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# President Saleh in a Press Conference:

"There will be cabinet reshuffle.. and our coalition with Islah will continue"

In a press conference held on Thursday morning, President Ali Abdullah Saleh declared the victory of the GPC in dominating most of the local council seats, and announced that the people who voted for the constitutional amendments reached around 75%. He thanked the Supreme Elections Committee, which had done a lot in such a short period of time. "The period was indeed very short, and this caused a lot of obstacles. Yes, the SEC was able to rise to the occasion and we are satisfied with what it had done" he said.

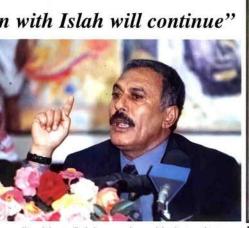
Several questions were raised to the president concentrating on the constitutional amendments and local council elections. Yemen Times Editor-in-Chief, Walid Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf asked a question concerning the amendments by saying, "From our surveys and investigations, we realized that most of the electors did not have any idea of the nature of the 17 amendments to be voted on. Wouldn't it have been better to have those

amendments one by one listed for the voters to vote for or against during the referendum?"

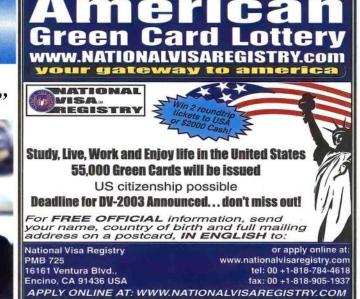
The president responded by saying that it was a conventional regulation to have all the articles as one entity, and have the elector either supporting all or rejecting the amendments. "I am not fully aware of the technical process in this particular issue, but I believe that the media had played an important role in spreading awareness 🖡 of the different articles of the amendments, so that the public would realize

what they are. But I also believe that it would be a tedious task to have 17 boxes, one for each amendment."

A question was raised by the correspondent of AFP, Hamoud Munassar, asking, "Will the tensions and disputes among the two largest parties result in the ending of the coalition between the two major parties?"



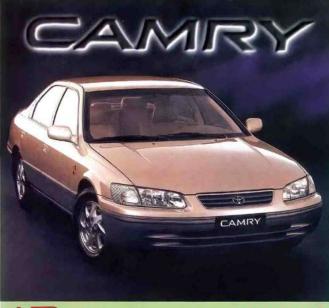
President Saleh openly said that whatever happened during the election period is only a temporary issue that cannot alter the unique and distinguished relationship between the two parties. "This had only occurred because of the election fever. After the electoral process is over, we will get back together and our coalition with Islah will continue." Continued on page 2



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### They re Slaughtering Democracy

forces of tanks and guns, we don't want them."

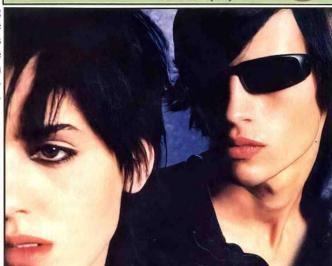
Local councils elections that were held last month have demonstrated a new phenomenon expected beforehand, i.e. armed confrontations, whether individual or between some Call Centers in Yemen. army units and certain armed groups As for exploring the reasons why other than the PGC. The most these armed confrontations have prominent and bloody of those con- taken place between individuals frontations were those that took place between Yerim

Military Camp and the Republican Guard on the one hand and the villages of Wadi Khaban, Kuhlan and Sabbar in Wadi Ibb, an area presently most allegiant to the Yemeni Congregation for Reform Party cal.

Targeting Sabbar village in particular may mean something else, especially if it is taken into consideration that it is the village of Sheikh Abdulrahman al-Immad, the wellknown Islamic leader and member of parliament and head of Islamic

and political organizations during the voting and polling, it could be found out that the ruling authorities have insisted on politicizing the elections and to render competition between the parties and other political groupings into tribal and politi-

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**Yemen Times Celebrated** its 10th Anniversary, with a common feeling among all staff members: "Proud to belong to Yemen Times" Details on pages 8+9

Happiness and pride was what YT employees felt during the 10th anniversary celebration of the Yemen Times. They deserve to be so. After all, they are the ones who make it happen!

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### German Expert Kidnappers Arrested

Yemeni authorities have arrested both Mohammed Saleh Al-Kurbi and Mohammed Marzouq Al-Kurbi whom the Saudi authorities had handed over for their being involved

in kidnapping the German expert

Lother Feilenberg. A security source has confirmed that the two persons had kidnapped the expert and investigations are still going on in order to be sent to court. Yemen Times in its issue No. 4 on Monday 22

mercial, cons

January 2001 had published a detailed report on the kidnapping incident, which occurred in mid January of this year in Shabwa Governorate

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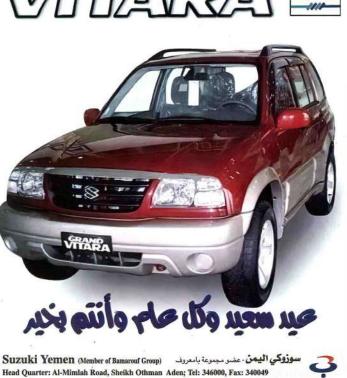




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#### Words of Wisdom

"One of the major problems of government in developing countries is the absence of a good communications system between the ruler and people, according to which the right people are chosen to manage the affairs of government. No good system evolves because rulers, as well as their encourages, block it."

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

# **Our Opinion**

As Yemen Times celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, it is a delight for us at the Yemen Times to place one of the editorials of its founder, Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf. We decided to place the editorial published in issue 2 of 1998 entitled, "Yemen Times: Spectacular Growth" so as to remind the readers of the great plans and achievements of the newspaper with a piece written by is founder,

# **Yemen Times: Spectacular Growth**

ith the last issue, the Yemen Times news paper moved to its eighth volume (year). The progress and growth of the newspaper has been nothing but spectacular. As a publisher and chief editor, I am fully gratified.

During 1997, circulation has grown by 12%. Actually the hard copy circulation of the newspaper has not kept pace with demand, partly because of rising costs of newsprint-paper and other inputs. But given continued demand pressure, the number of copies printed was increased by 20% starting last week. At the same time, the number of secondary cities in which the newspaper is now available on news-stands has grown to almost twenty. Of course, this is over and above the major cities and

the capitals of governorates.

At a third level, the Yemen Times website has been accessed by some 9,000 readers since the 1st of October. We now count over 200 hits per day. This is a happy sign. We have been receiving growing volumes of e-mails regarding the on-line version of the newspaper.

The strong point in the growth of our readership is that we are tapping the cream of society - both in Yemen and abroad. Those who read the Yemen Times are individuals who have high pur chasing power and those who wield visible influence in gov ernment, business, intellectual, professional, diplomatic and other circles.

At a fourth level, Yemen Times will, in the near future, increase the number of its pages by 25%. This step has become necessary to keep the volume of advertisements in acceptable balance with the news material. So, the newspaper will go to a 20page format, rising to even higher number of pages every now and then to meet advertisement needs on special occasions.

At a fifth level, Yemen Times will hire several new reporters during 1998. We hope to tap journalist graduates from the local universities. Some of these will be employed on a full time basis serving our head office and the branches. Some of them will be stringers. The expansion will also include reporting on such important fields as arts, music and entertainment. Female reporters will get their place.

Yemen Times is considering going back to reviving some sections which have not been featured regularly over the last few months. We will resume the readers' letters page, and will expand the scope allocated for briefs from the Arabic local press.

The newspaper is also toying with the idea of resuming its French page. We ask our readers to kindly let us know their

#### Post-elections war of accusations & disputes continue

Yemen Times continued to receive feed- from all the main political parties. back from various political parties regarding the latest results released by the SEC. The GPC and Islah parties continued their vigorous war of accusations regarding all the violations and violence that took place during and after the electoral process.

#### ballot counting. The deadline had already passed, yet the formal results are not Here we publish some of those responses expected until after Eid Al-Adha.

media to win the elections

reconsider its calculations.

He held the GPC responsible for all viola-

tions and violent incidents that occurred dur-

ing the elections and called upon the SEC to

It is worth mentioning that this is happen-

ing in a time many electoral centers have

not completed the electoral process and

### Mohammed Al-Yadomi (Islah) **Accuses GPC of Fanaticism**

Secretary Géneral of the Islah party, Mr. Mohammed Al-Yadomi accused, in a press conferences fantasists in the GPC of being behind all violent and cheating incidents during the elections. He said that the GPC's desire to possess everything and the people's stand in favor of the Islah were the main reasons for the aggressive campaign against his party

He said that the Islah won 1733 seats in the District Local Council elections including independent supported by the Islah party. As for the Governorates Councils, it won 86 seats including independents supported by the party.

As a response to the GPC's accusations he said that the Islah party was sincere to its slogans and principles during the elections, accusing the GPC of using force of army and

### Jarallah Omar (YSP): "Results not Acceptable"

Assistant Secretary General of the Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP), Mr. Jarallah Omar, said in a press conference last Wednesday that the YSP will not accept the results of the elections. However, he praised the party great efforts to achieve what they had achieved.

"The elections proved the availability of active people who have been able to maintain their political rights and make their right choices," he said.

jarallah accused the ruling party of cheating and creating many violations including shifting locations of ballot boxes, exploiting the public property and media to launch campaigns against the opposition.

### Al-Mikhlafi of the Nasserite Party: "Scandalous Elections"

Secretary General of the Nassirite Unionist party described in a press conference following elections the incidents which occurred during the election process as a political scandal

He said that the SEC had tarnished democracy in Yemen, calling upon all people to stand against it.

Furthermore, he said that the SEC made of the Local Council Elections the worst ones that have ever been organized during the last ten years.

He also described the election process, specially in those constituencies where the candidates' symbols were dropped or changed as illegal, holding the SEC responsible for all violations occurring during the election



process. He concluded his statement be mphasizing that his party will try the SEC.

### Yahia Al-Mutawakel (GPC): **Islah Creates Violence**

The Assistant Secretary General of the General People's Congress (GPC), Mr. Yahia Al-Mutawakel, accused in a press conference held last Tuesday the extremist wing of the Islah party of being involved in violent acts against members of electoral committees. He accused the Islah party of trying to change results for its favor.

He also addressed the SEC and authorities concerned as being responsible for bringing those elements into account.



Alawi Al-Attas (SEC) announces the referendum results 73.3% say 'Yes' to Amendments

The Supreme Elections Committee (SEC) announced last Wednesday that 73.3% of Yemeni voters agreed on the constitutional amendments declared on February 20. Mr. Alawi Al-Attass,

Head of the SEC said in a statement to Saba News Agency that 1,822,307 out of 2,484,049 electorates agreed on the constitutional amendments.

### **European Union Clears Trade Access** Package for 48 Countries including Yemen

The European Union Trade Minister cleared a package of measures to give the world's 48 poorest countries free access to EU markets for all products except arms by the year 2009. The socalled Everything But Arms intuitive was approved after the Commission agreed to phase in access for the three most sensitive products, sugar, rice and bananas. There will be monitoring

to variety respect for rules of origin, and to prevent fraud.

"This is good news for Yemen and I am looking forward to the further development to Yemen's non-traditional export sector," concluded, Rainer Schierhorst, Head of the European Commission technical Advisory Office in Yemen.

#### "Health Care in Least Developed Countries: The Experience in Yemen" Inaugurated

last

he Ministry of Health inaugurated Wednesday the "Health

Care in Least Developed Countries: The Experience of Yemen" by Minister of Health, Dr. Abdullah A. Wali Nasher at the Taj Sheba Hotel.

The 192-page book's preface was written by Dr. Abdul Kareem Al-Iryani highlighting the development process of health services throughout the last 30 years in the urban as well as rural areas

The book consists of 6 chapters, namely: Introduction, Yemen's Experience According to the General Health Indicators, Current Challenges, The Need for Reform and Child and Maternal Health.

In the first chapter the author depends on statistics and indicators as to give a general idea about the spread of poverty in rural and urban places, average per capita, etc. The second chapter elaborately deals with the health situation of the country since the 1970s with comparisons of people's expendi-



The Experience of Yemen



Dr. ABDULLA A. WALI NASHER

4th and 5th chapters the importance of decentralization was focused on as a means of reforming all health sectors in the Republic. They also include a strategy to reform the health sector and the 2001 Report on what has been so far accomplished in the first phase of the Reform Program. The last chapter deals with the child and maternal health and the dangers mothers are prone to during pregnancy, etc.



feelings on this matter.

During 1997, the newspaper also bought and completely paid for its new premises. It has also purchased a new generation of high-capacity computers. It also acquired a vast array of software which enable it to do wonders.

As good as 1997 was, we expect to top it in 1998. Yemen Times has become an important part of opinion-forming & decisionmaking in this country.

> By: Pro. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf Editor-in-Chief and Publisher



First English Newspaper in Yemen founded in 1991 by Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

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### **Continued from Page 1: President Saleh in a Press Conference**

President Saleh pointed out that there are some changes in the governmental cabinet expected to take place in the near future. This came as a response to a question raised by Al-Ayyam concerning the possibility of a reshuffle in the current governmental cabinet, but with no more comments of what they will be. He however stressed that there will be no coalition cabinet, but the government will continue to be dominated and operated by the GPC.

Interestingly, President Saleh revealed shocking information of the possibility that the technical difficulties that happened regarding the symbol and name changes and confusion may have been done intentionally. "There may be some employees at the SEC committees who tried to influence the results by making some changes to symbols in an effort to favor their parties. The GPC was the most to be disadvantaged because of these acts," he said.

"I reveal to you information for the first time. There have been set deals in some centers for certain parties based on tribal methods. As an example, there were areas where a certain figure would say, "to get your caning. didate, you must vote NO", which is an indication of abuses to the democratic process in the country," he said.

The press conference covered various other international and local issues, and the president openly accused the USA of its double standard and he openly said that, "we know that Arab countries all together are not equal to the USA with Israel. We must understand that Israel is the top priority in the US government's political strategies... Israel is not the enemy of Palestinians alone, they are the enemies of all Arabs," he added.

The President commented on what the General Secretary of Islah Al-Yadumi's statement in which he said that Islah is the party of tough moments, while the GPC was the party of easy moments by saying that Islah was not the tough party for the president. They were the party that delivered arms and food to the army, and the army that

did the rest during the 1994 civil war. President Saleh also commented on the USS Cole incident by saying that the case was sent to the attorney to proceed with the judicial process. He indicated that the US investigators insisted on waiting for all the evidence to be collected before starting with the trial hearings. He emphasized what he had already said before regarding the fact that Al-Sa'afani had escaped to Afghanistan and they are chasing after him as he was the main person behind the UCC Cole bomb-

The president also commented on issues concerning Arab unity, the Arab League, the Palestinian crisis, in which he said that Yemen was the first to announce that Yemen would give the Palestinians USD 14 million, despite the fact that it is among the poorest Arab countries.

ture on health in the past and now. The current challenges facing the public health, average of people visiting First Aid Centers and an assessment of the quality of health services being offered are dealt with the third chapter. In the

By Ismael Al-Ghaberi

#### Another Japanese Grant to Yemen

Notes concerning Grant Aid for the promotion of economic structural adjustment of the Republic of Yemen have been signed and exchanged on Wednesday February 28 at the Ministry of Planning and Development by H.E. Mr. Ahmed Mohammed Sofan, Minister of Planning & Development and H.E. Mr. Akira Hoshi, Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Yemen. In accordance with the said Exchange of Notes, the Government of Japan will extend to the Government of the Republic of

Sana'a - Yemen

Director: Muhammed Al-Anisi

Yemen a Grant of six hundred million yen, i.e., approximately \$5.2 as a contribution to promote the economic structural adjustment efforts by the Government of the Republic of Yemen as well as mitigation of the economic difficulties, including indebtedness of Yemen.

It is worth mentioning that the Government of Japan extended in the past three similar grants for the same purpose totaling 5.5 billion Japanese yen, i.e., approximately \$41.5 million.

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### March 5th, 2001

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#### Sheikh Abdullah Sa'atar to YT:

"Islam forbids shedding blood and there are clearcut Qura'anic verses that emphasize this. Islam also spared the lives of non-Muslims."

heikh Abdullah Sa'atar, member of the Supreme Authority of Vemeni Congregation for Reform Party "Islah", member of Shura Council before the unity, exmember of Parliament, is considered one of the most active activists of Islah. He is highly respected by most of the people. He is the preacher of Islah mosque in Bab al-Yemen. He is very open, eloquent and convincing type person. He has a strong impression on the people and tends to address the mind before the heart. He is against fanaticism and is moderate in his approach. Bassam Jamil of the Yemen Times conducted an interview with him, discussing a wide-range of issues and filed the following report:

#### Q: Could you please shed some light on the reasons why you have left your career as an engineer and adopted preaching?

A: Many people think that a religious person should not be a specialist in modern sciences. This is a far wrong attitude. Religion is what regulates people, their behavior, their dealings, etc. So all the people including doctors, engineers...etc, need it to regulate their activities and cultivate their manners to become faithful in whatever they do. Therefore, engineering or medicine are part of the religion unless there is a holy text forbidding that. What we should not approach is the thing that is banned and prohibited in our religion. God has referred to Thu Alkarnain who used to work in metals and said "Give me pieces (blocks) of iron;" then when he had filled up the gap between the two mountain-cliffs he said: "Blow;" then when he had made them (red as) fire he said: "bring me molten copper to pour over them."

God has asked us to work on the earth. God says "He it is Who has made the earth subservient to you (i.e. easy for you to walk, to live and to do agriculture on it); so walk on the path thereof and eat of His provision. And to Him will be the Resurrection."

When I joined al-Shura Council I reduced my activities in my field of specialization. Then I was an MP and moved in to preaching field. I found myself forced to leave my job in the capital secretariat as Planning,

Q: Many preachers could achieve many projects as a result of their preaching. For instance, Sheikh Abdulmajeed al-Zandani could establish the Qura'an Miraculous Nature Center in Saudi Arabia, He could also establish and become the head of al-Shura Council of Islah and al-Emman University. What do you want to achieve through your preaching career?

A: Establishing religious centers and charitable societies is the result of commendable efforts exerted by good people. Some take the initiative in doing and establishing something which will be of great benefit for the people. Others come to complete what they have started. For example, sheikh al-Zandani took the initiative in establishing the Oura'an Miraculous Nature Center which requires other people to continue what he has started.

