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# YEMEN TIMES

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As Bizarre as Can Be...

## JAIL DISCOVERED IN SANAA UNIVERSITY!

Following instructions by President Ali Abdullah Saleh, Hussein Mohammed Arab, Interior Minister, accompanied by Abdulwahab Al-Radhi, Capital Secretariat Security Director, Mohammed Naji Allaw, Chairman of National Authority for Defending Human Rights and Liberties (NADHRL), Civil Society Organizations and some journalists launched a campaign to check detention pending investigations and private jails in the Capital Secretariat. The campaign visited seven prisons during which the lack of health services, prevalence of diseases and overcrowding were what struck everybody's eye. It resulted in the release of some of prisoners who were illegally detained. But what was the most shocking and unbelievable discovery was that of Sanaa University's private jail, which is expected to raise a lot of debate and public concerns.

In a statement to the Yemen Times, Mohammed Naji Allaw, NADHRL chairman talked about the goal of the campaign and said "The campaign was launched to check some Detention Pending Investigations in the capital secretariat following a report issued by the NADHRL about violations of human rights in Sanaa University. The campaign also aimed at checking the way by which Law Enforcing Authorities deal with prisoners in these prisons and investigating other private jails which are considered against the effective laws. So far, we have visited some prisons and it was clear that in some prisons some pressing measures are to be taken to improve their condition. However, some other prisons are convenient and up to the standard."

The words of Mr. Allaw say it all, "To our dismay, we came to find a private jail in Sanaa University. The private jail was a container located in the campus of the Faculty of Legislation and Law." Continued on Page 15



On top, the jail (container) discovered in Sana'a University

On the left bottom, Sana'a Security Office Director along with lawyer Mohammed Naji Allaw investigating into the cases of prisoners

On the right bottom, some prisoners



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### Zindani Prohibited from Leaving the Country, and Sahwa Attacks YSP

Tension between official media, controlled by the PGC, and that of the Yemeni Congregation for reform (Islah) is still a beast in the bay. In new developments in the official campaign against Al-Zindani, the Ministry of Information asked last Wednesday for-bidding him from leaving the country until he is brought before court for the complaint raised against him by the Ministry staff.

According to official sources, a number of cooperative societies are planning to raise a case against Al-Zindani for illegally seizing land pieces surrounding Al-Eiman University and making them part of the university. The attorney general has referred the complaint of the Ministry to the West Secretariat Capital Prosecution which is expected to summon Al-Zindani for interrogations in two days, informed sources said.

Sheikh Al-Zindani is presently the head of Al-Shoura Council for the Islah party and President of Al-Eiman University. During 1993-1994 he was a member of the Presidency Council. His relations with the government worsened after the ejection of the Islah



from the ruling coalition in 1997. He started criticizing the government openly for normalization with Israel. This was followed by his refusal to take part in the latest presidential election last December. Away from exchanging accusations with the PGC newspapers, Al-Sahwa began last week to involve the Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP) as part of leaders of the campaign against Islah. Sources close to the two conflicting parties expect conflicts to reach climax in nearby future. Political observers have noticed the absence of leaders of the two parties, President Saleh and Sheikh Al-Ahmar in the conflict. In his speech delivered before students of Al-Eiman University two weeks ago, Zindani attacked journalists and the government for keeping silent against what he called as abusing God's identity. On the other hand, Minister of information, Mr. Abdul Rahman Al-Akoa criticized Al-Zindani last Monday in his meeting with journalists. The Yemen Times has met with a number of journalists and politicians and asked about their opinion in connection with the conflict between the two parties.

More on page 5

### Al-Shoura Released

The Committee for Political Parties has recently recognized the Yemeni Popular Forces Federation as a political party that has the right to practice its activities in society. Chief editor of Al-Shoura, mouthpiece of the party, said that the paper would come back again to political life, next Sunday. Al-Shoura newspaper was closed down on September 19, 99 by orders of the Ministry of Information on grounds that the party was not recognized by the Committee for Parties. During this period the paper had been published within other papers such as Al-Wahdawi, Al-Thawri, Al-Ummah and RAY, in addition to its site on the internet.

### Extraordinary Success of the STC Festival Results in a Week's Extension

The tremendous success of the Sana'a Trade Center's 2nd Shopping Festival resulted in a decision made by the administration to extend the period of the festival one more week. Hence, the last day of the festival will be August the 14th, on which the final draw for the first prize (an automobile) will be held. The great number of participants in Yemen Times Competition also led to the newspaper's decision to extend the competition for an extra week in order to enable all the readers to try their luck in winning the prestigious awards of the competition.

More about the Success of the Festival on P2

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### Tensions mount in Al-Gawf

Thousands of Dahm tribesmen are gathering in Wadi Alyatmah, in Al-Gawf governorate near the Yemeni-Saudi borders. The Dahm tribe which includes Dho Heen, Bani Nawf and Hamdan tribes, demand compensation for the land that according to the Jeddah treaty belongs to Saudi Arabia. Dahm tribesmen claim that the land belongs to their tribe and that nobody else has the right to deal with it.

Following the signing of the treaty between Yemen and Saudi Arabia, the tribe issued a statement rejecting any appropriation of their land, threatening that the tribe will defend its land. Clashes broke out between the tribe and forces from Brigade (14) which tried to disperse the crowded tribesmen last Monday and lasted for about 5 hours.

Tribal sources have affirmed that tribesmen were still on alert. In a telephone conversation Sheikh Yahya Al-Shaif said that he met with the President last Saturday but did not talk about what he had discussed at that meeting. Tribesmen demand compensation for

their land and this does not necessarily mean that they are against the treaty, he added.

Yemeni Minister of Interior met last week with his Saudi counterpart and discussed ways of demarcation of borders. On the other hand, copies of the treaty were Saturday handed over to Mr. Kofi Annan UN Secretary General and Dr. Ismat Abdul Majeed, Arab League secretary general.

### Number of Oil Fields Increase to 63

In a press conference held last Tuesday, Minister of oil and mineral wealth indicated that after signing the borders treaty between Yemen and Saudi Arabia a new oil map was drawn in which four oil fields were added in the 30,000 sq km northern area. By this the number of oil fields has increased to 63.

He declared that after signing the treaty many companies are sending offers to the ministry to obtain excavation concessions, while they used to turn down proposals when they were asked to do so, adding that the ministry will choose the best tender submitted.

"The ministry will draw up plans to make a mutual use of the fields located along the borderline. Late in August Western US Geo-physical Company will conduct seismic surveys in the first stage in the Arab Sea along Hadramout and Al-Mahrah shore up to Sukatrah over 80 thousand km2. In the second stage, the company will conduct the survey on the marine areas from Aden shore to Abyan and Shabwah. If the survey's results are positive, the area will be divided into blocks.

The overall production in the five fields is 492 thousand barrels per day and that there will be 30 thousand barrels which will be produced by the end of this year. About metals he said that some companies had discovered gold, nickel, platinum in the country and that evaluations are made in order to announce reserves. In this context, the ministry will send representatives to South Africa to have an idea about agreements signed with companies on such occasions, the Minister added. Contracts with companies are expected to commence from the mid of next year.

On the subject of Aden refinery he pointed out that a thorough plan for its development had been outlined. The plan will be presented to the cabinet next month, he said.

He added that oil income raised to US\$ 910 million in this year in comparison with US\$ 495 million last year.

### Faris Saqqaf, coordinator of INCYA

Dr. Faris al-Saqqaf had been elected coordinator to the Islamic National Convention for the Yemeni Arena (INCYA) with Dr. Mohammed al-Maqaleh as his deputy. A statement issued by Future Studies Center (FSC) said that INCYA members held a meeting last Wednesday, discussing current developments in Yemen and approved a working program for the coming period. The meeting was attended by distinguished political figures: Abdulwahab al-Aansi, Mohammed Qahtan, Jar-ullah Omer, Abdulmalek al-Mikhlaifi, Abdulqadoos al-Midhwah, Abdulkareem al-Khaiwani, Yehya Mansoor abu-Asbu' including al-Saqqaf and al-Maqaleh.

Islamic National Convention is headquartered in Beirut and groups Islamic dignitaries from various Arab countries.

### New Political Party Established

Mr. Abdulwali Al-Bahr, Secretary General of the Social Green Party informed the "Yemen Times" that Political Parties' Affairs Commission had last Wednesday licensed to his party. "The Party's objectives are concentrated on a number of social service,

social partnership, preservation of environment and cleanliness and taking care of trees as symbol of greenery, and rational population policies plus eradication of illiteracy," Mr. Bahr said. So far 22 political parties are licensed to operate in Yemen as part of political pluralism.

### Woman in Marib Attempted Suicide

A married woman in Marib Province last Thursday attempted a suicide by firing three shots into her chest. She is now admitted at the Military Hospital there and her condition has been described as very critical. The suicide attempt came following rejection by her husband to divorce her. Her application for divorce entered its second year. Since 1994, seventy-four cases of suicide have been recorded in Marib, all resulting from social conditions in form of matrimonial or divorce problems.

### Camp for Female Scouts

A day-long camping was held last Tuesday at al-Rayad Camp for 100 Scouts and school girls from the Capital Secretariat schools. The program included setting fire, erection of tents, music, sports competition, drawing and handicrafts.

The activity was attended by local, Arab and foreign women scouts leaderships. Faten Hamood, Head of Yemeni Guides told the "Yemen Times" that the camping was aimed at instilling the spirit of command in the guides and teaching them collective work.

The Guides Association is understood to be preparing forums and arranging camps for students scheduled for the coming few days.

### Media People File a case against Zindani

Official media, Radio, TV, Saba News Agency and all employees of the Ministry of Information have filed a suit against Sheikh Abdulmajeed Al-Zindani, Chairman of Al-Islah Shoorah Council and Al-Eiman University following the strong attack which he launched against the Ministry and journalists in his last Friday Sermons. He described them as atheists and renegades.

To support their case, the plaintiffs have submitted a number of Zindani's recorded cassettes which contained several sermons delivered in the past. Plaintiffs said that all Zindani's recorded sermons would be copied with the purpose of publishing them in form of a brochure. These recordings depict his stand towards the Constitution, Unification and other issues.

### Failure in Safer Floating Tank

Official sources mentioned that a technical failure on board the floating tank "Safer" sailing in the Red Sea, offshore Ras Issa could have caused a huge fire had the fault not been detected in time. It is not known whether any damage has virtually occurred.

The sources said that the Minister of Oil & Mineral Resources, Mr. Mohammed al-Khadem, moved to the area together with Ministry and Hunt engineers to be close to the incident.

The floating tank which supplies fuel to ships has a loading capacity of 4 million barrels pumped from Safer in Marib to Ras Issa. Any defect could have been catastrophic.

The source further said that sale and pumping of oil was not effected; but would not specify the size of loss, if any. It only said that the Minister issued his instructions for maintenance and provision of ancillary tanks.

### Al-Hikmah in the foot of Al-Thaqafiah

Press and Publications Prosecution summoned last Saturday Mr. Mohammed Hussain Haitham, chief editor of Al-Hikmah Magazine to hear from him in connection with the case filed by Ministry of Information for publishing a story by Ahmad Ghaleb Al-Jormozi. It has been said to have contained insults against God's identity. Mr. Haitham will be produced before the Justice next Wednesday.

### Dutch Expert Killer Sentenced to Death

Held last week, the South West Court of the Capital Secretariat sentenced to death the killer of the Dutch expert, John Dairak Paul and the chairman of small enterprises, Mohammed Ali

Haider, four months ago.

The killer, Abdulrahman Ibrahim Aljedi, has already confessed the murder during the sessions held in the court. The killer claimed to have had killed the two for the sake of 'Jehad' and that the Dutch expert was a disbeliever who used to spread infidel beliefs. However, he said that he killed the manager of the project as he did not heed his pieces of advice to return to Allah. Ridiculously enough, he called upon the judge to acquit him. However, the judge stated that the Islamic religion does not sanction the killing of non-Muslims living on Islamic territories.

### GSM Agreement Signed

Licensing of the GSM mobile phone project was signed here last Saturday (July 29) between Eng. Ahmed Al-Aansi, Minister of Telecommunications and Mr. Hameed Abdulla Al-Ahmer, Chairman of Sabaphone Management (SM). It is understood that SM is composed of Al-Ahmer Trade & Industry Complex, Egyptian Telecommunications Orascom Co., Hellenic Telecommunications Helascom and the Consolidated Contractors Company. It is expected that the service shall resume in Sana'a four months after the signing of the license. Initial year investment is \$50m to reach \$130m during the next four years.

### Chess Championship Over, Nadhmyah Wins

Finally, Yemen's woman representative in the Lebanon chess championship was announced last Thursday to be Nadhmyah Abdul Salam after she outsmarted her opponent Adylah Raweh 2/1.

Following her victory, she announced that she would do her best to achieve good results in her first participation outside Yemen.

### Yemen & Saudi Arabia Set Border Time-Table

Yemeni Interior Minister, Hussain M. Arab and his Saudi counterpart, Prince Naif expressed total agreement to work as one team in the process of implementing the Yemeni-Saudi border treaty. That came after meetings in Jeddah last Tuesday. The two ministers had agreed on a time-table and practical steps to implement the border treaty signed between the two countries last June. A military committee has set up a time table for the relocation of troops deployed by both countries along the border. As for the technical committee it has specified the terms under which a firm would be selected to demarcate the border. It is to be mentioned that the border accord covers 1,500 km in land and sea borders.

### Corpse Found & Father Kills Son

Workers digging at the site of a new building found a well-packed and welded barrel which they believed to be holding a treasure. Security sources in the Capital Secretariat found the barrel to be containing a decomposed body of an unknown man. Investigations are going on with the residents of Al-Khair and Al-Sallam streets in Al-Sanina zone; particularly with the welders. Meanwhile in Amran Province a father killed his son as a result of dispute on his marriage. The son beat his father who, in turn, stabbed him to death. In Sanban area of Dhamar Province a person killed his father and two of his brothers in a dispute over land heirship. This month's crime statistics show a considerable rise in murder and accident cases in all governorates mainly in tribal areas.

## Meeting to Discuss Blasphemy Campaign

Attended by of a number of local and foreign correspondents the Minister of Information, Abdulrehman Al-Akwa', last Monday bitterly attacked Sheikh Abdulmajeed Al-Zindani, Chairman of Al-Islah Shoorah Council. Speaking at a meeting at the Journalists' Union headquarters, the Minister said: "Zindani has not spared a single abusive and indecent word in his orations against my Ministry and myself as well as all media men." The Minister disclosed that his Ministry intends to file a legal suit against Zindani for his attacks against him personally and his Ministry.

The "Yemen Times" put three questions to the Information Minister. His reply to two ques-



tions were too short while he escaped the third question. In the first question the Minister was asked to elaborate reasons for the attacks which the official media have been hurling against the citizen: Al-Zindani; thus violating his rights. The second question was over his Ministry's attitude towards the legal

cases filed against "Al-Nas" and "Al-Ahya Al-Arabi" newspapers for publishing news stories of "Al-Thaqafiyah" weekly trial.



Through its third question, the "Yemen Times" wanted to know why there was not any independent media pluralism after ten years of Unification.

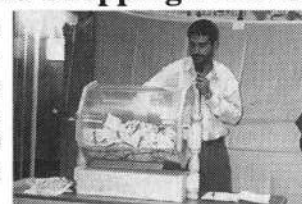
Most questions put to the Minister by the correspondents were on "infidelity" and media exchange of accusations between the ruling GPC and the YRC. However a specific question on the indulgence of Sheikh Omer Ahmed Saif as a party in the conflict was brushed off by the Minister.

The Minister looked as if trying to dominate over the meeting and win the favor of the attendants by offering himself as a man who can tackle all their problems. The attendants agreed among themselves to fix a date for meeting the Minister over their problems when he said: "We are not infallible because, after all, we are human beings."

Meanwhile, the Minister of Awkaf (Endowments) is to hold a similar meeting at the Journalists' headquarters.

## Great Success of STC Second Shopping Festival

Activities of the STC Second Shopping Festival have been a great success so far. Many participants have been sending their answers to take part in draws on different lucrative prizes. So far, three draws on prizes estimated at YRs 200000 have taken place. These were held last Monday, Thursday and Friday.



On the other hand, the center administration announced that the draw on the first prize, 2000 Hyundai Automobile would take place on Monday, August 14. Either Participants or their representative must attend the event. Unless the winner is available, his coupon will be canceled. As far as the Yemen Times competition is concerned, participants are not requested to attend because they come from different governorates.

## Yemenia Joins Naseem in Ring

Yemenia-Yemen airways have lately managed to sign an Advertisement & Publicity Agreement with the Office of Prince Naseem Hamed Kashmeem, the World Featherweight Champion, wherein, it has been agreed that Prince Naseem along with his companions will be wearing Yemenia Ad T-Shirts while



entering the boxing arena and during and after the bout. Yemenia has also managed to reserve space for its advertisement on any one side bumper of the boxing ring arena in the bouts to take place during the course of one year. Advertisement and publicity through such grand events would seriously enhance and boost Yemenia's promotional activities worldwide.

Yemeni will get its first exposure into effect during the boxing event that will take place in the USA in August 2000. Furthermore, Yemenia announced its off-late renewal and updating of the fleet by relying mainly on the wide body modern aircrafts and also changed the strategic planning from depending on the historical market, into penetrating the international market potentials of carrying passengers from different points of the world by using special prorate agreements with international carriers besides carrying passengers via Sanaa to several destinations served by Yemenia. This policy has proven to be very successful and in return, Yemenia

achieved almost 30% increase of traffic and sales during the 1st Quarter of the year 2000 as compared with the corresponding period of 1999.

Also Yemenia has lately added one more flight to Frankfurt and still following-up with the French authorities to add one more flight to Paris. Effective 21 August 2000, our operations to Damascus will be twice weekly and Yemenia is studying the possibility of increasing its flight numbers to Beirut as well as to resume operations to Kuwait as also to Far East mainly Bangkok and Jakarta.

In general, Yemenia is planning to have minimum 2 flights weekly to every destination in the network as well as to improve the standard of service and to keep up its 'on-time' performance. Hence, achieving a record number of operations, a record that has never been reached before.

It is worth mentioning that the increasing number of flights of Yemenia made it decide to increase the number of Yemen Times issues distributed to its passengers three folds and to further strengthen its unique relation with the number one English newspaper in Yemen, Yemen Times.

All the above achievements have been on the background of Yemenia's new young management team, whose members work in complete and perfect harmony.

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Explaining the importance of weapons for tribes, Sheikh of Jahm to YT:

## “I strongly object to disarming tribesmen under the current conditions”

**I**t is well known that the tribal system in Yemen has a deep rooted existence in the Yemeni community, and has great influence on the country's administration and future. Tribes have existed in Yemen since more than 2000 years ago. It is also known that relationship between many tribes in Yemen with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) is fairly strong. After all a good percentage of the Yemeni population, especially in northern areas, actually descend from tribes that are still in existence today. Hence, when saying that Yemen is a tribal country, it may be in some sense true, as most of Yemen's affairs are run by individuals who have great respect for their tribal background.

However, following the adoption of democracy and the emergence of political parties, the tribal system as an identity, became weak as a result of political affiliations, but continued to be of significance in traditional and social aspects.

However, on the other hand, in recent years, tribes were mostly linked to terrorism, chaos, and lawlessness because of the increasing number of kidnappings that took place in the 1990s. Even though this is true, but is not necessarily a reason to accuse them of terrorism and lawlessness. Tribes do have their own sets of rules, and do not in any way abide by what the government wants them to do. They have their own lands, their own regulations, their own style of life, and their own traditions.

To shed light on the tribal reality in the Yemeni society and tribes' relations with the state, Hassan Al-Zaidi of Yemen Times met with Sheikh Abdullah Mohammed Taoiman, Chief of Gahm tribe, the biggest tribe in Mareb, a governorate known for its strong tribal heritage and influence, and made the following interview:

**Q: How do you assess the relationship between the tribes and the state?**

**A:** The tribe is a social structure governed by a set of prevailing conventions, traditions and tribal norms, and it is part and parcel of the Yemeni overall society.

The prevalent tribal norms and traditions are the factors that regulate and govern the relations among the tribes of Marib. The same factors also govern those relations with other tribes, and thus was the relationship between the state and the tribes until 1990. That year marks the adoption of democracy and political pluralism as an approach by the political leadership. These have weakened Sheikh's authority, cracked their unity by dragging them to a conflicting political life and shaken relations between tribes and the state.

In the past, when a problem arose between a tribesman and the state, the state would summon the Sheikh for smoothing things down. What happens today is just the opposite. Sheikh's have been unable to manage their affairs with tribesmen nor those with the state. Nor political parties have been able to solve their members' disputes and problems. The mechanism of tackling tribal affairs by the government is a failure and parties in our tribal life have turned to be a big hoax. We are a society that has its own norms.

**Q: What, in your opinion, is the reason for the continuing conflict between tribes and the state?**

**A:** They are many. However, let me stress that conflicts and political conspiracies began to appear after

1990 for the same reasons I have already mentioned in a way that has affected Sheikh's authority. Consequently, tribes' power as well as its role in society got weakened. Some tribesmen found salvation in resorting to a certain kind of actions to ensure solutions to their problems. Ironically, some of these problems are easy to solve, but are deliberately exploited by some officials for personal purposes to make a lot of fuss about them. Unless the President intervened in many disputes, there could have been disasters.

**Q: What do you think are the motivations for the kidnapping incidents?**

**A:** Following up a case in courts, nowadays may make you sell your property in pursuit of a solution to your problems. This has created a certain kind of tribal resentment, leading in the long run, to some acts of sabotage such as kidnapping foreigners or piercing oil pipelines. Unfortunately, the way those actions are tackled is wrong. Bombing the whole area to which one of the kidnappers belongs creates more enemies to the state. In fact, I do not call them saboteurs, because they are obliged to carry out such actions to squeeze out their rights.

**Q: Why don't you use your authority to solve their problems?**

**A:** We make every effort to solve them, but some are beyond our control.

**Q: The state says that kidnappers' demands are always unreasonable. What is your comment?**

**A:** As far as I am concerned, I haven't heard about any unreasonable demands.

**Q: How are problems solved?**

**A:** Problems that reach the President are quickly settled down under his directives. Others might be postponed or neglected.

