Rights
The Information and Rehabilitation Center for Human Rights organizes at the beginning of July 2000 a training course on Human rights for journalists. The course, which will include 30 journalists representing newspapers, aims at developing awareness about principles of human rights, discussing means of familiarizing people with those principles through the media and encouraging more communicators to work for non-governmental organizations of human rights.
A number of lectures by participants from Arab as well as foreign organizations will take place during the course.

Ayyoub Tareh Honored
Al-Afeef Cultural Foundation holds tomorrow an honorary party for the Yemeni singer, Ayyoub Tareh for his creative artistic works during the past 4 decades. During the party, a number of interpretations about Ayyoub's art will be presented by a number of critics.
Singer Abdul Baset Absi will also participate in the party with a collection of some of his sweet songs.

Eleven Foreigners Embrace Islam
Eleven foreigners have so far embraced Islam in our country during the first half of this year, one of whom was the British ambassador's wife who has named herself 'Huda'.
According to a source from the Ministry of Endowment these were doctors, businessmen, diplomats, etc.
Reasons behind embracing Islam were said to be those of the simplicity and high virtues of Yemeni people.
The new Muslims are of different nationalities such as American, British, German, Ukrainian, Sri Lankan, Filipino and Ethiopian.

Training Course for NGOs
Today, Monday, a training course for

NGOs was organized during 19-21 June 2000 at Sheba Towers Hotel by Post Beijing Follow Up Project. The training is about the curricula and evaluation of projects supporting women and discussing issues of integrating women into development.
The project has already organized some training pertaining to issues of integrating women into the drive for development.

FCAG Inaugurated
Organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, the French Embassy Cultural and Cooperation Section and the Faculty of Agriculture, Sana'a University, the First Conference about Ancient Agriculture in Yemen was inaugurated June 17. A number of speeches were delivered in the inauguration party. The Conference will last for three days in which a number of papers will be discussed.

Aden Celebrates The Border Treaty
Hundreds of people gathered on Sunday morning at the Al-Hubaishi stadium to celebrate the signing of the border treaty between Yemen and Saudi Arabia. The event was attended by the Governor of Aden, Mr. Taha Mohammed Ghanem, a number of party leaders, politicians and others. Various activities took place during the celebration. These included speeches which all hailed the great step reached by the leaders of the two countries.

H.M. Elizabeth's Birthday Celebrated
On the occasion of the birthday of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, Queen of Britain, the British Counsel in Aden organized a reception at the Aden Hotel on June 6. The event will be attended by a number of political leaders, diplomatic corps, businessmen and journalists.

Issam Salem Chief Editor of 22 May
Issam Saeed Salem, a journalist working on the 14 October was appointed chief editor of 22 May, PGC newspaper issued in Aden. Ibrahim Al-Ashkali, previous chief editor, was deposed from his post due to his article about the serial murderer Adam in which he called for depriving citizenship from the Interior Minister.
It is worth noting that appointing Salem was highly applauded by the media as the 22 May newspaper has recently launched aggressive campaigns against journalists and its standard has considerably deteriorated.

CYRD Organizes a Training Workshop
Organized by Center for Youth Research and Development a training workshop was inaugurated June 17 at the National Institute for Administrative Sciences to develop the awareness of human rights among young people. Dr. Abu Baker Al-Kerbi and Mohammed Owad Ba Obaid, chairman of the center delivered speeches asserting the importance of developing the awareness of human rights among the youth.

Weekly Musical Entertainment at STC
The Sana'a Trade Center organizes weekly musical and cultural events during which gifts and prizes are handed over to the lucky participants.

Tremendous Fall for US against YR

Immediately after the announcement of signing the Yemeni-Saudi border treaty, the Yemen Rial jumped almost 5% against the US dollar to a rate of 153 YR to 1 USD. By the time of going to the press, the exchange rate was 155 YR for 1 USD.
Economists predict that in the case of the slow and gradual normalization in commercial business between Saudi Arabia, the Yemeni Rial will continue to rise steadily.
Another factor behind the rise of the Yemeni Rial is the expected impact of the border treaty on the long-run financial aid from Saudi Arabia, and the resumption of acceptance of Yemeni labor into the Saudi markets.
It is worth mentioning that Saudi Arabia had cut the aid to Yemen as a result of Yemen's stand in the Gulf War, which also led to the return of more than 800,000 Yemenis from Saudi Arabia to Yemen.

Continued from Page 1: Saudi-Yemeni Border Treaty

An informed source in Yemen has confirmed that according to the treaty signed by Yemen and Saudi Arabia last Monday, demarcating the two countries land and marine borders. Yemen has acquired more than 35 thousand square kilometers. The source has further said that a large portion of the area lies on the joint borders of the two countries and Oman and they are areas of promising quantities of oil.
Meanwhile, some information mentioned that Yemeni troops advanced a distance more 10 kms along the border-line of the two countries and pulled back a distance of 20 kms inside the Yemeni territories, as was stipulated in the borders treaty. Some sources mentioned that Saudi Arabia had promised Yemen to support its demand for joining the Gulf Cooperation Council and its attitude versus the opposition abroad.
On the other hand the Coordination Council that groups five Yemeni opposition parties has postponed announcing its stance about the treaty till after publication of its full text. The League of Yemen Sons (RAY) under leadership of Mr. Abdulrahman Al-Jifri and Mawj Movement have announced their full support of the treaty. Saudi and Yemen's official press praised the signing of the border pact between Yemen and Saudi Arabia.
On his part , the Saudi interior minister prince Naif Ben Abdul Aziz emphasized, in a press conference in Jeddah in June 17, that the relationship between Yemen and Saudi Arabia was stronger and bigger than borders. At the beginning of the

conference Prince Naif shed light on the treaty of final and permanent international land and marine borders signed Monday June 12, 2000 by Saudi foreign minister prince Saud Al-Faisal and his Yemeni counterpart Abdulqadir Bajammal.
Here are some of the most important points mentioned by the Saudi interior minister in his press conference. Prince Naif said there were some agreements signed by the two countries some years ago covering economic, trade, and cultural fields in addition to a security agreement. "The full understanding of the higher interest of the two brotherly countries has produced this treaty and all border questions have been resolved in a satisfactory way for both countries," prince Naif said. He added that the most important thing was that the two parties had concluded an agreement and "we should forget everything that could have delayed reaching this honorable result."
In response to a question, the Saudi interior minister said treaties and agreements "have certain legal and regular bases and must be referred to responsible authorities," and this treaty would be referred to the Saudi Shoura Council and the Yemeni Parliament.
On whether the treaty has touched on any exceptions regarding labour the Saudi minister said "This treaty, as was announced, is related to land and marine borders, and as for the question of labour it has nothing to do with what has been reached. He then urged all companies, businessmen and establishments to sign contracts with Yemeni employees. He added that the treaty would open many spheres of cooperation between the two countries.

Continued from Page 1

Adam's Trial

The report made by the Parliamentary Committee assigned by the Parliament revealed that there was not a conformity between the tools used in the crime and those presented to the court. It also showed that there were some other tools still unknown. Besides, the existence of torn-off limbs and bones that have different tissues. That proves that the number of dead bodies are far more than the number announced. The report also confirmed that most of the remains of the corpses were not found in the morgue.
News has it that there are other girls who are reported missing and that there are some reports submitted to the police by their families, one of whom was a woman teaching in the capital secretariat.
Press sources reveal that the Interior Ministry has recorded information about 200 missing cases over the past ten years. Investigations are now being conducted with 13 persons, most of whom are security men. They are suspected of being implicated in the

Medical Faculty crimes. These investigations are being made under direct supervision of the Interior minister.
The Interior Minister has already detained four doctors teaching at the Medical Faculty. However, they were released following some orders by the Prime Minister, Dr. Iryani.
After suspicion focused on the morgue assistant Mohammed Adam, the investigators started to suspect that other people were involved in a bodies trading racket.
The Parliamentary Committee has also stated in its report that it is important to investigate and examine all the aspects of the crime and it is important that the University Presidium, Deanship of the Medical Faculty and chairmen of the departments in the Faculty are removed from their posts. The committee has also confirmed that the university security, some criminal investigation officers and those involved in it have been discharged due to their failure and total lack of responsibility performing their duties properly.
The court has also adjourned the sessions to an unknown date until all the information and reports prepared by the committee assisted by the two German specialists are submitted to the court.

Yemeni Children actively participate in The World Child Festival

The UN sponsored World Child Festival on Peace is being held in Basel, Switzerland between 14th and 26th of June 2000. In 1997, the General Assembly of the United Nations proclaimed the year 2000 as the 'International Year for Culture and Peace' and in 1998 decided to declare the years 2001-2010 as the 'International Decade of Peace and non-violence for the children of the world'. UNESCO has been supporting this by creating school curricula on peace education and other activities, which in other words will lead to the creation of the culture of peace and cross-cultural understanding in the world.
Switzerland is hosting the festival which comprises 2000 children from all over the world representing their respective countries as the 'Ambassadors of Peace'. The activities are being jointly organized by three countries, Switzerland, Germany and France. The children from Yemen are being hosted by Swiss families and various activities will be organized for them, during which children will have the opportunity to demonstrate their culture and traditions through music, painting, discussion groups, and other materials brought by them. The children will have the opportunity to get to know others from different parts of the world through both formal and informal discussions and visits to different schools in the three countries. The main theme throughout the discussions will be 'Living in Peace' and how to create understanding in countries and between countries.

them a symbolic diplomatic passport in the presence of Nobel Peace Prize Winners in the city of Basel, Switzerland. Each child representative will read out a speech representing their respective countries addressing the UN Secretary General and declaring their own views on what is happening in the different countries and urging the UN to promote peace in the world. There will be a reunion of all the Junior Ambassadors in the year 2002 to meet and discuss the developments in the world since their first meeting in 2000.

The Yemeni child delegation will present films and documentaries on the different aspects of Yemen. They will perform a traditional Yemeni dance, with the children wearing costumes representing the different parts of Yemen. A play will also be performed on the theme of war and peace in English. Some of the children will read out poems they have written on the state of the world and others will present paintings, sing and make music. The children were officially seen off by the Minister of Culture and Tourism. Supervisors from both the ministry of culture and the National Commission for Unesco, ministry of education are accompanying the children, and will be responsible for them throughout their stay.
It is sincerely hoped that these children will be able to present a good view of Yemen to the world and let the world know of the peace initiatives made recently by Yemen with its neighbors which will be a statement of Yemen's stand on peace. But as children of the world and the children of peace they should have one voice in addressing the world leaders on the different themes that affect peace in the world.

However, it is also the Yemeni children's statement to their own country in terms of demanding their rights as children. Yemen signed and ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and this has many implications apart from the ethical obligation that every country has towards its children in terms of providing the basics and also avoiding wars in order to achieve the basic right of survival. If we are to have a responsible generation who will be good leaders of the future, we as adults have to provide the means for this present generation to transcend the limitations of poverty, armed conflicts, and all kinds of suffering that deprivation brings. Adults have messed up the world in all ways and it is time we gave the opportunity to our children to change the course of events and create a better world in the future...the world they will inherit.

The Program of activities:
The opening ceremony of the Children's World Festival will be in the city of Mulhouse, France in which a world wide gastronomic buffet will be held with dishes from different parts of the world. The program also consists of an intercultural rally to the 'Europapark' in the town of Freiburg, Germany to present to the future Junior Ambassadors the architectural heritage of all the countries of the world. Other activities consist of joint activities on art, music, drama, etc. A Press Conference will also be held for the children at the Swiss National Knie Circus Radio and children's newspaper and the Internet. On the Day of Life the junior ambassadors will plant a Tree of Peace and prepare for their accreditation ceremony. The children will also be introduced to dignitaries in Switzerland and Nobel Prize winners. On the last day and the closing ceremony, the Junior Ambassadors will present their letters of accreditation to UN Secretary General Kofi Annan who will deliver to each of

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Ten Years of Mövenpick Swiss Hospitality

The Mövenpick Hotel celebrated on June 12 the 10th anniversary of its inauguration under partnership of Mövenpick Swiss Company and the Arab Company for Investment. The anniversary celebration was attended by governor of Aden, Mr. Taha Ahmad Ghanem, Director of tourism office in Aden, Mr. Ali Al-Imad, Director of the Arab Company for Tourist Investment, Mr. Mohammed Al-Moflehi and a good number of senior officials.
Mr. Kees Verschoor, director of the hotel welcomed the attendance at the celebration, thanking all the companies and organizations that have dealings with the hotel. He highlighted the stages of the hotel since laying the foundation stone in 1981.

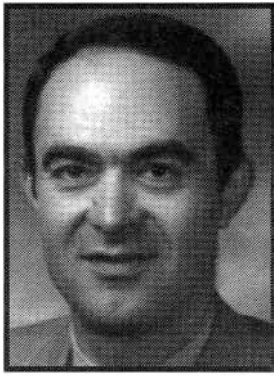
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Yemeni-Lebanese Relations, Exemplary

Yemeni-Lebanese relations are viewed as a good example of inter-Arab relations. Yemen has always supported Lebanon at various international forums especially in relation to the Israeli aggression embodied by the occupation of southern Lebanon till it was liberated at the hands of the Lebanese peoples resistance. The Israeli occupation forces were forced to pull out of southern Lebanon under the continuously effective blows dealt by the Lebanese National Resistance and that is considered a great victory realized by the Lebanese people and a humiliating defeat for the Israeli aggression.



founder the outgoing Lebanese ambassador Hassan Beru said he was a courageous man and advocate of human rights. He was among the very few persons in Yemen possessing enlightened cultural views, ambassador Beru added. Regarding the Yemeni-Lebanese ties the ambassador described them as very excellent and developing continuously, citing the Lebanese representation in Yemen's Unification Day celebrations on May 22. He also spoke of the recently held Lebanese week in Yemen in addition

to the distinguishing relations of the two countries represented by the Lebanese-Yemeni joint committee that held its latest meeting in Beirut last year. He said that in general the Lebanese ties with Yemen were based on joint hopes and goals.

