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Abizaid in Sanaa for security cooperation

BY MOHAMMED AL-QADHI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

President Ali Abdullah Saleh met on Saturday General John Abizaid, the Commander of the US Central Command Forces, and discussed with him the cooperation between Yemen and the US, mainly in the fields of security, military and the War on Terrorism, the state-run Saba News agency said. Saleh and the US official also discussed the situation in Iraq, Afghanistan and the Horn of Africa region.

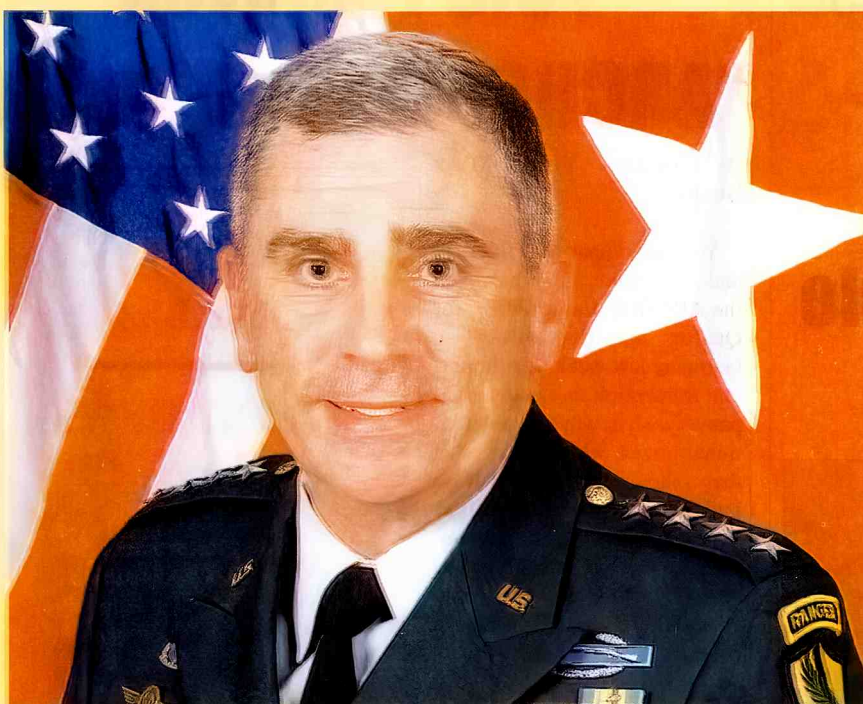
According to the official source, Abizaid praised Yemen's efforts in the in the fight against terrorism and the role it plays to stabilize the situation in the Horn of Africa. He also stressed the US's keen interest to develop its cooperation with Yemen in various aspects.

The meeting was attended by several top officials including the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Defense and the

Interior as well as the Chief of the Political Security Organization. From the US side, it was attended by M. Robson, Commander of the US forces in the Horn of Africa region and the US Ambassador to Yemen, Edmund Hull.

Abizaid's visit, which is a part of a regional trip to the region, was scheduled to start on February 20th, but was postponed due to developments in Iraq. He was expected to attend a joint US-Yemen military training exercise in Aden.

Yemen officially received 8 boats for the Coast Guard from the US in mid February as a part of the US support to help Yemen patrol its long and porous coastline which stretches over 2400 km. Yemen needs around 150 boats to be able to control its maritime borders. A US official told Yemen Times that his government would ship 4 more boats to Yemen by the end of this year. The cost of building of the coast guard is expected to reach \$60 million.



General John Abizaid

On the war's first anniversary: Opposition denied permit to run protest against US war on Iraq

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Opposition political parties' leaders carried out a token sit-in in the Parliament on Saturday to denounce the decision of the authorities to deny them permission to stage a massive protest to denounce the US war on Iraq on its first anniversary.

The Joint Meeting Opposition leaders said that their sit-in decision in the Parliament was taken after their agreement with the ruling party GPC failed to organize a massive demonstration on Saturday to denounce the war on Iraq and demand immediate withdrawal of the occupying troops. However, the GPC refused the opposition allegations and said that it suggested that the protest be held on Friday instead of Saturday, which is a working day. The opposition said in their press release on Thursday that the stand of the government to ban the proposed protest was meant to tarnish the glorious

position of Yemeni people towards the Palestinian and Iraqi causes.

Sources at the opposition said that the GPC retracted its agreement with them on the organization of the protest as they planned for a massive protest in Sana'a and other main cities. The GPC, however, said that the opposition was demanding that the students should be ordered to take part in the event.

The opposition reiterated its denouncement to the war on and occupation of Iraq and that of the Zionists in Palestine, demanding that the US should pull out its troops from Iraq and that setting up military bases for the US in Iraq is totally rejected.

Some opposition MPs said that they are studying the possibility of presenting a request to the Parliament Presidency, that the Minister of Interior should be summoned to be questioned on the reasons of refusing the organization of the protest.

Protesting Ethiopian refugees detained

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Ethiopian refugees camping out next to the headquarters of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) in Sana'a were forced to end their sit-in by Yemeni authorities on Friday morning, said a Yemeni Government official.

The Government source said that Yemeni officials approached the refugees and told them to end the protest and cooperate with UNHCR to fulfill their demands. When the refugees refused, policemen forced over 100 protesters to leave the area by loading them up in buses and taking them to prison.