**Q: Do you think that problems are created by clandestine powers?**

**A:** Absolutely not! I do not believe that. I have already mentioned the reasons. Added to them are unemployment, corruption in government offices, marginalization of the government, wrong actions committed against the people here, etc.

**Q: How did you react to the borders treaty signed by Yemen and the KSA? How about your personal relations with the Kingdom? What has been your role in connection with the treaty?**

**A:** Personally speaking, I have been working for a reconciliation between President Saleh and Saudi kings and princes. I am very glad to see that what I have been looking forward to has really come true. The treaty is a great achievement for which leaders of the two countries deserve all gratitude.

As far as our relations with the Saudi kings and princes are concerned, they have been deeply rooted since our childhood. These relations are based on love and our gratitude. They are very generous with us not for political purposes or interests in Yemen but rather because they know the hardships tribal leaders encounter, especially in solving problems. It is to be



stressed that such donations are not only presented to Sheikh's of the eastern areas but to all Sheikh's in the peninsula.

**Q: Don't you think that such donations to Sheikh's will be cut someday?**

**A:** On the contrary. Aal Saud are not helping us for personal purposes. They are rather following the footsteps of late King Abdul Aziz (may God bless him.) Being generous with Yemeni Sheikh's is not connected to hidden aims. Everybody knows that and the President himself knows it as well.

**Q: Does the government pay your areas their due attention?**

**A:** I think that Mareb is placed at the bottom of the states priorities. Although it is a historical city and rich with oil, it lacks many basic development projects. I can attribute this to a number of reasons chief among which are shortcomings in outlining the development plans and the absence of officials from eastern areas in the decision making positions. The government, unfortunately, is still dealing with the governorate pursuant to a criterion based on the size of population, disregarding its vastness and spread of its residents in all its districts.

**Q: What about your relations with the local authority?**

**A:** Ex-governors, except Dirhem No'aman, showed no enthusiasm about providing services projects for the city. We do pin hopes on the newly appointed governor, Dr. Saleh Sameeh who has demonstrated more understanding of the city's needs.

**Q: Blood revenge has recently involved many of the governorate's tribes. What do you think are the reasons?**

**A:** They stem from disputes over tribes boundaries, political conspiracies to play havoc with tribes' financial and military abilities, etc. Tribes have begun to realize this fact and conflicts have lessened.

**Q: Why does the state deploy a many troops in the governorate?**

**A:** That was a result of some events like those of Sirwah. However, the state has adopted this policy before and it did not lead to a break through. Had money spent on those forces been spent on services projects in the governorate, there would have been no acts of sabotage.

**Q: People of Mareb are used to carrying and possessing weapons. How did you receive the law of people's disarmament?**

**A:** Weapons are a tribal tradition that tribesmen keep to defend themselves in case of any aggression. Tribes can not comply with this law

because they need to protect themselves against other tribes.

I, once again, stress that tribes have become more aware of consequences of conflicts. What they need is more security and stability. When they feel that they can travel to any place in Yemen with no fears about their safety, they will be the first people to disarm themselves. They are even ready to put aside the Jinbia which is part of the Yemeni tradition. Otherwise, I strongly object to disarming tribesmen under the current conditions. Some tribesmen work in the army. If a military man sees an unarmed enemy from another tribe,

that military man may not hesitate in using his army weapon against that enemy. So why disarming others?

I agree with prohibiting arms in the main cities such as Sana'a and Aden because it is an uncivilized behavior. Arms must be kept inside cars, for example, when entering such cities. There are certain specialties which must be considered.

**Q: How do you foresee the future of the local governance in the governorate and others controlled by the same traditions and norms such as Al-Gawf and Shabwah?**

**A:** It depends on the state's sincerity in this regard. Some tribesmen are educated and university graduates who can manage affairs of their areas. I will not agree if it is based on parties. I am against parties because they breed conflicts and conspiracies.

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### Jamela to participate in Parliament 2000 in Sydney but...

Jamela Abdo Yehya Al-Dorani, student at the Commerce Faculty, Taiz University, was selected to participate in the Community Aid Abroad Oxfam Australia at the International Youth Parliament which is due in Sydney, Australia from 19-28 October 2000. Jamela will take part in the parliament as a delegate & speaker of Yemen.

All travel expenses of Jamela will be covered by IYP2000. However, the only problem Jamela faces is that she can not travel alone by herself. She has to be accompanied by her father according to conventions and norms of our society. Jamela seeks help for facilitating procedures for the company of her father in her trip.



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# Blasphemy and the Plight of the Yemeni Intellectuals

**Mohammed Hatem Al-Qadhi & Jalal Al-Shra'abi**  
Yemen Times

**Dr. Abu Bakr Al-Qirbi**  
Head of Political  
Department (PGC)



First I would like to stress that Muslims unity is an Islamic duty. Great Islamic scholars call for avoiding divisions of Muslims.

Therefore Muslims should avoid accusing each other of blasphemy. This does not mean that they should overlook any insults against Islamic beliefs. We are in an Islamic country that is very proud of Islam and is ready to defend it as well. However, this should be based on strong backgrounds. If anyone gives himself the right to be the prosecutor and the judge, we will indulge ourselves in division and fanaticism. All Yemenis are strong believers and are willing to defend their religion. So, there is no need for Muslims to indulge in useless wrangles.

Freedom of thought should also affirm a real commitment to respect religious beliefs. This commitment does not necessarily mean restraining freedom of thought, but rather ensuring Islamic moral and humanitarian values.

In my opinion, nobody, party, organization, or government has the right to impose his or its opinions on others. Unfortunately, some Islamic preachers at our time ignore the Islamic teachings because they have turned to politics. Muslim scholars, unfortunately have become ostracized for saying the truth which does not please others. Restricting the Muslim's mind will lead to more backwardness. So, we have to let our minds the freedom to be creative and challenge the western mind without violating our values and religion.

We do not need violent reactions. What we need is just implementing the Islamic teachings. Offending others helps spread hatred which we do not need to feel in our Muslim society. So, we have to determine where the mistakes are and tackle them reasonably and through the legal system.

The state should shoulder the greatest part of responsibility to protect the country against conflicts and sedition and take the necessary steps to protect

Muslims from the political conflict. Media and mosques should work together to strengthen unity among Muslims and be instruments for unity, understanding and flourishing values. Islam is the religion of all Yemenis and all will stand up to defend it.

**Mr. Nasser Yahya, Chief Editor of Al-Sahwah, mouthpiece of the Yemeni Congregation for Reform (Islah)**

The present debate is part of the intellectual conflict witnessed in the whole Islamic world over the past century between the Islamic identity and westernization. The conflict is intended to turn the public's attention away from a problem that has taken place in the country. Abusing Islamic figures and our religious beliefs is forbidden because it is considered an insult to all Muslims.

The other side does not accept this idea, thinking that freedom of opinion has no limits and it allows even abusing holy things.

Away from our intentions, let us benefit from this experience to establish more civilized traditions in settling down our disputes by resorting to courts.

About if the case has other dimensions I think that the forthcoming days will reveal motivations of each side. As far as I am concerned, I affirm the base of the movement I belong to which is rejecting any attempts to insult our religious beliefs.

I wonder why the campaign is directed against Sheikh Al-Zindani, while there are personalities from the PGC who are joining him in rejecting the abuse of our Islamic beliefs.

**Nasser Taha Mostafa**



The blasphemy campaign is against Al-Yosufi not against the other journalists or newspapers chief editors. It was an extremist reaction and a counter-extremist one. The situation should return to normal. The campaign against the Al-Thaqafiah and its chief editor did not come from nothing. This does not mean that I approve it. On the contrary, I announced solidarity with Mr. Sameer after he apologized for republishing that paragraph that blasphemed against God.

In my opinion, accusing people of blasphemy suggests incapability of

dialogue. On the other hand, offending sanctities in the name of creativity and freedom of thought also suggests failure to achieve popularity in the proper ways away from dealing with holy matters illogically. I hope that this crisis will be the first and the last. I wish that every party will find a time to see what happened in an objective way in order to avoid such behaviors in the future.

**II. Extremist behaviors, disregarding the source, will limit freedom of thought and expression. Blasphemy has not become a dominant phenomenon yet. It is not more than an abnormal practice, just like that of offending sacred beliefs. Both practices do not pose a threat to freedom of thought and expression at the moment, but they rather raise dust that soon will disappear. We should be aware of its immoderate expressions and thoughts that affect freedom of thought and expression and nothing else.**

**III. These parties should be partially responsible to resist any extremist thoughts or expressions. They should guide, oversee the experience and work to improve it. It is unreasonable that they side with one party at the expense of the other. Extremism of whatever source should be refused. At the same time, they should stand against all attempts to offend our sacred beliefs.**

There should be limits for freedom of expression and thought that should not be trespassed. Secular as well as religious extremism should be resisted by intellectuals and civil society organizations.



**Abdul Bari Taher, former Editor-in-Chief of Al-Thawri newspaper.**

Those who lead this campaign use the 'sacred beliefs' as an excuse for other political purposes. They want to divert the public's attention from the present security disorder and the crime in the College of Medicine.

Yemenis are unable to protect their rights and their political life. They hide themselves behind curtains of holy beliefs whenever they find themselves in an intellectual confrontation. This indicates that those who lead the campaign of blasphemy hold no respect for God.

Everybody is responsible for defending the sacred and holy beliefs. It is not the responsibility of an individual that preaches in a mosque.

**Abdul Malik Al-Mikhlaifi, Secretary**

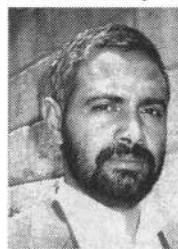
**General of the People's Nasserite Unionist Party.**



I think that the campaign is taking political dimensions. We are against touching people's sacred beliefs on grounds of freedom of expression.

However, nobody has the right to install himself a judge in this matter. The talk about creative works and what abuses religious beliefs may create a sense of misunderstanding, leading others to intervene in the freedom of expression for political purposes. The novel, which the Al-Thaqafiah republished is taught in schools and universities and is available in all bookshops. So, the newspaper did not do something wrong. On this occasion, I openly say that I support Al-Thaqafiah and its pioneering role in society in terms of reviving the cultural life and encouraging the young creative people to show their abilities.

**Mohammed M. Al-Maqaleh, Political analyst.**



I read 'Sana'a: an Open City' by Mohammed Abdul Wali twenty years ago. I can not recollect if it really impinges on religious beliefs or not. Anyhow, what

is allowed and what is forbidden should not be judged by politicians. The campaign against Al-Thaqafiah and its chief editor is an intended political battle aiming at turning the people's attention away from issues that are of concern to them. They try to get people support them by creating religious excuses such as defending the religious beliefs. One wonders, why now. Why haven't they moved a finger against the novel during the past 30 years since its publication. Why didn't they say a word against it when it was made into a radio series on Sana'a radio.

I wonder if there is something more important at the present time than the kidnapping, raping and killing of our 'daughters' in the college of Medicine. Why haven't such mosque preachers raised a memorandum and called for revealing the accomplices of the criminal?

I strongly urge upon all organizations concerned with rights and freedoms to support freedom of expression and oppose the campaign against it and which looks to be more politically

than religiously motivated.

**Hassan Al-Odeiny, Chief editor of Al-Osboa, independent.**



I was in London when I read in Al-Hayah newspaper about the campaign against Al-Thaqafiah for republishing of 'Sana'a: an Open City' by M. Abdul Wali. I did not think it was led by Al-Islah party. I rather thought that it was an individual opinion of its secretary general, Mr. M. Al-Yadomi. I told myself that it was a cloud that would pass soon. Many reasons made me think of this. First, Mr. Abdul Wali is a great novelist and pioneer of the Yemeni short story who demonstrated great abilities in literary writings at a very young age. Had he lived longer, he could have been a great literary figure in the Arab world.

Second, 'Sana'a: an open City', was published in 1974, and since then it has been studied and translated into foreign languages. Neither a critic nor a reader has during more than quarter a century said that it contained what impinges the Divine identity. Third, the novel is an artistic work which is a field for critics to read, discuss and not to prosecute. As far as politicians and preachers are concerned, they work in other domains. Forth, the Islah has struggled during the past few years to present itself as capable of coping with 'democracy'. Fifth, the Islah comprises knowledgeable people who know that God's supremacy and sacredness can not be touched by what people say or do. New developments have showed that

other political forces are involved in the crisis.

Islamic leaders have issued a memorandum threatening what they described as 'apostates'. It was no surprise to find that signatures included people from the Islah and the PGC. The case is likely to have political dimensions. I wish that the President would intervene at least to confirm what we say to be a democratic development in the country.



**Dr. Faris Al-Saqqaf, Chairman of the future studies center, ex-member of Islah.**

We should look at the blasphemy campaign from different angles. There are people who think that what has been published touches God's sacredness. Then they wrongly reacted without dialogue or giving advice, supposing their good will. After that the issue took different dimensions which are, in my opinion, part of the conflict between Islamic movement and its opponents.

I believe that such matters should be carefully studied. People should not be in a hurry in their judgments.

The case has been politically exploited at a time we are approaching the parliamentary elections. On the other hand, the other side tries to put others in the position he wants in the next phase.

Exploitation of the case has been very clear now. This is what the political purge will show in the forthcoming days.

## Border Agreement: Why is It a Legend?

**Ali Saif Hassan**  
Nasserite Party

I was surprised at the absence of Saudi diplomats or residents during the symposium. I do not know if they were not invited or they did not want to come. If the latter was the reason, it means that they are not ready yet to interact with the Yemeni civil society and non-governmental organizations.

I will try to find answers to three questions; what's happened, Why it's happened and what next. The first is the simplest. An examining view at the new map will tell us that the size and boundaries of Yemen has been identified to be more than half of the Yemeni region. In other words the area of the State of Yemen has from June 12, 2000 exceeded somewhat half of Yemen's region.

The Imam, when marking the border lines dividing the two countries compensated that with a number of articles that controlled the relationship between the two countries. There was no sense of such a compensation in the 2000 treaty.

In response to why it happened, which is more difficult, I will begin with the statement of Dr. Al-Iryani in which he described the event as a legend. I wonder why he called it so. I am sure that Dr. Al-Iryani is clever and scientific in his judgments. He has a Ph.D. degree from an American



university in agricultural economy and his knowledge depends on Science and scientific methods! I think that he called it a legend because it needs no justifications. Legends need not to be explained. When he was asked why that happened, he fenced with the question. This does not mean that he did not know the answer. He knew it. May be he felt that it was not good for Yemen to say it.

According to the information beforehand, Yemen suffers a weak economy, lack of economic and natural resources, population explosion, corruption, political crises, all of which suggest that Yemen in the future will be weaker than today. One wonders, why Saudi Arabia agreed to sign the treaty now while it could have waited for the weaker tomorrow of Yemen which may guarantee more privileges in its favor.

I think that, it feared that Yemen might be weaker to the extent that it would be unable to sign the treaty.

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## Yemen: Forging a New Consensus

Despite the achievement of political stability and recent economic improvements, Yemen remains one of the poorest countries in the world. A recent OED study found that the country continues to be hobbled by serious water shortages, rapid population growth, and a wide gender gap, but has limited institutional capacity to deal with these issues. Although assistance from the International Development Agency (IDA) has become more relevant and has had a greater macroeconomic impact in recent years, there is considerable room for improvement. Before 1995, IDA lending to Yemen was limited, primarily because of political and economic instability, and the results were modest. Since 1996, IDA assistance has increased in scale and scope. IDA should now focus on removing obstacles to private sector growth, improving water management and development, closing the gender gap, and strengthening governance in the country.

### Background

Thirty years ago, the social indicators for the area now known as Yemen were among the lowest to be found anywhere in the world. Only one in ten adults was able to read, and just 5 percent of the population had access to safe water. Although progress has been made—literacy rates are now just over 50 percent for males and safe water is available to more than half the population—Yemen's social indicators still place it among the poorest countries in the world. The Yemen of today was created by the fusion of two countries with different political and economic orientations, the Yemen Arab Republic (YAR) in the north and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDY) in the south. Their union in 1990, prompted by a desire for economies of scale and the need to cooperate in developing oil and gas reserves, was followed by a period of political instability and severe unrest, culminating in a civil war in mid-1994. Yemen also inherited serious macroeconomic imbalances and suffered further shocks, including a precipitous drop in foreign aid; a huge influx of returning workers following the Gulf War, which led to increased demand for services just as their remittances ended; and a punishing two-year drought. Yemen had unsustainable budget and balance of payments deficits, a high inflation rate, and a heavy debt service burden. In 1995, with the realization of political stability, the government undertook an ambitious program of structural reform, reduced the fiscal deficit, liberalized interest rates, and restricted increases in the money supply. Inflation was reduced, and real, non-oil growth increased, although the economy remains highly dependent for 70 percent of government revenues in 1995 on oil exports. A World Bank study found that only 19 percent of Yemenis live in poverty today, a remarkably low figure compared with countries with similar per capita purchasing power parity. But social indicators, including life expectancy, infant mortality rates, child malnutrition, school enrollment rates, and access to safe water and sanitation show that the standard of living for a large portion of the population is still low. In addition, there is a pervasive gender gap, as evidenced by the bias toward educating boys, elevated mortality rates among female children, and fertility and maternal mortality rates that are among the highest in the world. In spite of Yemen's economic and social needs, the country received relatively little attention from the donor community over the 1987-96 period. Net cash grants declined from an average of 18 percent of total government revenues in the 1980s to less than 2 percent in the 1990s. Official development assistance (ODA) averaged less than half that received by comparator countries; only Nepal had a lower figure. IDA net disbursements, which represented about 13 percent of Yemen's total ODA flows, were also comparatively low.

### Challenges to Sustainable Growth

**Water.** Yemen has long suffered from water scarcity, and shortages continue to intensify. Yemen's supply of renewable

water—one of the lowest in the world—is being overexploited at a rapid rate. Government has been unable to regulate, price, or distribute water efficiently, or to arbitrate among competing demands, such as urban versus rural needs. In addition to the negative health effects of lack of access to safe water and sanitation, Yemen's future economic viability will depend on the availability of a minimum supply of safe water at reasonable cost.

**Sources of Growth.** Yemen depends heavily on oil and natural gas production and workers' remittances, which account for one-third of the current account foreign exchange receipts. The long-term challenge is to develop other, non-energy-related, and more labor-intensive sources of economic growth and exports. There is potential for growth in fisheries, tourism, and provision of trade and transport through the port of Aden. To increase activity in these areas, however, government must remove a number of perceived and real constraints to increased private sector activity.

**Governance.** In spite of reforms, the government continues to fight the perception of weakness. The civil service is overstuffed and underpaid. Private foreign investment, apart from the petroleum sector, has been negligible, largely because of governance issues. The situation is complicated further by the political and military strength of the tribes, which are not always on good terms with the central government.

**Population Growth.** The historically high population growth rate of 3.7 percent challenges Yemen's natural resource management and employment opportunities and makes it difficult to improve the overall standard of living. A more recent estimate points to a decreased growth rate of 2.7 percent, but this still implies a doubling of the population in just over 25 years.

**Importance of Qat.** Over the past 20 years, the demand for qat has increased continuously, and production has risen apace. The young leaves of the qat bush are chewed to induce euphoria and suppress appetite, and it is widely consumed on a daily basis by most Yemenis, including women and some children. Qat is of considerable social importance; business and political decisions are often made at qat sessions. It is also of substantial economic importance. Although its export is banned, about 90,000 hectares are given over to qat cultivation, which represents more than half the area devoted to cash crops. It contributes approximately 25 percent of GDP, employs about 16 percent of the labor force, and transfers income from urban consumers to the rural producers. Nevertheless, qat carries considerable negative welfare implications. Use by pregnant and lactating women is likely to lead to underweight babies, higher infant mortality, and malnutrition among young children. A 1992 survey revealed that even families below the poverty line spend about 10 percent of their income on qat.

### Past IDA Assistance: Modest and Unsatisfactory

Until 1996, IDA assistance to Yemen was modest in size and scope, and overall outcome was marginally unsatisfactory. All support was in the form of investment lending that focused on agriculture (for integrated rural development, with an emphasis on constructing irrigation systems), education (to train teachers), and infrastructure (primarily to build road networks). IDA's investment strategy during this period was constrained by difficulties in portfolio implementation, a lack of strong government commitment to economic reform, political uncertainty, and IDA's inability to engage in policy dialogue with the government. Lending lacked a strategic focus and clear set of priorities, and little attention was given to the government's limited ability to maintain investments.

IDA's strategies within sectors were diffuse. Efforts to increase girls' school enrollment, for example, were ad hoc and supply-driven. The program concentrated on increasing the number of female teachers, but equal attention was not given to providing schools that girls could attend—for instance, schools that were close to villages, with separate toilets for the girls and boundary walls for

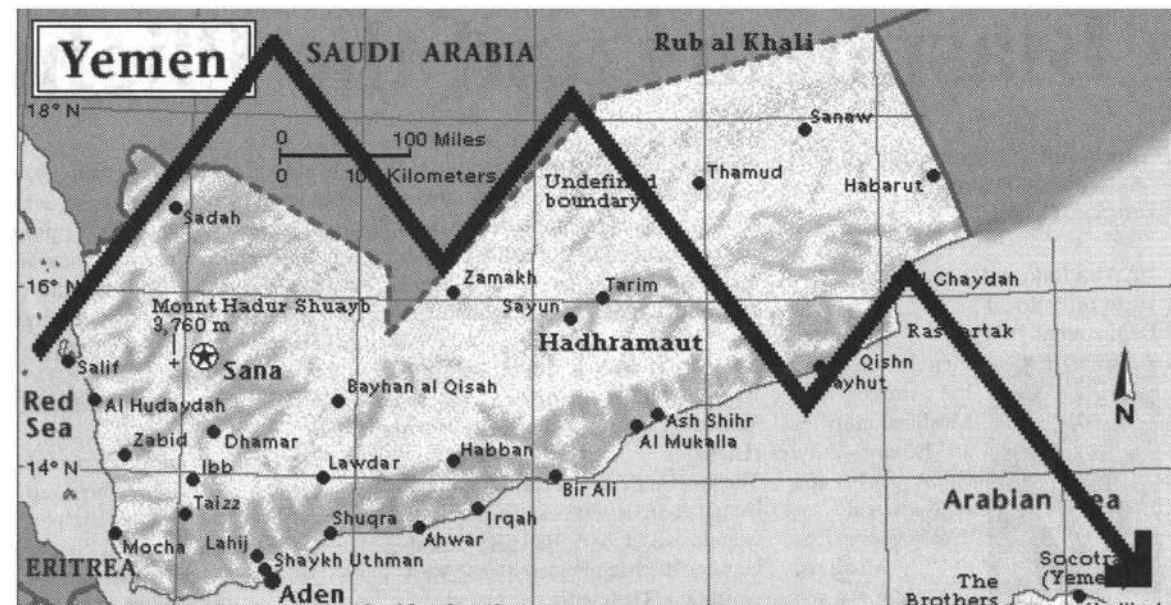
privacy. In addressing water resource management early on, IDA also gave mixed messages. The emphasis was on physical infrastructure; little attention was given to institutional issues, such as the degree of decentralization of national water authorities. As water shortages grew more imminent, IDA's actions became more relevant by focusing on the underlying causes, and in the past five years IDA has made an effort to address water shortages at the national level.

