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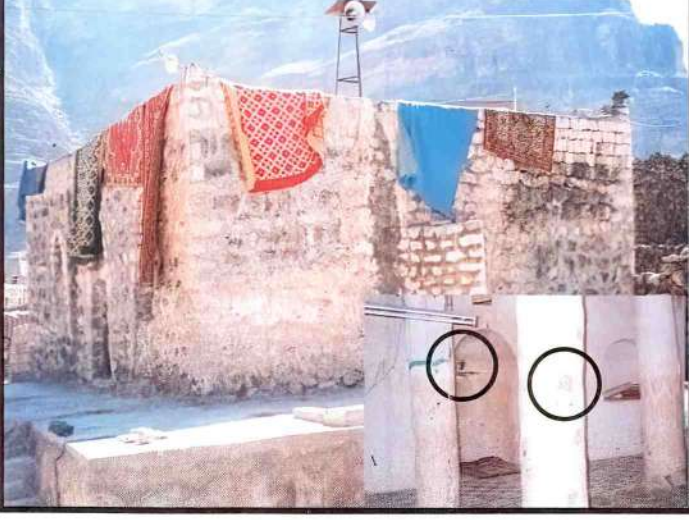
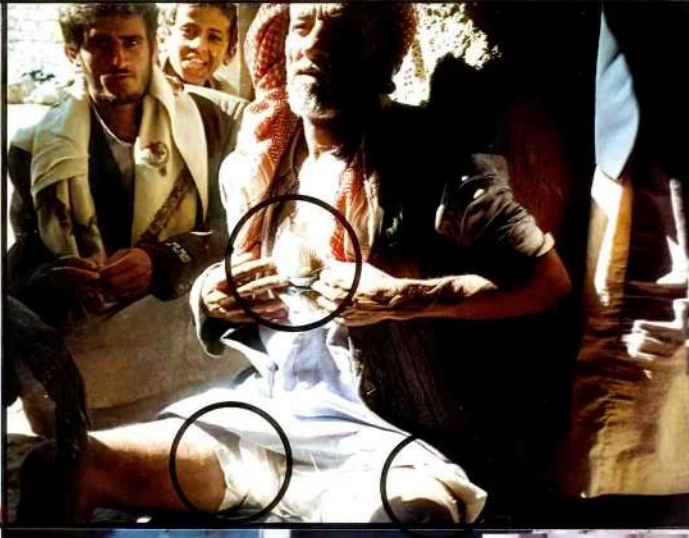
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MOSQUE MASSACRE



Four men were killed and 18 injured in the Imam Al-Hadi Mosque-Yanoor, Bani Jubar Village-Amran, in one of the most horrifying incidents in recent memory. At around 8:00 pm on Wednesday, January 10, the young armed tribesman, Jubran Musa'id Qassim Ash-shami, opened fire from his kalashnikov machine-gun through the door of the mosque on the worshippers while they were in the 'rukoo' stage of the evening 'Isha' prayer. In this issue, we publish a complete report on this terrorist act, which will be remembered by the Bani Jubar Village for a long time. **Check the complete and comprehensive report on page 15**

Possible Yemeni-British Cooperation to Fight Terrorism

"An appeal for clemency of the British prisoners in Aden was submitted through the British Embassy to the Yemeni government last November," said the British Ambassador to Yemen, Mr. Victor Henderson, to Yemen Times in an interview on the occasion of the end of his tenure in office -interview on page 3. The appeal letter was submitted by the lawyer of the prisoners, Mr. Bader Ba-Sunaid. However, Mr. Henderson stressed that there was no response yet to the appeal which was also discussed between the UK Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook and President Ali Abdullah Saleh when he stopped in London on his way to the Millennium Summit held in New York. This appeal, which represents the focal point of differences between Sana'a and London was spotlighted by Mr. Keith Vaz, Foreign Office Minister for State during his visit to Sana'a last October. Yet, Mr. Henderson is hopeful that President Saleh will consider the appeal of the prisoners, charged with various security offenses, sympathetically. He also said that, in spite of the bombing of the USS Cole and the British Embassy last October, which unavoidably put Yemen in the spotlight again, it would be possible to rebuild the relations between the two countries as there were a lot of things in which they can help each other. "We both share the interest of terrorism", he stressed.

Interview with Mr. Henderson on P3

Opposition Coordination Council Unites

In a step, which is the first of its kind, the Opposition Supreme Coordination Council has reached an agreement to take a unified stand in regard to the upcoming local council elections scheduled for February 20, 2001. The council expressed the need to unite in order to compete with the two strongest parties, PGC and Islah, and to ensure some seats for the opposition in the local council to be elected. It also openly stated that it would reject the constitutional amendments and call upon the public to say "NO" in the referendum to be conducted simultaneously with the local elections. It is worth mentioning that the Opposition Coordination Council took a unified stand in 1999 pertaining to the presidential elections. However, the Parliament did not endorse the candidate nominated by the council, Ali Saleh Obad (Mogbil), causing the council to boycott the elections. Observers view this move as outstanding and promising since the parliamentary elections of 1993. If it stands the test of time, it will be a turning point in the political arena, observers say. In a meeting held last Wednesday, the Islah Party announced that it would participate in the local elections. This decision was confirmed after President Ali Abdullah Saleh attended the Islah annual congress in which he stated that both parties had started a strategic partnership that must continue. The final decision of participating alone in the elections was taken in the extraordinary meeting held on January 3, 2001. The Islah Party, however, did not state clearly its stand in regard to the constitutional amendments.

Sana'a Mayor's Son Still in Custody

Tribal negotiations and mediations to release the son of Sana'a mayor are still going on. Mohammed Hussein Al-Maswari, 32, and son of the mayor of Sana'a was snatched last Tuesday from Sana'a by a group of armed tribesmen from Bani Dhabyan tribe of Khawlan who took him at the gun point to Bani Dhabyan, a mountainous village 100 Km away from Sana'a. The kidnapers headed by Mohammed Siraj Al-Humaidi demanded the release of six of their fellow men charged with various security offenses, mainly kidnapping, like that of a Dutch fellow in 1997, and four German tourists in November 1999.

Aden Seaport Watched for 20 Days before USS Cole Incident

One of the suspects in the USS Cole incident confessed that he was assigned with other people to watch out movements of US ships at Aden and Hodeidah ports to carry out military operations against them, a reliable source in Aden revealed. The suspect added that they spent 20 days watching until their leaders decided to hit USS Cole at Aden Port. On the other hand, American investigators still carry out field visits to places suspected to have connection with the incident and meet with the 50 eye witnesses. American investigators have also met with a number of Yemeni officials in Aden, the source added. There are still 18 eye-witnesses awaiting interrogation before transferring the case to court.

Three People Injured in Land Mine Explosion

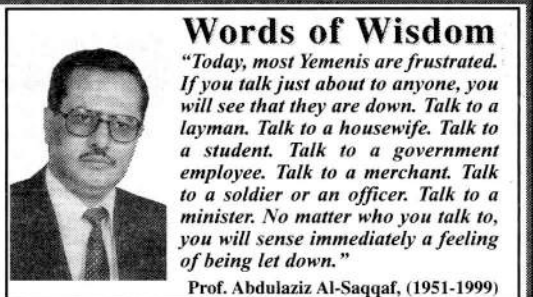
Three persons were seriously injured in an explosion of two anti-individual land mines in Al-Dhale' last Friday morning. Eyewitnesses said that the first land mine exploded in a road leading to Al-Garbaa Military Camp at 8:00 a.m. injuring Khaled Abdullah who lost his right foot fingers and Abdulrahman Mohammed Qassim who was slightly injured. The latter was arrested for interrogation after being treated. The second mine exploded an hour later injuring soldier Ahmad Al-Faqeeh who was rushed to Al-Jumhuria Hospital in Aden.

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Words of Wisdom

"Today, most Yemenis are frustrated. If you talk just about to anyone, you will see that they are down. Talk to a layman. Talk to a housewife. Talk to a student. Talk to a government employee. Talk to a merchant. Talk to a soldier or an officer. Talk to a minister. No matter who you talk to, you will sense immediately a feeling of being let down."

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

Our Opinion
Are We Missing the Point?

The latest Amran Mosque incident shook many people and caused a lot of security officials to be concerned.

Having a gunman firing randomly at tens of worshippers in a mosque, is not something that we see often. We also do not often find a person mad enough to go to the public and shoot fire at anyone he sees in the street. But what we see, and keep on ignoring day after day, month after month, and year after year, is the carrying of weapons everywhere in the country.

For any foreign observer reading some of the many articles about revenge incidents, clashes between forces and tribesmen, kidnapping, etc., will probably say, "Hello?? Anyone home? Gentlemen, you are missing the point! You have an armed population, everyone can easily obtain a weapon. This is why such incidents happen. Don't look no more!"

This may be true. We may indeed be missing the point, as we can imagine what would happen if anyone in the country could obtain a weapon without permission or authorization. I don't want to be interrupted at this point by an official or two saying, "You know we do prohibit the carrying of weapons without a license, and once they are found, they are confiscated!" I wonder if such officials are fooling us or fooling themselves. Is it true that the tribesmen wandering all over the cities, kidnapping this and shooting at that, all have licenses and our kind government is taking that into consideration, and hence allowing them to carry weapons? Give me a break!

If we continue to assume that the situation will be stable and calm while we have an average of more than two pieces of weapons per Yemeni, then we must be either too naive or with all due respect, stupid.

What makes me so frustrated is that the government has never thought of any plan, neither long-term nor short-term to reduce the number of weapons in the country. In a time where we are seeking foreign investment, tourism, and security, we cannot simply ignore this issue any more. I do not demand a complete solution for this awkward problem, especially that we will be dealing with tribal communities, but what I want is a long-term plan to work on reducing weapons in Yemen. We must do something to stop the increasing number of smuggled and imported weapons, which continue to threaten our security and also our economy. It does not require super intelligence to understand that working on such a plan will be in the best of our country's interests, nor will it require a miracle to happen. Such horrible incidents as the Amran mosque's massacre that occurred last Wednesday is just one of many happening across the country, some reported, but many never reach the press desk. However, most of them would not have happened if we had a regulating law for the purchase and use of weapons.

I don't want to continue talking about something that is too obvious and clear, but can't we realize that the spread of weapons is why we are losing so many lives that could have been otherwise saved?

At the end of my viewpoint article that I wrote in frustration after I realized the dimensions of loss in the Amran mosque's incident, I can't help asking the question:
"Are we missing the point?!"

Taiz-Saber Road Inaugurated

Mr. Abdullah Hussein Al-Dafyee, Minister of Construction, Housing and Urban Planning, Mr. Nasser Assaloum, Saudi Minister of Transportation, Judge Ahmad Abdullah Al-Hajry, Governor of Taiz and Mr. Ali Mohammed Saeed Anam, Board of Directors' Chairman of the Hayel Saeed Anam Group of Companies inaugurated the 22 Kilometer Taiz-Saber road last Saturday. The project which was kicked off on October 27 1997 cost about USD 12,222,398.



The newly inaugurated road will facilitate transportation of people and agricultural products between Saber and Taiz. During the inauguration ceremony governor of Taiz welcomed the

Dr. Ahmad Hayel Saeed delivered a speech on behalf of the supervisory committee in which he praised the efforts made to execute the project. He added that the road would remain a witness to the good and strong relations between the Yemeni and Saudi people.

The inauguration was attended by Mr. Nasser Al-Doeig Charge d' Affairs at the Saudi Embassy in Sana'a, Mr. Rashad Abu Al-Khair, representative of the Sultan Charitable Organization and Sheikh Ahmad Hayel Saeed, Vice Chairman of Board of Directors at the Hayel Group of Companies.

FBC Inaugurated Today in Aden

The Fifth Businessmen Conference shoots off today. Under the patronage of President Ali Abdullah Saleh, the FBC was organized by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Aden, along with the GTZ and the Planning Ministry.

The 2-day Conference aims at developing investment awareness in Yemen. It is also to develop utilizing human as well as natural resources in the country. All of this in a condensed effort to prepare the

country to face the challenges of the future and world competition. It is an invitation to the emigrants' capitals to return to Yemen as it is also to encourage Yemeni businessmen to invest in Yemen rather than abroad.

More than 250 participants from different business sectors as well as more than 50 Yemeni emigrant Investors in Saudi Arabia, UAE, Kuwait, India, Kenya and Tanzania are expected to take part in the conference.

The Conference is going to discuss different issues of importance to investors as well the government of Yemen, especially the Aden Free Zone Project. Solutions will be suggested to many obstacles facing Yemen's economical development. The Yemen Times will be distributing a business supplement on the occasion of the conference.

UCHM Seminar Kicked off

Organized by the Urban Cultural Heritage Strategy and Management Program, a 3-day seminar on urban cultural heritage management (UCHM) started in Sana'a yesterday at the Culture and Tourism Ministry. The seminar marks the kick off of the 5-year program financed by the Dutch Government at \$ 1.7 million that will assist the Yemeni government in setting up policies for the revitalization of all historic cities in Yemen.

In his inaugural speech, Dr. Abdulmalik Mansour, Culture and Tourism Minister stressed the importance of protecting the cultural heritage in which our identity is embodied. He said that the Yemeni government singled out \$30 million

for protecting old cities since 1984, urging all donor countries in collaboration with the Yemeni government to conduct a map for the historic sites in Yemen. He also said that technology should be included in the research works about cultural heritage. Mr. Dick AJ ter Steege, Team Leader said that the seminar wants to interact with the stockholders of the historic cities to make an update on the issues and problems related to the development of historic cities. The seminar will limit itself to the issues and problems related to the built environment, which consists



of the buildings, monuments and townscape of historic cities and participants will determine what the most pressing problems of the historic cities in Yemen are. The program in general aims at developing a national strategy and a general institutional framework to manage Yemen's urban cultural heritage protection and conservation.

Continued from page 1

Sana'a Mayor's Son Still in Custody

Representatives last Saturday and was questioned Wednesday by MPs about the security lapses and mess in the country. They asked him about the blunder and kidnapping cases that happened to people during their travel between Sana'a and Aden in which travelers were robbed of their properties under gun threat. The minister said security men were tracing criminals, highwaymen and robbers and that they already arrested some. With regards to the spread of check points preventing livestock from crossing governorates under the pretext of RVF despite the government's claim to have minimized the disease, the Minister said that the security men did this on the basis of a government decree and that such measures were decreased according to the health reports on the disease. MPs also asked the minister to double efforts to

arrest outlaws and criminal people and bring them to justice. However, security breakdown is noticeable in the country as terrorist acts have considerably increased. Since the beginning of this year, more than five explosions took place in Aden, a remarkable sign that security situation is deteriorating dramatically which the government has to consider seriously and deal with terrorists and criminals more vigorously. Bani Dhabyan tribe issued a statement indicating multiple requests to be met so as to release the hostage. They asked for considering their region as an independent district, employing one thousand tribesmen, and registering other 3 thousand in the Social Care Fund. They also asked for different other development projects to be executed in their areas.

office and asked about the people working in. Even after the incident a four-men group came from time to time and kept watching the office. The office issued reports requesting authorities concerned to hold the attackers responsible to ensure the state of law and order and stop these aggressive acts, especially as the attackers were driving a police car. The office appealed to all human rights organizations and those working in the field of law to condemn this act. This can be taken as a prelude to their barbaric acts and further suppression of lawyers and other academics, the report says.

IN BRIEF

Three People Killed on Sana'a-Mareb Road

Three people were killed in Al-Jadaan district on the Sana'a-Mareb road when a group of people from Al-Jadaan and Al-Ashraf tribes opened fire at one another. Following the incident, the two tribes met together to investigate the incident.

CSND First Meeting

The Civil Secretary Network for Development (CSND) held its first meeting for the year 2001 On January 14. The meeting was organized by the first coordination committee of the Network. The meeting was attended by the members of the network, the staff of Post Beijing Follow up Operations project, a group of journalists, and some guests such as Dr. Adel Al-Sharjabi from Sana'a University. The meeting focused on discussing the network plan to strengthen the network through systematic membership expansion and developing an organized mechanism for coordination and networking among them.

First Regional Forum of Rasael Al-Noor

Under the patronage of Judge. Ahmad Abdullah al-Hajri, Taiz governor, al-Saeed Establishment for Sciences and Culture, Taiz, hosted last Thursday 11.1.2001 the First Regional Forum for "Rasa'el al-Noor", a collection of nine books. Imam Sa'eed al-Noori is considered to be one of

the most outstanding scholars of the 20th century. In his books he dealt with enormous campaigns set forth by many European philosophers. Dedicating his life for science and knowledge, he stood against communism through his letters that he wrote to refute all the hearsay launched against the Islamic authority in Turkey.

The forum was considered to be the first of its kind in the Arab peninsula. Guests from Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Egypt, Japan from different countries attended this forum. Mr. Ahmad Hayel Saeed has delivered a welcoming speech and highlighting the establishment's role in adopting important cultural issues.

The English Sheikh & The Yemeni Gentleman

In a unique attempt, Yemeni film director Ben Hirsi presents his film "The English Sheikh & the Yemeni Gentleman." This lyrical documentary follows London-born Badr Ben Hirsi as he discovers his ancestral home under the guiding hand of the eccentric Tim Mackintosh Smith, who has been living in the ancient Yemeni city of Sana'a for 16 years.

This moving yet amusing documentary is exquisitely filmed by award-winning cinematographer Koutaiba Al-Janabi. The film will be on display at the British Council, Al-Jazair street on the 20th of January. For more information contact the BLC - 215000.

LS Condemns Attacking Dr. Hassan Mujali's Office

Following opening fire at the office of Dr. Hassan Mujali 4/1/2001, the Lawyers Syndicate (LS) issued a report condemning this aggressive act and requested the Justice Minister, Attorney General, Interior Ministry to arrest those responsible for the attack and bring them to justice. Lawyer Hassan Mujali, Sana'a University law doctor, was subject to an attempted murder at eleven thirty Thursday evening January 4. Two armed men opened fire on the main gate of his office, located in the old al-Asbahi city, in an attempt to kill him when employees working in the office went out from the small gate. After that they flew away using a police Toyota car, beige color, whose number was noted down and given to the security. Dr. Hassan had left the office some time before that day. On the following day, an anonymous person called at the office and told the employees to tell Dr. Hassan that this was "just the beginning." Eyewitnesses said attackers had already kept watching Dr. Mujali's



office and asked about the people working in. Even after the incident a four-men group came from time to time and kept watching the office. The office issued reports requesting authorities concerned to hold the attackers responsible to ensure the state of law and order and stop these aggressive acts, especially as the attackers were driving a police car. The office appealed to all human rights organizations and those working in the field of law to condemn this act. This can be taken as a prelude to their barbaric acts and further suppression of lawyers and other academics, the report says.

Yemen Women Researchers Meet

Under the auspices of Sheikh Abdullah Ben Hussein Al-Ahmar, the International Council of Muslim Women Scholars in the Muslim Women Union organizes a forum for Yemeni women researchers during January 16-17 at the Yemeni Cultural Center in Sana'a, under the theme "Towards an Intellectual attitude of Muslim Women." The Forum includes more than 50 researchers from different areas in Yemen. It will also host a number of personalities concerned with women issues. Discussions are expected to center on the challenges facing Muslim

women, establishing a scientific council for Muslim scholars in Yemen, introducing the scientific qualifications and abilities of Yemeni women, joining scientific research efforts, consolidating friendships and relations among Yemeni researchers, etc. The International Council of Muslim Women Scholars is a non-governmental organization that was declared in April 1999. Recently, it has been granted a go to open an office in Yemen for which the forum is held.

P&G Life Journey, Second Draw Witnessed

The Second Draw of the Life Journey organized by the Proctor and Gamble Company was held last Wednesday at the company headquarters in Sana'a. Twenty two winners from the whole Republic won 7 pilgrimage trips and other lucrative prizes. The third draw is scheduled for next Wednesday after which 6 other draws will remain. The event was attended by a

number of businessmen, journalists, outstanding social figures and the company staff.



WB New Director Holds Press Conference

Mr. Mahmood A. Aysub, Pakistani national, is the WB new director of regional office located in Cairo of Yemen, Egypt and Djibouti. He came to Yemen on a short visit to meet with the authorities and get first hand knowledge of Yemen. During the visit Mr. Mahmood met with government officials including PM, Planning and Finance Ministers, several other ministers, key donors, private sector representatives and NGOs. A press conference was organized on Wednesday in which Mr. Mahmood highlighted relations between WB and Yemen, saying "We are actively involved in Yemen with our portfolio being of the largest in the middle East. We currently have about 22 ongoing projects, with commitments of about \$670 million." He indicated that "For the future we fully share the government's objective of focussing on poverty alleviation based on more rapid growth, and ensuring that the fruits of this rapid growth are shared by all Yemenis. We expect an average of \$ 200 million annually during the next 2-3 years." Regarding the areas of focus, he said "Our main areas of focus will be water management, education, health, agricultural services, public works and capacity building, and areas related to the reform of the macroeco-

omic system, including improving the environment for the private sector development, civil service reform, etc. In an answer to YT question about the real assessment of the WB of the economic reforms program the government of Yemen has embarked upon since 1995, he said "The first phase of these reforms is always relatively easy as you will see the impact very quickly. That is, the stabilization reforms that were taken to reduce the deficit, inflation rate. As for these there is no question that the situation now is better than five years ago." For the other measures and challenges such as water scarcity and management, high population growth rate, development of the private sector, education, diversifying of the economy beyond depending on oil, all take long time as there has to be an institutional capacity. They are also to be discussed within the government, Parliament, etc. However, I have heard from the government officials that they are really committed to implement these reforms. By their very nature they will take a long period before you see the impact. However, I personally feel comfortable that the government is really making a genuine effort to move ahead."

