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# YEMEN TIMES

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Monday, 10th of July, 2000 - VOL. X • Issue No. 28 • Price 30 Yemeni Riyals • Founded in 1991 by Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

## As Czech Newspapers and Media Organs Revealed

# OUR TANKS ARE COMING

At last, the long-awaited T-55 Main Battle Tanks bought by the Yemeni Government from the Czech Republic are arriving in Yemen, and by the time of going to the press, the tanks may have reached Yemeni shores. The announcement of the departure of the first 30 Tanks to Yemen came from the Czech capital, Prague on Friday through the CTK news agency.

The Czech press further mentioned that the remaining 76 tanks will be delivered in September and December. It was also mentioned that the Czech Republic sold the tanks considerably cheaply. "The liquidation of one obsolete tank would cost 67,000 crowns," Defense Minister Vladimir Vetchy said. It was mentioned that the price in which the tanks were sold exceeded

USD 40,000 for each tank. However, shipping the tanks is relatively expensive as well, since the shipping of one tank will cost more than USD 2,000. The daily 'Lidove Noviny' said that "The government decided to sell hundreds of out-of-date tanks from army arsenals last September." It also added that the transport route and other details of the contract were kept secret.

The newspaper also recalled international problems which Poland faced last year because Soviet tanks T-54/55 from the Polish army were sold by Yemen to the embargoed Sudan.

More on Page 2



### Mohamed Adam Omar's Case:

## HAMDAN THREATENS AGITATION

Observers fear that the case of the accused serial killer, Mohamed Adam, may take a violent turn unless his accomplices are identified. During the latest session on the 5th of July, Hamdan tribe complained about the slow progress in the case, and the inability of the court to identify the defendant's accomplices. It then threatened to use its own strategies unless justice is meted through courts. In the context of the injustice done to the tribe members in their case, several other tribes offered their support to

their cause and back them up in case a legal and 'fair' verdict is not achieved.

The Bani Hareth Court of First Instance, chaired by Justice Yahya Al-Aslami, resumed last Tuesday, July 5th hearing in the case of Mohammed Adam, the prime accused in the serial murder of girl students at the college of medicine. The overall mood in the court was one of disappointment, especially of the victim's families at the insignificant progress achieved so far. Complete details on Page 7

Sheikh of Hamdan, Ali Yahya A'idh, Sheikh of Dhula' Threatens to take serious action adopting the tribal strategy!



Father of Hosn, died of extreme psychological effects caused by the loss of his daughter

## STAGGERING REPORT OF HONOR CRIMES IN YEMEN

In a report released by Reuters, it was mentioned that Yemen is ranked the second in the world, next only to Pakistan in terms of honor crime incidents. Honor killings are usually the murder of a woman because of her disloyalty to her husband, or family in committing sexual acts without their knowledge.

According to the statistics obtained from UNICEF and Amnesty International, the number of killings for honor reasons reached a staggering 400 in one year (1997). On the other hand, Pakistan had more than 1,000 women killed. Several Arab states also had high levels of such killings, as Egypt had 52 honor killings in 1997, Lebanon had 36 between 1995 and 1998, while Jordan, the West Bank, and Gaza Strip had a total of more than 27 killings last year.

## Amnesty International's Appeal

Amnesty International has recently issued four letters of appeal with regard to three Yemeni citizens sentenced to death by Yemeni courts. The letters were sent by Amnesty International organization's British section, Amnistia Internacional Unidat Territorial de Madrid, Amnesty International Sektion der Bundesrepublik Deutschland and Karen Arman, member of Amnesty International in France. Yemen Times has received copies of those letters. Both letters from Al British Section and that from Karen Arman of Amnesty International in France dealt with the case of Fuad Ali Mohsen al-Shahari who on 12 November 1996 was found guilty of the premeditated murder of Captain Mohammed al-Ameri and was sentenced to death. Both letters are concerned that proceedings of the

trial may have fallen short of international standards for fair trials, asking the accused to be granted a possibility of a new fair trial. P. Bennets for A.I. Unidat Territorial de Madrid expressed concern that the Yemeni citizen Hammoud Murshid Hassan Ahmed might not have had a fair trial before he was sentenced to death on 23rd August 1995. The letter stressed that Amnesty International is against the death penalty in all cases, in any country. Dr Wolfgang Rechten for A.I. German Section sent a letter showing that he was deeply concerned that Abdulla Mohammed Ahmed Shayban, 28, who was sentenced to death in 1997, was reported to be at risk of imminent execution. He urges that his death sentence be commuted to more humane punishment.

## Sanaa City: from Drought to Floods

After months of a rainless season, heavy rain in the last few days caused the closure of some streets and water clogging in

some areas of the capital. The unprofessional architectural design of streets and roads lead to the accumulation of large quantities of water, forcing a halt to some infrastructure enhancement projects for telephone lines,

electricity, water, and road construction. Meteorologists forecast more rains in many areas of the country, and Sanaa will probably face the danger of heavy floods if this continues.

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Friday	02.10 09.45	Thursday 14.15 23.35

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Dep-SAH	1230	1230	
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Dep-SAH	0001	0001	0001

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Richest Minerals Field

Examination results of samples taken from a test field in Haja governorate last year have shown that the field is one of the richest unexploited fields in the world. The field treasures nickel, copper, cobalt, silver and platinum.

Al-Yosufi Wanted!

The South-West Capital Secretariat court summoned in its yesterday morning session Mr. Sameer Al-Yosufi, chief editor of Al-Thaqafiah newspaper to report to it within two days, otherwise his attorney Abdul Aziz Al-Baghdadi will be detained.

Al-Misrakh District Under Shelling

For the second successive week, military forces are still besieging Al-Misrakh District in Taiz, bombing houses and villages. Informed sources told the Yemen Times that more than 50 army groups had been sent to reinforce military troops surrounding the whole area.

Modern British Institute Students Visit Yemen Times

A group of students from Modern British Institute on Wednesday 5 July visited the main offices of Yemen Times newspaper in Sana'a. The students made a tour of the newspaper's departments particularly the editorial, translation and the technical.



villages. The source added that the conflict was between Mohammed Rizq Al-Sana'ani, Air Defense Commander and Abdul Wali Al-Jaberi over a piece of land located in Taiz.

Following the death of Al-Jaberi's nephew 4 years ago in relation to the same issue, Al-Jaberi's family kidnapped Mr. Rizq along with his son. The kidnapped were then released following a successful mediation by MP Abdul Wahab Mahmoud.

Detaining 65 Persons from Bani Jabr

Informed tribal sources told YT that 65 persons from Bani Jabr, Khawlan, were detained in the Military Jail in Sana'a since last Wednesday when they were in a meeting with the President to discuss some important subject matters related to their area and the military attacks conducted by the security forces in the area six months ago.

Abu Al-Mohsen Stands Trial

The Capital Secretariat Court held last Saturday the second hearing sitting on the case of Hatem Mohsen Fareed, known as Abu Al-Mohsen, leader of the so-called Aden Islamic army. Abu Al-Mohsen, who succeeded Abu Al-Hassan, was arrested 10 months ago and was charged of leading the above mentioned army, attempt to bomb Aden Hotel and holding contacts with Abu Al-Hassan Al-Missri.

Two students from Al-Zaidi Detained

Abdullah Saeed Al-Zaidi and Ahmad Saleh Showail Al-Zaidi, two students studying at a school in Sana'a were detained by security men. This took place after fighting between Al-Zaidi in Mareb and security forces in the area. In a memorandum submitted to Yemen Syndicate for Defense of Human Rights and Democratic Freedom, Mr. Hassan Saeed Al-Zaidi protested the suppressive detention which was not based on a legal warrant.

Japan Relieves Yemen's Debt Burden

The government of Japan has extended to Yemen a debt relief Grant Aid amounting to ¥367,060,000 (US\$ 3,450,000) based on the resolution made by UN Trade & Development (UNCTAD) to adopt debt relief measures for countries which have been fac-

ing serious difficulties in servicing their debts. Notes to this effect were signed and exchanged at 09:15 a.m. Monday, July 3, 2000, between Mr. Ahmad Mohammed Sofan, Minister of planning & Development of the Republic of Yemen and Mr. Akira Hoshi, Ambassador of Japan to Sana'a.

Appeal to Egyptian President

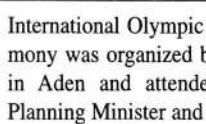
The Forum For Civil Society has sent a letter to Egyptian President appealing him to intervene to release Dr. Sa'adaddin Ibrahim, director of Ibn Khaldoon Center for Development. "We have been worried about the acts taken against Dr. Sa'ad who is expected to be brought before the court of the State security," the letter said.

Financial Violations at the 14 October Establishment

The COCA has recently reported in concrete numbers some financial violations in the 14th October establishment. It showed that YR 80,970,270 was spent as bonus for the fiscal year of 1998, 4,500,000 for the chairman and the Vice chairman and 80,000 for the deputy of managing editor and the financial manager per month.

Honoring Ceremony for Al-Kutubi

Wednesday 5.7.2000 in a closed hall at Aden, a ceremony was organized in honor of Mr. Ahmad Mohammed Al-Kutubi, the eminent Olympic personality as he won the highest medal of the International Olympic Committee.



The ceremony was organized by the executive office in Aden and attended by Ahmad Sufan, Planning Minister and Taha Ahmad Ghanem, governor of Aden and Mansoor Abduljalil, governor of Lahj. The ceremony was initiated by the inauguration of a photo exhibition that recounted the history of sports while Ahmad Mohammed Al-Kutubi was responsible for sports activities at the time.

Sana'a University staff still on strike

The staff of Sana'a University are still striking for the fourth successive week in protest against depriving them of their dearness allowance (DA). A team from the university teaching staff met last week with Sheikh Abdullah Ben Hussain Al-Ahmar, speaker of the Parliament who showed full understanding to the problem and confirmed the importance of issuing the ADs.

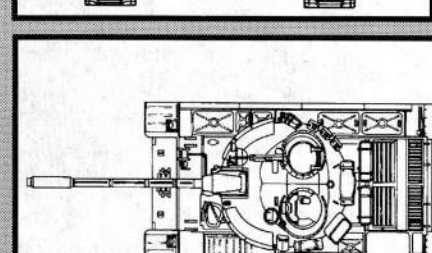
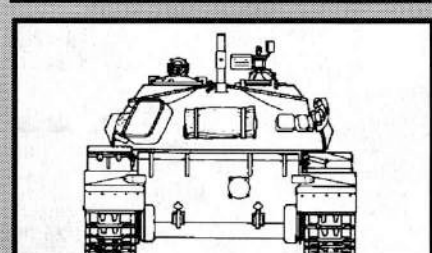
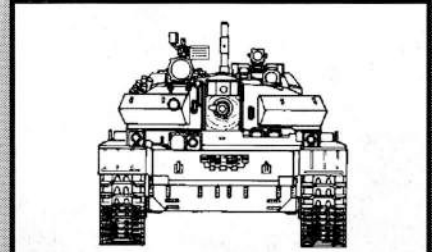
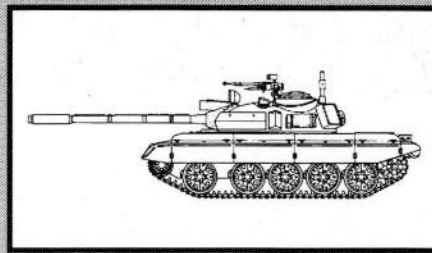
Saudi Investment Law Under Focus

A recent study published in Al-Watan magazine of the Ministry of Immigrants issue No. 49, on the new Saudi Investment Law, showed that the law ensures more opportunities to Arab and foreigners to run estates and investment projects in Saudi Arabia for licenses. The study also pointed out the change being undertaken by the Saudis from the policy of vouchers to contraction with regard to emigrants.

Continued on Page 1:

Our Tanks Are Coming

According to Czech cabinet, this incident is the first of its kind, "The transport of tanks has been ensured so that any problem could be avoided," says Adolf Vermirovsky from a military repair company which was in charge of preparing the tanks for the export.



Below are the technical specifications, T-55 MBT (Main Battle Tank) Country Of Origin: Russia Designation: Main Battle Tank Manufacturer: Former Czechoslovakia & China Crew: 4 Armament: 1 x 100 mm, 1 x 7.62 mm MG (coaxial), 1 x 7.6 mm (bow), 1 x 12.7 mm MG (anti-aircraft) Ammunition: 34 x 100 mm, 3,000 x 7.62 mm, 500 x 12.7 mm Length Gun Forw.: 9 m Length Hull: 6.04 m Width: 3.27 m Height: 2.4 m (without AA MG) Power To Weight: 14.44 hp / tonne Ground Clearance: 0.425 m Weight (Combat): 36,000 kg Weight (Empty): 34,000 kg Engine: V-12 water-cooled diesel developing 520 hp at 2,000 rpm Maximum Speed: 50 km / hr Maximum Range: 510 km Maximum Road Range- (Aux.): 720 km Fuel Capacity: 812 lit Fording: 1.4 m Fording W/ Prep.: 5.0 m Vertical Obstacle: 0.8 m Trench: 2.7 m Gradient: 60 % Side Slope: 40 % Armour: 203 mm (maximum) Armour Type: Steel NBC System: Yes Night Vision: Yes (Infra-red for commander, gunner & driver)

ALFA Panasonic Sponsored Summer Celebration 2000

ALFA Panasonic Company Ltd. launched its annual summer program. Summer Celebration 2000 was held in Apollo halls, Expo, Sana'a during 2-11 July. Alfa show in the exhibition contained a new generation of the art models TVs, cassette recorders and home appliances. In an attempt to facilitate purchasing for consumers, the company offered a 50% discount on most of the products on show.



applied to Yemenis who no more enjoy any privileges as they used to do 10 years ago. The study was done by Mondai Dayan, chairman of the Al-Mohajer organization (the Immigrant organization, Sana'a.)

US Embassy Celebrates Its National Day through Community Services

Celebrating its national day, the American Embassy hold an open day with children with hearing and learning disabilities in Al-Eman Institute. The celebration was attended by ambassador Barbara Boudine and some staffers from the Embassy. The celebration included some artistic activities. There were also some handicraft sewing and pottery show.

Football Equipment For Yemeni Sports Clubs

The Ministry of Youth and Sports, represented by Mr. Hamud, Mohammed Obad, Deputy Minister, received on July 3 a package of football equipment from the German Football Association. The package was handed over by Mr. Matthias Kiesler, Deputy Head of Mission at the German Embassy. It included, among others, more than one thousand T-shirts, 180 footballs, 380 bags to be distributed, in particular, among sport clubs in lack of sufficient funding for such equipment.

World Population Day - 11 July 2000

Praise for Uganda's progressive reproductive health policies As global delegates prepare to meet in Kampala for the Marie Stopes International Africa and Arab World meeting

Partnerships between the public and non-government sectors are essential for tackling the reproductive health challenges across Africa, reported Marie Stopes International (MSI) on World Population Day 2000.

The global reproductive health agency, MSI, made the comments as it prepared for a major regional meeting to be held in Uganda, which will involve 45 delegates from 13 countries.

"Uganda is an excellent place for us to hold this key event, because it has always had an extremely forward-looking policy on population and reproductive health and we are very happy to be a part of that," said Ms. Sue McCready, MSI's Africa and Arab World Director.

"On World Population Day the Ugandan Government should be congratulated for its early recognition of the absolute importance of reproductive health, for taking such a strong leadership globally in terms of HIV prevention, and for bringing in resources."

LOOKING FORWARD: ENHANCING EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS

AFRICA AND ARAB WORLD PROGRAMS REGIONAL WORKSHOPS KAMBALA, UGANDA 23-28 JULY 2000

Dr. Fawzia Jaffr, Marie Stopes International-Yemen country Representative, stated that the global reproductive health agency, MSI, is preparing for a major regional meeting to be held in Uganda, which will involve 45 delegates from 13 countries on this.

MSI's work in Africa is expanding and improving every year. The sub-Saharan and Arab world countries have benefited from sharing experiences and the whole partnership is implementing state of the art technology and increasingly sophisticated management techniques.

The MSI Global Partnership works in more than 30 countries world-wide, providing a full range of reproductive health services to nearly two million people a year. The work includes maternal and child health, family planning, prevention of sexually transmitted infections (including HIV/AIDS) and sex education.

It is the first time members of the MSI global partnership have met in Uganda and they will have the opportunity to visit local clinics run by Marie Stopes Uganda. They will also view the success of the "Lifeguard" condom social marketing campaign - also part of MSI's global partnership work.

One of the key themes of the meeting, to be held in Kampala from 23-28 July "Is the importance of collaboration between the public and NGO sectors, which can work in a flexible and dynamic way to bring resources into the field." "During the workshop, we will be examining the many different issues that affect our work across the continent, but we hope the end result will be improved quality and effectiveness for governments, team members and the public we serve," statement of Ms. McCready, Regional Director, Africa and Arab World Programme.

Improving reproductive health with state of the art technology and providing cutting edge services will also be on the agenda. VIP delegates at the meeting will include Dr. Tim Black CBE, Chief Executive of MSI, based in London, UK.

Note: Editor are invited to the VIP opening ceremony of the MSI Africa Regional Workshop.