OED ratings of 83 completed projects show a high proportion of satisfactory outcomes compared with averages for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Region, for comparator low-income countries, and for the Bank as a whole. But ratings for institutional development and sustainability have been low, and sustainability of IDA assistance was frequently raised as a concern by government officials and other observers. Government officials frequently mentioned difficulties in maintaining the physical assets—ranging from irrigation systems to teacher training centers—built under IDA-financed projects. The Development Effectiveness Index (DEI), a composite measure of ratings of outcome, institutional development, and sustainability, is higher for Yemen than for comparator countries during FY90-98, but below those of MENA countries and Bankwide averages. IDA's impact at the macroeconomic level was negligible, largely because of an absence of policy dialogue and structural adjustment.

### Recent IDA Assistance: Better, but with Room for Improvement

In relevance and consistency, recent IDA assistance has been satisfactory. Once political stability was achieved in 1996 and the government showed commitment to structural reform, IDA assistance increased in scale and scope. Total annual commitments increased to \$120 million, compared with average annual commitments of \$48 million over the previous decade. Indeed, in many respects 1996 represented a watershed year for IDA assistance to Yemen. The first Country Assistance Strategy—focusing on stabilization, structural adjustment, social protection, sustainable natural and human resources development, and portfolio implementation—was presented to IDA's Board of Directors. A Resident Mission was established. Adjustment lending was initiated, along with interventions to mitigate the impact of the adjustment on the poor.

Between 1995 and 1997, Yemen restored stability and resumed economic growth, efforts bolstered by IDA assistance. But recent strategy and lending assistance, although largely satisfactory and more relevant than in the past, are



still not sufficiently selective and are at risk of becoming diffuse. The sustainability of economic growth and other successes is uncertain; the price of oil, the linchpin of Yemen's economy, dropped precipitously in late 1997 and has remained low. Project lending has included activities that might be justifiable on their own grounds, but do not answer urgent, top-priority needs, and sector work and lending assistance have shown inconsistencies. IDA has given too little attention to identifying constraints to private investment and growth, and assisting the government in removing them.

### Lessons and Recommendations

Yemen faces enormous challenges. Assistance to the country can be improved, however, if IDA establishes priorities in its future assistance strategy that are consistent both within and across sectors and focuses on ensuring the sustainability of its assistance. That means strengthening the capacity of appropriate agencies, reducing the complexity of project design, building broad consensus for reforms, allocating adequate resources during planning, and protecting vulnerable groups. Future IDA assistance to Yemen should focus on several key areas: growth, water resources, the gender gap, governance capacity, and consensus building and the social safety net.

### Promoting Growth

With the achievement of macroeconomic stability, the next step for IDA is to identify measures that will ensure long-term, sustainable economic growth. Sector work should identify administrative, legal, regulatory, financial, logistical, and other constraints to private sector growth. IDA management can then consult with the government and other stakeholders, including donors, to determine an agreed strategy for dealing with them. Reforms and investments could be supported by a program of assistance using a variety of instruments—adjustment lending, technical assistance cred-

its, institutional development grants, and learning and innovation loans.

### Supporting Water Management and Development

The scarcity of water is a growing problem and must be addressed. IDA has done solid sector work, identifying the issues and potential solutions. IDA's assistance should focus on strengthening the capacity of the institutions responsible for water management, as well as on the financing of badly needed infrastructure. IDA assistance could also benefit from better internal monitoring, to ensure more consistency across sectors and projects. IDA should establish a water group—including all IDA team leaders, project managers of ongoing and prospective projects that involve water and sanitation, and team leaders from the other donor agencies—to ensure that investments, arrangements for operating and maintenance, and the approach of each project are consistent with the overall strategy and approach agreed on with the government.

### Addressing the Gender Gap

The impact of IDA projects in fostering the full participation of women and girls in the economic and social development of Yemen has been modest. Although many of the constraints to their full participation have been identified through sector work, the piecemeal approach employed thus far has been insufficient. Because of the considerable potential synergies across sectors, priority should be given to increasing female literacy (education), improving the health and nutritional status of women (health), and improving women's access to extension services and inputs (agriculture). A community-driven approach should be used to ensure that targets and project designs are supported by the women themselves. IDA has successfully employed such a strategy in other countries—innovative programs in Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan can provide examples of good practices. IDA should support the involvement of a broad range of sources

to deliver services to women and girls, including government ministries; non-governmental organizations; and grassroots, community efforts.

### Improving Governance

The sustainability of development efforts depends on the willingness of those in Yemen, from the national government to local communities, to maintain the investments and operate the systems put in place. So far, the record is not good, largely because of the low level of governance. IDA is currently supporting reform of the civil service, the judiciary, and the financial sector, but has yet to address the important areas of public expenditure reform, strengthening of the government's safety net programs, and pressing sectoral challenges, such as those in health, education, and water resource management. IDA can also take a significant step toward improving governance in Yemen by dropping the use of the autonomous Project Implementation Unit (PIU), which disbands when a project has been implemented, undermining the very sustainability IDA is seeking. Instead, IDA should coordinate with other donors and integrate the PIU function with the ministries and other public bodies that will be responsible for maintaining the investment when the project is complete. It would also be useful to focus on fewer subsectors and geographical areas in individual projects to render them more manageable.

### Consensus Building and Protection of Vulnerable Groups

It is essential that a broad, national consensus be achieved on behalf of reform, and that protection be provided for vulnerable groups during the process. These elements are of particular importance in the context of proposed privatization, civil service reform, and subsidy reductions, steps that will necessarily bring reductions in family incomes.

Source: Operation & Evaluation Department, World Bank

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# Charitable Societies Role in Addressing Poverty

Yasser Mohammed Ahmed  
Yemen Times

As a sociable being by nature, man cannot tolerate to live alone and away from others. The rapid social development and growing emergence of free economy resulted in governments' discarding of their usual responsibilities towards their citizens. They are no longer taking direct responsibility for providing their citizens with services such as job opportunities, medical care, free education in addition to others. All these have widened the gap between various segments of the society leading to emergence of wide economic disparities. The area of poverty has also been growing larger and larger day by day. Communities found themselves obliged to exert every effort to catch up with those fast social and economic developments, to find solutions to multitude of problems, mainly poverty. Thus several societies have been established adopting charitable social goals to curb or at least encounter poverty. An incredible number of charitable societies have been established in our country, all adopting the aim of combating poverty. Some of these confined their activities to assist women while others showed interest in children. True, the aim of all these societies was noble in their strive to reduce the effect of poverty but some have failed and no longer exist. Some of the causes are that they have set for themselves targets too far to accomplish.

In an attempt to know more about these organizations in our country,

Yemen Times has compiled a comprehensive reportage on these societies and conducted interviews with some who are in charge.

Mr. Othman Adam Othman, Coordinator of the Rural Culture Project at the International CARE Organization in Yemen, defines poverty as "a state which describes relative failure in feeding a person or persons or a group of persons compared to satisfaction of relative and necessary part of life needs," adding "To describe poverty depends on culture of the society where groups and individuals are living and their sense of the degree of satisfaction felt by those groups and individuals." Mr. Othman further says that "culture of a society means the kind of clothes they put on, and their homes and furniture as well. "Poverty does not mean only the inability of food satisfaction, but rather the entire cultural life," he adds. He divides the poor into three categories:-

- Those who want to rid themselves of their poverty. They have determination, spirit of initiative and ideas,
  - Those who have the willingness preparedness but have neither ideas nor spirit of initiative. Such persons need to be helped.
  - Those who have neither ambitions nor ideas. They need great efforts in psychological and social awareness.
- Mr. Othman also proposes to have a training composed of relevant parties and donors. Its task would be maintain relationship with voluntary groups before setting up its board. The unit shall be responsible for training the board or service committees on mechanism of executing the projects. He has also praised the NGO's role in reducing poverty in our country. All the societies adopt common programs aimed at limiting negative social phenomena. They exert great efforts for that end but they also face many difficulties, particularly those truly aiming at getting rid of negative phenomena. The big societies that managed to achieve successes are rather facing some surmountable difficulties.

Escaping any blame on her Union, Mrs. Sallamah Mohammed Saleh, Secretary of Cultural and Information Affairs at the Yemeni Women's Union in Abyan Province, was too quick to complain saying: "Poor women themselves would not like to absorb the necessity of their role in the development process. This very reason deepens the society's backwardness and leads to widening of the scope of poverty." She bitterly noted that people here got accustomed to "ready-made" projects without contributing to bring them to success. But her counterpart in Mukalla, Hadhramaut Province played that old boring record which always sings: "No money." However she suggests that financial arrangements should always precede founding any society. Chairwoman of the "Challenge Society For the Handicapped", Jamala Al-Baidhani, believes that qualifying and training is her Society's problem. "Through these we can produce active members to enable them play their role in general life," she said. She appeals to charitable organizations or individuals to visit her Society and offer support since the administration is doing its best despite the fact that they are handicapped themselves. Meanwhile Blandeine Desterima, Researcher at the French Center for Yemeni Studies noted that the large number of societies necessitates high-level and effective coordination

among them. "It is high time projects of productive nature in all fields have been implemented to enhance the feeling of social and living safety by the poor," she said.

In this regard, Basma Al-Qubati, Chairwoman of the Social Society for Family Development, said that a workshop for NGOs in different provinces was held during May 13-14 this year under the motto "Societies' Participation in Alleviating Poverty". The purpose was to exchange expertise on NGO's effect in this respect to broaden scope of discussion. The aim was also to initiate a dialogue between NGO'S and authorities on how to realize a joint effort for alleviating poverty and draw up an Arab strategy.

Despite their problems, some societies were able to offer the best they could. For instance, "Al-Amman Society for the Blind" qualified and trained 18 of its female students at typing and eight others in the field of administration. This society also provided medical care for its members and distributed clothes and foodstuffs to them also. On the other hand, the "Challenge Society for the Handicapped Women" was able to train a large number of handicapped women for office jobs and held exhibitions for its members' products. Meanwhile, "Martyr Fadhl al-Halali Institute for Blind Women" was able to open a fully equipped dormitory for its students through donations. It receives students from various parts of the Republic. The Institute accommodates 65 blind women who are engaged in woolen crafts, typing and other activities.

The government has been aware of the growing problem of poverty. It submitted a strategic national project to alleviate poverty, but it is still under study between the government and the

UNDP. The project admitted the vital role of NGOs. It aims at merging all policies and efforts in one integral plan. We should not forget the "social insurance net" that has been introduced to alleviate poverty. As a part of a policy of supporting the poor, the State has a "Social Care Fund" and a "Program for Supporting Productive Families." The roles of both the Ministry of Endowment and "Wajibat" section of the Income Tax Authority are also remarkable.

Despite all these efforts the number of citizens who fall under poverty line is increasing day by day. The social insurance net never solves their problems. Alleviation of poverty calls for

finding job opportunities for the poor so that they are converted into productive families, able to sustain themselves. All charitable and voluntary NGOs continue to be a source of hope in combating dire poverty, provided their objectives are coordinated, credible and discernible. A booklet, in form of an annual report, will assist in disseminating their real functions and extent of their success in the society.

No doubt, the Ministry of Social Welfare is bound to facilitate and not to choke the activities of these NGOs so that they are able to play their basic role in development and in service of society.

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## Workshop on Women's Participation in Local Elections

Munir M. Saeed &  
Sahar Hassan Naji  
Aden

Over three consecutive days, July 22-24 2000, the workshop on Women's Participation in Local Elections" was held in Aden. The workshop was organized by National Women Committee's branches in Aden, Abyan and Lahj. It was also supported by the American Embassy. The event was attended by the American Ambassador, Barbra Bodine and the cultural attache Dr. Chris Eccel. The workshop focused on activating the role of women in electoral process as voters as well as candidates which can be achieved through educating them and raising their awareness to their rights. It also aimed at qualifying them so as to stand them on a better stead. Women have also to learn about the basics and special standards pertaining to elections either in the local councils or in parliament. Th Yemen Times met with key figures and made the following report on the importance of women's participation in local elections.

Dr. Chris Eccel, the cultural attache at the American Embassy said that it is a very good beginning because the women were able to discuss basic issues like the local administration for women. He also observed that it was very good for women to share experience.

Mrs. Nadiyah Mohammed Ka'ed



Fatima Al-Haj



Kublah Saeed



Khadija Awad



Nadiyah Aghbri



Chris Eccel



Ahmad Al-Kutubi

Aghbri, ex-candidate for the Parliament, said "Meeting discussions were good. There are many women interested in their candidacy. However, what they need is support. We discussed how to support women in the elections and how to enhance their participation in political as well as social life. Moreover, we made use of senior women's experiences. I do call all parties to support women who are qualified and give them a chance to participate in the development process of the country."

Mrs. Khadija Kasem Awad said "Women's participation in elections is not only important to Yemeni women. Rather it is a regional concern as well. However, it is important to develop women's awareness to their political rights. At present, there are many opportunities before women, but the hard economic situation is the reason behind their absence from the political life. It is our duty as educated women to encourage and support women's participation in elections as candidates and voters."

Mr. Ahmad Mohammed Al-Kutubi, MP, said "The workshop was beneficial to all the participants. Besides many papers were presented and discussed. Moreover, some women have

already been MPs and therefore, the participants could make some benefit of these experiences. I feel that recommendations of the workshop will be of great importance to promote the women's role and position in society. We hope that they will be successful in the ensuing elections."

Regarding woman's experience in the parliament, he said "If we take into account woman's experience in the parliament during 93-97, we will find that this is a positive step forward, though their number was not that big. However, we expect that women will have strong presence in the upcoming elections, especially as there will be local elections at the level of districts and that there will be a local council in each province.

Mrs. Kublah Mohammed Saeed, NWC organizer, Abyan branch, said "Women in Abyan are playing important roles in the social, cultural, educational and health aspects. The activities organized and reported in the media bear testimony to this. We pin high hopes on what will be put into action of the recommendations of the workshop. An important issue that was discussed in the workshop was that women are to learn more and more about their rights so as to struggle for them."

Mrs. Fatima Saeed Al-Haj, NWC coordinator, Lahj branch, said "The NWC is interested in many topics related to women. Our branch holds many activities either in towns or villages. We aim to develop women's awareness of their rights. We also

organize seminars, workshops and meeting discussions to deal with many political, social or cultural issues of interest to women.

This workshop was deemed a success for we discussed one important issue which was the local administration authority and how we can enhance women's participation in the coming



elections. I hope that the recommendations will come up with some mechanisms through which women can reach the stage of decision-making."

Regarding the situation of women in Lahj, she said "Lahj is in need of a strong support from the local authorities. Women should be given opportunities to attain the position of decision-making. Women should make their presence felt in important positions so as to help move the development process of the country."

The workshop had come out with a number of decisions and recommendations including the NWC's coordination with parties at all stages to encourage women in the upcoming electoral process. The recommendations also called on all NGOs and parties to activate the role of women in the society and to continue exerting efforts to give them a chance to participate in the elections as voters as well as candidates.



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نتقدم باحر التعازي للإخوة خالد وعمر محمد الخالدي  
لوفاة والدهما المغفور له بإذن الله

العميد / محمد صالح الخالدي  
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العقيد الركن / محمد حسن الجباري، العقيد / علي محمد الهمداني  
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**Words of Wisdom**  
*"Character development and moral strength are two elements which would help the regime grow out of its many problems. If our rulers and their proteges were to show more self respect and dignity in their interaction with the public and the nation's resources, I believe more citizens would accept their authority."*  
 Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, (1951-1999)  
 Founder of Yemen Times



## Our Opinion

BY WALID A. AL-SAQQAF

### The Judicial System, First

Most of the foreign investors I met so far, complain of the absence of a strong unbiased, decisive, and efficient judicial system. Today, as we are reforming our economy, encouraging investment, and as quoted in a statement for President Ali Abdullah Saleh "starting to build the state of law and order", we should concentrate on the judicial system and how to reform it. "If there is no justice, there is no freedom." This is what is mostly thought of among the Yemeni population, as if they are pointing out the significance of a strong judicial system, and complaining about the miseries and injustice they face when being in courtrooms and under the mercy of corrupt judges.

Islam is a religion that concentrates on justice and enforcing it. However, it is quite a surprise to find that an Islamic country like Yemen, with a 100% Moslems, and a strict Islamic conservative society is away from what Islam called for, and seems rather obsessed with continuing corruption in the judicial system.

It is quite common to notice that (some) judges demand bribes from their clients in an open matter and relaxed manner as if it is a normal thing. The salary raise that the government implemented for judges in an attempt to prevent corruption among judges was not enough, as one prominent lawyer says, "A YR 100,000 monthly salary would never prevent judges from bribing people, as judges spend 5 to 10 thousand rials a day on qat. I do want them to realize that they should implement strong measures against such judges rather than increasing their salaries."

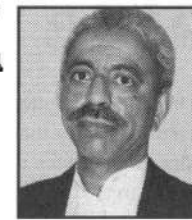
If a country lives without justice, without any doubt, it is destined to failure in providing the people with the utmost service equally and without any shortcomings. President Saleh should be the first person who starts a campaign to see how people stay in courts for years and decades in trivial cases, simply because the judges and lawyers are corrupt. He should begin strong measures against corruption in the courts where transparency and justice should always prevail.

At least, for the sake of the Yemeni economy, important steps should be taken to stop a bunch of judges from ruining the national economy because of delaying cases and making decisions that are not based on law and order, but rather on their own interests.

# COMMON SENSE

By: Hassan Al-Haifi

## Yemen Looses A Great Scholar



Day by day, we are seeing much of that was good in Yemen slowly disappear from us, leaving nothing it seems for our children to become attached to. Surely, Yemen is bound to have a break from this dismal and obvious disregard for heritage, as we find our links with a long tradition of scholasticism disappear. What is taking its place is not at all that refreshing and is not at all anywhere near what the old school of theology produced in Yemen.

The revered Ahmed Mohammed Zabarrah was one of the outstanding religious scholars of our time, if not the top of the line. Yemen used to have plenty of scholars who were brought up not only to uphold the religious teachings of the Koran and the Prophet Mohammed (peace of Allah be upon him) in their original and unadulterated form, but also to ensure that the rulers of the Nation of Islam kept their end of the bargain of upholding the people's rights and freedom. Such was the Grand Mufti of the Republic Ahmed Zabarrah, who this observer knew very well as a neighbor and a long time friend of the family. Anyone who has prayed in the Al-Fulaithy Mosque in the heart of the Old City of Sana'a will not have failed to see the charismatic old sage sitting by the Imam's niche at the front of the Mosque. One would not have failed to also notice the trickling parade of worshipers coming to the old man to deliver their questions for an opinion on various matters of the worshipers' lives that needed some clarification as to their conformity with religious jurisprudence. This was not so much to ensure adherence to a law of the state, but more to relieve the conscience of any doubt as to having abided by the dictates of the Al-Mighty and thus be absolved of at least one possible wrongdoing that may not necessarily be safeguarded by mundane or secular laws, but the heart is driven to seek reassurance that God's will prevails in the way we lead our lives to reach the ultimate satisfaction of knowing that we are truly on His side, so that He can be on our side, now and in the hereafter.

The Grand Mufti was a modest man, who never declined any questions presented to him by any worshiper no matter where he came from or what class he belonged to. He never

took a fee for any questions he answered and he made sure that the faithful was given a simple untaxing response that would reflect the tolerant and compassionate wisdom that made Islam the closest religion to human nature and common sense.

Mr. Zabarrah was not the normal religious scholar who studied well, but found himself unable to ensure that the knowledge the scholar was entrusted with was to serve the Nation of Islam, not just in Yemen but any place where Moslems were in need of help in some form or another. Moreover, Mr. Zabarrah saw Islam as being a religion of wide horizons, suitable for all times and all places. He had no illusions about the troubles that Islam was facing, not so much from its enemies, but from those who have a token knowledge of some of its rites and dictates, and have come to claim themselves to be trustees over the Nation, without so much as having gone deep enough to truly understand its wide horizons and reliance on logic and reason to underscore its fundamental precepts. Like many enlightened Zeidi scholars, Mr. Zabarrah saw that there was only One Islam and One Moslem Nation, with the same strength in belief as the belief in One God. Thus it was possible that a Zeidi can take up what real scholars from other sects have come to find in their scholastic journey into the Koran and the Traditions of the Prophet Mohammed (P), as long as their convictions were along the same lines as those of the probing scholar. Mr. Zabarrah saw wisdom in much of the institutional developments in people's lives that many Moslem scholars failed to see, such as legitimizing bank interest and insurance, which many conservative Moslems thought to be usurious. Of course, because of his level of scholastic attainment, Mr. Zabarrah has reached the level of knowledge where he is entitled to make such judgements without having to fear retribution from other scholars, all of whom respect his right to make such almost rebellious statements. Mr. Zabarrah also knew that with high scholastic maturity must also come courage to speak out openly and harshly against those who transgress on the rights of others, no matter how strong these

transgressors are. He is reputed to have openly chastised the Imam Yahya as well as his son the Imam Ahmed for not opening up the country and for being too repressive at times, which is beyond the limits of authorities meted out to the Commander of the Faithful. This observer recalls having seen letters written by the Old Imam Yahya to Ahmed Zabarrah's father asking him to control his son's outspoken attitude against the Imam's policies and to 'bring him in line'. Incidentally, Mr. Mohammed Zabarrah was also a learned scholar of a high caliber, who did not of course take the Imam's chastising of his son so seriously, and may have in fact concurred with his son's opinions, for after all the son was no less than a carbon copy of the father, in terms of the level of scholasticism and theological wisdom obtained.