In response to a question on his impressions about Yemen during his term of office here, Mr. Beru said the time of his work in Yemen was one of the beautiful periods in his life for he had never felt he was living in another country but rather felt as at home. "Yemen is the country of civilization and history and enchanting sights, and that of beautiful weather." Besides, I have visited Hadramout and Socotra island and witnessed two democratic experiments,

the first was the parliamentary elections in 1997 and the presidential elections in 1999. These two democratic events represent and confirm that Yemen is the country of wisdom, faith and shoura, hoping for the people of Yemen ever progress and prosperity." said ambassador Beru. On his personal impressions he said he had established close relations with all official and non-official activities, expressing due respect for the hospitality and generosity of the Yemeni people and extending his thanks to all the friends and the people whom he had worked with during his stay in the country.

Ambassador Beru told Yemen Times interviewer that he was leaving Yemen for the United Arab Emirates as his country's ambassador. Responding to a question on how the Lebanese people have liberated the southern part of his country from the Israeli occupation, the ambassador said that the fact is that Israel would not give back anyone's right unless it was forced to do that. There must be many ways for regaining those rights and wrung out by force, among those ways is the legitimate resistance. Mr. Beru added that the Arabs have to benefit from and learn this great Lebanese lesson. It should be an object of pride for every Arab and all nations. "I feel proud of what the Lebanese people and the national resistance have achieved in their victory over the Israeli enemy. All the Arabs represent one nation and share the same dignity and any victory in any part of the Arab world is a victory for all of us." ambassador Beru concluded.

practices against Yemen by some British-based terrorist groups. The British government on its part, as a reaction to Abyan incident, pulled out the British teachers and stopped all English-Language teaching programs in all branches of the British Council in Yemen. The British foreign office and the Commonwealth had issued an announcement against British nationals visiting Yemen because it could not guarantee their safety against the dangers of kidnapping and their consequences.

The media campaign between the two countries continued to escalate until the meeting that took place between president Ali Abdullah Saleh and the British prime minister in Amman. Both were attending the funeral ceremony of the late king Hussein of Jordan at the beginning of February. The two leaders affirmed their keenness to strengthen the countries' relations and calm down the atmosphere to give enough chance to Yemeni judiciary to give its verdicts on the Abyan and Aden incidents.

governor of Aden to the Mayor to visit Aden and then to have the two towns officially twinned with each other. Historically the two towns relations extend to hundreds of years. Coal was transported from Cardiff to Aden as a supply station for ships. The ships that carried coal would return loaded with stones from Shamsan mountain. Shamsan mountain stones were used in building three famous streets in Cardiff the capital of Wales. It seemed that because of misarrangement and confusion in coordination among various Yemeni institutions the whole subject of twinning was not followed up by Yemen according to the promise given by the minister of culture and tourism. During the Yemeni minister of culture and tourism's visit to Britain there was an initial agreement for holding a festival of "380 Years of Yemeni-British Friendship" in 1998. That idea also failed. Thus, deficiency in some aspects of performance and its activity had led to failure in fulfillment of the idea of the festival and non-realization of the twinning process of Cardiff and Aden.

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Capitalization and development of Aden Refinery
It seemed that the question of capitalization and development of Aden Refinery would have been implemented by the British industrial companies and investment banks after they had shown readiness to invest \$400 million. That had been thought to be certain especially following the news carried by news agencies and 26 September newspaper of Yemen in the wake of the British industry secretary Lord Clinton Davis's visit to Sana'a, less than two weeks after President Saleh's return from a visit to Britain. Despite all those positive indicators it became clear that there was a variation, even though partial, between Yemen and Britain. The first signs of that difference appeared with the idea of cancelling a visit by a team from British oil and gas companies that had been scheduled to arrive in Yemen in early February 1998. That was followed by a postponement then cancellation of a big symposium planned and funded by British investment banks in mid 1998. Undoubtedly, the failure of the agreement on the project of capitalization and development of Aden refinery had negatively overshadowed Yemeni-British relations. That resulted in a host of negative consequences reflecting the hypersensitivity that befell the relations of the two countries because of the lack of clear vision and absence of frankness. Probably it was the misfortune of Yemeni-British relations that 1998 saw a number of events and problems so difficult to explain that their occurrence appeared to be by chance. However, they might have been planned for and part of intensive activity aimed at hindering development of the relations between Yemen and Britain.

First British Kidnapped in Yemen
The kidnapping incident of a British relief worker Henry Thompson, the first British citizen kidnapped in Yemen in mid October 1997, seemed to be accurately planned and aimed at straining Yemeni-British relations. Its timing was also chosen very carefully. The kidnapping of the first British national came less than a fortnight after conferring the 22 May Unity Order on the former British ambassador to Yemen and the arrival of a new British ambassador and coincided with the imminent beginning of the Commonwealth summit in Edinburgh where the question of Yemen's joining the Commonwealth was to be discussed. The kidnapping also came some three weeks ahead of a state visit to Britain by President Ali Abdullah Saleh, the first of its kind by a Yemeni President. The incident also coincided with Aden's preparation to receive a delegation of more than 100 tourists.

2nd kidnapping incident
The second kidnapping incident of

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E-mail : SBI Yemen@y.net.ye

Yemeni-British Relations: WHERE TO?

During a seminar co-sponsored by The French Center for Yemeni Studies and Future Studies Center "Yemen and The World", Sanaa 16-17 May 2000, Dr. M.A. Qubaty, FRCS presented a study as a working paper. Dr. Qubaty's study was titled "Yemeni-British Relations 1990-2000: The Challenges Towards Positive Partnership".

Yemen Times publishes portions of Dr. Qubaty's study, highlighting those having certain significant effects influencing the progress of Yemeni-British prospective relations.

Yemeni-British relations represent absolutely the oldest link in Yemen's relations with the West as they date back to the beginnings of the 17th century via Mocha sea port and the coffee trade. In 1618 the British East India Company was granted a license for the establishment of a factory and official headquarters for its resident representative in the city port of Mocha in addition to permission for doing business. More than 180 years later, under a pretext of the danger of probable French invasion of India, similar to Napoleon's invasion of Egypt in 1798, the British landed an army garrison on the Yemeni island of Perim in May 1799 and closed down the Strait of Bab el Mandeb. In May 1801 Dr. "Pringil" was appointed an official resident representative of the British government in Mocha, not a representative of the British East India Company. The British government representative was able to have a meeting with the Imam who offered facilities to British ships and encouraged business with them, depriving French ships of such advantages. The Imam also allowed the British to build a hospital in Mocha.

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British nationals happened on April 21, 1998. In the incident the director of the British council branch of Aden, along with his wife and son were kidnapped near the city of Thamar on their way from Aden to Sanaa heading for Britain. The BBC broadcast a commentary on the kidnapping incident pointing out that it constituted a big embarrassment for the Yemeni government that was trying to encourage tourism and investment in Yemen. What had complicated the matter was the urgent British demand not to use force to release the hostages for fear of endangering their safety. The incident later proved to have harmed Yemeni-British relations.

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Would Yemen's Gas constitute a Fresh Hope?
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Socotra Workshop:

Urgent Need for Upgrading Infrastructure and Services

Socotra Archipelago, comprising the 3 islands of Socotra, Samha and Abd Al Kuri, is located in the Indian Ocean, 400 km off Yemen's Gulf of Aden coastline. The islands are known for their unique flora and fauna, breathtaking beaches, impressive mountain ranges and solitude.

Last year's extensive drought, followed by torrential rains has however, exposed another less well known side of the islands - their vulnerability to natural calamities, the difficulty in providing rapid humanitarian assistance in times of crises, and the poverty of its estimated 45,000 resident population.

The Government of Yemen has laudably reacted to a situation that is largely a result of decades of neglect of this isolated jewel in the crown - named Socotra. Hadibo's airport, previously comprising an airfield that could only accept propeller aircraft, has now been upgraded with a 3.3 km asphalt runway, capable of receiving most of today's passenger and cargo jet aircraft. The previously erratic air services have now become more dependable with 2 scheduled flights per week from the mainland. The 11 km of one lane gravel from the airport to the town, which took 45 minutes by car, has now given way to a tarmac road, which is cutting travel time in half.



The improvements in access are already attracting investor interest, notably from tour operators and seafood merchants. The government, which has rightly declared most of the islands nature sanctuary and nature reserve status, is however eager to promote the development of the archipelago more systematically and turned to the European Commission for the funding of a Master Plan.

This 15 month exercise, which involves over 30 European and Yemeni subject matter specialists at a cost of close to 1 million Euros commenced in October 1999. The

Ministry of Planning and Development, the Environmental Protection Council and the Ministry of Housing convened a workshop in Sana'a on 12 and 13 June to discuss the Phase I

Results of the Master Plan.

The chairman of the workshop, H.E. Mr Abdul Rahman Tarmoum, Vice Minister of Planning and Development, the co-chair H.E. Mr. Muhsin al-Hamadani, Chairman of the Environment Protection Council and Mr. Rainer Freund from the European Commission Technical Advisory Office, opened the Workshop with speeches which confirmed government and donor commitment to protect Socotra's biodiversity, but also to address the pressing humanitarian and development needs of the islands. Some 100 representatives of relevant Government Agencies, Socotran civil society, entrepreneurs and donors were subsequently invited to critically review, what is in recent history the first comprehensive inventory of the islands' infrastructure, natural resources, public and private services, economic activities, number and distribution of its resident population, important local customs, human development indicators and public

administration. The first phase report moreover provided an analysis of principal development constraints and a costed guide to recommended immediate, medium and long term interventions.

Bottom line of the inventory presented by consultants of the British firm WS Atkins International and the Aden based Yemen Engineering Group (YEG): Socotra, at present population growth rate requires capital investment in the order of 140 million Euros over the next 10 years (2000 Euro/person/year) in order to satisfy the most basic requirements of the islands in terms of water and power supply, health and education services, access and communication infrastructure and development of the 3 key economic sectors - livestock, fisheries and tourism. Of equal importance: the creation of a decentralized, competent civil authority, based on the islands and empowered to enforce stringent environmental legislation as well as provide for first class governance and thus an investor and tourism friendly climate. This and other software components of the 10 year plan are set to consume another 75 million Euros. Combined government, private sector and donor resources are unable to mobilize resources in this order of magnitude and workshop participants agreed that a prioritization of interventions was required, based on clear objectives and selection criteria.

In the course of the ensuing deliberations, some participants, particularly from the Socotran community voiced their discontent with the number of studies and activities that had already been conducted on Socotra without yielding any tangible results. In response, Vice Minister Tarmoum pointed out that the Master Plan Phase I document contained no less than 62 small and medium sized projects, designed for immediate implementa-

tion by government agencies through their investment program, NGOs and the donor community. Mr. Freund added that the European Commission was in the process or had already addressed through existing projects some of the immediate needs issues in reproductive health, malaria control, education, water harvesting and more specifically the question of water and power supply in Qalansya, the 2nd district capital on Socotra. The Commission's food security program offered further scope in principal to pick up certain costs of the proposed food security projects including livestock and fisheries development from 2001 onwards. Additional humanitarian assistance interventions relating to the 1999 drought and floods were currently under consideration by the Commission's Services. Other agencies involved in Socotra, notably the UNDP had also shown interest in some of the immediate impact projects contained in the plan.

A general consensus on the said objectives and selection criteria for the larger interventions was quickly arrived at. They include -

- 1) Guarantee of food security: loss of life and decimation of livestock as witnessed in 1999 should never happen again. To ensure this improvements in agriculture, livestock, access and supply infrastructure and government institutions are required;
- 2) Community-led environmental management: nearly all people on the archipelago are

directly dependant on a healthy and well managed natural environment. Nothing must be allowed to upset this balance;

- 3) Provision of basic needs: such as health, education, water, housing and energy at acceptable levels;
- 4) Reduced population growth: to minimize pressure on scarce natural resources;
- 5) Improved economic performance: through increased output from existing enterprises, diversified production, creation of small businesses, increased employment opportunities, expanded markets, training of the workforce, increasing women's contribution to the economy;
- 6) Strengthened district local government institutions: maximization of local and regional government and minimization of central control.

The workshop ended here and participants were given 2 weeks to comment in writing on priority projects to be developed on the basis of the above criteria to feasibility level in phase 2 of the masterplan, scheduled to commence in September 2000. From the preliminary discussions on these projects it transpired that strengthening the local administration, the development of a structure plan and regulations for the general use zone of the islands, standards for the development of tourism infrastructure and fisheries livestock development featured high on the agenda.

تعاونا

أحر التعازي القلبية نتقدم بها للأخ
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للإشتراك اتصل / برفاه للدعاية والإعلان تلفون: ٢٦٨٦٦٢

نتقدم نحن حرم المغفور له
د/ عبدالعزيز السقايف وأولاده
بجزيل الشكر والامتنان الى
كافة أعضاء جمعية ظهران
الاجتماعية الخيرية على
طيب مشاركتهم، وبمشاركتهم
لنا في الذكرى الأولى لرحيل
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ويواسينا في مصابنا وجود
ناس أوفياء مثلكم مساندين
لنا في محنتنا.
رحم الله فقيدنا جميعا وطيب
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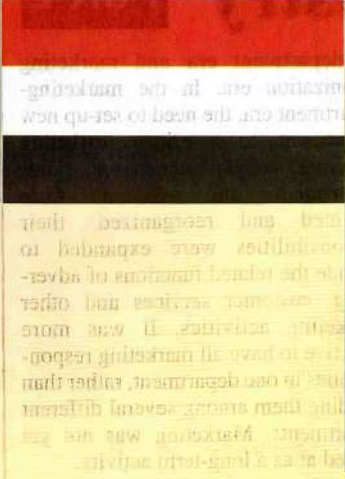
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Warmest Congratulations and best wishes presented to
President Ali Abdullah Saleh,
His Majesty King Fahd bin Abdulaziz
 and to
Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdulaziz

and to the Yemeni and Saudi people
 on the great and historic occasion of the Signing
 of the Border Treaty Hoping that this will further
 strengthen the political and economic relationship
 and cooperation bringing them to their highest
 level. Many Happy Returns, and may Allah bless
 this great occasion.