I feel that I am skilled in the preaching field more than other fields. Scientific research centers and charitable societies are in need of specialists. The whole country is in need of any competent cadre so as to lead the institutions of the country. Otherwise we will need to bring qualified people from abroad. I work in the field of preaching to qualify and encourage people to join these centers and universities.

If knowledge is focused on towns, it will be restricted for the rich and those who are able to buy it which is a big catastrophe and will give rise to two classes one is educated and the other is suppressed and down-trodden. For me I feel that I have gained in popularity due to the efforts of others. For example, I am a member in the Administrative Authority of Islah Charitable Society which is very famous. Therefore, those who work in it become famous. I am also a member in the Supreme Authority of Yemeni Congregation for Reform Party. Therefore my name is well-known to

all because of them. However, there are hundreds of thousands of people who work in the field and are the reason behind this fame. So we have been given more than what we deserve.

#### O: What are the obstacles facing Islamic movements to rule?

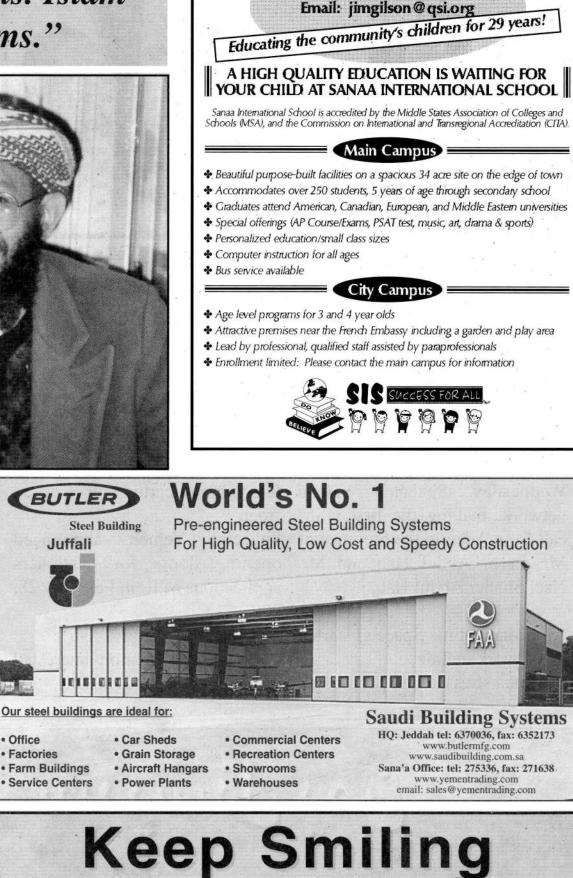


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nal obstacles facing Islamic movements to take power. Of the external obstacles is the attitude of westerners towards Islam. They view it as terrorism, deterioration, backwardness and fanaticism. This attitude and view has made them behave against Islam. Whenever there is an Islamic movement they come to destroy it. They also come to spread false reports and claims about these Islamic movements which have made people stand against religious men. Religious men have become terrorists, backward and extremists. Of course, this has nothing to do with reality. If the west views that Islam applies violence, they seem not to be aware of so many Qura'anic verses that ask Muslims to apply peace and shun violence.

Islam has forbidden shedding blood and there are clear-cut Qura'anic verses that stress this. Islam has also spared the lives of non-Muslims. Those who harm them will receive God's anger. Islam has stressed this in many situations.

Westerners take the view that Islam confiscates rights and freedoms. I do not know how they came at this conclusion. It must be the report of an evil and wicked person who is against Islam. Islamic movements have never been given the chance to participate in the rule. For instance when Islamic movements won the elections in Algeria with the majority of about 90% they were suppressed and sent to prisons instead of assuming power. This has never happened through the history but happens during the modern democratic age which they talk about. It is actually a dangerous situation as this is a violation and confiscation of rights and freedoms. This is, as a matter of fact, terrorism in the very meaning of the word. If a religious person is to introduce his name for candidacy, he has to take into consideration that he may be arrested, killed, or suppressed. Where are the rights they are talking about? What is the fault of Najm al-Din Arbakan, the former Prime Minister and the man of industry in Turkey to be suppressed and have his party dissolved? Islamic movements do not want to take power by force or through killing. Rather they try the peaceful means. What is reported nowadays that Islamic movements are not aware of the time we are in is not at all true. It is so because Islamic movements comprise doctors, academics, and rare scientific experts. Most of those religious figures who were expelled from Egypt, Syria, Tunisia ...etc, are now great professors in the US, UK or French universities.



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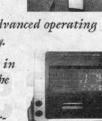
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# For Eid Adha

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he Yemeni tribe is not

# **True Democracy:** Tribesmen Understood it, Civilians Couldn't

merely a community bonded with blood, heritage and common land, but it also is a community with its own social system with a specific inherited set of traditions, laws and regulations, usually based on Islamic regulations. Tribes in Yemen have their own 'democratic' electoral system on which the key figures of the tribes are elected, and whom are then given certain duties and responsibilities and are required to play certain roles. Tribes have their own constitution that distributes the tasks and duties on all their members. and has a clear set of rules that organize the rights and duties of tribesmen. Even though they do admit that there is a state responsible of the affairs of the country, including their areas, but they refuse the government's involvement in their systems and local affairs. Despite the fact that tribes are mostly armed and consider rifles an essential part of their customs, they are seldom used due to the nature of harmony and organization within the tribes because of the well defined rules and regulations. The coexistence with many other tribes in the area with little conflict is a good example of the reasonably efficient system they are using.

However, if attempts are made to alter this harmonious structure of a tribe using religion or politics, then a tribe tends to evolve to a political entity, with the very same ideas translated into politics. In other words, due to the armed nature of tribes, they could potentially turn to a military wing for a political party with common beliefs and goals. This is further emphasized based on the fact that tribes could sometimes be useful in terms of influence in their respected areas, and the weapons they possess.

When looking back in time, we realize the important historical role tribes played in political conflicts and evolutions in Yemen since the Yemeni revolution. Tribes have also played an essential role in leading to the independence of Yemen from Imamate in the former north. They also were a major factor in limiting centralized rule and putting an end to any dictator's rule. Tribes continue to play a role in balancing the political powers in the country mainly by limiting the possibility of the dominance of the military forces, which cannot even think of crushing any tribal group because this could potentially turn into a deadly war that the military forces could easily fall victims in because they are merely a group of soldiers working together, but tribesmen have loyalty and their strength comes from the belief that they should fight till death to maintain the dignity and honor of their tribe. Tribesmen stayed relatively unchanged and untouched even after independence of the former north. The system was a single ruling party system with little democracy and little public participation in key decisions.

However, when Yemen suddenly started a democratic transition and opened the way for a multi-party system after unification in May 1990 in an effort to build the civil society and the state of law and order, we could imagine how this would affect the tribal communities spread throughout the country. How can we imagine a tribal group with little knowledge about the newly established 'western' type of democracy in the country? How could they adapt their trivial, basic, and historically old traditions that are out of this world with a democratic system with elections, etc.?

Interestingly, tribes seem to have been able to easily adapt with the democratic transition. This may partly be because of the existence of a basic democratic structure with tribal groups in selecting some of their key members.

One could realize that the presidential and parliamentary elections that have been held would not require much of tribal involvement, as they are decided by large communities and tribes could boycott or ignore these elections while having no effect. But the local council elections held on the 20th of February was the true test that would show how well tribes adapted to the democratic process taking place in the country.

Not only did tribes excel in the implementation of true democracy in the local elections, they also showed that it democratic practices in their respected regions. The council elections showed how capable these tribes are in selecting who represents them best in their districts. However, the dispute about the effectiveness of the sort of democracy that the government is trying to implement, particularly for tribal communities, is disputable. "The government wants to give us the ballots, tell us to vote in certain squares and then says this is our right to vote. How can we be taken and told to vote for a certain person or party in a democratic elections?" was a question asked by one of the tribesmen that reflects a deep understanding of the right to chose freely with no guidance or pressure. Tribesmen seem to have understood the electoral process adequately because they use it in their respective tribes, even though in a different manner. They have been taught to select whom they see best, each with his own justifications and views and cannot be forced. This practice that continued through generations show maturity in understanding free choice. However, it is shocking to see that citizens in cities and in rural areas where there is little democratic process are the victims of their misinformation and misunderstanding of elections. The authorities are not helping as well due to the advantage of the ruling party in using the official media, the army, and the public funds to further influence the citizens. But not many tribes have TV facilities. They don't follow up the propagandas of the ruling party through the different media organs, and they tend to have their own pride and dignity in their tribal system which teaches them that they have the right to chose and should use their minds and not told what to do.

Interestingly, this is happening in a time tribal revenge and extremism are still two prominent issues in the Yemeni tribal societies. However, let us take a particular case of study and see why we can indeed say that tribes proved that they are more aware of democracy than civilians. The Yemeni Congressional Party for Reform (Islah) has gained considerable ground in the

is the authorities that are abusing the democratic practices in their respected regions. The council elections showed how capable these tribes are in selectin Mareb?

> Yemen Times tried to figure out answers for these questions by interviewing Sheikh Abdullah Mohamed Tahian, sheik of sheiks of the Jahm tribe who summarized to us his viewpoint by saying, "As for the problems we face regarding democracy, they are the exact same problems faced by all Yemenis in cities, or in villages. Unfortunately, democracy and partisanship have been misunderstood and not practiced adequately neither by the state nor by the public." He indicated that true democracy is not what is taking place right now. He proved this by indicating that political activists tried first of all to impose their ideas on tribesmen thinking that it was easy to do so. He said, "Political activists usually forget that tribesmen have learned not to be fooled by political propaganda and were taught to take their own decisions with the consultation of the other tribesmen but without thinking on the materialistic side of things. A tribesman cannot simply agree -unlike any civilian- to abide by the laws or regulations of a certain party, especially when they contradict with the tribe's values and traditions. Tribes have been mentioned in the holy quran as honorable communities. In other words, tribal bonds are much stronger and more important and last longer than partisan bonds."

> Sheikh Abdullah went beyond that and openly by accusing the currently active political parties of not being appropriate for tribes because they are of materialistic nature with political interests that may or may not suit the tribal traditions. According to him, parties usually cause degradation in the level of morals and teach tribesmen immoral ways to gain support as they see ends justify the means. Political parties penetrated deep into families to cause disputes and conflicts within families and tribes with no positive effect so far. "This is what why we are against partisanship and being involved in politics. But if we are to be involved, we will be making our own choice, and

not be imposed upon by the state or any other entity" he said.

Sheikh Abdullah explained why tribes are different in terms of financial attractions by saying, "Loyalty should be for Allah first and for the whole country second, and should not be for a certain political party, not matter what it promises. This is what we learnt and what we teach each other in our tribal communities. Some parties try to use all means legal and illegal to influence tribes to get their support in a way or another. They tend to use the tribal or religious ethics to get the support of certain tribes, which is a wicked way of gaining support. Even though political parties are in general not in the service of the tribe, but some parties that are well established and organized and have a certain set of missions and goals to the extent that could attract some tribesmen to the party and create a strong bond with him," he added.

Regarding the democratic practices of tribes on a local level he said, "we have our own fair system in elections. We know what true elections are meant for, and we understand that if there is little influence on any member of the tribe, it would definitely affect the overall decision of the tribe. Hence, we leave the freedom to the tribesmen to decide who will represent him. Tribes usually select candidates that are close to their views and standings, in case they did decide to choose to participate in any elections."

Coming to the case study of Islah, we asked him why Mareb mostly selected members from Islah to represent them in the local elections, while other governorates were won by the General People's Congress (GPC), he answered, "All the prominent sheikhs in Mareb who are somewhat religious and conservative nature and have very strong bonds with their tribesmen tend to openly favor Islah over its opponents. Even though I personally, do not support or belong to any political party, but I have loyalty to the religious scholars anywhere. I also prefer the youth that are enlightened and think about their religion before anything else. It is quite evident that Islah is the party that is closest to the views of tribes in Mareb than all the other parties including the GPC, which targeted some of the tribal figures in Mareb and tried to convince the people that these candidates would win. However, because religion is not something to bargain with and because the loyalty to

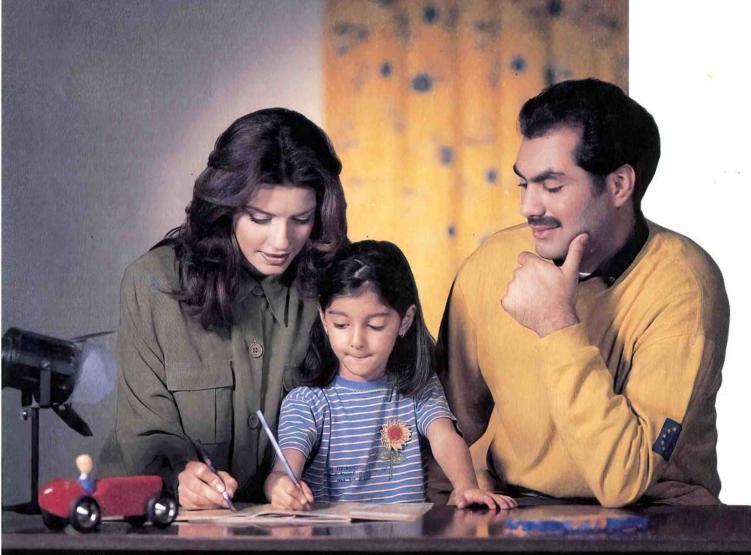
the religious scholar has become stronger, we saw that Islah should indeed become superior."

It was reported several times about incidents involving fraud, multiple voting, army forces voting for the ruling party in different centers, etc. So we asked in Mareb why these tools were not effective and came up with a conclusion that indeed, Mareb was among the few governorates that its citizens did not allow such attempts to take place. As one tribesmen said, "We all willingly voted in favor of Islah, and were surprised to find that there were vehicles loaded with soldiers coming from a out of the region, probably to revert the results in favor of GPC, but we received them with our bazookas and rifles and threatened that if they come close to the polls we would let hell break loose. So the soldiers cowardly left the region to where they came from. This is our area and no one would decide on our behalf. They could have done this in many governorates, and probably led to the winning of the GPC because they found no resistance. But here, they found resistance, and they will get what they deserve if they try to change the results," said another prominent tribesman in Mareb.

Regarding this very same issue, Sheikh Abdullah concluded his statement by saying that he thinks that Islah indeed was supported in many governorates, but fraud and other violations led to the superiority of its competitors by saying, "I personally believe that Islah is strong in all governorates but what made its strength crystal clear in Mareb is the fact that tribes do not approve fraud and do not surrender to the pressure exerted by authorities in some governorates in the country. Hence, Islah usually wins in tribal areas, that practice true democracy."

The title could indeed be shocking for many readers. How can illiterate tribesmen be more democratic than the civilians living in cities? Before we made the comprehensive survey in Mareb, and made sure ourselves of how the electoral process was thought about in the tribal areas in this governorates, we too were in doubt that this could be possible. But if the article couldn't prove it, it will be up to the numbers to prove what could not easily be proved. Yes, tribesmen were more democratic in the first ever local council elections of Yemen. They decided to give their governorate to the opposition party Islah, and so they did!

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# **New Balance-Sheet Laws: Deficit Exceeds YR14 Billion**

#### Mahyoob Al-Kamali

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or the fiscal year 2001, a presidential law has estimated state general balancesheet YR 28 487,843,228,000. Estimations also showed estimated expenditures as YR501,882,444,000. The third article of the law has included an estimated state balance-sheet deficiency of YR14,039,221,000. President Ali Abdullah Saleh has also

issued a law annexing balance-sheet for Ministry of Endowments & Guidance, sector of Endowments.

This law has five articles including the revenues and expenditures balanceof the Ministry of sheet Endowments sector for the fiscal year 2001 with an amount totaling YR800,000,000. Other articles include the general rules for implementing this sheet.

President Saleh has issued, too, another law annexing balance-sheet for Social Securities General Cooperation for the fiscal year 2001. Its first article include revenues and expenditures of the SSGC's balance sheet for the fiscal year 2001 as YR5,847,627,000.

Current transferred activity surplus is estimated as YR2,715,627,000. Another law is to annex the Salaries and Securities General Authority balance-sheet for the fiscal year 2001. The law includes five articles, whose first article relates to revenues and expenditures of the SSGA's balance-sheet for the fiscal year which is YR35,151,381,000.

Current transferred activity surplus is estimated as YR13,424,305,000.

The President of the Republic has issued a law annexing the balancesheet of the Drugs and Medical Requirements Supreme Authority for the fiscal year 2001, too.

Another presidential law has been issued annexing sheet-balances of Private Funds for the fiscal year 2001. The law is composed of five articles, the first of which includes item (A) related to estimation of Social Care Fund's revenues and expenditures balance-sheets for the fiscal year 2001 as YR10,035,900,000. While item (B), includes the estimated revenues and expenditures balance-sheet for the Social Development Fund for the fiscal 2001 vear amounting to YR4,764,000,000.

Item (C) of the same law, includes the estimated revenues and expenditures balance-sheet for the Agricultural and Fisheries Production Support Fund for the fiscal year 2001 amounting to YR4,964,185,000. Current transferred activity surplus is estimated as YR652,360,000.

Of the same article, item (D) estimated revenues and expenditures balancesheet for Bridges and Highways maintenance Fund for the fiscal year 2001 amounting as YR3,665,738,000. Current transferred activity has been estimated as YR50,619,000.

Item (E) of the same article, however, includes the estimated revenues and expenditures balance-sheet for Youth and Sports Fund balance-sheet for the fiscal year amounting to YR2,361,260,000. Estimated current activity surplus is YR105,760,000. While item (F) estimates Military Pension Fund revenues and expendibalance-sheet tures as YR11.608.444,000 for the fiscal year 2001. Current transferred activity surplus, has been estimated as 1,113,651,000.

Related to the same article, item (G) estimates The Ministry of Interior Pension Fund revenues and expendibalance-sheet as ture YR3,141,950,000. Current transferred activity has been estimated as YR501,920,000. Item (H) of the article estimates revenues and expenditures of The Technical and Vocational Training Fund balance-sheet for the fiscal year 2001 as YR409,602,000. Surplus of current transferred activity is estimated as 122,658,000.

Item (g) of the same article estimates revenues and expenditures balancesheet for Clearing and Capital Improvement Fund for the fiscal year 2001 as YR1,075,200,000. And item (h) of the same article estimates revenues and expenditure balance-sheet for Clearing and Improvement Fund of Sa'ada governorate for the fiscal year 2001 as YR23,767,000.