Mr. Zabarrah had an unfailing memory and even in his nineties, he could still recall almost every aspect of his life and every journey he has gone on. He has traveled far and wide. He brought it upon himself to advocate for the freedom of Moslems in Communist countries, which were the most oppressed religious groups in the Communist World. He was able to make landmark achievements that are worthy of historical note. He had convinced both Communist governments in the former Soviet Union and the hard-line Communist regime of Mao Tse Tong to allow Moslems to make the pilgrimage to Mecca after having been banned for over fifty years from even thinking about facing Mecca for prayers, let alone make the pilgrimage. He convinced the Soviet leaders that it is sound policy to relieve the Moslems of the Soviet Union from the excessive oppression, since their best allies were then in the Moslem World and that Islam, like Communism is the religion of the oppressed, preaching 'voluntary socialism' and equal justice for all. The Soviet leaders saw some wis-

dom in Mr. Zabarrah's words and gave their permission for Moslems to go to Mecca for the pilgrimage. Zabarrah ensured that the first waves of pilgrims from the Soviet Union were given the fine treatment all along their journey, calling upon his contacts to facilitate their journey all along the route to Mecca and back. Once the Soviets were convinced, Mr. Zabarrah took advantage of his success, to convince the Chinese that the Soviets foreign policy was going to make greater inroads in the Moslem World, unless the Chinese followed suit and allowed the Moslems of China to also make the pilgrimage and to ease the restrictions on religious worship by the 60 Million Moslems then living in China (this was all during the late 60s, early 70s). The Chinese also saw the eminent threat to their successful foreign policy by the Soviet initiative and therefore had no choice but to accept the suggestions of Mr. Zabarrah.

These were just some of the moments that surely underscore the strong devotion that Mr. Zabarrah had to serving Islam everywhere in the world and to underline the universal aspect of the religion, with the strong belief that there should really be no borders between Moslem states and no conflict among Moslems for any reason. Mr. Zabarrah like many enlightened scholars believes that Islam insists on dialogue as the vehicle for disseminating the faith. After all, Islam is a relatively easy religion and conforms very much to common sense and human nature. Islam's doctrines of justice and equality are its attractive elements and its tolerance is second to none. There is no reason to shun dialogue, even with heathens. If a proper forum can be maintained, then surely Islam will prevail and all the other arguments against it will be trampled by the power of simplicity and down to earth good sense, by which should always be portrayed. The Grand Mufti had that power with him until his last dying moment. God bless his soul and Yemen truly lost one of its most phenomenal and sometimes controversial, but for all intents and purposes successful dignitaries, at least for the mission that he set for himself - to serve God and the faithful in whatever way possible, wherever they are. Is not that what Islam is really all about?

## Letters to the Editor

Mr. President - we love you, but...

When we criticize the situation in Yemen and ask for correction, because we love our country and wish to see Yemen like the neighborhood, therefore, and we know that your excellency wish so.

What we noticed is many non Yemenis, who belong to terrorist Groups in the middle east are holding Yemeni passports, many of them were indulged in terrorist activities, murder, theft, smuggling, etc. When they were caught in the gulf region and Europe and America, they said they are Yemenis.

Because of that Yemenis facing trouble and harassment in many airports and as one senior police officer said it is your govt. Mistake to issue passports to such people.

Your excellency, Jordan, Syria, Egypt, even Somalia refused to issue passports to those persons.

It is said to be that there are more than 5000 non Yemenis are enjoying the Yemeni passports, although they were issued by late (YSP) but frequently renewed now against big amounts of money. Some of them entered USA and Canada alleging they ran from Yemen where they kill people in streets and applied for asylum being Yemenis, then again they leaked to the gulf region to operate with two passports.

Can we expect such sale, renewals of passports stop.

A. Makloob  
Canada  
samasesm313@yahoo.com

Dear Mr. Editor,

It is a pity for a Somali Moslem man whose name is 'Mohamed Omer Hagi' to convert into Christianity, because he is a refugee. I don't know how Christianity convinced him over his Islam. Even if he is after (a little money), as I read in your article, converting into Christianity will not help him

anymore; because 90% of society of the so-called Christian country are no more Christian. They are not satisfied with their Christianity. They are either converted into Moslems or having no religion to practice. Let me assure Mr. Mohamed Omer Hagi that I am one of the refugees who came to Europe. I live and work now in the Netherlands, and I am very proud of my Islam. A combination of 'working hard' and 'having a true faith such as Islam' will reach you your goals.

Awes Mohamed Abdullah  
The Hague, The Netherlands

Dear Editor,

I wish to respectfully express my distress over the sentence of death for Mohammed Omer Haji. To kill this man's body does nothing to destroy his faith, or change the decision he made to convert. Rather than discouraging others from conversion, martyrdom of this kind usually has the opposite effect and increases the attraction of the bold act of conversion. It also does not speak well for Islam if in order to protect itself it needs to kill their members who convert. I humbly request that the sentence be reconsidered.

Kevin Brennan

### A Pest In The Land of Wisdom

Undoubtedly, the serial murderer of the College of Medicine has shocked our conservative society, criminologists and all humanities specialists. The crime registered a new record in type of the crime in Yemen. What were the motivations? How it all happened? Who are standing behind it? What impact does it have on the Yemeni society? Such questions should be answered by specialists and people concerned.

I would like here to shed light on some points:

- Man is born with a set of contradictory feelings and compulsives.

- From an Islamic point of view, man is pure. He has duties to do towards his community in which he interacts with others. Thereafter, the case can not be handled in view of nationalism or political affiliation. The case as well as its dimensions should be carefully analyzed on the bases of knowledge and justice.

- The number of victims and the murderer's ways to tempt them are not of concern to me here. But the way journalists tackled this issue and their intelligence showed in creating scenarios suggest that they are fishing in troubled waters. Those journalists should have been more objective and accurate.

- If its true that all the murderer's qualifications are forged one should not be surprised at the news of his forged name.

- He proudly confessed to having committed the crimes as if he was a hero who has done a great feat.

- I think that readers will agree with me that Zainab's mother deserves to be respected for her tireless efforts to find out the truth.

**Developments of the case:**  
Some of the negative outcomes of the case are as follows:

\* An ideological shock especially to those ill-minded.

\* A crack in the infrastructure of the country and its social structure by spreading horror and anxiety.

\* A direct campaign against Islam and its high values.

\* Distraction of the educational structure and strengthening the negative views towards women's education.

**Other questions to think over:**  
- How the criminal found the suitable atmosphere to commit his crimes in such a sacred institution?

- What is the nature of the crime?

- Was it an individual's whim or part of an organized racket?

- Where are we driven to?

Dr. Mostafa Naj

## Background Story of Ethiopia - Eritrea Conflict

Brought by Ethiopian Embassy

The Embassy of Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia would like to appreciate the efforts done by Yemen Times to entertain the interests of the audiences, taking into account the responsibility to feed readers with information based on facts and figures. There is also no objection to what Mr. Hassan Al-Haifi responded to this same issue in July 10<sup>th</sup> 2000 edition.

The objective of this article to add supplementary information to our previous response so that the readers can have clear knowledge about the conflict which emerged between Ethiopia and Eritrea in May, 1998.

It is important, before dealing with the focal point of this article, to bring to the notion of the readers that never in her history as a statehood, had Ethiopia exercised expansionism over neighbors.

When Eritrean declared her independence formally in May, 1993, Ethiopia was the first country in the world to acknowledge the sovereignty of this young state and since then the relation between the two

neighbors was so close and smooth and even aroused excitement of many outside observers until it changed to taste sour in the month of May 1998.

If the Government of Ethiopian was expansionist it would have not kept on demobilizing its defense machinery to a minimal scale and waited until Eritrea build up herself militarily on reverse scale. Nor could Eritrea have kept herself silent by accepting only partial independence for almost eight years if she had yet territories inside Ethiopia. Who is expansionist in the Horn is vividly clear to the whole world from self-explanatory facts given hereunder.

When we come to May 1998 crisis, that Eritrea was aggressor was attested by the facilitators as well as the organization of Africa Unity. Let us pick some key points from findings and recommendations of the facilitators and the OAU after the outbreak of the conflict.

I. 'Recommendation from the Facilitators the governments of Rwanda and the United States'

(2) "So as to reduce current tension and facilitate the process of resolving the underlying problem, the facilitators recommended that within 24 hours of the arrival of the observer team, Eritrean forces begin to redeploy to positions held before May 6, 1998 and that, immediately following the civilian administration in place before May 6, 1998 return,

II. 'OAU Proposal for a Framework Agreement for a peaceful settlement of the dispute between Eritrea and Ethiopia, (8-10 June 1998 Burkina Faso, Ouagadougou)'

(3) "So as to reduce current tension and facilitate the process of resolving the underlying problem, the facilitators recommended that within 24 hours of the arrival of the observer team, Eritrean forces begin to redeploy to positions held before May 6, 1998 and that, immediately following the civilian administration in place before May 6, 1998 return,

(4) "In order to determine the origins of the conflict, an investigation be carried out on the incidents of 6 May 1998 and of any other incident prior to that date which could have contributed to a misunderstanding between the two parties regarding their common border, including the incidents of July-August 1997."

III. 'Report on the Efforts of the OAU High Level Delegation on the Dispute between Ethiopia and Eritrea (17-18 December 1998, Burkina Faso, Ouagadougou)'

(5) "In our reflection we have drawn the con-

clusion that the events which took place between 6 and 12 May 1998 were fundamental element of the crisis that evolved between the two countries. Those were the events which revealed the crisis to the international community and with which the OAU was seized. It, therefore, appears fundamental that any search for a peaceful solution should take into due account these elements."

IV. 'Modalities for the Implementation of the OAU Framework Agreement on a Peaceful Settlement of the Dispute between Ethiopia and Eritrea'

(1) "The Eritrean Government Commits itself to redeploy its forces outside the territories they occupied after 6 May 1998."

(2) "The Ethiopian Government commits itself to redeploy, there after, its force from positions taken after 6 February 1999 and which were not under Ethiopian administration between May 6, 1998."

The aforementioned documents (I, II, III, IV) are basic to the findings and recommendations of the OAU as far as the root cause of the conflict were concerned and the documents had been fully endorsed in Ouagadougou and the subsequent 35<sup>th</sup> ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government in Algiers in 1999 July 12-15. In addition, it is after the OAU had taken into account to the appeals from both parties and undertaken thorough investigation, including pre-May 6, 1998 incident that the organ produced these documents and endorsed them.

Each time these documents prepared and presented to the parties by the mediators, Ethiopia reiterated her acceptance of the documents while the Eritrean side kept on rejecting until they succumb to the mediators terms for peaceful agreement after experiencing humiliating defeat in the latest confrontation with Ethiopian forces in the battle field.

Important is it here to bring to the readers cognition that investigation by the third party unequivocally realized who the aggressor was. The above documents are the living witnesses to this, The crisis is, therefore, the outcome of the police of expansionism designed by the leadership of Asmara.

The government and people of Ethiopia, at this time are happy not because they fought a war with the Eritrean forces and stood victorious but because they restored their sovereignty, they proved to the EFLF government that they can not give up their national security to force of rifles of the foe.

While this shortly being the background to the unfortunate conflict, the government and people of Ethiopia always wish that peace and stability be restored in this region. It is only when peace is sustained in the Horn as a whole that the people of the region can prosper for the better future.

YEMEN  
TIMES

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# Is Women's Beauty Marred by Smoking?

Layla Malek  
Media College  
Sana'a

Smoking is detrimental to health. About 11,000 people die daily of serious diseases such as cancer, heart attacks and TB because of smoking habit, especially those addicted to smoking hubble-bubble.

Medical reports affirm that women smokers are more affected by smoking than men. In fact they do not harm only themselves but their babies, if they are pregnant. Therefore, they should be fully aware of the harms of smoking.

## What do women smokers say?

### A piece of Advice S.A.

I wanted to try it when I used to see my husband smoking. I did and I became addicted. I smoke in the morning, afternoon and at midnight at an average of a packet a day. I just feel tired if I try to give it up.

My family does know that I am smoking. I am worried that my brother gets idea about that.

People should stop smoking. It means damaging health, spending much money and in disgraceful.

### I know that it is detrimental F.S.

I used to smoke the hubble-bubble.

After that I traveled to Egypt where I missed my hubble-bubble. My husband encouraged me to smoke cigarettes instead. When I came back to Yemen I was a heavy smoker. I have been smoking for 12 years.

I know that it's detrimental, but no way. I can not help it. Beginners should give it up at once.

### I have done it. A.Y, married.

I have smoked for about 4 years. I used to admire women smokers in sessions or occasions. I just wanted to be like them. After a period of time, I got bored of myself, telling myself that I should be distinguished. So I gave it up. I feel comfortable now.

### S.M, married.

I spend a lot of money on cigarettes and tobacco. I sometimes smoke the cheapest and the worst in the market when I have not enough money.

I wish that cigarette factories and tobacco shops are banned in Yemen.

### A.Y.

I first smoke the hubble-bubble with my neighbor. I used to prepare it for her. After that I tried cigarettes with my husband. I am not a heavy smoker. I smoke only when chewing Qat or with my husband. I do not smoke cigarettes in the presence of guests. People usually do not respect women smoking cigarettes. So I just smoke the hubble-bubble.

I have been smoking for 15 years. I suffer insomnia if do not smoke at least one cigarette.

### Shelty, Ethiopian

I have smoked the hubble-bubble for 3 years. All my friends are smokers. I used to smoke everyday afternoon when we got together. I gave it up when I heard about its harms and I suffered some of them. Now I feel all-right.

### H.Y.

I felt inclined to smoke when I was pregnant. I stopped smoking for two years after giving birth. But began to smoke again when meeting my friends. I am addicted to the hubble-bubble. I am fully aware that it is unhealthy. I am trying to get rid of it gradually.

### A. A. Third year, College of Commerce

I began smoking at the end of my secondary school. It was just an imitation of my friends. It was exciting. My friends and I have a day on which we weekly gather to chew qat and smoke. My family does not know about this. My pocket money is spent on smoking. I know that it is bad, I feel my body weak.

### S.K, Secondary graduate

A lot of my friends smoke. So I joined them in smoking the hubble-bubble. I have bought one for myself and I hide it in our house. I take it out with me

when I go to a friend's. We always pay for it alternatively. When I smoke at home, I spray perfumes in the room to let nobody smell it.

### What do non-smokers say. K.A.

Smoking causes cancer, heart diseases, etc. Women smokers are shameless and should not be respected at all.

Fatimah Al-Yamani, university student

I hate it. I can not stand its smell. I will never abandon myself to smoking. I know what is right and what is wrong.

### R.M. University student.

Although they know that it is harmful, many are addicted to it. Women smokers are, in my opinion, irresponsible. They are mothers and they endanger their babies by smoking.

### Ahmad Yahia Al-Wareeth

Our traditions and conventions do not allow women to smoke unless they are married. What I mean by smoking here is the hubble-bubble. Women who smoke before marriage are looked upon disapprovingly.

My father allows my mother to smoke the hubble-bubble. I have no objection to my wife's doing the same if she likes it. But she must stop it during pregnancy or breast-feeding.

### Mohammed Abdullah Al-Fudhail.

It is a bad habit and even worse for women to be taken to. I can not see my mother, sister or wife smoking. That will spare money and save their health.

### Abdul Malik Al-Nono.

I do not smoke. I can not agree to let one of my family members smoke. Our society, in general, despises women smokers.

### Dr. Abdullah Al-Humaqani.

It has been reported that many smokers die very young in industrial countries.

Smoking is more harmful for pregnant women than it is for men. It can cause miscarriage. Babies born of a smoking mother are usually underweight. Babies may even die as a result of breathing smoke of their mothers' cigarettes. As far as smoker mothers are concerned, they are liable to many diseases, especially lung cancer.

Women suffering from smoking habit try to deny it or hide that fact when brought to hospitals for treatment.

The WHO reports refer to a great number of smokers from both sexes. Our country is one of the participants in the activities of the International Day For Banning smoking scheduled on May 31 every year, and in which a number of seminars are held to publicize statistics on results of smoking in the world. Everybody who wants to enjoy good health should give up smoking if he/she is already a smoker



## OPHTHALMIC EDUCATION (7) LASERS IN EYE DISEASES

### What is LASER?

LASER is an abbreviation for "Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation". It is concentrated and amplified light which makes it a powerful energy for cutting and burning and it is used by the army for many things. In medicine it is used to treat certain eye diseases and some dermatological and ENT problems.

### What are the types of LASER?

In eye diseases laser is used to treat different types of diseases. There are three types of laser machines:

1. Burning Lasers: ARGON LASER and DIODE LASER
2. Cutting Lasers: YAG LASER

3. A new type called EXCIMER LASER appeared during the last decade and is used to treat diseases of the cornea and refractive problems.

### Are Laser operations painful?

Lasers used to treat eye diseases are NOT painful and the patient only needs a drop of local anesthesia to anesthetize the cornea.

### A) Indications of Burning Lasers (ARGON or DIODE LASER):

1. Treatment of Diabetic Retinopathy and it is used for a localized area of leakage of fluid, which can affect the vision, or throughout the retina in cases of advanced type of diabetic retinopathy were new vessels or bleeding have appeared. In certain cases the patient may need a photograph of the retina using a special dye to know the area of leakage.

The main aim of doing so is to burn the retinal tissues at the periphery of the retina and to increase the blood supply to the main central parts of the retina especially the macula.

2. Treating certain type of Glaucoma and the eye doctor will decide which type of glaucoma responds to this treatment

3. Treating retinal holes and weak areas of the retina to prevent retinal detachment.

### B) Indications of Cutting Lasers (YAG LASER):

1. Techniques of cataract operations have advanced over the years and nowadays eye surgeons leave a membrane to help for intra-ocular lens implantation. This membrane can get opacified over the years and prevent the patient from seeing well. Yag lasers have helped to make an opening in this membrane and prevented from doing another surgical procedure to open the eye to remove this opacified membrane. It is a simple procedure with less side effects.

2. Making an opening in the Iris of the eye in acute and subacute glaucomas to allow the fluid inside the eye to bypass any blockage.

### C) Uses of EXCIMER LASER:

Excimer Laser is the newest technology in eye lasers. It is used to treat certain corneal opacities and refractive errors. Patients who wear glasses and contact lenses for short-sightedness or long-sightedness can get rid of their glasses after having this type of laser to their cornea. These types of surgeries are getting safer year after year and the price is getting cheaper and affordable by most people. It is available everywhere but unfortunately hasn't arrived to the Yemen yet.

### Remember:

- Lasers in eye diseases are different types and each one has a different use
- If you ask someone about lasers you should know which type you want to know about
- Lasers are not painful and the patient goes home after the surgery immediately
- Excimer laser to treat short-sightedness or long-sightedness is not a 100% safe procedure and you should think twice before doing it. Glasses are still the safest.

*Routine eye exam by an eye specialist is very important.*

*It is your sight and your eyes need every care they deserve.*

*Mahfouth A Bamashmus FRCSEd, FRCOphth*

*Ibn-Al-Haitham Clinic  
University of Science & Technology, Sana'a*

*Ahmed Al-Shabouti, MD  
Al-Thawra Hospital, Sana'a*

## Invitation

Al-Zahra'a Charity Society has the pleasure to invite all the interested people to attend its charitable exhibition for handicrafts and housework's scheduled to be held during 3-9 August, 2000 at Al-Mua'ala, Hafoon, Harharah Building, flat no 8.

The exhibition is timed: morning 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the afternoon and from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.

## تتشرف جمعية الزهراء الخيرية

بدعوتكم لمعرضها الخيري للأشغال اليدوية والمنزلية  
في الفترة من 2 إلى 8 جمادى الأولى 1421 هـ، الموافق  
من 3 إلى 9 أغسطس 2000م

المكان: المعلا - حافون - عمارة هرهرة - شقة رقم 8.

الزمان: من الساعة العاشرة صباحاً حتى الواحدة ظهراً، ومن الساعة الثالثة عصراً حتى الثامنة مساءً.

إدارة الجمعية

# Rabies, a Serious Disease in Yemen

Rabies is a serious disease. It is wide spread in Yemen. It equally affects both the animals and people. Radhwan Al-Saqqaf, Aden Bureau Chief met Veterinary Surgeon, Dr. Omer Al-Kaff, and had the following interview with him:

### Q. May you please tell us something about rabies?

A. It is a serious infectious disease jointly affecting both animals and people. It is spread throughout the third world countries including Yemen. It infects all animals which carry hot blood particularly dogs and cats. However, wolves, foxes, monkeys and

bats also transmit this disease from one place to another. In order to safeguard human, life many countries in the world have taken measures to combat this disease by destroying stray and hostile dogs. Rabies is caused by a virus which is transmitted through bite. Another reason is infection of skin ulcer by animal saliva. The period of incubation differs from one animal to another; the same also applies to human being. In dogs and cats it is from three days to six weeks during which symptoms of the disease appear. Normally, it is a short period. Other animals' incubation period is longer and ranges from nine to ninety days. In human beings the period varies between ten days to six months.

As the effect of the bite approaches the brain, incubation period reduces. Symptoms in a dog is almost similar to that of other animals. These are characterized by three stages:-

The first is known as Quiet Rabies where an animal rests in a peaceful and quiet place. Within 24-48 hours his actions and activities reduce. This period passes unchecked. One has to be careful because infection could occur to any wound through the saliva of the animal.