It is also reported that a number of Ethiopian women and children went to the UN building later that morning to inquire about the whereabouts of the refugees removed. According to one Ethiopian refugee, over 40 Ethiopian women were jailed.

The government official said that UNHCR closed its headquarters last week due to security concerns during the sit-in. He added that UNHCR being closed has affected other refugees in Yemen who need assistance from UNHCR.

"The Yemeni authorities felt UNHCR must operate, so the refugees were removed by force," said the government official.

The government official said that the refugees have been detained but will be released shortly.

There are mixed reports on how the removal of the refugees took place. According to one Ethiopian refugee who was participating in the sit-in, Yemeni policemen used batons, water hoses and tear gas to force the refugees to end their protest. He said that a number of the refugees were beaten, and several men and women were carried away severely injured.

But other witnesses claim that while the Government Authorities gave refugees several warnings, the protesters yelled at the policemen and threw rocks which provoked the forced removal of the protesters.

Representatives of the refugees involved in the sit-in, which lasted over five weeks, previously stated that the purpose of the protest was to gain citizenship in Yemen or in another country. They chose to protest next to UNHCR's headquarters because after living in Yemen for 13 years with no clear future in sight, they

wanted UNHCR to find them a solution.

UNHCR said that it is a facilitator to offer assistance to refugees receiving basic rights and freedom in Yemen and to encourage the Yemeni government to offer them citizenship or help them gain resettlement elsewhere.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which has a department dealing with African refugees, said that the Ethiopian refugees can remain in Yemen under refugee status. UNHCR attempted several times to begin the process of helping the refugees find another country to gain citizenship, but the protesters refused to cooperate and demanded UNHCR to find their permanent location.

The refugees who were involved in the sit-in are members of Ethiopian Naval and Civilian Refugees which represents around 600 Ethiopians that defected their country in 1991. When they arrived in Yemen, they handed over 14 warships to the Yemeni Government.

Many believe that dealing with refugees who were once in the military is considered a sensitive issue by most governments.



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Two USS Cole bombing prime suspects arrested again

BY MOHAMMED AL-QADHI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Yemeni authorities announced on Friday that the two prime suspects in the USS Cole suicide bombing were arrested after gunfire with the police.

Meanwhile, reliable sources also revealed that two more of the suspects chased for relations to the USS Cole bombing were arrested on Saturday. According to the sources, all of those arrested belonged to al-Badwi's group. Among them was Sameer

Abdullah Al-Balaki, who was reportedly arrested while he was disguised in woman clothes in a vehicle on its way to Shabwa.

The source said that the arrest of Jamal Mohammed Ahmad al-Badwi, alias Abu Abdulrahman, and Fahd al-Qis'e Mohammed Ahmad alias, Abu Hudaifah, took place on Friday morning after a hunt the security and military troops have been conducting for over 20 days in the governorate of Abyan, after they recognized their hideout.

Continued on page 3

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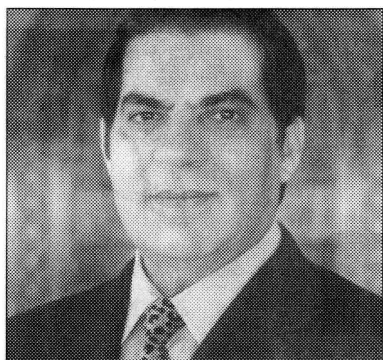
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Tunisian National Day marked

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Ambassador of Tunisia held a dinner reception on the occasion of the Tunisian National Day, attended by diplomats and a number of journalists and the correspondents of various newspapers. The Ambassador, H.E. Abdulljaleel Azouze, reviewed the development and accomplishments that have taken place and the progress of the renaissance in Tunisia during past 48 years. He also referred to the many aspects of joint cooperation and the deep brotherly relation with Yemen.

Tunisia, at the end of this month, will host the regular Arab Summit during which the Arab leaders will think together about new Arab institutions in a



President Zine Al-Abidine Ben Ali of Tunisia

new Arab League.

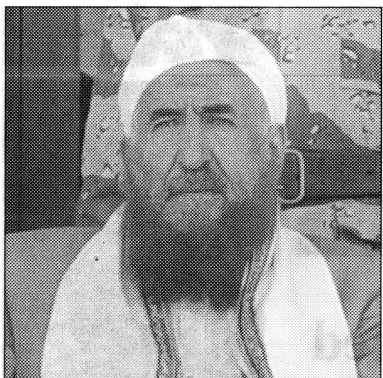
Day attended by a big number of journalists and correspondents of various newspapers.

JMP Condemns Madrid explosions

Holds state responsible for Al-Zendani's fate

The Joint Meeting Parties Board acknowledges the State's responsibility to respond to the claims of US Treasury Dept. The JMP, in its statement issued on Wednesday in its regular meeting, pointed out that the State is obliged to protect Yemeni citizens inside and outside the country, including Zendani.

The statement also denounced the silence of the Government and security apparatus towards the kidnapping of Yemeni citizen Ahmed Salem Obaid in Cairo last month. It also called for the completion of the investigation into the incident. Journalist Sadeq Nasher encountered on February 19, because of what he has published on the case of murder of Jar Allah Omr, former Assistant Secretary General of Yemen Socialist Party. The JMP warned the security authorities against continued



Sheikh al-Zendani

aggression against journalists and writers and continued constrictions on freedoms and public rights. The statement also condemned the Madrid explosions and described them as threats to world stability.