Date: Sunday 23 July 2000 Time: 1800hrs Venue: Ranch on the Lake Hotel, Kampala

For more details contact: MSI London Press Office: tel (44 20) 7574 741 or 7574 7353 Or e-mail: franca.tranza@stopes.org.uk

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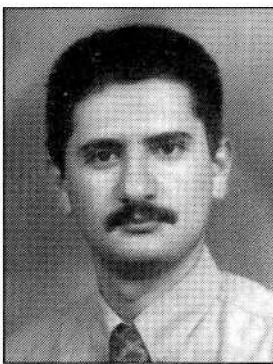
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**Role of The National Information Center in Society**

Information plays a vital role in the life of individuals and societies. It is an integral element in all our activities. Information constitutes the raw material for scientific research and the main input for making right decisions. He who possesses the correct information at the right time, controls elements of power and domination in the fast changing modern world which accents on education in all spheres of life and does not allow extemporization or adhocism. From this premise emerged the informatic centers in the world during the last quarter of the 20th century. Consequently the world interest was focused on creation of such centers which then played a significant role in disseminating information thereby facilitating decision making in any sphere of life. Arab states, including Yemen did create information centers but owing to their economic constraints in the fitness of things could not catch up with the latest developments in this emerging field.



The following interview with Eng. Khaled Abdulrehman Al-Akwa, Vice Chairman of the National Information Center (NIC), highlights the importance of this premier institution.

**Q. When was the NIC founded?**

A. It was founded according to Republican Decree No.155 issued in 1995.

**Q. What are the objectives and activities, as well the duties of the Center?**

A. The decree provided for the creation of a National information Center, with a view to furnishing relevant information to decision-makers, investors, researchers, scholars and others. The aim, as stipulated in the decree, is to make available suitable information at suitable time and to facilitate adoption of the right decision at appropriate time. This institute has a big and clear impact on the State's policy. The Center offers information to all decision-makers right from the President of the Republic and down to a researcher, a stu-

dent or a scholar. Through its local Internet access, the NIC has programmed all local information in the interest of those who cannot afford to have Internet owing to its high price or other reasons. The Center has collected information on most State machineries.

**Q. What are the issue meant to be researched and analyzed within the national information policy?**

A. I would like to say that the national information policy is not based on permanent moulds or methods. It should harmonize with the general policy of the country, absorb the level of development, bear true information and speak about the nature of the task of development desired to be accomplished. Therefore, the issues which come within the framework of the national information policy in Yemen are different from those in other countries. From time to time, the name and scope of such information could vary even at our local level. As far as we are concerned, we have to see that we clearly define the value or significance of any information from the view point of the State in particular and the society in general. It is impossible to talk about creating an information system without treating it as a main task within the resolved priorities. The task should

constitute an inseparable part of the economic and social development plans in the country. That is to say the issue of information should be a comprehensive national mission not confined to the NIC only.

**Q. What is the strategic vision for the information?**

A. In the view of our clear objectives and serious commitment to broaden the scope of information, it is imperative for us to possess a sound strategic vision while dealing with the technology in general and technology of information in particular.

**Q. What type of information services does the Center provide?**

A. Information supply is a specialized unit which receives requests for information and data. It answers all inquiries. Information feedback is another unit which collects information through coordination with the appropriate authorities and does data processing. Then we have the library and documentation unit which handles books, references, periodicals and information materials. Finally we have the publication and enlightenment unit which bears the responsibility of publishing the Center's materials.

**Q. Is there any coordination between the NIC and the different State institutions?**

A. The Center adopts an annual and strategic plan. Through other plans and objectives and, after defining the landmarks, the Center practically comes in contact with a lot of State institutions which as stake-holders really a keen interest in the development process and decision-making. The Center has assisted in creating information systems in a number of State machineries. The Center on line internet displays important data in the field of economy, society, politics and all other aspects related to growth and development such as agriculture, fisheries, mineral wealth etc.

I would like to add that the fiscal potential of the Center is scanty and does not allow us meet our future projects. However, the Center is adopting the convention of a comprehensive national symposium on "The National Strategies for Information" in order to highlight the importance of the NIC and the saliency of these strategies in the interest of the country in general. And finally, I should thank the "Yemen Times" for this initiative. Yours is the first Yemeni tabloid which has shown interest in informatics in the era of globalization and internet.

**Renewal of Battles in Serwah, Mareb between Army and Tribes**

Serwah, Mareb, battles renewed between the battalion 25 (Mech.) stationed in Serwah and tribesmen when a firing took place between some tribesmen and a convoy, resulting in the killing of a soldier and seriously injuring four others who were immediately rushed to the Military Hospital in Sana'a.

Artillery and tanks bombarded the area near the incident resulting in the destruction of three houses and seriously damaging six others. Tribesmen residing in the area fled to valleys to save their lives. This happened after military confrontations between the army and Al-Azaidi tribesmen in Serwah erupted a week ago, result-

ing in two deaths and injuring eight others from both sides. Besides, five houses were burnt and ten others were demolished. A car that came to the rescue of the residents was also set on fire along with a tractor.

Most of the people residing in Serwah are now in valleys and caves due to the continuous raids on their area.

Informed sources stated that the army transported about 100 ton of rockets and artillery shells shells to be used against the battles.

On the other hand, sheikhs from the Juhm



tribe met with officials from Mareb Friday to discuss the situation. They agreed to form a committee to negotiate the latest conflicts that took place and try to solve them. Tribesmen have denounced the army's actions stating that the destruction aims at the houses and the innocent children and women. Evacuees have requested the Humanitarian International and local organizations to come to their rescue by providing food and medication as every thing they have had have now been destroyed by the army.

Security forces in Sana'a have launched an arrest campaign against whoever belongs to Al-Azaidi tribe. Two students from the tribe are still detained in the criminal investigation office as hostages since the ensuing of the confrontations one week ago. Tribal sources maintained that an armed group attacked the residence of the general brig. Nahshal of the 25 battalion in Sana'a in retaliation against the army operations.

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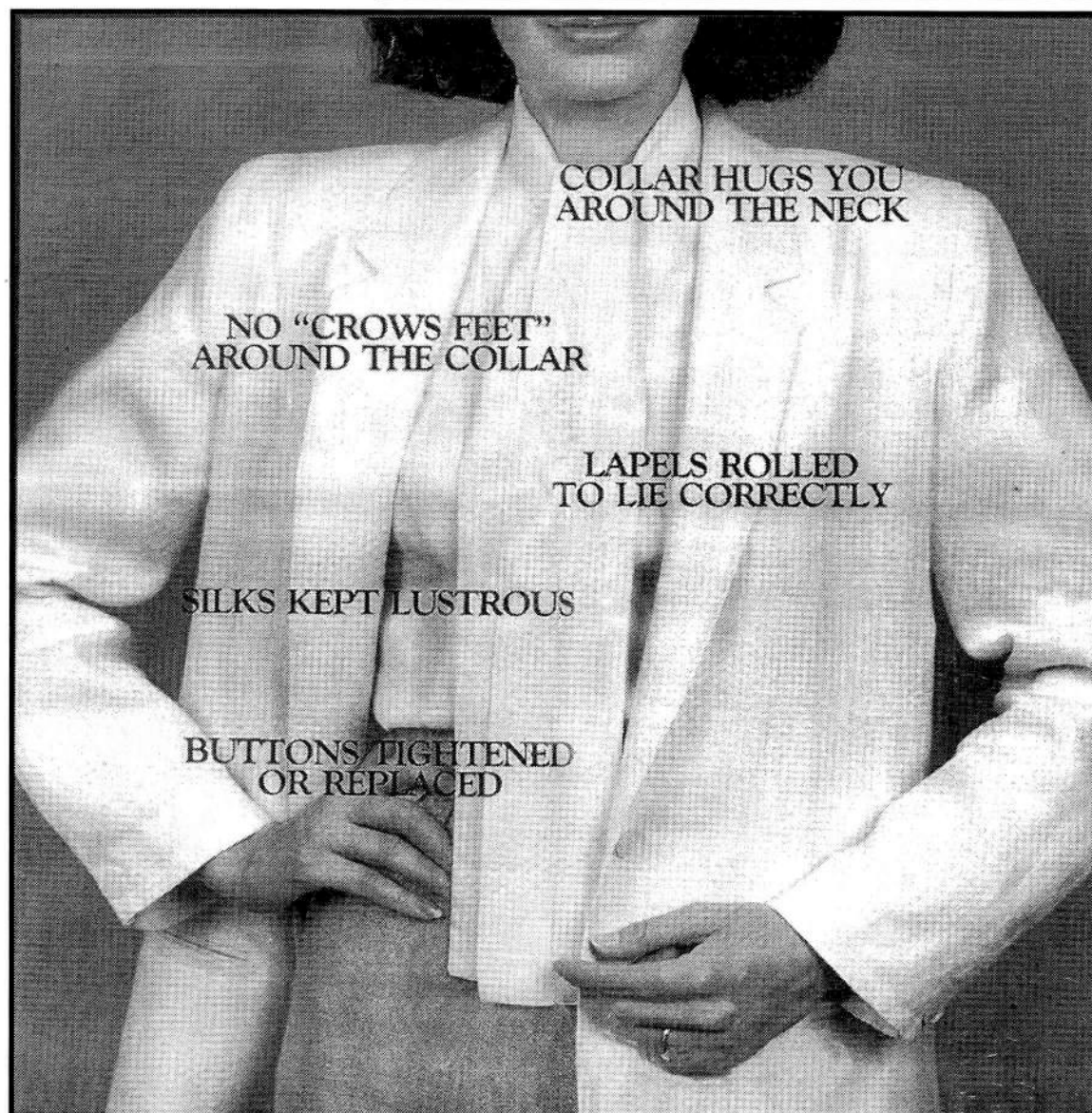


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## "Towards a Clean Environment," in a Seminar in Taiz

Imad Al-Saqqaf,  
Taiz Office

The world today is witnessing radical human changes as well as activities in agriculture, industry and trade, resulting in positive and negative impacts on environment on a global scale. Ultimately, man is the reaper of his own actions and he is the one either to enjoy or suffer from them. The environmental disasters caused by green houses, and industrialization resulting in elnino and other environmental phenomena have attracted a great deal of attention by many countries all over the world. This is directly reflected in different conferences held in many countries in which the protection of environment was the heart of the discussions. Two such important conferences were the 'International Conference on Environment' held in Stockholm in 1972 and the "Earth Summit" in Rio de Janeiro during the first half of July 1992. The goals of these two conferences were to find solutions to the environmental hazards that are jeopardizing people's health.

In our country, Yemen, the issue of environment has actually been a forgettable matter that most often goes adhered to by the authorities concerned. This has led to adverse consequences and to the suffering of people. However, some of the active NGOs in Yemen have started expressing their concerns about this issue. They started conducting some activities to attract the government's as well as the people's attention to this matter and its dangers. The Environment Friends Association is labeled as such.

Under the auspices of Ahmed Abdullah Al-Hijri, Governor of Taiz, and under the motto "Towards a Clean Environment and Civilized Activities

Serving it", a seminar was organized by the Environment Friends Association in cooperation with the Al-Saeed Foundation for Sciences and Culture on 4th of June.

"Environment is our surroundings in which we conduct our activities. It includes all the living things: humans, animals and plants." say the organizers of the seminar. Since its establishment, the Environment's Friends Association has been playing a pivotal role in the issue of environment. Through its activities, the NGO aims at increasing the people's awareness to the importance of protecting environment and to the dangers that may result from polluting it.

The Industrial Office, the General Authority for Standards and Specifications and Al-Saeed Foundation for Sciences and Culture have all participated in the seminar. Mr. Hail Kasem Noman, Representative of Environment's Friends Association, Mr. Sharaf Al-Zubairi, representative of the Industrial Ministry; Mr. Jamal Mohammed Abdulrahman, General Authority for specification and Industrial Office, Dr. Ma'took Al-Ruaini and Dr. Amin Al-Bahr have all presented valuable work-

highlighted the importance of developing the people's awareness through the activities of the association and through close contacts with institutions concerned about the environment. She pointed at a critical issue which is the spread of waste plastic bags in streets, lanes and on trees which renders a distorted picture of our society, besides damaging plants. She asserted that this seminar is embodied within a working agenda that extends from May to November 2000.

In their papers, participants talked about the effects of wastes from plastic products on the environment depending on scientific researches and field surveys. They suggested some alternatives to the use of plastic bags and presented some suggestions to deal with their hazards. According to the final results of the industrial field survey in 1996, 28 industrial establishments are currently producing plastic materials. In Jamal Mohammed Abdulrahman's paper entitled "Plastic and its Impact on Environment", he mentioned that statistics reveal that local production of plastic bags for 1992-1996 are as shown in the table below:

Years	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
Production of plastic bags (in tons)	5,503	6,169	4,786	3,968	5,416

ing papers.

In the seminar, participants as well as turn-outs discussed plastic bags and their negative impact on environment and ways to get rid of their waste.

The seminar was commenced by delivering speeches by Mr. Mohammed Abdulmalik Al-Hayajim, deputy governor of Taiz, and Mr. Faisal Saeed Fara'a.

Mrs. Anysah Mohammed Hassan, Chairman of the association, gave a statement giving some information about the activities of the society. She

Thus, despite the obvious decrease in plastic production in 1994 and 1995, production has risen to 5,416 ton in 1996.

In short, the issue of environment is very critical that it needs to be given our full attention and care.

Plastic bags have a very detrimental impact on our environment. Thus, the authorities should pay this issue the deserved attention so as to increase the awareness of people and through enforcing laws aiming at protecting environment.

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# Saudis Visiting Yemen Express their Hope in that Saudi-Yemeni Relations Getting Better

Mohammed Bin Sallam  
Yemen Times

**D**isregarding the winner and the loser, the border treaty is truly a dream come true for peoples of the two countries. It is really one of the greatest historic achievements in the 21st century for the two countries that will pave the road for a new phase of relations between them.

I am a Yemeni who has lived about 50 years of the conflict and who has developed, like many of my contemporaries, contradictory feelings of enmity and caution because of this issue. Both countries have played a substantial role to generate this conflicting feeling inside us. In this context, we feel that we have the right to ask the leaders of the two countries for compensation for all psychological and humanitarian damages we have suffered during the past 66 years.

The psychological reform of the two nations requires great efforts and a long time apart from the means that will be adopted for this purpose. I hope that we still can be heard as citizens and not be considered (as usual) irrelevant as our life span almost come to its fag end.

All in all, we will spend the remaining period of our life looking at the new generations who will live with tolerance in an atmosphere of sincere cooperation, security and prosperity. They will not fear wars of the kind, military, cold or economic, that we suffered during the bygone era.

This new political climate would lead to paying more attention to domestic construction. This is to compensate for purchasing weapons which played a main role in destroying economies of the two countries in the past period.

A good number of Saudi politicians, businessmen and journalists have arrived in Sana'a to attend the ceremony of exchanging the border treaty documents in Sana'a. I took this advantage and met some of them to record their impressions about the event.



"I do not feel strange in Sana'a," said Ayman Mohammed Habib, Vice chief editor of Okadh newspaper. He said that Saudi visitors to Yemen would not feel that they were in a different country because most of the daily life pictures of Saudi Arabia were repeated there. "You hardly see a place in Saudi Arabia where there is no trace of Yemenis. Wherever Yemenis travel, they leave marks of their traditions and identity," he said.

Mr. Ayman has visited Yemen twice before. During every visit, he said, he felt that relationships with Yemen were getting closer.

He felt optimistic about the bilateral cooperation between Yemen and Saudi Arabia after the signing of the border treaty. He continued: "All channels of cooperation between peoples of the two countries are to be initiated again. The Saudi-Yemeni Coordination Committee will revive its activities to extend bridges of cooperation between the two nations."

Talking about the future of relations between Saudi and Yemen he pointed out that blockage in the two countries' relations would be gotten over after the signing of the treaty. He described the treaty as a groundbreaking achievement that no other Arab countries had been able to achieve in such a peaceful way.

On the other hand he called upon the Saudi investors, businessmen, economists and politicians to back up Yemen's efforts for development, stressing the importance of having a strong and self-dependent neighbor. "Yemen has arable lands, manpower, potential raw material, all of which are required to meet the demands of the Saudi market. The people of the two countries are required at this moment to take advantage of

the positive atmosphere that their politicians have created to strengthen their cooperation. Investors from the two countries should seriously think of investing in the other country as well," he concluded.



Endorsing all previous opinions about the strong relations between Saudi Arabia and Yemen, Mr. Sulaiman Turki Al-Osaimy, Managing Editor of Al-Ryadh newspaper who had visited Yemen for three times before this said that he felt as if he was Yemeni from inside.

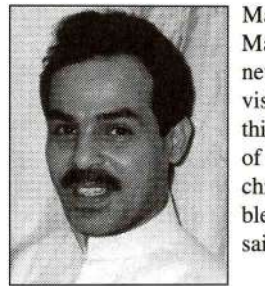
"We were very impressed about the speeches of HE Prince Saud Al-Faisal,

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Dr. Abdul Qader Ba Jammal which gave us great hopes concerning the closure of the border file. This will allow greater cooperation which will be backed up by the Saudi-Yemeni Coordination Committee," he said. In this context, a number of Saudi investors are expected to arrive in Sana'a within the forthcoming 24 hours with a lot of project proposals to be implemented in Yemen.

On the subject of the arrival of Yemeni agricultural products in the Saudi market, he said that it was better than importing them from other countries.

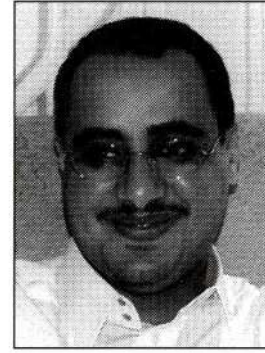
At the same time he said that Yemenis pinned lots of hopes on the treaty to get more facilities from the Saudi land. "Thousands of Yemenis are still working in Saudi Arabia. They enjoy the same privileges as Saudis themselves," he said.