Item (i) of the same article estimates revenues and expenditure balancesheet of Clearing and Improvement Fund for Dale'a governorate for the fiscal year 2001 as YR42,400,000.

While item (j) of the same article estimates revenues and expenditures balance-sheet for Tourism Promotional Fund for the fiscal year as YR178,600,000. Current transferred activity surplus is estimated as

#### YR10,800,000.

Item (k) of the same article estimates revenues and expenditures balancesheet for Civil Service Fund for the fiscal year 2001 as YR2,000,000,000. Item (1) of the same article estimates revenues and expenditures balancesheet for The Handicapped

Rehabilitation for the fiscal year 2001 as YR20.000.000. And item (m) of the same article estimates revenues and expenditures balance-sheet of Schools. Dispatch and Buildings Maintenance in Dale'a governorate for the fiscal year 2001 as YR4,530,000.

Other items of regulations relate to the implementation of this balance-sheet. President Saleh has issued, a law that states the annexation of the Economical sector's balance-sheet for the fiscal year. Total approved balancesheets for Public Sector Unit featured as productive, for current and capital uses and resources of the fiscal year are estimated as YR517,273,134,000.

Second article of the Law includes estimation of total approved balance-sheet for Public Sector Unit which features service for the current and capital uses. The resources for the fiscal year 2001 are estimated as YR38,410,030,000.

And the third article of the same Law includes estimation of total approved balance-sheets of the Mixed Sector Units for current and capital uses and resources for the fiscal year 2001 which is estimated as YR80,952,165,000.

Other articles includes regulations instructing the implementations of this balance-sheet.

# **Playing Havoc** With Economy

March 5th, 2001

Yemen through 95 land and sea approaches and are marketed in about 25 markets. Out of YRs 854 billion, the total public expenditure, YRs 396 billion is spent on smuggled goods. This figure, as well as the relatively low prices of these goods affect the national economy and investors' competition in the market.

#### Volume of the Problem

According to official statistics, customs revenue decreases from YRs 30 billion 29 million in 1998 to 28 billion 715 million in 1999 owing to illegal entrance of goods into the country. Smuggling has become an economical sector parallel to the industrial and commercial one.

Despite the government's efforts to free foreign trade, smuggling is still there causing a retreat in the national exports of non-oil products. For example, in 1999, foreign trade reached an amount of YRs 692.8 billion. However, its rate to the GDP fell from 68.2% in 1997 to 2.5% in 1999. Indicators show that Yemen's share of non-oil exports show an imbalance between exports and imports, whether legal or illegal.



A report by the Customs Authority in 1998, showed the country's loss of YRs 33,759,000,000 as a result of smuggling and tax evasion.

Dr. Ali Al-Adeemi of the Supreme Council of Export Promotion, in a study highlighted the impacts of smuggling on national industrial and agricultural exports saying that smuggling has led to imbalance exports, in spite of the efforts exerted to promote national income resources. Al-Adeemi added that smuggling the national products to countries of the African Horn has damaged the reputation of Yemeni industry because, owing to bad transportation, they arrive to markets

muggling goods enter in bad condition. For example, among 1000 water bottles only 3-4 are in good condition, whereas the rest are damaged.

#### **Smuggling of Medicine**

The General Authority of Medicine seized a ton of smuggled damaged medicine in 1999 similar volume in 1998. The Authority also revealed that 35% of the total amount of medicine available in pharmacies is not registered.

Despite the fact that the annual amount of Medicine provided by the Medicine Fund-\$10 million, Al-Thawrah Hospital-\$ 3,200 million, Military hospitals-\$4 million, private sector-\$80 million and the national industry which provides medicine of \$4,644 each year smuggling of medicine is increasing imposing a real threat on people's health.

Sources estimate cost of the annual smuggled medicine at \$10 million. These include expired antibiotics, vaccinations, etc. most of come from Diibouti.

#### **Insecticides and Sick Fruits**

Smugglers also brought fruits, seeds, plants, etc. into the country. All these are not subject to tests or custom tariff

and are among the main reasons of spread of diseases among plants and trees.

Smuggling and the national industry. The Yemeni

Industrialists Society emphasize that spread of smuggling scale, absence of standardization, low prices of smuggled goods, high

consumption and excise tax have affected the national industry. As a result 45 factories were closed down and more than 5000 employees were fired.

The National Tobacco and Matches Company estimates its loss at more than billion rials each year due to smuggling many kinds of cigarettes into the country.

All this indicates that continuation of smuggling practices affect the national economy and industry. Protection of economy and enhancement of Yemen's commercial balance will not be achieved as long as smuggling is on the rise.

# New Horizons in the Yemen-Saudi Relations

imilar to many developing	
countries, assessment of banking in Yemen should	Com
be connected to banks' cap- itals, reserves, activities,	Yeme
ixed assets, etc. The expansion of	Yeme
Banks' lending services narrow their esources when debtors are late to epay their debts over their due period.	Yeme
ncrease of the budget of the commer-	Yeme
ial banks Commercial Banks profits increased	Interr

by 74,000,000,000 rials in 2000, revealed Mr. Ahmad Abdul Rahman Assamawi, President of the Yemen Central Bank (YCB) in a meeting with chairmen of commercial banks operatalso increased by 60,000,000,000 rials in the same year, indicating a general increase in the budget of all commercial banks to 300,000,000,000 rials in the same year compared with 235,000,000,000 rials in 1999. The lending services of these banks also increased from 73,000,000,000 in 1999 to 76,000,000,000 rials last year. New tools to reform banking During the meeting, importance of improving banks' services, expanding lending scale and implementing new tools to facilitate services to the public were highly stressed. The YCB was granted a gratuitous loan of \$80,000,000 from the IAD in 1997 to implement new regulations by which withholdings and income taxes will be decreased or exempted. The YCB is continuing implementing new regulations related to loans' classification according to international standards.

Commercial Banks	Specialized Bank	Islamic Banks	Foreign Banks
Yemen Bank for Reconstruction & Development	Agricultural Credit Bank	Saba Islamic Bank	Arab Bank
Yemen National Bank	Housing Credit Bank	Attadhamon Islamic Bank	Credit Agricole Indosuez
Yemen Commercial Bank	Yemen Industrialized bank (liq- uidized)	The Islamic Bank	United Bank Limited
Yemen-Kuwait Bank,	and the second second		Arrafidain Bank
International Bank of Yemen			
Al-Watani Bank			Contraction of the second
Yemen-Gulf Bank			
pes of Banks	already liquidized.	. finan	ced by bank loans a succ

already liquidized ing in Yemen. He said that the deposits According to the different services Increase in financial resources and the Hence, commercial banks should con-

**Banking Services Improvement via** 

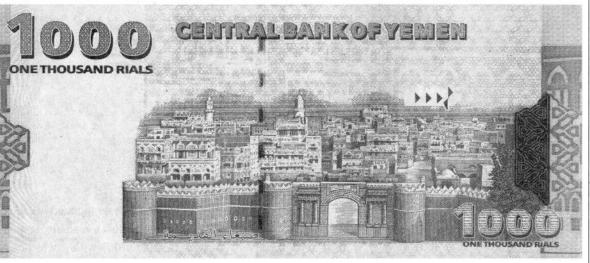
**Economic Development** 

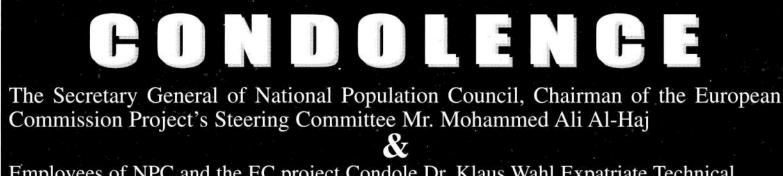
financed by bank loans a success.

they offer the available banks can be divided into: 7 Commercial Banks, 3 Islamic Banks, 4 Foreign Banks and 3 specialized banks out of which one (The Industrialized Bank) has been

contribution to the development of the cial positions helps increase people's

tribute to the investment process as country can be achieved if financial well as the economic development positions are stable. Stability of finan- process so that success of projects they support is ensured and repayment of savings and make investment projects their loans is easily and quickly done.





Employees of NPC and the EC project Condole Dr. Klaus Wahl Expatriate Technical Advisor and his family on the death of his Father. May God rest his soul in peace.

Aden Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized a special meeting for the Saudi businessmen delegation and Yemeni businessmen at the Aden Hotel last Monday.

Mr. Taha Ghanem, governor of Aden welcomed the Saudi Businessmen delegation, presently visiting Aden, highlighting the importance of consolidating business relations between Yemen and Saudi Arabia under the leadership of President Ali Abdullah Saleh and King Fahd Ben Abdulaziz. He said that the Yemeni-Saudi relations are being driven into wider horizons in all possible fields. Mr. Mohammed Omar Bamashmos, Head of the Boards of Directors at the Aden Chamber of Commerce and Industry spoke about the importance of the visit of the Saudi delegation to Aden as to come close to all investment facilities in the

Aden Free Zone as well as to the other features ensured by the Yemeni Investment Law.

President of the Jeddah Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Sheikh Ismael Ali Abu Daood stressed that the visit of the Saudi delegation constituted a new beginning for more economic and commercial cooperation among the Yemeni



and Saudi businessmen

Vice Chairman of the Aden Frees Zone, Mr. Ahmad Yahia Handhal gave brief details about the investment activities of the Free Zone. He emphasized that the visit of the Saudi delegation is a sign of the initiative of President Saleh and King Fahd to enhance bilateral relations between the two countries.

The Saudi businessmen made a tour of the Free Zone and the Container Terminal and were briefed on the history of the zone as well as on the major different investment facilities provided for investors.





\*\*The articles on this page do not necessarily reflect the view point of Yemen Times, hence it is not to be held responsible for their content. March 5th, 2001 Nevertheless, Yemen Times will be happy to publish any 'reasonable' comments or 'rightful' responses to any of the published articles.

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# **Islam is the Religion of Peace**

t should be understood for all the people of the world that Islam came to bring peace, harmony and justice to mankind. Yet, the impression that one gets from seeing the way the major Western media channels are projecting Islam that indeed the West has yet to recognize that Islam as having been one of the most important stepping stones towards the progress that the West has achieved and it is not easy to imagine the West being where it is today if it was not for Islam to provide the foundations for scientific, cultural and even political progress. On the other hand the pathetic state of most of the Moslem countries of the world leads one to believe that there is good reason for the poor image of Islam now, thanks to the lack of comprehension and the deviations that Moslems have harbored into their religion, succumbing to worldly desires and narrow interests and forgetting that Islam is a far more universal message to humanity, which underscores peace, harmony and cohesiveness, despite the diverse configuration of human beings. Moreover, the insistence of the regimes that run most Moslem countries to look upon Islam as a danger to their being and to placate Western interests at the expense of keeping the Moslem nation so fragmented and without purpose, has been instrumental in keeping the Moslem world so far behind in so many important aspects of life.

Thanks God, however, that the Lord Al-Mighty has ordained for us the annual pilgrimage to Mecca where Moslems from everywhere gather in one of the most splendid illustration of brotherhood, harmony and piety that one could ever imagine. In the pilgrimage to Mecca and all the rites involved, the Moslem World, as well as the rest of the World, is bound to see that indeed religion can play a very important role in the elimination of hate, oppression and injustice and move the world closer to an international arena of peace and true globalization that does not look upon the world as merely a checkerboard of conflicting economic interests and as a chauvinistic power theater, where only the strong prevail and the weak must succumb to undue hunger, poverty and deprivation just so a minority of the inhabitants of the world can reap fruit from all the bounties and resources that are accessible to mankind throughout the world. The pilgrimage to Mecca underscores the essential doctrine of universal brotherhood of mankind, where no race should prevail over another. The immense inspiration of this message is well illustrated by the conversion to Islam of the late Malcolm X, alias Malice Al-Sahibs an Afro-American, who once viewed white men as being "demons" or devils and other misconceptions that defv logic, thanks to the centuries of torment and oppression faced by the American black community at the hands of their white western enslavers and persecutors. The late Malcolm X had come to Arabia driven by the immense curiosity that people with an inherent deep feeling of faith usually are endowed with and their strong belief that there must be a proper answer to all the mysteries that remain unsolved as to the purpose of our being and the overall universal connotation to life itself. But, the serenity of the Moslem community and the brotherhood that brother Malcolm saw, not only in Mecca, but along the way to and from the holiest of holy cities, brought on a great transformation, in the thinking and outlooks of Malcolm X to the point that Malcolm was viewed to many of the enemies of Islam as the biggest threat to their interests. Why? Because Malcolm X had become fully converted to the true Islam. By fully, one implies that there is full doctrinal

SILVER INING Mohammed Hatem Al-Qadhi mhalqadhi@hotmail.com

### Women Absence in Election Candidacy

Supreme

ne statistics given by the ing but not in nominating themselves Elections under the pretext that women go Committee(SEC) point astray when taking over such demanding posts, neglecting their household concerns and duties. There is, actually, a very wide gap between the number of women as nominees and voters. The number of women who voted in the parliamentary as well as presidential elections is very high. The women registered at the voting lists of the two parliamentary elections of 1993 and 1997 are 1,262,549 out of 4,606,933 which is a good number. This figure of women soared up in the presidential election. There were 490624 female voters added to the voters' lists against 970585 men. This statistics shows clearly that women are exploited by political parties in a bad way which think of them as voters rather than candidates, though some of them are qualified enough to play a role in the emerging democratic transition Yemen is going through if they are given a free room. Seventeen female candidates in the recent local election represented 11 political parties. The GPC presented female 25 candidates while the YSP nominated 17. The Social Green Party presented 9 women candidates. Islah did not nominate any of his female supporters. These figures clearly demonstrate that women are not taking over serious positions in the society and their voice at the power center is still unheard. In other words, women role in the political life of the society has to be promoted, particularly on the part of the political parties that claim to be liberal and progressive.

understanding of what Islam truly entails. It is remarkable, when looking at the fantastic story of this important Moslem martyr, that only after Malcolm X had adopted Islam and shunned his former violent almost discriminatory approach in dealing with the Black American racial issue that he was viewed as being more dangerous than when he was speaking for violence and black separatism, by the very forces that were threatened by such vocal expressions of hatred. Indeed, to Malcolm X. Islam represented the true universal message of peace and brotherhood, which no social order or religious society can claim a more obvious manifestation than that projected by the Pilgrimage to Mecca, as Malcolm X noted in his autobiography, well edited by the able Alex Haley. It is an important book for Moslems as well as for non-Moslems to understand the true power of Islam in culturing human beings to understand that one of the biggest bounties that man enjoys in this Earth is the ability to reason and make matters clear on a universal plane.

Undoubtedly, the annual Moslem convention in Mecca will continue to illustrate the awesome powers of Islam and over the ages, will lead to the continuous spread of Islam as well as the dissemination of the messages of world peace and the brotherhood of man.

One must point out that the govern-

ment of Saudi Arabia, ever since the late King Feisal, have been instrumental in underscoring the importance of the pilgrimage to Mecca, not only for the Moslems but to all of mankind, by first of all making the arduous journey as pleasant as possible for the worshippers, but also through an intensive public relations campaign that shows the rites of the pilgrimage to the world in a positive manner. In going back to Malcolm X, the late Moslem fighter was not failing in praising the important role that King Feisal had in making him understand the brotherly nature of Islam thanks to the hospitality and personal attention that the late King Feisal directed towards insuring that Malcolm truly gets a proper education on Islam and its universal messages. It is regrettable, but nevertheless understandable that the forces that despise the ideas of world peace and human brotherhood are the very same forces that killed both the late King Feisal and the martyr Malcolm X, God bless their souls. The ideas of peace and international brotherhood could never have any greater martyrs to speak for them than

## Founder of Yemen Times Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf THE FOUNDER AND JOURNALISM IN THE 60'S

Mag Al-Adeim ith the advent of the tenth anniversary of the foundation of Yemen

Times, I find it appropriate to share some of the early days of the late founder of the newspaper.

I know Abdulaziz since childhood. We were taught by very dedicated teachers and young Abdulaziz opened his eyes towards journalism a few years after the 1962 Revolution in Yemen.

During our teens, we used to discuss and analyze the news about the Civil War at that time and its implication on the Yemeni society. By mid 60's, the young Abdulaziz was exposed to a lot of issues pertaining to his time.

I would like to share two incidents with regard to the journalistic personality of Abdulaziz, which took place in the sixties. The first one was when he was in grade eight (1966) and the second one when he was in grade 11 (1969)

Normally a group of three or four students would work together in order to completely and independently issue the monthly newsletter of the school. Myself and the late professor used to work together as a team. When our turn came, the teacher requested that Abdulaziz should prepare the newsletter independently without any body's help on a weekend! Since we were close friends, we used to be together all the time and go home together walking. So I had to wait for him to finish the work. After finishing the

paper, he was supposed to take it to the printing press. It took him only one day to work on the journal. I remember that he had only breakfast that day. He completed his work at around 8.00 P.M.. It was complete in all aspects. He then went to submit his work to the teacher. Could you imagine that the teacher was in the school the whole day in order to make sure that the young professor did it alone! I accompanied Abdulaziz to the teacher's room. I could see the eyes of the teacher open wider and wider as he looked at the work of Abdulaziz. Then the teacher asked young Abdulaziz, "How do you rate your work?' The student replied," It is good". I remember the teacher telling him, "Well my son, the work might be good for you but not for me. I need you to come tomorrow check every thing and take it to the press. When you go to the printing press, open your eyes on every thing being done there. I need your then to write on what you saw at the printing press. Do I make myself clear?" That was an American teacher and a World War II veteran. So far, I have brought to you one point

of young Abdulaziz's experience of journalism when he was in the intermediate grades. Now I shall talk about his experience when he was in the high school.

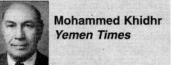
Young Abdulaziz used to interact with international contemporary issues ever since when he was young. I recall that once our history teacher called for a round table discussion about Vietnam and the new policy of the then US Government to implement what it used to be called "Vietnamization". We were divided into two groups. One group defends the American intervention and policy in Vietnam and the other group was against the American policy in Vietnam.

I do not want to go into detail about the discussion, but I shall limit to the candid and clear ideas that were reflected by the late Professor. At the heat of the discussion, he started by saying that first the US had no right to interfere in the internal affairs of another nation, second it is up to the Vietnamese to decide their future through peaceful means without the intervention of any super power, and with regard to Vietnamization, it shows that the US is defeated militarily and it tries to cover its ass. I remember the American teacher was so outraged that he called for the end of the discussions.