Apollo holds Yemen Expo 2004

Apollo Company, under the supervision of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, is currently undertaking the preparations for holding Yemen Expo 2004 during the period 22-25 of this month. Thirty companies will participate in the exhibition from Saudi, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Hong Kong, USA, Bangladesh, Jordan, Thailand, Singapore, India and Yemen. Companies will exhibit construction materials, furniture, beauty and house accessories, medical equipment, electricity and energy,

cars, telecommunications and satellites and consumers goods.

Foreign Companies are seeking new marketing lines for their products to Yemen in coordination with Chambers of Commerce and Industry, in addition to holding joint meetings with Yemeni businessmen.

Director of Marketing at Apollo, Omr Al-Nahme, expects the success of this exhibition since it meets the expectations of Yemeni businessmen who wish to provide the best to the Yemeni consumers.

No real partnership between Government and Private Sector FCCI confirms government's inefficient handling of economy

BY ABDULLAH AL-FAGEAH

During the extraordinary consultation meeting of the General Assembly of the Federation of Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Mr. Mohamed Abdo Saeed, the CEO of the Federation,

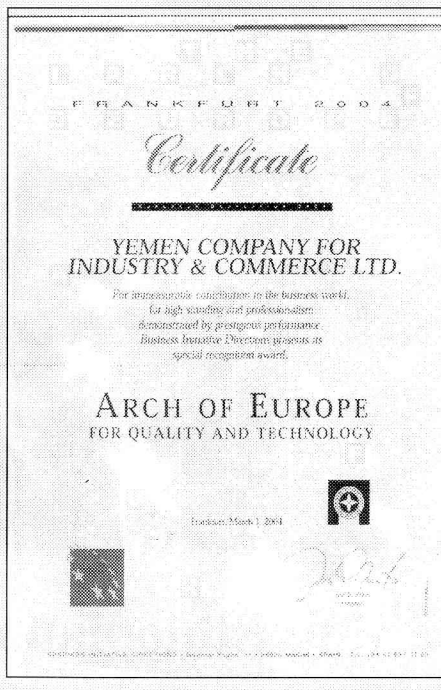
confirmed the inefficiency of authorities responsible for handling the economy during the past years, due to absence of a genuine partnership between the private sector and Government in spite of the demands of the former. He added that economic indicators have decreased

tremendously. The private sector is coping with in an environment marked by high taxes combined with deficient tax authority, which in turn leads to high smuggling activities denying the State Treasury of nearly 1000 billion Riyals in recent years.

YCIC receives "ARCHOF Europe" prize

BY YEMEN TIMES TAIZ BUREAU

Yemen Company for Industry and commerce LTD has won the ARCHOF Europe Prize for Quality and Technology in Germany last week. It is important to mention that many companies wish to win such international prizes, which means that the company is on its way to internationalism and it confirms its strong presence in the commercial field of standards and quality. Abdullah Abdulgabar Hael, YCIC General Manager, received the Prize. Abdulfatah Al-Aswadi, YCIC Vice-General Manager declared, "We feel proud to receive such a Prize, which reflects the efforts exerted by the company's leading administration".



إعلان تحذيري

يعلن مطعم هله دي إنجلو الكائن في شارع حدة - جوار فندق حدة، بأن السيد راما لانجم دوري هندي الجنسية والذي يحمل جواز سفر رقم (9632682) لم يعد له أي صلة تعامل مع المطعم، وبهذا فإننا نحذر الأخوة والسادة العملاء ومن كانت تربطهم بالمذكور تعاملات سابقة عدم التعامل معه ماليا أو إداريا تحت اسم المطعم. وعليه فإننا نعتبر هذا الإعلان التحذيري ساري المفعول من تاريخ نشره في الجريدة ولن نتحمل الإدارة أي مسؤولية تجاه التعامل مع الشخص المذكور.

NOTICE

Villa De Angelo Restaurant, located on Hadda Street near Hadda Hotel, would like to announce that Mr. Durai Samy Ramalingen, holder of Indian passport No. A9632683, is no longer connected in any way to our restaurant.

We warn all parties of dealing with him in the name of the restaurant. This announcement comes in effect starting the date of its being published, from which we will not accept any responsibility towards any dealings with the above mentioned person.

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2) Administrative officer (one)

The candidate should have at least 5 years experience as administrative officer in a reputed organization, Age between 30 to 35 years, Qualification bachelor degree or equivalent.

3) Service Adviser - Automobile (One)

The candidate should have at least 5 to 10 years experience in automobile service adviser and related work, Age between 30 to 40 years, qualification Automobile Engineering or Equivalent.

4) Spare parts supervisor (one)

The candidates should have at least 10 to 15 experiences in automobile spare parts business and related work, Age between 35 to 40 years, Qualification Bachelor degree in Accounting.

5) Senior Accountant (two)

The candidate should have at least 10 years experience in a reputed organization as Accountant, Age between 30 to 35 years, qualification Bachelor Degree in Accounting.

6) Cashier (one)

The candidate should have at least 5 years experience in a reputed organization as Cashier, Age between 25 to 30 years, Qualification Bachelor Degree or equivalent.

Candidates must be fluent in English and Arabic languages (reading, writing and speaking) as well as very good command in computer.