Mr. Al-Osaimy felt optimistic about the role of the Saudi-Yemeni Coordination Committee as an effective link between people of the two countries. He concluded by hailing the signing of the border treaty as a historic achievement which added to the illustrious achievements of HE king Fahd Ben Abdul Aziz, HE Abdullah Ben Abdul Aziz and HE President Ali Abdullah Saleh.



Mansour Othman Al-Zahrani, Managing Editor of Al-Bilad newspaper, although in his first visit to Yemen felt quite at home in this country. "I have got the feeling of coming back to the city of my childhood, Al-Taif which resembles Sana'a in many aspects" he said.

On relations between the two nations, he said contacts between Saudis and Yemenis had not at any point come to a complete halt. "Saudis have Yemeni relatives and Yemenis have Saudi relatives, so there has not been a total breakoff of relations even during the past ten years following the invasion of Kuwait," he said. We, as media men, have, at this point, to enhance and add impetus to these relations and not do the reverse of it," he added.



Ibraheem Yahia Al-Zahrani, Managing Editor of Al-Madinah newspaper is visiting Yemen for the second time. He spoke highly about the historic relationships between Saudi Arabia and Yemen, describing the treaty as a confirmation of those deeply rooted relations.

"I took advantage of being in Sana'a and visited some of the streets. It was impressive to feel the people's happiness with this groundbreaking achievement. Saudi people feel the same," he said.



Visiting Yemen for the first time, Ala Abdul Rahim Abdul Karim, manager of local and foreign affairs for Al-Nadwah newspaper expressed his amazement at the volume of development in Yemen. "It was contrary to my expectations. It really warmed my heart," he said.

He repeated what HE. Prince Saud Al-Faisal said on relations between the two countries, in the context of exchanging documents of the treaty: "We have had strong relations with Yemen even before the GCC was established."

"The settlement of the border dispute was no more than a political issue between the two neighborly countries," he said. "As for relations between people of the two countries themselves, they are stronger and more solid. They are going to be even stronger by virtue of the economic integration between Yemen and Saudi Arabia," he added. He eventually expected more Saudi investors and businessmen to invest in Yemen saying that there was nothing to fear or worry about. "We, journalists, have to sincerity encourage that," he concluded.



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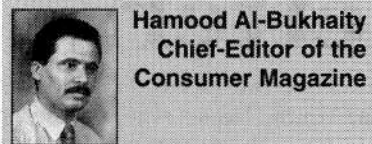
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## How to Win the Consumer's Confidence



**Hamood Al-Bukhaity**  
Chief-Editor of the  
Consumer Magazine

Undoubtedly, it is consumers that help keep factories running and help increase tax revenues. Without consumers there would be no production or exportation. Therefore, it is very important to win the confidence of consumers. In all fairness, consumers must be provided with the necessary information on the products they are purchasing. This information pertains to ingredients, dates of production and expiry, and methods of display and storage. Producers and importers should also take into consideration the needs and tastes of consumers as well as the economic situation of the country. A long-term relationship based on trust and confidence between consumers and the other parties will not be achieved if consumers are looked upon in terms of profit and loss. This might foster an attitude of cheating misleading the consumers. It is an admitted fact that all produc-

ing sectors are competing with each other to win the consumer to their side by offering him products of a high standard to cater to his taste and suit his purchasing abilities. In this context there is a perceived need to establish a healthy rapport based on sincerity and honesty among agents involved in commercial exchange, namely, producers-importers-consumers. Producers and importers must have a more realistic and subjective approach in advertising their products. Advertisements must be credible and should not exploit children in advertisements of low taste. Advertisements can be more credible if they are accompanied by certificates showing that the products conform to high standards. The aim of advertisements should not be to get rid of the heaps of products lying unmarketed in stores. In addition, producers and importers should not exploit the simplicity or gullibility of consumers by announcing draws or attractive prizes on the products. In fact, a kind of watch-dog body is necessary to maintain standards of honesty and to discourage the more blatant types of misleading advertisements. It is often seen that organized exhibi-

tions exhibit products of a low quality. In addition, draws are announced and conducted clandestinely. This, in fact, damages the relationship between producers and consumers and serves to create a cleavage between them. Producers and importers are well aware of the policy they are pursuing and they think that the consumer is the weakest part in the process of commercial exchange. Will this attitude towards consumers augur well in the long run? What can be the net result if such attitudes continue? In this regard I would like to stress that consumers should not be viewed as stupid. They, in fact, have good knowledge and can thwart any organized attempt to dupe them. So it is better for the other parts in the commercial exchange process not to mislead them about their products in order to create and sustain a long term relationship. Below are some pieces of advice that local producers should do well to heed if they want to narrow the gap between them and the consumers:

- 1- Producers should welcome students, scouts, specialists, etc. to visit the factories to be acquainted with their work mechanism.
- 2- They should consider the con-

sumers' needs and provide them with products at fair prices.

- 3- There should be a mechanism for conducting regular market research and studies that serve to bring about qualitative improvements in the products.
- 4- Producers should aim at conforming to the international standards for each product they manufacture.
- 5- They should take steps to ensure proper storage facilities for the products.
- 6- All details concerning the ingredients, date of manufacturing and expiry, etc. should be mentioned on the products.
- 7- Deceptive policies of issuing misleading advertisements and portraying children in an improper way in the advertisements should be avoided at all costs.
- 8- Exhibitions should offer goods and products of high quality at fair prices.
- 9- Visiting consumers' houses in order to sell competition coupons should be outlawed.
- 10- Commercial counterfeit should be avoided as far as practicable.

It is hoped that manufacturers will consider the above pieces of advice for the sake of promoting a good, ever-lasting relationship with the consumers.

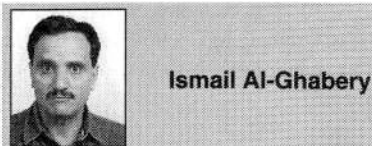
## Liquidity and Increase of Yemen's Exports

By: Mahyoob Al-Kamaly

Increasing Yemen's exports to expand the base of the national financial resources is one of the main concerns of local producers. There are more imported goods than local products. When this is added to the reduced liquidity in the Yemeni Central Bank and the Commercial Banks, it affects the ability of these banks to give credit to producers to help them improve their exports. Recently, the YCB announced an increase in its reserves. This should lead to a serious consideration for improving national exports and decreasing the volume of expenditure on imports. However, one can not guarantee that the increase in prices of the crude oil which has led to the increase of the YCB reserves will keep on the same track in the coming months or the next year. If prices fall, the bank will spend all its reserves on imports. This will affect the local products. The government and the YCB may say that the policy of the open market creates a competitive atmosphere for the producers and importers; but we have to take into account the fact that the volume of our exports other than oil is very small, and that it does not exceed 5% of the total exports. This imbalance between imports and exports always encourages imports and smuggled products. Increasing the quantity and quality of our exports is the best means to get rid of the state of stagnancy in our national products and to help the country gain hard currency, enabling banks to get back their ability to advance loans. In this regard producers as well as

importers should take into consideration the volume of exports and imports. The YCB should follow a viable policy to extend a helping hand to producers and encourage them to increase their exports. Since the beginning of the economic reform program, the YCB has tried to overcome the situation of lack of liquidity by selling treasury bonds. However, it has been unable to put an end to the deterioration of our currency due to lack of motivation of commercial banks and businessmen to increase the volume of exports. Oil exports have been the main source for supporting the general budget and its absence has been the main reason for deficit in it. Economists agree that depending on one source for increasing liquidity makes it difficult for the policy of economic reforms to succeed because this source is likely to be drained. Developing resources, increasing industrial as well as agricultural production and maintaining high standards so as to compete with similar foreign products will help ensure a regular increase in incomes. Yemen's Economy has been fluctuating over the past five years due to the fluctuating prices of oil. Consequently, bank loans to producers decrease resulting in some investors being badly affected and some factories having been shut down. To save our market from the overflow of imports which are supported by the YCB, the bank should outline measures to increase national exports in order to ensure stable financial development, not affected by the fluctuation of the price of oil in the world market.

## Privatization and Globalization



**Ismail Al-Ghabry**

The world today is experiencing an overall revolution in principles, ideas and systems, particularly political and economic. This is described as "comprehensive Globalization". The term "Globalization" implies extending principles, thoughts and private systems worldwide to a level where there would be no variance in economic mechanisms and policies. These policies and mechanisms primarily serve North America and West

European countries' interests in controlling the world including the Arab and Islamic worlds. Nowadays, the notions of leadership and governments are based on the monopoly capitalistic policies of North America and Western European countries. Therefore, it is not odd to observe that the world, including the majority of developing countries, are being forced to apply these Western economic policies if they do not undertake them willingly. Many countries, under economic pressure, acquiesce to the American and European methods and themes to enhance their economic status. One live example is the Administrative and Financial Reform programs imposed on many nations and Arab

countries as a compulsory condition for receiving loans from the World Bank or the I.M.F. (International Monetary Fund). Otherwise, the country concerned would be deprived of loans on the pretext that the economy of the country cannot be trusted. Privatization is a capitalistic notion that shifts the trust to the private sector when the government fails to control development and construction processes amidst spreading corruption and money plundering. It also implies that the government would have no direct, serious or effective role on the development process, leaving this responsibility to the private sector. In this process, the government usually announces the privatization of few or several government institutions that do not function agreeably. After this measure is taken, the responsibility of development and construction of the privatized institution moves to the private sector. The government has sound reasons to involve itself in this process. The growing corruption and money plundering thrust on the government increasingly heavy loads that it cannot bear. As a result of this, the government incurs more debts to cover the expenses of these Ministries and Institutions instead of gaining revenues from them. Hence, privatization in the middle of this chaos would not drive us safely out of the crisis. Examining the current conditions, privatization would only take us one more step towards a new form of corruption. This could result in even graver problems than there used to be. In order to rejuvenate the national economy of a country and to increase

operates perfectly in countries that have made high progress in enforcing the law. In this manner, privatization would be more than just shifting the property of the people from the hands of the government to those of individuals. To conclude, all different ministries and government institutions belong to the people and should not be sold out on any pretext.

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# A Question to be Asked in Mohammed Adam's Case: WILL THE CASE TURN VIOLENT?



Jalal Al-Sharaabi  
Yemen Times

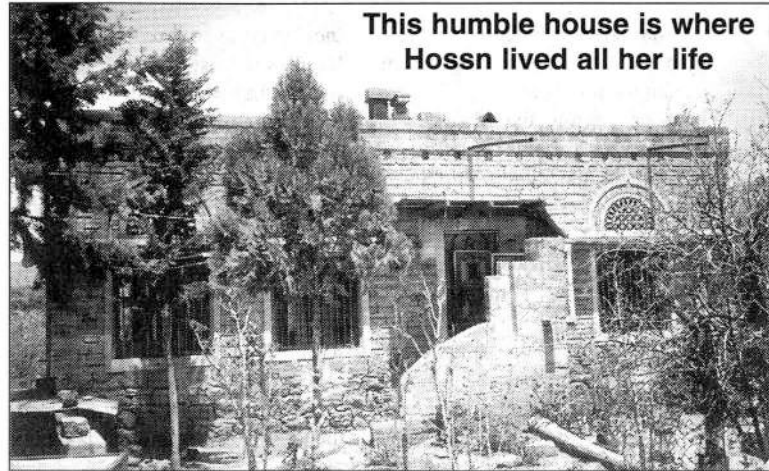
The court heard the arguments by advocates of the victims' families in the 7th session. Advocate Al-Baghdady, Zainab's family attorney objected to the way the German experts were chosen. He pointed out that they were not duly appointed by the court. He requested the court to declare as null and void the orders given by the representative of the general prosecution, Mr. Ali Al-lawdhi, preventing members of the Yemeni investigation team to join the team of the German Experts. "It is painful to see that Zainab's family is still treated in the same rough and irresponsible way. So far, and despite the directives of the court, the body of their daughter has not been handed over to them to be buried in Baghdad. As if this was not bad enough, the registration department at the college of medicine refused to give them the victim's academic file. In addition, he pleaded, the victim's belongings must not be handed over to her family in a way that hurt their feelings. This was against all humanitarian and Islamic values," said Al-Baghdady.

He also took serious exceptions to the remarks by Dr. Al-Khateeb, the defendant's attorney, questioning his bona fides and underestimating his credentials as an advocate. He said that Al-Khateeb tried in connivance with a number of newspapers and magazines to twist the facts as to divert the focus on the defendant's accomplices.

Despite the disclosure of names of a number of Adam's accomplices, some of whom were said to be professors in the same college, no one has yet been interrogated. In this context, Al-Baghdady expressed his misgivings about whether the prosecution rated the crimes in the college of medicine to be some acts of nuisance committed at home for fun.

Al-Baghdady further pointed out a number of discrepancies between reports of the German experts and those of the criminal investigation agencies with regard to the color, length of the victim's hair, number of missing teeth and body organs. He demanded execution of previous court directives about handing over the victim's body to her family, those to the College of medicine to hand over the victim's academic file to her uncle, and handing over the victim's belongings to her uncle in a place other than the court. He cautioned Al-Khateeb to desist from dubious means to defend his client.

The magistrate Yahia Al-Aslami ruled that the translation of the report made by the German experts was not carefully done, describing it as distortion of

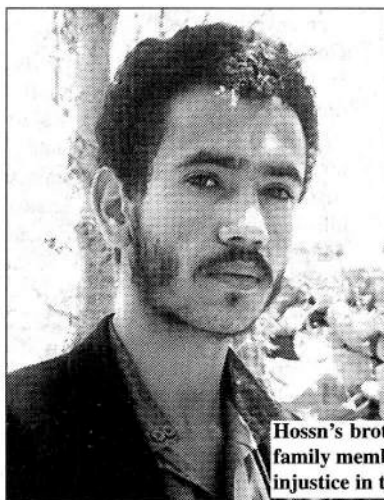


This humble house is where Hossn lived all her life

the actual findings of experts. He ordered that the report be retranslated in an official center.

At the end of the session it was decided to assign General Mohammed Saleh Al-Hamadani to:

- 1- have the body organs of the victims examined by the forensic experts in Germany to identify their sex, date and reason of death,
- 2- provide the court with three copies of German, English and Arabic ver-



Hossn's brothers, like all of her family members, angered by the injustice in their sister's case.

sions of the final report and 4- hand over Zainab's belongings to her family.

Advocate Al-Dailami, Hossn family's attorney, raised grave doubts about the body organs belonging to any of the two victims.

Dr. Al-khateeb demanded that his client be transferred to another place and be allowed to meet his wife.

Adam confessed to having raped Hossn and killed her after that as he was afraid of his crime coming to light. As far as Zainab is concerned, he killed her because her mother insulted him. A number of people from Hamdan tribe, to which Hossn belongs, attended the session along with their Sheikh Yahia Ali who expressed their dismay at the failure of the court to make the defendant's accomplices appear in the courts.

In an interview with the Yemen Times, in his house 15 kilometers outside Sana'a, Sheikh Yahia Ali Aaydh of Hamdan tribe said that they were following up the process of the prosecution from the very beginning. "It seemed to be on the right track in its

7th session," he said. "The court demanded interrogation with parties involved and that is what we are after," he added.

Sheikh Aaydh demanded that the case should proceed without any fear of pressure from above. He threatened that if the case was diverted he would be constrained to enforce his tribal measures to achieve their demands.

**Q: Could you spell out in some detail**

**about these measures?**

**A:** We will hold a meeting for Yemeni tribal leaders who all have showed solidarity with us. They have sent us letters condemning the crime and confirming their support for our stand. Some of these tribes are Gahm, Abidah, Murad, Hashed and others.

**Q: Does this mean that there will be a tribal course of action if the court fails to reach a result that satisfies the victim's family?**

**A:** Yes, of course. But it is not the proper time to say what kind of action that will be. We are awaiting the conclusion the court will reach. As far as our actions are concerned, they will be revealed at the proper time.

**Q: Do you think that the failure to bring Adam's accomplices to justice is due to some external pressures?**

**A:** Yes. Some high ranking officials are doing their best in order not to let the

University staff be dragged to court.

**Q: As a leader of the tribe, were you informed by the victim's family about her disappearance?**

**A:** Yes. Everybody here knew that she had gone missing. But we were misled by the security officer of the college of medicine who stressed that she left the college. This, in fact, made us doubtful about the victim's intentions, thinking that she might have gone astray. But her father never subscribed to the view. He was sure that his daughter did not leave the College and he was right.

**Q: What does the tribe demand for?**

**A:** We want to get access to all investigation and interrogation reports on the crime. We also demand interrogation of all accomplices mentioned by the accused or in the investigation reports.

I took the opportunity of being present in the Hamdan tribe and proceeded to the victim's house to meet with her family. I first met her mother, 70 year old Fatimah Yahia Al-Faqeeh who was weeping during the whole interview. "I appeal to President Ali Abdullah Saleh to impose penalty on the criminals including the officials of the college of medicine involved in killing my daughter," she said.