Professor Abdulaziz was a ferocious reader and a prolific writer at a very young age. All throughout the sixties, I was his only friend who competed with academically and if further memoirs of Prof. Abdulaziz in the sixties is to be published, I am more than willing to share with his son, the Editor or any other person or group of persons who know and admire the late Professor who was a man of vision.

NOTE: I know that the current sociopolitical condition does not favor those who were born outside Yemen and also does not like to hear or recognize reality, especially when history is re-written. That is why I did not mention many details with regard to names of places and people!

# **The Importance of Marking Days**



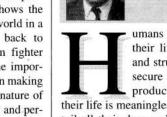
umans are destined all their life to work hard and struggle in order to secure their living and produce, otherwise their life is meaningless. They have to toil all their days and nights to attain that end. Each community is an integrated unit whose sections are interdependent. But in the long run man has discovered that to continue this fashion his life has become so monotonous and barren and also meaningless, as is the case if he sits idle. He has realized that he needs leisure times to break the monotony of continued labor. He has then to do something to provide a variety for his life. Therefore man pondered of fixing certain occasions as

Both individuals and communities have decided to mark certain happy occasions pertaining to community or individual achievements that consequently created anniversaries, such as birthdays, wedding days, founding anniversary days...etc. On such occasions people would celebrate the happiness of that anniversary, remember the changes and consequences that followed the happening of that event in their life, what they have achieved during the period dividing that event and the present time and what to do in future before observing the following anniversary. That time is allotted to leisure and pleasure. It is like a very beautiful green oasis amidst the barren desert of their life.

These thoughts and meditations came across my mind in the wake of the celebration the Yemen Times held at the Sheraton Hotel in Sana'a on 27th February evening marking its 10th founding anniversary and entering its 11th year. The occasion has brought together a kaleidoscopic number of guests from various sections of community and professions, Yemenis, Arabs and friendly people living in

this hospitable country. The festivity was a few hours time deducted from the toilsome life where we have met colleagues and friends we could not be able to do without this occasion. After some introductory welcoming words by the Chief Editor Mr Walid al-Saqqaf who did not miss the opportunity of remembering the founder of the newspaper the late Dr Abdulaziz al-Saqqaf, we gathered at beautifully arranged tables chatting and exchanging nice talks. We got acquainted with people whom we did not know before and thus gained new acquaintants and friends. Everything has gone smoothly and nicely and that has added to the happiness of the occasion. I wish happy returns of such festivities and greater and ever success to the newspaper and its hard-working staff.

On our part we pledge to exert more efforts to develop for the better our work, maintain our independent policy in conveying facts to our readers and in participating in the development and progress of our society and country and establishing good and profitable relations with our brethren Arabs and friends.



ipation in election and their role in leading the drive of political change is very low. The female candidates who run for the local elections were 25 among over 23, 000 male candidates competed for 7032 seats. Women observers refer this to some social and tribal reason as well as the actual fossilized attitude of political parties towards women's role in running the local affairs of people despite the fact that their political programs stress the significance of women's participation in the political life of the society plus the constitutional legislations which guarantee this right. However, the reality does not match the theory. Only two women won the 1993 parliamentary election representing the YSP. Another two women were nominated by the GPC in the 1997 parliamentary election which was boycotted by the YSP. Women are legally banned from running for presidential election as this of the 1999.

People concerned with women rights express their concern about the low position of Yemeni women at the decision-making center in the post unification Yemen.

Only 12 women ran for the local election at the governorates level against 2199 men candidates. Similarly, 108 women ran for the election at the districts level against 22065 men.

The Woman National Committee view this as a result of the patriarchal tradition which still believe that it is okay for women to participate in vot-

both of these important personalities in Islam.

Peace and brotherhood to all and happy holidays.

I believe that the Yemen will be cele-

brating "Women's Day" and I was

wondering if you had heard anything

from the Deputy Prime Minister of

Foreign Affairs, is it still Mr. Abdul

Kader Bajamal? I ask this because I

thought that he was trying to sort out

Nadia Mushen's problems of going

home to visit her family in England,

whom she hasn't seen in 21 years now.

I wonder how poor Nadia is getting on,

as I visit the web site that they've got

for her but she seems very ill, and

when the Embassy staff tried to see her,

her husband sent someone else in her

place, as this false Nadia could not

speak English at all. Perhaps you

could send someone up to see just how

Nadia is and perhaps it would be a

good idea to take a Doctor along with

them, as Nadia is also very ill and has

also developed a limp. Maybe some

good food might also be a blessing as it

seems Nadia has lost a lot of weight

too!! It seems very sad in this day and

off into marriage and not have any say

in their future. Let us hope that

God/Allah's light will shine upon

Nadia and her family and that her

GREAT WISH of visiting her Family

age that someone can be sold

Dear Editor,

days to celebrate and to spend his times in a way quite different from those of his work. Times he thinks when he throws away the burdens of everyday toils.

Scotland.

In my entire life, I have dreamed of going to my ancestors land-Yemen because I am Jewish.

I love to visit Yemen one day. Do you think that it is possible?

Will I ever see the country that my grandfather and grandmother used to sing me about?

Will I ever see Sanaa or Aden? Can someone please tell me?

> zuri simhi zuri\_simhi@hotmail

#### Dear Editor,

I am just wondering how come after all this success running this newspaper, you have not yet started an employment page where people form abroad who are thinking coming back to work in their country may find careers that are suitable for their qualifications.

> Marwan Mawiri mmarwan31@hotmail.com

#### Dear Marwan,

Thank you for your suggestion in employing Yemenis from other countries. We are planning to make many improvements in the staff and otherissues. Perhaps this particular question may top our agenda in the new future. Thank you for your recommendation, and keep on following up Yemeni news through Yemen Times. -Editor

in England with her children will come true! Now, that would be something special to happen for her on "Women's Day" wouldn't it?

Jody Campbell Phalanx@mweb.co.za

#### Hard Words Break no Bones

It has become an obstinate syndrome in the third world and non-democratic countries in general that names of heads of states are on the top of official media priority. Their names take the lead in television and radio news and press coverage over the warmest and most important events in the world. Their main activities, with close details, displace world's most important news; and they may take the technically supposed time of all new. Official media officers in these countries devote most of their efforts for bringing the head of state in the most propitiatory form. Their names are repeatedly mentioned from dawn to dawn with praise and tribute.

A big misery is, moreover, when a states officials, however important, they to repeat the names of their heads in each and every and even casual occasions. They, too, feel powerful and proud of what they ulter believing it a

#### source of safety and as a duty has to be done voluntarily.

Yemen actually is not a different case. It's rather exactly the same though professedly democratic country. To observe closely, democracy and free opinion have been domesticated to mean saying and writing whatever you like; and official media is doing so. But it is all the time for the head of state and leadership. No personal comment nor constructive criticism has ever been made.

An official agency speaker or writer brings the impression, out of his output, that speaking logically and naturally is an extraordinary job. Brilliant speakers and professional journalists find themselves drawning in the material reality and never thinking of their talent, profession or responsibility. Certainly it is a big shame that such doings exist even in campaigning for our enviable democracy. Real democracy means first uplifting minds to the level required to be aware of what is good for democracy.

Abdulaziz Attabbai

#### A Jewish Yemeni Asking

I am Jewish Yemeni born in Israel but both my grandparents come from Yemen.

I immigrated to Australia 1987 married a Scottish wife and now we all live in

etters to the Za

# WITH THE PRESENCE OF SEVERAL PROMINENT PERSONALITIES, YEMEN TIMES CELEBRATES ITS 10th ANNIVERSARY **10 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS PROGRESS.**

emen Times celebrated last Tuesday, February 27 2001, its 10th anniversary in a dinner party at the Sheraton Hotel in Sanaa. The event was attended by more than 200 prominent personalities including Arab and foreign ambassadors and diplomats, prominent officials, press people,

civil society representatives, intellectuals, businessmen, and other personalities.

8

During the celebration of Yemen Times for its 10th anniversary occasion, Yemen Times Editor-in-Chief, Mr. Walid Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf gave a speech in front of the 200 plus guests that joined Yemen Times moments of joy in this fabulous occasion and thanked the guests for coming to celebrate this occasion. Below is the complete text of his speech.

"On behalf of Yemen Times, I would like to welcome all of you to this special occasion of Yemen Times 10th Then he presented certificates of appreciation and grat-Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf is going on strongly and with Trading Company. great determination.

a new decade of achievements, but it also resembles the for the issue (7) Mr. Abdulrahman Al-Amrani repretrust that we gained from readers, sponsors, and adver- sented by his relative in Sanaa Salem Mohamed. tisers. We promise you all that we will continue in our Mr. Imad Al-Saqqaf then gave a short speech describpath of seeking the truth, and delivering it as it is, when ing the difficulties that Yemen Times went through durit happens. We will in no way be biased in our stand, ing the 10 years and the future ahead of the paper with and will be a model for others to follow.

What made us distinguished during the last 10 years, is Mr. Hamod Al-Mutawakkil from Al-Muthallath adverstill what is making us distinguished today, our credi- tising agency surprised Yemen Times by handing a gift bility, openness, courage, and independence. As we to the Editor-in-Chief as a symbol of gratitude for the look back we could understand that this was only pos- positive interaction and support it had given to the sible because we depend on no financial assistance of advertising sector in Yemen. Then Dr. Mohamed funding from any certain entity or group. We are mov- Sharaffeddin read a poem on this occasion so as to pay ing along using our creativity in producing our own tribute to the deceased founder, Prof. Al-Saqqaf. sources of income through advertising, sales, publish- Finally, Mr. Walid inaugurated Yemen Times 11th year ing supplements, and now through e-commerce.

We are slowly evolving into an international enterprise continuous progress." with great influence on the local arena. Yemen Times Journalists from Yemen Times talked with Yemeni and was found to live on, grown and prosper. We are proud foreign guests and got many interesting comments that we are today witnessing the growth on all levels. about the newspaper, all of which indicate the tremen-We thank you for coming, and wish you a pleasant din- dous success that the Yemen Times had gained through-

tificates of appreciation for all the employees repre- appreciation and gratitude the next day to Mr. Amin sented by the heads of the different departments includ- Zabara, General Manager of Yemen Hunt Oil Company ing the Editorial Department, Advertising Department, at the company's headquarters in Sanaa for the compa-Technical Department, Administrative Department, ny's sponsorship of the event. Another certificate was Financial Department. He also presented certificates to handed to Artex Trading Company represented by its the heads of Aden and Taiz branches, Mr. Radhwan Al- General Manager Isam Al-Haiqi by Walid Abdullah, Saqqaf of Aden and Imad Al-Saqqaf of Taiz.



anniversary. We are happy that you have all come to itude to the sponsors of the event including Arwa join us our happy moments in celebrating the conclu- University, represented by its rector, Dr. Wahiba Fari, sion of our first decade. No doubt, this moment is a and Sheraton Hotel, represented by Marketing moment of pride for all of us at Yemen Times, admin- Manager, Mr. Sharif Sabri. The other two sponsors istration, staff, and even readers. We are also glad that were also thanked for their contribution to the event, the mission of the founder of Yemen Times, Prof. which includes Yemen Hunt Oil Company, and Artex

Later the editor presented the weekly competition prize Our celebration today not only marks the beginning of of YR 18,000 in cash to the winner of the competition

the hardworking dedicated staff of the newspaper.

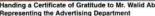
by cutting the cake that marked the end of "10 years of

out the last 10 years.

After giving his speech, Mr. Al-Saqqaf presented cer- Editor-in-Chief Walid Al-Saqqaf handed a certificate of Advertising Manager of Yemen Times.









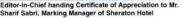


















# Yemen Times In History

n Tuesday February 27 2001, Yemen Times celebrated the completion of its first decade. The first issue of Yemen Times was published in February 27 1991, markng the birth of a newspaper that stands strong today as one of the most prestigious newspapers in Yemen, the Middle East, and even the world. Ten long tedious years have passed, marking a new decade, with new ambitions, new plans, and of course, stronger determination to excel and improve.

#### Now as we entered the 11th year, let us look at the last 10 years, and evaluate the progress of Yemen Times:

In 1990, Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saggaf. returned back to Yemen after serving as the newspaper reached a few hundred the General Manager of the Arab readers mainly in embassies and gov-Institute for Monetary Studies in ernment offices. It was in tabloid size Amman, and decided to start a project in black and white color, with red color that became one of the most successful on some pages. It had one advertiseprojects launched by the private sector ment and one vacancy announcement. Yemen. He decided to found an The first advertiser was FINE English language newspaper that Industrial Co. (Yemen) Ltd. would resemble the independent press In 1992, the newspaper improved sig that would report news as they are nificantly by increasing its pages to 16 focusing on democracy, human rights, and having more articles and more freedom of the press, and other civil readers reaching little over a thousand. rights issues. He decided to found In 1993, the newspaper witnessed rapid Yemen Times, a Weekly in English that growth on the local and international signalled a pioneering movement in the level, as the editor-in-chief by then. field of the freedom of the press in Prof. Adbulaziz Al-Saqqaf decided to Yemen. The intensive work to setup a have it printed simultaneously in location and buy the equipment neces-sary for the newspaper took many In 1994, the newspaper already became months and by 1991, he was still work- a giant enterprise respected locally and ing on founding a strong basis to start internationally for its renowned line of

In 27 February 1991, the first issue of ing news stories that others would Yemen Times came to light. Quickly, rather refrain from publishing. The



independence and courage in publish-







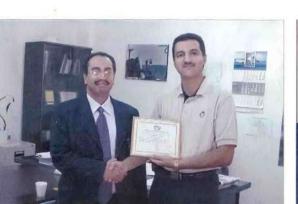






abroad

















#### **Introducing the YEMEN TIMES** First 'Our View Point'

that I use this sector, and the international community. editorial to introduce it to the Nevertheless, the paper covers with interest and commitment two categories of activities, which are:

ndependent weekly paper not 1. Economic/Business Activities:

#### What they Said About YT

he Yemen Times is an

produces very useful information on Ambassador of Egypt, said "I have different matters of Yemeni life. I think it ness of the late Dr. Abdulaziz's friends taken over here since four months ago. is a very good occasion not only to con- when I read the Yemen Times. It is by used to hear a lot about the late Dr. gratulate colleagues in Yemen times virtue of the people who rally together Abdulaziz al-Saqqaf. Yemen Times but also to advice them to work more and stand by the Yemen Times after provides a wide-range of sources of efficiently to cover more issues in the the tragic loss of its founder. Many a nformation. I highly applaud the news- future."

paper which most foreigners find it a . Ambassador of Palestine said "Yemen Times is highly respected and same policy of its founder. It is the first Yemen with a glorious gown. I seize commended by all the diplomats and English Language Newspaper in the this opportunity to congratulate Yemen diplomatic corps. I do highly appreciate country. It reflects views and stands by Times on its tenth anniversary and this newspaper and I always follow it all sections of the society without any wish it more success and prosperity." up. I hope it always develop and prejudice, fear or favor. It always seeks

• The German Ambassador said improve." palanced view. One finds in Yemen Secretary Oman Embassy, said "We that all its staff are my sons. Times every thing he looks for. Articles do congratulate Yemen Times on this I pray to God that Yemen Times' relaare dealt with in details and with lots of occasion. We hope her the very best in nformation. I wish the Yemen Times all time to come."

the best for the next hundred years." •• First secretary from Chinese The Russian Ambassador said Embassy, said "We do enjoy Yemen Times can have access to enormous "First of all I would like to congratulate Times newspaper. It is really very good and factious information and knowl-Yemen Times journalists for their hard and we know lots of news from the edge. I also pray that it will remain a work in the newspaper. Ten years have Yemen Times."

passed and during this period the . Dr. Wahibah Fare'a, director of our society." newspaper has become very popular. It Queen Arwa University, said "It is the

newspaper reported stories so sensitive The distribution reached areas as far as diminish as soon as its founder is dead. and strong that the editor was jailed Seyun in the east, Hodeidah in the They were proven wrong. and beaten up for what he had pub- west, Saadah in the North and Aden in In 2000, the newspaper continued to lished, yet he continued his strong the south, with a readership spread grow despite the death of the founder, stand for the truth regardless of the throughout the country.

In 1995, and after the civil war of location and obtained its own premises tisements and top quality news cover-1994, Yemen Times became an inter- in Haddah Street, and started an invest- age. The 1,000,000 Yemen Rial comnationally respected newspaper due to ment in the fields of pre-press and petition that the newspaper sponsored its accurate reporting regarding human obtained the most advanced computer shock many observers who realized the rights violations and freedom of press hardware. The newspaper was confi- new height and dimension of the marissues. This led to having Prof. Al- dently growing with a rate never wit- keting abilities of the Yemen Times Saqqaf nominated for the internation- nessed before.

ally famous freedom of press award of In 1999, Yemen Times witnessed the In 2001, Yemen Times became one of the Washington-based National Press Club. It was a delight to realize later in Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf died in a car the year that he had won the prize, incident in June 2. The circumstances Yemeni newspaper on the international which brought Yemen Times on top of of the incidents raised a lot of concern level. Its relationship with various other newspapers, and made Yemen as of the possibility of being intentional. local and international organizations a whole proud of his achievements as His elder son, Walid, took over and including the Committee for Protecting

edition that was issued on the week Amnesty International, and Arab and In 1996, Yemen Times witnessed a after the incident had to be printed foreign embassies in Yemen reached turning point in the history of the three times to cover the demand for the the strongest level ever. In short, newspaper that would further boost its newspaper. That issue had the highest Yemen Times became an internationalnumber of readers to tens, and hun- circulation in the history of Yemen ly renowned enterprise that had an dreds of thousands. Yemen Times Times until today. The proceedings of extremely strong basis that no one launched its own website to become the court hearings were disappointing could have imagined would withstand among the first newspapers to have an as the court refused to reinvestigate the all the challenges. Its continuation to online website on the World Wide Web case, which resulted in the ruling of a live and move on is guaranteed with (WWW) to get the news from Yemen to the rest of the world in a click of a button. The readership now has dou- to attend the sessions in protest of the it was founded to stay, and it plans to bled and tripled, and Yemen Times court's decision.

became a resource of information for The newspaper continued to be puball foreigners and expatriate Yemenis lished every Monday without any ing the truth and continuing in the path interruption at all. This was a major of its late founder, Prof. Abdulaziz Al-In 1997, Yemen Times continued its disappointment to the ones who Saqqaf forever and more. success and its circulation doubled. thought that the newspaper would

newspaper of all the people. We do look at it and its staff as part and parcel of us. I do feel the lovalty and faithfulperson feels that the newspaper should continue on the same pace and on the the truth and credibility. The best thing According to my point view it is a very •• Salim bin Musslim Masan, First which makes me proud is that I feel

> tions with academic and education institutions will be strengthened in the coming years. Through this Yemen clear and true picture of the realities of Continued on page 15

and competed on the international level In 1998, Yemen Times changed its with an increasing number of advervoung staff.

he was the first Arab ever to win such became the new Editor-in-Chief. The Journalists, Human Rights Watch, stav forever, with no interruption what-

issue of the Yemen of th merits and demerit involved. The paper aims to reach levels, consumption, interest rates, exchange rates, etc. in much more remains to be achieved. extensively covered.