Qualified and interested candidates should send their CV and supporting documents to the FAX No. (01) 200989 or mail to Post Box number 16921, Sana'a Yemen.

Readers' Voice

Yemen Times features "Readers' Voice" a popular way for our readers to interact with us. This is your opportunity to have a say on world and local affairs.

This edition's question:

Do you approve Yemen-US military cooperation in the so-called war on terror?

- Yes, I believe it is a positive thing
- No, I do not approve it
- I don't care

last edition's question:

Do you think that the recent Spanish elections signaled the beginning of the end for the pro-Iraq war alliance?

- No, it is only an isolated case 55%
- Yes, it will be followed by similar results in other pro-war countries 35%
- Yes, and the new US president will contribute to this end 10%

Go to our website at: yementimes.com/#poll and have your voice heard!

The Democratic Journey in Yemen (1990-2004)

Al-Thawra Establishment for Press, Printing and Publishing recently issued a book, titled, "The Democratic Journey in Yemen (1990-2004)". The 90-page Book touched upon political pluralism in Yemen (1990-2003), freedom of the press, a vision for the future and the golden era of Yemeni journalism. The fourth episode dealt with human rights and civil society organizations.

Vacancy

A leading and well established medical company representing many international major companies in Yemen is seeking applications from candidates fulfilling the following qualifications for the post of Sales Manager in the Imaging division of the company.

The candidate should be a qualified engineer (Electronics) or M.B.A from reputed Institution. Should possess an experience of at least 5 years in sales and marketing of imaging products like CT-Scan, MR systems, X-ray & Fluoroscopy systems, Nuclear Medicine products, Ultrasound systems and Radio Therapy Products. The candidate should be highly proficient in using computer software like MS-Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Internet Explorer, Outlook Express ...etc., apart from other standard computer s/w's. Should have high capability in understanding different imaging modalities and have high skill in making customer presentations on products. Should be highly skilled to read, write & speak and communicate in English. Knowledge of Arabic is preferred through not essential. The candidate should be prepared to travel in Yemen and sometimes abroad.

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How to apply: All Interested nationals should complete OF-612 or submit a current C.V. (with awards, recommendation letters, copies of degrees earned) that addresses the qualifications and requirements of the position, as listed above and send it to the Embassy Personnel Office, American Embassy, Dhahr Himyar Street, P.O. Box 22347, Sanaa, Yemen. TelL 303-155, no later than April 3, 2004.

NOTE: All ordinarily resident applicants must be residing in country and have the required work and residency permits to be eligible for consideration.

Iran supports Islamic endowments museum

The Ministry of Endowment and Guidance began early this week collecting Islamic manuscripts available at mosques in order to renovate and document them in the museum to be established with the support of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which reflects its interests in Islamic heritage in Yemen.

Sources at the Ministry of Endowment lately purchased two microfilm apparatuses to document manuscripts and dispatched a number of its staff to the United Arab Emirates for training on the use of them.

Mossad link to Al-Ahmar incident denied

Mr. Sadeq Aglan, Office Director of the Speaker of Parliament, denied the reports published last week insinuating the involvement of foreign powers in the traffic incident the Speaker had encountered while in Senegal.

The office director said that the incident was destined and that rumors about the involvement of Mossad are not true. The Speaker Sheikh Abdullah Al-Ahmar has left the hospital in Paris after plastering his broken right hand, but remains in France for recuperation.



Sheikh Abdullah bin Hussein Al-Ahmar

On the occasion of World Consumer's Day

Consumer Protection Association defends Yemeni consumers' rights

The world celebrates on 15 March of each year the World Day of the Consumer. This year's celebration was under the slogan "Water: The World's Issue". In a statement issued by the Consumer Protection Association, the association expressed the concern of consumers about insufficient water resources in comparison with the rapid increase of the world's population in general, and the dangerous situation threatening Arab national security, including in particular Yemen.

The Association emphasized the importance of this issue in Yemen, which registers a shortfall in water reservoirs and the ability of water resources to meet population growth

challenges, especially in some major cities such as Sana'a and Taiz. The water problem in Yemen has to be thoroughly considered due to the limitations of its resources, the importance of water rationalization in human consumption and the priority for usage of available water in other economic sectors, agriculture, industry and services, on the basis of expected rewards of using this resource.

This requires the State to develop the infrastructure of concerned related corporations in order to create an able administration to handle water resources and to motivate the private sector to invest in this field, in addition to encouraging social initiatives aiming at

increasing the contribution of society in investment cost sharing, which will lead to the expansion of the number of recipients of healthy pure drinking water.

The Association realizes the importance of water problem, but it does not neglect other issues, which are also considered priorities. The Consumer Protection Law, once approved, will enhance efforts on consumer protection. Food and medical safety and related developments imposed by globalization and scientific advancement have resulted in issues such as genetic engineering and its as yet undetermined side effects on human health and the environment. The Association also confirms its obligation to follow up on all negative phenomena related to the marketing of consumers goods, especially with connection with the marketing of expired products or products not meeting specifications and standards for human consumption.

The Association emphasizes its critical role leading to the activation of laws on chemical fertilizers. However, it expresses its concerns towards the freeze of the activities of the related authority concerned with registering and granting import permits and the continued sale of these fertilizers in residential areas in Sana'a city and other cities without the commitment to safety conditions required. It is also concerned about the sale of cooking gas cylinders not containing the distinctive smelling substance to detect gas leakage, which in turn prevents gas home-injury incidents.