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 Chairman of PEPB

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 ممثلة بالرئيس القائد علي عبدالله صالح
 وخدام الحرمين الشريفين الملك فهد بن عبدالعزيز
 وولي عهده سمو الأمير عبدالله بن عبدالعزيز

ولأبناء الشعبين في البلدين الشقيقين لهذا الانجاز التاريخي المتمثل بالتوقيع على
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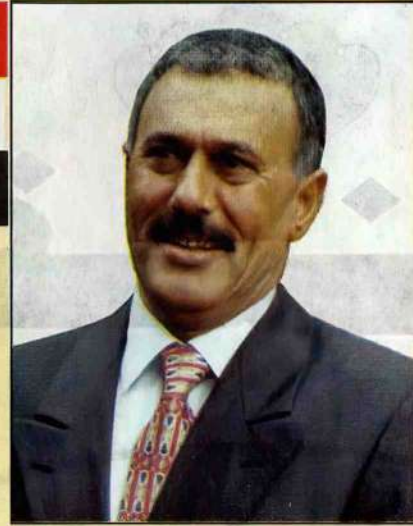
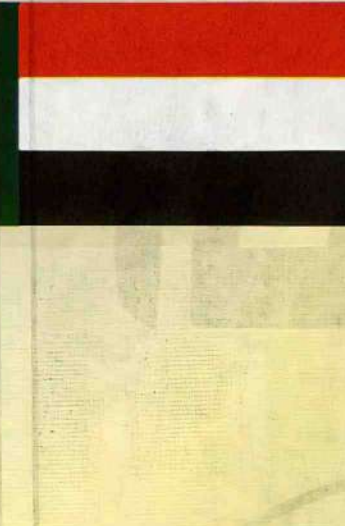
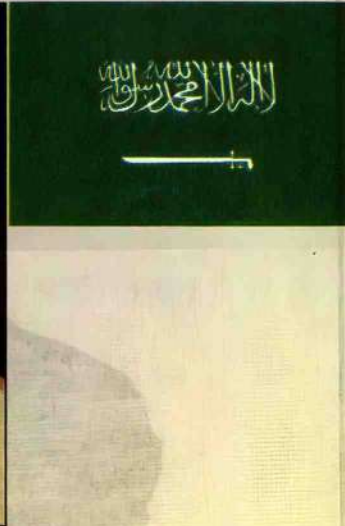
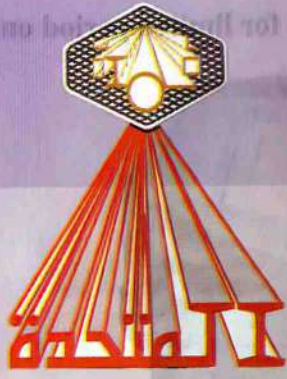
متمنين أن تكلل هذه المعاهدة العلاقات الأخوية
 وتضاعف من روابط الإخاء والتعاون بين الشعبين الشقيقين.

قيادة وموظفي ومهندسي

هيئة إستكشاف وإنتاج النفط

عنهم

المهندس/نبيل صالح القوسي - رئيس الهيئة



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Conveys its utmost congratulations to

President Ali Abdullah Saleh,
His Majesty King Fahd Bin Abdulaziz
 and to
Crown Prince Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz

and to the Yemeni and Saudi people
 on the great and historic occasion of the Signing
 of the Border Treaty Hoping that this will further
 strengthen the political and economic relationship and
 cooperation bringing them to their highest level. Many
 Happy Returns, and may Allah bless this great occasion.

في أجواء مفعمة بالمحبة والإخاء تجسدت منها حكمة القيادتين السياسيتين اليمنية والسعودية، توجت
 بتوقيع المعاهدة الحدودية الدولية البرية والبحرية بين البلدين الشقيقين،
 إنتصرت الحكمة اليمنية السعودية وبهذه المناسبة تتقدم

الشركة المتحدة للصناعات المعدنية

ممثلة بالأستاذ / حمدو عبدالكريم

وجميع موظفيها وعمالها

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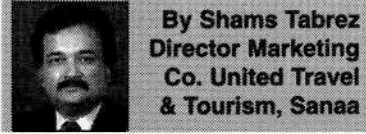
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نائب رئيس الوزراء رئيس الحرس الوطني

والى الشعبين الشقيقين اليمني والسعودي

هذه المعاهدة التي سوف تنطلق بالعلاقات الأخوية إلى آفاق أوسع بالتعاون التجاري والاقتصادي والسياسي.
 متمنين كل التقدم والإزدهار والرخاء للشعبين وللإمة الإسلامية بإذن الله.

Market the marketing in travel and hospitality industry Part 2



By Shams Tabrez
Director Marketing
Co. United Travel
& Tourism, Sanaa

The evolution of marketing

Production-Orientation Era (1920s) -> Sales-Orientation Era (1930s) -> Marketing-Department Era (1950s) -> Marketing-Organization Era -> Marketing Orientation Era -> Societal-Marketing Orientation Era (1970s)

1) Production-Orientation Era

The production-orientation era was the first evolutionary stage in the development of marketing; it began with the industrial revolution and lasted into the 1920s. During this era, the production capacities of factories could not keep pace with demand. Demand exceeded supply. Every item that was manufactured could be sold. The management's emphasis was on producing as many goods as possible. Customers' needs and wants were of secondary importance.

2) Sales-Orientation Era

Gradually, technological advances in production and increased competition

changed the emphasis of marketing. Beginning in 1930s, there was enough capacity to meet demand. As competition intensified, the emphasis switched from production to selling. Customers needs and wants were still of secondary importance; beating the competition by outselling them was first priority. This was the sales-orientation era, which lasted until the 1950s.

3) Marketing-Orientation Era

The marketing-orientation era resulted from even more intense competition and technological advances; supply now exceeded demand. It was also a result of greater management sophistication and the advancement of marketing as an academic discipline. Organizations began to realize that selling alone didn't guarantee satisfied customers. Customers wanted more choices than ever before and could select the products and services that best matched their needs. It made good sense to give customers needs a higher priority than just selling. During this time, organizations began adopting the marketing concept (acting on the assumption that satisfying customer's needs and wants is first priority). The era had two stages - the market-

ing-department era and marketing organization era. In the marketing-department era, the need to set-up new departments to coordinate marketing activities gained acceptance. Sales departments and divisions were renamed and reorganized; their responsibilities were expanded to include the related functions of advertising, customer services and other marketing activities. It was more effective to have all marketing responsibilities in one department, rather than dividing them among several different departments. Marketing was not yet looked at as a long-term activity.

"That is not our problem: it is the Marketing Department." This might have been a typical statement of a factory-floor supervisor in the marketing-department era. It shows an attitude that satisfying customer's needs is solely a marketing department's responsibility and not the concern of other departments in an organization. (As a matter of fact, we are still in this stage.)

However, wide change of attitude occurred with the onset of the marketing organization era.

"It is everyone's problems if our customers are not satisfied" is a statement that typifies this attitude. The marketing department might have the prime responsibility for marketing-related activities, but all departments played a role in and were affected by customer satisfaction levels. Marketing was seen as a long-term, organizational concern. Survival of the company hinged not only on satisfying customer needs in the short-term, but also in the long-term.

4) Societal-Marketing-Orientation

This is the final evolutionary era. Beginning in the 1970s, organizations started to recognize their social responsibility, in addition to their profit and customer-satisfaction objectives. Societal market idea envisages that the organizations should determine the needs, wants, and interest of target markets and deliver the desired satisfactions more effectively and efficiently than competitors in a way that maintains or improves the consumer's and society's well being.

Yemen and Saudi Arabia, Towards an economic partnership

Economic circles in Yemen describe the Yemeni-Saudi border treaty as a historic turning-point that will enable businessmen and investors of the two countries to draw up joint plans for investment in industrial, agricultural and marine sectors and establishment of vital projects particularly in the free zone in Aden to boost the balance of trade and increase exports of the two countries.

Yemeni businessmen believe that signing the treaty will lead to the establishment of stable relations based on confidence and trust between businessmen of the two countries as well as to an influx of agricultural products which consequently redoubles the volume of the trade balance, presently estimated at \$ 200 million in a year, 50% of which tilts in favor of Saudi Arabia.

Monday's visit of a Saudi business-

men's delegation to Yemen headed by Ali Abdu Yamani will make an economic feasibility study of the industrial free zone of Aden.

Doors are open now to Yemeni capital in Saudi Arabia, estimated at \$ 10 billion, to make partnerships with Saudi investors to invest in Yemen and this, in fact, is what Yemen has been looking for since the commencement of the economic reform program in 1995.

The Yemeni Central Bank estimates Yemeni immigrants' capital in Saudi Arabia and other countries at \$ 50 billion. Since Yemen imports goods estimated at \$ 450 million passing via Saudi Arabia, it can instead depend on Saudi industrial products and raise the trade balance with Yemen to \$ 650 million a year.

In return, local as well as Saudi investors can invest in agriculture in Yemen to increase products of vegeta-

bles and fruits and export them to Saudi markets. This will improve the trade balance of the two neighboring countries.

Contrary to these optimistic attitudes about the improvement of the economic partnership between Saudi Arabia and Yemen, the Yemeni labor force is attentively waiting to know what the treaty has stipulated regarding the return of Yemeni laborers to Saudi Arabia.

Since the treaty was based on the Attaif treaty signed in 1934, laborers look forward to a Saudi initiative to cancel the policy of guarantors as a main condition to employ Yemenis in Saudi Arabia.

Economists in Yemen are of the view that the border treaty would add impetus to investment and commercial relations between the two countries moving towards an advanced commercial partnership.

Mahyoob Al-Kamali

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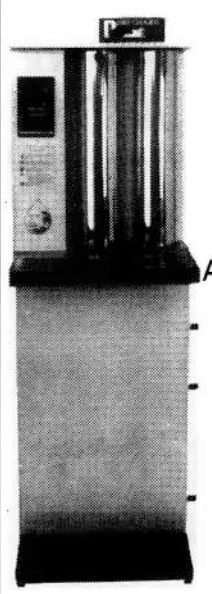
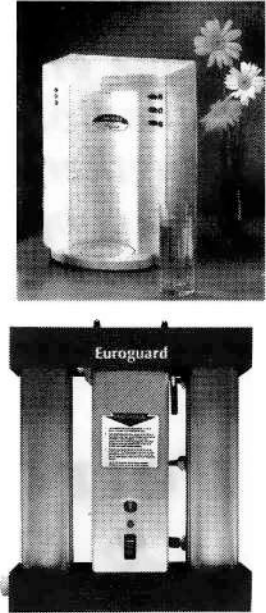
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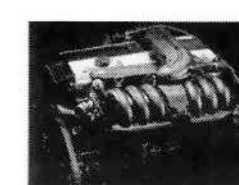

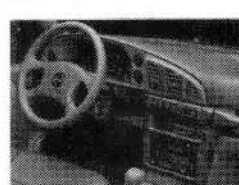
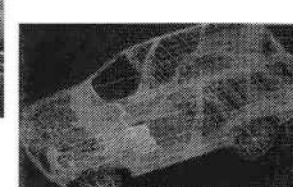
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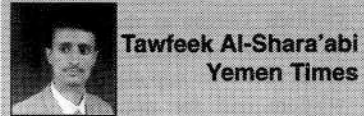
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A Bronze Age Culture in Zabid



Tawfeek Al-Shara'abi
Yemen Times

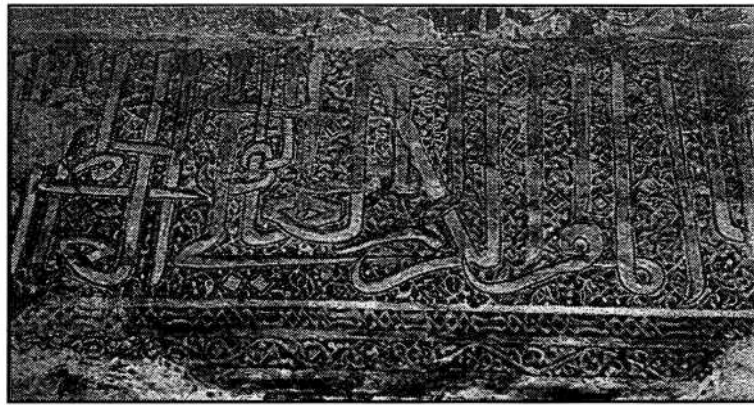
A lecture titled "The Wadi Zabid Project of the Royal Ontario Museum" was held Wednesday June 14 in the American Institute for Yemeni Studies. The lecture was presented by Dr. Edward J. Keall, head, Near Eastern and Asian Civilizations Dept., Royal Ontario Museum, professor at the university of Toronto in the Middle East Studies Department.

The lecture was attended by many personalities interested in the archeological heritage of Yemen. He has been working in and around Yemen since 1982 when he became interested in Zabid. In 1987 he officially started working after a formal agreement of cooperation between the Department of Antiquities and the Canadian Archeological Mission. Ever since that date the Canadian Archeological Mission has been coming to Yemen in different seasons to conduct studies on the historical city of Zabid to study its Islamic remains. He was ultimately concentrating on the Islamic archeology of the citadel, and more recently addressing the pre-

historic and historic landscape in Zabid's hinterland.

The mission also has a restoration program in the citadel of Zabid and recently this program has been in Al-Iskandariah School, the citadel mosque.

Dr. Keall also talked about the different achievements and archeological monuments that Zabid is distinguished for.



He gave a detailed account of their major discovery in 1997, the pillars or the Canadian team called them the "stonehenge" of the Middle East because of their similarities in age and appearance to Britain's pre-historic monument. These pillars were actually an unprecedented discovery that have been made by Royal Ontario Museum.

The finding was actually an unknown Bronze Age Culture identified by the presence of granite megaliths erected in a far remote place; a barren scrub and sand dune landscape which is near the Tihamah Red Sea Coast of Yemen. What is more interesting is that the discovery was made almost by accident. The ROM team had been working in the area for years without having the slightest idea about these pil-

lars. Dr. Keall said "This amazing discovery was unknown to all, until once, on my way back to the camp from an aborted excavation near Zabid, because strong abrasive winds had made further work intolerable. I simply took a wrong fork and that led me to meet with a farmer who asked me what I was doing there. Then, he

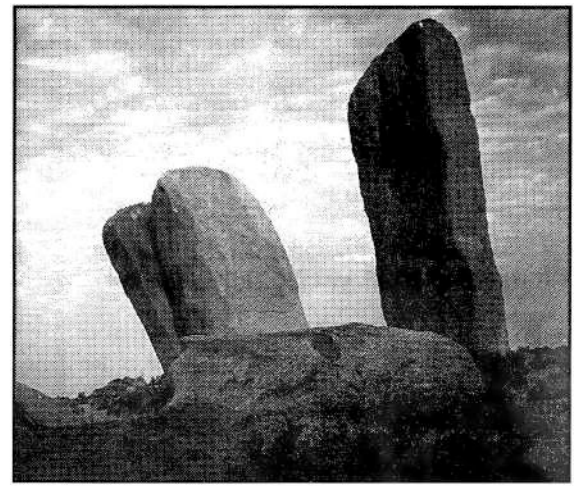
led me to see some stones scattered in an area more than 200 meters long in Al-Midaman area. From the pottery scattered on the ground near these stones I could make it out that these went back to the pre-Islamic period. Then, the same farmer led me to see the big stones half a kilometer far from the first site. I was surprised to see giant stones of granite megaliths standing three meters high. I believe that the source of these stones was either the Surat Mountain chain some 50 kilometer away, or the off-shore volcanic islands to the west.