#### 2. Democracy and Human Rights:

vis-avis the various local, important regional and international issues in this sector. much can be achieved. Therefore, the paper will closely feed-back. regional, and international major emphasis will be placed on trade, investment, follow those two issues as reflected in Yemeni life. Much Till next Wednesday, take care!

issues is determined on the basis of an objective assessment economic laws, tenders, and market-watch aspects in price has been achieved in both counts in the recent past, and Times. Therefore, out to a large base of readers, specially amongst the general, government and private-sector efforts in the The paper will heavily depend on primary sources of it is with pleasure intellectual classes, the decision markers, the business country's socio-economic development process will be information; i.e., interviews, pools, field surveys, and contributions and feed-back from our readers. Yet, the paper will also provide information from secondary sources, specially through the weekly summary round-up of Yemen Times believes that the prosperity and strength of the local press. All in all, Yemen Times hopes to be nations, if at least in the long run, will depend o democratic informative and analytic i nature. All members of the paper attached to any political party Yemen Times will provide a detailed coverage of economic values and the observation of human rights. In the absence promise to make a sincere effort to serve our readership, or though. As such, its stand and business activities in Yemen, and a synopsis of of those two basic elements i society, tit is doubtful that and all of us will appreciate an active participation and



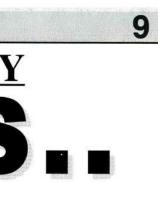


wealth of information. It also reflects

consequences.

a prestigious award.

reader



#### 10 Culture

# **Urban Cultural Heritage Awareness: Problems and Issues**

#### Abdulkareem Al-Magaleh Awareness Specialist

he cultural heritage scene is as rich and varied as the rich climate of the country. The comparison is made because climate has a lot to do with the nature of the cultural heritage in the various urban areas where one can see various traditions which is fitting to the particular environment the city is located in. Sana'a, for example, has a rich architectural style and an economy based on handicrafts and various traditional services. The preservation of such heritage in the city of Sana'a has taken a course through which old buildings and landmarks will be preserved and handicrafts revived and improved to cater for the local residents and for tourism purposes. The experience in Sana'a is an eye opener; where many of the success archived in the city can be applied to other parts of the country. When one speaks of preservation of such heritage in urban areas, one has to look at the variety of the cities and climates in which these centers are located to draw proper plans in how to handle the preservation efforts. Awareness raising is an essential part of such efforts which we think should take a two tier path, one which focuses on the local resident and the other on the general population as a whole. Both tiers have to take into consideration a number of problems and issues which we think are prevalent amongst the general population: here are some of these issues:

Old is not appreciated:

There is a common believe that old is not good as we see amongst the new generation who appreciate imports more than they appreciate locally made products including handicrafts. This is so because they are looking up to modern life and want to live this life which they think will bring them a certain statuesque and the comfort of modern life. An old house in the old quarter of the city doesn't compare well with a new stone villa with modern villa which has ceramic tiles, carpeting and modern bathrooms. So would a garment handcrafted to a traditional style which many of the Yemeni forefathers and mothers had worn with pride. Consequently, the problem here is that of appreciation. People who live in a given city ,should first appreciate their heritage and should also appreciate the strides made by their forefathers in construction techniques, adaptation of building materials and the wise architectural planning which they had made suitable for their environment. The value and significance which can be cultural, social, religious, economic, commercial, political or historical has to be appreciated by both the people and the officials in charge of looking after cultural heritage preservation. Appreciation by the inhabitants are well as the general public and officials of any target area for preservation is necessary for their full involvement in planning as well as preservation

#### Narrow definition of cultural heritage

The definition of cultural heritage as the built environment only doesn't play well with the general concept of cultural heritage preservation. Traditions, values and traditions arts and crafts which gives any culture its flavor and uniqueness. Awareness campaigns focusing on the built environment alone would be narrow sided and would have difficulty raising the needed awareness.

#### Illiteracy:

efforts.

Many awareness campaigns in any field stumble with the fact that illiteracy is rampant studies have shown that over 69% of the urban population are illiterate. Illiteracy not only hampers transmission of information easily, but also make it difficult for illiterate people to understand concepts behind any oral or written effort. The problem pauses a challenge to the awareness effort where innovative mediums of

communications have to be considered

#### Danger of using Traditional means of communications:

There is the danger of stumbling into politics by using traditional means of communications i. E. Mosques and Schools. This fact of life has to be considered carefully to avoid any pitiful which may create unneeded political issues and undermines the objectives of the campaign.

**Dying Communications techniques:** Story telling which used to be an effective mean of communication through which great stories based on historical events or personalities had been transmitted is no longer interesting with the advent of Television/Radio and film plays. A revival of such techniques entails extensive research effort and would have to take place within a new context or incorporated into another new medium of communication.

Moreover, theatrical plays are not part of the tradition and the only thing closer to such medium is the traditional dances and comedy carnivals which used to be part of religious and wedding celebration. The association of these forms of communications into cultural heritage preservation awareness, given the fact, that we are trying to focus on the built environment, means going out of bound of the scope of the project, but certainly serves the wider scope of cultural heritage preservation.

#### Women:

Women are an important element of community development and any awareness campaign targeting them has to consider the special status of women in the country. They should be carefully targeted using traditional gatherings and local associations where women are present. Studies have shown that women suffer most from illiteracy, a fact which pauses the greatest challenge to any communication message. The problem is compounded

by the fact that women are always busy rearing their many children and looking after their homes and may not be able to be at women gathering where they can be targeted.

Seeing is believing: (a credibility crises)

Experience has shown that the General population in Yemen strongly hold to the notion that seeing is believing. They will only pay attention to something when they see it and can often neglect or scoff at ideas which are based on theory or "future plans". This has to do with the historic experience of the population when many things have been said but not done.

Credibility is very important for the success if any community development, program or awareness campaign. Credibility in Yemen society is something which require a boost since, without sounding pessimistic, many have lost confidence on any major campaigns or claims. The credibility of the mass media is no longer there. People prefer to hear the news from a station outside the country. Even if they hear it from a local station, they would believe it more if it was confirmed from the outside. Rumors are often believed more than the facts.

#### Mass media distribution and lack of interest

Newspapers and magazine as well as TV and Radio face a problem of distribution and reach. Newspapers, although many, publish only few thousand copies each and therefore the reach is limited. The illiteracy factor is a negative factor which works against the newspapers and magazines. The distribution of the press is rather limited to certain urban areas and the smaller then urban area, the chance of reaching them through this medium gets smaller and smaller. TV/Radio as a mass medium has a better reach but the access and effectiveness of such medium has to be evaluated for targeting certain group. Such evaluation is lacking and even the TV/Radio organizareach and targeting.

There is also a lack of interest in the part of media organizations. Some in the industry would like to blame that on unavailability of resources, but the fact of the matter is that many media organizations are focused on politics and neglect other aspects of life in the country including cultural conservation.

#### Lack of Audio Visual Training:

The lack of Audio Visual training is often a constraint where the general population doesn't necessarily absorb the message intended through an Audio 3. Visual medium such as TV or presentation. The use of Symbols can be confusing at best where some people get confused on what they really mean. The illusion that an Audio-Visual presentation intends to make is often missed and concentration is on the beauty or the dazzling color of a picture or an image rather than the understanding of the message.

#### Lack of easy access to international Media

International media is concerned with wars and civil upheavals in many countries around the world and seems to lose interest in the other aspect of human heritage such cultural conservation. However, the coverage of such media to conservation efforts would play well with international organizations concerned as well as donors and will also generate interest amongst the general world population generating interest for tourism itineraries to cultural heritage sites.

#### **Economic situation:**

Economy plays an important role in enticing interest. The unique architectural heritage of urban areas is threatened by declining economic growth and by the use of so called modern building materials. Moreover, awareness in the potential economic growth in the development of traditional industries such handicrafts and building materials is often lacking. Benefits waiting for them in any preservation efforts which can create a wealth of opportunities is often missed as a result and creates a lack of interest as well. There seem to be a lack of inventories

tion doesn't have sufficient research on of economic benefits which can be reaped from preservation, a matter which no awareness campaign can do without because it constitutes the basis of message delivery to the population.

#### The Legal situation:

March 5th, 2001

There is a lack of awareness in any legal framework which might exist for urban cultural heritage preservation. In my believe, this is due to the following reasons:

- Weakness of concerned govern-1. ment organizations and NGO's
- 2 Weakness of law and building codes enforcement by concerned authorities.
- Too many organizations working with the practically the same mandate.

#### Absence of a National monuments **Register:**

The absence of a national monument register deprives awareness message of an important credibility aspect. A register lands credibility to any awareness message for urban cultural heritage preservation since it gives the needed recognition and general acceptances of the significance of a monument or a site.

#### Lack of coordination:

Many governmental and non-governmental organizations work individually on any given issue. This lack of coordination, necessarily means lack of communications. Many government organizations working in the field have tried to tackle certain issues through awareness campaigns without coordinating with other organization, a matter which makes the message one sides and incomplete.

Moreover, lack of awareness of the inside working of the mass media in general causes lack of coordination which can lead to under-coverage of any given cultural heritage awareness raising event.

#### Conclusion:

The above are some of the issues which can be a constraint if not handled properly and any community development or awareness camping must consider the above issues in order to develop the right awareness messages and to choose the right medium of communications.

# Aden University, **Distinguishable Development**

By : Nabil Mustafa Mahdi

inside Yemen or abroad. Aden university is the second largest university in Yemen next to Sana'a and has experienced many qualitative developments decided to overcome the scarcity of

project of the university city and thirdly due to efforts and sincerity of its administration and staff who have

BRITISH CITIZENS

niversity is progressing and developing steadily till it has become one of educational landmarks where scientists from various specialties and from various parts of the Arab world betake themselves to it, in addition to its own students

This year the university is inaugurating its 26th year after it had last year marked its 25th founding anniversary, adopting an Arab and Islamic approach in its sciences and curricula.

Under leadership of its president Dr Saleh Ali Basourah, Aden university has accomplished many achievements that speeded up the development of its faculties, curricula, methods of research in addition to increasing the number of its professors. It has been determined and planned to make the university with all of its faculties and departments and scientific centers raise to the level that is aspired and to keep in pace with the spirit of the age and its challenges.

During the past five years the university has organized many cultural and scientific conferences and occasions where a distinguished group of experts in science and intellectuals have taken part besides its participation in many scientific meetings, conferences and symposiums held whether

in various fields. has increased the number of its colleges from only three in 1975 to eight colleges in 1990 to become 16 at the beginning of the present academic year 2000-2001. This big expansion of the university has been accompanied by increase in number of its students from both sexes. The number of its students has leapt from several hundreds in 1975 to around 26 thousand in the academic year 2000-2001. The remarkable development of the university was by virtue of the help of God, the care and support of president Ali Abdullah Saleh who has supported the accomplishment of its strategic

capabilities and potentials.

In appraising this university we would find out, through following up, the various media in Yemen, that its achieve-·ments capture newspapers front and scientific pages in addition to coverage by many Arab mass media that give prominence to its news from time to time. Despite of its young age one finds that it confirms that it was born as big and its accomplishments are rather standard. This consequence has been the product of the efforts of those who have planned for it and wanted it to have this remarkable status among Yemeni, Arab and world universities.



### **OVERSEAS VOTERS: CHANGES IN LEGISLATION**

The legislation governing the registration of overseas electors has been amended.

The Representation of the People Act 2000 came into force on 16 February 2001 (a full copy of the amended act can be viewed at www.parliament.UK).

There are three major changes in the new Act that will affect the registration of overseas electors:

#### i) Postal Voting

- Under current legislation overseas electors can only apply to register for a vote by proxy.
- The new legislation will allow postal voting.

#### ii) Countersignature of applications to register

- The current legislation states that applications to register must be countersigned by a British Citizen who knows the application personally.
- The new legislation allows applications to countersigned by any British Citizen, e.g. a Consular Officer, providing the Consular Officer is satisfied that the applicant is a British Citizen resident overseas.

#### iii) Rolling Registers

- Current legislation states that British Citizens wishing to register on an electoral register in England, Wales or Scotland must complete their application form on or before the qualifying date of 10 October (in Northern Ireland the qualifying date is 15 September).
- The new legislation establishes rolling electoral registers. This means that, with effect 16 February 2001, any British Citizen resident overseas can apply for registration at any time during the year.

For further information please contact the Consular Section, British Embassy, Sana'a 01 264081/82/83



# What is life?

#### Yousra Saeed AI-Eshawee

t is not easy to define a word like 'life', but even so I can say that it is a short word with a shorter meaning. It begins with birth and ends with death and, in between, a very short time is there, though it seems to some people a long one. Life and death are completely different terms, but they share some qualities and elements. They are both unknown to al of us. Some may acclaim that they know and realize well many things or may be everything about their life, but they are really ignorant of their real life. No one whoever he is, knows either the beginning of (other's) life or its end. No one can say when he will pass away and when others will start their life on this earth. It is actually unknown.

In my opinion, life can be divided into two main divisions. The first one is the first life which we are living now and are going to leave it after sometime, the other is the eternal life which immediately comes after death. In the first one we are simply living, enjoying ourselves and spending that little time we have in one way or another. We are, moreover, looking forward to realizing all our dream in this life and are waiting eagerly for the time in which we will be able to achieve all our dreams in our future life, i.e., the life after death. But we are ignorant that in the twinkle of an eye we may be dead.

It is really a bitter and painful fact that we live just to die. We are just playing the role of guests who come only to visit our parents, relatives, friends and all the other members of our family and then go back to our homeland, leaving other guest of the second generation after us.

For me, life is a mystery which I can't unfold it. I think, it is more difficult to determine exactly whether life is good or bad. In other words, it is very difficult to say, what is life?!!

Is it a struggle, a challenge, a sorrow or a tragedy?

If it is so, the whole thing we should do is to accept, face, meet and overcome

But others may argue that life is a

sweet song and a wonderful game and It is not a matter to spend half or all then we should sing and play it together.

Now we have seen the two opposite sides of life. Some believe that life is a joy, very exciting and beautiful and some believe that life is gloomy and colorless.

If one takes into consideration that life is full of joy, a pleasurable experience it is when we laugh, play, spend good time with friends, set success in our works, overcome all the troubles that we face, do all our best to be lovable and famous among others, love each other and thus make our life look bright and beautiful. It never comes to our mind that we are sooner or later going to die and put into the dark graves. We don't have time to think whether we will enjoy the happiness in paradise or put in the hell to suffer.

On the other hand, we have the other side of life in which men don't care so much about their daily affairs. They are, actually, working, doing their duties, achieving something in life but they have a hidden feeling that every thing they do or achieve is useless. They just think of one thing, i.e., why should they bother themselves with so many jobs when after some time, everything will go with the wind?!! They will die and put in their graves with worms and dust and then they will take nothing with them. So due to this thought, they gradually lose the great power and desire to live and to do any cheerful thing in life.

In my opinion, to live a happy life, we have to make a balance between the two sides. We should enjoy our life as much as possible and at the same time understand the fearful truth, i.e. death. Only then we will be able to enjoy and it will enable us to do good to be rewarded in the eternal life.

If you only apply your mind, you will find that what is more difficult is not life in itself but how to obtain life. Just imagine how you can turn your life to a beautiful and exciting one. You can do so when you are always looking for happiness and cheers and you should try your best to delight others around you. Then only we can see life delightful and we will rejoice it.

you life searching for that hidden happiness but when you fin it, you must defy the whole world and fight strongly with anyone who tries to steal even a fragment of it. The easier you get things, the easier it goes away or vanishes. So we have to learn to face many troubles and problems to find out cheers in life. We just then keep this spirit in the inner recesses of our hearts where no one can reach easily.

Therefore, this life needs a strong and enterprising person who never fears or hesitates but stand steadily face to face with the troubles and obstacles. What is needed is to share your boring life to a cheerful and delightful person who is able to understand both your emotions and mind. One has to be able to control oneself and think thousand times before aching. One has to understand how to heal with his won life. He /she should not be rush or just run after his/her emotions. This is because a great flow of emotions may lead to regret and grief particularly when these emotions are flowing in a wrong direction.

About the other kind of life, the eternal one, I can't say much because I don't know much about it. It is in the hand of God. But I can, at least, expect that it will certainly be happy life because only there we will meet with all those whom we have been separated from in this life. It is the only place where we can enjoy their company without fear of death or anything else.

After taking into consideration the both sides of life, we can conclude that life is like a small flower which blossoms and grows up gradually and then it looks more and more beautiful and colorful.

But it, at last, dries, falls down and dies. Life begins suddenly and when we grow up, it seems more and more beautiful till death.

So just live your life as it is and never forget to look for happiness and cheers and the moment that you find it, embrace it strongly and don't allow to lose it again. If it escapes, you may never find it again.

# Women Health issues In a Seminar

#### Belqis al-Lahabi Al-Afif Girls Forum

Women health issues are of vital importance for a healthy family which in turn constitute the society at large. The second seminar organized by "al-Afif Girls Forum" and sponsored by the Afif Cultural Corporation focused on the issue of women health and the importance of their being aware of health issues. The discussion session was held in the headquarters of al-Afif Cultural Corporation and was attended by quite a good number of women and people interested in women issues.

Dr. Najeebah Abdullah Abdulghani, assistant teacher in the Medical and Health Sciences Faculty, Sana'a University, shed light on women health issues. She said "There are major common health issues concerning both men and women. There are also other issues concerning women alone such as reproduction. Therefore, the mother should be given access to intensive care during the period of her pregnancy and until she gives birth. If she is healthy, her baby would be healthy and vice versa. The man or the husband has an important role to play in women's health as most women totally depend upon their husbands for their health expenses.