The Association values the reaction and cooperation of various official and local media organizations on the issues brought up by the Association for the improvement of public awareness of important and critical issues in the common interest.

Continued from page 1

Two USS Cole bombing prime suspects arrested again

Official sources said that the two militants started firing at the police men when they were stopped at a checkpoint posted in the al-Mahfad area 250 km to the north of Aden; security men shot at the car they were driving, injuring al-Badwi and al-Qis'e in their legs; they were soon taken to Basuhab military hospital. But, the official source quoted by the state-run Saba News Agency did not give details of the operation.

However, the two militants were reported to have been taken later in the day from the hospital to Sana'a after they received the necessary medical treatment as they were not seriously injured.

Eyewitnesses in the area told Yemen Times that gunfire took place between a group of militants led by al-Badwi and government troops and that al-Badwi and al-Qis'e were arrested after they were injured while other militants escaped to the rugged mountains in the area and that security and military were deployed there to track down the fugitives.

The two men have already been in detention. The militants were detained in connection with the bombing of the US warship USS Cole in October 12, 2000, which killed 17 American sailors. However, they were able to escape along with other 8 al-Qaeda suspects from the prison of the Political Security Organization in April 11, 2003 in Aden after the two men were able to dig a hole in the wall of the bathroom of the jail.

The authorities then announced a financial reward of about YR 1 million for those who would give information leading to the arrest of any of the ten al-Qaeda militants.

Al-Badwi is believed to have played a substantial role in preparing for the USS Cole bombing; he bought the boat used in the operation after he met some people close to Osama Bin Laden; al-Badwi traveled to a neighboring country to Yemen where he bought the boat. He deceived the authorities by giving the boat to two persons to carry out the terrorist attack. Al-Badwi was concerned with filming the operation from a house in a hill overlooking the Aden port where the USS Cole was. The two militants are considered the last people to be arrested of the 10-member group who escaped the prison, as others were arrested in several military campaigns carried out by the government troops.

Political observer said that it seems the government troops would succeed this time in Abyan in arresting the wanted people without resorting to heavy operations like that of last year where several people were killed from the two sides. The government preferred this time intelligence work before launching any military operation.

Earlier this month Yemeni security forces arrested two senior Al-Qaeda members during a hunt for Islamic militants in a mountainous area of the Abyan province.

Abdul Rauf Nassib, a top Yemeni Al-Qaeda leader, and Egyptian Sayyed Imam Sharif, an influential member of the militant organization, were both captured in the same operation. However, elder son of Nassib denied that his brother is a member of al-Qaeda and he was not arrested but he himself surrendered to the security when he knew that he was wanted by.

Nassib was also wanted for allegedly planning the escape of 10 militants from an Aden prison in April 2003.

Nassib, also known as Abu Mihjim, is said to have worked closely with Al-Qaeda's leader Mohammed Al-Ahdel, who was arrested in Yemen last year. It is believed that Nassib survived the Nov. 2002 missile attack in the Marib province that was carried out by the CIA and one of its drones. The attack killed a top Al-Qaeda operative, Qaed Salim Sinan Al-Harethi who is believed to have masterminded the USS Cole operation.

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Iraqis still afraid a year after war began



U.S. Army soldier maintains a cordon as other forces defuse a roadside bomb in the Baghdad suburb of Al Mashtal March 20. REUTERS

BAGHDAD, March 20 (Reuters) - When U.S. troops invaded Iraq a year ago to topple Saddam Hussein, traffic policeman Saad Mutachar was given an AK-47 by his boss to help defend Baghdad against the state-the-art weapons of the Americans.

"He gave me a helmet and a Kalashnikov and made me stand in a street like a guard," said Mutachar, 30. "When I heard the Americans were on the outskirts of Baghdad I left my helmet and rifle in the street and went home."

On the first anniversary of the invasion, many Iraqis say their life has improved now they are rid of Saddam Hussein. But many others complain that a year of suicide bombings, random attacks and lawlessness has left them fearful and traumatised.

Mutachar says the war brought positive changes.

"Life is much better now. I have better pay now and the Americans gave us new uniforms," he said. But there is one problem — "People don't stick to the traffic rules any more."

U.S. leaders insist the war improved the lot of Iraqis and toppling Saddam removed a source of instability in the

region.

But between 8,500 and 10,400 Iraq civilians are estimated to have been killed since the war began, up to 6,300 Iraqi troops have died and more than 1,100 soldiers.

"THE WORST EXPERIENCE OF MY LIFE"

Nihad Saed, a 36-year-old doctor and mother of three, does not feel the trauma of the war was worthwhile. She was terrified when U.S. missiles pounded central Baghdad on March 20 last year as invading troops were crossing the border.

"I was with my children and husband cramped in a small room. We tried to calm down the kids, but whenever they heard the sound of explosions they would start crying," she said.

"It was the worst experience of my life."

A year on, she still does not feel safe.

"We hoped that a new Iraq would emerge from the war, but all that emerged was destruction, looting and chaos," she said.

"One year after, tell me what the

Americans have done."

Muhanad Salem, a 23-year-old student, says he hated Saddam but hates the lawlessness of postwar Iraq.

"When I heard the first explosions I was happy and scared at the same time, happy because I knew Saddam would be gone by the end of the war... but scared of the bombing and of what could happen to us when the Americans occupied our cities," he said.