The second is Furious Form which is accompanied by nervous tension and hostility. The animal loses the power of distinguishing and attacks and bites anything which appears before him or obstructs his way. The most important symptom at this stage is that the animal starts fearing water — hydrophobia — and air. He stops taking in any food or liquid. Finally the animal bites itself causing killing injuries which within 5-7 days takes him to the third stage.

The third stage Dump Form is an extension of the second stage. The animal suffers muscular fits (convulsion) and dies within 48 hours.

### Q. What are the symptoms when someone gets the rabies?

A. The symptoms start with a desire to keep on chewing followed by headache and fever and general weakness as well as to itch in the bitten area. Fits occur in the pharynx muscles while drinking. The rabid fears water and air. Even the mention of

water makes him afraid. This is followed by hallucination and contraction of muscles. The rabid dies within 2-6 days.

It is impossible to cure a rabid after the appearance of the symptoms.



A preventive vaccine has been invented for both animals and human beings, but it is very expensive. Unfortunately rabies is spread in many parts of Yemen; mainly in Sana'a. Positive and negative conditions are high.

### Q. Is rabies confined to hot-blood animals only?

A. No. Spread of rabies does not threaten the life of animals only but it

also threatens the life of human beings. It is a pity to see that not much care is given to this issue by destroying stray dogs and hostile animals. Through the pages of this newspaper, I appeal to all official and non-official authorities as well as the citizens to cooperate, carry out prompt initiatives

international organizations a first-aid system should be established by providing medicines which an ordinary patient cannot afford owing to their high prices.

2- To support the central veterinary laboratory for testing rabies and to expand it. Laboratories should be set in other provinces as well A carry out large-scale and continuous campaigns to destroy stray dogs and hostile animals.

3- Avail preventive vaccines for both animals and human beings.

4- Disseminate awareness programs intensively on the dangers of rabies and ways to avoid it and eradicating it.

5- Owners of pet dogs and cats should vaccinate their animals against rabies. They should always check

their health as they live with us in our houses, gardens and compounds.

6- Pet trainers of un-vaccinated animals while petting their dogs and cats should not put their hands into the mouth of such animals. This safety measure is necessary no matter how beloved the animal is. It is the saliva which can constitute a danger if infected.

and take all necessary measures to combat this serious disease. I have some important suggestions which could help in combating and eradicating this disease. These are:-

1- The ministries of Agriculture, Interior, Health and Construction should cooperate among themselves and create a department or a special project for fighting this disease in Yemen. Through cooperation with

## REQUIRE SPECIALIST

Multi Specialty Hospital is looking for Specialist in Ophthalmology. The required experience being not less than seven years. Those interested may contact us at the following address:

Al-Dees, Al-Mukalla  
P. O. Box 60008  
Tel: 7952042, Fax: (05) 304607



# Pioneers in the Yemeni National Song



Saleh Abdulbaki  
Yemen Times

National songs play a crucial role in any country. They inspire people with enthusiasm and vigor to values of freedom and independence.

They have a strong influence to arouse the feelings of people and incline them towards sacrifice for the country.

In our country and, particularly during the oppressive British colonization, national songs played a powerful role in the then Southern part of Yemen during the second half of the past century. Yemenis there were struggling vigorously to attain independence.

National songs were considered to be the fuel that ignited the masses to go on their struggle. Actually they were the catalysts behind many uprisings against the colonization. Besides, they created an atmosphere, which was the breeding ground for the growth of the National Movement. This movement led, in course of time, to the Revolution of 14th, October 1963 under the leadership of the National Liberation Front which erupted from Radfan mountains.

Mr. Mohammed Murshed Naji and Abdullah Hadi Subait are considered pioneers of national songs. Their songs still preserve the same popularity and attractiveness.

Another factor that had made the national songs spread was the political parties which appeared early in the 1950s for the first time, following more than one hundred years of British rule. The Imam's reign in the then Northern part of Yemen and the state of stagnancy in the Arab world had facilitated continued British control over one time Aden

Colony and the Eastern and Western Aden Protectorates.

The first liberation movement was established in the fifties under the slogan of the "Unity of South Arabia". It was formed of small independent groups in different sultanates, sheikdoms and emirates with the intention to resist the separation of the southern part from the northern part that was imposed by the colonizers. The movement tried to attract the attention of youths and

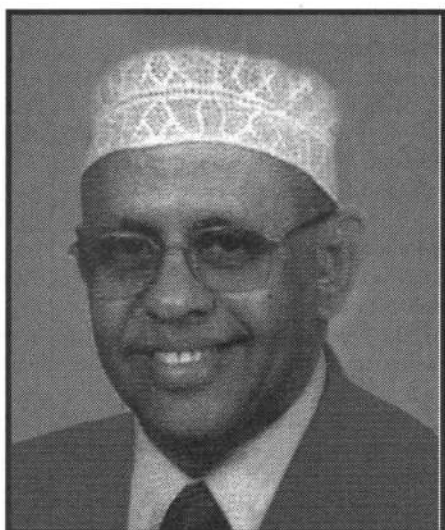
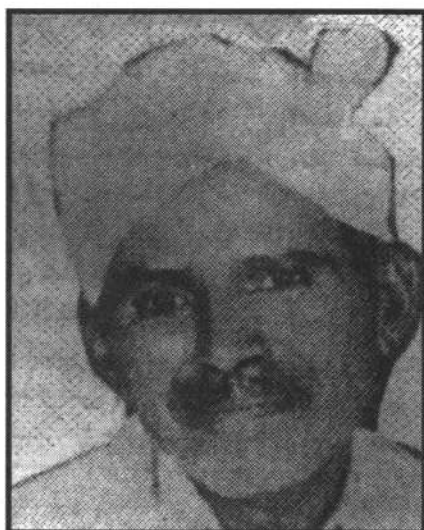
called "Makhdara".

Another national song was written by the poet Mohammed Saeed Jarada and titled "Ibn Al-Janoob" meaning "son of the South" which was sung by Al-Murshidi also. In this way Al-Subait was the first writer and composer of national poems. He was also the first to call for the armed struggle against the colonizers in 1957. He made this pretty clear in his poem "ya shaki al-selah, shoof al-fager laah - Hut be yadak ala almadfa, zaman al-dhol raah"

meaning "Oh (you) who is bristling with arms, look at the dawn coming - firmly hold your hand on the cannon, gone is the era of suppression". He sang this song during the festivals of the Algerian revolution in Daar Sa'ad area of the then Lahj Sultanate. Through this song, Bin Hadi signaled a change his attitude from a peaceful negotiator with the colonizers to an

armed liberator to achieve independence.

In the mid fifties, liberation movement continued under the slogan of "South Arabia" to resist separation imposed by the colonizers on the Yemeni homeland. Then some national and regional congregations joined forces with different liberation movements. Strikes and boycotts used to be organized at the grassroots level of the Labor Movement in different important institutions, which gained in popularity and support of the people who started revolting against colonization. In the last quarter of the past century, some national movements emerged. Nationalism reached its peak during the leadership of Jamal Abdunnasser in which Arab lands witnessed important national struggle against colonization and its lackeys. As a correlative result the instigative struggle was reinforced at both regional and national level.



intellectuals. It also tried to spread and produce some national songs written by the poet Abdullah Hadi Subait. His first poem was "Banignah" and was sung by the great singer Mohammed Murshed Naji. This song was produced following the plantation of cotton and harvest season in some governorates of the then Southern part of Yemen. The song was sounding success for the exquisite and wonderful images and figures of speech that it contained.

Al-Murshidi's first song was "Ya dhalem laish al-dulm da kuloh" meaning "Oh tyrant, why all this suppression". It is worth mentioning that this song was already composed and sung by the late artist Iskander Thabet. Al-Murshidi used to sing many lyrics of Subait. He used to sing these songs on the occasion of nuptial ceremonies where invitees used to gather in a temporary shelter

Bin Hadi and Al-Murshidi were actually a wonderful duet: the former composed and produced lyrics poems while the latter put them to marvelous strains and melody.

Therefore, Bin Hadi Subait is considered to be the father of national song in the then Southern parts of Yemen. He was born in Al-Hutah the capital of Lahj in 1921 and brought up there. He received his primary study in Al-Muhsinah school. Following his preparatory study, the highest level of study at the time, he was appointed a teacher in the same school. During his teaching he never stopped to pursue his quest for knowledge and culture which distinguished him from other educated figures of his age. Then he was given the post of deputy minister at the Culture department. He held different positions during the Lahji authority. His last post was deputy minister of the Department of Agriculture, which was a microcosm ministry at the time. As a result of his political activities, he was chased and wanted by the colonial authorities. Therefore, he fled to the Northern Yemen and then to Cairo where he continued instigating the struggle against the British colonization. Bin Hadi Subait returned after 15 years after Al-Kumandan's death. He came to revive the literary pursuits that had suffered a state of stagnancy after Al-Kumandan. He was famous for his lyrical poetry and published a book containing all his poems titled "al dmo'o al-daahikah" meaning "Laughing Tears". He devoted his life to art and literary works. He had many talents at a time; he was a sensitive, imaginative poet, talented musician and excellent composer. He was actually an institution by himself. One of his songs titled "Ishriki Ya shamss min ardh al-uroobah" achieved the first prize in the competition organized by the Arab League. He has published other poetical works and literary works as well.

In a nutshell, the national songs in the then Southern part of Yemen were associated with Bin Hadi who was the brain behind all their vitality and vigor. It is only logical that the Ministry of Culture gave this creative literary figure due attention and care and gave him support in his miserable health and financial condition. His commitment and devotion marked by his extensive literary works need to be appreciated by our officials concerned. I hope that this will produce an echo in their ears and attract their attention to the need to review their policies towards many literary figures who have been totally ignored.

## Concerns and Worries



Imad Al-Saqqaf  
Taiz Bureau Chief

The issue of transformation in the world is the focus of our attention in this article. No nation has reached its goals and attained everything without hard work, diligence, conscientiousness, strong will and determination. Transformation comes through human awareness to build a new and modernized society. To build a perfect and ideal society, we should ensure growth of the individual from the early stages. The focus of our attention is the individual himself, for he is the cornerstone of all transformations in the society. All those civilized and developed nations have reached the climax at all the levels through hard work and accountability. Their priorities have been imparting education for all, from kindergarten to higher education. In the ultimate analysis, what matters is accountability, a sound approach and sincerity in the whole process of transformation. Some academicians and intellectuals may be passive in their approach and efforts to do something for this homeland. Some may even be reluctant to shoulder any responsibility for achieving the goal of pushing the society forward. Others might pursue the easiest way to gain authority or economic interests. So their contributions in transformation process are very marginal. Such kind of people are an impediment to progress and, as a result, are involved in the circle of chaos, disorder and corruption. The bulk of academic researches and studies should aim at setting up practical strategies that can be put into force. What we require is faith in ourselves, accountability, and love for our country. What really annoys us is that ironically some of the educated are those who practice corruption. It is everybody's the responsibility, whether educated or whosoever to shoulder the responsibility of rebuilding the country. We are in need of concerted effort of all those academicians and the intelligentsia to work it out and play a substantial role in ensuring the growth and development of the society.

## Vacancy Announcement

### ASSISTANT PROJECT OFFICER (IRM)

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) invites candidates to apply for the position of assistant project officer (IRM) (Operations Section) based on Sana'a to undertake the tasks described below. Duties include working under the supervision of the International Operations Officer.

1. This post is responsible for providing IRM-related support, and based on a review of IRM related support, needs and management in the office, draft an information management plan, including computerization, telecommunications and records management.
2. Coordinate the introduction and technical operation of organizational computer applications such as DEEDS and PROMS. This involves overall understanding of office and with HQ divisions. Assist to install new versions of the system & troubleshoot ad-hoc user problems in their functioning.
3. Manage development of ad-hoc computer applications. This involves identifications of needed systems analysis & design and programming.
4. Manage the office multi-user computer network, as well as data, telecommunications, and radio communications facilities. This involves establishing the multi-user network and procedures for user access and data security.
5. Plan the acquisition of specific computer and computer-based hardware and software, coordinate its introduction into the office and manage its maintenance. This requires interpretation of IRM guidelines to suit local requirements and the recommendation of equipment and software packages and guidance on their introduction and maintenance.
6. Coordinate computer and communications training and support.
7. Co-ordinate office records management through the establishment of a records management regime and system for the office in accordance with organizational guidelines and policies.

### QUALIFICATIONS:

1. University degree Computer Science with strong statistical EDP component support of office computer science.
2. Minimum of five years works experience.
3. Fluency in Arabic and English (speaking, reading and writing).

If you have the necessary background and qualifications for the above assignment, we would like you to submit your curriculum vitae with a brief covering letter expressing your desire to be considered to:

The Operations Office  
UNICEF, P.O. Box 725  
Sana'a

The deadline for submission of application is **Monday, 21 August 2000.**



## JOBS WITH KFC

The region's No. 1 Quick Service Restaurant KFC is coming to Yemen. We have the following exciting employment opportunities NOW...

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  - Relevant restaurant experience is preferable
  - Yemeni nationals will be given priority
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  - You should have previous experience in engineering and maintenance.
  - You should have experience in refrigeration and air-conditioning.
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### THE BENEFITS:

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ATICO Retailing  
6th Floor - Sanaa Trade Center  
Algeria Street, Sanaa  
OR Fax to : 01- 212 300

### ONLY THE BEST NEED APPLY

**Those selected will be contacted for interviews**



# Press Scanner

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr

Controversy over the Thaqafia newspaper and its Editor-in Chief case is still capturing news headlines and coverages of Yemeni press this week. Press main headlines are also highlighting domestic questions particularly the Yemeni-Saudi border treaty.

**Review of main headlines front-paged by some Yemeni newspapers this week.**

- Yemen, Saudi Lodge copies of Borders Treaty at the UN
- Technical & Military Committees on Borders, Meet in August
- 7 Persons Accused of Kidnapping 4 Belgian Tourists, Stand Trial
- Yemeni Media Men Hold Zindani Responsible for Harm against them Due to Blasphemy Campaign
- "Mauj" Freezes its Media Opposition
- Media Men Litigate Sheikh Zindani
- Government Sends More Forces to End "Dahm" Mutiny
- Serial Killer Stands Trial August 5, Accomplices under Influential Forces Protection
- Death Sentence to Killer of Dutch Expert
- Zindani Banned from Leaving Abroad
- Information Minister Confirms Support for Journalists
- Foodstuffs Containing Radioactive Materials
- GAAT Accepts Yemen Membership
- President Saleh: Jeddah Treaty Opened Spacious Horizons, No Secret Appendices
- Three Big Figures Involved in Morgue Crime
- Security Arrests A Gang of Burglars

Editorials, articles and commentaries of Yemeni press have this week continued their discussion of most important domestic issues. Following are excerpts from some leading article published this week in Yemeni press:

**ATH-THAWRA** daily of July 30, 2000 has said in its editorial that the settlement of borders issue between Yemen and Saudi Arabia has constituted a groundwork for a genuine transfer to be seen in the two countries relations.

It is also apparent that by this historic achievement the political leaderships of the two countries have provided wide-range opportunities for interaction of interests of the two peoples, working for activating economic operations and agreement on them among the two countries financial and business sectors. Our country has sought to provide adequate and encouraging climates to attract national, Arab and foreign investments after the dynamism and openness that the Jeddah treaty has provided.

**AL-WAHDAWI** weekly, organ of People's Unionist Nasserite Organization of July 25, 2000 tackled in one of its articles the topic of Local Government.

The article says the question of local government in Yemen is not political as much as an objective social necessity. It is dictated by the Yemeni diversified nature. By the nature of its composition, the Yemeni society is characterized by multiple structure, geographically, socially and culturally. The cultural and artist variety of Yemeni society is the product of geographical and climatic variety and big difference of economic and civilization levels.

This variation needs to be dealt with, within the unity frame, through ideas, plans and programs commensurate to each of them.

The article maintains that the full-authority local government system is rather the most convenient form for such variant circumstances. By introducing such version of local government, we can overcome backwardness and periodical conflicts and exchange of groundless accusations.

A successful local government system in our country, with full authorities, would have many positive reflections on the society and the central state in the first place. It will confirm sincerity of the government's democratic pursuit. Local and countryside areas would witness real development

because the sons of these areas will depend on themselves in developing their areas.

The local development would create new job opportunities within each area. Local government with complete authorities would also lead to enhance the national unity. Residents of Yemeni locally governed areas would feel that the national bond within the boundaries of the Republic of Yemen is their unifying factor. The article also sees that such local government system would stop waves of migration from rural areas and districts towards big cities and the capital.



On the phenomenon of people carrying different kinds of weapons, **AL-WAHDA** weekly of July 26 published an article discussing the negative impact of the phenomenon.

The question of carrying weapons particularly inside the cities as a sign of show off and on various occasions has produced an apparent negative impact. Victims of carrying and using weapons in Yemen have actually outnumbered those of fightings and wars. Some might argue and say that it acts as a complementary to male personality and appearance. That's absolutely untrue. The real yardstick of man prestige is his degree of knowledge, added to it his good manners and ethics.

The article has further said that carrying weapons is worrying the society and posing a threat to the life of the family and the individual. Still, the government has not yet come with an appropriate solution. One would wonder why the parliament had postponed discussing this problem and the law regulating carrying of weapons had been postponed several times. Is it so complicated a problem that its solution is too difficult to find? Or, one may infer that the people's representatives do not want that for certain reasons.



**RAY** weekly, organ of Sons of Yemen League editorial of July 215 issue has discussed another important domestic theme.

Yemen has positively dealt with the modern approach that is based on stability. It has therefore settled its border issues with neighboring countries with a civilized mechanism. This indicates its capability of responding to prevalent and future requirements. Other characteristic data in Yemen are the emerging democratic experiment, many factors of stability, some factors of lasting unity and added to them factors of distinguished geographical and historical characteristics.

Availability of these data and factors at this historical moment confirm that now there is an appropriate opportunity that should not be missed. Nowadays it is a favorable opportunity to take the initiative, without any hesitation, to finalize the internal political dossier. We should embark on a comprehensive political reform embracing the purest forms of national reconciliation. This would be the only procedure to seriously qualify Yemen to deal with the new age. And this would not be achieved without a stable Yemen, lock, stock and barrel.



An article in **AL-NASS** of July 24, 2000 tackled the subject of human rights protection in Yemen.

At the beginning of the article it has been said that human rights are known throughout all times and everywhere. They need no seminars, organizations and academic studies and researches to make people aware of them. Human rights are connected with his life and freedom, the problem lies in application and practice rather than in knowing about those rights.

The article has further said that human rights and freedom are something sacred, as is his life. Protection and preservation of human property, honor and his materialist and moral entity is the responsibility of the state.

The article assumes that the government in our country might have got addicted to failure in almost all of its acts. Its beginning had coincided with a disaster and it seems it is going to end its term, April this year, in coinciding with a great catastrophe and unsightly crime. A crime that claimed the lives of a number of girls and probably boys. It is the medical facul-

ty morgue crime that has been shocking the entire Yemeni society and whose reverberations have reached both Arab and Islamic society. The article concluded that holding the government responsible for what is happening, does not exempt individuals, groups, authority and opposition from the responsibility. All bear the responsibility, though in various portions.



**ATTARIQ** Independent political weekly, July 25, 2000.

An article on present tasks in Yemen says they should be focused on the re-arrangement of the country's domestic affairs and conditions, especially after the success in settling issues of borders.

The article affirms that the present pressing task is much more difficult and tiresome than the tasks our people have undertaken since achieving the unity on May 22, 1990. It is the task characterized by a real great strife. The enemy we have to encounter is dwelling and hiding among ourselves, practicing all sorts of corruption. All of us should join efforts and unite our ranks against corruption and the corrupt.



On fighting corruption, an article has been published in **26 SEPTMBER** political weekly, organ of Yemen armed forces, July 27, 2000.

The article says that every now and then we hear a call for fighting corruption, especially after it has become an aggravated phenomenon prevalent in government institutions. Nobody could deny that the more poverty among people, the larger the image of corruption appears before them. Nevertheless, the issue of corruption sometimes published publicly, do not represent the actual size of the problem. Only small-sized practices of bribe and embezzlement are pursued by the authorities concerned. They are the practices committed by junior employees, while attention is turned away from corruption tycoons. It is regrettable to say that all sorts of corruption have intensified in a horrible way inside government machinery. Therefore disclosing and fighting it has become an imperative action. Without combating corruption resolutely, here would be no use of any measures or attempts to introduce administrative, financial, economic and judicial reforms. What we need is a courageous confrontation with the situation.



In one of its articles **AL-SHUMOA** political independent weekly of July 29, 2000, has lashed out at the government of Yemen. It has said that Yemen's government has won the highest position in the way of simplifying the negative conditions in the country. When corruption is tackled the government would reply by saying it is an ordinary question and corruption is there in many countries of the world, and "we are part of this world."

When dangerous security disturbances in the country and crimes happen, such as that of the medical college, the government would say that they were not of that magnitude or danger. About the aggravating state of poverty, the government would respond that the problem of poverty is not only a Yemeni one, it is global. The article maintains that all facts and indications say that the current situation under the present government and its reform program, led the country to the verge of collective poverty. The middle class does no longer exist in the society. The Yemeni society has almost changed into two classes: a majority class suffering from poverty and a minority class entertaining extraordinary wealth. Most members of the latter class are from senior officials who have exceeded in their richness many of well-known businessmen.



**AL-ISBOU** political independent weekly, July 27, 2000.

An article on the freedom of expression and the freedom of preaching has said that amidst the controversy over the Thaqafia newspaper and its developments, there appeared some calls for restricting the freedom of Friday prayers preaches. The pretext is that

there is some exploitation of Friday platform for serving political and party purposes. And amidst emotions, many journalists and writers and advocated of freedom fomented for suppressing the preachers. As a matter of fact the question has entered political mazes and partisan tunnels. Each party was keen to invest and exploit the battle for its interests even though at the expense of principles and constants.