Health reproduction as defined in the Development and Housing International Conference, is "The overall physical, mental, social health." It is not that there are no diseases reported on the part of the woman in the reproductive system and its functions. For instance, sterility may lead to many psychological and social problems.

Healthy reproduction includes a wide range of components. The first is secure maternity which involves care before childbirth, secure childbirth, care after childbirth and encouraging the mother to provide her child with natural suckling. The second is family planning. We should note the differ-



it is rare to find a woman who has not been aborted yet. Abortion may at times cause death. Healthy reproduction also includes the media health awareness promotion, especially in the sexual health.

The mother is not recommended to give birth to many babies but rather this should not be in a way that is detrimental to her health. This should not also affect bringing her children up. Speaking and raising the awareness of people to the importance of sexual health is not a shame. For the more the society is cultured in this aspect, the more it avoids illegal affairs and the

fewer diseases are reported. All have to know the components of reproductive system, how to deal with it and how to protect one's self from the sexual diseases in case they exist. The more awareness and knowledge in this context, the less negative effects one may be prone to.

The objectives of healthy reproduction are as follows:

1) Have a secure and safe pregnancy, childbirth and puerperal stages. 2) Giving birth to a healthy infant.

3) Ability of the husband and wife to

death cases and the diseases they are prone to so as to know the kind of problems that affect them. She said "In 1990, UNICEF conducted a statistical survey in Yemen for mothers who die during the childbirth. Statistics revealed that 1400 death cases are reported in every 100,000 childbirth. The percentage is quite high when compared to that in European countries where 27 death cases, Egypt 190 death cases were only reported. The survey stressed the high number of women giving births outside hospitals."

11

Dr. Najeebah also noted that educating men is not enough for maintaining women's health issues. She said "Rather women have to know these things to protect themselves. 42% of women deaths during reproductive age, ranging between (15-49), are caused by their insecure pregnancy and childbirth. This obviously leads to many social problems. A survey conducted on the whole of Yemen revealed that only 34% of childbirths were conducted under the supervision of the specialist doctors during pregnancy. In most cases cleanness is a secondary issue during childbirth. If cleanness is given its due attention, secondary sterility prevalent in Yemen will reach to an end.

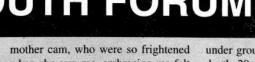
Women should also have some time after giving births to have rest for their bodies to recover their health and strength."

Dr. Najeebah also concluded the seminar by talking about female genital mutilation and said "After many conferences and seminars the Health Ministry prohibited the circumcision of females and maintained this prohibition in all governmental health institutions. Studies show the spread of this practice in some regions including Hodeidah, Hadramout, al-Mahrah. Aden, in some villages in Taiz and in some areas such as Otmmah and al-Udain."



Mr. Snake and I..

It was a nice summer day, filled with great joy as I would join school, day after, for the first time. I remembered well that I was so excited and vigorous as any child in that age should be. In that time water was available and everyone was happy about it and we, Mr. Snake, actually you were so kind farmers, used to go to streams bringing water easily. Women took clothes to those streams sitting, washing them gleefully. As any mother in the village, my mother used to take me along with her to have an experience. In that particular day, I challenged to race for reaching the place first. To my surprise I found myself aloof face to face, with a huge black snake that existed from nowhere. Everything had stopped, my legs were numbed with great fear, so I took no move, my tongue also was tied so I gave no scream nor sound. Frankly speaking, I stood so static and stagnant as those Roman status but with rural dress.



when she saw me, embracing me felt that I came to life again. Telling this story (which of course true) friend of mine says that snake was old and wise enough to leave me

alive. with me though we to different under ground water was 20 meters in depth 20 years ago, but now it has decreased to 80 meters. In addition to that some wells are not fit for human use. This means that in the near future the underground water will be completely depleted. Unfortunately the government has been facing this crisis by an inexplicable silence as if the



I became completely lifeless. However there was one only thing that was moving strongly and it seemed as if wanted to get out and jump from my body and its beats barely filled my little body discovering after that it was just my heart (great discovery).

Returning to our snake (whom) I did not know anything about him, no what kind of snake he was nor what language h was speaking.

Like a stone I stood with stared and fixed eyes while the snake was examining if I was a true human by moving from side to side in front of my eyes. finally, he convinced that there was no life in my body, he left slowly still looking at me (to be sure) until he disappeared from my sight.

In spite of departure of the snake I remained in my place with only mobile thing and pale face until my

species belong and you would not have been blamed if you hurt me simply because you are wild animal. But, Mr. Snake, look at people who they kill without mercy another people declaring that they are not subhuman but also they surpass the cruel animal.

Mr. Snake you did let me live but Israeli soldiers do kill...

#### Fahmia Taha Ahmed Al-Fotih, Dept. of English Sana'a university

Water is Fundamental to Survival Water and life are mutually complementary. There can be no life without water and no water without life. The percentage of water in the cells of most living creatures is about 60%. Water has its unique features such as high specific heat, high surface tension, high heat of vaporization, unique density behavior. Water is, in fact, the only liquid that can exist in three forms liquid, solid and gas.

Although hydro sphere occupies more than 71% of the total area of the earth, the percentage of water is relatively less and it distributed differently in the world.

Yemen is characterized among the dry or semidry countries. It has few water resources in comparison to other countries. Moreover, there is a misuse and maladministration in this regard. Random digging of wells lead to depletion of the underground water.

In Sa'adah governorate the level of

lives of millions of living beings don't concern it.

The government and Yemeni people have to pay attention to this grave crisis, cooperate and unleash concerted efforts to face the impending crisis of water in foreseeable future. Saleh Doman

Sa'adah

Let me live Let me love Let me live Don't you wonder! I'm not a thief

I love rose The white rose Not Like you Sly in Rose

In my way In my manner My heart is An open door

> In this life Everyone is a passenger And tomorrow will die

If you love You can live Prettier and sweeter

If I make Any mistake For your sake Please tell me By: Mohamed Al-Mahdi Arhab College - Level 4 ence between family planning and production birth control. Family planning is to plan a healthy delivery for children ensuring their proper growth. Birth control is to put a limit to the number of children one has.

The third is the prevention and treatment from reproductive system inflammation which may be caused by the sexual contact. Healthy reproduction also includes sterility and abortion prevention. In the case of Yemeni women

reproduce and organize that. 4) How to help the husband and wife reproduce at cases of sterility. 5) Protection of the wife and husband from infected diseases so no one infects the other.

6) Each side takes full responsibility in the sexual contact between the wife and husband."

Dr. Najeebah also indicated the importance of documenting the mothers'

The seminar asserted the importance of women's health. The most important two factors of which are education and economic situation which if women have fair access to, there will a remarkable improvement in their health.

The meeting was also enriched in many intercompositions on the parts of the audience who also forwarded questions on these vital issues.





ممثلة بجميع موظفيها وعمالها ومنتسبيها تتقدم بأحر التهانى والتبريكات للقيادة السياسية بزعامة فخامة الرئيس

علي عبدالله صالح

وإلى أبناء شعبنا اليمني المجيد بمناسبة العرس الديمقراطي الذي يحتفل به جميع أبناء الوطن والمتمثل بنجاح انتخابات السلطة المحلية، والاستفتاء على التعديلات الدستورية . والذي يتزامن مع استقبالنا لعيد الاضحى المبارك، أعاده الله على الجميع باليُمن والخيرات والمسرات .

# وتل عام والجمية بذير

# **Aden Refinery Company**

presents its heartfelt wishes and congratulations to President Ali Abdullah Saleh,

# and all Yemeni People

On the occasion of the conspicuous success of the Local Councils Elections and the referendum on the constitutional amendments which chronized with the advent of Greater Bairam.

Many Happy Returns...



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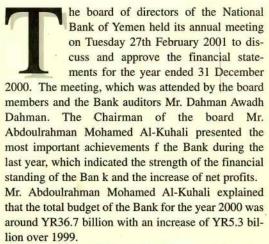
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# National Bank Of Yemen

### National Bank of Yemen Approves it's Financial statements for the year ended 31st **December 2000**



The overall deposits in the bank increased from YR 29.3 billion in 1999 to 34.2 billion in 2000, i.e., with an increase of 4.9 billion.

During the meeting, the Chairman indicated that the overall ownership rights increased with an average of

8% in 2000 to reach around YR 2.7 billion reached 7.9% of the existing assets, which indicates a worthy new capitalization for the bank. This is comparable to the high average rate that is more than enough to cover the capital with a percentage of 45%, which is higher than the local and international requirements for financial suitability. Customer deposits increased with a significant percentage exceeding 17.4% from YR 26.4 billion in 1999 to YR 31 billion at the end of 2000.

On another level, according to Mr. Al-Kuhali, the National Bank of Yemen was able not only to preserve the level of profit, which exceeds YR 672 million, but also increased the profit in 2000 with a percentage more than 27.3% over 1999.

At the end of the meeting, the bank auditors read the report that presented the financial standing equity for the bank and the income and cash flow statement and changes in ownership rights.

عقد مجلس إدارة البنك الأهلى اليمني اجتماعه السنوى يوم ريال. وزاد إجمالي حقوق المالك بمعدل ٨٪ عام ٢٠٠٠ م ليصل

والمشتى لاهت في الم البنك الأهلي اليمني يعقد إجتماعه السنوي ويقر بياناته المالية للسنة المالية ٢٠٠٠م.

الثلاثاء الموافق ٢٧ فدراير ٢٠٠١م لمناقشة وإقرار السانات إلى نحو ٢،٧ مليار ريال وليشكل ما نسبته ٧،٩٪ من المالية للبنك للسنة المالية المنتهية في ٣١ ديسمبر ٢٠٠٠م الموجودات مما يعكس نسبة رسملة جيدة للبنك، تقترن بحضور جميع أعضاء المجلس ومراجعي الحسابات السيد بمعدل مرتفع لكفاية رأس المال قدره ٤٥٪ متجاوزا بذلك دحمان عوض دحمان، وقد قام رئيس مجلس الإدارة المدير المتطلبات المحلية والدولية للملاءة المالية. وارتفعت ودائع العام الأستاذ عبدالرحمن محمد الكهالي بعرض أهم العملاء بنسبة ملحوظة تعدت ١٧،٤٪ وذلك من حوالي ٢٦،٤ الإنجازات التي حققها البنك خلال العام والتي أظهرت قوة مليار ريال في عام ١٩٩٩ إلى نحو ٣١ مليار في نهاية عام المركز المالي للبنك وارتفاع صافي الربح، حيث بلغ مجموع ٢٠٠٠م. من ناحية أخرى، استطاع البنك المحافظة على الميزانية في نهاية عام ٢٠٠٠م نحو ٣٦،٧ مليار ريال بارتفاع مستوى من الأرباح يفوق ٦٧٢ مليون ريال وبنسبة زيادة قدره ٥،٣ مليار ريال عن مثيلها في العام ١٩٩٩، وارتفع إجمالي قدرها ٢٧،٣ ٪ عن عام ١٩٩٩م. ثم قام مراجعو الحسابات بقراءة موجودات البنك من حوالي ٢٩،٣ مليار ريال في العام ١٩٩٩ تقريرهم الذي يعبر عن عدالة المركز المالي للبنك وبيان الدخل إلى ٣٤،٢ مليار ريال في عام ٢٠٠٠م بزيادة قدرها ٤،٩ مليار وبيان التدفقات النقدية والتغيرات في حقوق الملكية.



# **United Company for Industrial Metals**





### Holds a Reception in Honor of the Saudi Businessmen Delegation

he United Company for Industrial Metals held a reception in honor of the visiting Saudi Businessmen delegation headed by Sheikh Ismael Abu Daood, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Saudi Cambers of Commerce and Industry,

Commerce and Industry, Mr. Khaled expressed happiness for visiting Yemen Rabah Al-Horbi, the Regional Director of the Islamic Chamber in Jiddah and others.

During the party, Mr. Hamdu Abdul Kareem, General Manager of the United Company for Industrial Metals, Sheikh Ismael and Mr. Abdul Rahman Ali

which constitutes a new beginning for wider cooperation among the Yemeni and Saudi businessmen in all economic and commercial fields. They also highly appreciated the United company for Industrial Metal for their warm distinguish reception that was held in their







Chairman of the Jiddah Chamber of exchanged souvenirs. Commerce and Industry last Monday at On this occasion the Saudi businessmen Mr. Hamdu stressed that such visits will the Gold Mohur Hotel in

Aden. The delegation included Mr. Abdul Rahman Ben Ali, Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Chambers Saudi of Commerce, Chairman of the Riyadh Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Mr. Osamah Mohammed Makki, Secretary General of the Chamber Council, Mr. Abdul Rahman Ben Jahl, Chairman of the Madinah Chamber of



honor.

help promote bilateral cooperation among businessmen of the two countries emphasizing that Yemen still has many investment opportunities to offer for Saudi businessmen.

The reception was also attended by a number of Yemeni outstanding businessmen.

الشركة المتحدة للصناعات المعدنية ممثلة بالمدير العامر الأستاذ/ حمدو عبدالكريم

بأحرالتهاني واطبب الأماني للقيادة السياسية بزعامة قائد المسيرة التنموية فخامة الرئيس علي عبدالله صالح إلى أبناء شعبنا اليمني العظيم

بمناسبة عيد الأضحى المبارك أعاده الله على اليمن والأمة العربية والإسلامية بالتقدم والازدهار







## **UNITED COMPANY FOR INDUSTRIAL METALS**

presents its heartfelt wishes and congratulations to:

#### PRESIDENT ALI ABDULLAH SALEH.

and all Yemeni People

On the occasion of the conspicuous success of the Local Councils Elections and the referendum on the constitutional amendments which chronized with the advent of Greater Bairam.

# Continued from Page 1: **They Are Slaughtering Democracy**

This is a grave mistake the political system in the country has committed. The GPC legislators might have thought that that could be a live embodiment of sound democracy convenient to the special characteristic of our tribal community, loyal to tribalism rather than to party life.

Compatible with the Yemeni peculiarity, it could have been better making them an arena for free competition among the patriotic symbols, each offers his electoral platform directly to the citizen without interference by political parties and organizations whatsoever, as long as they are administrative and social elections. He who can efficiently convince his constituency, in dependence on his honorable biography and distinguished mentality and knowledge and services offered to his area and tribe, he deserves to be elected and represent them before the government authorities in the governorates and districts. Thus should be the civilized way in dealing with such an affair.

During a visit we have made to Wadi Khuban, Kuhlan and surrounding villages at Rathama area, Ibb Governorate and



interviews with some sectors of people there, we have found out that all were completely unsatisfied with this experiment and insist on considering it as bringing catastrophes rather than peace and progress. They have voiced their belief that they have been deceived by the rhetorical phrases and slogans promoted by politicians and people of the authority praising the democratic advancement in the country and the many benefits they would gain and those to be gained by their future generations. Those slogans, they were told, as to be the only savior for them from oppression,

poverty and backwardness.

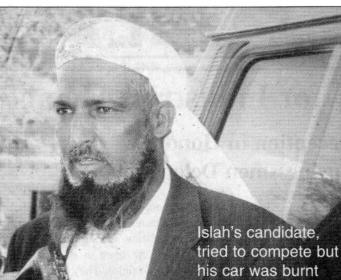
First of all we have interviewed one of those supervising the process of elections and referendum on the constitutional amendments, who was a representative for the Islah party at the centre "H" Constituency 116. Asked him about the sad events he and residents of the area have experienced, he said the crisis began when head of the committee at this centre had refused to adopt the report of counting votes of the boxes at his centre despite approval by other members of the committee. The reason, he said, was that first he was member of the GPC and also because he is the nephew of the GPC candidate whom the party was insisting on his winning in this centre even though the Islah nominee has gained the majority of votes. He insisted on obtaining approval of Ibb governor or the leadership of his party. Insistence by head of the committee on reject-

tary men and large convoy claiming that he was assigned by higher officials to solve the problem and transfer the boxes to the original committee. To the surprise of all the convoy changed its course towards Yerim camp which is about 18 kms away from the committee's place. He added that such irresponsible and illegal behavior created a state of confusion and anger among the Islah supporters, some of whom had followed the military convoy and fired at the trucks tires and that had widened engagement between the convoy and the citizens supporting the Islah in the Wadi area. Nonetheless the convoy continued its course towards the military camp before the boxes were taken to Ibb governorate.