"A year later, we are still anxious of what will happen to us in the future. There are bombs and explosions everywhere. We don't have security."

Coffeehouse owner Mazin Hashim, 28, says he had become accustomed to air raids long before the last war.

"When the bombs started falling we weren't scared, we were so used to wars and air raids thanks to Saddam," he said.

"Now life is bit dangerous, but I don't care as long as the tyrant was toppled. Now we can move around without fear of the secret police. I can do the pilgrimage to the shrine of Imam Hussein without fear. And I know my children will have a better future."



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Dr. Ahmed Al-Hamdani,

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This is why I would like to present my gratitude to Dr. Al-Hamdani and his staff for their excellent professional service and wish them all the best in the years to come.

Farouk Al-Dorafi
General Director

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Peace protesters climb London's Big Ben tower

10LONDON, March 20 (Reuters) - Two anti-war protesters climbed London's landmark Big Ben clock tower at the Houses of Parliament on Saturday ahead of a demonstration to mark the first anniversary of war in Iraq, police said. The pair reached the clockface 328 feet (100 metres) above London using ropes and mountaineering equipment after scaling the tower early in the morning.

"They are refusing to come down," a Metropolitan Police Service spokeswoman said. "The main priority is to get them down safely."

Hundreds of thousands were expected to take part in demonstrations

across Asia, Europe and the United States against the war that toppled president Saddam Hussein and an occupation that has been marked by guerrilla resistance.

Organisers of an anti-war march planned for central London on Saturday said they were not behind the protest at the tower housing the bell known as Big Ben, one of London's most famous tourist attractions.

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament said it hoped up to 100,000 would march under the banner "No More War, No More Lies" as part of a day of protests around the world.



Two demonstrators from Greenpeace display a banner beneath the clock face of Big Ben, in central London on the first anniversary of the invasion of Iraq, Mar. 20. Two anti-war protesters climbed London's landmark Big Ben clock tower at the Houses of Parliament on Saturday ahead of a demonstration to mark the first anniversary of war in Iraq, police said. The pair reached the clockface 328 feet (100 metres) above London using ropes and mountaineering equipment after scaling the tower early in the morning. **REUTERS**

Spaniards to protest over Iraq, bomb probe advances

MADRID, March 20 (Reuters) - Spaniards readied for protests across the country on Saturday against the Iraq occupation as police pressed investigations into bombs that may have been Muslim militants' retaliation for Madrid's support of the war.

Similar anti-war demonstrations were planned across Europe and in the United States.

The protests, marking the anniversary of the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq to oust Saddam Hussein, follow just a week after election of a new Socialist government that has indicated it will pull Spanish troops out of Iraq.

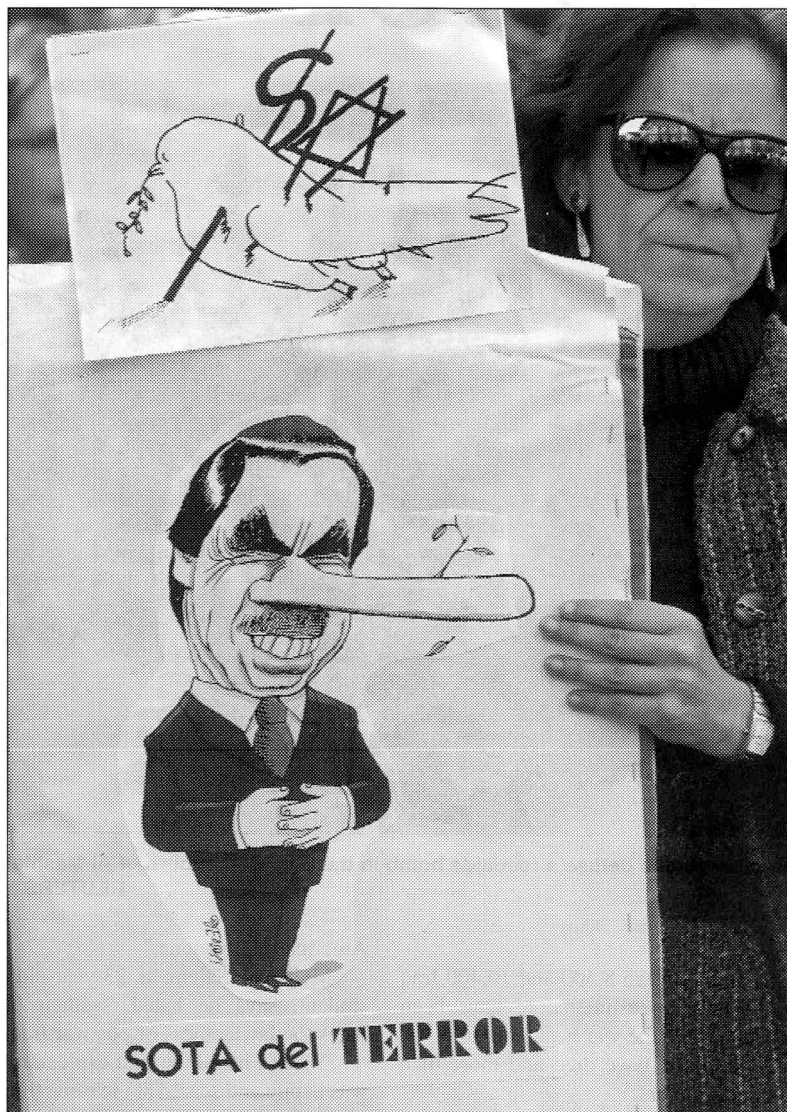
Socialist leader Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero labelled the war and occupation a "disaster" and "fiasco". The country is still shaken after March 11 attacks on commuter trains that killed 202.