As our team conducted excavations around these big stones, it was obvious that there were some valuable objects placed underneath them that can be referred to as an act of commemoration. Besides, the team also uncovered the skull and ribcage of a 5 year old child found beneath the fallen ends of two slabs. I believe that the child had been sacrificed as a commemorative act. There were also traces of three buildings that were fixed. They were more recent than these stones. The people who established these buildings put up the big stones around 2000 BC and around 1000 BC. They made these buildings of stones. Unfortunately, there is not enough left to know what they are used for. Probably they were temples, judging from the decorations we have in the stones."

Regarding the last season, Dr. Keall said "It lasted from January 15 to

March 15. The objective of the season was to understand more about these standing stones. We were trying to discern what resources these people had that made them able to form these commemorative monuments as it is now a desert. Now we have made a little progress.

Our major objectives for the coming season will be to find out what these people had in their lives; if they were farmers, what did they farm? What was their food? And to understand about the life of the ordinary people. Dr. Keall talked about the team who conducted these exploration activities and said "Every year when I come I arrive with a team of five or six Canadian or American or British specialists. Each year they are different. We also work in cooperation with the Department of Antiquities. Ahmad Al-Osabi has been one of our representatives for many years now. Mr. Abdul Habib is another one who is working on the citadel continuing the restoration program. Regarding the funding, Dr. Keall said that there are different organizations that contributed to fund the project. However, he said that the largest



amount he could get was from the Canadian government. Besides that the Department of Antiquities contributes some money as well, he said. We have a base in the citadel of Zabid and each season we choose a different aspect to explore something that we are interested in. So we moved from one place to another, such as Al-Midaman, Haiss. However, our base is in Zabid. "Al-Iskandariah Mosque and the paintings and inscriptions we came to find represented a remarkable achievement. No body knew that this 'wakfiah' was there covered with plaster work. It took almost two years to understand exactly what was being said. After deciphering the inscriptions, the local people said that nobody remembered this "wakf", he concluded.

Uniqueness Versus Diversity in a Society

Eng. Mohamed Gabr Bin Gabr
Ph. D. Student — U.S.A.

A question that always puzzles me is what is better and healthier for a society, uniqueness, or diversity? Which society is more fit and healthy - a society with such a diverse population like the United States, or a society with a uniquely unified population like Japan? This question will probably never be answered from the point of view of social science experts, but let me try to find the answer from an engineer's point of view. There is an interesting theory that seems to be very applicable to this particular unanswered question.

Shannon's Theory:

Shannon's theory is important in communications engineering. Even though Shannon's theory is widely used among the engineering communication sector, it can be applied to our social life as well. Shannon's theory gives us a method of measuring the information gained by merely observing the outcomes of any given event. Let me give you an example to clarify Shannon's theory. Life is a chain of events, and every event has certain possible outcomes. Every outcome of an event has a certain probability. By observing these outcomes, we gain information. Let's assume that the event of a presidential election in country "X" was held this morning and that the outcomes of the election would be announced in the 9:00 p.m. news. It is widely expected that the acting President would win the election. When the news of his victory is announced, you gain very little information because the probability of his winning the election was very high. However, if the news announced that the acting President lost the election, then you would be surprised and would gain a lot of information because the probability of his losing the election was very low. The reasons and circumstances behind the President's loss are "the information" that gets added to your knowledge. These reasons were not obvious to you before the outcome of the election event since you initially thought the president would win. Now, I am sure you agree with Shannon when he implied that the smaller the probability of an outcome of an event, the larger the information gained by observing this event and its outcome.

Probability and Information:

Now, let's elaborate on Shannon's theory by exploring how diversity can contribute to gaining more information by studying the event of throwing a

die. If we throw the die that has six different faces numbered from one to six, the event of throwing the die has six outcomes (the face to be 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6) with the probability of each outcome to be 1/6. So by observing the event of throwing the die, we gain information about the number of the die's upper face. Now imagine if the die's sides are all labeled with the number three, consequently you will gain no information by watching the outcomes of throwing this die, since its upper face will be three for sure. Similarly, Shannon's theory implies that the more diverse the outcomes of an event, the lower the probability for a single outcome, and the smaller the probabilities of the outcomes, the more information you gain by observing this particular event and its outcomes.

Now, I am sure some of you will jump and say: not all information is always good to learn. This is true and that is why God has given us brains to distinguish between the good and bad information, and the will to use the good information and to reject the bad information. But if the diverse outcomes of an event do not exist in the first place, we would never get the opportunity to gain new information and knowledge. Needless to mention that we would be the same as we were 100 years ago. So, how can we apply this powerful theory to our social life? One way of applying this theory is by extending and applying the method of diversity.

Why do we fear diversity?

Most Arab countries, especially Yemen, fear diversity. What I mean by diversity is the multi faceted differences prevalent in our society such as: religious faith - Zaidi and Shafee, or our dialects, different ways of pronouncing the letter 'Gaf', or our geographical origin, Sanani or Edini, or our political parties, Reform or Socialist and so forth. Most Arab countries will not give citizenship to someone whose father is not from the country concerned because we fear diversity. We all want to be from the same origin and with the same idea, but we forget that diversity in ideas and culture is a healthy thing to acquire in a society and, therefore, we should encourage it. Diversity will protect us from isolation and falling into the trap of believing ourselves to be a unique super race as happened in Germany and Japan. During the second world war millions of Jews and Europeans died because of the Germans' self styled belief in themselves as a unique race, and millions of Chinese and Koreans died because of an identical belief in case of Japan.

The importance of flexibility and patience

Again, some of you may start jumping and say we are stronger by believing in

one idea. Again I will say, let's be diverse in exploring all kinds of ideas. We should be flexible and learn how to listen to ideas that are different from ours. We should learn how to give every one the chance to explain his/her idea and defend it without fear of prejudice and pre-conception. We should be open-minded and investigate new ideas generating from within us or learnt from other societies in this large universe. We should learn how not to be biased by our affiliation to a party or to a geographical area or faith background when we discuss different ideas and when we select the best idea. When one idea gets the majority support, we should be united behind that idea. The people, whose ideas are not preferred, should learn to accept the majority idea and support it even if they believe strongly in their idea. In the end, it is better to start working on less lofty ideas than cling to an idea, which is apparently very inspiring, but less practicable. Time is bound to make people see what you saw ahead of them. But in most cases, the majority idea is for the most part the most acceptable one especially if all the other ideas got a fair chance to be explored.

From my experience in college, where I meet hundreds of students from all over the globe, I have observed that every group of students from one country tends to think the same way. When we all discuss a problem in class, it is amazing to see how many ideas have been suggested to solve one problem. Sometimes, a different group comes up with the best idea to solve a different problem. This is because every group has different backgrounds and experiences in life and from their experiences they learn what the best solution is for a certain problem.

In Yemen, we need to be happy with our diversity and should welcome talented people with ideas to Yemen to enhance the extent of our diversity. However, we should only consider a selective diversity that will enrich the country economically and educationally. Many qualified people from other countries may come to Yemen to live under the umbrella of the marginal democracy and freedom that they do not find in their own country. Even people from more advanced societies may come to Yemen to seek the opportunity of investment that they do not find in their own countries due to the stiff competition and limited resources. Now, if I ask my reader, which society is better: America or Japan? I can assure you that some answers point to America, some answers will name Japan and some answers may even mention Afghanistan. You can never get the same answer for one question. This demonstrates that diversity is an

inescapable fact of human nature and can never be suppressed.

Who are we to reject God's will?

Maybe we can find the answer in religion to the question, whether diversity is good or bad for society. God created us with such diverse features relating to skin, color, tongue, language, faith and species. Take a look at the genetic level. It has been proven that the more genetically diverse the parents, the more healthy and intelligent their child is likely to be. In fact, we should encourage marriages between members of different cities in Yemen, instead of holding on to the old pre-Islamic traditional canon which emphasizes marriages within the families or the tribe. We need a healthy generation, more fit physically and mentally. So, if God chose diversity in creating this universe, then who are we to reject diversity in our society? Those who think that they can keep Yemen or their society away from diversity are simply dreaming because we no longer live in the 50s where the Imam managed to isolate Yemen from diversity. We are in the age of the super highway for information where different views and ideas can come right to your living room by satellite and to your office by the Internet. As a result, we as a society should start to learn how to deal with diversity, take the best of it and be united behind the best outcome that diversity can provide us with. Otherwise, we will be a society prone to settle our differences by force instead of intellectual discussion.

Accepting others

It is so easy to accept each other when we believe in diversity, because we will not take it personally or be offended when people are different from us. However, accepting diversity is not simple; it needs lots of patience, practice, and compassion. Accepting diversity is the second step after efficiently practicing democracy. Democracy envisages accepting the idea of debating issues and ideologies based on party lines and accept the people's judgment. Diversity is to accept the idea after discussing it with other different issues and ideologies and adopt the best view. When an agreement cannot be reached, people's votes are the final deciding factor.

Individuals rule the society

As a society, we can start to practice diversity inside our family. A father tries to listen and discuss with his children and his wife their views instead of dictating his views and ideas. I can assure you that in the beginning it will be a very difficult task to accomplish but it is worth the try. The father needs to persist in trying and the family

of the events, and therefore the more knowledge and information the society can gain.

* Claude Elwood Shannon was born in Petoskey, Michigan on April 30, 1916. He spent a productive 15 years in the Bell Labs, when he published his Information Theory in 1948 at Bell Journal.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Royal Netherlands Embassy invites consultancy firms to submit company profiles for competition bidding to provide input in the Dutch funded development of a programme in Urban Cultural Heritage Protection and Preservation in Yemen (reference YE022501). The grant will be worth approximately NLG 4.4 million. Closure submission: 3 July 2000.

The consultant is to collaborate with a local counterpart team in developing a Strategy and Policy in Urban Cultural Heritage, under the supervision of the National Committee for the Preservation of Cultural Heritage of Yemen, chaired by the Minister of Culture and Tourism of the Yemen Government. The consultant is to develop both a strategy and policy to aid the Yemen government in harmonizing its and others' efforts, and to develop a sound structure in which cooperation, coordination and collaboration are key elements.

Especially invited to react are firms with relevant experience in the field of urban cultural heritage preservation, especially regarding old cities, experience in policy and strategy development, creation of efficient and clear institutional structures, development of legal framework, human resource development, training and capacity building at local organizations, urban planning and town management, awareness raising, working in Yemen or similar environments, using participatory approaches to commit all levels of society to the overall goals.

The assignment will cover a period of 5 years (Autumn 2000 - autumn 2005). This project involves the preparation of an Inception Report during the first 6 months of the assignment. The Inception Report will include a Master Plan for the remaining period of the project, and a detailed work plan for the first period of implementation of the Master Plan.

Royal Netherlands Embassy
Embassy Secretary for Cultural Heritage, mr. S. Messerschmidt
Development Cooperation Department
P. O. Box: 463
Sana'a
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Words of Wisdom

"It is a basic necessity for us to reflect on our role in the current civilization and to re-assess the value system in which we live. We need to feel at ease with the modern world, and to feel we are a real part of it."

Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, (1951-1999)- Founder

Our Opinion

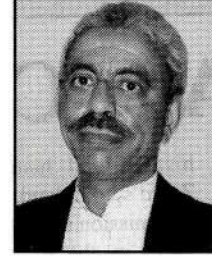
BY WALID A. AL-SAQQAF

YEMENI-SAUDI BORDER DISPUTE OVER: A NEW PAGE WITH NEW HOPES

June 11, 2000 has become a historic day for both Yemen and Saudi Arabia, as it has marked a milestone in their relations by signing the permanent land and marine border treaty between both countries. Frankly speaking from an unbiased point of view, President Saleh's stand in resolving border issues has become a major credit for him and for Yemen. It shows that border disputes can always be solved peacefully, just as has happened with all Yemen's three neighbors, Eritrea, Oman, and Saudi Arabia. As our largest and most influential neighbor, Saudi Arabia has by this step, shown a great intention to maintain an excellent and developing relationship with Yemen. No one can deny the truly strong and rooted relationship in blood and culture between the people of the two countries. As it is undeniable, it should also be the major factor behind our harmony and improving relationship for the future. As for the Yemeni public, this treaty has given all Yemenis hope of better standards of living and freedom of movement between the two countries. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has always acted as an elder brother helping in improving Yemen's economy, offering jobs and investment opportunities. The people want to go back to the glorious past, when Yemenis were considered more than brothers to Saudis. They want to go back to where they used to help a lot in possessing the jobs that now others do. Saudis have always trusted Yemenis more than any other Arabs, as they were the most honest, humble, and hard working of all. Today, we have the hope of going back to those days. With determination and will, the two leaderships can start a new page, with increasing cooperation, and a stronger relationship. "Blood never turns to water" is a famous Egyptian proverb that indicates that no matter what happens, Saudis and Yemenis are brothers throughout history, and this must continue for the benefit of our children and the next generation. Let the old days come back again, and let the two brothers join hands once again with hope for a brighter future.