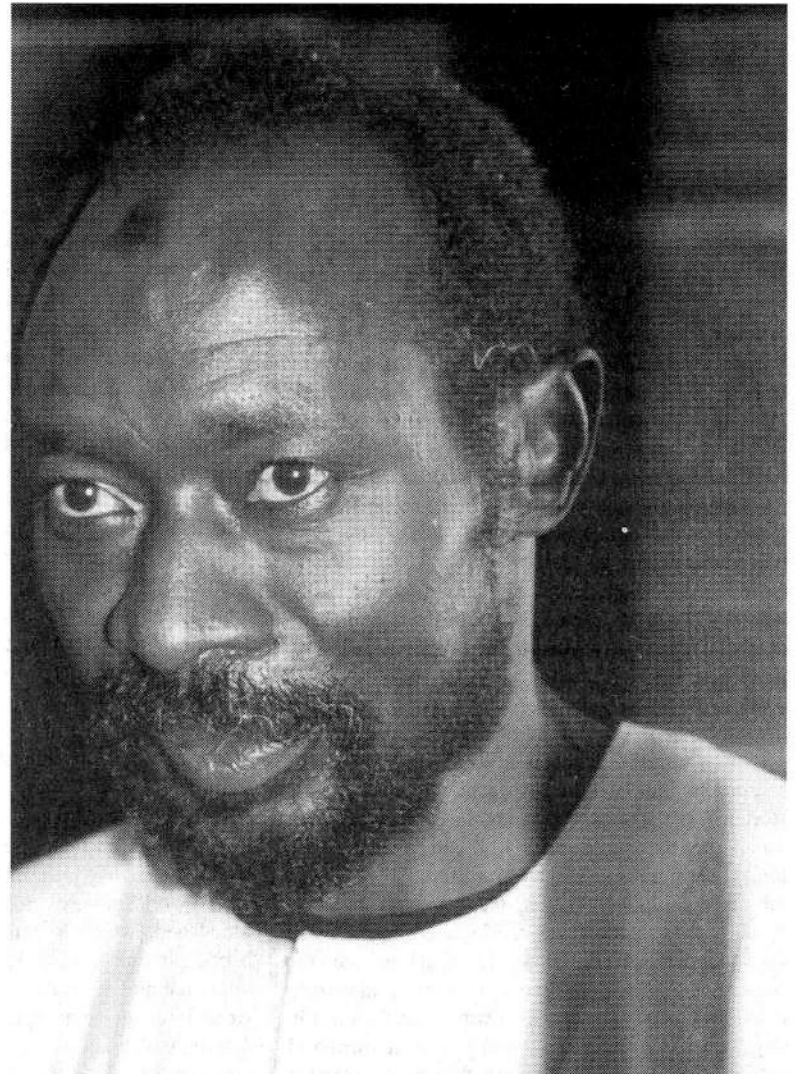
"I wanted to pride myself on being the mother of the only female university student and doctor in the whole tribe. Why should her end be in a sacred place?" she added with tears welling up her eyes.

Fatimah, Hossn's mother knew about the disappearance of her daughter 5 months later. She lost her sight upon hearing the news and stayed in that condition for a month in hospital. As far as her father is concerned, he left no stones unturned to trace her, harboring no doubt that she did not leave the college. He died heartbroken 10 months after the disappearance of his most beloved daughter.

Faizah Ahmad Hussain, Hossn's eldest sister said: "It was Thursday when she disappeared. My father was very worried about her. At 5:30 p.m. he went to the college but he was told that the last batch of girls left the college at 4 in the afternoon. Next day was Friday and Saturday was a holiday. He went there again on Saturday but could not find her at the college. He requested the security staff to allow him to search the morgue but they refused saying that only specialists were allowed to go there.

We went to conjurers who told us that she was fine and that she would be back soon, but they were liars."

"I wonder why the criminal's accomplices have not yet been brought to justice. Who are the officials who stand by them?" she exclaimed. She affirmed that she would avenge her sister's mur-



der whatever strength and power the accomplices had.

People in the neighborhood narrated how the victim's parents sold their lands to cover expenses of the seemingly-impossible quest for their daughter.

The 20 year old youngest brother of the victim, Mahmoud Ahmad Hussain, said: "We were misled by the security officer of the college, Ahmad Salamah, who told us that my sister left the college with one of her classmates. He gave us his name and his photo as well. We kept following him for five months before we discovered that we were misled.

**Q: Did the tribe object to the victim's study at the university, being the only tribes girl?**

**A:** Many objected to it. But her intelligence and high scores in the secondary school encouraged us to let her join the college of medicine to become a doctor. The tribe was in a bad need of a doctor. However, she did not even complete the second year before she became the victim of a sinister nexus of criminals.

I would like to say that there were some security officials who were helpful, like captain Hamid Haider and Abdu Sudah. So thanks to them.

Mohammed Ahmad Attiah, the victim's eldest brother deplored the state's weak and fragile stand in the case. He expressed his anger and dismay against Dr. Al-Iryani's attempts to divert the focus on the dean of the college. "The tribe is able to avenge the wrong if the

court fails to reveal the truth," he said. During the 7th session of the court, Sheikh Aaydh stood up and held the judges responsible for their failure to bring accomplices to justice. The Justice responded: "We are doing our best unleashing on our personal efforts." "This proves that there are some pressures on the court," said Mohammed.

About the family's demands, he said that they were demanding producing all accomplices including staff of the college administration before the trial court.

It is worth mentioning that the parliament has decided to suspend the dean of the college and its security men. But so far this has not been accomplished. "The parliament has suspended the dean but the Prime Minister is shielding him. This is nonsense," he said. "We wanted to meet with the President, but unfortunately we couldn't reach him. Therefore, we appeal to him through this newspaper to intervene to solve the problem," concluded Mohammed, the victim's eldest brother.

**What next?**

Still a certain kind of ambiguity and mystery is surrounding the case of Adam. I believe that Adam still has more up his sleeves to surprise us.

Was the whole case part of failure of the intelligence network? Was it part of a prostitution ring or was it part of a well-organized racket trading with human organs? Let's wait and see what the forthcoming days have in store.

## Hossn's family letter of appeal to president after failure to meet with him

HE. President Ali Abdullah Saleh

We have suffered a lot in our search for our daughter since her disappearance on April, 4 1999 to be shocked eventually by the inhuman crime in the college of medicine that has shocked the whole society, and which victimized a number of innocent students aspiring to be doctors in the future. No words can describe what we feel. The father of our daughter, one of the unfortunate victims died heartbroken after 10 months of restless efforts to trace her.

Now after the crime has come to light we have some demands that we hope your majesty will consider as legitimate as an act of noble duty to God. We pin our hopes on you, knowing that you are able to avenge the victim.

Our demands are as follows:

- 1- Suspension and interrogation of the staff of the College of Medicine who have a direct or indirect role in the tragic act.
- 2- Imposition of due penalties on all accomplices who are directly or indirectly involved in the crime.
- 3- Punishment to the security guards of the college for their carelessness which provided the criminal with the suitable atmosphere to perpetrate the crime.
- 4- Interrogation of the police officers who misled us and tried to stop us from looking for our missing daughter and who hesitate to accuse her of immoral elopement.
- 5- Handing over the accused to us to chop his body exactly as he did with the victims.
- 6- Change of the morgue to a monument in memory of the victims.
- 7- Issue certificate of graduation for Hossn who lost her life in pursuit of the degree and enroll her name in the martyrs' lists.



**Words of Wisdom**

"Many of our senior officials are rather well-educated, but they have mostly ended-up as mere puppets as they are routinely ordered around, many times to do wrong things. Character strength would not allow this phenomenon."  
Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, (1951-1999)  
Founder of Yemen Times

**Our Opinion**  
BY WALID A. AL-SAQQAF

**THIS IS WHAT A RAIN DROP CAN DO**

After so many days of dryness, and after waiting impatiently for so many long months, rain has finally come to Sanaa. One can imagine the joy and happiness in the eyes of farmers in the region, who have been waiting and praying to God fervently not to lose this season. There was hope, there was trust in God, and eventually there was rain.

We can learn from the rain drop many things of life. It teaches us not to lose hope easily, to think of how to take advantage of it, and how to have patience in everyday life.

I want to compare rain drops with political will. I believe that the only thing Yemen needs, and in abundance today to revive its economy and heal its wounds, is a strong political will towards achieving that.

Historians are the ones who can best explain why. Look at Japan after the 2nd World War. It was in total devastation, Hiroshima and Nagasaki suffered two atomic bombs that could have halted the country's development and progress. However, the Japanese had the will to resume it themselves. The political will motivated the masses towards more hard work, proving to the world that "if there is a will, there is a way" and they did it. Today, Japan is a super economic power. It surpassed countries that suffered no such disasters or even simple wars. This is an example of how a strong political will can change everything.

Another example is Europe, which was also devastated after the War. With political will and hard work, the continent was able to develop and bounce back into what we call now the modern world.

If these countries were able to do it, why can't we? Now that we have a stable border, and all the conditions conducive to improvement, why not start doing so?

We all have trust in our president's intentions, but the will must be followed by deeds. The president, with a strong political will, can definitely make Yemen a better place. He can with strong determination and desire for change, raise its position from the 148th rank in the UN quality-of-life list.

I personally harbor hope of a better future. The lovely feeling of rain drops on my skin after a very frustrating and hot day, echoes the feeling of a country rising and developing after a long period of economic downfall.

It is only a matter of political will; and does our president have it? I urge you, dear reader, to remember that every time a rain drop falls after a long dry day, after frustration and hopelessness, there is assurance of a time when a political will would put an end to the hopeless long days of economic difficulties of the Yemeni nation.

**COMMON SENSE**

By: Hassan Al-Haifi

**Our Concern is for the Ethiopian and Eritrean People**

I would like to thank H. E., the Ambassador of Ethiopia, for honoring me by reading my column and I appreciate his comments and criticism of my stand on the costly war Ethiopia and Eritrea waged needlessly, before exhausting all the efforts to bring their dispute to an amicable settlement. I assure H. E., the Ambassador that the article was not intended to blame any side for the conflict and not to personally insult anyone, and more important, the article was meant to underscore the needless suffering of the people - who are really the main concern of the journalists in covering or writing about conflicts of this sort - of both Ethiopia and Eritrea. Moreover, I was hoping to try to instill reason, in the hope that the leaderships of both countries would work forwards stopping the bloodshed, which eventually did happen, thank God. One would think that now it is time to heal the wounds and erase the spirit of animosity, which should be the main concern of all those involved, directly or indirectly. I present my best wishes to H. E. the Ambassador and to the people of both parts of Abyssinia my fondest yearnings that both of their countries will continue to endure lasting peace and prosperity.

**Democracy and Development**

One can surely look back at history and find that it is not hard to surmise that, indeed, human development and progress go hand in hand with greater freedom for the population leading to the empowerment for the people at all levels to manage their political affairs and to use their available resources wisely and efficiently. Moreover, peace among nations becomes easier to come by when the people have a greater say in the determination of relationships between the different nations of the world. Thus, the 2 Ds, as I

would like to call them, clearly indicate that for the world to be able to tackle the major international issues confronting the different international organizations, so as to spread the message of peace and the alleviation of the poverty that has engulfed more than half the population of the world, strong emphasis should be laid on any efforts to bring about an international peaceful order by the combination of democracy and development as the common pursuits for the mankind.

If it was not for democracy, it would be impossible to believe that the city-state of Athens could have launched the birth of Western Civilization. When that democracy was upheld, it was not long before democratic Rome prevailed as the center of Western Civilization and Culture and opened the way for an empire that stretched throughout the Mediterranean Basin. Again, when the generals decided to take over the helms of power, it did not take long before that empire saw its break up and eventually faded into history books.

No one can deny the important inroads that Islam brought into the development of democracy, in addition to the countless achievements of the Moslems in the Middle Ages in the areas of science, medicine, and philosophy - just to name a few of the fields where Islam left its mark and which the world is greatly appreciative of to this day. Regrettably, the Moslems in the Middle Ages could not bring the democratic ideals preached and insisted upon by the Prophet Mohammed (Peace and blessings of Allah upon him) into an institutional framework that would give longevity and continued peace and prosperity to a vast part of the world today. Nevertheless, it is also God's Will. Surely, it is not going to be difficult for the Moslems to come out of the misery and difficulties faced by most of the Moslem countries of the world, if they remem-

ber that Islam is a democratic religion and without democracy, Islam is, simply, not there.

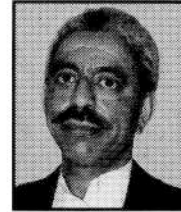
Ironically, while the Moslems of the Middle Ages forgot to instill the democratic principles of Islam into a steadfast institutional order, it was not long before the Western civilizations quickly grasped a creditable amount of the democratic teachings of Islam and turned such principles into functioning democratic institutions that helped to launch human progress significantly over the 19th and 20th Century. In the meantime, however, the Moslem world, was still unable to embody such principles into working institutional frameworks that would redeem the individual Moslem countries - and the whole Moslem world for that matter - out of the misery and pitiful waste of valuable resources, at their disposal. Perhaps Iran, and to a certain extent some of the Southeast Asian Moslem countries have seen the light, and have begun to incorporate the true principles of Islam into their political frameworks. This in itself is to be commended and worthy to emulate as examples.

To underscore the significance of democracy and its role in bringing about peace, the shining example of Japan remains at the forefront. When the Japanese people saw that their Shogun order was threatening the independence of Japan due to onslaught of imperialist powers at their doorsteps, in the middle of the 19th Century, they looked at themselves and looked at the countries that were vying to take over their country, like they have taken over most of the countries in the world. At the time, the democratic principles that have prevailed in many of the imperialist states were not applicable to the colonies of these great powers, as they called themselves. The Japanese realized that in order to beat them, one needed to see what it was that made these so called great powers powerful and prosperous. Quickly

the Japanese realized that to beat them, or at least to safeguard themselves, they were to do away with the archaic order that brought countless wars and misery to the island archipelago. Thus the first step towards development in Japan was the introduction of a functioning democratic framework, that allowed for the preservation of much of the culture and social inklings of the Japanese people, while at the same time removing the autocratic regime that had been the main drawback to the Japanese peace and prosperity.

It was not long before that Japan became a world power itself and went along with the imperialist bandwagon to join the other members of the imperialist club. While this should not be construed to mean approval of such an approach, it should be emphasized that it was democracy that heralded Japan into the mainstream of modern industrialist and military power more than anything else.

However, the generals in Japan also sought to undermine the great strides made by their country and nationalist demagoguery was allowed to prevail for a while in the Japanese Empire. The result was the absence of reason and common sense and the generals could not be credited for anything except for bringing destruction and suffering not only for their own people, but for the people of Southeast Asia and the Pacific Theater, which in many cases is yet to be healed. But, the Japanese learn very quickly from their mistakes and it was obvious to them, before it was to anyone else, that the removal of



democracy was the major reason for their defeat in World War II and that if Japan was to come out of its downtrodden status, it would be with the full reinstatement of democracy on a more steadfast framework. Thus Japan again was able to quickly rise to be a leading world power, concentrating on the economic dimensions of growth and development and underscoring the absolute wisdom of democracy as a necessary order for the welfare and peace of their people. On another note, one of the profound innovations in legislative work that came out of the defeat Japan suffered in the Second World War was the introduction of an amendment in the Japanese Constitution, which stated that, for all intents and purposes, war is illegitimate and a criminal offense that banned in Japan. This is a clear indication that a nation that truly understands the essence of democracy cannot find any glory or prosperity from marching armies that bring havoc and destruction for merely satisfying an egotistical drive, which God is completely disapproves of and condemns severely.

**Letters to the Editor**

Dear Editor,

This is in response to your article "Brain Drain", which tries to solve a very important problem. Why Yemenis emigrate? The blame should be directed to the Yemeni administration, and NOT to the American Consulate. Yemeni's don't emigrate only for financial reasons, but for other factors as well, such as lack of acceptable health services, lack of good educational system for their children, lack of basic services such as water and electricity and many other factors. The question now should be addressed to how Yemen can benefit from its vast emigrants and how the Yemenis living abroad can help their homeland while working outside Yemen.

Azzam Adhal  
MD FACP

Dear Editor,

I am researching the legal status of boundaries in the Arabian Peninsula and the recent agreement between Yemen and Saudi Arabia throws up some interesting legal questions, as Brian Whitaker mentioned in a recent article in your paper. I have not been able to find a copy of Appendix 2 detailing the 17 coordinates through which the land boundary to the east of the Taif line must pass, and would be extremely grateful if you could guide me towards a source for these data or send me a copy if you have one.

Dr. Edward Twiddy,  
University of Nottingham, UK.

Dear Dr. Edward,

I believe there is an Arabic version available with the 26 September issue. You can visit their website to request information at [www.26september.com](http://www.26september.com)

-The Editor

Dear Editor,

I found your two issues that had the interview with Nadia Muhsin. I thought that it was an excellent attempt to bring the other side of the story. Of course, many readers will not agree that she spoke her mind freely because of the fact that she is still in Yemen. The reality is that she has been living in Yemen all these years and she has made a life there under the conditions that surround her. She is living in a non-Western society and the Western world refuses to accept that as a justification of her situation. Apparently, she is free to leave, if she wishes, but there are conditions that are set by the Arab society. She would have to leave her children behind and that is something difficult for her, as a mother, to do after raising them all these years. She has created a life for herself, forced or not, that is very difficult to leave at this point. Family is an important factor and, at this point, she probably will not prioritize her 'family' in England over her immediate family.

Javier P. Padre  
Email: [PPadre@aol.com](mailto:PPadre@aol.com)

More Letters on Page 11....

**Editor's Note**

Any contribution, in the form of a letter, an article, a report, etc. are welcome all the time. However, articles eligible for publication will only be published. Apart from that, all contributions are subject to editing and formatted according to the newspaper's strategies without alteration of meaning. Original copies of contributions are to be kept with Yemen Times.