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Vic Henderson to YT

“Abyan Fiasco caused me the most work and an Appeal for Clemency was Submitted to Yemeni Government in November”

H.E. Victor Henderson, born in 1941, first arrived in Sanaa as a British ambassador in October 1997. However, he first visited Yemen in 1971 when he was one of the staff of the British embassy in Jiddah. After the end of the civil war 1960s, the British ambassador in Jiddah was the first non-resident Ambassador to the Yemen. Afterward, he paid three visits to Yemen. He joined diplomatic service in 1966 and took up various diplomatic posts in Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Caracas, Jerusalem, Helsinki, and others. His last destination in his diplomatic career was Yemen and now he will go for retirement. His successor in Yemen will be Ms. Frances Guy who has been Deputy Head of Mission in Addis Ababa. On this occasion, Mohammed Hatem Al-Qadhi of Yemen Times met him and filed the following interview.

right out in the countryside in Ibb governorate in a wonderful countryside just late the beginning of the rainy season when things started to turn absolutely delightful. That will live in my mind. Two visits to Hadhramaut, the first semi-official and the second is purely tourist. Hadhramaut is a great asset that Yemen has to sell abroad and where in my view tourists can be perfectly safe and secure.



Q: There are some efforts to get the British prisoners in Aden released. The last visit of Mr. Keith Vaz was mainly for this purpose. Is there something new about this issue which plus the Abyan tragic fiasco which worsened the relationship crisis between Yemen and Britain?

A: I am happy to say that my relations with His Excellency, the President, the Prime Minister, ministers and officials throughout have been very good and cordial. It was not the Abyan incident on its own which made things difficult for a while. It was the fact also of the arrest of a number of British nationals in Aden subsequently charged with various terrorist offenses. That was the busiest for us and we followed the conduct of the investigations and then subsequently the legal procedures very closely. That time raised some difficulties. Regarding your question about the prisoners appeal for clemency, this was submitted through the embassy to the Yemeni government in November. There is yet to be any response and we do hope President Saleh will consider the appeal for clemency sympathetically.

Q: Yemen claims that Britain hosts people who are creating nagging problems for its security like the so-called Abu Al-Hamza Al-Masery living in Britain. Your comment please?

A: It is not an easy question to answer, I know that the activities of individuals living in the UK who are active politically are followed closely to see whether there is any infringement to the law and so far our police authori-

ties have not been able to find evidence which would warrant prosecution under the British law and there is always this balance which has to be struck between freedom of speech and activities which are designed to subvert friendly foreign states. But I know maybe the Yemeni government is not happy from time to time with what Abu al-Hamza says. I read again something he said to be following the bombing of the church in Aden which is certainly not helpful. But whether it is actionable or he has said anything which would make him liable to prosecution is not a matter for me.

Q: During your stay in Yemen how do you see the Yemeni-British political and trade relations?

A: Well, as I already said we passed through a difficult period. During the year 2000, relations certainly improved. We had the visits by the Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, and Minister of Health during which they met the Foreign Office Minister responsible for the Middle East, Peter Hain. Then, the President stopped in London on his way to the Millennium Summit in New York and had very cordial talk and discussions with the Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook. That was quickly followed by a visit by Keith Vaz, another Foreign Office Minister of State, who had the advantage of knowing Yemen well for he was born in Mualla in Aden. It was a good visit during which many things were reviewed. It is just unfortunate that the very next week we should have the bombing of the USS Cole and also the placing of a bomb in my embassy. Those things happened in October and naturally and unavoidably put Yemen in the spotlight again and in the way Yemen would not like, I think. But we still hope that it will be possible to continue to rebuild the relationship because there is a lot of things which the two sides can help one another with including for example the field of security cooperation. We both share the interest of fighting terrorism and in all its forms and wherever it is. That is just one field where we hope to see cooperation, although I myself won't be able to take part in that.

Q: Concerning relationship, there are some efforts exerted by some friendship associations in both Yemen and UK. How do you see them?

A: There are two associations; the British-Yemeni Society in London and the Yemeni-British Friendship Association in Sanaa. My good friend and colleague Hussein Al-Amri and I are co-presidents of both which are honorary jobs. The chairman of the Society in London is a former ambassador to Sanaa Mr. Douglas Gordon whom many of your readers will remember. The chairman of the association is the Minister of Health and my good friend Dr. Abdullah Abdulwali Nasher. They do incalculable and valuable help, providing information about our respective countries, making contacts with government

officials and organizing cultural and information events.

Q: With regards to the bombing of the British Embassy, have the investigations reached any results?

A: We are in touch with the investigations authorities and this is a long going thing. The investigation is not complete yet. I can not say anything more than that or make any comments.

Q: Any last word?

A: I just want to say that my wife and I are genuinely sad to be leaving. We will certainly be back for holidays because once bitten with the Yemen bug, you stay bitten and you want to be coming back. If there are any opportunities to use my experience and knowledge and love of Yemen in the service of commercial or academic interest that I will do because that would increase the chances of our coming back frequently. I think our aim is to come back once a year and see our friends and visit all sights which we will take away in our memories.

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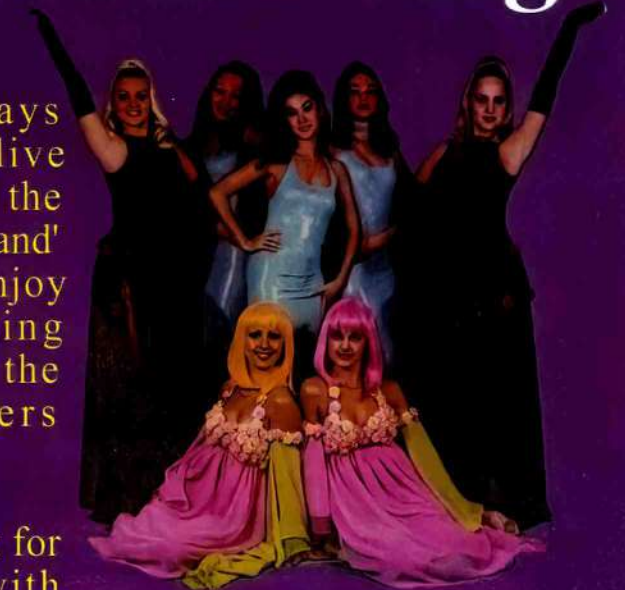
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Suspension, Omission and Amendment History of Yemeni Constitution

Hassan Al-Zaidi
Yemen Times

A constitution is a social contract between the individuals, rulers and ruled, however different their political views are. Constitutions restrict the power of individuals, last for long and ensure sufficient settlement of dealings and relationships between people and authority. A constitution concerns all people, thus, the whole society must take part in amending it. The Constitution of the Unified Yemen was framed after a long struggle between autocracy and the republican regime, between dictatorship and the authority of institutions.

Here, we will explore the history of the constitution amendment starting when the revolution overthrew monarchy in 1962. People thought that they got rid of autocracy or dictatorship. However, a few months passed and a new struggle began. Five constitutions were drafted between October 1962 and December 1970, each of which reflected the essence of the conflict between a President who wanted to extend his power and others who fought to restrict dictatorship and its domination.

The constitution of October 1962 did not grant the President any power to issue decrees. The Revolution's Command Council at that time was in charge of leadership responsibility. It granted the President the right to be elected for presidency and to exercise with the Ministers Council the right of legislating.

When the balance of power favored the president, he issued the constitution of 1963 which disregarded the mode of electing the President of the state. It strengthened the president's authority and restricted the number of members of the Presidency Council to 13 chosen by him.

After the Amran conference, the opposition exercised influence and the President adapted the constitution of

1964 that stated the establishing of Al-Shora Council. The real decision was determined by the President but the opposition did not like that. Therefore, they held a conference in Khamer City in 1965 and came out with what is now called Khamer Constitution.

Khamer Constitution succeeded in restricting autocracy, extended the authorities of Al-Shora Council and formed a republican council that shared the president's power and confined him to the Ministers Council through which all his instructions and resolutions were issued. However, the conflict was not over until the President Al-Sallal was overthrown from power on 5th November 1967. In 1970, the permanent constitution was implemented. This constitution extended the authorities of Al-Shora Council as a parliament exercising legislation, supervising and electing of the republican council and voting of confidence or no confidence for the government. It also increased the number of Al-Shora Council and restricted the President's power of the republic in four ways:

a) it confined most of his resolutions to the Republican Council.

b) it confined all the resolutions and agreements to Al-Shora Council.

c) it confined all appointments to suggestions of the concerned authorities.

d) it confined all decrees issued by the Republican Council to be approved by the Prime Minister and the minister specified for signing.

The second half of 1970s witnessed a severe decline in limitation of autocracy. The Movement of 13th June 1974 abolished Al-Shora Council and the Presidency Council and replaced them with a military command called Command Council and suspended the constitution. During Al-Hamdi's reign a new kind of people's participation movements were invented, most of which consisted of the following:

1- The Cooperation Movement which had large and positive contributions in the social development.

2- The Reform Committees that took part in financial and administrative

reforms.
3-The Local Councils that were granted limited authorities in the local administration.

The Southern governorates were no better than the Northern ones. After the withdrawal of the British colonizers, on the independence day of 30th November 1967 the National Front declared itself as the sole political party which had the right of government. It executed its opponents to monopolize power to itself. When it achieved that, the pressure groups within the party became engaged in political in-fighting to grab power. The fight to take power and going back to autocracy remained the prominent feature of the regime in Sana'a and Aden. After declaration of the Unified Yemen on 22nd May 1990, a joint constitutional committee was formed from the then two parts of the country. It issued the constitution of the Unified Yemen after it had been endorsed by both parliaments of the two former parts. Referendum on this constitution took place in February 1991.

The Islah party was engaged in a battle against some political forces opposing the new constitution as it contained articles that contradicted with the Islamic law. However, that had no impact and referendum on the constitution took place on 16th May 1991, continued and people gave their consent to it.

The transitional period witnessed crucial conflicts between the political forces represented by the GCP and the YSP. Those conflicts were over by drawing a new pledge ending the difference caused after the unification. That pledge was called the Oath and Agreement Pledge. On the other hand, this pledge was not abided by and war broke out in the summer of 1994.

After the war, the constitution was amended. The Presidential Council was cancelled and the President of the Republic replaced it with better and greater constitutional and practical authorities.

Continued on page 12

Bright Prospects Despite Legacy of Problems



Farouk Luqman
Journalist

As an observer of the Yemeni scene, being a long-time expatriate journalist, I have been following with special interest the rehabilitation of the economy after many years of frustrating impediments.

These are already well-known, starting with the almost woeful lack of infrastructure projects, from water supply to waste disposal, through the catastrophic civil war to the shortage of financial and specialist human resources.

Allied with other factors like bureaucratic red-tape they conspired to scare away not only foreign venture capital but also native and expat investments. Only a few brave Yemenis and the occasional expat company have been convinced of the long-term attraction of Yemen as a potentially promising investment haven, hopefully like what the East Asians states have become.

Much of what has been said here is now behind us. The disasters of the coalition government with a Marxist party in the southern region and the ruinous war that naturally flowed from it, are history. The internal security situation is a lot better. Oil flows smoothly, abductions and terrorist blasts have been curtailed. The state under President Ali Abdullah Saleh, and the government led by Dr. Abdul Karim Al Iriani, have stood the test of time. The civil service which had been the bane of Yemen is said to be slowly evolving as I learn from those who have had some experience in working with it. Corruption can not be wiped out but may be controlled. It is a worldwide phenomenon and nobody claims that it can ever be eliminated anywhere. At the same time, the

restoration of Aden's free port status and the construction of the container terminals, have reinstated Aden on the world free ports' map.

It was first made a free port by the British colonial government in 1850 and soon became the busiest port in the empire easily beating British, European, African and Asian ports.

For some reason, not totally unexpected in Marxist ideology, the port status was terminated. It expired with immediate effect and the whole of South Yemen suffered immeasurably. But nobody at the top seemed to care until the secessionist war was ended and Marxism abandoned. President Saleh embarked on a massive, costly, heart breaking but determined rehabilitation program.

I first visited Aden after 25 years of absence shortly after the war in 1994. It was an unforgettable shock. The place was a ghost town like some of those shown on old western movies. Buildings were easily condemnable as unfit for human habitation. The people were extremely poor, mostly jobless and worst of all, almost despairing for a better life ahead, not only for them, but even for their children.

My second and third visits restored my confidence in Aden and glimpses of its past glory which I had had the good fortune of living from birth until the Marxist seizure of power.

I had regained, through purchase, the house that I had built and lived in and then seen confiscated during that sorry period of South Yemeni history. There was a marked revival of commercial activity through the influx of expat money and that of northern investments in small hotels, restaurants, shops, workshop, and tourist-oriented projects specially in the Tawahi area and beyond. Confidence was returning to the previously malnourished contemporaries who had been my classmates. Their children were slightly better off and the modest construction activity was providing jobs to

some of the previously unemployed. A few privately-owned hospitals and polyclinics gave me a moral boost that should I fall sick during my visit, I will be well looked after, God willing. Of course my old press and publishing house had long been seized and sold, of course, without any thought of compensation let alone even a token payment. Thousands like me suffered a similar fate whether they were factory, kiosk or taxi owners, farmers or fishermen.

The economic climate in Yemen, reunited, politically stable, at peace with its neighbors, and internally tranquil, can only get better in due course given some or all the following conditions:

(1) A civil service that is motivated to serve and facilitate native, expat and foreign investments, not to obstruct it to the extent of driving them away.

(2) Continued internal peace and security, essential for investment and tourism.

(3) Enhanced privatizations because only private enterprise can shoulder the awesome task of nation-building from the development of telecommunications to municipal and urban development, the tourist industry, education and health care.

(4) Yemen deserves credit for a relatively free press. This should be upheld and made a standing order and an integral part of public life. Only a free press will tell the leadership that something is wayward or wrong and that the civil service is not doing its job properly. This newspaper, Yemen Times, is a shining example of the role that an enlightened, responsible but fearless press can achieve in the service of the nation.

If Yemen may appear to be a poor country, take a look outside its borders to see the enormous financial resources available to its four million expats who own scores of billions of dollars in ready cash, waiting for the right opportunity to start pouring into erstwhile Arabia Felix.

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Local Councils in The Eyes of People: "Water, Employment, Public Services, local Resources Development and Comprehensive Development Plan"

Mahyoob al-Kamali

Local Councils elections due on February 20, 2001 have held the attention of people because elections are a political step that expands the circle of decision making, and addresses social, economic and development issues. This will give the people a chance to have a more active role in handling many of their issues, preparing plans in line with the basic needs of areas and away from the bureaucratic grip of the centralized authority. Local councils by themselves, can do a great deal to curb the gap of living differences between citizens in towns and the countryside.

Local communities' development was the vicious circle of the economic reform program that the Yemeni government has embarked upon since 1995. It is so because the program objectives were restricted to reform the structural imbalance without having an active public support. Therefore, people assume that having elected authorities in local councils in governorates and districts will give them a better stand to address some of their problems and relieve the burden on the centralized authorities. Local councils will give the people a chance to depend on resources of their areas to establish development projects.

Law No (4) for the year 2000 asserts the people's right to field themselves as candidates for local councils. It also gives them the right to choose whoever they see qualified and competent for these councils' membership. The main point here is, "What do Yemenis want from these elections?" and "Do the people have the general awareness about the importance of establishing the administrative decentralization system?" and "To what extent can people react actively to whatever happens in the national arena?"

So as to obtain a real picture of what is actually happening, YT met with a number of persons from different sections of the society to elicit their views. Ibrahim Mohammed Ali al-Matari, a student, said "Local council elections mean setting up a wide-ranging public authority that has the right of presenting proposals of programs and plans for local development. They can also monitor implementation of projects being endorsed. This will increase transparency as people can

hold those elected to these councils accountable according to the law in case any violations are reported."

He added "Developing local communities, particularly in rural and remote areas could be a reality if local resources are developed, national cooperation initiatives encouraged, scientific social, cultural and economic studies are conducted by people forming these communities."

According to him those casting their votes should critically examine candidates' programs, which reveal the overall framework of their activities and the way they can address issues of major interest to the public, such as poverty and unemployment, which reached a shocking rate estimated at 50% of the labor force.

Voters should also take note of the fact that there are many problems in governorates and districts. In particular, the ones related to water crisis, which has become a headache gripping many countries of the world, besides Yemen. Had there been thorough and careful studies making use of private capitals in the field of constructing dams and water basins, the problem would undoubtedly have been curbed. Many unemployed people would also find job opportunities. That will create the environment for many public investment and development projects.

Services Improvement & Planning for Economic Problems:

Engineer Mohammed Abdullah Hassan opines that the ensuing local elections means a lot for the people. He said "They give them the chance to shape their future, sharing in the decision making process. Local elections will help a lot in terms of identifying the problems, whether economic, social, productive or developing, facing the community in whatever areas and then the elected people can shoulder the responsibility of making plans to solve these problems.

Candidates are to consider conditions of areas they represent in their programs. They should acknowledge that certain priorities are to be given precedence over other issues of interest and concern to the people."

Full Fledged Democracy for Overall Development:

Despite the fact that some opposition parties headed by the YSP and PNUF are standing against some articles of the Local Council Law and though they announced their willingness to take part in these elections, these par-

ties still demand a full fledged overall democracy so as to fully achieve all the objectives of development. The main point set off by the opposition is that the law does not provide for electing governors and district directors. It also does not state clearly how local resources should be handled and fairly distributed.

Rural Development, Unanimously Considered Important:

Opposition parties and the people are unanimous about the idea that elected local councils have to pay a due attention to rural areas in terms of establishing public services, and development projects so as to achieve a complete rural development. They will also ensure programs to boost agricultural productivity. Efforts should also be made to support growth of animal wealth.

Facing Social Development Problems:

Mulatef al-Hamzi spoke of social development and problems and said "Local Councils elections will encourage the establishment of agricultural cooperation societies, investing the private sector capitals better and in a more expanded circle. The existing agricultural societies are only restricted to produce some fruits, vegetables and animal wealth. Planting products such as coffee and cotton should be supported. This requires more flexible and smooth mechanisms on the part of banks and the authorities concerned to deal with farmers and investors and help them face obstacles such as irrigation problems. If these situations are eased, there will be turning points in agricultural and animal production. We will have a surplus that can be exported to foreign markets."

He added by saying "The existence of an elected public authority in governorates and districts will push councils' members forward to solve many of the negative social phenomena such as revenge problems considerably impeding social development and hinder full participation in the economic development process in this country."

Amin al-Kuhali said "Local elections in themselves are good and can do a lot if they go by the book. However, it is saddening to say that candidates' agenda or manifesto won't be the basis for the people casting their ballots due to high illiteracy rate rampant among the people, especially in rural areas where it exceeds 70%. This high

percentage shows the political parties falling short of reaching the people, making them wary of their ambitions and convincing them of their programs of action. Therefore, candidates should pull all the resources to give a detailed account in their manifesto of mechanisms for solving problems of major concern to the people. We have become fed up with slogans. We need real studied policies and plans that are translated into actions. Actions speak louder than words.

In fact, the illiteracy issue is a major concern to so many observers and interested people as it seriously affects the election process. It also will affect the way problems of these communities are addressed and tackled.

Local Councils Economic and Development Roles:

The law has envisaged the authority and duties of local councils in terms of suggesting plans, projects, annual budget, conducting surveys to demonstrate priorities of development, discussing the level of local and mutual revenues collection, endorsing civil plans projects, encouraging setting up cooperation societies, backing up tourism, encouraging people to help set up and maintaining services projects and developing the marine resources.

As for financial resources of the administrative units, the law has defined different resources, the most important of which is local resources; 50% from Zakah, ads fees and taxes fees on tickets, building licenses, shops licenses, municipality fees, real estate registry, transportation, etc.

General Resources:

The Law has also envisaged general resources to be utilized for the benefit of local Funds development, the most important of which is imposing fees on sea and air travel tickets, on diesel and oil stations. 30% duty on maintaining Roads Fund and another annual 30% on Youths Care Fund, besides the governmental support defined for these funds in the state budget.

Finally, it is to be asserted that there is growing awareness on the part of the people about the importance of administrative decentralization system in terms of setting up elected local councils. Although, the opposition parties object to some articles of the local councils law, more than 20 parties are going to participate in the upcoming elections.