On Feb. 25 we contacted the supervising committee in Ibb governorate demanding to offer a solution acceptable by all the parties and to direct the head of the center's committee to give copies of the vote-counting reports to participants, the head of the supervising committee refused the request saying he was waiting directives from the governor. The a

military campaign had arrived to the area and immediately started randomly opening fire using their heavy and medium weapons at the market place and the villages around the area. They have also staged an arrest campaign that included merchants and the people who were shopping then. And that had created a state of panic among children and women there. In response to that and in self-defense some armed people retaliated and engagement with the army units continued for more than three hours and things developed further when military reinforcements, including some Republican Guard were sent to the area supported with tanks, 32mm guns, 75mm guns and more than 30 military trucks carrying soldiers, taking combat position against all the villages of Kuhlan and Wadi Khaban area. Leadership of Islah party had given its orders not return fire and to self-restraint, prohibiting the killing of soldiers so that not to make the

situation worse and to spare the life of innocent children and women and elderly people. The man has remarked that it was a savage military attack unprecedented even during the war of the seventies in the middle areas. The villages that came under bombing were mainly Thial-A'dl, Qara'd, Bait al-Khawlani, Bait Abu Asser, Ameeqa, Bait al-Harbiand Al-Siba'ie situated behind the mountain near the said villages. The bombing also included houses of some Islah leaders and those of some Islah candidates. Bombardment could not



ing the result continued for three days, a matter causing a reach the Islah party leadership at Sabbar village because of

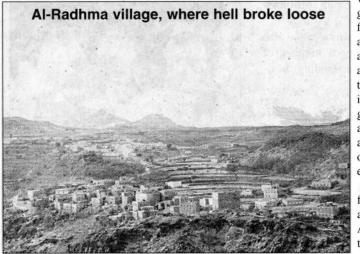
ابقة «يمن تايمز» الأسبوعي أجب عن السؤالين في الأسفل وعبىَّ بياناتك الشخصية كاملةً مع بيانات المكتبة أو الجهة التي اشتريت منها النسخة. 20,000 أن كان لديك اشتراكاً مباشرا بالصحيفة، فيمكنك الاكتفاء بتعبئة بياناتك الشخصية وستتأكد الصحيفة من صحة اشتراكك قبل أن يتم السحب. وإذا لم تكن مشتركاً فيمكنك الاتصال بقسم الاشتراكات لدينا. إذا لم تكن مشتركا، وفزت في المسابقة فسيحصل صاحب (المكتبة، البقالة...) التي اشتريت منه النسخة على ١٠٪ **ر یال** من الجائزة (٢،٠٠٠ ريال)، وستحصل أنت على ٩٠٪ (١٨،٠٠٠ ريال). ان تقبل أي استمارات لا تعبأ فيها معلومات المتسابق بخط واضح وعليك أن تقص الكربون وترسله إلى عنوان 🗕 لن نقب أي استمراق م نعب عنيه مسروى المستوري و المستورة في عدن أو تعز. ويمكنك إيصال الكوبون 18,000 و18 بنفسك إلى الصندوق البريدي عند بوابة الصحيفة في الفرع الرئيسي. ملاحظة: الإجابات التي تصلنا بالفاكس غير متبولة، وكذلك التي تصلنا بدون كوبون المسابقة. سيتم اختيار الفائز بواسطة القرعة. وحتى يتسنى للقراء من المحافظات النائية والقرى إرسال الإجابات، فإن باب المشاركة سيضل مفتوحاً لمدة أسبوعين من يوم الإصدار (أي بعد ١٣ يوما من الإصدار). بإمكان الشخص إرسال أكثر من كوبون بإسمه للعدد الواحد ليزيد من احتمال فوزه بالمسابقة. 2,000 مىينشر اسم الفائز واسم المكتبة (أو الجهة البائعة) في العدد بعد القادم لاستلام جوائزهما النقدية. نرجوا كتابة رقم عدد الصحيفة على مظروف الرسالة. ن كان مشتركا في مكتبة لا يعتبر مشتركاً في الصحيفة. من كان مشتركاً في مكتبة لا يعتبر مشتركاً في الصحيفة. لمكتبتك المسابقة رقم (٤) – العدد (١٠) ٥ مارس ٢٠٠١م سؤال١: في أي فندق بصنعاء أقدم حفل عشاء صحيفة "بمن تابمز" بمناسبة عبدها العاشر؟ الإحابة: سوَّال ٢: ما هي الجهات التي قدمت تهانيها للقيادة السياسية والشعب اليمني بعيد الأضحي في هذا العدد؟ الإحابة: \_\_\_\_\_ التلفون: ( قم البطاقة:\_\_\_\_\_ المدينة/العزلة/المحافظة: \_\_\_\_ التاريخ: \_\_\_\_\_ هل أنت مشترك بالصحيفة؟ (نعم / لا) : \_\_\_\_ وإذا كان الاشتراك لمؤسسة او وزارة يرجى كتابة إسمها :\_ · بيانات اضافية وضرورية لغير المشتركين في الصحيفة اسم المكتبة أو الجهة التي اشتريت منها النسخة اسم وتوقيع مسؤول المكتبة:\_\_\_ المدينة/العزلة/المحافظة: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ الإجابات الصحيحة لمسابقة العدد الماضي (٨) يقة للعدد (٧) الأخ/عيد الرحمن ١- خمسة أحزاب ٢- سبأفون، سبيستل يمن بعد فرز الكوبونات الصحيحة للمشاركين بمسابقة العدد (٩) تم إجراء القرعة وكانت من نصيب الأخ: مازن عبد الفنى على عبد الكريم والمكتبة الفائزة : مكتبة ابن خلدون - صنعاء فألف مدروك للأغ فحمدان وحظاً أوفر ليقية المتسابقيه..

the military attack telling women and elderly people that the party would pursue their men from the Islah to arrest and punish. The deputy governor of Ibb had also said that they had disciplined the Socialists in the area and kicked them off for good and now it was the turn of the Islah and its supporters, the citizen added.

He said I think this is the strategic goal of the ruling party, to humiliate the Islah party. Giving an example of some army men practices he said a tank was targeted towards the Islah



state of anger and waiting by all other political trends, including the Islah people who were sure that the Supreme Committee of Elections was not neutral because it has not taken quick measures to resolve the problem despite of intensive contacts made by many party sides and mediators with the supreme committee. Another problem happened at this centre when head of the supervising committee has closed the ballot boxes and prevented voting even before the end of the time fixed for closing them. Another misconduct at the centre was when the deputy governor stormed the cen-



tre accompanied with his bodyguards and thus delayed voting for a period of time. The man continued his account on the events at his centre by saying that three days later all the parties have agreed to move the boxes to headquarters of the original committee, which was not far from the centre since the results were known and signed by all participant parties except chairman of the center's committee. What aggravated the situation was that the reports were in possession of the head of the committee who refused to distribute them among the concerned parties so that to solve the problem. What also had surprised all was the coming of the deputy commander of Yerim military camp to the centre accompanied by mili-

being beyond the range of the artillery.

Another citizen we have interviews said the GPC party had tried by all its means to tempt the area's people by offering some projects and transferring of water pipes and electricity posts to the area ahead of the voting date and also by using threats to those who would not obey them such as reducing officials salaries or kicking them out of their jobs. But despite that they could not influence them particularly that the area, especially Sabbar village is in full support of Islah party and where the Islamic front has grown. It is also the

village of Sheikh Abdulrahman aL-Immad, the great Islamic leader. The area as a whole is a place for the Islamic Call and closed for the Islah. They argue that the projects offered by the government are part of their duties and must be provided to all areas of the republic. He said the ruling party and the governor had tried with various methods to impose their control over the constituency 116 grouping about 7 thousand votes, trying to create a democracy ruled with tanks and intimidation and destruction of defenseless villages, the result of which had been 6 people killed, seven wounded and 35 citizens arrested.

A person from Sabbar village added that security forces had used illegal and immoral methods by arresting the citizens.

A fourth person we had interviewed said the military campaign against the area of Kuhlan was prepared beforehand by the leadership of the ruling

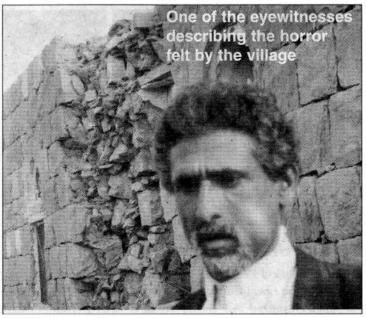
party after they had lost all their bettings and temptations to influence the citizens and after they had exhausted all their ways of intimidation and threats in addition to the illegal ways used before the date of elections. But, he says, the results came to be disappointing for them and that is why they intended to subjugate the area by killing and destruction and terrorism and by using the army that is supposed to protect the homeland.

Another citizen said army unjustifiable attacks with various weapons was just because the voting centre belonged to the Islah party. An evidence on the ruling party's suppression is that the GPC groups tour the villages of the area following

party emblem and fired at it just to terrorize the shepherds there and caused the killing of a number of cattle. Army 23mm guns had also fired towards a group of children in Thi Ya'il village, killing one child and wounding another two. Two men had offered to turn over their weapons to the military but they purposefully killed them just because of their having long beards. Some people had offered to give witness on the incident before court. The two men who were killed were Abdulrahman Qassem, 52, and Abdulillah Ali al-Aqra' 27.

The citizen concluded by saying that a woman whose son had been arrested by the army said if partisanship and democracy come to us by the way of killing people or via the force of tanks and guns, we don't want them.

A child Ali Ahmed Yahva al-Bahsh, 11 years old, relative of Amran Saleh who was killed by an army man said "We do not want elections as long as be accompanied with tanks to kill the innocent, we curse those mounting tanks that shell us."



Another citizen who was taken by great anger said we have refused partisanship the first day we have heard of it and imposed on us by the president. The president should take a decision abolishing partisanship as long as he would resort

to the tank to settle differences with his foes. Let he people live in peace and security instead of the brother is killing his brother and relative. We are a peaceful people and like to live in peace. We have not forced the president to bring ballot boxes and hold elections under claim of democracy. We are looking for our living whereas others are looking for sowing sedition in the area. He added "We are not in Israel, we are not Jews or Christians or Magians in a tyrannical country to be treated with this severity. We are Yemeni Moslem people who have supported and believed voluntarily in the message of the prophet. I cannot in future take part in any elections since they kill the children as they have done in my village."

In conclusion all do query about the future of democracy in Yemen as long as resorting to tanks and guns is the basic characteristic of local councils elections.



# **Yemen Reports on Human Rights Practices**

# Released by the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor

comprising the former (northern) Yemen Arab Republic (YAR) and (southern) People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY), was proclaimed in 1990. Following a brief but bloody civil war in mid-1994, the country was reunified under the Sana'a-based government. President Ali Abdullah Saleh is the leader of the General People's Congress (GPC), which dominates the Government. He was elected by the legislature to a 5-year term in 1994, and was elected to another 5-year term in the country's first nationwide direct presidential election in September 1999, winning 96.3 percent of the vote. The Constitution provides that the President be elected by popular vote from at least two candidates endorsed by Parliament, and the election was generally free and fair; however, there were some problems, including the lack of a credible voter registration list. In addition the President was not opposed by a truly competitive candidate because the candidate selected by the leftist opposition did not receive the minimum number of votes required to run from the GPC-dominated Parliament (the other opposition party chose not to run its own candidate, despite its seats in Parliament). The President's sole opponent was a member of the GPC. The first Parliament elected by universal adult suffrage was convened in 1993. Parliamentary elections were held again in 1997, with the Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP), formerly the main party of the PDRY and a previous coalition partner of the GPC, leading an opposition boycott. The GPC won an absolute majority in the 1997 Parliament, with the opposition Islamist and tribal Yemeni Grouping for Reform (Islaah) as the only other major party represented. International observers judged the elections as reasonably free and fair, while noting some problems with the voting. The Parliament is not yet an effective counterweight to executive authority, although it increasingly demonstrates independence from the Government. Real political power rests with the executive branch, particularly the President. The judiciary is nominally independent, but is weak and severely hampered by corruption, executive branch interference, and the frequent failure of the authorities to enforce judgments. The primary state security apparatus is

the Political Security Organization Commission on Human Rights (PSO), an independent agency that reports directly to the President. The Criminal Investigative Department (CID) of the police reports to the Ministry of Interior and conducts most criminal investigations and makes most arrests. The Central Security Organization (CSO), also a part of the Ministry of Interior, maintains a paramilitary force. The civilian authorities do not maintain effective control of the security forces. Members of the security forces, particularly the PSO; committed numerous, serious human rights abuses. Yemen is a very poor country; about 40 percent of the population live in poverty. Its embryonic market-based economy, despite a major economic reform program, remains impeded by excessive government interference and widespread corruption. Its annual per capita gross national product (GNP) fell from \$377 in 1997 to \$342 in 1998. but rose to \$368 in 1999. Agriculture accounts for approximately 22 percent of GNP, industry for approximately 27 percent, and services for approximately 51 percent. Oil is the primary source of foreign exchange. Other exports include fish, livestock, coffee, and detergents. Remittances from citizens working abroad (primarily in Saudi Arabia and other Arab Persian Gulf states) also are important. However, remittances were reduced sharply after Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states expelled up to 850,000 Yemeni workers during the Gulf War because of the Government's lack of support for the U.N. coalition. The Gulf states also suspended most assistance programs, and much Western aid was reduced. Foreign aid has begun to reemerge as an important source of income. The unemployment rate is estimated at 35 percent, and is highest in the southern governorates, where, prior to unity, most adults were employed by the PDRY Government.

he Republic of Yemen, The Government generally respected its citizens' human rights in some areas and continued to improve its human rights performance; however, its record was poor in several other areas, and serious problems remain. There are significant limitations on citizens' ability to change their government. Security forces committed a number of extrajudicial killings. Members of the security forces tortured and otherwise abused persons, and continued to arrest and detain citizens arbitrarily, especially oppositionists in the south and other persons regarded as "secessionists." However, during the year, the Government issued directives intended to align the country's arrest, interrogation, and detention procedures more closely with internationally accepted standards, and such directives generally were implemented in practice. Prison conditions are poor, and some detainees were held in private prisons not authorized by the Government. However, during the year, with the cooperation of the Government, the International Committee of the Red Cross conducted a comprehensive inspection of the country's prisons. PSO officers have broad discretion over perceived national security issues. Despite constitutional constraints, security officers routinely monitor citizens' activities, search their homes, detain citizens for questioning, and mistreat detainees. The Government fails to hold members of the security forces accountable for abuses, and there were no convictions of security officials for abuses during the year. Prolonged pretrial detention is a serious problem, and judicial corruption, inefficiency, and executive interference undermine due process. The Government continued to implement a comprehensive long-term program for judicial reform. The law limits freedom of speech and of the press, and the Government frequently harassed, intimidated, and detained journalists. However, harassment of journalists lessened during the year. Nonetheless, journalists practice self-censorship. The Government at times limits freedom of assembly. The Government imposes some restrictions on freedom of religion, and places some limits on freedom of movement. The Government adopted measures to decentralize government authority by establishing locally elected governorate and district councils. In February the Government hosted a major symposium of the U.N. (UNCHR), chaired by U.N. High Commissioner Mary Robinson, on the human rights aspects of international development. The Government displayed official receptiveness to and support for donor-funded democracy

criminal activity and resisting arrest. In May security forces killed Ghassan Qasim Mani, a student in Al-Dalah governorate, during a violent confrontation between security forces and armed citizens. Another student and four police officers were injured in the confrontation, which occurred while security officials were conducting a weapons search in the vicinity of Al-Jalilah.

In August Sabah Seif Salem reportedly died while being detained in a prison in the Al-Udain district of Ibb governorate. Her family claimed that security officials tortured her to extract a confession of adultery. The director of Ibb security ordered that an autopsy be performed and called in the head of Al-Udain's security office for questioning. The investigation found that Salem was pregnant when she was detained for questioning and went into labor while in police custody. She was transported to a clinic, but died as a result of complications during childbirth. Salem's baby also died. The investigation concluded that Salem had not been tortured (see Section 1.c.).

One police officer was killed and eight others wounded after intervening to settle a land dispute in the village of Qud Qarow in Aden governorate; several villagers were wounded, but none were reported killed. The circumstances of the police officer's death were unclear (see Section 1.f.). No security officials were tried or con-

victed for abuses during the year. In July 1999, a court in Tawila in Al-Mahweet governorate convicted the town's security chief and two police officers of first-degree murder for torturing to death a teenager taken into their custody on theft charges in March 1999. All three officials were fired. The security chief was sentenced to 10. years in jail and ordered to pay \$19,000 (3,116,000 riyals) in compensation to the victim's family. The two police officers each were sentenced to 5 years in jail.

There was credible evidence that security forces killed a prisoner in detention in late 1997 or early 1998. Wadia Al-Shaibani, a 22-year-old who was arrested in connection with the July 1997 bombings in Aden, apparently died after suffering a beating at the Soleyban police facility in Aden. Government authorities declined to investigate; they claimed that Al-Shaibani committed suicide. The Human Rights Committee of the Consultative Council (an advisory board to the President) in 1998 investigated Al-Shaibani's death; however, it was unable to persuade the authorities to investigate the death or to bring charges against security officials.

On October 12, terrorists in a small bomb-laden boat attacked the USS

forces inadvertently killed any of the hostages in the crossfire. However, at least two apparently were shot deliberately by the kidnapers. The Government has stated that its decision to intervene was based on its belief that the hostages' lives were in immediate danger. The trial of the four surviving terrorists, including Aden-Abyan Islamic Army (AAIA) leader Zein Al-Abidine Al-Mihdar (also known as Abu Hassan), began in January 1999, and in May 1999 they all were found guilty. Abu Hassan, who during his trial publicly and repeatedly admitted to all charges against him, a second Yemeni, Abdallah Al-Jundaydi, and a Tunisian, were sentenced to death; the remaining defendant was sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment. The Tunisian's sentence was commuted to 20 years' at the first appellate review, and the Supreme Court in October

1999 commuted Al-Jundaydi's sentence to 20 years as well. Abu Hassan's death sentence was upheld by the Supreme Court in October 1999 and approved by President Saleh. He was executed by firing squad on October 17, 1999. There were no allegations of lack of due process in Abu Hassan's trial or during the subsequent appeal process. The trial of seven additional AAIA members on terrorism charges began in October 1999 and ended in June; the group's leader and a second defendant were convicted and received jail sentences of 7 and 3 years; the remaining five defendants were acquitted (see Section 1.e.).

#### b. Disappearance

Members of the security forces continue to arrest and detain citizens for varying periods of time without charge or notification to their families. Many detainees are associated with the YSP or other opposition parties and are accused of being "secessionists." Such detentions are temporary; detainees typically are released within weeks or, at most, months. Those who are not released eventually are charged.

In 1998 at the invitation of authorities, delegations from the UNHRC and

peared" while in government custody during the violence associated with the civil war in 1994. In its follow-up report issued in July 1999, AI criticized the Government for not keeping this promise. The Government claims that it responded to AI and passed the results of its investigations to the UNHRC, but that the information AI provided was inadequate for effective nvestigation and conclusive action. Both the U.N. Committee on Disappearances and AI also continue to allege that there are hundreds of unresolved disappearances dating from the preunity period in the former PDRY, particularly from its 1986 civil war. The Government asserts that it cannot be held responsible for cases that took place within the former PDRY prior to unity; however, it has set up a computer database in the Ministry of Foreign Relations to track disappearances, including those dating from the preunity period. The Government states that the scarcity of records resulting from the country's lack of an effective national registry hindered its attempts during the year to create database files, especially for persons who disappeared in the PDRY in the 1970's. AI has received no credible reports of new disappearances in the last 6 years. Some tribes seek to bring their political and economic concerns to the attention of the Government by kidnaping and holding hostages. Foreign businessmen, diplomats, and tourists are the principal targets. During the year,

country to investigate the whereabouts

of persons who have "disappeared" in

custody since unification. In 1997 the

Government had promised AI that it

would look into 27 cases of persons

who died after they reportedly "disap-

Amnesty International visited the victims rarely are injured, and the authorities generally have been successful in obtaining the negotiated release of foreign hostages. However, in June a Norwegian diplomat on vacation was killed near Sana'a during an exchange of fire between checkpoint police and his abductors.