**Yemeni Youth after Graduation**

**A Journey of Trouble and Despair**



Nadwa Al-Dawsari  
Women's Studies Center,  
Sana'a University

**Starting point**

On entering a college, one feels that s/he is coming to a different kind of life. It is a new kind of studying and a new kind of teaching experience based on different theories and applications, very different from the high school system. Usually, students start enthusiastically, attending lectures regularly and doing assignments, etc, especially if they study in an

area of their interest. Eventually, students develop new skills and capacities. As they graduate, they are qualified to work in different fields in society. Some of them do not reach this level however, as a consequence of many shortcomings in our under-graduate education system, quite apart from the numerous material and moral difficulties students regularly face in the course of their studies.

These graduates may have some idea about practical work life, but they are not that clear and specific. Generally speaking, they come out with optimistic views about their future. As a graduate of the year 1998, let me just reflect upon my experience to give an account of the difficulties that a graduate may face in our country:

**1. Specialization and its relevance**

Most of university students in Yemen go for specialization in certain faculties that do not have any practical value in the work field. Large numbers of them study, for example, geography, history, philosophy, etc. You can notice that the least numbers of university students study English. The reasons behind this can be specified as follows:

- a) Most of the students come from poor families and they have to work while studying. For that, they register as casual students (students who are not required to compulsorily attend lectures). For that reason, they register in fields that are easier to study and pass. These fields often qualify students only as teachers in subjects which are no longer in great demand.
- b) In Yemen, studying computers and English language are secondary things. In fact, they are totally neglected in universities' curricula. In other countries, studying is becoming more computer-based. You can imagine the big gap

between the two modes. For this reason, our graduates are of little practical use in the work field..

**2. Vacancies**

As one graduates, s/he starts looking for a job and here comes the real difficulty. Rarely you find a job offer requiring no experience. In fact, most employers request, at least, 3 years of experience. Those who qualify themselves (by acquiring computer literacy and improving personal skills) are the lucky ones, although still below the required conditions to be employed. Another problem is that in both governmental and private sectors, most of the job opportunities are linked to the candidate's connections with directors or employers. Personal qualifications, capacities, and skills all become secondary conditions. Governmental positions are often given to certain people in a very irresponsible way. Bribery and relationship with key-persons play a big role in this process.

**3. Ladies First**

The English term "Ladies first" is misunderstood here. In Yemen, women are often much preferred in job interviews. Most employers ignore job-related qualifications and skills if the candidate is a beautiful lady, especially if she has a tactful way of talking. Qualified men are sometimes not required at all. We can notice that in vacancy announcements in newspapers. Even international institutions in Yemen always write, "Female candidates are preferred" when they announce vacancies. I faced this problem with different employers when I tried to recommend some of my qualified male colleagues for them. All demanded ladies to fill positions of office managers, journalists, secretaries and translators.

**4. Higher Studies:**

At present, few graduates seriously think of continuing their higher studies. Some others, who are employed, also find that they need to continue studying by proxy. They realize that building their professional career requires higher education and getting qualifications in different fields related to development and gen-

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وجميع موظفيها وعمالها  
تتقدم بأسمى آيات التهاني وأطيب التبريكات  
إلى رائد ومؤسس نهضة اليمن



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بمناسبة ذكرى السابع من يوليو - عيد النصر العظيم  
وكل عام وانتم بخير

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presents its heartfelt wishes and congratulations  
to the leader of Yemen

### H. E. President Ali Abdullah Saleh,

Government headed by Dr. Abdulkarim Al-Iryani,  
House of Parliament headed by Sheikh Abdullah bin Hussein Al-Ahmar,  
Consultative Council headed by Mr. Abdulaziz Abdulghani,

and all Yemeni People

on the occasion of the 6th anniversary of 7th of July,  
the Great Victorious Day  
Many Happy Returns...

7 JULY

VICTORY DAY

شركة صناعة السجائر والكبريت الوطنية المحدودة (س.م.ك.)  
National Cigarettes & Matches Industry (S.M.K.)

معرض سلعاني شامخ  
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الذي يديره القطاع الخاص  
المصنع الوحيد في اليمن الذي  
يتم فيه تجهيز التبوع المصنوع  
كلها  
فرصة التدريب والتطوير المستمر  
للكوادر الفنية والإدارية بما يواكب  
التطور التقني  
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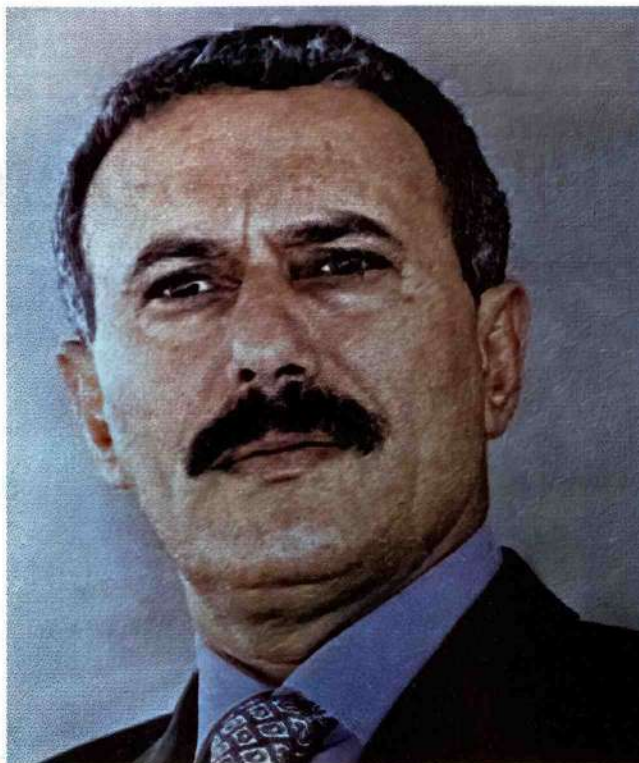
## AL-KBOUS Industrial Trading & Investment Group

Congratulates

### H. E. President Ali Abdullah Saleh,

and all Yemen People

On the occasion of the  
anniversary of  
Yemen's Victory Day,  
The 7th of July  
Many Happy Returns



AL-KBOUS  
Industrial Trading & Investment Group

مجموعة  
الكبوس

للتجارة والصناعة والاستثمار  
(مؤسسة محمد حسن الكبوس وأولاده)

## مجموعة الكبوس للتجارة

### والصناعة والإستثمار

(مؤسسة محمد حسن الكبوس وأولاده)  
تتقدم بخالص التهاني والتبريكات  
لفخامة رئيس الجمهورية

### المشير علي عبدالله صالح

والى كافة أبناء شعبنا اليمني العظيم

بمناسبة ذكرى يوم

النصر العظيم،

السابع من يوليو

وكل عام وانتم بخير

7 JULY

VICTORY DAY

# Unhonored Zither Player, Mohammed Al-Najar



Saleh Abdalbaki  
Yemen Times

The literary scene witnessed late in the fifth decade of the previous century many turning points at the level of songs. There were associated with a new trend to renew and modernize the singing art based on different categories such as changing the form, selecting words, etc. The new trend came after a time when the traditional Yemeni song flourished and were widely used by many Yemeni artists. In course of time a number of new budding singers with new bands came to light. These singers started using the new Eastern musical instruments such as lute, violin, zither, etc. They first appeared in Aden and played a substantial role in gaining in popularity going beyond the borders of our country to Gulf countries in the Arab peninsula.

Mr. Mohammed Salem Al-Najar, musician, gained popularity in the beginning of 1960s as the second famous musician playing the zither, not only in Yemen but over the Arab peninsula.

He was born in Al-Hutah, capital of Lahj in 1945. He was brought up and completed his primary and preparatory studies there. He is considered to be one of the pioneering musicians who effectively contributed - over 37 years - to the maturity of the Yemeni artistic form of singing. He was considerably influenced at the beginning of his career by the Arab and Lahji artistic forms. He hailed from a famous literary family in Lahj. His father, Salem, was a great artist who was very skilled in playing the lute. He was also very much talented in fixing musical instruments.

Mohammed has got two brothers; Ali, his elder brother, skilled in playing the violin, is now working with Lahj Musical Band which belongs to the Cultural Office. Abdu, his younger brother, is one of the best players of zither.

The first ever Yemeni who played this

musical instrument, zither, especially in Lahj, was Mr. Ali Al-Jefri who brought it with him from Cairo, Egypt in 1960. It was given to him as a gift from some lovers of music there.

Mohammed's sister, Noor, who is commonly called "Al-Najarah" is considered to be the first ever female singer to sing the authentic traditional heritage of Lahj. She is also very skilled in playing the lute.

Mohammed can magnificently handle other musical instruments such as lute and violin. His brother Abdu Salem Al-Najar taught him how to use the zither.

Late in the 1950s, Mohammed joined the Lahji Musical Club as a violinist. Then, he joined another musical club which obviously qualified him to master this art. This was the beginning of his career in the field of music. Later, due to some financial problems, he accompanied by his brother Abdu left his home village Lahj for Al-Buraikah, Aden. Both joined the then called British Oil Refinery in 1961. While he was living in the workers zone, he used to practice his hobby of playing these musical instruments. He established his own musical band called Al-Ghadir Musical Band which consisted of some budding and promising talents working in the refinery. This also gave them the opportunity to be acquainted with some great artists including Ahmad Qasem and Mohammed Murshed Naji. The late artist Abdu had worked with Mohammed Murshed Naji in recording some songs, the most famous of which is "An Saken Sana'a". Unfortunately, he passed away in a car accident in Al-Buraika.

After his death, his brother Mohammed decided to follow his path, to play the zither. He decided to leave Al-Buraika for Sheikh Othman where he settled down. In the mid 1960s, he joined the Arab Musical Band as a zither player. This was one of the most famous musical bands at the time. Al-Murshidi and Ahmad Qasem were the most famous singers at the time. Through this band, Al-Najar had acquired a lot of new artis-

tic fundamentals of singing which were adopted by the two famous singers. He benefited a lot from Ahmad Qasem with regard to the zither, especially after he came back from his studies of music at the High Institute for Music in Egypt. Thereafter, Mohammed excelled himself in this art.

It is worth noting that the Arab band

governorates including Taiz, Sana'a and Hodeidah. The revenues earned from the concerts were contributed to the liberation army.

Some Yemeni singers who used to participate in such concerts were Mohammed Sa'ad Abdullah, Taha Fara'a, Yusef Ahmad Salem Mohammed Salem bin Shamekh, Raja Ba Sudan, Asmahani Abdulaziz,

Harithi, etc. The band then was divided into two: some wanted to stay in Sana'a while the second party wanted to go back to Aden. Some of those who stayed in Sana'a were Fadl and Mohammed Al-Salam, Abdul Baki, Saeed Farhan, the journalist Mohammed Al-Makhshaf and Mohammed Al-Najar. Their stay in Sana'a at the time gave the artists from Sana'a the opportunity to develop and improvise their methods and techniques in singing. The band had influenced and contributed a lot towards improving the Sana'ani singing which depended upon the lute and copper 'Sahn'. Thus, Al-Najar along with his band was able to preserve the Sana'ani song and added a touch of artistic and aesthetic beauty to it. Al-Najar also recorded some compositions using his zither. The band stayed in Sana'a even during the famous 70-day siege.

When the then Southern part of Yemen became independent on November 30, 1967, Al-Najar along with his friends went back to Aden. At the beginning of 1970s, he joined the military force working as a nurse. Then, he was transferred to the musical department of the army. While he was working in the Army, he left Aden for Libya to

participate in the celebrations held following the Al-Fateh revolution in September. Late in the 1970s, he joined the radio station as a sound controller. He did not stay for long there due to stagnant artistic activities. Therefore, he went back to his home village, Lahj which became his last destination. Now he lives among his family and has joined the band of Cultural Office in Lahj.

Mohammed Al-Najar is one of the greatest artists who have made commendable contributions to the development of the Yemeni music. However, despite all the commitment and devotion of this great musician, he and many other artists are living in miserable conditions. When Al-Najar left his village for the first time, he was afflicted by some financial problems. When he came back there he was no better. Al-Najar has spent his life developing the music in our country, therefore, he should be given at least a token of appreciation by the Ministry of Culture. We do cherish the hope that the Ministry will move to honor this talented musician along with others who devoted their whole life for their country. There are many artists who live unknown and die unknown as well.



was considered to be the first typical Yemeni musical band in terms of the modern musical instruments including contrabass, the western Spanish made guitar, cello. There were about 17 musicians playing different Eastern musical instruments which attracted the attention of different Yemeni singers for the excellent quality of their performance.

Al-Najar had also contributed magnificent musical compositions during the celebration of the revolution in September 1962. Invited by the Liberation Front based in the then Northern part, the band held some concerts in Taiz. This coincided with the political strife of the armed struggle against the British colonization in the then Southern part of the country. This was the first ever participation of the artists of the then Southern part of Yemen in the ceremonies following the revolution of the 26 September. The band held concerts in different

Nadiah Abdullah, and others. When the ministry of information was informed of the band's arrival, Mr. Muhssen Al-Jibri, general manager of Sana'a radio station at the time, was one of the most enthusiastic patrons to promote the band headed by Mohammed Sa'ad Abdullah in Sana'a and make some of its members work with some Yemeni singers such as Ali Al-Anisi, Ali Al-Semah, Ahmad Al-Sunaidar. Al-

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## Ideas for Development of Tourism in Yemen

Najeeb Yousef Mahyoub Sultan  
State Authority for Tourism  
State Administration for  
Ecotourism

Many employees in various tourist establishments are not fully familiar with many tourist concepts and terminologies. This could adversely affect the level of their performance in the field of tourism.

For the above reasons we think it useful to define the main terms used in the field of tourism:

**Tourism** is a human activity and a social phenomenon defined as traveling abroad for a period not less than 24 hours and not exceeding one year for a certain kind of international tourism.

**Tourist:** This term defines the indi-

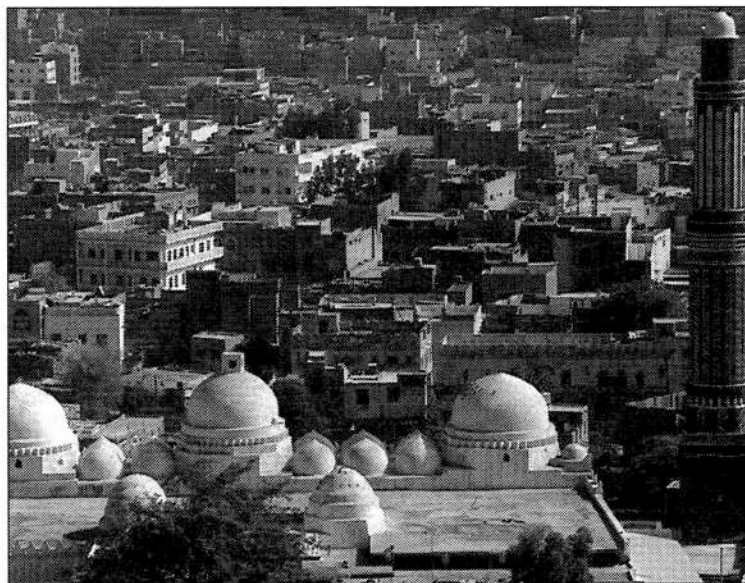
viduals who move from their original residence to another place for a visit not less than 24 hours and not exceeding 1 year. This definition applies to local and international tourists. The tourist can also be called the Tourist Consumer for he/she makes the decision of buying tourist products or benefiting from various tourist services.

**Tourism Activity** is the technical and administrative activity performed by different private and public tourism authorities and establishments. Their activities are related to satisfying tourists' needs so as to achieve certain goals:

-Gaining maximum possible profits from tourism and providing first-class tourist services.

-Satisfying tourists needs so as to relieve their stress and nervousness.

**Tourist Nights** are the total number



of nights that tourists spend outside their countries in any of accommodation facilities (Hotels, Motels, furnished apartments...etc)

**Tour Guide** is the person who provides tourists with details on historical ruins and other tourist monuments. In addition he/she answers tourists inquiries in the places they visit (Museums, exhibitions, historical sites...etc)

**Hotel Activity** is, in general, described as the activities related to the housing of residents regardless of its type (hotels, cabanas, furnished apartments) and include several services like residence, food, entertainment, sports...etc.

**Tourism Marketing** is the technical and administrative activity performed by tourism establishments and organizations inside the country

to be better acquainted with the currently existing tourism markets, facilitating the development of international tourism movement.

**Promotion** embodies the efforts of different forms of media to advertise for the tourist products with the aim of attracting consumers. This is done through different advertising means, public relations and media. All together, these means form what we call "Tourism Activator"

**Services and Facilities** include different forms of housing, agencies, tourism and transportation companies, general tourists places (food, drinks...etc), city parks, souvenir shops and so on.

**Tourism Exhibition** is every thing that the government offers to attract tourists with the intention of improving foreign tourism movement.

## The Wild Desert's Apologies to Gunnar and Norway

Izzeddin Al-Asbahi, Taiz

Time: June 9, 2000

Place: Sana'a

It was an afternoon of a gloomy day. The sun was blazing and the city dust was, as usual, restlessly filling the places. He was there alone, Gunnar, the sun's lover. He was happy, unaware of what was in store for him.

He was 9 and had come a long from Norway accompanying his parents to visit Yemen, which legends tell a lot about. He was looking forward to the moment he would come back home with gifts to present and stories to tell. But alas! his dream was destroyed by a catastrophe that shocked the entire world.

He left his mother at the hotel and went with his father intending to come back soon. However, he did not come back soon. It was early in the next day when he came back along with the body of his murdered father. Awe was written on his face. You can just imagine what happened to realize how horrific it was. They were kidnapped in the middle of the city by an armed gang to a merciless desert. In an exchange of fire between the gang and the policemen, the father died. There stayed the young Gunnar, alone with his murdered father in a deserted place.