ECONOMY NEWS

berth of Hodaidah port, Japan has

Privatization starts with Aden Refinery

Preparations are underway to privatize Aden Refinery, as 51% percentage of the total value of the refinery would be offered for investment as has been declared by Prime Minister, Dr. Abubakr Al-Iryani to the Middle East Economic Digest. He also mentioned that the privatization of Yemenia Airlines is out of consideration in the time being. On another level, the World Bank Representative in Yemen, Gianni Brizzi that privatization in Yemen includes many services such as telecommunications, three cement factories, and the Drug Company.

New Japanese Debt Relief Grant Aid to Yemen

The Government of Japan extends to the Government of the republic of Yemen the Debt Relief Grant Aid amounting three hundred sixty three million three hundred ninety nine thousand yen (Y 363,399,000), based on the resolution made by the Trade & Development board (TDB) of the United Nations Conference on Trade & Development (UNCTAD) to adopt debt relief measures for countries which have been facing serious difficulties in servicing their debts.

Notes to this effect were signed and exchanged at 10:00 a.m. today, between H.E. Mr. Ahmed Mohammed Sofan, Minister of Planning & Development of the Republic of Yemen and H.E. Mr. Akira Hoshi, Ambassador of Japan in Sana'a. Since 1979 when Yemen started to repay its yen loans which had financed the rural water supply projects, the project for the construction of Ras Katneeb power station and the project for the construction of the

been providing the Republic of Yemen with grants in amounts equal to the total interested and principal repaid.

Increasing Tourism Activity in Hadramout

The total number of tourists who visited the Hadramout and the Empty Quarter region last year exceeded 11,041 from various nationalities. Domestic tourists numbers have also increased as more than 43,840 tourists. The total number of nights spent by tourists exceeded 39,842 night. The expenditure of tourists during 2000 exceeded YR 126 million.

Ten Million US Dollars of Cotton Export

The total value of exported cotton during the agricultural season 1999-2000 exceeded 15,000 bundles with a total value of more than USD 10 million. The total area growing cotton in Yemen exceeded 120 acres expandable in the upcoming season.

Emir of Qatar Approves an Economic Cooperation Agreements with Yemen

His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifah Al Tahni has approved last week a number of agreements with the Yemeni government to enhance the economic, commercial, and technical cooperation including an agreement to enhance the government's ability to avoid double entendre, tax shirking. The second agreement approved is aimed at encouraging investment between the two countries. A third economic agreement was approved so that it would help organize Yemeni labor groups currently working or intending to work Qatar.

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The World Bank



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The World Bank is inviting applications from NGOs in Yemen for small grants

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Most grants will be in the range of US\$2,000 to US\$5,000. We anticipate being able to award between 10 and 15 grants. Selection will be competitive.

Applications:

The application deadline is January 31st, 2001. Application guidelines and election criteria are available from the World Bank Office, Sana'a.

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Investment Environment

Abdul Aziz Mohammed
Economic Analyst

After the unification on 22nd May, 1990 and the Republic of Yemen was established, many unified laws have been formed. Among them a unified law for investment (law No 22 for the year 1991), which was issued on the 10th April, 1991. The said law contains (10) sections, (3) chapters and (85) articles. This law states in Article (1) of section (one) a designation to promote and regulate the investment of Yemeni, Arab and foreign capital subject to the provision of the law (investment law), within the context of public state policy and the goals and priorities of the economic and social development plan in the following sectors:-

- Industry (excluding prospecting for the extra oil, gas and minerals which are granted by special agreements).
- Agriculture and livestock resources including pisciculture and fishing.
- Tourism
- Health
- Education and technical and vocational training

f) Transportation

g) Construction and housing

h) Any other economic activity specified by Deputy of the Council of Ministers upon a proposal by the board of Directors of the Authority (and here is the General Investment Authority which has been established later, its head office located in Sana'a and its branches in all main governorates).

Through Section (2) of the law which deals with Goals and Benefits Accorded Projects article (A) states that State shall guarantee Yemeni, Arab and Foreign investors' freedom to invest in Investment Policy in accordance with the provision of the law. And article (3) confirms that Arab and foreign Capital and Arab and Foreign Investors shall be at par with Yemeni Capital and Yemeni Investors without discrimination with respect to the rights, obligations, rules and procedures set forth in this law and the decrees and regulations enacted in execution thereof.

Exemption from compulsory price regulations and profit limiting is given to all projects products as per article (12) subject to the project not creating or indulging in monopolistic practices

or trying to fix prices in overt or implicit agreement with other producers or vendors of similar products and services, but item (b) of the same article in cases of necessity, The council of ministers may enact compulsory price regulation in any of the following commodities, guided by the economic loss thereof:-

- Flour and bread
- Milk and infant food stuff
- Pharmaceuticals

If we have to highlight nationalizing projects in the law then we have to refer to item (a) of article (13) which says; Projects may not be nationalized or seized. Moreover their funds may not be blocked, Confiscated, frozen, withheld or sequestered by other than the courts of law and item (b) of the same article states that all or part of project real estate may not be expropriated save for the public wealth according to the law and against fair compensation on the basis of the market price of such real estate. In cases where the Invested funds, subject of such action, are foreign funds, such compensations may be freely transferred abroad regardless of any law or decree providing otherwise.

In regard to custom duty, Tax and

other exemptions, mainly all projects are granted custom duty and Tax exemptions while others may also obtain other exemptions such as technology transfer revenue and loan interest exemption. Article (23) and (25) of the law explains clearly those matters but also it is advisable to all investors to go through the said law and its amendment law No (14) and the Investment guidance which covers very important procedures and contains other information and remarks such as annex No (1) which deals with negative projects list, list of projects which must have a Yemeni capital contribution, list of projects limited to Yemeni capital investors as well as definition of (A) and (B) Investment sector and addition of Investment field added to article (1) of the law such as electricity, water, telecommunication and investment banks.

Furthermore it is also known that the government is conducting a study that will introduce new amendments and additions to the existing Investment Law aiming to facilitate procedures of investment and encourage all investors (Yemeni, Arab and Foreign) to participate in the development of Yemen.

COMMON SENSE

By: Hassan Al-Haifi

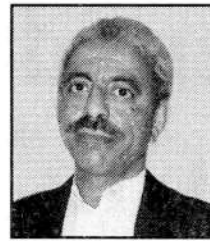
The State of the Nation: Not Much to be Gratified About

Around this time of the year (20th of January), the President of the United States addresses a joint session of the Congress to report on the state of affairs in the country. It is a common practice of leaders of democratic countries to put their performance on the line for evaluation by the representatives of the people and the public at large based on their report of conditions in the country and to show that they are well in command of the situation, notwithstanding the difficulties that may be seen here and there. They also give their perception of how things appear to them, applauding themselves, somewhat modestly, for their accomplishments, while at the same time not failing to mention the downside of the state of affairs in the country and explaining the circumstances surrounding such unfavorable conditions and proposing the substantive remedies that hopefully deal with such deviations of the norm. At the same time, they will present these proposals to their respective parliaments to authorize the necessary appropriations for financing the remedies, while pointing out the standards that may be used to adjudicate their performance in dealing with the downside of things according to criteria that are measurable and observable. The point to be made here is that there is no "perfect nation", where all things are rosy and bright, while discontent and frustrations are invisible within the society. Yet, life is made easier when things are laid out in the open and dialogue is invited with a view towards reaching consensus on the appropriate course that nations should follow in managing their affairs and in remedying their

problems. Time and again, Common Sense has called for a realistic self-appraisal of the state of the nation, and it goes without saying that there is sufficient evidence to warrant such a comprehensive self-assessment, with most indications showing unfavorable signs of decay and social disintegration, with no clear signs that things are about to take a turn for the better. This analysis is called for, not so much because it is deemed to be a common practice of democratic societies (assuming that there is a common understanding between the rulers and the people of this country on what a democratic society really entails for both the rulers and the governed). It is almost impossible for any keen observer of the mood of the overwhelming majority of the Yemeni people, from all walks of life and transverse all the social strata of the society, not to discern that the downside in the state of affairs in the country prevails in just about every sector of our socio-economic-political make-up with unparalleled stubbornness. Moreover, if the government and the various powerbrokers that purport to have a grasp of the helms of authority in the land are not the cause of the almost unbearable level to which most areas of our social fabric have literally collapsed to and continue their sustainable downward slide, at least they should have the courtesy to recognize that such conditions deserve to be seriously looked into, if not dealt with constructively, with a view towards arriving to a halt to this sustainable slide into the abyss of social decay and fragmentation. We are truly facing monumental problems that often defy logical explanation or fail to find sympathy and understanding for the failure

of the institutions of government to contend with the situation in an agreeable manner that reflects serious concern of those holding the helms of power for the obvious absence of care for the well-being of the nation and the welfare of its people. When we say this - and by we, this observer seems to speak for many keen observers, we share the contention that the time has come for constructive dialogue and action to exit this dismal climate that hangs over us, which is not created by any force majeure, but by the careless and self-centered attitude that seems to prevail among those responsible for overseeing public affairs in the country, who forgot that it was they who sought these positions, but apparently overlooked the awesome moral and ethical implications that go with public office, and the inevitable accountability they are bound to face for their performance - good or bad! But the wide-ranging mishap of the state of affairs seems to be looked in a rather nonchalant way by almost every senior official, who might have some potential for influencing the course of events in the country, that one is bound to look aghast at the ineptitude by which crisis after crisis is managed in the country, as though the regime and the organs it purports to manage is immune from accountability and responsibility for being unable to alleviate the overall calamity that our management of public affairs has become. We know that these words are not what could be to the liking of many of those who have captured a niche here and there in the loose fabric that links the various elements of the power structure in the country, but somehow someone has to make it clear to the society that what we are facing does not defy solution, as the apparent impotence of government at this time seems to indicate. The issues are relatively simple and often require no more than will power and a great sense of loyalty to the Republic and faith in our self that we really should be in a much better state. On the other hand, if these elements cannot be made to see the bad side of the state of affairs of the country, it would be difficult to expect that they are willing or able to respond to the aspirations of the majority of the people of the country, rich and poor, who have all expressed their obvious disapproval of how affairs in the country are managed, or rather mismanaged, and surely the best way to start is by insisting that there is no one in the society above the law. There is no question in any one's mind that when a society has different standards for the application of law, with respect to the different elements of the society, where the governed find little

mercy and the rulers have almost unquestioned immunity from prosecution and punishment as ordained in the very laws the rulers have sworn to uphold, then that society is bound to face the kind of situation Yemen seems to have fallen into, and its people have become victims of almost voluntarily. The essential logic in the state of affairs of the country is that this is not the work of any external or supernatural force, but rather, regrettably, a course, which fellow countrymen have chosen for us and somehow find it difficult to realize the ill health of the nation that is paramount and the great disservice to the national interest of the country that such a situation brings to fore. We implore our leaders to seriously assess the present state of the nation and to assess their performance and the reason why this performance has not shown any hopeful let up in the continuing deterioration of the economy, and in the lawlessness that is reflected by the rising disregard for human life and safety, which has spread among the criminal elements and even among the elements of the elite of the society, and in the disintegration of our values and mores, many of which have transformed into expensive ceremonial extravaganzas that defy logic and social equity, which the Qur'an calls for and which our Constitution insists to be the motto of our national being. There is no reason why rulers and governed can not come to a shared realization that where we stand now is unhealthy for both sides and it is often those that tend to overlook the downside of a country's conditions that are the first to feel its prickly stings when the suffering reaches a level of uncontrollable anger that strikes at anyone that failed to have the sympathy for their fellow citizens who have been denied access to all that our religion and constitution insist are standard rights and privileges for all the people in the land. These are fundamentals of government that cannot be overlooked. Surely, any self-assessment would show there is a for social ordinances that apply to both the rulers and the governed equitably. Otherwise that downside will continue to reflect the inevitable demise that inefficient government and inequitable application of law are bound to lead to, while at the same time give a chance for all latent evils of the society to come out and unleash their horrifying poisons throughout the fabric of the society. In the end, those who even purport to enjoy immunity from the demise and the suffering of the majority of their people, will be the first to look for a way out of the situation, in body and in soul.



Yemen: In a New Year's Beginning

Jalal Al-Sharaabi
Yemen Times

A year has elapsed since the beginning of the 3rd millennium. However, there are still many questions about Yemen's situation in this new year and about what has been achieved so far. Available statistics and facts about children's situation, their education, increase of poverty rate, overpopulation, deterioration of agriculture and water shortage are big problems facing the improvement of the standard income level for the Yemeni citizen and for improving the national economy. Above all, corruption prevailing in ministries and lack of a strong administrative control policy have shifted most of the country into a corruption breeding environment that requires much effort to rectify. The situation is getting worse in terms of violations of human rights and freedom of press. Statistics reflect ominous indications about the horrifying rate of population growth, which is estimated at 3.7%. With this incredible rate, Yemen is only second to the Gaza Strip in population growth in the world. According to the census of 96, the population density was 13 people per one square kilometer in 1995. Undoubtedly, this ratio is more than double the 1996 figures by now. This poses many challenges facing the national economy. The rapidly growing population rate has led to the deterioration of the national economy and shortage in vital requirements such as water and agricultural land. As far as poverty is concerned, it is pathetic to admit that the average total monthly spending per capita for a Yemeni does not exceed YR 800. This average is too much below the international poverty line. According to a survey study about the average Yemeni family budget, the average monthly spending of the poor is 614 Rials in rural areas and 623 Rials in urban areas. According to the study, 17.4% of people in urban areas live under the poverty line. Participation of Yemeni woman in the development process is still small due to many reasons. The rate of illiteracy among females is high, especially in the countryside where it reaches 84%. Besides, many females join education at a late age. Furthermore, due to marriage or financial deficiency, most girls discontinue their education at the primary stage or university level. Women's role is confined to hard seasonal agricultural jobs in which they form 83% of the total labor force. However, women are not trained or taught to achieve the maximum benefit from their hard work in this field as they use primitive tools and ideas. About 20% of the national economy was contributed by Women in 1994. As for children, the issue turns out dangerous. It is difficult to admit that even as we are in the third millennium, Yemeni children are still deprived of basic education. Even though the government had allocated 20% of its budget to education, this was still not enough to cover all students, as 30% to 40% of Yemeni children are not

enrolled in any educational program. Yemen needs more than 15 thousand new schools to overcome this problem. If the problem continues, we may be slowly building up a partially illiterate generation, which is both shameful and unacceptable. Adding to that the fact that 400,000 Yemeni children are born in Yemen every year, leading to the conclusion that if nothing is done, our future is surely going to be in the hands of illiterates. Adding to this, the misery of 89% of children, who represent the child labor sector. Millions of children work as farmers, blacksmiths, mechanics, car-cleaners and street sellers on sidewalks and crossroads. It is sad to say it, but Yemeni children are not only deprived of education and qualities of life, they are even deprived of their own childhood. Lack of food security is another major problem in Yemen and must be given top priority as soon as possible. A study made in 1998 indicated that locally produced good goods for the year 1997 showed a downward trend due to the drop of the government's subsidy on foodstuff from 75% to 15%. As for the livestock wealth, we find that despite the increasing number of livestock to more than 10 million, pasture lands are insufficient for the increasing number, leading to the spread of diseases, of which the deadly Rift Valley Fever that killed humans as well as livestock was the latest. As for the water issue, we certainly can see a potential water crisis within the few coming years. Being the only renewed resource of water, rain provides quantities of water estimated at around 93 billion cubic meters annually. Despite this large quantity of rain water, it is wasted due to the lack of dams or draining channels. The latest estimation of the amount of surface water flowing on Yemeni lands ranged between 1.5 and 2 billion cubic meters and the annual quantity of drawn-up waters from underground is estimated at a staggering 2.4 billion cubic meters, 90% of it used for agricultural purposes, especially for qat. This matter causes the level of water to decrease on an average of 0.6% to 6 meters annually. The water balance has become negative at about 900 billion cubic meters due to the increasing consumption of water from the 45 artesian wells. The statistics of the Planning General Administration indicated that the number of water reserve projects built and financed by the Investment Program was 34 dams and reservoirs. Experts remind once and again that if nothing is done soon, there may be a potential of a national water crisis, especially around the Sanaa basin. The provided statistics and numbers do make us concerned of the progress of our country. However, the many challenges and problems mentioned are left for the officials to ponder for some time. Against all of those numbers, shall we have hope in the possible progress and developmental process of our country, or are we just fooling ourselves and should give up hope? You decide!

The Great Couple The Saqqaf's Abdulaziz & Aziza

Nageeb M. Yabli

The civil community in Yemen along with specific global quarters were shocked on the 20th of Dec. 2000 by the demise Aziz Al-Saqqaf, wife of the late Dr. Abdul Aziz Al-Saqqaf, one of the most renowned opinion makers. Patriot Abdulaziz and Aziza Al-Saqqaf were great by all measures, as both were forced a status for them not by the strength of tribe and not induced by wealth nor threatened by the thick stick. Let us elaborate each case separately. Patriot Professor Abdul Aziz Al-Saqqaf lived for 48 years, full of hard struggle. He qualified himself from primary to doctorate in a community plagued by illiteracy and dictatorship. He gave scholarly lectures in public finance to his students in Sana'a University. The great Abdulaziz established the beloved and widely circulated "Yemen Times" an act which both governments of People's Democratic Republic (PDRY) and the Yemen Arab Republic (YAR) failed to do. The same failure applies to Republic of Yemens' government. Although a precedence was marked by the late patriot Mohammed Ali Bashraheel in his weekly the "Recorder", and late patriot Mohammed Ali Luqman in his weekly "Aden Chronicle". Both were published in Aden during the golden days of the British administration. Yemen Times served as a medium enlightening the local and foreign communities with the Yemeni state of affairs based on black and white. Yemen Times served as a free forum for a range of opinions. It opened wide channels with organization of the civil community and world organizations operating in the field of

development and human rights issues. The latest reform patriot Abdulaziz fought hard for the Emerging Democracies Forum to be held in Yemen. That is in a nutshell some facts about Patriot Abdulaziz. Late patriot Aziza Al-Saqqaf lived for 48 years, full of supreme missions. She came from Al-Hadharem, in Taiz to Sana'a. She joined her husband in the U.S.A. (1978) who was preparing for his Ph.D. By then she had a dual-task: caring for her husband and children and managing her high-school education. In 1985, she completed her B.A. (English Department), from Sana'a University. She successfully managed a one-year Humphrey program. She then started her career in English Language teaching. Late Aziza led a multi-faceted rich life. Late Aziza belonged to the tradition of her predecessors Um Saleh Luqman, Saeda Bashraheel, Radhya Ihsan Allah, Malica Nageeb... etc., who all fought for the cause of civil community in Aden before independence. Her sons and daughters, (Walid, Nadia, Haifa and Raydan) are smart graduates, which is a clear evidence of their upbringing. Commenting on the demise of her mother, her daughter Nadia said: "It seems that she (Aziza) missed my father a lot, and it was that they meet again soon." This is quite appropriate. Indeed, you have conveyed my sentiments. To the sons and daughters, of Abdulaziz and Aziza Al-Saqqaf; do emulate the unique ideals of your great parents. Let us fight together for the sake of their lofty tasks. Trust, the Almighty God will be there in our defense. May Allah shower His generous mercy on their souls! Amen!

Letters to the Editor

Disability
There is nothing new in my walking today. Streets, pavements, small stones and even empty tins know me, and remember my steps in this region as I have always walked those streets, alone - alone without a shadow, without a trace. Do you know? Even street girls hate my loiter. So I won't disturb them today, I'll just roam around, without any goal. The cafe in the corner, has many chairs and tables in front of it, overlooking the street. "Oyeh", I cried. A cup of tea will help me in making up my mind about what I shall do this day. The sun is on the verge of dying, I look at the people walking quickly and wonder if they too don't know their goals like me. I set my cup on the table in front of me, red like the sinking sun behind the mountain. I see a man, and I guess his age to be 40, with his face pale and his beard thick. With his fingers tightening around a cup of tea, he sat down against me, took a sip then brought a cigarette from his pocket and lit it on

his lips. He stayed there sipping and smoking and my cup was still half-full when he finished his. He looked like he was a worker who carried stones and cement sacks on his shoulders. He threw his cigarette butt on the ground rather carelessly and left. I stayed again alone. His age told me that I am young, his shabby clothes told me that I am affluent and his quick leaving told me that he needs a rest after a hard day. Without finishing my tea, I got up to leave. The sun had already disappeared behind the mountain. I squashed cigarette butt and went away. Jameel Shamsan Sana'a University.

Human Greatness
Human greatness means broad mindedness, which is a quality preached in all histories. "A great man is not one who stops merely to discuss personal affairs, but a man who pays attention and argues general ideas on human

ideologies as well." At least, this is what most philosophers have said. Therefore, the great human must not be selfish, and should ignore his/her special affairs dedicating his/her life for serving others (without grumbling.) A great human tries to make mankind live happily by spreading love and happiness in their minds and hearts. Labeeb Mutahar Al-Ariky Civil Engineer, Sana'a University.