U.S. President George W. Bush urged allies on Friday to stand by operations in Iraq.

"Any sign of weakness or retreat simply validates terrorist violence and invites more violence for all nations," he told representatives from 83 countries at the White House.

Outgoing Prime Minister Jose Aznar's backing of U.S. and British leaders George W. Bush and Tony Blair was hugely unpopular inside Spain.

"The government of Bush, Blair and Aznar could have avoided what today is perceived as a grave historic mistake, since the elements to make a judgement — later proved by the facts — were already known to all," said columnist Pedro Ramirez. Police, following indications of an al Qaeda link, have already rounded up 10 suspects and sources say there will be more arrests. They include six Moroccans, two Indians and one



A Spanish anti-war protester holds a poster with a caricature of Former Spanish Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar during a rally which commemorates the first anniversary of the U.S.-led war in Iraq in Oviedo in Northern Spain March 20. The poster reads 'Jack of terror'. **REUTERS**

Spaniard.

The nationality of the 10th detainee has not been made public, although

sources say he is North African.

The Spaniard, a miner, led four Moroccans to an explosives store from

where they stole the dynamite for the synchronised blasts on four early morning commuter trains coming into central Madrid, El Pais newspaper said on Saturday.

Zougam - "Who won election?"

The Spaniard, among five suspects arrested on Thursday, directed the Moroccans to the dump in the northern province of Asturias where he knew security was lax, the paper said, citing police sources.

The Spaniard, who has a criminal record for drug trafficking and illegal arms possession, has told police the Moroccans said they needed the bombs for a mine in Morocco, it said.

Spain's High Court on Friday accused three Moroccans detained two days after the strike of 190 murders and of belonging to a terrorist group. The two Indians were accused of cooperating with a terrorist group.

The five denied any links to Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda network and said they were asleep at the time of the attacks.

Having been held in solitary confinement since last Saturday, the eve of Spain's general election, the main suspect, Moroccan Jamal Zougam, arrived at the High Court asking "Who won the elections?", El Mundo reported.

That would fuel suspicions the bombs were deliberately timed to affect the outcome of the elections and send a message to governments supporting Washington in Iraq. The strike on rush-hour trains, the bloodiest suspected Islamist attack since the Bali bombings in 2002, has been claimed by a militant Islamic group aligning itself to al Qaeda in direct retribution for Madrid's support of the Iraq war.

Some 1,300 Spanish troops are in Iraq.

NATO reopens Kosovo road as violence abates

PRISTINA, Serbia and Montenegro, March 20 (Reuters) - NATO-led peacekeepers reopened a major road in Kosovo on Saturday in a sign of returning calm after three days of violence in which majority Albanians torched Serb houses and churches.

In Belgrade, the Serbia and Montenegro authorities accused the majority Albanians of trying to drive Kosovo's remaining 100,000 Serbs away and made a veiled threat to use military force to prevent that.

And in Moscow, Russian President Vladimir Putin denounced the Kosovo violence as "ethnic cleansing" of the region's Serb minority and said tough action was needed to defend them.

A spokesman for the KFOR stabilisation force in Kosovo said no major incidents took place overnight, with NATO-led peacekeepers patrolling the streets in the divided town of Mitrovica, the scene of worst clashes earlier in the week.

"Things are very calm in Kosovo right now," Lt-Colonel Jim Moran told Reuters in Pristina. "We had a quiet night basically everywhere," added a United Nations spokeswoman.

A Reuters reporter said NATO peacekeepers, the KFOR, reopened an 80 km (50 mile) stretch of a main road linking Kosovo capital Pristina with Skopje in Macedonia.

The road, which runs through some of the flashpoint areas, was sealed off on Tuesday when violence broke out and was now patrolled by KFOR. Pristina airport was reopened to commercial flights as well.

Moran said 1,125 Serbs and other minorities had been evacuated from villages around Pristina and were now sheltered by NATO-led forces and the U.N. police.

"Violence with violence"

Twenty-eight people, both Albanians



Volunteers of the Serbian Red Cross sort humanitarian aid at a collection site on March 20, 2004 to equip a relief convoy for stranded Serb civilians in Kosovo. Around 1,000 Serbs fled their homes in the face of this week's violence in which extremists from the Albanian majority torched Serb villages and churches. **REUTERS**

and Serbs, were killed in the three days of clashes which saw ethnic Albanian mobs torching houses and churches in isolated Serb villages. Earlier NATO officials spoke of 31 dead.

NATO said the level of coordination seen in the attacks verged on "ethnic cleansing".

Defence Minister Boris Tadic said late on Friday Serbia and Montenegro did not want to react "with violence to violence" but may have no choice.

"I told NATO representatives that Serbia and Montenegro will review policy if the military-technical agreement from Kumanovo is not respected," he said referring to an agreement in which Belgrade surrendered control of Kosovo to the United Nations.

"If our vital interests are endangered we have to take over the responsibility," Tadic told Serbian state television RTS.