The murder of Stuve, 44, is a tremendous shock that would last forever in our memories. We feel ashamed of ourselves for being in a country that kills its guests, horrifies children and destroys everything beautiful.

I feel sad and enraged whenever I imagine Gunnar's face. It seems impossible to calm down until I am unable to avenge the death of his father.

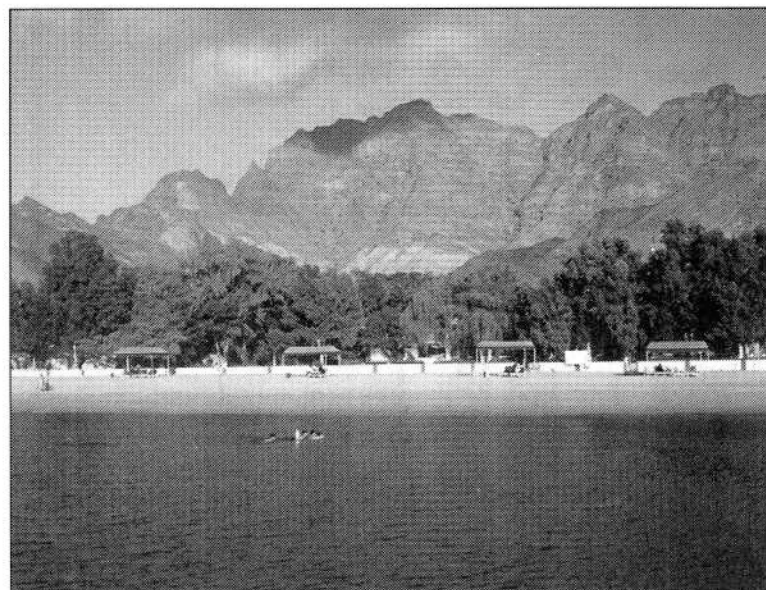
Can I apologize to young Gunnar and his mother for what happened as I, unfortunately, belong to the country that killed his father, his dreams and innocence too? I, on behalf of many others, feel ashamed to see such an event happening in the 21st century when the whole world is calling for respecting human rights and peace.

Apologizes are not enough. We must work hard to avenge the wronged. Sadness is also not enough. There must be a serious stand against all murderers and corrupt brigade in this country. We must punish all those who have not moved a finger against them and those who killed us before they killed Stuve and his childhood. One wonders what the mother had done to receive her little son smeared with her dear husband's blood. What kind of visitation can regain a moment of those destroyed by demonic murderers?

Gunnar! I apologize to and feel sorry for you. I feel ashamed of myself for being one of the people of this country who are watching the killing of the innocent and witnessing the disrespect for peace and security by irresponsible individuals, without their being held responsible for their actions by the state.

I wish you a safe and secure life. I wish that the incident you have experienced would motivate you to work for peace and human rights in the world in order not to see death, fear, etc. once again.

I apologies once again to you, wonderful child. I realize your condition, but let me stress it once more we have to work for the truth to let security and peace prevail.



# Press Scanner

**Y**emeni press this week continues its coverage of developments after and response to the border treaty between Yemen and Saudi Arabia. Almost all Yemeni newspapers have highlighted the ceremony of exchanging documents of the treaty in Sana'a by the foreign ministers of both countries.

In addition to the variety of themes dealt with in the commentary columns, analytical articles and editorials, most of the newspapers concentrated on internal issues focusing on the necessity of solving the phenomenon of corruption particularly within the state organizations. They have also dealt with vital political issues concerning the overall situation in the country.

**Review of this week's main headlines front-paged by Yemen's press:**

- Following the Exchange of Border Documents, Saudi Welcome of Yemeni Labor
- Discovery of Largest Unexplored Minerals Reserve in Yemen
- Council of Ministers Unanimous on Suing Ash-Shumoa Weekly Newspaper, and Ath-Thaqafiya Stands Trial
- Central Bank Cuts Interest Rate, and Compulsory Reserves
- Arrest Campaign Among the Al-Zaidi Tribe
- Morgue Murderer Threatens of Hunger Strike
- Prince Saud Al-Faisal: Our Relations with Yemen Older than the GCC & Will Remain
- Opposition Parties Coordination Council Welcomes Border Treaty As Step To Arab Peninsula Unity
- World Bank: Concentration on Aden as Major Income Resource in Yemen, Necessary
- Eight Girls Kidnapped in Capital Last Month

Following are excerpts from the main article and analysis published by some of Yemeni newspapers.

**الصحوة** An article published in As-Sahwa weekly in its edition on 6 July 2000 comments on favoritism and corruption. It says people dream of seeing justice prevail and equality achieved. Every citizen would in this case find his own opportunity and right to education, health care, public services and job opportunity. He would not be forced to depend on others to recommend him or seek intervention of an influential person, or to pay bribes.

effective role in preserving security and stability in the region. According to the article the first prerequisite is that Yemen succeeds in establishment of security and stability for all in Yemen's territories. This, it concludes, could only be an outcome of integrated successes in all social areas. Success should encompass political, economic, social, constitutional, judiciary, educational, cultural, legal and health fields. This objective should be realized by upgrading human awareness, promoting understanding, cooperation and furthering of interests within the country and with other countries. The second pre-condition that the RAY article proposes is that Yemen should comprehend clearly that its security and stability are dependent on those of the region it is part of.

The article says further that nepotism and flattery are the most serious causes of corruption at all levels. Moreover, absence of justice, and predominance of personal whims represent the main cause of dissatisfaction and loss of faith of the public. The article wonders whether there would be a serious and sincere consideration to eradicate this cancer in favor of achieving the desired for social justice.

**البيان** Al-Mithaq weekly, organ of the People's General Conference Party has focused in its editorial on 3 July 2000 on the gains achieved in Yemen. It says that internal construction is dependent on a huge asset of gigantic accomplishments. It has further affirms that such gains constitute a big forward leap towards more spacious horizons embodied in the establishment of best relations; internally, regionally, and internationally. The Yemeni unity, the editorial further says, is therefore a new springboard and qualitative move in the course of Yemen history. The national charter contains the important principles that have unified all segments of the people. The reason behind the people's unity is that the charter is not imposed by certain group or authority but is rather the reflection of the people's aspiration.

**البيان** RAY weekly, mouthpiece of Sons of Yemen League, 4 July 2000 has in an article defined the role of Yemen in safeguarding the regional security and stability. The article presumes that there are two major conditions Yemen has to meet to be qualified to play an

**البيان** Al-Wahdawi weekly (organ of People's Unionist Nasserite Organization, 4 July 2000) An article published in the newspaper criticizes strongly the Higher Council of Universities' stance over the way the Yemeni press has dealt with the serial killer of the medicine faculty morgue. The Universities Council had on Sunday 2 July accused the press of an "attempt to defame reputation of the largest scientific institution" through the way some papers were handling the incident. The article interprets the Universities Council response as showing indifference towards "dishonoring medical faculty girl students, dismembering

**الثورة** Ath-Thawra daily of July 9, 2000 has said in its editorial that president Ali Abdullah Saleh has specified features of the coming stage in certain integrated tasks. The main points on top the government's agenda for the coming period, is the fulfillment of the objectives of the new era of change Yemen has embarked on. Elimination of the wrongs of the past and its negative impact, has now become a matter dictated by the inevitability of the political, economic and social changes. The strengthening of the state of law and order, putting an end to corruption and ending security disturbances are primary tasks representing the foundation stone of the internal structure.

**البيان** ATTAGAMMU weekly, mouthpiece of Attagammu Al-Wahdawi Al-Yemeni 3 July 2000. In its editorial titled "Pull Out of Dhalie" the newspaper calls up on the government to withdraw its army units stationed at forward military camps in Dhalie governorate. It proposes that army units should pull out from the governorate to a distance not less than 20 kilometers away from the city. The newspaper says that the authority should set up a plan for withdrawing military camps, barracks and checkpoints from the city's densely populated areas and the capital. Armed forces have to be stationed in positions where they are able to repel any external provocations and dangers threatening safety of the country's borders.

their bodies and dumping them into the college sewage." The article concludes by emphasizing that what happened here could not occur even in a jungle inhabited by wolves.

**الثورة** 26 September, weekly, organ of Yemen Armed Forces, 6 July 2000, highlighted in its editorial the gains and victories scored by Yemen. Titled "Successive Victories" the weekly editorial says it is necessary to mention that Yemen's magnificent successes and victories, particularly in resolving its border issues with neighboring countries, affirm the righteous approach and option of the Yemen's political leadership. This approach represents an extension of the Yemeni people's aspirations for conciliation, peace and prosperity.

The weekly editorial has further said that attention would be focused on implementation of the future priorities defined by president Ali Abdullah Saleh. The priorities are: continuation of economic, financial and administrative reforms and fighting and eliminating of corruption in state institutions and the society. The objectives also include stabilization of security and upgrading the level of law and institutions.

**البيان** Ash-Shumoa independent weekly 8 July 2000 has said in its editorial that the July 7 would continue to be a red letter day in the life of the Yemeni people. It embodies the people's relentless struggle for consolidating the values of the unity, patriotism and realization of security and stability. While observing the 7th anniversary of the occasion, we comprehend fully that the victory was that of the forces that uphold justice, rights and unity. It was on the other hand a humiliating defeat to the forces of evil that subvert security and stability and prefer to live in luxury at the expense of the homeland and the people.

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While observing the 7th anniversary of the occasion, we comprehend fully that the victory was that of the forces that uphold justice, rights and unity. It was on the other hand a humiliating defeat to the forces of evil that subvert security and stability and prefer to live in luxury at the expense of the homeland and the people. As we are celebrating the anniversary of routing the conspirators and secessionists, we hope that our observance of the coming anniversary of July 7 would coincide with the celebration of the first anniversary of elimination of corruption. As we defeated secessionism, similarly, we should eliminate corruption. This would be the major

The article concludes that the armed forces' continued stay in Al-Dhalie is unjustifiable. Owing to its position, particularly before the Yemeni unification, Al-Dhalie represented one of the confrontation lines between the former two parts of Yemen. At present it is no longer an area of sabotage disturbing Sana'a, capital of the unified state.

**البيان** An-Nass independent weekly, 3 July 2000 published a leading article on page 2 titled "Protection of Gains against Corruption".

The article suggests that the first step for uprooting corruption and the corrupt is by the outright recognition of their existence. Since the president has declared the first step, the ensuing move is represented by the overall change compatible with the aim. There must exist a harmony between the means and the end. It is unreasonable to expect from a mechanism itself operated by the corrupt to be the means for elimination of corruption and rid the state institutions and society of its effects. The president is not required to effect an absolute change, but it is unacceptable also to retain the same elements and the present mechanism in the absolute sense. Reality may not accept both trends simultaneously, but can accommodate the balance. Such equilibrium would achieve the goal by means of extraordinary measures meant for extraordinary situations.

**الثورة** Ath-Thawri weekly, organ of the Yemeni Socialist Party (6 July 2000) has

strongly criticized the exaggerated manner of observing the anniversary of July 7, the day of victory over the secessionist movement in 1994.

An article published by the newspaper wonders about what made the celebration of the "war day" to be bigger than the day of peace. The article is skeptical about the justification of blowing out the importance of the occasion July 7, so as to ascribe it greater importance than declaration of the Yemeni revolution and that of the unity. The implication of the unnecessary pomposity is entirely to highlight that the rival (the Socialist Party) has gone. The paper adds that the war and the secessionism are two faces of the same coin although the war was more detriment to the unity. Six years have passed on the first anniversary of the hated war and it has become crystal clear that there were no victors or vanquished in that war. The only losers are the people and the country.

concern of the coming stage.

**الثورة** An article in Al-Umma in its issue on July 6 has discussed the question of privatization of public sector institutions. It says that the government announcement of the intention to privatize some unsuccessful state institutions seems to include the successful projects of the public sector as well. Undoubtedly, the current campaign against the public sector unfolds a complete design to weaken the role of the state in the organization of the national economy and liquidation of the public sector.

What is more astonishing is that the call for privatization is no longer hiding behind selling unsuccessful state projects. The call has exceeded that to include some of the successful agricultural units of the public sector. We warn against the consequences of selling the successful units of the agricultural sector due to the negative results that may emerge from such a step.

The article concludes that the role the private sector is required to play could not always be realized by privatization of the public sector units. That role could be achieved only by the private sector's initiatives for building and investing in new projects and creating new productive energies. Such policy would increase the stability of the national economy create more job opportunities and increase the national income.

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Continued from Page 8

# Letters to the Editor

**Dear Editor,**  
I would like to express my appreciation of your newspaper, which has become the most prominent English language newspaper in Yemen. Being fully aware of the importance of your newspaper, I am writing this letter. I have noticed that your newspaper does not contain any column to clarify some Islamic concepts misunderstood by foreigners or publish articles offering Islamic view of life to them. You know well that every Muslim has the responsibility of spreading the word of Allah to those non-Muslims by any means he can. In this connection, you should remember that it is your responsibility to give your share of enlightening non-Muslim foreigners about Islam and as your newspaper is read by English readers who are mostly foreigners, you are in a sensitive position to convey your mission entrusted to you by your Creator (Allah). I think you are educated and open-minded enough to understand my message.

You may say that readers are allowed to write anything relevant to Islam but not all readers are supposed to have sound ideas about that. My suggestion is that you can ask a reputable, well-informed Sheikh to

write articles that make Islam clear to foreigners and your excellent translators will make them comprehensible to the readers. I am quite sure that this would earn a higher esteem to your magnificent paper not only from Yemenis, but also from the other readers. This step would be encouraged by a large number of English speaking Yemenis and Arabs who would definitely give you the best help. Finally, I would like to express my thanks in advance for publishing my letter and considering it and I hope to see the response very soon.

**Abu Baker Muhamed Al-Haddad**  
English Languages Tutor  
Faculty of Education, Seyiun

**Dear Abu Baker,**  
I will be happy to discuss this issue with the rest of the editorial board members and perhaps we could start such a column in the near future if possible. Thank you for your fine recommendation.

**The Editor**

**True account of modern day Jahilia**

The death of sixteen promising students in Sanaa's faculty of medicine was not a fatal coincidence, but a hor-

rific consequence of a society enslaved by its own pre dated traditional values.

These values led to the tragic end of innocents and left these girls to the mercy of 52-year-old serial killer from Sudan Mohammed Adam who committed this cruel barbaric crime unafraid that he would be caught. It was possible simply because the families of the girls never reported their disappearance.

The crime sent shock waves through out Yemen and left me a bitter pessimistic soul. This may not be the first time a rape is committed, as there are many corrupt souls out there. But in this outrageous incident none of the families reported the matter to the police. There was only one Yemeni father, Ahmed Atia, who himself searched for his daughter and also reported her missing but the Iraqi mother umm Zainab never gave up until her case reached the authorities. Had it not been for this brave mother, this cold-blooded murderer would never have been brought to justice and would have continued his murky practice of raping and killing innocent girls.

None of the families had enough faith in their daughter's innocence to report

them missing. Nor were they willing to investigate the truth at the expense of their social reputation.

Shamefully women are still not freed from the shackles of Jahilia where fathers used to bury their daughters alive because they feared they would bring dishonor to the family. This is the same explanation behind these families secrecy. For days I tried to rationalize their behavior by accepting the cultural sensitivities of protecting family honor. I can't help feeling that these traditions go against the very essence of Islamic justice. And the unbearable fact that hit me again what we are still trapped by the values of Jahilia which violates the rights and dignity of women.

When this sick sadist monster admitted his crimes, many claimed that their daughters went missing and wanted to identify their bodies. A friend of my relative who was studying in Sana'a faculty of medicine realized that her friend stopped attending in their second year. When she asked about her; the reply was that she got married. They lied to every one, presuming that they are preserving their honor, which is a priority according to them. Their honor had not only cost their daughter's life and many others their lives, it crushed my esteem and

trust for my society. As this makes many girls like me feel so belittled in such a ruthless society where meaningless values tolerated a satanic draconian crime.

Distressed at the news of what happened at the University campus, my relative in Sanaa told me that the rapist's image now keeps flashing before her eyes. Much as she consoles herself that he is now in police custody, one thought keeps her awake all night: she could have been the seventeen girl.

This incident left me with a deep resentment for the culture I have grown up in. As a Yemeni who has spent the last 10 years in Britain, I had almost forgotten the extent of adherence to these Pre Islamic values. Naively I hoped that my society had progressed and the days of women being subjected to humiliation might have been long gone. But progress has only come to selected parts of the Yemeni cultural life. When it comes to women, my country seems to be enslaved by its own values of Jahilia. It stems from the UNISLAMIC cultural, traditional values and customs that had always doubted a woman's virtue for the mere fact that she is a woman.

Suspicion and fear dominated the minds of these fathers; they are worried about their daughters, but at the same time they suspect them. A conflict between the two started. Eventually fear for their honor and suspicion won over their love for the daughters. To these values I point the finger of blame, which subordinated our society as it allowed the treatment of women as some inferior creatures. Now all the families are mourning their deaths when for so long they had concealed every visible sign of grief and lived a dreadful lie. Now they hurt inside whereas beforehand they had hardened their hearts and fought their emotions for their pride. This is the dark gloomy side of our society that we still live in. It is like living in an anarchical society. For as long as they live, these families will endure, offering their cowardliness and their inhumane act towards their offspring. It is a painful way to learn but it is a lesson they will never forget. These are lives like yours and mine; these are girls who stumbled up from childhood. These are the same girls their parents once loved; these are the girls who died not in a foreign land, but in their own land, my land. They died in the most inhuman and vicious way and yet they died with out any body covering their bier.