Dear Editor,
I am a South African and also do some free-lance writing. In October last year, my husband and I visited Yemen for three weeks. We thoroughly enjoyed our stay and were impressed by Yemen's beauty and its hospitable people. However, I have to agree with Tawfeek al-Shara'abi regarding the issue of security (Tourism Industry on the Wane, Yemen Times 2-8 January 2001). The security measures to protect tourists are rather awkward and unfriendly towards tourists. Our main objection, however, is that tourists are expected to pay the police! On our way from the Wadi Dawan via

Al Mukalla to Bir 'Ali, we travelled through no less than eight checkpoints, each time picking up a new police escort, whom we had to pay before we could proceed to the next checkpoint. It is ridiculous! Surely, tourist cannot be expected to pay for their own safety! If government wants to attract more tourists to your beautiful country, it should seriously look at this aspect. One cannot help to get the impression that the situation is also being exploited by some police officials. Please keep up the pressure on your government. Yemen has the potential to become a much sought after tourist destination, provided it sets a few things straight. We will try our best to encourage South Africans to visit your country. Yemenia Air now has direct flights between Johannesburg and Sana'a at reasonable rates. Yemen also has an embassy in Pretoria and your friendly and capable ambassador, Mr Abdullah Noman, is doing a great job to ensure that visas are issued quickly and efficiently. We enjoy reading your newspaper! Ona Viljoen

PNUP Pushes Female Members in LCE

Last week we talked about the political participation of women in the Local Council Elections, not only as participants in electing but also as nominees as well. It was discovered that there were no female candidates in the elections except for Radhiya Shemshir. Even though there was another candidate nominated from Lahj, but she was eventually removed because of some dispute.

Mr. Attas Chairman of the Spreme Elections Committee (SEC) confirmed that it is dependant on the parties to send Female nominees for the Local Council Elections.

As a follow-up to last week's story covering women's participation in the elections as candidates, we continued to get the opinion of the largest political parties, and we started with Nasserite Unionist Party.

Mr. Abdul Malik Al Mikhlafi, General Secretary of the Peoples Nasserite Unionist Party (PNUP) explained to the Yemen Times that the Party is going to present a number of female nominees for the Local Council Elections coming soon. And that in order to support women's participation in political issues and women's development in Yemen Generally. He also confirmed that the Central Committee approved participation of women in the Local Council Elections and appointed the Secretary General to present a number of female nomi-

nees in their list. A woman had been elected in the seventh round in the general secretate, which is considered the highest committee in the organization.

The number of nominees and where they are standing in the governorates and cities will be declared once the final arrangements which guarantee their success are accomplished.

The WNC again took lead in this matter in order to push forward women to participate in all political domains and the decision making positions.

Mrs. Horyah Mashoor, Vice Chairperson of the WNC met with Mr. Abdul Malik Al Mikhlafi, General Secretary of the Peoples Nasserite Unionist Party on Tuesday January 8th. During the meeting that was attended by Mrs. Rana Ahmad Ghanem, member of the General Secretariat and the PNUP representative in the WNC, Al-Mikhlafi stressed the importance of women's issues and their participation in development highlighting the great chance his party gives to women to hold important positions. He added that the party would push women to participate in the forthcoming local elections.

In response to a question about



absence of women in the Supervisory Committees he said that the memorandum of the SEC prescribed about chairpersons and members of those committees in a male-like manner. In addition, chairpersons and members will be transferred to different areas and women, for obvious reasons, would have more difficulties thereof. At the end of the meeting he urged the WNC to motivate and support women to nominate themselves indicating his willingness to support participation of women through Al-Wahdawi, mouth-piece of the party.

A Message to the Yemeni People



Gary Vey
garyvey@earthlink.net

As a citizen of America, I knew almost nothing of Yemen before my studies of ancient history and languages. My work led me to study Yemen and the archaeological work at Bilqis in particular. I have since then been engrossed in the study of the history and current politics of your beautiful land. I read the Yemen Times weekly and see the same stories in every new issue. There is the poverty and unequal distribution of wealth and prosperity from the urban city areas to the remote tribal villages and there is kidnapping and unrest as a result of the poverty and anger at the slow progress. There is also the attempts of outside countries to influence Yemen, such as the Saudis, who wish to place a pipeline through the country, and the USA who wish to establish a military base under the premise that this is to prevent smuggling. I feel the frustration myself. I know that your beautiful country can become a wealthy nation with pilgrim-

ages and tourism beyond your wildest dreams. I know that your infrastructure of roads, hotels, water and sewage can all be brought up to the level of even the most progressive nations with the establishment of a tourism and religious site that will serve all religions and beliefs. I know that young children will receive an excellent education and that their health will be maintained and that they will become the future of Yemen's natural resources. Why don't the people of Yemen see these visions?

In the Bilqis archaeological site you have the temple of Queen Saba and the great Sabaeen kingdom. This is the only place on our planet where we can see the evidence of Biblical times, when Solomon and Saba formed a union, which crossed racial boundaries and religious taboos. This is a special place, for Christians, Jews and Moslems - not unlike the Temple of the Mound in Jerusalem. But there is a difference. This special location has not been claimed by any one faith and so could be a "hate-free zone" where all people could come to pay homage to the One God, forgetting for a brief moment the human messengers that reminded us that the Father was all important. Please, people of Yemen, make this

happen. You are a special people who have forgotten your special place in history. Please awaken and grow into a neutral and peaceful country. Ask the World Bank to assist you with funds to build your infrastructure so that you can become this pan-religious and safe oasis for believers in the Lord. Become Yemeni people first and devote yourself to the work of peace and do not tolerate the politics of more powerful nations. You, people of Yemen, seed of Saba and Abraham, have the most powerful Lord on your side.

First you must become non-political. Do not make deals with foreign nations that will influence your future. Avoid being influenced by Islam or Judaism or Christianity. Align yourself with the Lord - the One God - and start a revival to honor the Lord instead of arguing about his messengers. Did not Jesus and Muhammed demand that you honor the Father? Did they ask to be honored as a God? You, people of Yemen, can right this wrong. And the One God will make your land strong and your people will be the peacemakers of the world.

In your heart of hearts, you know this to be true. Why wait generations to see this happen. Why not NOW?

Hani, a Budding Painter Needs More Support

Nada Shamiri

Art is one of the most important creations of human beings. It is actually a language that can be understood by all human beings breaking the barriers of language, race, religion, time

and space. It is something special and unique. Something that makes you read and understand without words. Therefore, if proper environment was created for talents, care and encouragement are also found, it is certain that these talents will prove conspicuous.

Hani Ahmad al-Masrafi, student in the French Department, Languages Faculty, participated in the Youths Exhibition Artists supported by DIA organization. The exhibition was inaugurated on Wednesday at 6 p.m. Hani was one of many other artists participating in this exhibition.

YT met with him and asked him to give a brief account of the time he started painting and his participation in this exhibition and he said "I started painting when I was ten of age. I was very much attracted to the pictures of children and cartoons pictures. Ever since I started practicing painting, I used to paint lots of things. Many things were not that good. However, I kept on and I never gave up.

When I joined the preparatory school, my painting teacher was highly impressed by my paintings. He felt that I had the means that make me a good painter. He used to give a special care and attention. He used to encourage me a lot. On my part, I felt that I found what I was looking for. I found the person who had the skills, talent who could polish my talent and show me the way.

Then, my uncle, Mr. Hussain al-Masrafi started taking care of me. He



bought me lots of instruments that I need. He has always been very supportive. Of course, I can never forget the great support of my family.

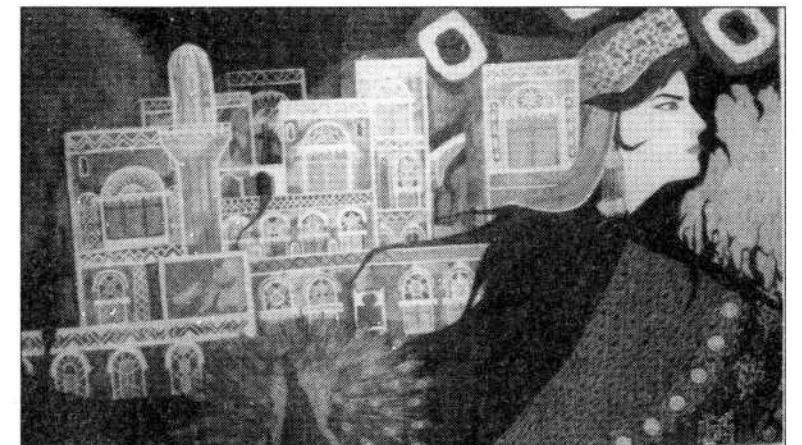
Most of my old pictures were drawn by pencil. I even used to color them using the same pencil. However, recently I started using oil paintings. I do not use much watercolor."

About what he paints, he said "I choose most of my topics from reality. Then I keep pondering on them, and start painting. So I could paint something real in a creative way. I feel great satisfaction when I finish and found what a great job I did."

About his participation in exhibitions and his study, he said "I have participated in many local exhibitions and I hope I will be able to represent Yemen in regional and international conferences.

When I joined the French Department, I did that only for the sake of acquiring the language. I want to travel to France, the worldwide capital of art. So art was the incentive behind my study in the French department."

Regarding the outstanding obstacles he faces, he said "Time is the most outstanding obstacle. I do draw pictures all the time. I draw any idea that comes to my mind. However, to start drawing and then painting them using oil painting takes me a lot of time."



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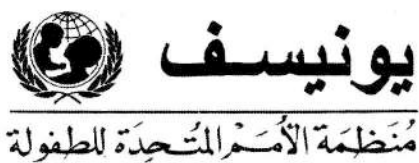
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Operations Officer
P. O. Box: 725
Sana'a, Republic of Yemen



Eighth Meeting for Ozone Officers

Yasser Ahmed
Yemen Times

Since the beginning of civilization, human efforts have been concerned with the environment he lives in. With the advancement of technology and modern industries, this effort has been more negative than ever, and steps to prevent and overcome the disasters occurring are more crucial today than ever.

As a step in this direction, Yemen signed the Vienna Agreement for ozone protection in March 1995, and the Montreal Protocol in February 1996. Yemen is also aiming to join the Montreal amendments which have taken place in London in 1990, in Copenhagen in 1992 and in Montreal in 1997. This is an attempt to participate in the world's struggle for environment protection.

Again Yemen took lead in this matter and hosted the fifth regional meeting of ozone officers on the 8th and 9th of January 2001. Representatives from Jordan, Syria, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestine, the Emirates and a number of environmental experts attended the conference held in Sana'a. Participants from the different region-

al countries presented their country's statistics in this regard in a display of concern of their governments and well as International Organizations such as UNEP, UNDP, WB, UNIDO, Halon Bank, GTZ and others.

The 16th of September of every year is celebrated as the Ozone World Day and the Yemeni Environment Protection Council celebrates this day through highlighting the achievements accomplished by the Ozone Unit of this council, starting from an overall awareness program, through all media instruments, as well as field survey covering a number of national and international companies to find out the kind of equipment used and how environmental friendly they are, not to neglect the activation of the Ministry Council Law No. 120 for year 1998 which prevented the importing of equipment and machines which work on or use CFCs and Halons.

The Ozone layer is considered a protecting shield around the globe. There are two types of this gas; one which is located close to Earth's surface in the Troposphere layer about 10-15 Km. It is just above the ground, and is created as a result of air pollution. This gas is one of the warm gases causing acid rain as well as global warming and the Greenhouse Effect. The other Ozone,



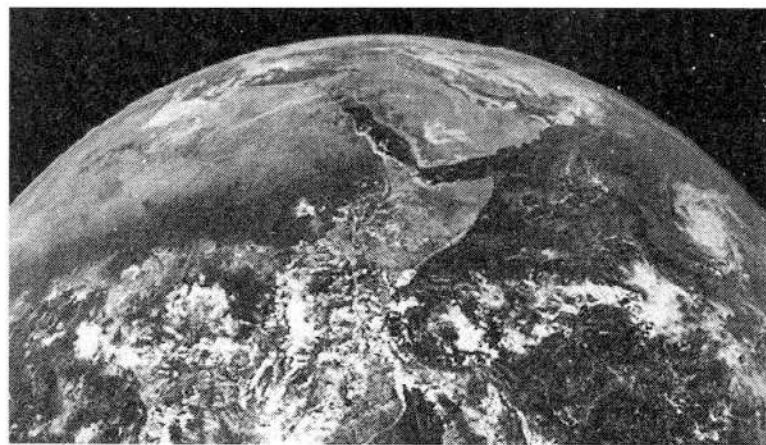
which is the concern of environmentalists, is found in the Stratosphere layer about 15-50 km above the ground. This three-atom Ozone (O3 or Oxygen-3 which is a unique link of 3 oxygen molecules) protects earth through the prevention of the harmful ultra-violet rays emitted by the sun from reaching all life forms on earth. 2010, the dead line for the International projects which aim at terminating the Ozone depletion seems too soon, especially when considering the latest information reported by the NASA AR vesicle that the Ozone layer in the North Pole has decreased 60% during the period between January to mid March 2000. Scientists from NASA and the EU said that the long winter in the North Pole is the reason behind that. However, experts blamed human activities for this harm in a discussion, participated by more than 350 experts in Sweden last year.

The British scientist Mr. Joe Forman, the discoverer of the Ozone hole in Atlantic, the South Pole in 1985, declared that the main reason behind this effect is China and India who are not getting rid of used products and material in an environmental friendly way. Although since the Vienna Agreement the usage of CFC components has been reduced in those regions, and the area of the hole has

reached 5.4 million square kilometers as on September 2000, it is worth mentioning that there is no hole in the North Pole as yet. However, there is drastic depletion due to the chlorine compounds resulting from Industrial pollution.

Main recommendations of the Eighth meeting for Ozone officers were:

1. Authorities in the Ozone Network recommend two meetings to be held annually prior to the Meeting of Montreal Protocol Members (MMPM). This was to give an opportunity for following up last years decisions and the reflections of them in the region as well as discussions regarding topics and issues to be forwarded in the annual MMPM.
2. Coordination between regional and other countries through the MMPM in order to unite their stands regarding approximation of the HCFCs related timetables.
3. The essentiality of carrying regional directive council meeting for the Halons banks simultaneous with the main meetings of the network.
4. Ozone officials should supply a regional coordinator with their suggestions and views regarding the network activities fundamentals for years 2002 and 2003, so that these views could be taken to consideration in the network plan before next February.



Workshop on (FGM) Female Circumcision & Women's Health Workshop

Nadia Al Saqqaf
Yemen Times

In cooperation with Pacific Institute for Women Health and supported by Carter US Establishment the Health Delivery and Family Organizing Unit, Health Ministry organized a two day discussion workshop on female genital mutilation (FGM) and women's health. The workshop was to address this topic in all its aspects and to spread the awareness of hazardous effects of FGM on females.

General Background on FGM:

Female circumcision, widely known as female genital mutilation (FGM), is a term used for a variety of surgical operations carried out on female genitalia. These operations are practiced on healthy female children for traditional reasons backed by great social pressure. The operations may lead to immediate health risks and, sometimes to long term health damage. The practice of female circumcision is prevalent in parts of Africa and the Near East. In Yemen, it is believed to be limited to certain areas in coastal

areas. In many cases, this phenomenon leads to the defamation of muliebria.

Studies and demographic surveys, Yemen, in 1991 revealed that 23% of women, responding to the study, acceded to FGM, especially in Taiz 24%, Aden 28%, Hodeidah 80%, Hadramout 90% and Mahrah 98% governorates. The survey revealed that 1263 women respondents have heard of the practice.

K A P study & Results:

Not much information has been collected about FGM and about the effects that might occur as a result of this social phenomenon in a country like Yemen. A study was conducted, during 1-17. 8. 1999, to find ways to end this terrible practice, and improving healthy delivery. Objectives of K A P study were to collect information on the kind of operation made during female circumcision, competence of those who carried out operations, instruments and materials used, female circumcised sexual complications and side-effects, scholars vantage point, respondents' attitudes and finally FGM relation to education levels. Questionnaire of 600 forms were

distributed in governorates as follows: Aden 200, Hadramout 200, Hodeidah 200. Forms were distributed to mothers who had at least one circumcised daughter.

The study reveals that 87% of those who carried out the procedure are not the medical personnel. 40% of them were "Rayssah" meaning a woman who usually performs this procedure, 34% were done by "Dayah" meaning midwives, 2% by male nurses, 9.2% by hospital attendants 12.5% by medical personnel and 3.3% were carried out by doctors.

The study also showed the kind of instruments being used when carrying out female circumcision; razor (50.5%), scissors (39.5%), lancet (3%), knife (0.2%). Those who do not know about the instrument used are 6.6%. The same study indicates that 80.6% of women targeted by the study approve of the continuation of the circumcision. The reasons cited for this are multiple among which are cleanliness (25.5%), good tradition (8.5%), keeping the virginity of girls (3%) and cleanliness and limiting the sexual desire (8.1%).

14.2% respondents supported the discontinuation of the process viewing it

as a suppression against females (3.1%), away from religion (1.6%) and bad tradition (3%).

According to educational levels, the process of FGM is much spread among illiterate women with 54% in contrast to 12.5% in case of literate ones. The percentage of those who have only joined the primary education constituted 20.2%, those in the secondary education (11.7%), those in institutes (1%) and those in universities (0.5%).

FGM Health Complications:

The study reveals a vital issue pertaining to health complications associated with female circumcision. Respondents and tests could reveal multiple and many medical complications, immediate and long term. Bleeding, on the top of the list with 73%, is unavoidable since damage to the blood vessels is inevitable. Shock from the loss of blood and pain since the operation is performed without anesthetic cover invariably occur to some degree with 7.9%. Bleeding, puss and bleeding accompanied by fever have the same proportion each with 4.5% out of 88 sick females due to this practice. Fever is spread in 2.3%. Strong pain and alginuresis have the proportion of 2.3%. A percentage of 2.3% was reported as death cases as a result of circumcision, pains with 1.1% and tumor with 1.1%. Infection is also a common complication due to unhygienic conditions in which the operation is performed.

Female circumcision was widely condemned in the World Population Conference and World Women Conference. It was also condemned in a joint report published by the WHO, UNICEF and UNPF as a violation of women's rights.

In the workshop, an overview on FGM meaning "female circumcision" in many countries including Yemen was covered. The key findings of the KAP study on FGM in the selected areas: Aden, Hodeidah, Hadramout, were discussed. The role of the NGOs, MOPH, other Ministries, Institutions, channels of Information, Education and communication in raising health awareness in FGM also came up for discussion.



OPHTHALMIC EDUCATION (22)

Are you a Diabetic Patient?



Mahfouth A Bamashmus
FRCSEd, FRCOphth
Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon
Ibn-Al-Haitham Clinic
University of Science & Technology, Sana'a

- Diabetes mellitus or 'sugar diabetes' means that the body cannot cope normally with sugar and other carbohydrates in the diet.
- Diabetic patients have a higher risk to develop serious eye problems.
- Don't joke with your diabetes. It should be well controlled to prevent the complications of diabetes in the eye and in other parts of your body.
- Diabetes is one of the main causes of blindness in Yemen and usually patients present late because of lack of education.

Loosing your sight from a treatable disease: -

- Most sight loss from diabetic retinopathy can be prevented. But it is vital that it is diagnosed early.
- Regular eye visits to your eye doctor are extremely important.
- Diabetes can cause temporary blurring of vision. These are signs that your diabetes is not well controlled.
- Cataract (opacity of the lens) can be treated easily nowadays by surgery and intraocular lens implant.
- The most serious eye condition that affects diabetic patients is damage to the retina, that is the film of the eye.

The importance of regular visits to the eye doctor: -

Although your vision may be good, changes can be taking place to your retina that needs treatment: -

- Early diagnosis is vital
- Have an eye examination every year
- Do not wait until your vision has deteriorated to have an eye test.
- Remember, however, that if your vision is getting worse, this does not necessarily mean you have diabetic retinopathy. It may simply be a problem that can be corrected by glasses.
- Most sight-threatening diabetic problems can be prevented by laser treatment if it is given early enough. For the advanced cases surgery can sometimes help to restore some vision.

What is laser treatment?

- Laser treatment is carried out at the eye clinic and you will not have to stay in hospital. It is usually not painful.
- Laser treatment prevents deterioration of your vision but doesn't restore what is lost.
- No treatment is possible without some side effects, but the risks of laser treatment are far less than the risks of not having treatment.

REMEMBER:

- Ask your physician about the problems of diabetes and the best way to prevent them.
- If you have diabetes, you need to visit your eye doctor for a check-up every year.
- The earlier the disease is diagnosed the better the results of laser treatment, because it is extremely difficult to treat advanced cases.
- Laser treatment for diabetic retinopathy aims to save the sight you have - not to make it better.

Routine eye exam by an eye specialist is very important. It is your sight and your eyes need every care they deserve.

Reference: Royal College of Ophthalmologists educational leaflets, London.

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT (men and women)



United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in the Republic of Yemen is seeking to employ qualified persons for a challenging work in the legal and humanitarian field.