The call for restricting the freedom of all the preachers is a confiscation of the freedom of expression and opinion and marginalization of democracy. The freedom of opinion and expression is an indivisible whole, inside the mosque and outside it. Suppression of freedoms and opinions does not differentiate between the pen and the tongue. It does not also distinguish

between the pulpit and the newspaper. All will be harmed and the duty should be cooperation for widening the circle of freedoms and not to narrow it.

The recklessness of preachers and frivolity of some journalists would give the authority a weapon and justification to narrow freedom. Therefore, both religious and worldly extremism must be discarded.

## COMPUTER OPERATOR

The American Embassy announces for a vacant position "Computer Operator" within its organization. The position is located in the Yemen-American Language Institute, under the public Diplomacy Office, American Embassy. Supervised by the Director of Courses and the Public Affairs Officer, incumbent is responsible for operation of the Yemen-American Institute (YALI) computer lab and for the maintenance and operation of all computer hardware and software at YALI.

**Duties and responsibilities are:**

- Conduct computer-oriented English classes in YALI computer lab by assisting the classroom teacher with selection of software and activities as suitable for different YALI levels.
- Maintains the computer hardware at YALI as required, including all computers, monitors, printers, scanners, and accessories. Makes recommendations to the DOC for replacement or upgrade as requires.
- Conducts computer training for YALI staff, teachers or US Embassy Sanaa personnel as required.
- Assists with administrative duties, such as answering the telephone, making photocopies, answering questions, etc.

**Education/Experience:** Completion of university education required. Two or more years experience with computers in an academic setting. At least one year of experience as a teacher of computers of English.

**Language proficiency/Knowledge:** Level IV English and Arabic language ability required.

**Desired Skills/Abilities:** Ability to organize work and set/achieve work goals; ability to operate and maintain a variety of computer hardware, including (but not limited to) personal computers, network servers, monitors, scanners, and printers; demonstrated expertise with the Internet, including educational uses; demonstrates expertise with a variety of software, including word processors, spreadsheets, Internet browsers and operating system.

**Salary:** The minimum starting ANNUAL gross salary for this position is YR908,457 of which one third is paid in US Dollars.

**How to Apply:** Interested applicants should collect an application form (SF-171 or OF-612) from the Embassy's gate between the Embassy's official hours (8:00 a, - 16:00), and re-submit the application after being filled carefully. Applications will NOT be accepted after August 11, 2000.

## Vacancy Announcement

### ASSISTANT ACCOUNTING OFFICER

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) invites candidates to apply for the position of Assistant Accounting Officer (Operations Section) based on Sana'a to undertake the tasks described below. Duties include working under the supervision of the International Operations Officer.

1. Contribute into establishing and maintaining the appropriate mechanisms and procedures in order to secure the Operations support for a smooth implementation of the World Bank funded Child Development Project.
2. Control and operate bank accounts in accordance with UN\UNICEF financial rules and regulations and local banking practice.
3. Certify the appropriate, accurate and timely processing and recording of disbursements and payments, in accordance with established ruled, regulations and system and within budgetary limits.
4. Monitor financial transaction and accounting reports and reconciliation of accounts to ensure accurate and up-to-date financial system.
6. Control petty cash fund for CDP, disbursements, recording and accounting.
7. Review budget expenditures by codes against approved allotments and verify compliance and reports received from headquarters.
8. Prepare and analyse data for budget estimates and financial planning. Finalize forecast of expenditures and withdrawal applications sent to the World Bank.
9. Brief staff on the applications and interpretations on UN\UNICEF accounting and financial rules, procedures and policies.
10. Undertake visits to sub-offices to provide accounting and finance training and support.
11. Responsible for safekeeping of cash and cheques .

### QUALIFICATIONS:

1. University degree in Accounting and or Finance (certified accountant preferred)
2. Minimum of two years work experience in Finance and Accounting
3. Fluency in Arabic and English (speaking, reading and writing)
4. Excellent knowledge of computer management and applications.
5. Good judgment, initiative, high sense of responsibility, organization and training skills, ability to work as a member of a team.

If you have the necessary background and qualifications for the above assignment, we would like you to submit your curriculum vitae with a brief covering letter expressing your desire to be considered to:

The Operations Officer  
UNICEF, P.O. Box 725  
Sana'a

The deadline for submission of application is **Monday, 21 August 2000.**



# RULING POLITICAL ELITE IN YEMEN (1978-1990)

In all human societies, regardless of being civilized or primitive, there exists an elite playing a leading role and influencing the people and social life. It does so owing to its enjoying of capabilities, talents, experience or heritage. Position and pattern of elites differ in importance and power from one society to another and even in the same society in accordance with eras. Studying the elite has in recent years occupied a prominent place in political and social sciences. The aim behind the elite is to prove it is impossible to achieve indistinctive society or avoid the problem of the presence of a particular segment controlling all facets of social life. Thus, the elite is an organized ruling minority versus a governed unorganized majority. The study focuses mainly on examining and analyzing the Yemeni ruling elites during the period 1978-1990. It is meant those who assumed important political posts in the society, definitely; head of state, the cabinet members (prime minister and ministers), members of the advisory council and governors. The total number of the elite reached 100, who held 108 posts. The elites could then be defined as that group that assumes power and takes part in making major in the capacity of their posts. The study attempted to define elements and features of the social context in contemporary Yemen as a receptacle for the rise of the Yemeni elite elements. The study also defines the composition of the Yemeni elite, its origin and social characteristics during the period covered by the study, (educational background, age, profession, class descent. It also explains to what extent does the social background reflect features of change and continuation in Yemeni reality. It could be said that the former Yemen Arab Republic, which is the subject of this study, before the 26th September 1962 revolution did not witness direct colonial exploitation. Policies of the colonialist countries, mainly Britain which used to occupying the southern part, had influenced the nature of the northern part society development and led to its 'stagnancy'. On the other hand, the policy of isolation which the Imam adopted aimed at protecting the country against infiltration of colonialist powers. This led to the preservation of backward socio-economic relations as well as the inherited customs and traditions. By the time the 1962 revolution, signs of the collapse of the existing social system based on traditions, began to appear. The success of the revolution was linked to the extent of the efficacy of a number of factors in north Yemeni society such as disputes, feuds, contradictions between pro-Imam elements and sectarian conflicts. Since the 1962 revolution in the YAR the country was ruled successively by political elites which included military and civilian elements. These elites were formed in the light of unstable social, economic and political conditions throughout a quarter of a century.

Most of these elites, mainly at presidential level, changed several times. President Abdulla Al-Sallal from 1962 to 1967 (5 years), Abdulrehman Al-Iryani from 1967 to 1974 (7 years), Ibrahim Al-Hamdi from 1974 to 1977 (3 years), Ahmed Al-Ghishmi from 1977 to 1978 (one year) and finally Ali Abdulla Saleh since 1978. He adopted a balanced internal policy through winning the loyalty of tribes by appointing their sheikhs in higher State institutions. These appointments included some elements of political opponents in the Democratic National Front. Military politicians who played leading roles in the Republic before Al-Hamdi's rule in the seventies were also granted senior positions. But the ruling political elite worked to demonstrate State's political and security power while its elements infiltrated and dominated different institutions of the Yemeni society. Since 1979 it resorted to imposing and generalizing one single political option, i.e. rejection of intellectual and political pluralism which resulted in the only party — the People's General Congress — to dominate the political life in Yemen. The study tries to answer the following queries:-

1. What role does the social descent of the elite play in defining the direction and rate of social change?
2. What are the sources of the recruitment of the political elite?
3. What is the rate of the political elite rotation in power and its relationship with its seclusion and openness?



Bilqees Abu Osbaa, the author of the book

the cities and ramification of government administration tasks, as well complication of political conflicts, it became necessary that elements selected to sensitive posts should be educated and scholars in eco-political sciences. They have to be experienced in administration and politics. Elements who could not obtain education at official level but possess experience in life, were not ignored.

It was apparent that those with high educational qualifications were the group represented in the Council of Ministers while military men occupied Governors posts. At the Consultative Council the majority was for the able-to-read-write group. This particular group suffered from conditions which did not allow them obtain higher education; but they are in a position to give their opinions and expertise in the light of their experience in life. Dominance of Arab culture on the elite is attributed to the fact that most of them graduated from Arab countries.

b. The ruling elite does not like age homogeneity as we saw majority of its members belong to the age group, (140 persons) less than 50 years old and (130 persons) less than 40 years old. Young generation occupied ministerial and governor posts while elder figures could be found in the consultative council. As time passed we saw that the chance of young generation to get a chance among the elite has become dimmer due to the fact that the average age of elite members has gradually increased, so is the ratio of old members compared to new elements in the process of the 'elite recruitment'.

c. The State apparatus represents the main and first source of 'mobilizing' the ruling political elite. Second is the military institution. If the State apparatus dominated over 'mobilizing' the ministers and members of the consultative council the military institution dominated over 'mobilizing' the elite of governors.

d. Sana'a Province comes in the first place regarding regional affiliation, holding 54% of the elite, followed by Taiz Province holding 17%, Ebb Province holding 10%, Dhamar Province holding 6%, then Hodeidah Province with 4%. The remaining provinces did not participate in forming the Yemeni elite owing to:- geographical location. The northern areas are surrounded by geographical difficulties. The people here are totally attached to their lands. Owing to difficulties in transportation and lack of means of transport, outside influence could not creep into

Their domination is not only based on the authority which they have in their hands but also their tribal system plus their wealth and cultivable lands.

f- An eye-catching issue is the absence of women from Yemeni political elite. Despite the fact that Yemeni women constitute half the population, despite the interest which successive Yemeni governments after the revolution showed in women's education and employment, and despite the provisions of the 1970 and 1978 constitutions which gave women the same rights and duties as men, women's effective participation — during the period of this study — in State authority and decision-making was poor and absent. It never occurred that a woman became a minister or an MP. The absence of women in structure of the ruling elite comes due to social, economic and cultural reasons, including those which concern the conditions of the Yemen society as a whole and extent of its development. This comes also in view of women's vision towards herself, the level of her education and the extent of her awareness towards her rights.

g- The political elite is branded with relative seclusion. Change of certain elements of the elite was not a reflection of changes in the political and social forces. It was changes of persons who were part of the same force. The process of re-distribution of posts within the elite ensures continuation of the official political elite in Yemen at both executive and legislative levels.

It could be said that following the establishment of the Unified State in 1990, a new elite was formed on the basis of sharing of posts among leaders of the North and the South. The Yemeni political system which appeared on May 22, 1990, exceeded the previous systems. It did not only recognize freedoms but also public action of parties and political pluralism. It has permitted opposition political parties with press expressing their views. The draft constitution of the Unified State allocated a large scope for political freedom with political pluralism as a natural prelude. That included dialogue as the only means for reaching an understanding between the political forces inside and outside the rule. The one-party ruling system in both sectors was revoked. If Unification has allowed a wide range of civil and political activities, the 1994 war revoked all these even temporarily. Despite the pledge to restore democracy, first-hand indica-

tors suggest that what has been restored is but a faint shadow in the face of opposition's demands.

So that to surmount all these crises in Yemen, the following should be done:-

- a. The State should proceed with reforming the existing political system by introducing political and economic changes so that continuation of these democratic changes should depend on creating and finding out suitable conditions. Such conditions should open the way for a large number of citizens be able to politically participate in determining issues which vigorously affect their life. This is because the power and legitimacy of the ruling system is greatly linked with its capability to realize political participation and absorb the new force. This could not be done without the dissemination of ideas and opinions between the elite and normal Yemeni citizens within the political process in form of continued dialogue which eventually would impose on the government its acceptance.
- b. To reduce the role of the tribal leadership. This cannot be achieved without the sovereignty of the law and by revoking tribal laws and withdrawing recognition from such laws, particularly those that contradict State laws and the Constitution.

## Bilqees Ahmed Mansoor Abu Usbaa

- Born in Jiblah, Ibb Province,
- Married to a physician, mother of one child,
- Asstt. Professor Political Science, Sana'a University,
- Obtained Master's Degree for (Ruling Political Elite in Yemen 1978-1990) from Faculty of Economy & Political Science, University of Cairo,
- Preparing for Doctorate Degree in (Role of Yemeni Political Parties in the Democratic Transformation)

A number of her researches and studies have been published:

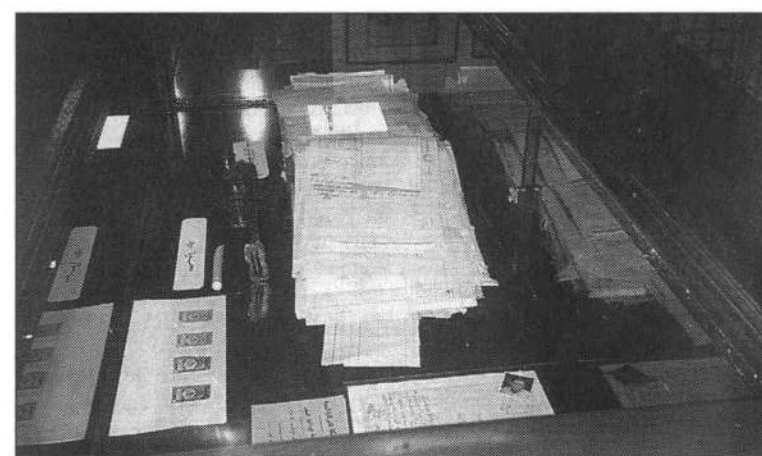
1. The Ruling Political Elite in Yemen (1978-1990),
2. Relations of Yemen with the IMF,
3. Researches published by the Arab Center for Strategic Studies,
4. A research of (The Yemeni Ministers' Elite) published by the Political Studies Center, University of Cairo,
5. "Globalization: Its Impact on Yemen" is under publication.

## First Exhibition of Documents Inaugurated

Documentation is a top-priority task on all countries' agenda. Our country has paid a lot of attention to this issue during the last two decades. A Republican decree was passed in 1984 setting up a committee for collecting all state documents. The National Documents Center was established following a Republican decree in 1991 as the first specialized archival establishment that aims at keeping all documents of the Republic.

The center collects and organizes all the state's documents disregarding their class and period. It also prepares studies and researches on its activities and encourages scientific research in all fields related to documenting. Recently, during July 17-31 2000, the center, under the patronage of the President, organized the First Documents Exhibition. The exhibition included historical documents, books and rare manuscripts depicting important eras in the history of Yemen. It included:

\* Ottoman documents: these included



Ottoman documents both in Arabic and Turkish and maps showing the administrative division of Yemen at the time.

\* Internal affairs: documents related to the Imam's reign.

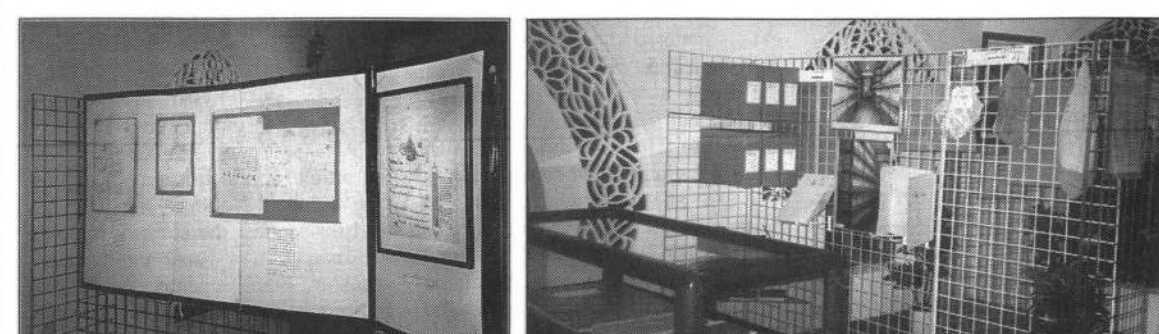
\* Foreign Affairs: documents showing Yemen's external affairs during 1344-1382 Hejirah.

\* Photographs: of Yemeni areas, historical events, etc.

\* Revolutions: all available documents related to the September and October revolutions.

\* Unity. The exhibition also included old newspapers both the official and opposition, pictures of elections events and some of development projects.

The center organized a seminar on documenting and its importance during the exhibition.



تهانينا

أجل التهنائي وأعذبها لأخ

فيصل حميد منصور الحزمي

والآنسة غيداء عبده أحمد

بمناسبة عقد قرانهما الميمون..

وعقبال الفرحة الكبرى خلال الأيام القادمة... مليون مبروك.

المهنون: د. عادل القباطي، د. محمد القباطي، هشام علي محمد،

محمد سالم ثابت، عبده أحمد صالح،

عبد الوارث عبده



## Symposium on Future Vision of Yemen 2025

The second symposium on "Strategic Vision of Yemen 2025", (SVY) was held last Wednesday at Taiz University under the slogan of "To Strive For Developed Economy, Better Life for Citizens And Prosperous Yemen."

In presence of governors of Taiz and

the SVY 2025 and pointed out that the Yemeni economy is suffering from a number of shortcomings. "Yemen is considered to be the poorest country in the world," the Minister said. He added: "Per capita income is \$350 a year, i.e. less than a dollar per day which, in turn, means that Yemen continues to be under poverty line."

Sofan said that such symposia come to affirm the need of people's participation in preparing plans and defining the features of Yemen's future.

Dr. Yehya Al-Mutawakel, D



Ebb provinces, Mr. Ahmed Al-Sofan, Minister of Planning & Development reviewed the general framework of

Abdulwahed Othman, Dr. Dawood Othman and Dr. Ahmed Al-Darweesh reviewed SVY from human develop-

ment, agriculture, culture and water angles.

Because the symposium was disrupted owing to electricity failure, neither the SVY could be debated nor Taiz and al-Beidha provinces' concepts on strategic visions could be read out.

The SVY draws the general line for Yemen in the fields of economy, politics, culture and social life. All provinces expect the implementation of Local Government Law which

would allow the governors wider powers to execute their plans by creating a sort of competition among the provinces in development process. The SVY concentrates on better sources of revenue through tourism and industry, but not oil. The vision similarly concentrates on employment. Technology of education, investment, fisheries and lifting the administration capabilities shall be equally cared for.

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## The Controversial Issue of Gender

Jalal Al-Shara'abi  
Yemen Times

Many of those who think that talking about gender as violation of Islamic principles, are in fact adhering to superficial way of thinking. Developments of social thinking and impact of environment, added to them the need as of inter mingling and interaction of the two sexes forcibly dictate updating understanding of terminology.

As a term, gender is not Arabic but rather a foreign one. It is a western term which many developing countries view as a shameful meaning that they should not mention about. This has eventually made many people especially extremist fundamentalist groups ban even the discussion of the notion and its implications.

Despite the notable and laudable strides in men and women relations, many are still refusing to accept the term gender as a natural result of this joint cooperation in administrative as well as field activities.

It's commonly believed that it is almost impossible for a society to live without the interaction of the two sexes. The society can never be built by males alone neither can it be built by females alone. Each category has a role of prime importance. Thus, we can't say that the society can be established by men alone under the pretext that the term gender is western.

If we go back in time to recall the generation of the term 'gender' we will find that it is recorded in history that a century ago many demonstrations were organized by women protesting the suppression they were exposed to in society. They had demands to have a role and participate in social and political life. It is from this point that the term gender comes.

In 1948, European women in America participated in the elections there and managed to get legitimacy even in running for the post of a president.

Here we are not in the process of considering the west as an example to follow, but rather about all the fuss made about it in Yemen.

In underdeveloped communities controversy is aroused about ideas and certain terms without due awareness or a study

beforehand and consequently this creates a sort of ignorance among public circles. There are many countries where such attitudes are taken against some notions and ideas without any logical attitudes or understanding. That is mainly because of the state of ignorance on the part of the people which in turn makes the directing policy prevail.

To make things worse, women organizations and societies have been as still as the dead for they never bothered to make things clear in regard to the this controversial term.

Talking about the right of women to work does not mean that women have to stand at the face of men. I will rather agree with Mrs. Samirah Da'aer, chairperson of the Post Peijing Fellow Up Project who said that the problem starts when a woman starts working.

The fact that we've got to confess is that we are in need of a practical treatment of all points of agreements and differences which means a precise and clear understanding of the natural and instinctive behavior of human beings. That indicates the natural existence of both sexes.

Gender in Yemen is a concept that is disgusted by many not because they have a fair understanding of it. Rather because of the backward mental set of the people is still premature that they still accept blindly what some influential people say. Consequently, this will breed violent ground jeopardizing the situation of man before talking about woman. In fact, what we are in at the present is that we argue and conflict over trivialities and leave the most important and critical issues aside. The issue of gender has actually become a flimsy excuse that is made use of to exploit men and women as well. Some groups claim that gender is against religion while others make use of it to exploit women.

The main point is that both men and women are prone to plenty of ordeals and setbacks which should be eased off so as to lead the drive of development of the country.

After all, organizations supporting women should not make use of such controversial terms to gain in popularity and international foreign aid. They should not complicate things and express despair for this will only create more and more conflict and is not at all in women's interest.

**Congratulations**

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## Improve Your English



Dr. Ramakanta Sahu  
Associate Professor  
College of Education, Mahweel

### I. What to say

Ramzi: Hi Nasser.

Nasser: Hi Ramzi. Thank God worries of exams are over at last.

Ramzi: Yes, my dear. We have all the time in the world.

Nasser: Ah! How nice. I can sleep as long as I like. And spend time in any way I want to.

Ramzi: Of course we are free to spend our time according to our sweet will. But we can't afford to forget that now we are in the final year of graduation.

Nasser: Oh! you are a spoilsport. We shall see when the college opens after the summer vacation.

Ramzi: I beg to differ. Don't you remember what the doctor said before the college was closed? We need to keep ourselves in touch with the next year's course work, and do some planning now. See, we are going to write a project report relating to some aspect of educational research. We need to do the thinking about which topic would suit us, how to collect materials, etc. Besides, this is the best time to improve our knowledge in English, both spoken and written. This will stand us in a good stead. Don't you think so?

Nasser: You are always serious about studies. You know I am not like you. But I seem to agree with you that we should not entirely forget about studies and need to do some spadework about the next year. What is that proverb so favorite to you?

Ramzi: 'A stitch in time saves nine.' Remember also: 'If you take care of the minute, the hour will take care of itself.' There is another very useful quotation: 'Rome was not built in a day.'