What goes through the minds of a rapist and a serial killer is something we might never know, but what leads ordinary families to suspect their innocent women for no apparent reason is something I fail to comprehend.

**Ghufran Amin Al-Aswadi**  
samirahamin@hotmail.com

# National Panasonic® Technics

## Alfa Panasonic Launches its Summer marketing program. New Models and Wonderful Discounts Mounting to 50%



**A**lfa Company Ltd., the exclusive agent of National products, Panasonic, launched its annual summer program, 2000 Summer Celebration, in Apollo halls, Expo, Sana'a during 2-11 July. It is sponsored by the company.

The annual sales and marketing meeting was also held. It was attended among others by Mr. Hussain Mohammed Al-Rashidi, general manager of Alfa Company, and some MPAs, members from the CC, sheikhs, customers of the company, distributors and a large number of people. The inauguration ceremony was attended by Mr. Tanaka, Mr. Fernando, and Fadl Mirza from Panasonic Gulf and Matsushita Middle East - Dubai.

During the meeting, Alfa marketing plans for 2000 were reviewed so as to vouch for the availability of goods of high quality at the least possible price. Alfa also guarantees an excellent and efficient after sales services. The marketing activities of Alfa were launched on Sunday July 2, at the 2000 Summer Celebration. In the exhibition, Alfa show put

up an exquisite show of TVs, videos, state of the art cameras, Hi-Fi cassette players and DVD. Home appliances show of Alfa has a unique collection of fridges, washing machines of different models, microwaves, sweeping machines and irons. There are also special models of mincers, mixers which are distinguished for their durability. Alfa, National Panasonic's show in the exhibition has attracted the customers' attention on account of the fabulous discounts offered by the company.

Different models of 21 inches to 51 inches of Tau TVs designed in accordance with high digital technology, remarkable for wonderful sound quality and standard specifications are some other unique features of the company.

Different audio sets in attractive, modern designs are sure to match all tastes and suit all budgets. The company has made a magnificent show of cassette recorders with incorporated discs and other operating facilities that guarantee tasteful entertainment. All these equipment are designed in accordance with the state of the

art technology using the sophisticated digital system.

There are also DVD cassette recorders equipped with unique standards and specifications. HT 80, for example, is a very important asset for a comfortable life full of joy and happiness, enabling anyone have a fanciful trip to the world of dreams.

For the first time the show presents NAW 7000 and NAW 9000 washing machines with very easy and special operating features.

There are also RXM 70 of red and black cassette recorders with their 18 watt and 3 loud speakers on show, making it an essential tool for every home.

GAOO TV sets characterized by its strength and efficiency and an attractive shape are on sale with a 50% discount. Bumper discounts are offered on all the machines presented by Alfa in the show.

Alfa Company Ltd., National Panasonic, is the official sponsor of Summer Celebration 2000. After the annual meeting of sales



Mr. Hussain Al-Rashidi, Alfa's General Manager

and marketing, invited guests were invited to a special lunch.

The Panasonic Gulf delegation carefully took note of the agents' remarks, comments and answered all the audience's inquiries. An intensive training course for Alfa's sales and marketing staff was launched to enable them to render best services to customers.

It is really a breath-taking and richly rewarding experience to visit Alfa National Panasonic Booth in Apollo, Expo, Sana'a Exhibition during 2-11 July 2000.



شركة ألفا المحدودة  
ALFA

# Project-Donated Sewing Machines and Developmental Success

By Barbara J. Michael  
Anthropology Consultant

## Introduction:

One difficulty in evaluating the success of development projects and of comparing the success of one to another, is to find common denominator indicators. This project is premised on the fact that sewing machines, donated by projects to women targets, represent that common denominator. Sewing machines are one of the primary inputs to almost any development project, whether focused on agriculture, water, sanitation, health, education of girls, gender sensitive income-generation, poverty alleviation or any other project goal. It is therefore hypothesized that the widespread presence of sewing machines in household targeted by any development project is an indicator of project success. Until the conceptualization of this project the sewing machine as an indicator was not recognized for the potential it holds to develop a stan-

standardized evaluative procedure and instrument that enables a scientifically valid evaluation of the success of the project. The evaluative instrument will also facilitate comparison of projects and will lead to a greater understanding of what types of projects succeed and which fail to be sustainable.

Yemen is proposed as the test site for this survey. There are several reasons why Yemen has been selected: (1) a history of development interventions by a large number of international, national, and non-governmental agencies spanning a long period (more than 50 years); (2) historical variation in Yemeni national political organization; (3) an initial estimation of high number of sewing machines in relation to population. The results of the survey will be used to develop an evaluation instrument that can be used by any donor organization to check the success of a given project. Additionally, the development of evaluative criteria as a result of this survey project will make it possible to

do a variety of cross-project comparisons including sociocultural impact, cost-analysis and cost-benefit, economic impact, and gender sensitivity, among others. Evaluations made by using the model to be developed by this project will also ensure greater transparency in all aspects of project formulation and implementation and will benefit donors and recipients at all levels from the national entity to grassroots communities. The results of this study will revolutionize project evaluation for donors of all types. It will also enable the recipients of development aid in evaluating whether or not any particular project has fulfilled its promise.

## Methodology:

The key method to be used at the macro level will be diagrammatic mapping of the geographical location of sewing machines in Yemen. Overlapping maps of project areas in relation to the geographic location of sewing machines will also be made. This will enable an analysis of the comparative concentration of sewing machines from one project area to another. Cluster maps will be generated from this mapping.

Analyses will be made of such factors as the geographic location of the sewing machine in relation to the donors' project headquarters, distance from regional centers, provincial capitals and the national capital, and various markets.

Project documents of donors will be analyzed in order to determine such factors as the proportional amount of project funding allocated to sewing machines' purchase and distribution. Total numbers of sewing machines reportedly distributed according to project documents will be compared with the findings of the survey. Project documents will also be analyzed to determine if there are any explicit statements that recognize the correlation between sewing machine distribution and project success.

Another method, at the micro level will be interviews with the owners of the sewing machines. Until now it has been assumed that the primary ownership of sewing machines is in the hands of women, that the primary target of donors has been women, and that the ownership of donated sewing machines is in the control of women. However, it is believed that this study may challenge that assumption.

Focus group interviews and discussions will be another method used. Women's account regarding sewing machines will also be collected.

Once baseline data has been collected by the above listed methodologies, several sites will be selected for more intensive research using traditional, anthropological participant-observation and RRA (Rapid Rural Appraisal) methods. This strategy will enable culturally biased assumptions to be made by donors. It will also be possible to determine standard interview techniques. Belief systems around sewing machines will also be investigated.

Some of the questions to be asked in the initial interviews and to be reiterated in both the focus groups and the intense participant-observation include the following:

- Location of the sewing machine in the house
- Ownership of the sewing machine.
- Number of sewing machines in a given household.
- Who in the household uses the sewing machine for sewing.
- (A subsidiary question is: does anyone in the household know how to use the sewing machine for sewing)
- Was sewing instruction a part of the donor's package.
- Users of the sewing machines and their kinship relationship to each other.
- Presence of dyadic relationships between sewing machine owners and

other parties. -Linguistic terms used to refer to the sewing machine, the users, and to any of the parts or materials associated with sewing machines. These terms will be analyzed for gender specificity, regional and sub-regional variation, diffusion of terminology from donors, for example.

-Uses to which the sewing machine is put, including any non-sewing uses, such as house décor, clothes rack, photo display, ritual center, status indicator, etc.

-Estimate of time allocated to various uses of the sewing machine.

-The sewing machine, its market value and ascribed value.

Photo documentation will also be an important methodology and an important outcome of the survey as another means of disseminating the results.

## Outcomes:

The expected primary outcome will be the information necessary for the development of a standardized project evaluation instrument. The evaluation instrument, once developed and further tested, will be published and made available at nominal cost to development donors or to any interested parties. It is believed that grassroots recipients will also be interested in using this evaluation instrument in order to ascertain the benefits they have actually gained from a development project. This will lead to better decision making at all levels.

## Mystery of Adam's Case Should be Revealed



Tawfeek Al-Sharaabi  
Yemen Times, Sanaa

Despite the strict confidentiality imposed by officials who have very often asserted that what has been reported in the media is groundless and false, recent twists and turns in the case of Mohammed Adam Omar, the morgue assistant of the Faculty of Medicine, prove that the media has played a pivotal role in unraveling the intriguing issue which is still shrouded in mystery.

Contradictions are still prevailing even after the German experts' report was presented to the court. The first translated version of the report indicates that 21 dead bodies were found in the morgue of which two belong to Zainab and Hussn. However, in "Saidati" magazine the German expert is reported to have said that there were 25 dead bodies and not 21 as it appears in the translated version. Now what is the real number?

Another thing to be noted is that there is no reference in the report to the curls of hair found in one of Zainab's nails which were taken to Germany for test to confirm whether they belong to Adam or anyone else. Nor is there any reference to the fetus found in the morgue. A part of this mystery is the way in which these two experts were selected without any directive from the court which is supposed to have the final say in the matter.

On the other hand, it's baffling to see how generously Adam has been changing his confessions every now and then. Noone has bothered to ask what the real reasons behind all this are.

Is it believable that he has the shrewdness to cheat our well-experienced criminal officers who appear like puppets in his hands? or Was this a ploy to divert the course of the case so as to taint the whole case, absorb the massive anger of the people and cover up some hitherto unidentified accomplices.

Now whether or not Adam had a long murky past of butchering human beings, the two crimes of killing Zainab and Hussn, at least confessed by him and confirmed in the German's experts' report, are strong evidence to prove that he is a serial murderer.

Many believe that there are some vested interests who are maneuvering to attribute the crimes on Adam alone to scapegoat him to cover up other accomplices. If we do not assume the truth of the existence of a racket to sell human organs, it stands to reason to assume that there are some corrupt officials in the security apparatus who have connived with Adam using him as a tool to a tool to facilitate the crimes. What supports this is what's the Iraqi's girl mother said

that once Mohammed Adam came to her flat accompanied by two officers to convince her about his innocence lend credence to this hypothesis. Now who are these two officers and why they are not being mentioned or summoned for trial? Misgiving about corruption prevailing in the security apparatus are further corroborated by the inhuman way in which they reacted to the repeated applications by the Iraqi mother who never submitted to their ruthless and often obscene remarks.

An identical case that strengthens this suspicion related to the repeated appeals of Hassan Al-Jarmozi whose daughter "Nuriah" was kidnapped 13 years ago on 12.11.1987. All these years, he has been desperately following the case up, but, to no avail. He was told that his daughter has been unofficially married to a police officer in Taiz. Strangely enough, the whole security apparatus has not yet been able to arrest the so called officer and produce him in the court. Now is this a dependable security apparatus that is shielding its people?!

On the other hand, it is heartbreaking to see the suspicious and stupid ignorance of the faculty officials and their lack of the minimum responsibility who so far have the nerve to hood wink the public about the case. There is no reason to believe that the faculty was not aware of Adam's nefarious deeds in the campus. One would wonder how he was permitted to work in it even after he was being fired.

The report of the Highest Council of Universities issued on July 3 was shocking, the report condemned the role of the media claiming that it has exaggerated the issue up. The report stated that Adam's deeds are criminal acts that could happen anywhere and in any other institution. The Council should have acceded to state of corruption that have taken roots in the faculty and that has culminated in these crimes. It should have humbly conceded the ignominy and humiliation suffered by students and the whole of the Yemeni society on account of the crime. It should have done that so as to absorb the massive anger of the people and to rebuild their trust and confidence in these institutions. Many families have already prevented their daughters from going to universities which are no longer considered sacred and safe places. How can our armchair officials heal this up?!

It is true that Adam was of a Sudanese origin. Yet, there is no reason to say that all the Sudanese are like him. Therefore, we should not change our attitude towards them nor should we hold them responsible for his crimes. Lots of people from Sudan have been living in Yemen for a long time as good brothers. Mohammed Adam is an exception that should never reflect on our mutual relationship with the Sudanese as a group of expatriates.

## RX-M70 Radio Cassette Recorder

### Specifications

- ◆ 18W (PMPO) Output Power
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- ◆ 4 Band - FM/MW/SW1/SW2
- ◆ AC Built-in/UM-1 Battery

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- ◆ قدرة خروج ١٨ وات (PMPO)
- ◆ مضخمات صوت ثنائية
- ◆ سماعات ثلاثية
- ◆ ٤ موجات - FM/MW/SW1/SW2
- ◆ مجهز للتيار المتردد /بطارية UM-1

# Improve Your English



Dr. Ramakanta Sahu  
Associate Professor  
College of Education, Mahweet

## I. What to say

### Visiting a doctor

**Doctor:** You said on phone that you feel giddy even in the mornings. What's the problem?

**Patient:** I don't feel active at all. I don't seem to have energy for any work. Moreover, I feel cheerless, inert and unmotivated due to general weakness.

**Doctor:** Do you sleep well? How many hours do you sleep at night?

**Patient:** I have disturbed sleep. I hardly sleep for three, four hours at night.

**Doctor:** Are you in the habit of taking a mid-day nap or siesta?

**Patient:** Yes, usually after lunch I take a nap for one hour or so.

**Doctor:** And when do you have your last cup of tea in the evening?

**Patient:** After supper, that is, around 9:30 p.m.

**Doctor:** You also smoke quite a few cigars, don't you?

**Patient:** Yes, I do.

**Doctor:** Do you eat well? How is your appetite?

**Patient:** I probably don't eat well. I don't have a good appetite. More than normal diet, I love fried food and fast food. I eat very low quantity of fruit and vegetables.

**Doctor:** Do you take regular physical exercise?

**Patient:** I have such a tremendous pressure of work, I am left with no time for exercise.

**Doctor:** But your health is more important than your work, is n't it?

**Patient:** Yes, I understand, but what can I do?

**Doctor:** See, you don't sleep well, you smoke a lot, don't exercise and take harmful diet. How do you expect to remain in good health?

**Patient:** What should I do?

**Doctor:** You can begin by taking your health more seriously. I'll give you a regulated diet chart. Follow the advise strictly and find time in the morning and evening for some physical exercise. Reduce the number of cigarettes and cups of tea.

**Patient:** Yes, doctor. I promise to strictly follow your advice.

## II. How to say it correctly?

### Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences.

1. Vakil is wiser than honest
2. I do not like these kinds of jokes
3. Death is more preferable than dishonor
4. My father has been sick for a very long time
5. Please open your book page twenty

### Answers to last week's questions:

1. Gold is the most precious of all metals
2. Fadl is the elder of the two brothers
3. Of Sana'a and Radah, the latter is smaller
4. Of Sana'a and Sadah, the former is a bigger city

5. This watch is superior to that

## III. How to express it in one word...

1. to hold oneself back from
2. something unreasonable, foolish, ridiculous
3. make a bad or wrong use of
4. of teaching, studying, schools, colleges, etc.
5. increase the speed of, cause to move faster or happen quicker

### Answers to last week's questions:

1. to have in great numbers or quantity: **abound**
2. to make shorter, especially by using fewer words: **abridge**
3. in or to another country overseas: **abroad**
4. go away with something suddenly, secretly aware of having done something wrong: **abscond**
5. forgiveness for past wrong doing as guilt: **absolution**

## IV.

### 1. Combine the following sentences into one sentence.

Mrs. Brown went to the store. It was a departmental store. She took back the coat. She had bought it the previous day.

### 2. Underline the correct verb-noun combination in each of the phrases given below. All your answers should be in relation to the standard of British English.

#### Do you

- a) do a mistake or make a mistake?
- b) make a change or do a change?
- c) make someone a favor or do someone a favor?
- d) take a bath or have a bath?
- e) make a deal or do a deal?

### Answers to last week's questions:

1) As a result of the meeting, the general strike was **averted**

C. avoided

2) I have long hoped to see a really outstanding film of one of Dostoevsky's novels, but so far I have been **disappointed**

- 3) a) 'Have you got a cigarette?'  
'Sorry I do not smoke'
- b) 'Hurry up', 'we're late'  
'I am coming.'
- c) Hamid has arrived while we were having supper as usual
- d) 'What are you looking for?'  
'I have lost my glasses. Can you help me?'
- e) 'Sorry, I'm late. I hope you did not wait long'

## V. Words of wisdom

"Nothing is impossible to a willing heart"  
—John Heywood

## "The Inner Voice: Whither Education?"

Ibrahim A. Shami  
Sana'a University

Most of Yemenis complain about corruption and maladministration, bribery, cheating at examinations, buying and selling in education and so forth. All these are just some manifestations of this multi-faceted corruption which has taken deep roots in our society. However, I would especially talk about the system of examinations in our schools and the evils of corruption in education. It is actually a very hazardous phenomenon that reflects the scary picture of a rather dark future awaiting generations to come as education is considered to be the corner stone of development in any society. I was shocked to see the horrible

state of affairs in schools during the examination days. I was present while exams were being conducted in the elementary and secondary schools in my district. I noticed a unique tactics adopted by students for cheating. Supervisors could hardly do anything to stop this. They, as told, were threatened to allow cheating in exams or else face dire consequences. This certainly created an atmosphere of fear and anxiety among supervisors. As it appears, some supervisors, soldiers, teachers, students, parents, and citizens have formed an unfortunate nexus for facilitating cheating in examinations. It really perplexed me much to see the sorry plight of students who are supposed, in years to come, to be the leaders of a better tomorrow.