The candidates should have a good command of English, a law background, preferably university degree in law, including international law and should be committed to humanitarian principles.

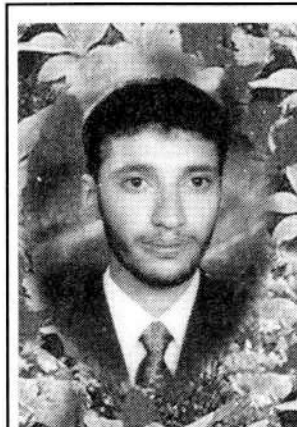
Interested candidates are requested to apply within one month after the announcement has been published in the press. They have to provide a detailed curriculum vitae together with a covering letter to be sent to the following address:

UNHCR BO Sana'a
P. O. Box: 12093
Sana'a

The application should be received not later than 15 February 2001. Only those who strictly meet the following requirements will be considered.

Qualifications/Requirements:

- Nationals of Yemen;
- University degree in law, including international law, preferably refugee and/or human right law;
- Very good command of Arabic and English;
- Good computer skills;
- Interest and/or experience in dealing with refugees from different cultural backgrounds;
- Commitment to humanitarian principles.



أرق وأزكى التهاني والتبريكات، مكللة بباقيات الفل والورد والياسمين نرفها للأستاذ/

جلال محمد الشرعبي

بمناسبة زفافه الميمون. متمنين له حياة زوجية سعيدة، وبالرفاء والبنين. المهنؤون: طاقم يمن تايمز

Does It Really Happen? YEMENI SUPERSTITIONS - PART I

Yemen Times
Taiz

Little has been written on social superstitions spread among our Yemeni society. Many of those beliefs have been inherited through generations and are still alive among us. Here we describe the main Yemeni superstitions.

The Ram (Al-Hamal)

Al-Hamal is a superstitious animal which is also called the graveyard's monster. It is believed that it disinters buried bodies in the first week of burial. Al-Hamal is interested in only those whose horoscope is the ram. During the first week of burial in which the ram is believed to appear, relatives of the dead keep on the watch.

(Al-Bodda)

Beliefs in this superstitious creature is spread in Tihama and its surroundings. Al-Bodda is a witch that can change her appearance into many different shapes. Recently, it has been said that a great number of them were burnt when people's awareness about the spread of immorality increased. It is



more interesting to know that young people who are not able to afford marrying expensive, beautiful brides go to Boddas requesting them to change themselves into their beloveds and make love to them on sand.

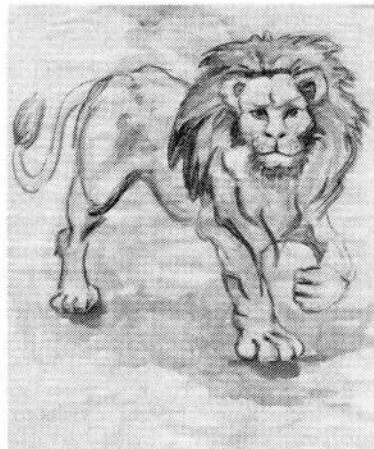
(At-Tahesh)

It is a lion-like beast with a smooth body. Its speed is compared to that of a bullet. That is why nobody has so far been able to capture or kill it. Al-Hawban Tahesh in Taiz has been most

famous through Yemeni history and on which many stories have been told and written.

Quest for Treasures

In many villages, especially the remote ones, people believe in the existence of buried treasures. Stories of such treasures are told by old people. People leave homes for mountains in quest of treasures believed to have been left by their grandfathers in stores dug in the



earth. Some people succeed to find such stores but all they find is invaluable items or coal. The failure to find treasures is always attributed to the fact that they did not slaughter sheep before searching the store.

Jinns' Courts

Throwing hot substances and other material in bathrooms and deserted places is believed to be harmful. Doers may be paralyzed or run mad if they hit the invisible creatures. If a jinn is hit a court session is bound to be held soon inside the doer's mind until they decide to forgive. During the period of holding those sessions the host is mad.

(Sayad)

Sayad is a devil in the shape of a woman that often exists in inhabited areas. She is amazingly beautiful but with donkey legs! As soon as one discovers the reality about her legs she vanishes.



(Al-Odroot)

Al-Odroot is a devil that is believed to inhabit houses. It is a noisy creature that tends to move housewares tools or hide them for some time but return them to their places when house members have lost hope of finding them. They sometimes make strange sounds as well.

Do You Want to Send a Letter to Your Dead Relatives?

Some people claim that their souls visit the dead in their graves when they are asleep. In their tours, souls gather information and messages to be delivered to those alive. When those people wake up, the first thing they do is believed to be the messages of the dead to the intended targets.

(Al-Wali)

The Al-wali is a faithful muslim man who made good deeds and virtuous all his life. People seeking recovery, penance, etc. visit their graves to be blessed. When one has a problem he vows to slaughter a sheep or a cow for the Al-Wali, resulting in solving his problem. But if he doesn't meet his vows, the Al-Wali's spirit comes to him at night threatening. In their pursuit of recovery, blessing, etc. visitors may eat soil covering the graves, lit candles, etc.

(Al-Hilteet)

It is a soar Arabian herb with a disgusting smell. It is used to rub the skin of patients of epilepsy because it is believed to drive the bad spirits outside the sick body.

Charms (Al-Hirz)

Charms are small pieces of papers bearing meaningless words and signs

with some verses from the Holy Quran. Those pieces are tied on patients and hands of children.

Eggs Are Sometimes Cheap to Break

Before the bridegroom steps out of her father's house, eggs are broken in front of her to protect her from devils and evil spirits. The same is done when a baby is taken outside the house for the first time.

Burning the Aloe

When women give birth to babies they burn the aloe in their rooms from sunset until they sleep. This goes on for almost a month so that the new born babies would grow up safely away from the evil influence of devils.

Changing Names

If astrologers tell parents that the name they have chosen for their baby does not agree with its horoscopes they change it. Sometimes it is the astrologer who chooses the new name. **Anointing Children's Tongues with Oil**
Some parents anoint their children's tongues with oil or honey when they are 2 years or older in order to be elo-

quent.

Palmistry

Many people pretend to be palmists. They claim that they can foretell the future of people through the lines on palms.

The Tar (Qatran)

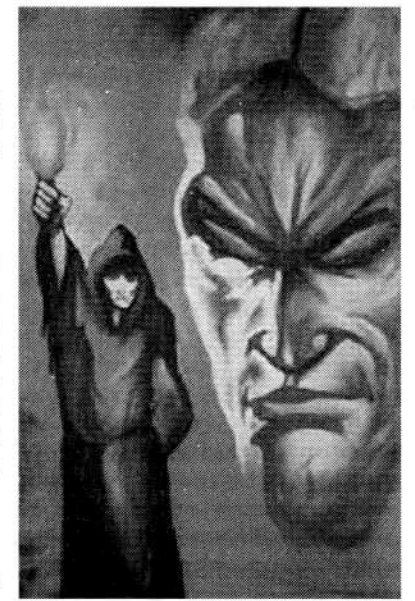
This black substance is used to anoint people's foreheads so as to be protected from evil. Before the Yemeni revolution in North Yemen, when the Imam wanted to test the mentality of his people he would claim that his jinns had run away and that people who did not cover their foreheads with tar would be harmed by jinns.

Swimming for Recovery

A swimming pool located inside the Ahmad ben Alwan Mosque is said to cure a lot of diseases.

Sell Your Fever and Malaria to Ants!

It is said that there were people who believed that they could sell their fever and malaria to ants. When these people caught fever or malaria, they used to go to ant nests. There they tie themselves with a thread and say: "We sell



you the fever, ants."

Cauterizing (Al-Wasm)

Some patients are cauterized in different parts of their bodies to be healed spiritually and physically.

Yemen Times continues part 2 of its amazing Yemeni superstitions article next week!!

Cultural Institutions and Yemeni Intellectual (V)

Interviews with Yemeni Literary Symbols



Mohammed Al-Hakimi
Yemen Times
Taiz

After having the first three episodes of this series on Yemeni intellectuals published, YT received many letters regarding this issue.

Here are some of those letters:

Nagla Al-Umary, a poet and story-writer. "They say when a messenger comes, you see a small cloud of dust first, the horse then the messenger. We are waiting to see the good future of culture in Yemen, but nothing can be seen yet. Will we ever be fortunate enough to see the messenger?" She also said "for the time being, keeping some hope in the future is enough, but dual understanding, accepting other opinions and realizing cultural make enough room for everybody keep the cloud of dust away. I think that the number of female writers is increasing in time. Many female writers became well-known in the nineties."

Mohammed Abdul-Wakeel Jazem, a writer. "The relationship between Yemeni intellectual and private cultural establishments is almost nonexistent. We know many profound writers suffering from ignorance. The situation of Yemeni intellectuals can be summarized in the following:
- Some Yemeni intellectuals are very poor and cannot meet the needs of life because they have their own point of view and never sell their dignity and beliefs.
- Some others preferred to glorify the government in their writings. These writers may have money, but they lost their independent viewpoint and identity.

The cultural situation in Yemen is part of the situation of the weakening culture in the Arab World. Innovation in the Arab world is developing slowly, part of which is the cultural innovation in Yemen. Generally speaking, innovation is strongly tied to social development, which is extremely slow in Yemen.



Abdul-Salam Othman, Director of 'Alebda'a' Cultural establishment, and author of 'Mareb', a relatively famous book of the Yemeni library collec-

tion, said "We thank YT, Taiz Bureau for their efforts in introducing our Yemeni culture. Most cultural establishment work independently with almost no help whatsoever from the government. All what the government does is grant permission to the establishments to operate. The increasing number of private cultural establishments nowadays is a healthy phenomenon, which will no doubt, contribute to the development of our cultural situation."

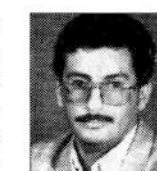


Ahmed Al-Shalafi, a poet, said " what is required now is not issuing permissions and accommodating offices without some real work that could contribute effectively to the development of Yemeni culture." Al-Shalafi also gave examples of successful cultural establishments, such as the Sanaa-based Al-Afif Cultural Establishment, which is considered among the most active in Yemen. "Yemeni intellectuals mostly depend on their own efforts to gain the fame and public support needed. Our problem is not the absence of creative intellectuals, but the absence of supporting establishments.



Abdul-Rahman Al-Humaidi, Public Relations Manager at the Yemeni Union for Culture and Arts (TAIF), said, "cultural establishments are considered the link between intellectuals and the general public. But let there be no doubt, these establishments need the support from the government and from the public, otherwise they may stop being effective and eventually die out." He added "women are not and should not be isolated from the cultural movement taking place in Yemen at all. Yemeni female intellectuals have participated greatly in many cultural activities. In fact, many of them received more support and attention than their male colleagues. It was this care that helped some women become quite famous and prominent. I believe the Ministry of Culture should do a lot to help Yemeni intellectuals and hence, accelerate the development process of the Yemeni culture. The Ministry of Culture, unfortunately, is not aware of the potential in Yemeni intellectuals. In fact, there is no kept record or contact information for these intellectuals. The ministry simply knows nothing about them, but does a lot of lip service in this aspect. We still hope that the ministry convert its

words and promises into practical action."



Abdul-Ghani Al-Maqrami, a poet and journalist said, "the increasing number of cultural establishments represents a good step forward, but the presence of those establishments is not enough to promote culture in the country. Many of these establishments could not gain the trust of the public, especially after the public had lost hope in the governmental cultural establishments. The challenge of attracting the public to traditional cultural events has become increasingly difficult for the new generation especially as the new information technologies, such as the Internet and digital communications started emerging.

I believe that the competition between some of our cultural establishments and the new communication technology is a losing match in favor of the new technology. The current cultural innovation in Yemen is part of a larger cultural innovation in the Arab world. I also believe that there is a powerful direction towards shallow culture. Arabic satellite channels enhances this attitude. In addition to that, our educational establishments like schools and universities are unable to stop the diffusion in other cultures, which in the end will lead to the elimination of the good aspects of the Yemeni culture. Nobody can deny that there is a cultural movement in Yemen, but this movement is still immature for disregarding many distinguished talents and instead showing distorted models. As for female intellectuals, many have dedicated themselves to one sole issue which is women's rights, and the relationship between men and women. Many women writers are obsessed by the so-called unjust treatment of men to women, and hence that is almost all they write about. I believe they should dedicate more time to other cultural issues, otherwise it would truly be a potential waste."

The overall conclusion that we came with after the interviews that we are in a critical stage in which culture is slowly losing its ground. All interviewed intellectuals agree that we must act fast before it is too late.

*So loud the cries of pain
So much my land does gain
Does wait for a world of hope
But alas! Does wane and wane*

FAMILY HEALTH / FAMILY PLANNING PROJECT- IBB AND ABYAN

Yemeni-German Cooperation

Vacancy Announcement

The GTZ-supported Family Health/Family Planning Project-Ibb and Abyan Announces vacancy for the following posts:

1. Local Expert for Mother-Child Health/Family Planning

Main duties/responsibilities:

- Support the partner organizations (government and non-government org.) in improving and expanding the Mother-Child Health/Family Planning (MCH/FP) services in 7 target governorates;
- Carry out health-related target group needs assessments and field studies;
- Carry out training needs assessment of health personnel at different levels in MCH/FP topics;
- Training relevant health personnel in providing technically correct health messages (MCH/FP topics) according to assessed needs and interests;
- Support awareness raising activities for the target group in cooperation with the MCH/FP personnel;
- Support partner organizations in developing target group oriented health education strategies;
- Coordinate and cooperate with relevant organizations in development of appropriate health education material in MCH/FP topics;
- Support partner organizations in implementing, monitoring and evaluating target group oriented health education strategies;
- Training of personnel from partner organizations of both sexes in the use of client oriented methods and instruments in the process of planning implementation, monitoring and evaluation of MCH/FP health education programs;
- Support GTZ Team leader in project related administrative work.

Qualifications/requirements:

- BA/MA in MCH/Health Education or similar fields;

- 5 years experience in the a.m. field;
- Excellent command of English and Arabic;
- Familiar with computer applications is an advantage.

Station of duty:

The main duty station is Aden. However extensive travelling in other areas is required.

2. Secretary cum Translator

Main duties/responsibilities:

- Type all correspondence and project documents in English and Arabic;
- Translate documents from English to Arabic and vice-versa;
- Accompany the GTZ Teamleader for translation purposes during field visits;
- Manage and update project fields and documents;
- Support in planning and organizing workshops;
- Organize accommodation, transport and journeys for employer, consultants, guests, etc;
- Willingness to learn accounting using GTZ financial management system and take over this task.

Qualification/requirements:

- Minimum Secondary Education, college is desirable;
- Five years work experience;
- Excellent command of spoken and written English and Arabic;
- Excellent computing skills.

Station of duty:

The duty station is Ibb city. However, extensive travelling in Ibb governorate is required as well as to other governorates on a lesser scale.

For both positions the candidates must be dynamic, sociable and ready to work as part of the project team. Candidates who qualify for the above positions are kindly requested to send their CV's at the latest by 25, 1, 2001 to:

Family Health / Family Planning Project, Ibb and Abyan
c/o GTZ office
P.O. Box 692
Sana'a - Republic of Yemen

Only short listed candidate will be contacted

Improve Your English



Dr. Ramakanta Sahu
Associate Professor
College of Education, Mahweet

I. What to say

An open mind

Adel: How did you like the talk?
Mansour: I think it was an excellent exposition of one of the basic truths of life. What do you think?
Adel: I entirely agree with you. I never thought over this matter deeply ever before.
Mansour: Me, too. How brilliantly the speaker explained the importance of having an open mind and in what a simple language! Adel, think for a moment, how often are we not trapped by our selfish desires and petty self-interests and judge people and things from a very narrow perspective?
Adel: Indeed. As the speaker said "education is cultivation of mind and cultivation of mind can take place only if the mind is open to fresh ideas from all directions." When the mind is closed one is really trapped by mean considerations.
Mansour: And he brought out the contrast between an open mind and a closed one. As he said "the mind selects ideas that are conducive to it and lets them blossom and bear fruit. But a closed mind is in captivity. It only records information and accepts ready made ideas like a machine."
Adel: The most significant thing that appealed me very much is when he said that an open mind stands before the looking glass face to face with himself. He learns to be himself and tries to understand others. But a closed mind is afraid of himself and prefers to be one of the crowd. What a seminal idea!
Mansour: Yes. In fact, he emphasized knowing oneself fully and adequately. I entirely agree with him when he says that an open mind recognizes the essential similarity between all human beings whereas a closed mind cannot see beyond the differences between cultures, customs, habits, dress, etc. of people of each country. If all of us realized this, then most of the violence, hatred and brutal killings would disappear and our planet would be a haven of peace.
Adel: Insha Allah. Let's commit ourselves to translate these ideas into action in our own lives. Then it will spread to others as the 'snowball' effect.
Mansour: I pray to God to give us strength and spirit to do so.

II. How to say it correctly

1. He took another path from the one I showed him.
2. Moving on the grass I saw a snake.
3. As soon as the bell rang then the students rushed out

of their classes.

4. The choice is between glorious death or shameful life.
5. This book is as good, if not better than that.

Answers to last week's questions:

1. **Supposing** he misses the bus, will he come back? OR **If** he misses the train, will he come back?
2. **Neither** Raydan **nor** Walid is in Sana'a.
3. He is **as** honest **as** his brother.
4. You're happy **neither** with your friends **nor** with your relatives.
5. All that is expedient **is** not right.

III. How to express it in one word

1. Set of instruments or other mechanical appliances put together for experiment or some purpose.
2. Judge rightly the value of
3. Right or suitable
4. Very near to or about right (n)/come near to (v)
5. Loose garment to keep clothes clean

Answers to last week's question

1. Regions having not enough rainfall: **arid**
2. Government by persons of the highest social rank: **aristocracy**
3. Science of number: **arithmetic**
4. Branch of an army that uses big guns: **artillery**
5. Skilled workman in industry or trade: **apprentice**

IV. Rewrite the following sentences using explain. You ask someone to explain something you don't understand.

1. (I don't understand this question.) Can you explain....
2. (I don't understand the system.) _____
3. (I don't understand how this machine works.) _____
4. (I don't understand why this book is so expensive.) _____
5. (I didn't understand the lecture yesterday.) _____

Answers to last week's questions

1. She needs someone to **look after** her.
2. I wonder what's **happened** to her.
3. You must **listen** to this song.
4. I **glanced through** the newspaper to see if there was anything interesting.
5. When you went to the theater with Abdul, who **paid for** the tickets?
6. It's not a very good bus service. You can't **rely on** it.
7. What are you **laughing at**? I don't understand what's funny.

V. Words of wisdom

"The secret of life is in art"

—Oscar Wilde

A Sense of Loss

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Every living writer has imbibed the spirit of earlier writers. The former translates and factorizes the latter. We can cite the comment of the German writer, Jorge Luis Borges, that "anyone who can recite a line written by Shakespeare is William Shakespeare" to establish the idea that all the great writers of the world have a congenial soul to communicate with. All the stories of the world have been written and one can only rewrite them and so the latest works must be improvements over the earlier ones in different dimensions. So looking into the well-known stories of different languages we can decipher the trend among the leading figures of literary circle. Writers from Chekov to Carson McCullers refer to the fear of missing something precious in the rare auspicious moments related to human state. The sense of loss has always caused the anguish, and if the loss is of inevitable nature it gives rise to philosophical anguish, one of the characteristic traits of existentialism. It must be a mere coincidence that many outstanding writers of different languages have the same stamp of it in their writings. The invariable loss of something or the destructive power of nature has always been an inspiration for creative writers. The American writer Stephen Crane who died at the age of 29 had the same inspiration almost a hundred years ago to write the story 'The Open Boat'. (Students of creative writing all over the world still discuss the first sentence of the story.) The same sense of loss made the Russian master storyteller Nikolay Gogol write 'The Overcoat' which paved the way for the greatest tradition in short story writing. A poor clerk, in a government office who had only one overcoat which was very old and shabby, got a bonus and bought a new one. But the hooligans robbed him in the night and took away his new coat while he was returning after a party. As his landlady compelled him to complain, he went to the police, but they ignored his complaint and insulted him. He went to a senior police officer only to be insulted again but the insults were a bit much for him and he fell ill and died. Afterwards a rumor spread that the ghost of a clerk was moving about in search of a lost coat. One day the police officer was caught by the ghost and he left his beautiful furcoat and ran away, and reached home half-dead. Then on, his attitude towards the subordinates changed a lot. A 'mock heroic' narrative technique is used in this story to express the stress and strain of the most common and ordinary people. It is a trendsetter because, many believe that there wouldn't have been many stories of Turgenev, Maupassant, Sherwood Anderson, William Saroyan and James Joyce, but for 'The Overcoat'. It is a narrative sculpture that reconfirmed the concept of short story as a

form of art as it is now. Referring to it most of the books on the history of short story bear Turgenev's quotation that 'we all came from under The Overcoat'.