COMMON SENSE

By: Hassan Al-Haifi



On Neighborly Relations on the Banks of the Red Sea

Perhaps whoever called the Red Sea by that name really had foresight in knowing that bloodshed would never cease, at any time on at least one bank of the narrow divide between the Arabian Peninsula and the African Continent. But, no one can really find logic to excuse some of the calamities that have been imposed on the peoples of the western side of this divide, and for sure, no one can excuse the mayhem that is occurring in the gentle to rugged terrain of Somalia, Abyssinia and to a certain extent the jungles of the Southern Sudan. In looking at the ugly violence that is portrayed daily on satellite television coming from Eritrea, one finds great comfort in learning about the agreement reached between the Republic of Yemen and the Royal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Though the details of the accord have yet to be known by the citizenry of both countries, one would think after seeing what is going on across the Red Sea that any accord would truly be far better than the bloody madness over a stretch of territory that surely does not justify all the blood that is paid for it, all the assets that are ravaged and all the sustained suffering brought on to hundreds of thousands of innocent people, who were already having it tough living in their squalid conditions in whatever homes they had. Perhaps it was this rationale that came to the minds of the rulers of both Yemen and Saudi Arabia to come to some agreement on the long-standing border dispute between the two brotherly states and rightly so, and we congratulate them, if their

thinking was along this line. For sure, nations are expected to protect their territorial rights at whatever cost it takes and justify such defense, and nations should not be expected to sit idly while another encroaches upon its land. Nevertheless, border disputes over strips of territory here and there, which probably are of such minor or trivial economic significance that they can never justify releasing the entire military gear of the disputants as though it were a battle for life! On the other hand, when looking at the ugliness and pitiful disregard that the leaders of the two cousin states of Ethiopia and Eritrea have for their people's plight, one wonders if the leaderships there have lost their senses. Surely, the people of both countries find no pleasure in seeing their already over-strained resources bled just for the sake of satisfying some egotistical drives - or a conspiracy, to prevent the people of Eritrea from enjoying some relief after struggling 30 years for independence. The reason all out war has outdone, by far, in a few weeks, all the death, destruction and suffering that the 30-year struggle for independence caused, no one really knows and there could never be any logical explanation why the poor would insist on such masochistic drives. No matter who wins, in the Abyssinian war, for sure both countries have lost heavily and have engrained hatred between them that will take centuries to erase. For what? For a stretch of land that no one sees equals all this bloodshed, destruction and suffering. For weeks now we have seen the Ethiopian and the Eritrean leader-

ships disregard all the inherited traditions of neighborly coexistence as they push the last stretch of available resources to the brink and the last multitude of able bodied men to their death - so that there will be nobody left to rebuild the destruction and to mend the wounds. Perhaps, it was this ugly display of neighborly conduct that prompted the other parallel neighbors on the east bank of the Red Sea to quickly sign on the dotted line of an agreement that hopefully can be a source of reassurance that, what is going on the other side has been taken out of the list of possibilities in the trend in the relations between the two brotherly Arab and Moslem states. Perhaps the thousands of bodies laid out on the arid land of Eritrea has given rise to worries in the leaderships of both Yemen and Saudi Arabia, that "God forbid that our border dispute should ever grow out of proportions like that!" One would think that the leaders of both Eritrea and Ethiopia have enough culture in them to realize that they neither have the wealth, nor the stomach for such kind of ugliness, yet the cannons continue their hammering and the bombers continue dropping their deadly loads and the millions continue to suffer. Is it worth it? It is scary that rulers can have no sympathy for the people, the interests of whom they profess to serve. That is the consolation that comes, when we hear that the Yemeni and Saudi leaderships have signed, to end the dispute over a far greater and for more significant area of land, with high economic potential that has yet to be unearthed. We do not care

and in the end does not even get you what you fought for? Even if we assume that there is some economic and strategic significance to the territory under dispute, surely, the thousands of dead soldiers and civilians caught in the cross-fire will not be around to thank their leaders for their impulsive patriotic wisdom and for uplifting their national pride. Surely, the thousands who will carry on after the war, without eyes, legs or arms, will not have much to show to be proud of and will not be in a position to praise their leaders for letting them live the rest of their lives neglected after having given so much for their country's honor, because their governments will not have resources to be able to provide them their rights of veterans' benefits, etc. They were already deprived of the resources of the land, even before the war, when they still had their natural anatomy in order, but after the war, even those with limbs will not find the means for sustaining life, because there will be nothing to work with to till the land or to fix the water pump. The foreign exchange of the country has been booked for generations by arms dealers who provided the credit terms that tied the next three generations of Eritreans and Ethiopians! Until a few days ago, this observer and many other conscientious Yemenis were appalled at what was going on across the Red Sea and frankly speaking, kept worrying about what a border war between Saudi Arabia and Yemen could bring. Thank God, we have leaderships on both sides who know that such kinds of horrors are not sensible and are better kept on the other side of the Red Sea. When looking at the possibilities of any dispute, it is peace that should always prevail and a just and lasting settlement is what leaders can be proud of. That will bring the praise, not just of the subjects they now rule, but for future generations to come.

Letters to the Editor

Alas!
Alas! I begin my speech with this word: it reflects a deep sorrow in my heart. Innocent girls were killed without remorse just because they wanted to learn. This is a crime! What happened to our authorities? Did they forget the great responsibility they are accountable for? Did they forget that they will be standing before Allah on the Day of Judgement? Shame! Tears fill my eyes. I have no words to express my sorrow and no words to write. You can read my impression in my tears and sighs. Finally, the solution for this catastrophe and all the problems we suffer from is mentioned in a short verse in the Holy Qura'an, from Allah,

"Allah won't change what is in the people until they change what is inside themselves."

Mohamed Al-Malahi

Who are more intelligent and intellectual, Men or Women?

According to what I hear, more than 50% of the people want to know who are more intelligent and intellectual, men or women. We can not come to a decision unless we first know what we mean by intelligent and intellectual. If we understood their meanings, we would be able to know whether men are more intelligent and intellectual than women, or vice versa.

than the women in their business fields. This despite the fact that the women started seeking jobs 5 years before the men.

This definitely proves that when we talk about the difference between intelligent and intellectual men and women, it also proves that intelligence and intellectuality are two different features (i.e., not every intelligent person is intellectual, etc...) Hence, we realize from the above story that men are more intellectual and intelligent than women as they were able to find better positions in shorter time.

Issam Al-Khwalani

Dear Editor,

I have been one of your readers of Yemen Times for a long period. I have also written letters to Yemenis abroad regarding tribalism in Yemen. It has to be stopped "once and for all" so that Yemen can prosper as any other developing country. Otherwise it will still lag behind as it has in the past, and as it does now. I really liked your "View Point" on Yemen's Main & Everlasting Problem: Lack of Law Enforcement. Yemen will lose a lot of tourism and foreign investors if tribalism continues with its western cowboy style; carrying guns and ammunition and kidnapping anyone they see on the road. The Yemen Government should strictly ban the carrying of weapons, otherwise this will create a bigger problem for the government in future. Statistics show that there are around 45 million weapons in a population of 17.5 million i.e. approximately three weapons per person in Yemen. Please keep teaching our fellow Yemenis through Yemen Times about the enforcement of the law banning the carrying of weapons. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK AND ALLAH WILL HELP YOU.

Thanks & Best Regards
Fuad Buran Basmair.

YEMEN TIMES
Independent Cultural, Economic & Political Weekly
First English Newspaper in Yemen founded in 1991
by Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

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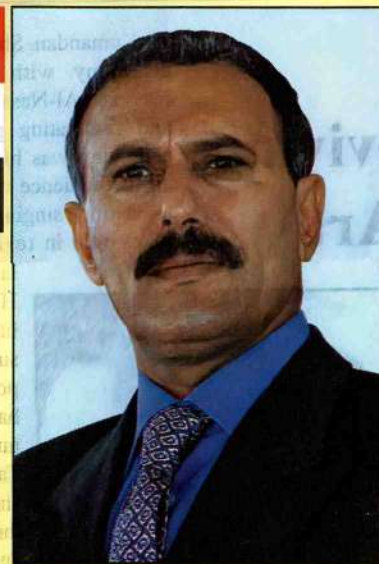
البنك التجاري اليمني

Conveys its utmost congratulations to
President Ali Abdullah Saleh,
His Majesty King Fahd bin Abdulaziz
and to
Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdulaziz
and to the Yemeni and Saudi people

on the great and historic occasion of the Signing of the Border Treaty
Hoping that this will further strengthen the political and economic relationship and cooperation bringing them to their highest level.
Many Happy Returns, and may Allah bless this great occasion.

Sheikh Mohamed bin Yahya Al-Rowaishan - Chairman.

يتقدم بخالص التهاني والتبريكات للقيادتين الحكيمتين في الجمهورية اليمنية والمملكة العربية السعودية
ممثلة بالرئيس القائد علي عبدالله صالح رئيس الجمهورية وخدام الحرمين الشريفين الملك فهد بن عبدالعزيز وولي عهده سمو الأمير عبدالله بن عبدالعزيز ولأبناء الشعبين في البلدين الشقيقين لهذا الانجاز التاريخي المتمثل بالتوقيع على معاهدة الحدود الدولية البرية والبحرية المعاهدة التي تثبت اواصر الاخاء وتبديد كل سلبيات الماضي بين البلدين الشقيقين وتنطلق بالعلاقات الاخوية الى آفاق اوسع من التعاون والتكامل.
الشيخ محمد بن يحيى الرويشان - رئيس مجلس الادارة



Aden Oil Refinery

شركة مصافي عدن

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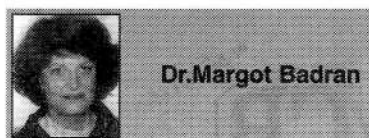
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GENDER: Meanings, Uses, and Discourses in Post-Unification Yemen

Part 1 of 2



Dr. Margot Badran

“Humankind. We have created you male and female, nations and tribes, so that you may know one another. The most honored of you in the sight of God is the most righteous of you. God has full knowledge and its acquainted with all things.”

Qur'an: 49:13

There has been an enormous misunderstanding of the concept of gender in Yemen. Some of this emanates from genuine unfamiliarity with the term and its meaning, while much of it appears more willful. Gender connotes the cultural construction of man and woman (or masculinity and femininity) as distinct from the biological categories of male and female (or sex). Most simply put, sex is a biological category and gender is a cultural category. Gender is an analytical tool enabling us to probe deeply our everyday practices as women and as men within the context of our religion, culture, and history. Some have not simply misunderstood gender but they have perverted its meanings and uses. Some have politicized gender.

There are many things to clarify and correct about gender, about the fundamental meaning of gender, and its uses and discourses in Yemen. This is the intention of my paper. I shall do the following in my presentation:

- 1) Identify three discourses of gender in Yemen today.
- 2) Examine the origins of gender as a new concept and analytical tool in the West and in Arab societies.
- 3) Look at the challenges concerning gender terminology in Arabic.

4) Discuss the contradictory fate of gender in Yemen.

Three discourses of gender in Yemen

Explicit gender discourses are a phenomenon of post-unification Yemen. There are three discourses of gender currently discernable in Yemen: the state discourse, the academic discourse, and a demonizing discourse. The state discourse is the discourse of development and democracy. It is a normative and applied discourse grounded in the fundamental law of the land. The academic discourse is a discourse of intellectual or scientific inquiry and analysis. The demonizing discourse is a discourse of deceit and fabrication fanned in the popular press and the street. It is a manipulative discourse, playing on notions of endangered culture, morality, and identity. Although three gender discourses can be detected in Yemen today, they are not impermeable. Indeed, these three discourses of gender intersect and impinge upon each other in a multitude of ways. Our focus on the three discourses of gender reveals ways the narratives and projects of the state and civil society blur, sometimes reinforcing each other, sometimes undermining each other.

There is a missing discourse of gender and Islam, a thoughtful and questioning discourse produced by religiously trained scholars, devout Muslims, and concerned others engaged in the quest for knowledge. The sites of this discourse are universities, research centers, scholarly publications and the media around the world, as well as on the internet. It is a discourse with a vast literature in many languages.

I shall now discuss the first two discourses of gender: the state discourse of development and democracy, and the academic or analytical discourse. Later in my presentation I shall examine the third discourse, the demonizing gender discourse. As a historian I

shall place my discussion within a time frame so that we may see the precise moments and contexts in which the discourses of gender have emerged in Yemen.

The state discourse of development and democracy

The state discourse of development and democracy surfaced with the unification of Yemen with the creation of the draft of a new gender-egalitarian constitution in 1990. The Constitution of 1990 declared (in Art. 2) that Islam is the religion of the state and (in Art. 3) that the shar'ia the main source of legislation. Art. 27 affirmed: "All citizens are equal before the law. They are equal in public rights and duties. There shall be no discrimination between them based on sex, color, ethnic origin, language, occupation, social status or religion." In 1991 a referendum in which both women and men took part was held approving the Constitution. In 1994 the Constitution was amended to read: "Islam is the source of legislation" (rather than "the main source of legislation"). The explicit guarantee that "There shall be no discrimination between them based on sex, color, ethnic origin, language, occupation, social status or religion," was deleted.

In 1993 when the Republic of Yemen conducted the first national election, again both female and male citizens participated. There was considerable attention paid by the state, political parties, and male and female citizens to encouraging women to vote. There was less attention given to encouraging women to run as candidates, however. Indeed only two women were elected to parliament. During elections the discourse on gender and democracy was highly visible and strongly applauded in the local and international media. Two years later, in 1995, women judges and public prosecutors were confirmed as a result of the first judicial movement (al-

haraka al-qada'iyya) since unification. Meanwhile, a National Preparatory Committee was created by the government (republican decree 251) to prepare for the Fourth United Nations conference on Women to be held in Beijing in 1995. The Committee was charged to elaborate a national position on gender issues. A fundamental concern was how the constitutional guarantees for democracy and basic human rights could be implemented for all citizens, male and female alike. Following the Beijing conference the National Women's Committee was created by cabinet decree with the mandate to formulate national gender policy, with a special focus on women's development. During the decade of the 90s gender focal points were created in various government ministries. The state has amply demonstrated its awareness of the gendered dimensions of development. This is evident in its development strategies and projects in the areas of health, education, and poverty alleviation, for example. Yemen has also accepted millions of dollars from United Nations agencies and bi-lateral donors, and international NGOs for gender development programs may of which are in effect, as we speak.

The academic discourse of gender

While gender was becoming part of development policy, planning, and implementation in the newly unified Yemen, gender as an academic discourse was being institutionalized in the academy within the framework of women's studies. The foundational date of the emergence of an academic discourse of gender was the year 1993 when the Women's Studies Unit was created at University of Sana'a. The Women's Studies Unit was transformed into the empirical Research and Women's Studies Center in 1996. The creation of the full-fledged center occurred after an elaborate and detailed process of planning was con-

ducted in which the project of women's studies as an important and much applauded cutting-edge discipline was carefully worked out between Sana'a University, the Women's Study Unit, and the Embassy of the Netherlands, which provided generous financial support and assisted with technical inputs. The significant documentation of this institutionalization process attests to the significance attached to and care taken by all parties to create the Empirical Research and Women's Studies Center.