Nasser: O you have a bag full of nice quotations. But what you are saying sounds quite true and convincing. What are your plans for the vacations?

Ramzi: Well! We will talk about it next time we meet. I have to get back home soon to get provisions from the departmental store. Bye for now.

Nasser: Bye. See you later.

### Points to note:

- **All the time in the world:** this expression is used when the speaker wants to mean that there is unlimited time.
- **spoilsport:** one who does something that interferes with the enjoyment of other people.
- **To stand someone in a good stead:** to be helpful to someone.
- **Spadework:** hard work to be done at the start of an undertaking.

### II. How to say it correctly.....

Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences:

- 1) Ten kilometers are not a long distance.
- 2) Rice and fish are his favorite dish.

- 3) You can see the doctor only by an appointment.
- 4) I am leaving for Mahweel by 4.30 o'clock bus.
- 5) Any farther demand may land you into difficulty.

### Answers to last week's questions:

- 1) Dr. Abdullah's command over English is excellent.
- 2) Even his nearest relations did not come to his help in his misfortune.
- 3) The little knowledge of housebuilding proved very useful to me.
- 4) There is no less than two liters of milk in the jug.
- 5) He is happy because he has a few cares.

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

- 1) Person who does clever things by his body, such as balancing on a rope
- 2) Sharpness of mind, power to understand clearly
- 3) A thing omitted that is to be added
- 4) Having the property of sticking
- 5) Arranged for this purpose

### Answers to last week's questions:

- 1) Agree or admit the truth of: **acknowledge**
- 2) Highest point of development or perfection: **acme; zenith; pinnacle**
- 3) Properties of a hall that makes it bad, good, etc. for hearing speeches, music, etc.: **acoustics**.
- 4) Give a legal decision that somebody is not guilty of an offense: **acquit**
- 5) Bitter words, unpleasant argument, manner, language: **acrimonious**

### IV. What is the difference between:

- a) - He is the **reputed** father of Walid.  
- He is the **reputable** father of Walid.
- b) - The Yemeni parliament **condoled** the death of King Hussain.  
- The Yemeni parliament **condoned** the death of King Hussain.

### Answers to last week's questions:

- a) India has a **multilingual** (synonym of 'polyglot') population.
  - b) A high level team has been sent to **assess** (synonym of 'appraise') the damage caused by floods.
  - 2) The name of the disease: **appendicitis**.
- |                 |                          |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| <b>singular</b> | <b>plural</b>            |
| appendix        | appendices or appendixes |
| daughter-in-law | daughters-in-law         |
| syllabus        | syllabi, syllabuses      |
| curriculum      | curricula                |

### V. Quotable Quote:

"Non-cooperation with evil is a sacred duty."  
—Mahatma Gandhi

## The Effect of Discontinuing Training on Language Acquisition



Dr. Bushra Sadoon  
M. Al-Noori  
Ibb University-  
College of Arts  
English Department

Second or foreign language learning is the acquisition of a tool of the highest importance in life. However, the process of acquiring a foreign language is probably one of the most misunderstood learning operations by ordinary people, including parents and some non-specialized teachers. Often parents and teachers are bewildered when children exposed to similar intensive training in language and in another subject (e.g. geography) find the progress achieved in language learning much less striking than the progress in other subjects.

Those responsible for educational programs, whether formal or informal, often overlook a fact that language acquisition is a process which demands intensive and continued training in all aspects of the language being taught. The process of language learning involves understanding, memorization, retention, retrieval and a certain amount of logical reasoning as well as induction and certainly a great deal of analogy and generalization. For example, the acquisition of the spelling of words demands practice on the application of spelling patterns as well as the memorization of certain deviant orthographic forms of certain words, i.e., the acquisition of spelling sub-patterns.

In the acquisition of writing a neuromuscular skill should be developed whereby a great deal of coordination between impulses of the brain and reflexes of the hand muscles are developed. Writing is a skill, which involves a lot of coordination among language habits that needs a great deal of practice to grow.

The acquisition of correct pronunciation demands the development of a high degree of coordination between the brain impulses and the reflexes of the speech organs that are in direct control of the air stream mechanism. The purpose of pronunciation exercises is to provide intensive practice directed towards a specific point in the sound system of the foreign language.

Finally, the acquisition of control over word meanings (lexical meaning) demands a great deal of practice in retention of different shades of meaning achieved by long acquaintance with the word.

The teaching of language involves developing the ability to produce correct sentences. From the early stages, a distinction is made between material (lexical or grammatical) which is taught for active command, to be recalled and used by the learner with felicity and accuracy, and between material which is recognized and understood when it is encountered, but not intended to be actively mastered. The acquisition of language as skill (whether as the first language or as the second language) follows, more or less, the same mechanism needing continuous intensive practice and training, i.e., without any lengthy pauses, since interruption may cause serious damage to the process of language acquisition.

In general, it can be said that the more time available for learning the FL, the better is the learning. Thus, a thorough mastery of a foreign language is a lengthy process. An early start is one way of allowing more time to be spent on the acquisition of this skill, and also continuous training is essential. It follows that a language skill is not mastered through logical reasoning as in the case of mathematics, its patterns are controlled by memorization and recall, it is mastered through training and practice by the learner himself for a long period of time. Thus, continuity of practice is absolutely necessary for the continuous and adequate operation and recall. The teaching of foreign language has traditionally concentrated on making the student aware of certain aspects of the code (vocabulary of the FL, phonological and morphological features, syntactic rules etc.) without providing adequate intensive practice in the automatic control of language aspects by continuous and unremitting practice.

The basic requirement for the acquisition and retention of language materials, intensive training is needed. Intensity here refers to (a) the length of the duration of training, (b) continuity of training or lack of lengthy pauses in training and (c) active participation on the part of the learner in the process of language acquisition. Since language is basically an arbitrary system in nature, language learning demands a great deal of recall and retention which in turn demands reliance on memory more than it does on logical reasoning.

This emphasizes the importance of intensity of training throughout the language learning program. Slackening in practice may result in lack of learning or in the loss of what has been previously acquired by the learner. As with any form of learning the amount of time available for practice is likely to be a crucial factor.

Language learning is the acquisition of a set of skills. Two of the skills, i.e. listening and speaking are aural-oral, and two, i.e. writing and reading, are written or graphic. Some skills are related to the recognition of vocal and graphic symbols, i.e. listening and reading, which are passive skills, and some are related to the production of symbols, i.e. speaking and writing, which are active skills.

A competent teacher realizes that language learning, being the acquisition of skill, demands a comparatively long period of time to accomplish. In other words, to master the basic skills of the language demands a great deal of continued practice much more than many other school subjects demand. For example, a student who fails in the subject of foreign language and in another school subject, and is subject to the same amount of remedial training and instruction for some period of time in the two subjects in which he had failed may register a spectacular progress in the other subject but very little progress in the foreign language. This is due to the nature of the FL acquisition, which is simply the retention of information such as the rules of grammar or the rules of spelling. Language learning is much more than that. It is specifically the skills manipulation of language patterns, in addition to conversation of language use. One of the important factors in language learning is continuity. This is why it is advisable in FL programs to have classes spread over the days of the week rather than having them concentrated on specific days. Daily practice keeps the learner's memory of language material "alive" and "fresh", while long lapses of time may result in forgetting and loss in language which is often likened to a huge dark circle which incorporates the language as a whole.

## Understanding Literature (Part II)



Dr. P. A. Abraham  
Sana'a University

### Theme in Literature

the theme of a work of literature is its most important idea, which is not often stated explicitly; but is often conveyed through the emphasis of certain events or images, and through the actions and reactions of the characters. We must also remember that the main themes of all literature - life, love, and death remain the same all throughout the ages. However, writers look at these themes in different ways and will do so as long as humankind exists. Most literary works explore various themes and ideas although one central theme may seem to dominate it. For instance, the main theme of Mark Twain's *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* is that an individual's innate sense of right and wrong is superior to society's artificial and sometimes unnatural values. The central character, Huck, gains a growing awareness of this idea by witnessing feuds, duels, and all kinds of human folly. As a result he decides to help his friend Jim escape from slavery despite the fact that society, as well as his own conscience, condemns this action. However, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* also examines other themes. Here, Mark Twain also criticizes many of the ideas that prevailed in the pre-Civil War South, such as the evils of slavery and the hypocrisy of the traditional religious values that dominated the places around Mississippi. Other themes often examined in literature include the loss of innocence, conflict between an individual and the society, quest for spiritual enlightenment, nostalgia

for a lost past, the disillusionment of adulthood, the beauty of love, exploitation of women, the conflict between parents and children, the evils of unchecked ambition, the inevitability of fate, the conflict between man and machine, and the tension between the ideal and the actual realms of experience. Sometimes writers treat such traditional themes in new ways. For example, in the novel named 1984, George Orwell deals with the negative impact of uncontrolled power by creating a nightmare world in which technology is used to control and dehumanize a population. even though Orwell's novel is set in an imaginary future (it was written in 1948), its theme echoes ideas explored in the plays of both Sophocles and Shakespeare. Of course every culture explores themes similar to those just mentioned but writers belonging to different cultures may develop these themes differently. the history of a particular culture, a region's geography, or a country's social structure can suggest a unique way of developing a conventional theme. The assumptions, concerns, values, ideals, and beliefs can have an impact on the themes writers choose to explore and on the manner in which they do so. In spite of various differences, literature belonging to all places has similar effects on readers. A short story, a play, or a poem can take a reader to a world of imagination and cause them to marvel, the characters, vivid descriptions, imaginative use of language, and intricately developed plots can fascinate and delight readers. So literature can take readers where they have never been before and, in so doing create a sense of wonder and joy. Above all, literature can make readers to see their lives and times more clearly. In this sense, literature offers readers increased awareness and insight. As the Chilean poet Pablo Neruda says, works of literature fulfill "the most rites or our conscience in the awareness of being human and of believing in a common destiny."

R. J. Rees' *An Introduction To English Literature* is an indispensable book for students who begin to learn English Literature.

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عبد الرحمن مرشد

## YOUTH FORUM

### The Moon

I am not alone  
Not alone but with my moon.  
With millions of stars.  
In this wide sky.  
These stars are my companions.  
I am not alone.  
My moon walks with me.  
Every where I go he comes with me.  
If I cry he comforts me  
If the road is closed  
He opens it.  
The darkness is far away from me.  
So I see the night as the day.  
My moon doesn't leave me.  
Please stand by me

To help your friend.  
To help me in need.

Kawther Al-Asnhanie  
College of Education, Mahweel

### Boosting Is What We Need

On behalf of readers of Yemen Times of Taiz I would like first to pay my thanks and gratitude to all the workers in general and the chief editor in particular, and would like to say to the Yemen Times to go ahead and we are with you in your pious job of spreading knowledge and information. I am an English language learner and I have an ambition of becoming a writer.

I have written two articles and sent them to the headquarters of your esteemed newspaper. Just to remind you my articles are titled "The new millennium and our partisans", and "English language; use it or lose it".

To be frank, I have been told by lots of friends that they will be thrown into the waste paper basket and that they are not going to be published, unless I have a personal acquaintance. Until now, I have not been

affected by them due to my strong determination, i.e. I will go on writing, for I am fond of writing something until the last drop of my pen. To my mind, it is better if there are motivations in us and incentives are given to the new writers. In other words, what we lack is just your encouragement and nothing else!

To tell you the truth, I constantly read your articles. For them, I buy the paper. Because I have a dream as anybody else has, For realizing my dream, I labor hard, But boosting and boosting is what we need

Your help and encouragement is what we seek  
What we shall do more is to read  
Please show us the way and we shall go a head

To sum up, these are my words. They are meant neither for compliment nor for eulogy nor do I want to offend you. But contrary to that, they are words of hope from my heart, hope they are heeded.

Abdu Maresh Ali Saeed  
English Department,  
Faculty of Education, Taiz  
University

### Dear Abdu,

Your articles have been accepted for publication. Go on writing and reading Yemen Times. You are sure to find your articles published some day.

- Editor

أجمل التهاني والتبريكات لنفها  
للأستاذ / شريف صبري  
مدير المبيعات في فندق شيراتون  
بمناسبة ارتزاقه مولودة جديدة أسماها

شيرين

جعلها الله قرة عين والديها، وألف مبروك

المهنيون:

طاقم صحيفة يمن تايمز.



Continued from Page 1:

# A Shock at Sanaa University and Tens of Prisoners Freed

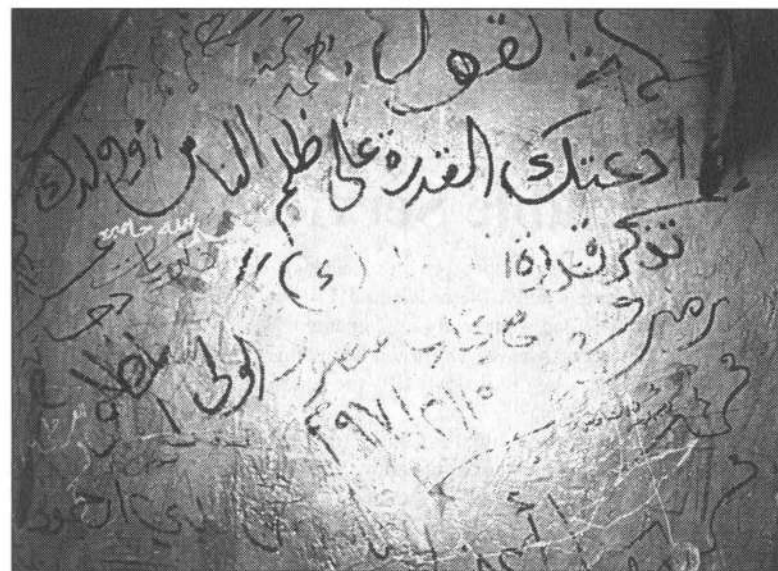
Mohammed Hatem Al-Qadhi  
Managing Editor  
Yemen Times

Commenting on the results of the campaign, Mr. Allaw said "Some prisoners - in due to aggressive detention - were released. Others have finished their imprisonment terms and were there due to long procedures. Launching this campaign is actually a positive step forward to reinforce law and order and to enhance the respect for human rights which should be applicable to all the governorates. In



Ali Al-Utmi happy to be released

the police and the prosecution, he said "The Judiciary Control Body consists of the police and the prosecution which are indivisible. Both are complementary to each other. However, each authority has a specific duty to be carried out. Overlapping of duties lead to the prevalence of chaos and disorder, consequently leading people to suffer. We are planning to form a committee to re-evaluate work right from the Interior Ministry to the prosecution, police, districts' directors to



"If your might and power once enabled you to oppress others, remember the power of God." is what is written by a prisoner on a wall



Another child prisoner freed

this context, a meeting is to be held between the lawyer, Abdullah Mahyoub Al-Yusifi, in charge of human rights issues, and the prosecutor. President Ali Abdullah Saleh has also called upon all the Organizations of the Civil Society and Human Rights Organizations to have an active participation in this campaign."

In regards to private jails, he said "We coordinate with the prosecutor to have members from the prosecution define these jails and ultimately demolish them. A strategic plan is also drawn out to apply strict measures in case of any reported violations.

Another touching issue to be addressed is the numerous cleansing violations. The cleansing law stipulates that a cleansing authority is to be established and that a judge is to be designated so as to settle cleansing issues at the municipality within 24 hours. However, the non-existence of this authority has led to many aggressive detentions. This is also against the law and human rights. The main reason behind this is the premature legal awareness on the part of the Law Enforcing Institutions to perform their duties, ways of dealing with these issues and the slackness of the general prosecution to enforce law and order

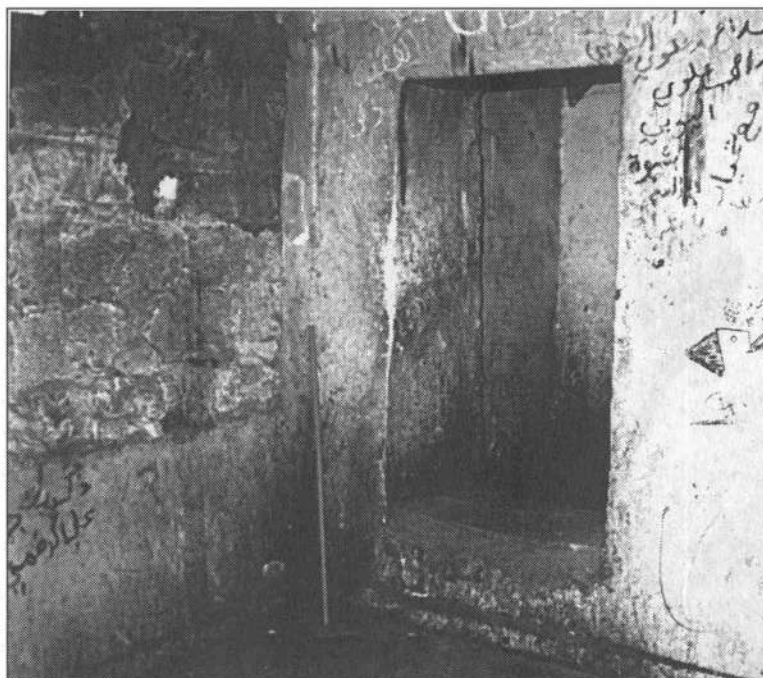
in the past period.

No doubt prisons in the capital secretariat are far much better if compared to those in other governorates. However, we do call all the authorities in the other governorates to conduct a thorough survey on the conditions of the prisons and private jails and to report them in details to the Authority concerned.

To our dismay, we came to find a private jail in Sana'a University. The private jail was a container located in the campus of the Faculty of Legislation and Law. After investigation, it appeared that it was used to detain soldiers, citizens and students who violate rules. There are also some other containers in other universities. This is a flagrant violation of the effective laws and human rights.

Generally speaking, the concept of locking people in jails is still predominating. We do believe that we can not establish the authority unless we use prisons. We do hope that the people of the media will do their best to develop the awareness of our society and to encourage the initiative of the President who made it clear that "we won't accept and allow any violations of human rights or any aggressive detentions".

Regarding the tense relations between



The toilet of a jail: Believe it or not!



More illegal jails, more illegally imprisoned people, wait for the moment of freedom

define the relations between all these institutions so each body performs its duty effectively."

Finally, Mr. Allaw said "The campaign should be associated with a massive media coverage to develop the awareness of people to their rights and how to keep them when violated."

In its report, the NADHRL urged the security of Sana'a University especially Ghalib Al-Kamish, chairman of the Central Body for Political Security, to destroy the containers that are used to lock people in, conduct an administrative investigation and submit those responsible to courts.

Worth mentioning is that the government launched an aggressive campaign at the beginning of this year against private jails after Al-Udain events and then Aness crime, Dhamar, claiming the lives of four people and driving one made and seriously affecting two others.

Yesterday, Mr. Allaw met with the prosecutor and his men and agreed on a plan according to which all private jails will be closed. They also agreed to hold more meetings attended by the Interior Minister, prosecutions' chairmen and security directors. They also agreed to conduct regular campaigns to check police stations to find out about their conditions every time and then to ensure that there will be no violations. Moreover, they also agreed that police stations should refer cases to the courts and institutions concerned so as to ensure a swift implementation of laws.

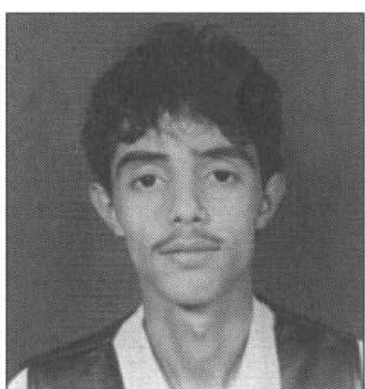
## Hani Invents a Remote Control Alarm

Perhaps materially Yemen is not rich but it possesses a huge human wealth. Human is the mainstay and dynamics of development. With his motivation, efforts and struggle nations build their glory, civilization and revolution. Wealth alone does not build glory. Yemen has a lot of talents and innovators in scientific and various other fields. There are individuals who,

appreciation and concern because the 'inventors' did it all by themselves with their small tools. Had they been moved to research centers with advanced tools they could have done miracles. No sooner the "Yemen Times" learnt of a new invention in Taiz than it rushed to meet Hani Ali Bajjash, a student of the Faculty of Science at Taiz University.

**Q. Am I talking to the right person? Are you the inventor of that tiny machine? How did you do it?**

**A.** Yes you are. In order to revise my lessons I used to get up early. But I never liked that ugly banging of my time-piece. Then I asked myself is it necessary to get up disturbed with the ugly banging of the alarm? Why not a beautiful, slow piece of music? It was not a hocus-pocus; but really I was able to convert the alarm into a remote control.



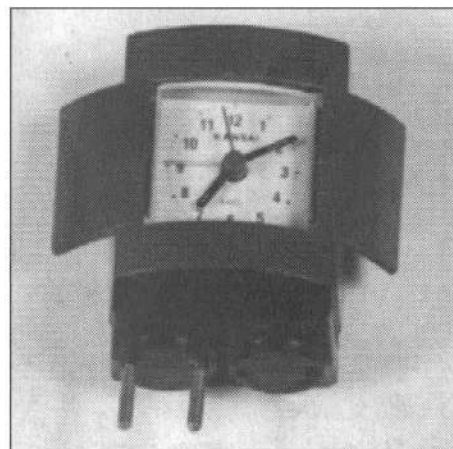
Science and Mr. Faisal Saeed Fara' as well as the Dean of Students Affairs, and with my personal efforts I was able to execute my idea.

The Ministry of Industry has put this invention on its records for registration with the WIPO in Geneva. How I wish talents at the University were cared for. It is my earnest desire to see a Science Club established to house all scientific talents and inventors.

**Q. And what are your future aspirations?**

**A.** I wish to come into contact with the officials in Sana'a so that they sponsor the idea and embody it like any electrical appliance and put it on sale. I also wish to see State-sponsored research centers for talents in the future, where care is given to scientific researches, innovations and inventions. Yemen can't go ahead without science.

No matter how my invention went; but I appreciate the "Yemen Times" interest in Yemeni youth and their talents. With this tiny information you will bring my invention to light. This is my best reward.