The later works of fiction tell us how absurd the world has been as it is in line with what Albert Camus, the French writer. He says that humanity had to resign itself to recognizing that a fully satisfying rational explanation of the universe was beyond its reach and in that sense, the world must ultimately be seen as absurd. This absurdity is seen in the major works of most of the leading literatures of the world. In a volume of short story collections *Dubliners* and the novel *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, the Irish novelist James Joyce, depicts artistic outsiders as Camus, Sartre and other Existentialist writers did. Joyce was the first to establish the relationship between material and spiritual exile and the creative inspiration. Even in the beginning of the 20th century, Joyce delineated the lonely, broken-hearted and alienated writer in his stories just as Camus did in his short story *The Guest*.

Camus reacts to the political crisis produced by the historic moments in *The Guest*, and it gives a universal meaningful dimension to the colonial problem. It is this story, along with his novel *The Fall*, that the reviewers and biographers cite as a proof to the severe agony Camus underwent during the last years in his life. A French schoolmaster who was entrusted with the task of taking a criminal to the police headquarters against his wish in the emergency situation of war gave all the chances to the man to escape. But he didn't. At last he gave some money and showed him both the ways to escape and to go to the police headquarters. However, the man (the Algerian culprit) took the road to the police headquarters. Later on, the teacher sees the note on the board that reads 'You handed over our brother. You will pay for this.' The teacher's anguish can be described as the difficulties that the French well-wishers faced in Algeria during the days of riots. Maybe Camus, who vacillated between homeland and the Mediterranean area where his childhood memoir throws light, reflects his image on the teacher in the story. It is a sort of sense of loss that the writer feels.

The same strain of stories can be traced in the German writer, Thomas Mann, of the same generation. Thomas Mann's *Tonio Kroger* is a moving story that shows a writer's pitiful picture as he fell out with the bourgeois society to give encouragement to the whole generation. Denying the middle class culture and order, Thomas Mann selected an anti-establishmentarian and anarchic life style. He points out the deep and dangerous interaction between creative talents and disease in his stories like *Death in Venice*. It is a complex allegory on the interrelationship of life, art, beauty, and death. The main character, Gustav, an aging writer, risks life and reputation in his attempts to gaze on the Apollonian beauty of the 14-year-old Tadzio, a symbol of artis-

tic perfection. Mann captures the decadent, sinister atmosphere of the fairy-tale city of Venice, decaying and sinking into the sea as a cholera epidemic ravages the population.

Difficulties of transforming the pain of aching body into the mental state have been recorded in Franz Kafka's diary. It is the echo of the same anguish that we see in this German writer's story *A Hunger Artist*. A circus artist who performs his art (fasting) to the best of his ability is not understood in the proper way by the circus management and the public, which causes severe distress to the artist. It shows Kafka's concept of danger and sacrifices in the profession of an artist, and it is like his *Metamorphosis* (the story of a young man who suffers the literal and symbolic transformation into a huge, repulsive, fatally wounded insect) in its emotive structure. Some critics say that the background of *The Hunger Artist* is the famine in Berlin before the First World War and his own ill-health and poor relations with his father. But Kafka the existentialist stresses the cruel alienation of artists in the society.

While unfulfilled literary promises were pestering, in a distant valley, a writer who was waiting for his death in an anguish was illustrated in the story *The Snows of Kilimanjaro* by Hemingway. So the American literature is no exception to the same trauma which all others shared. Unfulfilled literary genius coming out of the failing (or failed) artist is a common trend in stories as it is in the contemporary novel.

Gorky's short story *For Want of Something Better to Do* is also in the same note of the sense of loss. In Siberia an ugly girl who was made to believe that the most handsome young man in her office loved her came to know that it was not true, and she went into the snows and never came back. Instead of the so-called Socialist Realism, it is the prevailing streak of thought as it is seen in this story that keeps Gorky in our hearts.

It is not a suicidal attempt that leads to death in the story *The Woman Driver* by the German novelist Gertrude Fussenegger who shows great interest in handling women's problems. It is the evening drive of a girl who loves to drive very fast. Speed was intoxication to her, but she was sure that she drove perfectly. She left behind to climb the hilly roads with hairpin bends, she remembered her boyfriend, saw the hunters' moon in the wing mirror, she asked herself who the hunters and prey were, and jerky thoughts as to the futility of a lover who was a book-worm came to her memory. She raised her speed to catch up with a blue car that appeared before her - or she felt so. She stamped the accelerator, when she reached the end of the narrow road she realizes that it was not a car, and the road disappeared. A bottomless gorge was swallowing her up. The next day people read a newspaper report that death takes place at the rate of one a day at that particular spot. That too reminds us of a loss.

Today's Youth: Where to?



Abdou Moh'd Talib
Swedish Institute
Taiz

I am sure that all of us appreciate the importance of youth in any country. No one can deny their everlasting roles. They are the real wealth of a country and pillars of strength and power and they are the potential shapers of tomorrow. Now the question under discussion is: Where do we put our youth today? Are they on the right track? With a single scrutinizing look at the condition and behavior of our youth today, we get a sense of disappointed. Streets teem with guys of different ages back and forth around the clock, hanging around, killing time, troubling passers-by and indulging in trivial deeds. Take for example, those who remain, till the cows come home, showing improper behavior towards girls and enjoy flirting with them

along passages and paths. To get more examples, open your eyes on those who stay up involved in rioting and assault. They are found debating all the time about petty things like someone's haircut, the latest in base songs, fashion and so forth. In addition, they are addicted to, for long hours, expanding gossip and exchanging loud burst of laughers at the same time. They keep themselves busy with chewing Qat and pursuing wicked TV-channels. They are also crazy about trying the latest in fashion and they feel proud of wearing T-shirts that have pictures of their favorite singers or cine heroes. They look at them as their models.

If you round up more about their conducts, you will discover more disappointing things. Youth today are trying their best to be taken notes of by the society regardless of whether they were off beat in their dress or their behavior. It is really a shame upon all of us which prompts sorrow and anguish.

The situation of our youth is outrightly heart-rending and needs to be remedied before we are in the soup.

In short, today's youth should be taken care of by the society, organizations, parties and unions. The foremost thing our youth need to evolve is the strength of character which would eventually mould the national character. Our national character in Yemen involves a deep commitment to human values and principles. The youth today should, by all means, preserve and protect the value system and our invaluable wealth of national heritage. They should also have a clear understanding of the tasks ahead of them for nation building. The need of the moment is promoting a sense of responsibility, of self awareness, of cultural awareness as well as a sense of dedication for ensuring an all round progress of our beloved homeland. Remember our guys, Youth means a predominance of courage and adventure over a life of ease. Will we learn to get along? I hope so.

YOUTH FORUM

<p>To the children of Palestine Here, here, Why are you crying? Where do the tears come from? Yes, This is a place where children are dead This is the place where the children are killed Why were they killed? It doesn't matter.</p> <p>Oh, my children They killed you, didn't they? The Israeli dogs, They set the fire To your bodies as wood And they sat there drinking your blood We saw your faces We heard your crying But you were alone All alone there With all the firing, iron and blood. Nobody helped you, And you had no gun</p> <p>My children go on Don't you fear those dogs We left you alone But the stones you throw are like thunder Stronger than any force of theirs Stronger than the world</p> <p>My sons, You are suffering</p>	<p>You are the true men, not we And a mark in the worlds memory forever What now? When will the day come and you are free? Safe in your homes? Living like any normal kids? You don't know Nor we But now you must fight your battle To save your country, Your life, There is no truth in the world But your voice will be heard So go on Your wound is the voice of truth, Your stone is the voice of earth And your crying is your anthem Of liberty and freedom To all the world From all the worlds children How many men are there in the Arab world Still you are alone Oh no, Allah is with you May God bless you.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Fuad Ali</p> <p>Mahweet: A Piece of Paradise Not a source of bliss can be compared to this A piece of paradise is this province Oh, what greatness you have Mahweet; Everything in you generates bliss</p>	<p>Yes, Mahweet is a place of wonder; Only one day show all seasons of the calendar Never be astonished, for it's the day of Mahweet To whose climate each season surrenders</p> <p>Think of gardens hung in the sky Think of houses over hills and valleys Or think of clouds beneath you, you are in Mahweet Where all mountains and hills fly</p> <p>Oh, how fascinating is that architecture That stands for every part of Yemen's adorable picture To make all Yemen painted in Mahweet Thus the beauty of Mahweet is legendry Yemeni admixture.</p> <p>How humble and generous Mahweetis are Brethren, yes, friendly they are, to help others they have no bar Kind at heart are people of Mahweet For they are Yemenis, and like what the prophet told Yemenis really are Khalid Ali Al-Quzahy Mahweet</p>
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Populated Schools, Yet Useless Education



Akram Al Saqqaf
Yemen Times

A common scene in any school in Yemen, especially in all-boys schools is the outburst of students when it's break time or end of school day. Tragic-comic accidents take place during the flow of students out, all speeding away from school like prisoners set free, causing injuries to those with small bodies or who stand

This was one of many cases, which are actually existing in our schools today. The number of college droppers is increasing day by day, not only because students could not pass in schools, but schools also are not able to take care of their students, as mentioned by students as well as their teachers.

"I hardly know any of my students, most of the time I am greeted by someone in the streets who seems older than I, because I am his teacher!" said Fawzi Ahmed, Religion teacher.

Teacher **Mahdi Yihya Al Guwaidi**, Supervisor in Al Mutasim Primary

here. And what for. Even the parent does not know why he sends his child to school everyday. And what should he do to help in his child's education. All of this becomes the burden of the principals and supervisors in the school. And sometimes in schools, because in the suburbs there might be one principal for two or three schools simultaneously. Obviously causing inefficient management over all. Not only that, but even in the capital the appointment of principals is done regardless of qualification but with regard to how much money you pay or whom do you know in the Ministry instead. Inspectors are so easily bribed, books never reach students on time and the cycle goes on and on. We need better education for our students and all is in the hands of the Ministry. This is a plea from all of us to whoever is concern.

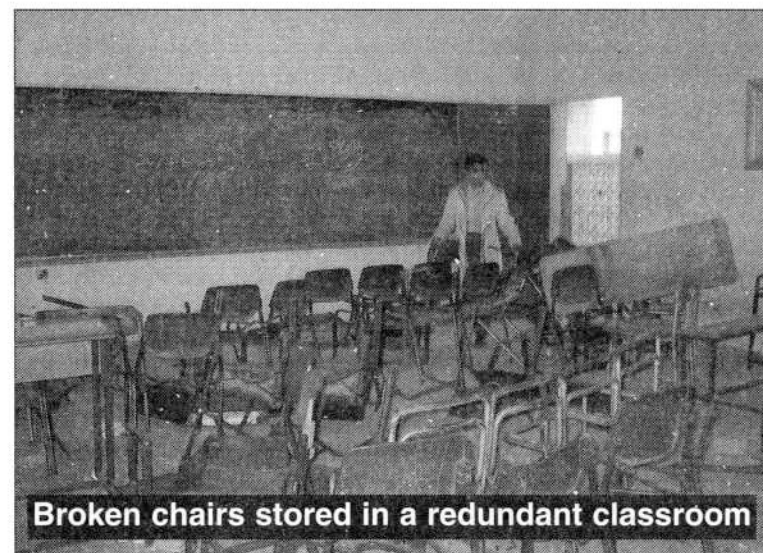
The Ministry of Education is supposed to play its role and take responsibility for the education of students. Our government spends huge amounts of money on military issues whereas the budget for education is hardly anything in compared with what it should have been. The budget declared for year 2001 for education was estimated to be 10,043,000 thousand rials, in compared to last years which was 7,018,000 thousand rials.

Politics has invaded schools, even at the primary school level. "It has become very easy to recruit and dismiss teachers according to their political loyalty. This has been

happening throughout the entire system of education in Yemen. I am an Arabic teacher and due to arguments with my principal I have been given physics to teach and to secondary level students at that," said a teacher who preferred to remain anonymous.

Teacher **Mohammed Hamid**, Arabic Language teacher says, "frankly speaking, there isn't any kind of system at all. There might be rules and regulations but all are dumped aside inactivated for reasons better left unknown. As for the problems faced by teachers in schools, then I could say that the salary we receive is the first disadvantage. It is too less in compared with the efforts spent in teaching and education. It hardly lasts until mid month, especially when the teachers law discussed since 98 and only applied to a few teachers only. Another problem is the crowding of classes, so many students and very few chairs. Although, there are many broken chairs that could be repaired and reused. The lack of educational instruments is always there and finally the ill suiting of syllabus with the students standards, especially in mathematics."

What Mr. Hamid said is very true. Teachers are the worst treated profession although it's most important. Even due respect is not granted to them. The aspect of piled damaged furniture is there in every school and the ill maintenance of school property especially by students is a phenomena worth stopping at and considering.



Broken chairs stored in a redundant classroom

The whole world is aware about the power and importance of knowledge except Yemen and countries like it. Coming generations are not being groomed up to have even the basic levels of education and awareness, even though they might be carrying university degrees. It is very ironic that in Sana'a itself the number of educational institutions is increasing day by day, yet rate of illiteracy is 85%. What are we heading for?



Junk furniture on school roof

in the way.

A high school generally contains more than 5000 students divided in to no more than 40 classes giving a ratio of around 120 per class, in a room 6x8 meters in size.

Stories about students beating up teachers and teachers dismissing tens of students all together from classes are not new in Yemen.

Most high school students are originally working elsewhere and are trying to study at the same time.

"I am a married man, and my wife is pregnant. I am working as a mechanic after school, which I don't attend much. I have been trying to pass my 12th grade for the past 4 years with no use, and the school is not helping!" Mohammed, a high school student exclaimed.

School told the YemenTimes that the system in school has become better this year due to the changes taken place in the decisions and new qualifications brought to the school. As for the obstacles faced in the school, one of the main ones is that students' parents do not understand circumstances of education in our country. They always blame the school for any mishaps and flaws in their children's education. Also many parents do not do the required follow up of the students at home. Sometimes we never know the parents of the children for years. There are no parents' council activities.

As for education in general, we all know that what actually is happening could not be called education. We have see that a student comes to school not even knowing why he is



Police Supervises student's exit



Interview with Mr. Mowafaq Ali Qalalh, Principal of Al Mutasim School.

When was the school deemed?

It was established in 1984, and we started with 24 classes, now we have 30 classes.

How many students are there in the school?

There are more than 3,100 students in school, 1,750 male and 1,350 females. The school is divided in two shifts; morning for high school and evening shift from first level to sixth standard.

And how many teachers are there in the school?

We have 112 teachers out of which 53% male and 47% female teachers. This number is relatively insufficient that we sometimes need volunteers to cover the lack in teachers. This is very ironic when seeing that there are many teachers who are without employment standings, isn't this very sad?

It is noticed that many schools have damaged chairs and furniture on the roofs, could you tell us why so?

Firstly, I want to tell you why these chairs were damaged in the first place. There are many reasons but I could tell you a few:

1. There are between 100- 150 students in every class. The crowding this way will obviously cause damage to furniture especially if classes as small as 6x 7 or 6x 8 meters in size.
2. Two shifts in school, and the kind of students who use these chairs change from morning to evening.

3. There aren't specialized supervisors who organize students' activities and control maintenance of school property.

4. Students generally suffer different feelings, which there is no outlet for. They all are in sensitive age and possess great energy without direction. Most of the time fights start because of rebels in school and it becomes very difficult to stop students from going violent in higher grades.

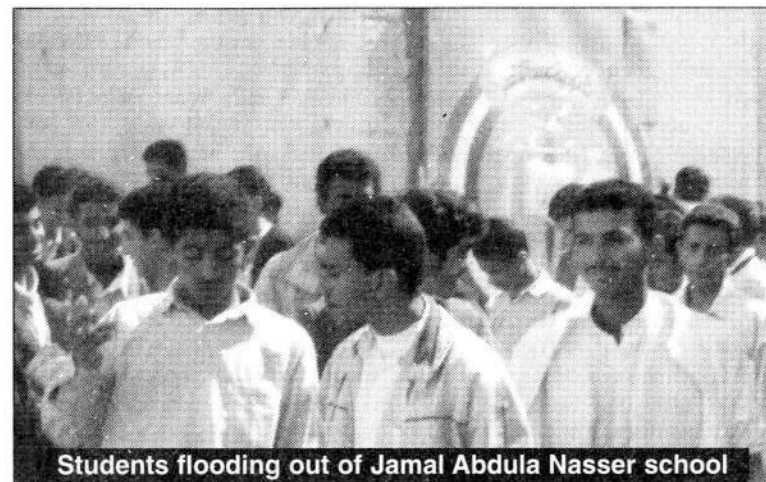
5. Absence of educational awareness in the society as a whole. Especially in the capital. Most of the students parents don't cooperate with the school, in fact some parents don't even know which grade their children are in.

What is the budget specified for the school by the Ministry of Education?

There is no budget allocated for the school by the Ministry. Our expenditure is obtained from student fees. In fact out of that itself we give 65% to the Ministry of Finance and 5% to the Ministry of Education general secretariate. Which leave us with 30% for the school activities all year. This in addition to the rent of the school cafeteria which the school benefits from.

Last comments?

There is an important issue I want to throw light on, that is the essence of education has gone down miserably with time. Education in Yemen before 10 or 15 years was considered on the most standard in the Arab world. Very organized and much more systematic. We need an educational revolution in all states of the country. Only this way, will we make a better future for ourselves and the generations to come.



Students flooding out of Jamal Abdula Nasser school

Continued from page 5

Suspension, Omission and Amendment History of Yemeni Constitution

The amendment made the referendum obliged to amend any article of the constitution.

On 19 August 2000 the president referred a letter to the Parliament that called for making some constitutional amendments to 14 articles.

On 19 November 2000 the Parliament endorsed the amendments suggested by the president along with one article suggested by members of the Parliament. The article related to extension of the Presidency term to 7 years instead of 4 years.

The draft law of the constitutional amendments included the extension of the term of Parliament to 6 years starting from the date of its first session with the provision that the two-year term of the present parliament remains in force. This amendment was endorsed. The reconstruction of Al-Shora Council, appointed by the president of the republic, and the Parliament both sharing the same

authorities was also endorsed. The draft law granted the president the right to dissolve the parliament necessitating people's referendum except for the first and second chapters of the constitution.

The Parliament resolution issued on 20 November 2000 included the content of the endorsed amendments. Debate on the referendum on the constitutional amendments began on 20th February 2001. However, necessary steps and procedures for that have not been initiated so far.

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- 0830 Flag Hoisting
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- Reading of President's Address
- Patriotic songs by the Indian Embassy School children
- Refreshments

Yemen's Internet Cafe's: Bright Future for Fledgling Industry

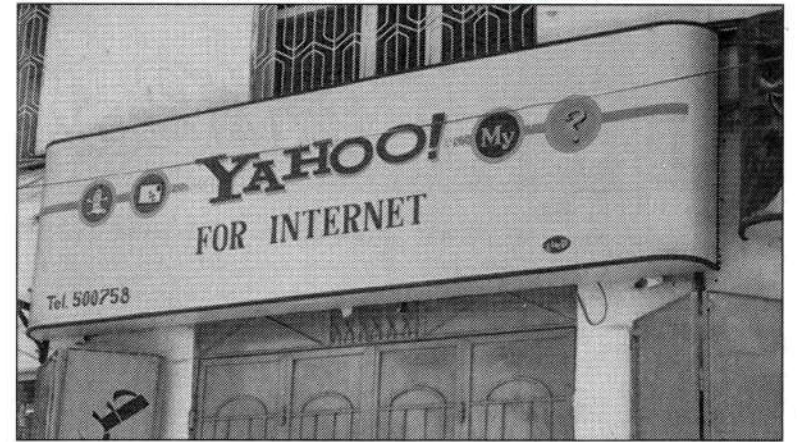
Karen Dabrowska

“I want to contact the people of the world, not make money”, insists Dr Maan Mageed, the Iraqi-born manager of Friends for Internet Corner, one of Sana's newest internet cafes. But even though Yemen is one of the first Gulf states to introduce internet, Mageed's ambition is likely to remain a dream for the next few years. The internet business in the country is monopolized by the Yemen Communications Company (Tel Yemen) owned jointly by the Yemeni government and British Cable and Wireless. The demand for internet greatly exceeds the capability of Tel Yemen which blocks all sexually explicit sites and some political sites and censors all news and e-mail messages. “The service is slow because there is only one server and all Yemen depends on that server,” complains Bilal Faris, a Palestinian who opened an internet cafe in the Haifa Technical Institute which he ran last April. Tel Yemen is at the top of the hate list of most internet cafe owners and users. The service is slow, disconnections for no apparent reason are frequent and there is no competition,

hence little incentive for improvement. It costs 220 riyals per minute to make an international telephone call while the same call can be made through the internet for only 20 riyals per minute. So Tel Yemen also puts a block on some international phone calls. But despite their grievances internet cafe owners can still make a handsome profit: Tel Yemen charges four riyals per minute for internet use while the cafes charge their customers between five to ten riyals. The name “internet cafe” is an import from the West. In Sana'a the so-called cafes do not serve drinks or food. But, unlike restaurants which are a male preserve, they are a public place where men and women can come together in a cordial atmosphere and discuss the why's and wherefore's of internet. Also, children frequently accompany their parents. For Mahmood Al-Shaibani, of one of Yemen's leading tourist agencies, The Universal Touring Company, the internet has been a money saver as well as a useful communication tool. “It has saved us a lot of money as it is much cheaper than the fax”, Shaibani told The Yemen Times. “It is very encouraging to see young people getting interested in computers instead of chewing qat and acquiring other bad habits”.