Two years later on the occasion of the publication of the introductory issue of the Center's *Dirasat Niswayah Journal* (October 1998), the Rector of the University, Abdul Aziz al-Maqalah wrote: "The appearance of the Empirical Research and Women's Studies Center at Sana'a University constitutes a true beginning of objective scientific knowledge concerning the reality of women in our country and defining the problems of women which are rooted in the deterioration and decline which began with the fall of the Arab state and the tribulations of the Muslims." Courses on gender theory and gender research methodologies, integral to the discipline of women's studies, were developed as core courses in the curriculum. The Empirical Research of Women's Studies Center hired its own faculty and also drew upon resources elsewhere in the University. Among those who taught courses in the Empirical Research and Women's Studies Center were the Rector of the University and member of the Arabic Department, Dr. Abdul Aziz al-Maqalah, Dr. Hasan al-Ahdal, Vice-Rector of the University for Higher Studies and a member of the Faculty of Shariah and Qanun, Dr. Ahmad Sharaf al-Din, also a member of the Faculty of Shariah and Qanun and Dr. Bilqis al-Sharie, from the Faculty of Education, who was the first Yemeni to undertake an extensive study of gender. She employed gender methodology and theory in her doctoral dissertation presented at the University of Pittsburgh in the United States in 1992 titled: "Attitudes of Students at Sana'a University toward Gender Roles in the Republic of

Yemen." Ph. D. candidates at the Center were meanwhile being trained as future professors in the Empirical Research and Women's Studies Center. Doctoral candidates Antelak al-Mutawakkal and Abd al-Karim Alauj, with first degrees respectively in Arabic literature and sociology had begun to teach the core course: Introduction to Women's Studies and Gender Research Methodology. Scholars from abroad were invited to teach on an occasional basis, such as, Professor Yumna Aid, a literary critic and specialist in Arabic literature in Beirut, and Professor Aziza al-Hibri, a specialist in Islamic law at the University of Richmond. Professor Suad Salih, a specialist in comparative fiqh and Dean of the Women's College at al-Azhar University, had been approached to give courses during the academic year 1999-2000 and had expressed her willingness to come to Sana'a, but her potentially valuable contribution was lost after the crisis surrounding the Center. In the summer of 1997, the Center hosted a workshop on gender research methodology for Masters Degree students from the University of Sana'a and the University of Chicago, which as opened by the Rector of the University.

By the end of the 1990s, the Empirical Research and Women's Studies Center had become an integral and intellectually lively part of Sana'a University, earning for the country and the university serious, if not uncontested, local applause, while attracting a more unqualified international recognition. The intersection of this local and international recognition was especially evident on the occasion of the visit to Center of the Netherlands Minister of Overseas Cooperation to the Empirical Research and Women's Studies last spring where she gave an impromptu talk on the background of feminist activism and scholarship. Her evident enthusiasm was a source of inspiration to Center students and faculty. The Center was a compelling example of the mutually beneficial concerns of national development and academic work.

To be Continued next issue

Camellia, A Budding Singer Reviving the lahji Singing Art

Saleh Abdulbaqi
Yemen Times

Yemeni female singers have actually undergone a long course of exerting hard efforts in our society that is still characterized by male supremacy and domination. Aden was actually the starting point for some Yemeni female singers to start their struggle to assert their rights and show their talents at singing. Camellia was the first Yemeni female singer who started singing in Aden to revive the old tradition of lahji songs. She has actually confirmed women's rights to work hand in hand with men in all fields of life. She laid the basis for a new literary period in which many latent female talents were polished including Raja'a Ba Sudan, Fathiah Al-Saghir, Sabah Munasar, Amal Qudul, etc. Many of these singers have gained huge publicity in the course of time. Many of them have also quit the art of singing. The only one who is still in this field is Amal Qudul.

In Lahj other promising female singers appeared. Some could stand the difficulties they face while others disappeared. Then, Camellia with her melodious voice was able to revive the past glory of lahji singing. Camellia was born in Al-Hutah in 1972, Lahj governorate. She is a graduate of the Teachers Training Institute in Saber, 1987. Now she works as a teacher in the Education Bureau office. The Camellia was deeply influenced by the Kumandaniah songs, Mohammed Al-



Lahji's and Hadi Sait's songs. She was also influenced by the popular songs that she used to listen to from members of the public Tumbrah band. This influence was clear on Camellia to the extent that she started singing in the presence of her friends. However, she was determined not to practice the art of singing until she graduated from the Teachers Institute. In the same year of Camellia's graduation and joining the educational field, she joined the chanting team of the Cultural Office in Lahj which at the time coincided with the ceremony of

Al-Kumandan. She participated in this ceremony with a song of "Itha Nassnass Al-Nassnoos". Her exquisite and fascinating performance in the ceremony was highly appreciated by all the audience who gave her a push to continue singing. In fact, she played a key role in reviving the lahji song late in 1987.

Her sonorous voice has bestowed on her such a tremendous popularity that she has participated in numerous parties. Talking about her singing, she said that the lack of the big audience who support singers has played a role in distinguishing between singers. Some were destined to disappear while other ones continue to gain popularity.

After Al-Kumandan, there were some other great singers including the late Fadl Al-Lahji and Muhssen Bin Ahmad Mahdi who could translate Najib's and Saleh Mahdi's poems into melodious tunes. Some of their magnificent songs are

"Yali Tarakt Al-Dama'a" or "Yakolo li Nasi Hubak". Camellia participated with the musical band of the Cultural Office in Lahj in the Al-Khartoum Festival in 1987. She also participated in the Port Said Festival in 1990. Now she is preparing herself to tape a new album with a production company in Sana'a. She is also planning to copy some other songs at the Yemeni space channel. Finally, we do hope that this new voice will be given the support and attention needed to enhance the state of the lahji songs.

"If Music Be the Food of Love, Play on, Give me Excess of It"

Last Thursday 8/6/2000, a colorful music concert display was organized by the French cultural Center. In the ceremony a number of musicians participated and presented a wonderful display of latent and promising talents. Some foreign youths, as well as a young Yemeni, a pianist participated in the function. The veteran Iraqi musician Joseph Faris also presented some of his classical and modern musical compositions. Joseph Faris, Iraqi, is a graduate of Fine Arts from Baghdad. He started his career as an artist in radio and TV in Baghdad. He was also one of the Iraqi orchestra players. He gave instrumental accompaniment to many famous singers including Kadem Al-Saher, Abdullah Al-Ruwaished, Khalid Al-Sheikh, Nabil Shuaib, etc.

Presently, he is a teacher at the Sana'a International School. He teaches instruments such as, violin, lute, drums, keyboard, basic guitar, etc. Other participants were Melanie Weirich, John Joseph, Matthew Marlowe, Laura Wright, Esther Wright, Rachel Ferrand, Mr. Shinji Matsuo, Mrs. Pam Ferrand. Nassri Al-Saqqaf of the Yemen Times attended the function and conducted the following interview with Joseph Faris. Excerpts:

Q: When did you start playing music?

A: I started at the age of nine. I was

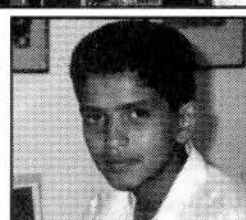


trained by foreign teachers including Mr. George from France, Mr. Aram Bab Gkyan from Armenia and Foad Reda Al-Sadan, Iraqi teacher.

I have participated in many music concerts and festivals in many countries. In Yemen, I have participated in many occasions or festivals on TV and radio.

Q: What are your impressions about Yemeni music?

A: Yemeni music has a great and deep-rooted heritage. There is a lot of potential to be explored in Yemeni music. Yemen is a wonderful country where extraordinary beauty has been bestowed by God. It is also a feather in the colored cap of Yemen that we feel that vigor and vitality in Abdulwahab No'man's poetry. There are many Yemeni latent talents who could do miracles if they are well taken care of. One such budding talent is the small Yemeni boy Abdulwahab. He is actually a child prodigy in the piano. I have also discovered many aspects of Yemeni music while trying to col-



the child prodigy, Abdulwahab

lect various specimens of it. I have plans to produce them in a symphony titled Yemen in the near future. It will be the first symphony about Yemen ever produced by an Iraqi producer.

Q: What does the concept of music as an aesthetic experience mean?

A: Music is beauty. It is not owned by anyone. It is something that relieves and pacifies souls. It is true that we use the word "musician" to refer to the person who plays music. Yet, music is not owned by musicians. Rather it is something sublime and sacred.

Q: Anything you would like to add?

A: I would like to thank Yemen Times for its active and live participation in such activities.

Mr. Shinji Matsuo, Second Secretary at the Embassy of Japan, was among the participants who played the violin. He said "I have studied for ten months with Mr. Faris and this is my first time participating in such a concert."

During the concert the audience were enthralled and deeply impressed by the exquisite performance of the young Yemeni Abdulwahab Ali Ghazi who started performing only one year ago. His father is a teacher of music in the Cultural Health Center who taught him many instruments. He is in the ninth class, preparatory school. All the members of the audience could not help but express their admiration for the child prodigy and expect a promising future for him. YT wishes him the very best in his unfolding career as an artist.



Press Scanner

Three subjects dominated the Yemeni media during the last week. President Saleh's visit to Federal Germany, Hungary and Saudi Arabia dominated much of the media, especially as Yemen and Saudi Arabia signed a new treaty that brings an end to their 66-year old border dispute. Yemeni newspapers continued to cover exclusively the developments of the faculty of medicine crime. Finally, the death of Syrian president Hafez Al-Assad was also a topic that was covered by all Yemeni media. Three newspapers joined the press community during the month. They are all weeklies. AN-NAHAR was reviewed last week, while AL-AKHBAR and AN-NASS are covered in this report.

AL - A K H B A R (Independent, weekly 8th June) reported in its first edition that Prince Sultan, the Saudi Minister of Defense and Aviation said that the border dispute between Yemen and Saudi Arabia is something 'nominal'. He expressed hope that the subject would be concluded and a settlement reached during president Saleh's visit next week to Saudi Arabia.

AL-MITHAQ (PGC, weekly 12th June) devoted its editorial to Saudi-Yemeni relations. The editorial said, "President Saleh's visit to Saudi Arabia expresses the necessity of reaching a clear-cut agreement to the border dispute on the basis of a rule of no-losers". AL-MITHAQ added: "Both leaderships see that a solution of a historical kind should be reached, that it should materialize the hopes built on it and finally that it should be of the level that is hoped to open wide aspects for a fruitful cooperation that both peoples shall benefit from". In conclusion, AL-MITHAQ said, "the political leadership on both sides is wise enough to understand the objective need and necessity of recognizing the quick changes in our world in a way that serves the good of both countries".

Practical Moves to Solve Border Dispute. An Expected Solution to Border Problem.

AN - N A S S (Independent, weekly 12th June) reported that "observers are optimistic about a possibility that an agreement can be reached during the summit held by President Saleh and the Saudi Crown Prince, Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz. Yemeni politicians report that President Saleh is carrying practical proposals to solve the problem of the western borderline between Al-Thar Mountain and Al-Muwasam coastal point. They explained that these proposals were previously forwarded to the Saudi side but weren't accepted by the Saudis. It is proposed that the

Yemeni side agrees that Al-Thar Mountain remains unarmed, so as not to be of any danger to the town of Najran. Media sources carried unconfirmed reports that President Saleh and Prince Sultan had met secretly in Germany during the President's recent visit last week. Both men had reached an agreement regarding the borderline between Oman in the east and Al-Thar Mountain".

However, AN-NASS added that "opposition sources underrate the summit saying that relations are unstable, and can't be fathomed by just depending on statements made by their officials. These sources demonstrated that every time progress was reported, it was followed by an escalation of tension and positions. They consider probable that the summit shall limit itself to the mere expression of goodwill and the hope of reaching a negotiated settlement, especially as arrangements are being made for the official transfer of power to Crown Prince Abdullah".

A T T A R I Q (Independent, weekly 13th June) which reported the signature of the treaty didn't have any comments.

Saudi - Yemeni Treaty: Observers Take by Surprise

However AL-WAHDAWI (People's Unionist Nasserite Organization, weekly 13th June) said "first-hand reports indicate that the treaty shall open the door wide, solve many internal problems and bring new life to bilateral relations. This is based on the belief that Saudi Arabia shall implement all articles of the Taif Treaty which organizes economical relation and labor movement in addition to the border issue".

AL-WAHDAWI, however, quoted "observers as believing that the implementation of the new treaty shall exceed the border issue, as the Saudi side insist on not linking other issues to the border, as was the case when the border with Oman was settled". "The Yemeni people shall be disappointed if after all the delay the treaty proves to satisfy Saudi interests only".

Another story run by AL-WAHDAWI quoted an "official source at the People's Unionist Nasserite Organization as welcoming the treaty 'if it proves its ability to solve' lingering problems between Sana'a and Riyadh and demanding that the whole text be published. Our final position towards the treaty shall be announced after a thorough study of the treaty when it is published".

A short editorial by **AL - A Y Y A M** (Independent, thrice a week 14th June) welcomed the treaty saying that "everybody, especially Yemenis living abroad and in particular those living in Saudi Arabia are joyful. They hope that the treaty shall bring them good and open a wide

range of cooperation between Yemen and Saudi Arabia in development, investment, culture and media". AL-AYYAM added that "brave and prompt acts are expected from President Saleh on the reform of government apparatus to precede or concur with the treaty in order to boost the trust of local, Arab and foreign investors".

AL-AYYAM devoted a full page to the speech of a British Minister of State at the 56th session of the International Committee of Human Rights because of its importance.

Ex-president Ali Nasser Mohammed was asked by AL-AYYAM about his opinion on the signing of the border treaty. In his answer, Mr. Mohammed expressed his belief that the move is a conclusion of the policy of the peaceful settlement of border disputes which had begun with Saudi Arabia".

Yemen-Saudi Border Treaty: A Historical Achievement.