They are the generation that we pin our hopes on to lead the process of development and progress in the country. How can we expect a bright future for the country with students and generations steeped in immoral practices? Is there any hope of redemption for building a good future and developing our country in the midst of such corruption? Thus it is no wonder to see corruption prevalent in almost all spheres of our society. Certainly these students when they grow up, will be as corrupt as the present corrupt band of officials. I was very pleased to listen to the president after signing the borders treaty with Saudi Arabia when he said, "Now the future duty is to fight corruption." I do cling to the hope that the beginning of this will be fighting the corrupt educational system.

# Comprehensive Happiness

**H**appiness is what everyone aspires for. It is this dream that impels people's actions. They work hard to collect money if they think that money brings happiness. They strive to occupy high political position of they believe that happiness is in being powerful.

They may lie, kill, steal...etc to reach what they think to be their happiness.

All these people are away from true happiness, because all of them misunderstand the purpose of life. Life is a combination of both happiness and sadness. Taking place in a cyclic manner. Happiness is followed by sadness and vice versa.

Youth, health, love, money, power and success are considered components of a happy life. These have been nearly neutralized by death, sickness, hatred, poverty, weakness and failure. It is therefore wrong to confine happiness to any one of these.

It is this contradictory nature of life that requires a willing reconciliation or adjustment to derive happiness. This adjustment has two parts: enjoying and enduring. A man should enjoy the happy parts and endure the sad parts of life.

Sad men are of two kinds. Those who enjoy the happy parts, but don't endure the sad parts; and secondly those endure the sad parts but don't enjoy the happy

parts. The first kind of people may, however, have some gleams of happiness in their lives.

The life of the second kind of people is completely sad and away from happiness they are so pessimistic that the happy parts for them are too fleeting to give any importance. Such men are inactive and continue to live without ??? anything meaningful

The reason behind the sadness of these two kinds of people is that they don't recognize the ways of life. Life is changeable. It keeps changing from happiness to sadness and vice versa. But these two types of people insist to live against the current of change. Being weak, they are always broken or disappointed.

The saddest man, however, that is the one who is sadder than the last two kinds, is the one who endures all the bitterness of life for the sake of enjoying one or two happy moments. He, for example, devotes all his life to collect money and gain

power. Thus he usually dies, suffering from all sad parts of life and occasionally enjoying one or two happy parts if he might achieve that.

Happiness is the balanced adjustment between enduring and enjoying. This definition is more practical than theoretical. Once you practice it, you can find yourself happy even if you are passing through the sad parts of life. Thus this definition stands in sharp contrast with the Christian belief that suffering is the central truth of life. It states that happiness emerging from self-adjustment to the happy or sad parts of life is the central truth of life. Adjust yourself to every thing, be strong and be happy.

Ali Al-Kaheli

## ERRATA

### Intercollege Literary Competitions

Short Story (Junior group)

- First:** 'The Moon' - **Ghania Noman Kauied Al-Warafi**, Level 2, Department of English, Ibb University.
- Second:** 'The Criminal' - **Fawaz Hadi Ali Materah**, Level 2, Department of English, Faculty of Education, Sadah.

Apologise for the inadvertent spelling error in her name.  
—Coordinator

# DIABOLIC IAGO

Prof. Siya Ram Rai  
Dept. of English  
University of Ibb

**S**urprisingly, Iago does not care even for his wife. He believes that no woman is virtuous at heart. This is one of the reasons why he hates goodness in men and women. He is an absolute egoist and goodness irritates him. There is no answer with Iago for all his manipulations against Othello. Iago is a master manipulator, possessing managerial skills of all kinds. I hold that Iago has no reasons to feel aggrieved. He suspects Othello to have seduced Emilia. He also claims that Cassio has been given undue favour in his promotion as Lieutenant over him. He lies in saying all that. He makes lame excuses for his villainy. Iago has a pathological jealousy of his wife, a suspicion of every man with whom she is acquainted. Bradley holds that Iago has no ill-will against Desdemona, why is it that he asks Othello not to kill her with poison, but to strangle her to death in bed? Obviously, he means a more painful death for Desdemona at the earliest opportunity, for every hour increases the danger of his exposure. Iago, in fact, hates Othello's eminence, his goodness, and his own dependence on him. There is no mystery in the psychology of Iago. Here, the mystery lies in the very existence of such a being on the earth.

The marriage of Desdemona and Othello is a shock to Iago because he can no longer get paid by Roderigo for assisting his suit with Desdemona. He also promises to help him in seducing her. Really speaking, Iago enjoys all sorts of feverish enjoyment. His blood races through his veins and he kills Roderigo. I do not understand who is Iago to promise Desdemona to Roderigo. Iago stands supreme among Shakespearean evil characters. Shakespeare uses the greatest intensity and subtlety of his imagination to

paint his villainy. This is more dreadful because this villain possesses supreme intellectual powers Iago has a diabolic intellect. He is a monster, not a man. He is supremely wicked, a villain par excellence. Iago is destroyed by the power that he attacked, the power of love. His wife betrays him for the sake of truth. Iago thinks that once Roderigo, Cassio and Desdemona are dead, everything will become fit and fine for him. Fortunately, he fails to kill Cassio and his conspiracy is shattered beyond repair by a simple blow from his own wife whom he never suspected. Iago, says, "What! Are you mad?" He forgets that Emilia loves her mistress and does not want to see her chastity and honour ruined. After all, she is also a woman. This unusual intellect with extreme evil is startling and frightful. It is rare but it exists in the world.

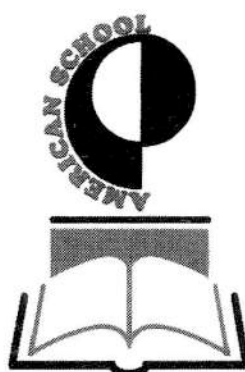
Othello never ceases to love the bride he murders. Rather he revives his love for dead Desdemona when he comes to know that she was innocent. We find that all other characters are reduced to fools against the absolute hypocrisy of Iago, who turns the incident of the handkerchief into a design. His jealousy is not pretence but "a raging torment". His villainy is not detected because no one is able to distinguish between appearance and reality. Iago uses animal imagery of ass, daws, flies, ram, hen, baboon, wild-cat, snipe, goats, monkeys, monster and wolves. His vulgar imagery and crude language such as "an old black ram is tupping your white ewe" and "were they as prime as goats, as hot as monkeys" speak volumes about his creed and base nature. One requires to write a separate article on animal imagery in *Othello*. His animal images are deliberately crude and explicitly sexual. Jealousy covers a wide variety of feelings but sexual jealousy becomes more fatal with fake suspicion and knowledge of infidelity. Love is not only sexual infatuation, it is more than that. Othello is so blinded

with passion that he can believe impossibilities. No act of shame has been committed between Desdemona and Cassio, but Iago has astonishing luck. It would have never entered his head to suspect Desdemona of infidelity but for Iago's conspiracy and villainy. Othello blames the arts of the demi-devil and his fate but he does not recognize his own guilt. Desdemona is seen acting on faith rather than knowledge. She loves Othello for the dangers he has undergone as well as for his adventurous activities done in the past. She loves the brave soldier in him. She loves his "autobiography" rather than him. Othello lacks experience of women and finds no reason to suspect Iago. He believes Iago more than his wife and this is the reason for his fall. Villainy has made Iago inhuman and base beyond description. To him, love is lust, nobility ostentation and honesty is hypocrisy.

Iago exercises his powers of corruption on a noble victim. We see a great General reduced into a puppet, the noble self-control driven into mad frenzy, a bold lover striking his wife in public and a loyal husband killing his wife whom he still loves. Othello kills what he loves because he thinks he can restore his honour by killing her. He commits suicide thinking that it is a sacrifice for his ideal of love. To him, it is an act of justice. Othello does not give Desdemona time even to say her prayers before death - this is something horrible, which we can not digest. Othello believes in love, in commitment, in nobility, in vocation and in absolutes. Iago believes in nothing and no one. To Iago, his profession is a trade. These two chief characters exemplify the two opposing forces, which constitute the human psyche. Iago is a malcontent - he is the corrosive that eats away love and trust. He is the spirit that denies - the most penetrating version of evil, who "publishes doubt and calls it knowledge". Obviously, once again "the worst returns to laughter". Even today, there are varieties of villains in the world. We can only pray to God to save us from their villainy.

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

The American School announces that registration for the new School year 2000-2001 during the month of July will be between 9-12 am Saturday - Wednesday.



For more information please call:

Tel: 417119

Fax: 415355

E-mail: AMERICAN@Y.NET.YE

# YOUTH FORUM

### I Loved You and None Else

There I see your heart  
Smiling on mine every time they meet.  
So, if there are two hearts, so closely tied  
Do not try to break their alliance.

There I see you smiling  
At my face all the time  
I don't know what it means

### Is it love or is it guile?

**Adil Ahmad Awdah**  
**The Sour Loneliness**  
Oh, my love, I finally have heard  
Your faint call as the singing bird  
Having waited for it so long,  
I have never listened to any song.  
Call once and once more, my dear love,  
And try to raise your faint voice

above.

Raise your voice to its very top most tone.  
I swear I'll never leave you alone.  
My life without you does not worth,  
To be lived even for a while on this earth.  
I have nothing else to say  
Only beg of you, come for a day.  
**Abdullah M. Saeed**

Mr. Tim Thomas, President and GM of  
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H.E. President of the Republic of Yemen,

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On the great occasions of the 7th of  
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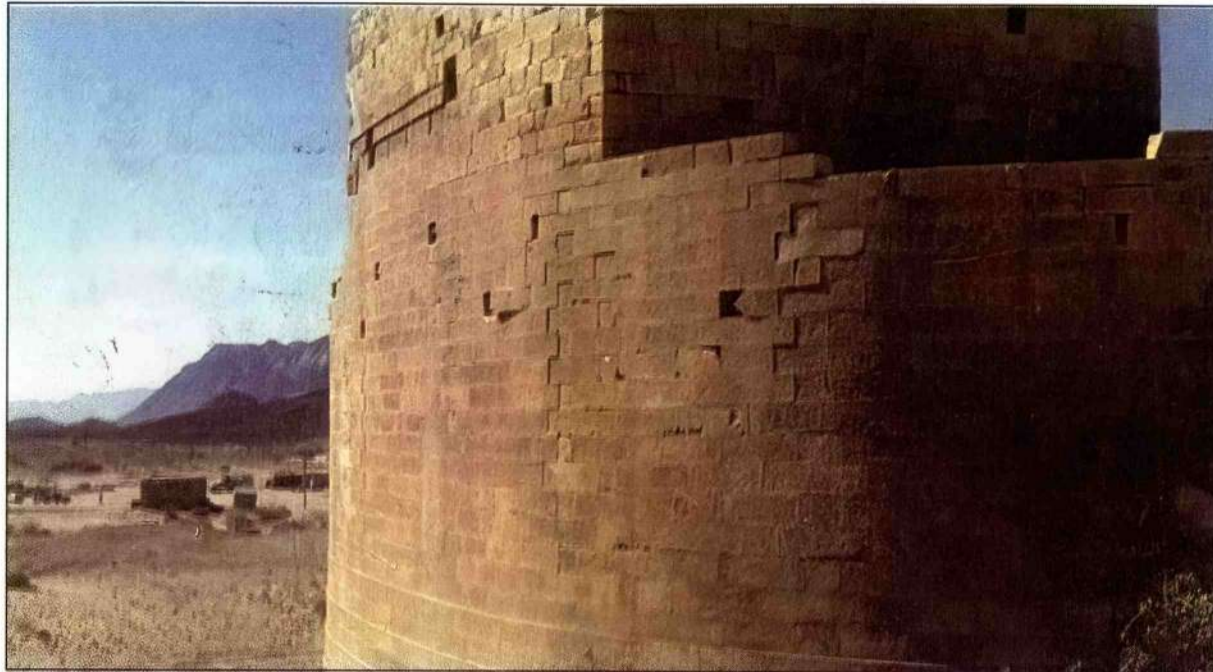
## Sirwah, Capital of A Great Ancient Civilization



Hassan Al-Zaidi  
Mareb

The Saba civilization is one of the ancient civilizations of history. Historians refer to its progress and achievements in architecture, water dams, palaces, agriculture and irrigation. Sirwah was the old Yemeni capital of Saba kingdom and its history goes back to the seventh or eighth century BC. The ruins of Sirwah are still to be seen there in the governorate of Mareb, around 70 kms to the east of Mareb city. The area of this historical kingdom spreads over 2.5 square kilometers.

Four quadrilateral palaces add wonder, beauty and mystery to its architecture. As with other old cities, it is surrounded by high walls to protect it from any enemy attacks or invasions. The remains of some parts of the walls show the impressive artistic sensibility of the peo-



ple who lived there and who had established that prosperous civilization. The temple of Sirwah is a first-rate tourist

attraction. With its seven large rock columns, it is situated in the eastern part of the city. In the middle of one of the palaces, there stand two very large rocks, one above the other, each measuring ten meters in length and two meters in width. The two columns bear inscriptions depicting one of the victories of the kingdom of Saba.

In the centre of the city, there is a deep well surrounded by large stones, representing their modes of worship, rituals and beliefs. Most of the ruins, tombs and underground vaults are still buried and need to be unearthed to shed more light on that civilization. The more you unravel

the glorious dimensions of that civilization the more proud you feel about it. Each stone used in building the palaces weighs around 35 tons. That shows that they were quite strong people with will and determination. As the nearest mountain to Sirwah is 100 kms away, they might have used the same techniques and methods as the ancient Egyptians when the latter built the pyramids. When one talks about the Yemeni civilization, one should take into account the fact that Yemen is the cradle of civilization in the Arab peninsula for three thousand years. The achievements of those great builders will never be forgotten.



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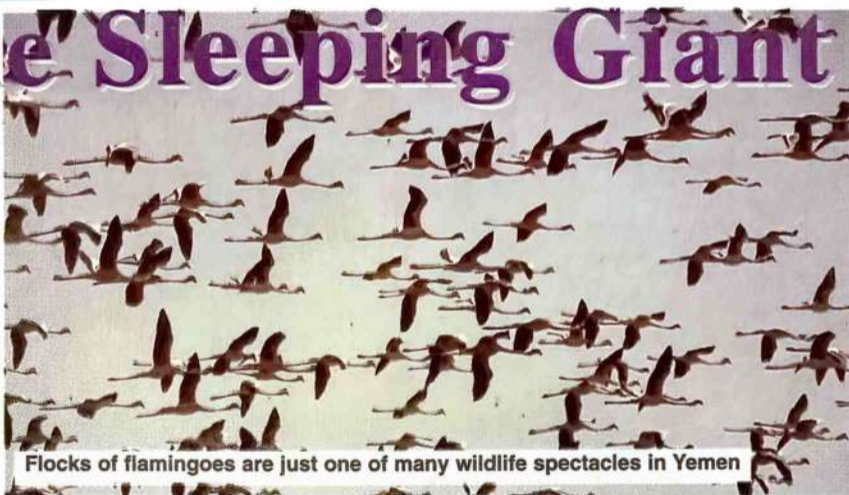
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## Ecotourism, The Sleeping Giant

David B. Stanton  
Chairman  
Yemen Ornithological Society

Tourism in Yemen has never achieved its potential for a variety of reasons; chief among these being questionable security. Recently, the number of tourists visiting Yemen each year has numbered only a few thousand. Prior to 1998, tens of thousands of foreign visitors annually toured Yemen, but under the right circumstances this number could easily climb to over 100,000. Such an influx of visitors would contribute millions of dollars in foreign revenue to the national coffers and provide employment for thousands of

Yemenis. Before tourism in Yemen can grow, several things must happen. First of all the government has to take decisive action to insure that potential tourists can feel safe in Yemen. Doing this involves addressing the grievances of the tribes that are most likely to take tourists as hostages, providing comprehensive security in sensitive areas, and dealing swiftly and justly with those who violate the law. Once security is established, aggressive marketing of Yemen as a tourist destination will have to take place. Finally, it will be necessary to develop new tourist niches in



Flocks of flamingoes are just one of many wildlife spectacles in Yemen

order to attract a larger cross-section of the tourist market.

One of the least exploited tourist niches in Yemen is 'ecotourism.' Ecotourism is tourism that is sustainable because it doesn't degrade the resource. It is centered on the environment in a way that involves communities so that local people benefit from the activity. It also benefits wildlife directly and indirectly. The World Tourism Organization states that ecotourism is the fastest growing sector of the tourist industry and that it currently accounts for 10-15% of the world tourism market.

So far very little has been done to develop ecotourism in Yemen, but the potential is huge. As a result of geographic isolation, a wide range of habitats, and Yemen's unique position at the junction of three biological regions, Yemen hosts thousands of plant and animal species. Many of these are endemic and live only in Yemen. Wildlife watchers from all over the world would each be willing to pay thousands of dollars for a chance to see Arabian Woodpeckers, Yemen Monitors, and other rare Yemen wildlife if only they knew that it was possible.

Because of ecotourism's potential, the United Nations, the Environmental Protection Council, and the General Tourism Authority have joined hands to promote ecotourism in Yemen. Among other measures, they have established the ecotourism department within the General Tourism Authority. Non-governmental organizations are also getting involved. For example, Millennium Relief and Development Services, an environmentally oriented NGO from the United States, is producing a guide to ecotourism in Yemen with World Bank Support.

Much else needs to be done in this sector before ecotourism can achieve its potential in Yemen. This includes the development of infrastructure and the training of local wildlife guides. The process has started though, and the day is coming when ecotourism becomes a significant contributor to the national economy.

Wadi Ahjar has a permanent stream which is attractive to both wildlife and tourists.



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