But Shaibani admits that in one of the poorest countries in the Arab world, the cost of internet is prohibitive for ordinary people. “For an individual user the bill would come to four to five thousand riyals per month: they can pay their household utility bills for that. A computer costs around \$1000. For us that's a lot of money”. Shaibani does not surf the net - the service is too slow for that. He only goes to certain news sites and complains that if he wants to download material, like computer games for his son, it takes a long time. “We must choose the best time to download material - the early morning is best”, he said. According to the Yemeni Communications Company there are only 4500 subscribers nationwide and 30 - 35 percent of them don't actually use the service. In Sana'a there are around 50 internet cafes, most of them in the city centre. In Aden there are around 20 but the service is a lot worse and Sana'a is definitely the city for internet users.

Internet use is also limited because of the 52 percent illiteracy rate in a country of 18 million. English is not widely spoken and around 80- percent of internet services and information are in English. Sometimes it is only possible to send e-mails and internet sites cannot be accessed. Adnan Ali Al-Muraisi, the deputy manager of the Gausi Trading Company (GTC) which added an internet cafe to its range of services in December, complains that if a site contains an objectionable picture the whole site is blocked. “People may need the information provided by that site - never mind the picture”, he protests. Al-Muraisi, a computer engineer with a diploma in computer science and maintenance from the University of Mosul in northern Iraq, has the technical know how to outsmart Tel Yemen and use a proxy server to access “forbidden sites”. But he keeps to the straight and narrow and puts up with the restrictions. “I don't want to create problems for myself”, he says philosophically



adding that his business is helping his country. As in the case of Mageed, money is not a major consideration. Most of the customers at the internet cafes are the educated elite, business people and foreigners. Mageed estimates that 20 percent of his customers are female college students. “Ten percent of the people who come here don't know anything and I teach them”, he says with an enthusiasm which radiates from his philanthropic nature. Sana's internet cafes are as different as their owners: Iraqis hoping to move on to studies in Europe, Palestinians who have settled in Yemen, Yemenis who are keen to get involved in an industry of the 21st century in a city where the past is alive and well and ancient tra-

ditions co-exist in a happy symbiosis with sophisticated technology. Friends for Internet is in an upmarket shopping complex with carpeted floors, the Kaifa Technical Institute is in a renovated traditional building with gamariyas while GTC's internet cafe has a business-like office environment. There is general agreement among the cafes proprietors that internet has a bright future in Yemen. “Its on the way to being popular”, Faris says. “This year is better than last year”. Al-Muraisi is also optimistic about the future and there is a general consensus among the cafes' owners that the monopoly of Tel Yemen will eventually come to an end.

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Press Scanner

Several topics and issues headed newspapers last week. The main development covered in local press was the explosion that rocked the Dhale' branch of the Yemen Socialist Party, leading to tremendous material loss. This was accompanied with the news relating to the local administration elections and the stand of YSP in this regard. The newspapers issued after Friday covered the latest devastating blast that killed more than 7 people in Amran. Opposition newspapers concentrated

on the potential of the possible violations that may occur in the local elections and referendum for the constitutional amendments, as they accused the authorities of not being unbiased in their stand regarding candidacy, etc. The developments of the Aden explosions also topped the headlines, mainly those of Aden, as the American experts continue their investigation procedures. As usual, here you will find excerpts from the most recent headline stories of main newspapers published during last week.

Al-Usboo, January 11, 2001 -
Independent Weekly



6 Killed, and 10 injured Inaugurating Local Elections with an Armed Attack Challenging Al-Ahmar's Will

Six men were killed and 10 injured after an armed conflict emerged on Tuesday in one of the provinces of Amran Governorate because of a dispute over the candidates for the local administration elections to be held next month. The conflict occurred in the Thi bein area in the province of Kharef after a dispute between the men of Abdullah bin Hussein Al-Ahmar and his opposition. Eyewitnesses confirmed that the

dispute turned into an armed conflict between the same tribe in one of the mosques in the area. Five men were instantly shot and killed, while eleven were hurt, one of them died at the hospital afterwards. This is the first conflict occurring during the preparation for the local administration elections, and is also the first violent event challenging the will of Al-Ahmar from within the center of his own party "Hashid."

An Arrest Campaign Targeting Islamists after the Aden and Dhale' Explosions

Police forces continued its intensive arrest campaign targeting extreme Islamists for the third week in Aden, Abyan, Shabwa, and Dhale'. Among the arrested was Mohsin Ahmed Seif of the Yemeni League Party.

The arrests came after a series of explosions in Aden and Dhale' and included individuals who have already been arrested after the USS Cole incident and later released.



Al-Thouri, January 11, 2001,
mouthpiece of YSP - Weekly

YSP Central Committee Calls upon Yemenis to Reject Constitutional Amendments

The Central Committee of the YSP called upon Yemenis to reject and say "NO" to the constitutional amendments that will be voted for in the coming elections on February 20, 2001. This was clearly stated in the concluding statement at the decisions that came out of the second session of the Fourth General Assembly of the party. The statement mentioned that it is essential for all the Opposition Coordination Council members to take a solid stand against the constitutional amendments. It also stated that YSP's participation in the democratic process of the local elections does not

mean ignoring or retreating from the continuous struggle of the party for a fully true local administration with complete authority. The party also expressed its sadness for the biased role of the party affairs committee, and its efforts to dissolve the YSP by launching a vigorous campaign calling for hatred against the party. This actually happened mid December 2000, when the committee gave public statements calling for antagonizing the Yemeni people that is against the main theme of the committee of independence, neutrality.

Hussein Arab Describes the Explosions as "Terroristic" While Ignoring the YSP Dhale's Office Bombing

Minister of Interior, Brigadier Hussein Arab gave a statement on Wednesday at the House of Parliament describing the dangerous security flaws the country is witnessing, and which have developed rapidly within the last few months. The lack of security was the main reason behind the USS Cole Explosion incident, last October, the bombing of the British Embassy, the explosions that rocked Aden City just after the new year celebrations took place, and finally the YSP office at the Shu'aib Province. The minister responded to inquiries by

members of parliament about the mentioned incidents by stating that 6 suspects are being interrogated, three of who are accused of arranging the USS Cole bombing. As for the British Embassy explosion, he said that the main offender and his two partners are being sought after. Coming to the Aden incidents, he stressed that security forces were able to capture four of the culprits, who did confess to committing the bombing. However, the ministry mention nothing about the YSP Dhale' explosion, and preferred to ignore it.



Al-Balagh, January 9, 2001
- Independent Weekly

USA Offers Helping Yemen Secure its Marine Passages

The USA offered our country the protection of Yemeni strategic marine passages in local and regional waters. Media sources stated that the offer has been presented by US security officials and diplomats as a complete project under the title "National Project to Combat Terrorism," which is expected to be launched in the middle of this year. The project will be a under European and US supervision, will include the sponsorship and training of Yemeni security forces, and will also include the construction of the

major structures as part of the first phase, which will include the construction of a modern communication network as a measure to protect US ships arriving from the Indian Ocean and the Red Sea for refueling. Local political analysts related this offer to the requests by US security officials demanding that the US Government act to secure its ships and marine forces all over the world, after they realized that they were the target of terrorists.



Al-Sahwa, 11 January 2001,
Mouthpiece of Islah - Weekly

The first of its kind if it happens Coordinating the Coordination for Local Elections

The Supreme Opposition Coordination Council had an initial agreement of coming up with a common list of candidates for the Local Council Elections to take place on 20 February 2001.

An official source representing the coordination council told Al-Sahwa that all parties of the council approved the decision of participating in the elections with a common list of candidates. The council called upon all its branches all over the governorates to coordinate among themselves and come up with a common list of candidates as to not cause any competition

between them.

The source confirmed that the council had sent an order to all its branches explaining the conditions and requirements in the candidates to join the list, and in the case a suitable candidate was not found, an independent figure could be nominated as long as he/she is close enough to the views and ideas of the council.

Analysts predict that if this unique step is properly taken, a major change may take place in the current political arena, as some collations may emerge causing significant competition against the PGC.

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- 1- Fines which depend on the type of illegal practice.
- 2- Informing relevant international organizations.
- 3- Advertising the wrong doing in local and/or international press.
- 4- Court action.

NATEC asks all relevant parties to comply with the above requirements to ensure the safety of the Yemeni people and environment from the danger of ionizing radiation.

NATEC will render all helps needed to make cooperation possible.

Letters to the Editor Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Thank you very much for your reply to my letter. The articles on Nadia were very interesting, yet I'm still unsure about this case and I don't believe that Zana wrote the two books as a publicity ploy. There are a couple of un-answered questions for example, how did she get married so quickly if it wasn't an arranged marriage? (I don't think it was love at first sight!) She looks extremely upset and lonely in the pictures and I don't believe for one moment that she doesn't wish to return to England. She has not been back since she was fourteen and everyday she is treated as a slave, she has to carry water everyday and how can she not miss her family after all those years? How can you be sure that the house you think is hers is actually hers! It is also upsetting to think you have such little faith in Zana and her family. As far as I'm concerned your paper is just trying to fool the readers because you are embarrassed of the bad publicity your country is getting. There are so many things to be suspicious of. Unfortunately because cases like this are so common in Yemen, the rest of the world will believe this story and nothing different. In the book it "A Promise to Nadia", whenever the family arranged a meeting with Nadia, the husband and Yemen officials must be present. Obviously Nadia will be under a lot of pressure from both her husband and the Yemen officials to say whatever her husband tells her to say. She won't speak the truth for fear of being beaten! This leads me to believe that this is how your articles were written. I have no doubt that Nadia told you she didn't want to go back to England, she probably told you she preferred to live in the Yemen but the point is that she is under a lot of pressure from her husband and his family, to say what is right. If she doesn't, she will be in fear for her life and maybe her chil-

dren's lives also. I know this is a harsh thing to say but it seems that it is completely acceptable for a husband to beat and control his wife in the Yemen. Apart from this case there are dozens of other cases about Yemeni women being beaten and treated as slaves everyday. Women are in fear of their lives and until your government changes the laws, you will never have a proper democratic government which looks after the lives of all the people. Being from a developed country, I'm not used to this. Women are equal to men here, nearly all of the women are literate and have earned a good education. Women are also in top positions of government and most importantly, women are not "slaves" to their husbands here. Maybe someday Nadia will be free back in England with her children and only then when she is in England, surrounded by people who love her (not controlling men) will she be able to tell the full and accurate story of her life. If we find out exactly what your paper said "she is extremely happy in the Yemen and her sister is taking advantage of her to publicize her book and get money." Then I owe you and your readers an apology but unfortunately I can't believe anything that was written in your newspaper articles until that time comes, sooner rather than later.

Clare S.

SnazzySimmy@hotmail.com.

Dear Editor,

This is the first time I'm writing to you. My name is Waleed and I am leaving here in Sana'a and working here too. I just wanted to inform the people of Yemen how they are treated in their own country, as my dad is a Yemeni and my mom is of Indian origin and I am a Yemeni with a Yemeni identification card and passport. Since my childhood I spent my life in Yemen and India, then at last I came

back to Yemen and just two days ago I went to the interior ministry to get a new ID 'bitaqa' but after many questions they gave me a form and asked me whether I stayed abroad and when I said yes they asked for my passport, after giving them my passport they questioned a lot then they said that your mother is an Indian so you can't get a new 'bitaqa' and your both parents should be Yemeni.

Is this a law that your parents should be of a same nationality, there are many people in Yemen who married foreigners so does that mean that their children can't get Yemeni nationality.

They treated me as if I was not in my own country, they treated me as if I am a foreigner, and are the rules and regulations practiced in Yemen only and they do their work as per the rules.

If that's the rule then I would advise all people of Yemen not to marry any foreigner so their children will not face any problems in the future.

It's very strange to be treated in this way, and I guess this is why people here hate government officers and this is why they want to migrate to another countries just to get rid of problems like this of mine.

I hope that they look into this matter and treat their people in a right way, I demand nothing else.

Thanks and best regards,

Waleed W. Al-Jailani

Re: article 8 day baby and tumor of head.

Good reporting and excellent story. After seeing the size of the mass, I believe the anesthesiology practitioner also deserves some credit. Even in the US, this case would be an anesthesiology challenge.

Thank You,

Y. Mordecai Safeek,

MD, Diplomate ABA

Director of Anesthesiology
Clark Regional Medical Center
Winchester, KY USA

A Comprehensive Report on the Mosque Massacre

LIVING THE HORROR OF THE AMRAN MOSQUE MASSACRE



Report by
Hassan Al-Zayidi
Yemen Times

It was Thursday morning when I heard the news of an armed clash resulting in the death of two tribesmen in Amran. I initially thought that this might be a revenge incident, one of many that happen every month in many tribal regions in Yemen. As I tried to look for more accurate information, I was bombarded by conflicting reports stating that the incident was about a dispute in the candidacy of some individuals for the upcoming National Council Elections. Other reports said that the gunfire was from one side and was of no political motives. However, just around noon, I was called by the Chief Editor, who assigned to me the duty of taking a photographer from the newspaper's office and heading for the area where the incident took place. I was enthusiastic and excited to know exactly what happened to satisfy the hunger for accurate and true information with a journalist spirit.

I hired a car and drove for around one hour until I arrived to the site of the incident at the Imam Al-Hadi Mosque, Yanour / Bani Jubar Village - Dhabyan province in the governorate of Amran, which is around 90 kms to the north of Sana'a. Arriving to the exact destination was not at all an easy task. I asked the taxi driver whether he knew the location of the village, he replied with "we will ask!" Once we arrived to Reida, the village famous for its Yemeni Jews community. We asked a Yemeni Jew about the location of the village, and he was kind enough to describe to us the right route to arrive to the Yanour village in Bani Jubar.

Just as we arrived close enough to the village, we witnessed some unusual movement of people towards one common destination. They all were walking towards the Al-Hadi mosque, so we parked the car and I decided to continue on foot towards the mosque (named the mosque of death by some villagers) along with the other villagers.

What I saw there was amazing. There were thousands of tribesmen gathered around the mosque, where the terrorist incident took place. Interestingly, I noticed little presence of police or army forces. I walked through the crowd to get closer to the mosque's entrance. There were people condoling with the families of the victims, who were shocked and in total despair, as they have never imagined that their relatives would be massacred in the heart of Allah's house (mosque).

I was curious to know what happened, so I asked some men who were standing at the door some simple questions like, "what happened?", "why are these people gathering here?", etc. What I got as a reply was also somewhat simple, "They were shot while praying in the mosque yesterday night!" As I went inside the mosque, I was amazed at the number of bullets on the ground and bloodstains all over the place. The bullet marks were evident on the steel door, on the walls, and on the white pillars of the mosque. From one look at the overall interior of the mosque I understood that hell must have broken loose in this small -around 400 sq. m in area- mosque. As I continued to inspect the mosque, I saw some human remains, which made me feel sick and disgusted. I could not imagine how this could happen in this holy place? I took pictures too disturbing for publication. The look at some of the tribesmen's faces was full of fear and horror. I could easily imagine how it felt to feel being showered with bullets from your back while you are worshipping God at the mosque with total devoutness and reverence. I did understand what they went through, but I still wanted to know more about what exactly happened.

I asked a group of men who seemed to be from the village of who would be helpful in providing me with accurate information about what happened. They directed me to the son of the Imam of the mosque, Salman Ahmed Saleh Jahlan, who was among the worshippers when all of this happened, and who was miraculously saved by one of the pillars of the mosque that served him as a shield from the shower of bullets. Little teenage kid Salman was shaking and too frightened to even recall the details of the horrible incident. As the men around me encouraged him to speak up, he started explaining, "Due to the cold weather at the time, the mosque's door was closed but not locked when we started

our Isha prayer at around 8:00 pm." He continued with a shaky voice, "Once we started our second 'raka'a' during the prayer with total devoutness and the feeling of security, we suddenly heard extremely loud sounds of a machine-gun firing at us from the back (near the door). I saw with my naked eyes glowing bullets penetrating the steel door from outside hitting the walls and chests and backs of worshippers, and loads of blood spilling on the floor. I, along with many of the men, took cover from the deadly bullets by hiding behind the pillars and laying down. I am amazed how I survived with no injuries at all. I can remember exactly how it all happened. I was lucky as I was in the fourth row at the far right. I was able to escape death, while others were not as fortunate as me. We could only see clouds of dust and sparks of bullets hitting the walls, pillars, and bodies. I saw everyone in total panic, and for a moment I thought it was a dream. Just as the sound vanished and dusts cleared, I noticed blood coming out of wounds on the bodies of the worshippers. I hoped it would have been a dream, but I saw my father lying on the ground in front of me, with blood all over his head. I called him as loud as possible and worried much about him. I cried, "Father..", but he didn't respond. He was only one of tens of injured men. I was not sure who died and who didn't until today. I could only remember the man who had his arm cut off while trying to escape the shower of bullets..." The poor boy stopped here and couldn't continue thinking of his father, who is also the Imam of the Mosque. The men around us comforted the boy saying that his father was alive but in a coma in the Military Hospital in Sana'a.

The group of men that we started the chat with continued by mentioning that four men were killed instantly in the gun shooting, and more than 17 were injured, seven of them in serious condition. The three killed were named to me to be:

- Hadi Bin Saleh Al-Za'ali, 30
- Mahdi Ali Ismail, 50
- Hilal Yahya Al-Za'ali, 13

All of the injured were immediately rushed to the Military Hospital in Sana'a and the Amran Hospital.

I continued to ask about the incident, and had a young man answer, "We were sajidin, when the incident happened, the door was closed due to the cold weather, but we suddenly heard the

sound of shooting and we saw blood flowing everywhere. We had to lie on the floor, some of us escaped to the right side of the mosque. We saw death in front of us, and realized that we could die any moment, especially that the shooter continued to fire with his machine-gun for a long time. All the men praying were terrified. Whoever survived the shooting helped carry the injured. No one knew who was shooting and why he did what he did because he was shooting from behind the steel door."

We asked the villagers who were surrounding the site where the incident took place about any suspects, and they said there was a person who was not residing in the village at the time of the incident, but who may have come just to commit his ugly crime. He is Jubran Musa'id Ash-shami, who is a person of bad morals and who is not welcomed by the villagers for his black record of theft and crime, and that he may be the person behind this incident.

We also asked one of the people in charge of the area about this person and he said that nothing was confirmed, and investigations have already started to know exactly who that person was. Even though the villagers were surrounding the area, no one was able to find him.

When I tried to get more information about the suspect, Jubran, villager Mohammed Saleh Al-Dai'ri responded by saying that Jubran Musa'id Ash-shami, 20 is the culprit, who has been known for his

black record of theft and bad behavior. "We do not know what his aim of the crime was, and who -if there are any- are his partners" he added.

All the three martyrs who died in this horrible act were buried on the morning of the next day. Condolers filled the living rooms and houses of the relatives of the dead. It was quite refreshing for me to know that people from neighboring villages came in support of the families of the dead and injured and paid their condolences just as they were from the same village.

As a tribal norm, villagers from Dhabyan provided 35 rifle to the relatives of the victims as a way to say, "Please do not take revenge, and let law take its place. This is our guarantee that you will be justified."

I then went on to ask the father of the Imam of the mosque, Saleh Mosleh Jahlan, who was also injured with a bullet in his leg, about whether there were any internal disputes, either religious, political, social, etc.. He

replied, "There were no disputes among our villagers in any way. I said this before and say it again, our tribe is one tribe, our village is one village, and we are united in all aspects. There are no religious differences, as we all belong to the Zaidiah sector. My son even used to teach Quran after the Isha prayer everyday to the village's community."

I was surprised to see that the tribesmen were faster than the security forces in identifying the culprit, and where he might be, and captured him.

The villagers were in shock and agony that this happened in one of the village's mosques. It was not only a mosque, but also a center for teaching the Holy Quran, taught by the

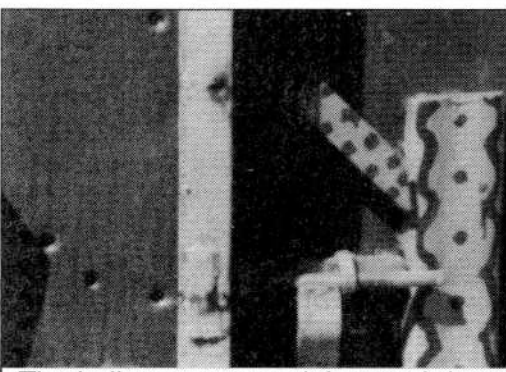
Imam of the mosque, Ahmed Saleh Jahlan. The villagers who talked to me that day confirmed to me that the murderer was not mad or insane. He was a normal individual with a horrible record of crimes and thefts. But despite his terrible reputation, no one imagined that he would commit a crime so outrageous. One of the villagers said that Jubran once said that he wanted to travel all the world. What does that have to do with his terrorist act? What was more amazing was the fact that among the worshippers at the time of the incident were the culprit's brothers and father. Is it possible that he went out of his mind at that particular time? Is he so evil that he would want to kill his brothers and father in the house of Allah?