> There has been a marked decline in tribal kidnapings of foreigners, from 13 cases involving 41 persons in 1997 to 10 cases involving 27 persons in 1998 to 9 cases involving 21 persons in 1999 to 6 cases involving 8 persons during the year. Kidnapings had been a persistent problem in the past, due to the judiciary's frequent failure to impose sentences against accused kidnapers because some persons linked to kidnapings were members of prominent tribes or had links with such tribes. In most cases, the kidnapings were settled out of court, with no suspects facing trial; however, this practice has changed. In August 1998, the Government issued by presidential decree a law that stipulated severe punishments up to and including capital punishment for persons involved in kidnaping, "carjacking," attacking oil pipelines, and other acts of banditry and sabotage. In October 1999, the Government announced the establishment of a special court in Sana'a to implement this law and created a special prosecutor to investigate and try those charged under its provisions. In May the court sentenced an individual who had kidnaped three German tourists in November 1999 to 12 years in jail. In June the kidnaper of an American in 1997, and later a group of European tourists, received a 20-year sentence; in July two additional kidnapers received 15-year jail sentences. The arrests, trials, and convictions continue. The Government's prosecution of persons charged with kidnaping appears to have had a deterrent effect. There were no reports of tribal opposition or interference in the arrests or the judicial process connected with these cases.



(( ))

eight foreigners were kidnaped (six

men, one woman, and one child), as

well as a much higher number of citi-

zens. A total of 159 foreigners have

been kidnaped since1992. The legal

magazine Al-Qistas, in a 1998 study,

found that Sana'a, Mar. and Shabwa

are the areas in which a foreigner is

Part 1

and human rights programs. Violence and discrimination against women are problems. Female genital mutilation (FGM) is practiced on a limited scale, primarily along the coastal areas of the Red Sea. Although the practice is discouraged publicly, the authorities do not prohibit it. There is some discrimination against the disabled. Discrimination against religious, racial, and ethnic minorities is a problem. The Government influences labor unions. Child labor is a problem. There was a significant decrease in the number of kidnapings of foreigners, which was at least in part the result of the Government's establishment of a special court to try kidnapers and other violent offenders. The campaign of bombings-the devices sometimes were little more than noise bombsthat had continued for several years, particularly in the southern governorates, appears to have abated, although there were a few explosions during the year. Observers attribute these bombings to tribal disputes, religious extremists, and antigovernment political groups based in the country and abroad.

#### **RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS**

#### Section 1 Respect for the Integrity of the Person, Including Freedom From:

#### a. Political and Other Extrajudicial Killing

Security forces committed a number of extkillings. There were some reports during the yeathat security forces at checkpoints killed or injured persons whom they believed were engaging in

Cole, a U.S. naval ship, as it refueled in Aden harbor. The explosion killed 17 sailors and wounded 39 others. The investigation into the attack was ongoing, and 6 suspects were in custody at year's end.

Tribal violence resulted in a number of killings and other abuses, and the Government's ability to control tribal elements remained limited. In addition, tensions between the Government and various tribes periodically escalated into violent confrontations (see Section 5).

Persons continued to be killed and injured in unexplained bombings and shootings that occurred during the year. In most cases, it was impossible to determine who was responsible for such acts or why they occurred, and there were no claims of responsibility. The Government accused southern oppositionists of perpetrating some incidents, but the opposition denied any involvement. Some cases appeared to have criminal, religious, or political motives; others appeared to be cases of tribal revenge or land disputes. In June 1998, the President established a committee to study the phenomenon of revenge killings and to make recommendations on how to combat the problem. There was no news on the committee's work or its findings at year's end.

In December 1998, a group of 16 Western tourists was kidnaped by terrorists in Abyan governorate near Mudiyah. The next day, government forces surrounded the area and attempted a rescue operation. Four of the hostages and three of the terrorists were killed. There were varying reports as to whether the government

opportunity to congratulate President

# Ali Abdullah Saleh and to all Yemenis

On the occasion of the conspicuous success of the Local **Councils Elections and the** referendum on the constitutional amendments which chronized with the advent of Greater Bairam.

Many Happy Returns...

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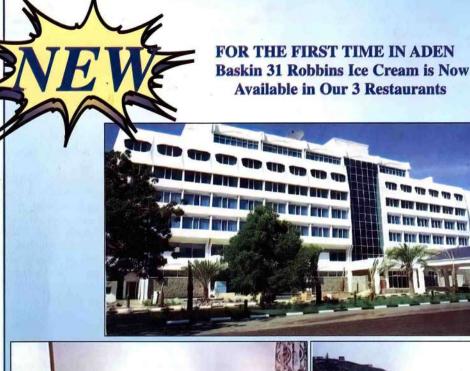
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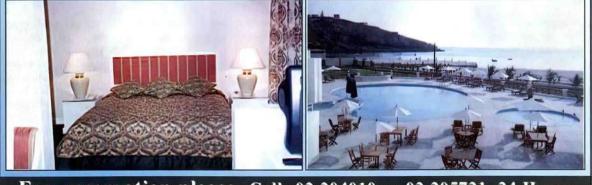
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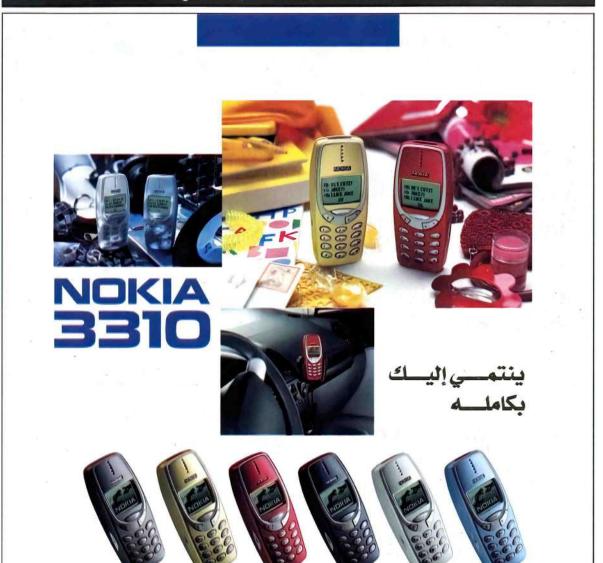
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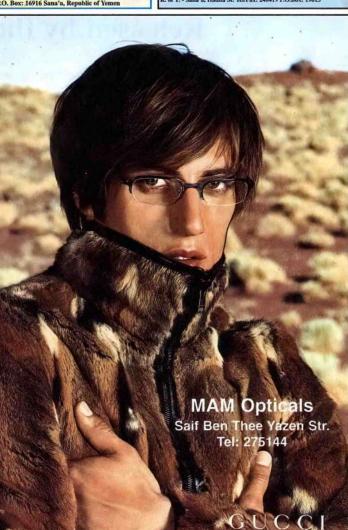


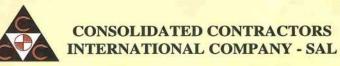
# **Blue Eyes and Blond Hair Only Allowed!**

accustomed westerner precoming to Yemen, collecting books, references and other various written materials that furnish the readers with information about this country. Some of them go to listen to Yemeni music and dialects!

Related to similar importance, almost all oil companies working in Yemen, prepare profiles for their international staff arriving here to join employment. What had arisen my attention, is the contents of some pages of such profiles, where staff are educated on our national daily behavior, what to do and what to avoid. However, most important to mention here, these profiles' orientations towards Yemenis as member of an Islamic society. The companies doing so, are aiming at creation of good image of their business on one hand, and facilitating their 'strangers' at associate well in their new environment.

And no doubt other non-Arabs missions in Yemen are doing the same. But, are these care to deliver an indirect, at least, advice to their citizens present here as wives married to Yemenis? Will such wives aware themselves of the fact that their husbands are being Muslims, Arabs and Orientals? Is it vague to some of them that their husbands are having national friends or may be advisors and employees, who, under any sort of circumstances ought to knock door, make telephone call to residents? Should I indicate how some of these international and westernized ladies look to be rude, rough and abnormal in responding to the husband's friends associations?





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### NOKIA **CONNECTING PEOPLE**



Nothing, I allow my self here, to attack marriage to non-Arab or Yemeni females. But I am entirely concerned to kindly request these wives to respect Yemenis, not to close doors and telephone speakers in their faces, while gates are opened for their. nationalities and other non-Arabic speakers!

ZICO

ا الإدارة العامة :شارع الزيبري-حى. ب ٢٠١٦ منعاء، تلفاكس: ٢٧٠٣٥٣. فرع الزيبري: تلفون ٢٧٥٣٥٨، فرع القيادة :تلفون ٢٢٢٥٢٨، عدن – فرع كريبر :تلفون ٢٥٥٨٥٨، فرع الشيخ عنسان : تلفون٣٨٦٧٢ ديبي : تلفون المعرض : ٣٢٤٨٨٣٦ ت سيار : ٤٥٦١٨٦٢ ، فأكس : ٢٢٤٥٧٨ فرع المكلا : تلفون ٣٠٧٣٠٣،

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لون احمر ديزل توربو، مكيفة، بابين. قطعت

مسافة ٥٦ كم، مجمركة، موديل ٩٦م. ت:

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🔳 عدد اربع سیارات کرسیدا ۹۲-۹۹

٥٨١٧١١٥- بيجر: ١٠٢١٦٩٢٥.

اللبيع/للتأجير: سيارة بيضاء اللون، موديل ٩٤م، km. G.X. land Cruiser

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حمامين + تلفون مستقل، مدخل مستقل مع سيارة وحديقة، ويفضل ان ت

صالة مطار صنعاء الدولي، السعر: مليون ونصف مليون ريال. قابلة للتفاوض. على

عالمية، مع أجادة تامة للإنجليزية والترجمة ومهارات الكمبيوتر. يرغب في العمل لدى شركة مماثلة بيجر: ٨٢٠١٣٥.

مدرس خصوصي للمواد التالي

مدرس خصوصي شمواد التاني. رياضيات، الكليزي، فيزياء، كيمياء. بيجر: ٥٨٧٠٧٣٢ الرمز ٢٠٠. الاتصال فقط (الأربعاء-الخميس-الجمعة).

🖬 عبد الله عبد الله حسن صومعة:

بكالوريوس علوم حاسبات - العراق. دورات

في صيانة الحاسبات، دورتي فيجول بيسك،

رقم (٥). أَعْلَن شركة رائدة في مجال الأمن والسلامة عن حاجتها لسكرتيرة لديها دبلوم خاصة)، الخبرات: ٢٠ سنة صحافة: محرر وسكرتينر صحيفة ١٤ اكتوبر-يومية، كرتارية، وتجيد اللغة الانجليزية والعربية عدن ٧٩-٨٢. - مدير تحرير مجلة المسار، شهرية، عدن ٨٦-٨٨ - مدير تحديد مجلة بالكمبيوتر قراءة وكتابة ونطقاً، وإن يكون لديها خبرة لا تقل عن ثلاث سنوات، ت: بداء الوطن، شهرية، عدن ٨٦-٨٨. مدير تحرير ورئيس تحرير مجلة الوطن، شهرية، صنعاء ٩٠-٩٥. مراسل وكالة إل يو بي أي. (يونايتد برس انتر ناشيونال) ٩٢-٩٢. ۲٤٣٣٦٩، الأخ/ سعيد. ■ مطلوب: مسوقو إعلانات صحفية، براتب+نسبة من ألإعلانات. رائد. بيجر: .0101121/9 رئيس تحرير صحيفة الشوري، اسبوعية، صنعاء، ٩٧-٩٩، محرر صحيفة المستقبل، يُعلن فندق دريم لاند عن حاجته الى موظفة استقبال تجيد اللغة الانجليزية، اسبوعية صنعاء ٩٠-٩٤. محرر صحيفة التجمع، اسبوعية، عدن ٩٠-٩٩/٩٥ محاسب لدية خبرة في العمل الفندقي، مشرف عمال، عامل نظافة صنعاء شارع الحرية (بير الشّايف) جوار وزارة التخطيط: ٢٥٥٥١١. مكتب معاذ للسياحة يرغب سكرتيره تجيد الانجليزية. ت: ٢٤٠٤٤٢. على شهادة الثانوية العامة+ خبرة في مجال على سهادة التانوية التانوية المعاجة خبرة في مجال المبيعات ومجال العسابات وخبرة في مجال المبيوتر وفي مجال العلاقات العامة، يرغب في عمل بشركة خاصة أو بنك تجاري. الحصبة ت: ٢٥٤٩٢٠٣. معيد المجبوع في المديرة مكت، ويشترط في المتقدم أن تكون لديه خبرة سابقة في ادارةالمكتب، وأن يجيد اللغة الانجليزية والكمبيوتر. ترسل الطلبات عبر الفاكس رقم: محمد عنه الله الحصبة ت: ١٠٢٠٢٠٦، عدريه البردوني: طالبي جامعي، خبرة جيدة في الانترنت تصميم مواقح-بريد الكتروني، دورات كمبيرتر طباعة تصميم... الخ. مراسلات تجارية باللغة الانجليزية. بيجر: ٨٨٤٧٢٩، بريد الكتروني: مدلمالله مراسلال مراسلال مراسلات المراسلية. مراسلال مراسلات تجارية باللغة الانجليزية. مراسلات تجارية باللغة الانجليزية. مراسلات تحارية باللغة الانجليزية. مراسلات تحارية باللغة الانجليزية. مراسلات تحارية بالغة الانجليزية. مراسلات تحارية. مراسلات تحارية بالغة الانجليزية. مراسلات تحارية بالغة الانجليزية. مراسلات تحارية. مرا ٢٠٩٥٦ - سلمي ضيف الله.

انعمان قائد سيف: ثالثة جامعة، علوم

باحثون عن وظيفة

📓 عبد الجبار سرحان سعيد: بكالوريوس محاسبة بتقدير عام جيد جدا، خبرة ٣ ستوات، دبلوم محاسبة كمبيوتر، يرغب العمل لدى أي شيركة فترتين. ت: ٢١٥٥٩٠-مينيا

🖬 سليم عبد الحفيظ ابراهيم العبسي: دبلوم <mark>الكترونيات، يرغب</mark> في العمل في<sup>5</sup> مجال

احمد. ت: ٢٢٢٢٠. (متوقف عن الدراسة لظروف

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دو حجر سبع لبن على شارعين الموقع: شارع مسقط المتفرع من شارع حدة، السعر تسعة مليون ريال. عادل صبر ت: هده: ٢٤ غرفة وسبع خطوط تليفون. السعر: ۱٫۵۰۰ دولار الموقع: شارع الزبيري، محمد الکميم ت: ۲٤۱۹۸۹ . 121949

العربي. ثمن اللبنة ...، ٢٠ ريال. ت: ٢٤٠٦٥٦.

أرضية ٢٠ لبنة مخططة على شارعين الموقع مدينة هايل جوار شارع الخمسين،

ثمن اللبنة ٤٠٠,٠٠٠ ريال. صّنعاء بيجر:

📕 أرض ثلاثين لبنة حر، متفرع من ش

الخمسين، مسورة سعر اللبنة ٥٠٠ الف

0A0..V.

شفة دور ثاني ٢ غرف وحمامين ومطبخ بإيجار ٢٠, ٠٠٠ ألف ريال. قريبة من شارع الفات المسلحة عشر لبن بها غرف وحمامين وتلفون وتلفون + نصف بدروم جوار وزارة النقل القيمة ١٢ مليون. احسن الخولاني. ت: مجاهد. عبد الغني صبر. ت: ٢٤١٩٨٩ . عمارة ١٤ شقة مع جميع المرافق تتكون . 727 . 77

دورين حجر على شارعين عبارة عن لبنتين ونصف قريب جولة الزبيري-حدة، السعر ٥ مليون ريال. عادل علي ت. ٢٤١٩٨٩. كل شقة من ٤ غرف وحمامين وصالتين مع حوش کبير. بإيجار شهري ۲۰،۰۰۰ ريال. الموقع: جوار شارع الزبيري، ت: ٢٤٠٦٥٦. ■ شقة لوكس دور ثاني ٤ غرف وحمامين ومطبغ وخط تلفون، جولة حدة-الدائري. حمد الكميم، ت: ٢٤١٩٨٩. أرضية مساحة ١٠ لبن في منطقة الحصية خلف وزارة الارادة المحلية، مطلة

في في المعلق الموقع: في في الموقع الموقع: جوار البنك الدولي، بإيجار ١٢٠٠ دولار، محمد الردمي بيجر: ٥٨٠٠٠٥. علي شارع عشرين، ومسورة، بمبلغ ٨ مليون ريال. يحي احمد حجر ت: ۲۲۳۷٬۵۰ بيجر: ٥٨٤٢٣٤٥ أرضية ١٠ لبن مخططة على شارعين،
الموقع عطان خلف فندق جهة الشمال

محل فتحتين مزود بتلفون، جوار بنك اليمن والخليج، ش كلية الشرطة بيجر: ٥٨٥٥،٦٠. من(٣-٩ مساء).

🔳 فيللا تتكون من صالتين وثلاث غرف شراء/بيع آثاث منزلى مفروشة كاملة ومؤثثة أثاث طراز أوروبي، مع الالكترونيات، مع حوش مزروع، طارق لطف. بيجر: ٨٦٠٤٣٢م.

بيع سيارات

واثنين بدون جمارك و٢ مجمرك، يفضل لون رصاصي او دم الغزال. نظيفات جداً. صلاح عوض. ت: ٥٨٣٦٦١٧ . 🔳 سيارة مرسيدس موديل ٢٠٠٠، بحالة

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وتجهيزات مكتبية ..

🔳 للبيع: تلفون سيار مع الخط للاستفسار:

۳۲۰ سي دي. ٤ جيجا بايت، الرام ۹٦، کرت مبروك هامد صوت، السعر يتفق عليه. بيجر: ٨١٧١١٤. تهانينا القلبية للأخ العزيز/ مفقودات حامد هميد محمد صالح ر اصع بمناسبة دخوله القفص الذهبي، وألف مبروك 🔳 فقدت رخصة قيادة رقمها ٥٨٥٩ وبطاقة عائلية رقمها ٢٦٢٨٤، كلتاهما بإسم/ محمد المهنؤون: عبد الواحد، يرجى ممن وجدهما التكرم والدك: حميد محمد راصع، حميد شمس الدين، بالاتصال ببيجر: ٥٨١٩٣٧١، وله جزيل أسعد عبدالقادر ، يحي رفيق، مجيب مريط. <mark>وهبان حترش</mark> الشكر وعظيم الامتنان. وجميع الاهل والاصدقاء

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