AL - W A H D A H (Official, weekly 14th June) devoted its editorial to this important development in the Saudi-Yemeni bilateral relation. It also reported that Yemeni opposition parties are seeking an audience with President Saleh in order to be 'acquainted with the basic contents of the treaty'. AL-WAHDAH's sources added "opposition parties fear that Yemen might have been done injustice by the treaty in a way similar to the 1995 Note of Understanding in which Yemen made big concessions. As the topic relates to the sovereignty of Yemen and isn't restricted to the policies of the ruling party, all parties and political forces are concerned".

President on Border Treaty: A New Era in Saudi-Yemeni Relations.

AL-SAHWA (Islah Party, weekly 15th June) reported the signature of the treaty and manifested the statements of President Saleh on the Issue. Neither AL-SAHWA nor the Islah Party (Islamic opposition, second party in Parliament) commented on this important development. Sheikh Abdullah Al-Ahmar, Chairman of the Islah party and Speaker of Parliament is currently visiting Scandinavia. Other important occasions such as the death of President Assad of Syria and next week's anniversary of the birth of Prophet Mohamed also helped to distract attention.

AL-SAHWAH published the full report of the Parliamentarian Committee on the Faculty of Medicine crimes.

AL - T H A W R I (Yemeni Socialist Party, weekly

15th June) reported that an official source at the Socialist party headquarters said, when asked about the party's position on the treaty: "The treaty has to be studied. It is demanded that the government publishes the whole official text so that all political parties and the masses of the people can make their positions on the bases of sound information and not on rumors".

Local, Arab and International Welcome to Border Treaty

26TH SEPTEMBER (Armed Forces Journal, Weekly 15th June) reported that President Saleh has called upon Saudi and Yemeni businessmen to avail themselves of available exemptions privileges and facilities and implement development projects in Yemen. The call came during a meeting between them and President Saleh at Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

In a special statement to 26TH SEPTEMBER, Mr. Abdullah Ghanem, the Minister of Legal and Parliament Affairs stressed that Yemen and Saudi Arabia had made a great achievement. Adding that the treaty satisfies the legitimate aspirations and rights of both peoples, Mr. Ghanem said the treaty confirms the legitimacy and obligatory nature of the Taif Treaty of 1934".

AL - J A M A H E E R (Ba'ath Party, weekly 14th June) devoted most of its edition to the death of the Syrian president, Hafez Assad.

OTHER INTERESTING STORIES

Al-Thaqafiyah Threatened

AL - O S B O A ' (Independent, weekly 15th June) reported that the Islah party Secretary General Mr. Mohammed Al-Yadumi had threatened during a phone call with the Chief Editor to close the cultural magazine AL-THAQAFIYAH because it republished 'Sana'a, An Open City' because the writer is a communist and an infidel".

"Many Yemeni journalists and intel-

lectuals declared their solidarity with AL-THAQAFIYAH".

Khawlan Tribe Apologizes

AL-OSBOA' reported that "work at the commercial court went back to normal after its sessions were suspended early last week in protest of a tribal aggression last month. Sheikh Ali As-Salahi had threatened lawyers, judges and an account expert while the court was looking into a dispute in which the Saba Hotel Company was involved. Companions of the Sheikh closed the gates of the court and didn't allow the lawyers to leave, and hinted they might kidnap the expert." "A delegation from Khawlan tribe visited the Ministry of Justice and the Court to apologize for what happened".

To Safeguard Brotherly Relations

AL-EHYA' A AL-ARABI (Ba'ath Party pro-Iraq faction, weekly 12th June) reports that in the aftermath of forwarding applications by the Yemeni Ministry of Immigrants, for the compensation for "those who are called victims of the 2nd Gulf War Iraqi trade unions and mass organiza-

tions wrote to their parallel Yemeni organizations". The Iraqi letter that was published by the newspaper asked "that pressure be mounted on the concerned authorities to convince them to withdraw these applications, as they are forged and fully contradict with the warm relations between Yemen and Iraq"!!

A New Group of Israeli Tourists.

Both AL-UMMAH and AN-NASS report that "a new group of Israelis has arrived in Yemen." AL-UMMAH however said that "sources estimate that each Israeli tourist pays \$20,000 to Yemeni Tourist operators, of which he gets 50% from the Israeli government.

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Yemen Republic

Ministry of Local Administration

Envelops Opening Postponed

The Ministry of Local Administration announces that the date of opening envelops of the general tender N. 15 for the year 2000 concerning purchasing and importing three movable workshops, spare parts of Cater Pillar, and Comatso has been postponed to Saturday 1/7/2000 at 11 a.m. Interested importers are to abide by the same conditions, taking into consideration that the above are to be handed over in Hodeidah port.



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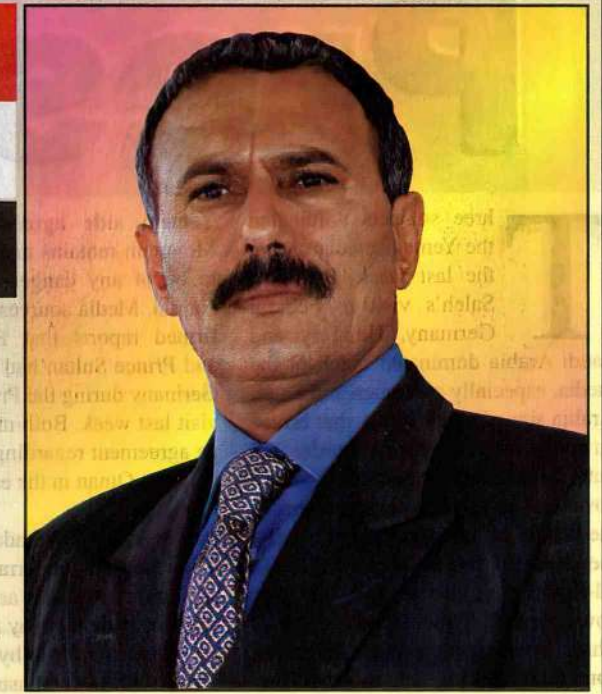
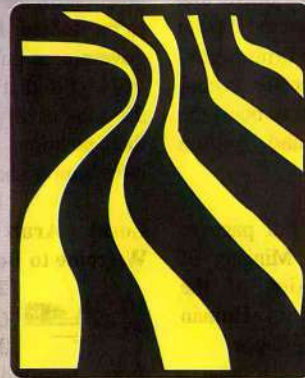
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Interested candidates should send their CV together with details of work and home telephone numbers to:

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District Operations Manager
PO. Box : 456 Sana'a Yemen.
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Ali Mohammed Saeed & Ahmed Hayel Saeed

On Behalf of the owners & employees of

Hayel Saeed Anaam Group of Cos

Conveys its utmost congratulations to

**President Ali Abdullah Saleh,
His Majesty King Fahd bin Abdulaziz
and to**

**Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdulaziz
and to the Yemeni and Saudi people**

on the great and historic occasion of the Signing of the Border Treaty

Hoping that this will further strengthen the political

and economic relationship and cooperation bringing them to their highest level.

Many Happy Returns, and may Allah bless this great occasion.

علي محمد سعيد وأحمد هائل سعيد

يتقدمان نيابة عن

مجموعة شركات هائل سعيد أنعم

بأصدق التهاني وأزكى التبريكات للقيادتين الحكيمتين في الجمهورية اليمنية والمملكة العربية السعودية

علي عبدالله صالح *رئيس الجمهورية* **ممثلة بفخامة الرئيس القائد**

فهد بن عبدالعزيز *وخادم الحرمين الشريفين جلالة الملك*

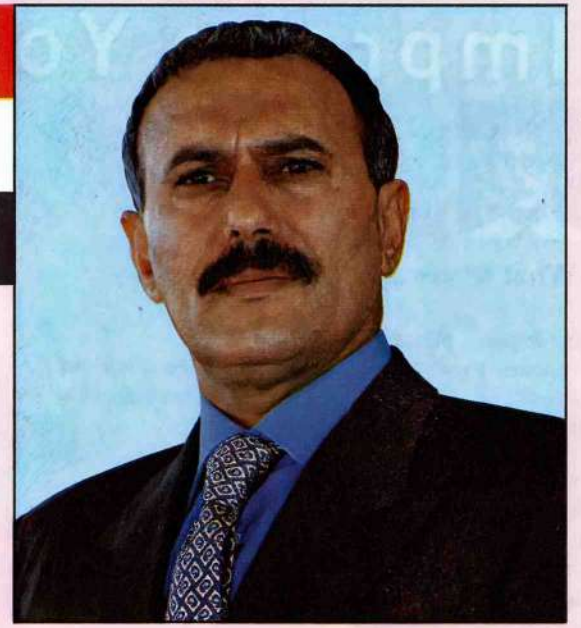
عبدالله بن عبدالعزيز *وولي عهده سمو الأمير*

ولأبناء الشعبين في البلدين الشقيقين لهذا الانجاز التاريخي المتمثل بالتوقيع على

معاهدة الحدود الدولية البرية والبحرية

وهي الاتفاقية التي ستمكن البلدين من الانطلاق بالعلاقات الاخوية الى آفاق أوسع من التعاون والتكامل

وبما يخدم مصالح وتطلعات الشعبين حاضرا ومستقبلا.



Mr. Tim Thomas,
President and General Manager
and all staff of

Canadian Occidental Petroleum Yemen

Convey utmost congratulations to
His Excellency President

Ali Abdullah Saleh,

President of Yemen

& His Majesty King Fahd Bin Abdulaziz Aal Saoud

King of The Kingdom of Saudia Arabia

and to the Yemeni and Saudi people

on the great and historic occasion of the Signing of the Border Treaty

Hoping that this will further strengthen the political and
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Many Happy Returns, and may Allah bless this great occasion.

يتقدم السيد تيم توماس، الرئيس والمدير العام
وكافة موظفي ومنتسبي شركة

كنديان اوكسيدنتال بتروليم يمن

بخالص التهاني والتبريكات للقيادتين الحكيمتين في الجمهورية اليمنية والمملكة العربية السعودية

ممثلة بفخامة الرئيس القائد **علي عبدالله صالح**

رئيس الجمهورية اليمنية

وخادم الحرمين الشريفين جلالة الملك **فهد بن عبدالعزيز آل سعود**

ملك المملكة العربية السعودية

ولأبناء الشعبين في البلدين الشقيقين بهذا الانجاز التاريخي المتمثل بالتوقيع على

معاهدة الحدود الدولية البرية والبحرية

وهي الاتفاقية التي ستمكن البلدين من الانطلاق بالعلاقات الاخوية الى آفاق أوسع من التعاون والتكامل
وبما يخدم مصالح وتطلعات الشعبين الشقيقين حاضرا ومستقبلا.

Improve Your English



Dr. Ramakanta Sahu
Associate Professor
College of Education, Mahweet

I. What to say

Polite requests, pleasant No's (2)
A customer wants you to give discount on an article and reduce the price for him. You do not want to oblige him, and at the same time not offend him.

- * "Sorry, Sir! Goods are sold here at a fixed price."
- * "I'm extremely sorry, sir! I'm not able to give you what you asked for. Would you mind trying this?"
- * "Our shop has reputation in the town as a fair price shop. We do not want to cheat customers by hiking the price and giving discounts."
- * "Sorry, Sir! the SALE period is over when we give a discount. It is not possible to give a discount any more."
- * "Please do not put us to shame by asking for a reduction in price."
- * "This much of a reduction will pinch my pocket. Sorry."
- * "We can't run the business if we start giving discounts."
- * "It is the company fixed price. No bargain, please. Our profit margin is very small. Please do not ask me to reduce it."
- * "If I give a discount to one customer, I can't say 'no' to others. That will harm my business. Sorry"
- * "We do not give discount on this brand. But you are our regular customer. Please wait. Let me see what I can do for you."
- * "We are sorry. The material is out of stock. We are expecting the consignment any time. Please leave with us your phone number. We shall contact you as soon as it arrives."

II How to say it correctly

Try to correct errors, if any, in the following sentences:

- 1) Sa'adah is further from Sana'a than Mahweet.
- 2) This is the most perfect solution.
- 3) The climate of Sana'a is as good as Bangalore.
- 4) He is only a clerk and gets a less salary.
- 5) Mohammed got cent percent marks in physics.

Solutions to last week's questions:

- 1- He is a **notorious** criminal.
- 2- He worked for **one hour and a half**.
- 3- Napoleon was greater than **any other** politician of his time.
- 4- As a sleeping partner, he has invested a **small amount of money**.
- 5- He is our **common** friend.

III How to Express it in one word

- 1) Staying away from the right path, from what is normal
- 2) Condition of not being in use or in force for a time
- 3) Think of with hatred or disgust
- 4) Be faithful to
- 5) Of wretched, miserable condition

Solutions to last week's questions:

- 1) Short form of a word or an expression: **abbreviation**
- 2) The simplest facts of a subject to be learnt first: **ABC**
- 3) Give up, renounce a right, an office, one's authority: **abdicate**
- 4) Part of the body that includes the stomach and bowels: **abdomen**
- 5) Take or lead a person away unlawfully: **abduct**

Try to find words with the following prefixes:

Tele-, Sub-, Neuro-, Socio-, Ultra-

Solutions to last week's questions:

- Meta-** (a theory about) : Metaphysics, metatheory.
Micro- (minute, very small) : microorganism, microscope.
Contra- (against) : contradiction, contradistinction.
Para- (having a status or a function similar to) : paramilitary, paramedia.
Supra- (above the level of) : supranational, suprasedgmental.

V. Quotable Quote:

"Sour, sweet, bitter, pungent, all must be tasted."
Chinese proverb

YOUTH FORUM

Democracy

Democracy presupposes that members of a society enjoy equal rights. Democracy in Yemen constitutes a multi-party system ensuring freedom of opinion and of the press.

Democracy is a universal language which every one can speak. Democracy is a fundamental human right and the only path we know to achieve peace and prosperity. Much has been said about democracy. However, it seems to me that it is a word of wider significance. Although many use it, most people abuse it. It is abused by many of us, here in Yemen, who do not understand the real essence and spirit of democracy. Democracy aims at helping people to work together to create a better environment to live in. Democracy is an actual practice, not a mere claim. Of course, it is decidedly the best way of government, where each and every one has a share in the task of governing himself. Democracy is the system in which transparency and accountability are the bases for all practices taking place within the regime. Democracy is based on sound principles and laws. The struggle for achieving democracy is never over. It must be fought for every day. Establishing and maintaining a democracy is very hard work, and that's true, not only for emerging ones, but for established democracies as well. So democracy can only be sustained when its values are rooted in the hearts, minds, and actions of people. In view of the above considerations, democracy is decidedly the best way to concertize our common dreams of living in a just and peaceful world.