From my personal observations of the place where Jubran shot at the worshippers, I realized that most of the bullets hit the pillars, which served as shields, hence saving tens of lives. This is what made some of the worshippers cry and pray thanking God for saving them from certain death.

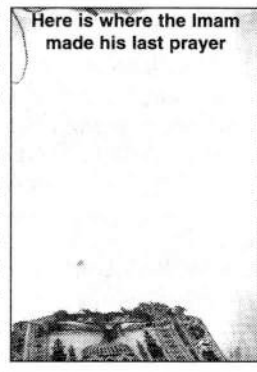
After a long three hour stay at the village, and after taking all the pictures needed to show how horrifying this act was, I drove back to Sana'a thinking of how in earth will I ever start to write this report. I could not find answers to many questions, such as, "Why would a person try to commit such a horrible act of targeting worshippers at a mosque, which is considered the holiest places for Muslims? Had he ever thought of the consequences of his acts?"

As a follow-up to my report, I went back on Saturday to the village and tried to interview security officials investigation the case. But as usual, they were hesitant to give any statements, with the same old sentence, "we cannot give information as we are still investigating the case."

In an extra effort, I contacted the closest people to the suspect and was told that he was a normal student until the preparatory classes, which he discontinued. Later he worked in one of the companies in Sana'a. He used to stay away from the village and would return back to stay Thursdays and Fridays. He used to say that in the year 2000, he would be touring the whole world, as he was a person of humour most of the time. I continued searching for information about his past, and was taken to his home where I was able to find an old photo of his when he was in



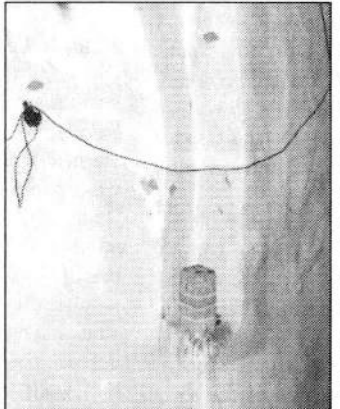
The bullets penetrated the steel door



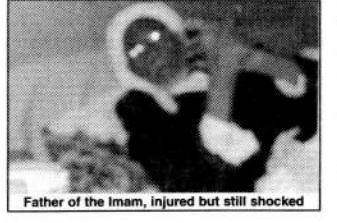
Here is where the Imam made his last prayer



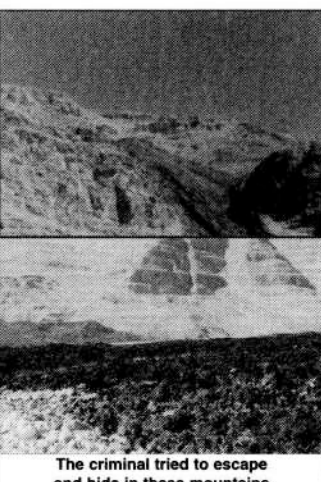
Little Salman, son of the mosque imam, trying to describe the horror of the incident to YT



Father of the Imam, injured but still shocked



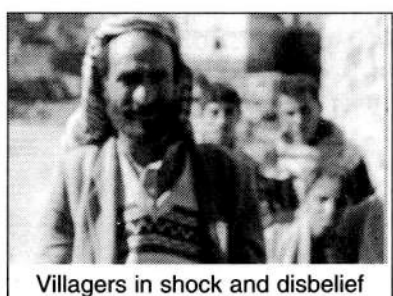
Father of the Imam, injured but still shocked



The criminal tried to escape and hide in these mountains



An old photo of 10-year-old (by then) Jubran Ash-shami.



Villagers in shock and disbelief

his early childhood. Just when I thought I knew all I could know about him, I was surprised to hear some of the villagers saying that Jubran actually attempted to commit his massacre during the Eid prayer, but fortunately that day, he was late for the prayer, and missed the chance to kill as many people as possible, so he decided to postpone it until last Wednesday. I would like to end this report by thanking all the villagers who assisted me in my report. But at the same time, I cannot but pay my condolences to the vil-

lage, which keep the memory of this horrible incident for years to come. But there is some bad news that I learned later, just before I submitted my report for publication. I learned that little Salman's father, the Imam of the "Mosque of Death", died a few hours before I completed my report. The death toll has risen to 4 now, and there is a possibility of it rising further. It may be a shock to the little boy that suffered from one of his worst nightmares turning to a reality. I just hope that he could recover soon. Let's pray for him to recover and for his father to be awarded the heavens.

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Monday	IY 748	Sanaa/Paris	1100	1725	
Tuesday	IY 740	Sanaa/Rome/Frankfurt	0001	0750	
Wednesday	IY 742	Sanaa/London	1230	1930	
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Surrounding area:

Scattered around Sa'adah and in parts of Qa'a al-Sahn and Sa'eed Qa'a Sa'adah there are beautiful villages with the same architectural patterns as Sa'adah and are rich in grape-vines, gardens, pomegranates, and other fruits. Worthy of a special mention are the villages of al-Talh, al-Abdeen and Rabhan.

Rock Drawings and Primitive Paintings:

Sa'adah is an area which boasts a large collection of ancient paintings and signs dating back to the hunter-gatherers society. In the mountain area many of the caves and rocks are full of inscriptions and paintings of goats, hounds, cows, snakes, plant and geometrical shapes. The two areas, rich in such drawings and paintings, are Al-Khaza'in, 15 kms to the north-west of Sa'adah at Om Laila and Musalhaqat 5 kms further on.

Al-Khaza'in, Rocky Graveyards:

Fifteen km to the north-west of Sa'adah is the Rocky Graveyard. This graveyard is carved in the mountain and resembles a vault. It has a square door leading to rooms, each about 20 square meters. The rooms are similar to those at Shibam Kawkaban, Dhafar al-Malik, Wadi Dhafar and Shibam al-Gharras. At al-Khaza'in there is a reservoir eight meters deep and 4 meters wide.

Other places worth visiting are Haidan, Baqim, Wadi

Nashur, Razeh, Saqin, Wa'ela, Sahar, Ghuraz and Al-Buqa'a.

Customs, Traditions and Folklore

Sa'adah is rich in its art, folklore dances and music, with some of its residents having traditions found nowhere else. For example, the male residents on the outskirts of Sa'adah wear wreaths of flowers around their heads and their hair is grown down to their shoulders. This part of Sa'adah has retained a life-style which has not been affected by time.

Al-Buqa'a, a crossing point for Saudi Arabia, is located to the north-east of Sa'adah.

Forts and Castles of Sa'adah:

Sa'adah has always been an important point on the trade route: the frankincense camel caravans from the As'ad route, or the proprietors of the elephant route which passed by a series of towns and hills during the pre-Islamic era, and is also a route for pilgrims during Ramadan. The construction of forts and castles, therefore, seemed necessary to protect the travelers. Some were built close to Sa'adah such as al-Sinarah, Sama'a fort, Tulmus fort and Alba fort.

The most important of the forts and castles is "Om Laila", located 60 kms to the north-west of Sa'adah at Baqim and Juma'ah.

Sa'adah, Ancient Forts & Islamic Tradition Center

Sa'adah is one of the most important tourist governorates with a rich historical and archeological Islamic monuments. It used to be one of the most important centers for knowledge and sciences. It enjoyed lots of features during Islamic authorities, established long ago. The great number of historical forts and castles spreading in many parts of Sa'adah is a perfect proof to



Sa'adah historic wall

this history. Imam al-Hadhi Mosque with all its eye-catching, marvelous and wonderful inscriptions and monuments inside has a lot to show about this history and tradition.

Traveling to Sa'adah was difficult. What attracts the eye the time you enter the city is the traditional Yemeni houses made of mud. You can never fail to notice the great number of forts on many mountains and hills foretelling of a great prosperous civilization deeply rooted in history. This report is to shed light on some of these important forts.

* Om Laila Fort:

Om Laila Fort is considered to be one of the most important forts 30 km to the North of Sa'adah. Archeological inscriptions indicate that it was built in two stages. The first time it was established was during al-Seii reign by one leader named al-Sana'a bin Hubaish in cooperation with tribesmen 30 B.C. Old Yemeni inscriptions confirm that this is one of the most significant archeological sites. It contains stone-paved roads, reservoirs, grain stores and defence constructions such as towers and fortified walls, with only one wall leading to it. Beautiful scenery from all around awaits the visitor. It has a circular shape and was used as a castle to protect tribesmen at the time of any outside attack.

During the Islamic reign, particularly in the beginning of the Imam country al-Hadhi al-Hassan al-Kasmi, was an opponent of the Imam. He defended himself in it. He established new buildings inside the fort. However, the Imam could defeat him and destroy the fort.

* al-Sinarah Fort:

al-Sinarah Fort is 5km away from the center of the town, to the South. It overlooks Wadhi Damaj. It was established at the beginning of the thirteenth century Hejira, about 1320 H, by Imam of Sa'adah at the time was Abo Naib during the reign of Sharaf al-Din. It also has a circular shape made of stone. That was during the reign of al-Mansoor, father of Imam Mohammed Hamid al-Din. It was used as the center for the government at the time.

* al-Sama'a Fort:

It is to the left side of the valley. It is an extension of al-Sanarah fort. However, al-Mansoor used it as a store for food stuffs and weapons. All the forts contain private vaults and annexes of buildings.

* al-Kashilah Fort:

It is located at the center of the old town on iron boards which used to be manufactured in the town in special ovens. Ovens are to be found even until now.



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Recuired: executive secretary. should have excellent computer skills and should have excellant communication skills in English and arabic. Tel. 414838.
Required manager for school with experince's certifiacats in fax: 04-217679.
Interpreter Prom English into Russion Hotel bwriress P.O.Box. 5601, Rashidov Shakhob, Tel. 06-430892.
July 7 kindergarten is in need of a woman to teach English and music

205201. Speaker has desire to work in any international organization or companies any where Hadramaut, Al-Mahara or Socotra Island. Tel: 02-348478. Moh'd A. Qawi. Box Aden - Shekh Othman: 2154. E m a a i l mohdaqawi@yahoo.com
For Second-to-none English to Arabic translation and vice versa, call 340469 Translations that makes sense. We translate meanings and implications and not just words. Satisfaction Guaranteed or keep your money.
Ali I. A. Jahaf: B.A. Accountant + (Eng. + Arabi lung) + Good skills of computers, Internet and experince all for ten years. bager: 5823764. P.O.Box: 13882.
Ibrahim M. Al-Awdi: Deploma in English, looking for a job in the afternoon or night. 3 years experience in teaching English and arabic typing. yemen. corner of paris Tel. 501459, P.O.Box: 87393.
Hadeel Abdul-alek:

Master degree experience in teaching, three months as a dispenser. Tel: 00967-2-250326
Amer M. Zaidan. BA. Economy (intl. Bus) Experience: 9 months work as Sec. Gen. with Water & Environmental Sanitation Group. PO Box: 557, Crater-Aden. Tel. 02-252338.
Helmi Bawazer, Qualificatoin: Fresh graduated from Univ. of Science & Tech. Sana'a, English & Translation Dept. Good skills of Computers, Internet, Email, HTML, Photography... FREE Personalized Email at Mail. com. sign up at http://www.mail.com/?s=r=signup
Bin-Burich, Traslation services, English/Arabic versa. P.O.Box: 19731, Tel. 620354.
M. Sc. Mechanical Eng. AutoCAD 14 Drawing 2 D& 3D, I am seeking for evening job of institute computer teaching. Tel. 242484.
Adel Ali Abkar: Agood English, I can dreive I looking for any job, Alhasaba Str. tel: 232212

fish + table in price 10000 YR. Tel. 242484.
For Sale: Samsung, Washing machine full Automatic, Dining table with 8 chairs. Al-Shaibani. 7909095 or 289540 (work).
For sale: Modem fax 33.6 speed (new), 3000 Y.R. Abdullah Ahmed Abbod Tel: 275906.
Following Indian Diplomatic Passports have been lost:
1) Veena Suman, No. D-103239 Dated 19.5.1996, Valid till 31.07.2001 Issued at Baghdad.
2) Neelam Suman, No. D-103240 Dated 19.5.1996, Valid till 31.07.2001 Issued at Baghdad.
If found request contact

Indian Embassy, 12 Djibouti Street, Sana'a (Telephone No. 01-508084/85/87 and Fax No. 01-508105).
Computer
For Sale: Computer lap top TOSHIBA (satellite) 320 CDS. CD-Rom drive. 4 GB, RAM 96, Card modem. Price: US\$ 1.000 Call: 5817114
For Sale: New modem Card 33,6 KB, speed, 486 DX4100 Processor 16 MB. RAM. Abdulla Ahmed Abbad, Tel. 275906.
Needed: Computer Makintosh in a good condilion but not more than \$ 400. Fadl Ahmed Abbas. Al-Mohsen. Sana'a-Al-Hasabah Str. Tel.: 234351, P.O. Box: 8596.

Job Seekers
Najji A. Al-Khawbari: Job Application I have experiance in the construction and surveces swimming pools in Trading business management. correspondence, computer, internet, and public Relations, documentary L/cs, and commercial Ganrantees, and marketng.
Hassan Al-Zubaidi, a highly qualified accountant and auditor with experiance with international firms looks for a job. 12 years as an accountact and finance manager, 8 years as an auditor, conversant with PC based software, exposed to he has computerized accounting information system. Tel:

205201. Speaker has desire to work in any international organization or companies any where Hadramaut, Al-Mahara or Socotra Island. Tel: 02-348478. Moh'd A. Qawi. Box Aden - Shekh Othman: 2154. E m a a i l mohdaqawi@yahoo.com
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Hadeel Abdul-alek:

For Sale: Large Beautifully Designed Villa, Prime Location in Hadda, Built on a 68 Libna Plot of Land with a Nice Mature Garden, and Two Garages \$ 900.000, A Must See For Anyone Interested in Buying Property, Telephone 409940 for more details.
For Sale: a flat in Tawwahi(Aden), third & uppermost floor: 3rooms + small hall+ kitchen+Bathroom+two -street Balcony + terrace + phone line. Aadeb Ahmad. Telefax: 01/218888 (Sana'a) Tel. 02/382573 (Aden)
Villa for rent in Al-Hsabab Zone, Supplied and Furnitured for more information phone: Fadl Ahmed Abbas: 234351.
Ground floor (2-storey villa) Contains 4 rooms, 2 toilet, kitchen hall & with garden garage & guard room, good location. Tel: 214940.
For rent 3 furnished flats Deluxe, Comfortable features, parking, Zira'a Str.

For Sale: Mercedes C 280 Black, Model 95, Full option in Hodeidah port. Price US\$ 15.000 Without customs or US\$ 19.000 with customs. Call: Tel. 216935 mobile: 7912780 - Tel. 216935
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For sale: Marcids Bins 190. Mansour Abdulwadood Al-Mabrazi. Tel: 7902380.
For sale: Nissan car 1980 model. Taxi good candition, prise 200.000 Y.R. Hussain Al-Sa'adi. pager: 5892364.
For sale: Daewoo car, 1990 model, very good condition. mobil: 7906048, bager: 5806830.

For Sale: Computer lap top TOSHIBA (satellite) 320 CDS. CD-Rom drive. 4 GB, RAM 96, Card modem. Price: US\$ 1.000 Call: 5817114
For Sale: New modem Card 33,6 KB, speed, 486 DX4100 Processor 16 MB. RAM. Abdulla Ahmed Abbad, Tel. 275906.
Needed: Computer Makintosh in a good condilion but not more than \$ 400. Fadl Ahmed Abbas. Al-Mohsen. Sana'a-Al-Hasabah Str. Tel.: 234351, P.O. Box: 8596.

IMPORTANT Numbers
Emergency Police 199
Accident (Traffic) 194
Fire Brigade 191
Water Problems 171
Electricity problems 177
Telephone enquires 118
Red Crescent 203131/3
Tel-Yemen 7522202
Y.net 7522227

HOSPITALS
Azal Specialized Hospital 79077330/200000
Yemen German Hospital 418687/8/9
Al-Eryani S. Hospital for Obst. & Gynecology 204476, 402191/2
Al-Raboe Hospital 618087
Al-Rasheed Hospital 200830/200730
Athawra Hospital 246366
Al-Jelani Hospital 615402-615400
Al-Jumhury Hospital 274285
Yemen Specialized Hospital 224963
The First Clinic For Neurologic And Psychiatric Patients 204252
Al-Madina Hospital 208885/6
208887 fax:

DENTAL CLINIC
Sehab Dental Center 400443/218824
YBRD 271623/4
Watani Bank 206613

GOVERNMENT OFFICES:
Foreign Affairs 202544/7
Interior Affairs 252701/7
Immigration 250761/3
Tourism 254032

AIRLINES:
Austrian Airlines 272432
Cathay Pacific 272432
Egypt Air 275061
Emirates 244444
Ethiopian Airlines 272437
Gulf Air 265274
KLM 278747
Kuwait Airlines 272503/4
Lufthansa 213400
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Russian Airlines 272540
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Syrain Airways 272543
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Abdul-Mughni 274698
Haddah 205385/50
Shaub 250833
Zubeiri 260834/5
Head Office 232381/9
Reservations 250800/1
Airport 250868/831

TRAVELS:
Sabena 285865/925
Universal Group of Companies 413501
Bazara Travel 78093/270879
Ilias L. T. T. 412308/313
Al-Nasim Travel 270750

CAR RENTAL:
Al-Safeer Rent a car Sana'a 223914/905
Europcar Downtown Station HQ: 5854158
Airport Station: 270751
Hertz Rent a Car Sana'a 01-268748
Aden 02-245625

COURIERS:
Aramex Sana'a: 264819/20/21
Aden: 255333
Taiz: 213489
Hodeidah: 218168
Mukalla: 303346
Ibb: 406882/3
Sana'a 202177
Aden 259874
Hod. 239665

AMERICAN EXPRESS
Sana'a: 272435
Hodeidah: 263322/3
Aden: 202115
Taiz: 245610
Mukalla: 302641
Sewyn: 402469

FREIGHTS:
ITS Cargo 218142
Aramex Sana'a: 264819/20/21
AEI 285540
GAS Aviation Services 412309
Pacford Int'l Forwarding 203375
Red Sea Pac. & Gen. Services 264089
Sheibani Shipping and Clearing Corp. Hodeidah: 212989
Sana'a: 207028
Aden: 243319
Taiz: 219292
Mukalla: 303913
Griffin Logistics Ltd. Sana'a: 248115
Yemen Freight Agency (YFA) 272135

INSTITUTE
Germany Language Institute 266204

SCHOOLS
Sanaa International School 370191
Al-Hussein Naional Schools 412826/7
Sana'a British School 203950
The American School 417119-414640
Yemen Modern School 401013
Sana'a Turkish School 412128
Pakistani School 417288/247830
French School 206694
Al-Majd Yemen School 206159

UNIVERSITIES
University of Applied Science and Social Sana'a 400587/254492
Aden 234533/234960
Sana'a University 250553/4/5

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اعلانات عدن
وفاة شاعرة
مطلوب: محاسب شريطة ان يكون من اوائل الدفع (علمًا بان العمل في صنعاء) ت: ٢٤٧٠٧١-٢٠٢٠٨٤٠
مطلوب: موظفة اتصالات لدى فندق النيل شريطة ان تكون حسة المطهر. للاستفسار ت: ٢٨٧٥٤٦. رشاد الحكيمي.
مطلوب: موظفة في الدعاية والاعلان، يشترط حسن المعاملة + خبرة سابقة + اللغة الانجليزية ان وجدت. خالد حسن، بيجر: ٥٨٢٧٧٨
باحثون عن وظيفة
خالد الحربي: ثانوية عامة، يرغب في العمل لدى اى جهة. ت: ٢٥٨٥٧٨
عبد الرحمن منصور: دبلوم زراعة - العراق، خبرة ثمان سنوات، ت: ٢٥٨٥٦٦
سيارات
للبيع: سيارة نيفاروسي موديل ٩١ مناسب، أمل، بيجر: ٥٨٢٧٧٨

SITRAM
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مقبض سهل الإستعمال
سرعتان للطهي
سلة لطهي على البخار
محللات العتيق التجارية
شركة أنكس التجارية المحدودة
صنعاء: المركز الرئيسي - الإدارة العامة، ت: ٤٤٥ - ٤٤٦ - ٤٤٧ - البريد الإلكتروني: ARTEX@y.net.ye
التجاري: شارع حدة، ت: ٢٠٩٥٠ - مركز صنعاء التجاري - شارع الجزائر، ت: ٢١٢١٠٢