**Q. Marvelous! Please go on...**

**A.** Now I can automatically stop electrical appliances such as TV, tape-recorder or refrigerator and keep them on according to my wish. Simply click and your fridge gets a 'stop, during your absence from home.

**Q. Did you show your invention to the appropriate authorities. Did they like it? Appreciated it?**

**A.** Some officials at the University encouraged me while the majority proved to be cynic. I needed finance badly and, criticisms made me almost frustrated; but I never threw in the towel. With the cooperation of Dr. Sadeq al-Hazmi, Dean of Faculty of

through their personal efforts, invented things. With simple tools they reach their target mainly owing to their love of inquisition. They insist on knowing the reality of things. Fed up of walking and walking, a tired fellow tried to 'manufacture' his own car. Believe it, or not he was successful in driving his own-made car in the streets of Hodeidah. Alas! he could not get anyone appreciating his efforts. Another "Marconi-type" fellow who liked to see his own village's voice on the air was able to develop a radio station covering a range of ten kilometers. These are small things but deserve

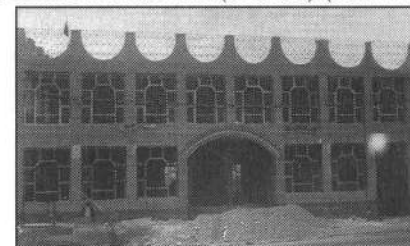
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## Charitable Services for Female Prisoners

A charitable service program focusing on women jailed in the Central Prison of Hodeidah is currently implemented. The program was started in the beginning of June and will last till the end of September.

The program is organized by the Center for Youths Researches and Development and funded by the Danish government. The program aims at providing humane, legal and educational assistance for woman prisoners who are considered to be "in conflict with the law"

meaning that laws are very aggressive in dealing with them, Dr. Mohammed Awad Ba Obaid said. The program provides them with the following assistance:

### Health Assistance:

According to statistics 45 woman prisoners with 26 children are now benefiting from the program of health care. The program provides these prisoners with the medical inspection conducted by specialists of women and children. 85 cases, women and children, were examined and treated during the first two weeks of July. According to

physicians, urinary, genital tracts diseases, digestion and breathing systems, anemia, malnutrition, and skin diseases are the most prevalent diseases.

The program provides these prisoners with the prescribed medicine on a regular basis. Some sanitary pads and other health requirements such as washing powder, shampoo, children's anti-heat powder are also distributed to the woman prisoners in the beginning of each month. Fruits and milk are also distributed so as to compensate for the sharp deterioration of the nutrition level. A special attention is also paid to pregnancy cases and those who have got infants in terms of providing them with milk and special kind of fruits and vegetables on a daily basis.

To ensure health care services a clinic fully equipped with all necessary medical equipment was established in the place of a solitary confinement cell.

### The Legal Assistance:

The legal assessment of the prisoners was carefully studied. It came out that 37 out of 44 Yemeni female prisoners are arrested due to immoral issues including adultery, close proximity even in places deemed to be public, 3 theft cases and 4 murders. Thoroughly studying these cases, some lawyers came to the conclusion that these women were arrested according to weak legal warrants. Besides, the general passive attitude of judges and Law Enforcing Institutions about woman is the key reason behind their severe judicial verdicts, especially if the charge is concerned with immoral issues.

### Social Assistance:

A social survey on female prisoners was conducted so as to bridge the gap between these female prisoners and their families. The center contacted these families through some mediators so as to solve these female prisoners' issues. This has actually had a positive effect on the female prisoners and their families as well. The center has also asked the assistance of a psychologist to examine the prisoners' psychological situation and help them overcome their difficulties and to adapt themselves to the environment of prison. A study will soon be released in this regard.

### The Cultural and Entertaining Activity:

An abandoned hall in the prison was converted into a cultural center. It was renovated, furnished with chairs, tables, a TV set, fans, carpets, boards and some brain-storming games. A library with books and magazines was also established.

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Once again, we congratulate Subhi and urge him to continue reading Yemen Times on a regular basis and to always keep in touch.



تم تمديد فترة مهرجان اسبوعاً آخر وعليه سيتم السحب في ٢٠٠٠/٨/١٤

مسابقة يمن تايمز للتسوق بمناسبة مهرجان التسوق الثاني ٢٠٠٠ بمركز صنعاء التجاري ٢١/٧ - ١٤/٨/٢٠٠٠

In the occasion of the **STC Second Shopping Festival 21 / 7 - 14 / 8 / 2000**



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2) What are the most famous brands of beauty and hair accessories at Bedoun Essm shops? ☐ goody & Nibo ☐ قودي ونيبو ☐ بريديجستون

3) In which shop do you find Hugo Boss fashion? ☐ MAM ☐ أم ☐ رويال ☐ كلاهما

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5) Since Baskin Robbins was founded in 1945 how many flavours have been created by them so far? ☐ 750 Flavours ☐ ٧٥٠ نكهة ☐ 31 Flavours ☐ ٣١ نكهة

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صنعاء شارع أمنا الشطة  
٢٤٦١٢٨، شارع تعز ٢٤٠٢٢٧  
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المنية ت: ٢٢٤١٨١، ص. ب. ٥٩٢٥  
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المنية ت: ٢٢٤١٨١، ص. ب. ٥٩٢٥  
■ مطعم انعم الحديث للمأكولات الشرقية  
والغربية، بروس، لآل، لحم، دجاج، وجبات  
شبهية، أسعار مغرية، فوق مكان للالعالات،  
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التحرير الأسفل خلف فندق برج التحرير  
الساحي ت: ٢٢٧٥٢٢

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■ مفصلة سماء العاصمة، غسل، كوي  
ملابس، سجاد، باءاء، وبالبخار، عادي  
ومستعمل اثنان - ضمان شراينا الدائم  
ملابس أنيقة نظيفة، شارع الفرعي من شارع  
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الساحي ت: ٢٢٧٥٢٢

## مناسبات

عبد الغني السقاف، نصري السقاف، أمين سعيد السقاف، فائز وفواز وماجد ومروان أمين السقاف، آمين وهاني ومازن عبد الغني السقاف، ثائف وهاني عباس السقاف

نهني ونبارك لالاخ أكرم محمد مسعد الحافلي بمناسبة ارتزاق مولوده الثالث الذي أسماه (أحمد)، فالف ميروك. المهزؤون: أتم محمد مسعد الحافلي، عبد القاهر محمد علي الحافلي، أشرف محمد مسعد الحافلي.

تهانينا لالاخ محمد عبدالوهاب المحمدي بمناسبة تخرجه وحصوله على دبلوم اللغة الانجليزية بتقدير عام جيد. ألف ميروك. المهزؤون: أكرم محمد مسعد الحافلي، عبدالله علي الصغير، عمر محمد علي حماكي.

أجمل الأمناني القلبية والتبريكات زنهيا للشباب الخلق أنور إبراهيم الرماني بمناسبة زواجه الميمون. ألف ميروك، وبالرفاه والبنين. المهزؤون: خالد علوي السقاف، رمزي علوي السقاف، وجميع الأهل والأصدقاء

أجمل التهاني وأطيب الأمناني زنهيا لالاخ عبدالرحمن قائله محمد الميموني بمناسبة الخطوبة فالف المهزؤون: ضياء رزاز، صادق العليمي، سمير الشريمي

وسط تغريد البلال وزغرة العصارين احتفل الشاب الخلق صفوان أقيم السقاف بزفافه الميمون الذي أقيم يوم الخميس الماضي. وبهذه المناسبة تقدم له بالتهاني مكللة بباريح الورد والرياحين وبقب الحجار، وآلف ألف ميروك. المهزؤون: أبو بكر السقاف،

**كوافير السيدة الجميلة**  
الكوافير الذي يهتم بأفانة وشباب المرأة المعاصرة بأحدث التسريحات ومستحضرات التجميل.  
(الخبرة خير برهان)  
صنعاء شارع كلية الشرطة  
أمام روضة الملك المغيرة  
تلفون: ٢٤١٧٦٩

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أعلانات متنوعة  
خدمات كمبيوتر  
طباعة متنوعة  
فرز الأوراق  
توكيلات اعلامية  
تلفون: ٢٢١٧١٧  
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**صاونات حلافة**  
طالون طوبه  
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شعور دائم بالرجولة  
أسعار خاصة بمناسبة المهرجان  
وقسم خاص للأطفال  
مركز السيد، الشوك الأريسي ت: 22816

**Advanced Tehnology**  
**المتقدمة للتكنولوجيا**  
Educational Programs  
أجهزة كمبيوتر - مستلزمات وبرامج لمعدات خاصة  
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الرائد في عالم المأكولات اليمنية والشرقية بالإضافة إلى المأكولات الغربية. ت: 267467

**صاونات حلافة**  
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صاونات الأناقة الرجالية  
شعور دائم بالرجولة  
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**Advanced Tehnology**  
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أسعار خاصة بمناسبة المهرجان  
وقسم خاص للأطفال  
مركز السيد، الشوك الأريسي ت: 22816

**Advanced Tehnology**  
**المتقدمة للتكنولوجيا**  
Educational Programs  
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Educational Programs  
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وقسم خاص للأطفال  
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**Advanced Tehnology**  
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Educational Programs  
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شعور دائم بالرجولة  
أسعار خاصة بمناسبة المهرجان  
وقسم خاص للأطفال  
مركز السيد، الشوك الأريسي ت: 22816

**Advanced Tehnology**  
**المتقدمة للتكنولوجيا**  
Educational Programs  
أجهزة كمبيوتر - مستلزمات وبرامج لمعدات خاصة  
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Educational Programs  
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وقسم خاص للأطفال  
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**Advanced Tehnology**  
**المتقدمة للتكنولوجيا**  
Educational Programs  
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**مطعم الخيمة**  
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**Yemcen Technology**  
وكلاء كمبيوترات ABS الأمريكية  
**يمسن تكنولوجي**  
P.O. Box: 2165 - Sana'a - Yemen  
Tel: 284576 - Telefax: 283293  
E-mail: yemcen@y.net.ye

# Weekly Commercial Directory

## An efficient business and service guide to Yemen

**فندق خليج عمان السياحي**  
**KHALIJ OMAN TOURIST HOTEL**  
Sana'a - Ali Abdulmoghni St.  
Tel.: 279593, 278817, 279295, 279038,  
272452, 271820,  
Fax: 279594, P.O.  
Box: 1482-Sana'a  
صنعاء - شارع علي عبدالمغني  
هاتف: ٢٧٩٥٩٣، ٢٧٨٨١٧، ٢٧٩٠٣٢، ٢٧٩٠٣٢، ٢٧٨٨١٧  
٢٧٢٨٠  
فاكس: ٢٧٩٥٩٤  
ص. ب: ١٤٨٢ صنعاء

**MAKTABATI**  
محاسبة - أدوات هندسية - أدوات مخبرية - هدايا - أدوات الكمبيوتر - بطاقات معالجة - أدوات زخارف - كروتات فيزيات  
**STATIONERY - OFFICE EQUIPMENT ENGINEERING**  
ج. ي - صنعاء - شارع حدة - تليفاكس: ٢٤٩ - ٢٤ - ص. ب: ١٩١٣  
R. of Y. - SANA'A HADDA ST. TEL/FAX: 240419 P. O. BOX: 19613

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For Decoration and General Construction  
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للديكور والمقاولات العامة  
أسقف جسيمة، أسقف مستعارة، ورق جدران، أقواس وخزانات، مسابح، قواطع جيس امبور، بلاط رخام وبلاستيك أمريكي، رنج عادي ومحيط مقاولات معمارية وإنشائية  
شارع النوكاني (كلية الشرطة) أمام بوابة الكلية - صنعاء - تليفاكس: ٥٠٠٧٢

**MANAR Travel & Tours**  
Appointed agent of:  
Yemenia, KLM, Lufthansa, Gulf Emirates, Royal Jordanian, Gulf Air & Saudi Airlines.  
Tel: 206908, 219322, Fax: 206907  
P. O. Box 18195, Algharassi Building, Hadda Street, Sana'a

**Al-Azher for Auto Door system**  
Swing Gate Operator  
Sliding Gate Operator  
Garage Door Operator  
Glass Sliding Operator  
Barriers, Rolling Shutter Operator  
Tel: 01-400353, Fax: 620900

**Al-Deewan Restaurant**  
All Lebanese & Yemeni Food  
One Man Music Show  
Tel: 271461, Fax: 271355  
Zubairi St., Sana'a

**ACIDS**  
**Alhamed Tridings**  
Specialize in Chemicals, Swimming Pool Materials, Water Equip & Materials, Teaching Aids, Lather Tools, Handicraft Tools, Hand & Power Tools, Scales, Safety Equipment and Other Items. Sana'a, Bab Al-Balaqa Telefax: 289473.

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**BARBER**  
**TUBA BARBER**  
Hair cutting - oil bath - skin cleansing (through nails, steam, face mask, nutritious mask) - Tel. 212616/Saeed Trading Center - First Floor - Zubairi Str. Sanaa

**BANKS**  
**Watani Bank for Trade & Investment**  
Tel: 206613 - 8 lines, fax: 205706, 215577. Branch network Khowlan St., tel: 500200, Hodeidah (03) 222619.

**SABA ISLAMIC BANK**  
Tel: 286506 Fax: 286505  
P. O. Box: 11054  
Email: SABABANK@y.net.ye

**CARGO**  
Red Sea Packing, General Trading Agency. (Circle International). Packing, Travels, Forwarding, Custom Clearance, Copiers, Faxes, Stencil Duplicators, Copy printers. Tel: 264089 /090/124 Fax: 00967-1-264104/417387. email:redsea@y.net.ye Hadda Complex B. 6 P. O. Box: 19227, Sana'a, ROY.

**COMPUTER SALES**  
Alarin computer. Networking Solutions, Microsoft Certified. Zubairi St., Opp. Mareb Insurance Tel. 218801, Fax: 218802  
E-mail: alarin@y.net.ye  
DIGITAL WORLD. Our services: Digital Satellite Systems, Communications and Computer Services. Sana'a, Moqadisho St. Tel: 408563 - PO Box: 5279.

**PEACOCK**  
All come from Germany  
COMPUTER INFORMATION WORLD  
OKI Printers  
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Software, Networking, Support, Training, Peripherals. PO Box: 20016, Tel: 217847/8, Fax: 202184 Sana'a 21 Magadishue St. ROY. Email: CIW@y.net.ye

**DAEWOO**  
UNIVERSAL COMPUTERS  
Tel/Fax: 225602 - Branch: 214137

**Modern Internet City**  
for internet and computer services. Al-Adl St., near to Sana'a university. Email: alsharafi@naseej.com.

**CONSTRUCTION**  
Al-Barakani for Consulting and Engineering. Tel: 409905, ext: 302, 300090, fax: 205453 ext: 303.

**DECORATIONS**  
ITALIAN CENTER FOR DECORATION  
أسقف مستعارة، أرضيات بلاستيكية، ورق جدران، سائر معدنية وجسيمات  
سواء شارع البالد  
تلفون: ٢٢٥٠٠٠، فاكس: ٢٢٥٠٠٠  
Casting tiles, floor plastics, wall papers, Metallic curtains and Gypsum. Sana'a - Al-Qyada St. Tel: 235500, Fax: 255043

**HOSPITALS**  
Yemen Specialized Hospital. Pioneer in the diagnosis and treatment. Experts in all types of surgery. Sana'a, Al-Horah St. Near to Ministry of Planning. Tel: 224963, Fax: 222111  
Bablon Specialist Hospital. High qualified staff. Supervised by Dr. Abdulrahman Zubaidi & Muneer Dahrah. Serving 24 hours. Sana'a, Taiz St. Tel: 614-030.

**INSTITUTE**  
GITEX  
for Computer Services  
Macintosh & PC Maintenance  
Hadda St. Telefax: 218502  
Specialize Institute: Computer - Languages - Diploma - Typing. Tel: 274870 - PO Box 3024 - Sanaa - Tahrir. Oxford Modern Technical Institute. Summer courses continues, computer and languages. West rign road, near to the new university. Telefax: 257456.

**Dental Clinic**  
Shehab Dental Center provides comprehensive dental treatment. San'a, R.O.Y. Tel: 218824, Telefax: 400443.

### HOTELS

**GUMDAN PALACE HOTEL**  
**G. P. H**  
Sana'a - Al Meethaq Street, PO Box: 12447  
Tel: 223279/1/2  
Fax: 232796  
Pager: 5882382  
E-mail: gumdan\_palace@hotmail.com  
Sam City Hotel, Sanaa Tel: 276294/5/7, 270752, Fax: 275168 E-mail: al-mamoon@y.net.ye  
Sana'a, Al-Qyadah Street. Al-Yamama Palace Suites - PO Box 3297 Tunis Str. Sanaa - Tel. 236230 - Fax 229863 - Email: alyamama.com@y.net.ye  
Shaba'a Towers Hotel - Sabaa round turner, near Sabaa School - Sanaa - Tel. 253155/204/211/209 Fax: 253213 - Email: sabaatowerssanaa@y.net.ye  
Hill Town Sanaa Hotel The only four star hotel in the heart of city. Near National Museum, Sana'a, Yemen. Tel: 278426/9,8/ Fax: 278427, P. O. Box: 10706.

### MEDICINE

Al-Shihab for Drugs & medical Appliances. Main Branch: Taiz: tel: 227391, Fax: 233879, Sana'a: Tel: 278657, Fax: 274475, Aden tel: 381290, Hodeidah: Tel: 253487.  
Al-Kamel Establishment for Medicine & Medical Equipment. The only agent fo EBLA (Syria) and ILSANILTA (Turkish) Loropham Contrept Vag. supp. Tamol Tablet for headache, hard on pain soft on stomach. Sana'a - al-Thirir Telefax: 279500, Taiz: Al-Thirir telefax: 226504.

### MONEY TRANSFER

Western Union the fastest way to send money worldwide. AL-HAMD FOR EXCHANGE. Abdulmughnee St. Sana'a. Tel: 286562, Fax: 272660 - 286562.

### OPTICAL

Nadeem Optical, specialists in contact lens. Contact: 278370.

### PERSONAL

Make new friends worldwide for intimacy, hobby, trade contacts, alliance- much more. Write for details in English to: AMITY INTERNATIONAL, Abidnagar, Visakhapatnam - 530016, INDIA. Or visit http://www.sonnnet.co.uk/amity

### PHARMACY

Al-Tabib Pharmacy  
Telefax 261850 - Sanaa  
Hadda Street Opp. British Embassy

### PHOTOGRAPH

Salah Abdullah Assem, Photographer. Tel: 234982, 262735 Sana'a, 252536, Aden

### RESTAURANT

**Ethiopian Cultural Restaurant**  
Sana'a, Al-Quser St. Beside Chinese Embassy.  
Tel: 967-1-275467, P. O. Box: 19735.

### SERVICES

**Vet for your Pet.**  
Tel: 255969, Mobile: 7917246.

### STATIONERIES

**MAKTABATI** Stationery. Office Equipment Engineering. Sana'a, Hadda St. telefax: 240419. PO Box: 19613, Sanaa.  
Al-Shouabee Trading Stores for office and engineering stationary items and computer requirements. Contact: Hazza Hamood Abdullah Al-Shouabee. Tel: 500466, Tel-Fax: 410948 P.O.Box. 16075.Hadda st.Sanaa

**AL-KOLAIBY**  
TRAVEL & TOURS  
Head Office: Zubairi St. PO Box: (3509) Tel: 274531/275306, Fax: 270941. Pager: 5801660, Mobile: 7915300. Sana'a, R. of Yemen

**International Travel & Tours**  
Yemen Republic, Sana'a, Al-Zubairi St. PO Box: 4289 Tel: 280300 - 281558, Fax: 283951

**RUTTA TOURS**  
Worldwide Travel & Cargo by land, sea and air  
P.O. Box: 3331  
Zubeiri St. Beside Issac Building, Sana'a, ROY.  
Tel: 240814, Telefax: 240916 email: rutta@y.net.ye

**SKY TRAVEL & TOURS**  
APPOINTED AGENT  
Yemenia, Emirates, Gulf Air, KLM, Lufthansa  
Sana'a - Republic of Yemen, Mojahed St.  
P.O. Box: 1632 Tel: 266272, 260932, 260946, Fax: 266258 Email: SKYTRV@Y.NET.YE

### TAILORS

Lebanon's Jeans, the glittering in the world of sewing, creation, modern models and universal fabrics. Lebanese designers, the Art and Management supervision: Ahmed Mohammed Saleh. Sana'a, Ka'a Al-Olofi, Birout St. Tel: 292484.

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Moqadishu St, PO Box: 11438, Sana'a. Tel: 203636, Fax: 216263

### UNIVERSITY

Queen Arwa University for Academic Sciences - Sixteen Str. (Fag Attan) - Tel 416909 - Fax 209544 - PO Box 11586 - Sanaa  
Studying in Great Britain with B.E.S.T. Bournemouth Educational Services and Travel, Please contact authorized agent in Yemen: Yemen Explorer Tours Tel. 967-1-203119, fax: 209255 email: yestours@y.net.ye

### WATCHES

Rolex Watches - Al-Ekliei. Sana'a - Ali Abdulmughnee St. Tel: 273236.

**ANNOUNCEMENT**  
This announcement is for those who are interested to participate with the DV (Diversity Visa) Lottery Program to the United States of America. If you are interested to immigrate to the United States of America on this program, please send the following information to the address written below immediately:

**INFORMATION REQUIRED**  
1. Full Name 2. Date and place of birth 3. Nationality 4. PO Box address  
**ADDRESS TO SEND TO**  
PO Box: 11082 Sana'a, Yemen  
The sooner you send the better opportunity you have

### Taiz Shopping

**COURIER**  
Sky Net World Wide Express. Sky Net Yemen Limited. Courier - Cargo - Clearance. Taiz Branch: Tel: 04-232779, Jamal Street, in front of Al-Bank Al-Tigari, PO Box: 2529.

**STATIONERIES**  
Taiz Stationery for office and engineering stationary items. Please pay a visit and you'll find all your stationery needs. Jamal Street, tel: 231177.

Read the "Yemen Times Directory" regularly and save your valuable money!

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