Saddam Al-Ohadi

Life

In our life what we do
We came from earth
And to earth shall we return
To hell or to heaven, we don't know
No choice in both

Life is like a trick
We love it as we do hate
Loser does inside it stick
And the other knows the trick
Saves himself not to be late

Fahd Mohammed Al-Yafa'ai

With all respect and humility
On my way to knowledge,
Saw two clouds at the edge
One was bright and shone
The other was hard to pass

In vain, I tried the gap between to bridge,
Not knowing how the magic is done
Unload things from the other stage
Enrich it with merits of age
"Hazy Evening", please jump and come
But latter was almost in cage
Without means to encourage,
To give the world any or some

Hoping to see you again, you "khwilan", on page
With the other form, please, have not any rage
To clear for us what is gone.
Fadl Ahmad Abbas Ghazi
English Department Level 3
Arhab Education College

Reflections

Ibrahim Ibn Adham, a third century scholar, a teacher and a companion of Sufyan Al-Thawari, was asked by some of the Muslims who knew him, about the message of Allah, the Most High, in the Qura'an "And your lord says: Call upon me and I will answer your supplication" [40:60]. They said "We supplicate but we are not answered". So he said to them "It is because you know ten things, yet you do not put them to practice: You know Allah. Yet you do not obey Him. You recite the Qura'an yet do not act according to it. You know the Shytan, yet you have agreed

with him.
You proclaim that you love the messenger of Allah. Yet you do not do sunnah.
You proclaim your love for Paradise, yet you do not act to gain it.
You proclaim you fear the fire, yet you do not prevent yourselves from sinning.
You say "Indeed death is true", yet you are not preparing for it.
You engage in finding faults with others, yet you do not look at your own flaws.
You bury your dead, yet you do not take a lesson from it.
How do you expect your supplications to be answered?"

Abdul Malik Ahmad Al-Khawlani
Ibb University, Faculty of Arts

Tryst

In the heart of mine
I will arrange a feast
Where you and I
Will enjoy our tryst.
We will eat the food of love,
And fruits of emotion.
Together we will enjoy,
The divine intoxication.
The time will never pass,
And never will it creep.
Together on the bed of love,
We will fall asleep.
In the dream of ours,
I will play a rhythm so fine,
That you, my beloved,
Will enjoy the love divine.
Soon it will be morning,
When beauty curses dawn.
When birds do chirp,
But the lovely night is gone.
Then the time will come,
When you will leave me to myself.
And I will breeze through my dreams,
Till dusk gives me back my SELF.
Kumar Kunal Kamal
C/o Dr. Ram Kumar Sharma
Faculty of Education,

GLOBAL ENGLISH HAS ARRIVED!

By Eric Shackle*

"If you don't speak English, you won't get the job!" Like it or not, that's the message millions around the world are already hearing, reflecting the awesome, ever-growing power of the Internet, where the English language reigns supreme.

Even France has had to swallow its fervent pride in its national language. "Pardon My French, But It's English Only On the Flight Deck for Air France Pilots," said the Wall Street Journal on March 23. "At its Charles de Gaulle hub, Air France will Thursday do what once seemed unthinkable: jettison French," the newspaper reported.

In Asia, the use of English as a global language is being hotly debated in Japan and South Korea, where few people speak it. In India, Pakistan and Singapore, English is an official language, spoken by increasingly large numbers of the work force, and more importantly, school and college students.

Then there's Singlish, Singapore's unique variation of English. This is how the Singapore Tourist Board's website describes it: "English is widely spoken in Singapore... or is it? Many first-time visitors have been confounded by the colloquialisms that pepper Singaporeans' speech. This is because we speak very quickly (or so it's been said) and with a distinct Singaporean accent.

"Through the years, Singaporeans have developed their own brand of English fondly referred to as 'Singlish'. With our multi-racial background, it's not surprising that 'Singlish' borrows from the many different languages spoken in Singapore."

But there's a serious downside. Dr Hugh de Glanville, retired tropical physician and a committee member of the UK Queen's English Society, devoted to preserving the language, says "While the spread of English to become a lingua franca on earth, at sea, and in the air may introduce many perhaps useful new words and expressions, as generally used it will be a very truncated form of its immensely versatile and beautiful source.

"What is more worrying is that even in

England the language is being dumbed down as more and more of the younger generation, poorly taught English grammar and literature, discard usages they do not understand.

"Inevitably, generations yet unborn will learn their English from parents speaking such simplified English, who have never read our greatest writers, and hopes of preserving the greatness and the glory of the language will become unrealistic."

American wordsmith Anu Garg (<http://wordsmith.org/awad>), who was born in India, recently invited linguaphiles (word-lovers) around the world to express their views on various facets of English as a global language. Here is a selection of their replies:

Martin Bruczowski, computer engineer, Singapore: My first language is Polish. For me it's a simple, natural fact, because I was born in Warsaw, Poland, lived there for the first 20 years of my life, and people around me spoke nothing but Polish.

My wife is Malaysian Chinese and doesn't really know what her first language is. Her parents' native tongue is Hakka (a dialect of Chinese), but they come from different parts of the Hakka-speaking region of China, so they could not communicate too well. Eventually they settled on Cantonese, a different dialect, that they could both understand. However, their children were strongly encouraged to speak English. Chinese is viewed as a language of the lower classes, and English of educated people.

English is thus viewed as a ticket to better jobs, better salaries, and a safer future. It's a bit like in my country in the Middle Ages - Polish for peasants, educated people spoke Latin... or even 200 years ago, when Polish was again for peasants, while upper classes switched from Latin to French...

Now my wife speaks to her brothers and sisters in English. It's very sad, really, this scorn for your own language. The result is that here in Singapore, a large percentage of the society does not have a first language at all! I know it sounds somewhat unbelievable and contradicts most established linguistic theories.

Many Singaporeans come from homes where parents speak bad, simplified Chinese. Then the kids go to school, where they speak "Singlish" - a grossly simplified and misshapen form of English. As a result they have a real

problem expressing themselves in any living language - hence the exaggerated use of gesticulation and onomatopoeic grunts.

The government is very much aware of this and in the 1970s-80s was heavily pushing the use of English. Then, in the 90s, the wind changed and the Government was telling everyone to start speaking Mandarin... what a mess. Anyway, my wife thinks that her first language is Cantonese, except that she has problems building a correct sentence in that language without peppering it with English words. Fortunately, she went to Malaysian primary school and speaks fluent Malay, then to high school in the Netherlands, where she picked up pretty good Dutch, and then graduated from Queens University of Belfast, which resulted in English with lovely Irish inserts... so we have no problems communicating. But she does have to attend classes in Mandarin in order to speak to our son in correct Chinese... isn't it a wonder, that a mother has to take evening classes in her first language so that she can speak correctly to her son...? Truly, this is an interesting part of the world...

Sylvia Leng, of Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia: I work for a newspaper company as a technical assistant for the editorial computer system. We have to help our users on all sort of requests - problems on the system, e-mail, Internet usage, almost every day.

I'm Chinese, and English is not my mother-tongue language. I speak and use simple English words to express myself. Though I can handle my Mandarin well, I'm doing a computer course in English, because most of the information on the Web is in English, and I would like to communicate better with my colleagues. I want to enrich my vocabulary and enhance my English, so that my second pair of eyes will help me to explore the world better.

Bill Heaney, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S., retired policeman: English should be the universal language, because the U.S. and Britain lead the world in communications, science, space travel, and medicine, and maybe music. The English language is rich with foreign words and easily borrows them for everyday usage. It is a language that continues to grow, unlike some languages that are limited to territorial zones or religions. The Internet

makes English all the more global. My son, who plays ice hockey in Europe, tells me that only in the east, the Czech Republic and the Balkans, do the people not speak English, but they are beginning to.

Lee Kennedy, analytical chemist, Melbourne, Australia: The rise and rise of English is more fortuitous than anything else. Certainly English, or the Australian version of it, is my first tongue. I love it. It is a harlot of a language, stealing from anyone shamelessly.

The question came up at work (a food laboratory) recently about the differences between a relish and a chutney. A little hunting found that they are basically the same; relish is old English, chutney Hindi; but both are equally accepted. A vast array of pilfered or borrowed words are welcomed and absorbed seamlessly into English. I love it. I do feel for speakers of other languages, though.

It may be apocryphal but the story goes that the Russians believed the first US nuclear reactor was built in a pumpkin patch - a mistranslation of "squash court." An Australianism, "Sure. Go for your life" is commonly given as a "yes" response for permission to do something. It does not translate well. So, English it is!

hear overtones of hostility in the butchering of American English, a language that was one familiar comfort to me in a largely foreign land.

Spencer Allen, language arts teacher in Jefferson City, Missouri, US: I've had debates against an entire class concerning the importance of English as the official language of the United States, which it currently is not. My opponents argue that by making English the official language, we are stifling another culture. I argue just the opposite: by NOT making English the official language, we are stifling the AMERICAN culture.

Of course people are upset when their children or grandchildren lose a part of their culture; they should be. Similarly, parents are and should be somewhat upset when their daughter or son moves out of the house and marries. In both cases, something is lost, but theoretically, something greater is gained.

Even if English were a world-wide "official" language, it would not turn us into clones. Nor would cultures be bulldozed in the process. Rather, a wonderful thing happens: we learn to communicate in ways that help us grow into a united culture, where people are allowed more diversity than ever before because they see so many different ways of living life.

Geoffrey Keyworth, a systems engineer from Ottawa (Canada), living in Toyota-city, near Nagoya, Japan: The simple fact that I am living in a country which is considering adding English as a second national tongue (after Japanese, of course) means that I am often an unwitting ambassador for my native language.

I am frequently involved in conversations where, after some initial pleasantries, we talk about the differences between the two languages, and little else. It seems a strange thing to discuss over drinks, but it's so interesting that I rarely even notice.

Perhaps educators in English-speaking nations should consider that their students will likely travel, at least once in their lives, to a country where English is not the first language. What a shame it would be if the visitors proved unable to give a good account of themselves in their native tongue!

Elizabeth Glover, a text designer with a New York publishing company: I have taught English writing to college students from many nations: I think the loss of any polyglot ability is a tragedy. I have no facility with language other than English, and I wish I did.

However, I strongly feel that parents should raise their children to have both their native tongue and the language of wherever they are raised.

I live in immigrant-heavy Queens, New York, and those who don't speak reasonably-competent English are restricted to business dealings with their own ethnic group, possibly only within their own neighborhood. Perhaps this is all they want, but wouldn't it be nice to have other options?

I think English is in a period of flux, much as it was during the late Elizabethan era (there must be something about long-reigning queens named Elizabeth). Whether this is for the better or worse remains to be seen. One of the most beautiful aspects of English is its flexibility. We have endless synonyms for things, each with its own connotation. As any native English speaker can tell you, something HUGE is bigger than something merely BIG.

What kills me the most is that grammatical errors are often perpetrated not by foreigners, who could understandably be confused, but by Americans and perhaps Canadians and Brits as well. I suspect American TV and movies are the biggest culprits.

Ann H. Sakai, San Diego, California (US): I am Japanese American and of course English is my first language. My grandparents came here in the early 1900s from Japan. My parents were born here. I was born in an American concentration camp during the war. I attended Berkeley in the 60's and earned my degree in Spanish (major) and French (minor). I taught Spanish for 25 years in Northern California.

I am working as a conversation coach with ESL students mostly from Japan. They are as curious about me as I am about them. I wonder if they think I actually speak standard English, being that I look like them. English is a very important language. People from all over the world come here to learn English. I believe that the more people travel and learn each other's language, the closer we come to understanding one another.

* Eric Shackle is a retired journalist who spends much of his spare time surfing the Internet and writing about it. His articles have been published by leading newspapers including the New York Times (U.S.), the Toronto Globe and Mail (Canada), the Sydney Morning Herald (Australia), and the Straits Times (Singapore).



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مطلوب: استأجر مقارات خالصة الصيرورة - محروك 1 سيارة تويوتا كراون بمواصفات محروك 6 سلاتر السعة 1000. دوالر. خالصة الصيرورة - محروك 2 سيارة كورسيكا بمواصفات محروك 12. دوالر. خالصة الصيرورة - محروك 4 سيارة كورسيكا بمواصفات محروك 12. دوالر. خالصة الصيرورة - محروك 6 سيارة كورسيكا بمواصفات محروك 12. دوالر. خالصة الصيرورة - محروك 8 سيارة كورسيكا بمواصفات محروك 12. دوالر. خالصة الصيرورة - محروك 10 سيارة كورسيكا بمواصفات محروك 12. دوالر.

شراء/بيع آتات منزلي وتجهيزات مكتبية

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شراء سيارات

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بيع سيارات

مطلوب: بيع سيارات خالصة الصيرورة - محروك 1 سيارة تويوتا كراون بمواصفات محروك 6 سلاتر السعة 1000. دوالر. خالصة الصيرورة - محروك 2 سيارة كورسيكا بمواصفات محروك 12. دوالر. خالصة الصيرورة - محروك 4 سيارة كورسيكا بمواصفات محروك 12. دوالر. خالصة الصيرورة - محروك 6 سيارة كورسيكا بمواصفات محروك 12. دوالر. خالصة الصيرورة - محروك 8 سيارة كورسيكا بمواصفات محروك 12. دوالر. خالصة الصيرورة - محروك 10 سيارة كورسيكا بمواصفات محروك 12. دوالر.

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افتتاح اليوم (٢٠٠٠/٦/١٩) المعرض التشكيلي الأول للفنانة العراقية «فيروز محم علي» في قاعة آرثر رامبو بالمركز الثقافي الفرنسي. سيستمر المعرض حتى الدعوة عامة: ٢٠٠٠/٦/٢٧

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تدريس جميع المستويات، تدريس دورات كمبيوتر IBM، حاسب ٣، للدرجات الصغرى، شارع حدة أمام عمارة الفرانسى، ت ٢٤٠١٧١

مركز العالمى للكمبيوتر (ICCL)

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