Serb forces were removed from the province after NATO's 1999 bombing campaign against Serbia, aimed to stop reprisals against Albanians.

Tadic's warning may be primarily intended for an angry domestic audi-

ence. Serbia's new coalition government knows that the Kosovo crisis could push more voters into the camp of the hardline nationalist Radical Party, which already seems well placed to win a presidential election due in May or June.

The likelihood of any unilateral military intervention by Serbia, far less a confrontation with NATO forces, remained extremely small.

Putin called for a clear Russian position to be drafted on the issue by new Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov and the long-serving predecessor he replaced, Igor Ivanov, now Secretary of Russia's Security Council.

He also said he was sending Emergencies Minister Sergei Shoigu, who deals with Russia's recurring calamities, to Serbia to tackle difficulties caused by the violence.

"Russia cannot merely watch what is happening there," Putin told a weekly ministerial meeting discussing the violence in Kosovo. "There must be a corresponding tough reaction in this instance to defend Serbs."

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CANADIAN nexen Vacancies

Workstation Technician (Code – 001)

Yemeni Nationals

Location: Al-Masila, Hadhramout
Department: Information Technology
Schedule: 28 days on / 28 days off

Job Duties:

- Diagnoses problems and repairs PC workstations. Includes trouble shooting, effecting required repair and verifying for satisfactory operation.
- Installs and sets up personal computers and printers for use on the network. Includes receiving new equipment, testing, installing network connectivity software and hardware and installing it on the user's desktop.
- Carries out preventive maintenance on PC's and printers. Includes vacuuming unit, re-seating boards, performing disk maintenance and handling unit over to user.
- Installs computer components and peripherals such as tape drives, CD ROM drives, sound boards, personal printers etc. as required.
- Troubleshoots and resolves all hardware and software problems. Includes configuring Windows software for network printers and other network devices, assisting clients in running software such as Excel, Word, PowerPoint, etc. Formally tracks all problems and solutions.
- Carries out other similar or related duties such as preparing weekly reports, maintaining phones and radios, and coordinating vendor services.

Minimum Requirements:

- B.Sc. in Computer Science or Equivalent.
- Three years' experience in the operation and repair of desktop computers.
- Excellent knowledge of English.

Drafts Man (Code – 001) Yemeni Nationals

Location: Al-Masila, Hadhramout
Department: Construction
Schedule: 28 days on / 28 days off

Job Duties:

- Receives training and direction in production and revisions of technical drawings for plant and field operations facilities. Workscope typically limited to routine small projects. Responsible for the preparation of clean, accurate and complete drawings under the direction of more experienced Engineering and Design personnel.
- Assists in the design effort using information from various sources such as: as-built mark-ups, site studies, vendor drawings, catalog data, engineering sketches, written and verbal instructions.
- Participates in project coordination with Engineers, Designers and other disciplines in the development of complete drawing packages.
- Contributes to estimating, scheduling and status reporting for projects. Includes tracking number of man hours used, preparing bill of materials, etc.
- Assists Supervisor and Engineers with various departmental tasks as required.

Minimum Requirements:

- Technical Diploma in Technical Drawing /Drafting or equivalent and two years' drafting experience.
- Minimum of two years drafting courses, Fundamentals of Drafting and Piping Drafting.
- Working knowledge and application of basic drafting skills such as scaling, dimensioning, labelling conventions, referencing and linework. Microstation experience would be an asset.
- Excellent knowledge of verbal and written English.
- Excellent PC knowledge of Word, Excel and drafting software applications.
- Excellent analytical and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to organize and prioritize work and meet deadlines.
- Valid Yemen driving license.

ESP Data Clerk (Code – 001) Yemeni Nationals

Location: Al-Masila, Hadhramout
Department: Production
Schedule: 28 days on / 28 days off

Job Duties:

- Assists with compiling ESP component failure data. Ensures ESP dismantle and failure analysis reports are properly formatted and filed.
- Inputs and updates equipment information on ESP run-life database (ASPEN). Monitors run and pull reports for accuracy and enters reservations for ESP equipment into SAP.
- Assists in tabulating ESP costs by updating the run cost tracking sheet and the shop cost tracking table.
- Assists with the creation and produces reports for the production engineering group as requested under direction from the ESP Data Tech. Running standard reports, and manipulating various spreadsheets to extract desired data.
- Assists with documentation for the exportation of ESP equipment for repair, remanufacture or for warranty replacement.
- Miscellaneous duties such as, corresponding with accounting personnel and ESP maintenance to reconcile variances and resolve outstanding issues.

Minimum Requirements:

- Bachelor Degree or diploma in Business Administration or Computer Science would be beneficial.
- Two years material / logistic coordination would be beneficial.
- Excellent organizational skills.
- Ability to coordinate multiple tasks/projects.
- Strong computer skills with emphasis on MS Excel.
- Experienced in extracting data and compiling reports.
- Familiar with inventory control techniques and materials management software such as SAP
- Work under supervision according to well defined procedures and technical standards.
- Mechanical or Electrical training or aptitude would be beneficial.
- Excellent knowledge of English.
- Ability to organize and prioritize work and meet deadlines.
- Valid Yemen driving license.

Reservoir Surveillance Engineer (Code – 001) Yemeni Nationals

Location: Al-Masila, Hadhramout
Department: Production
Schedule: 28 days on / 28 days off

Job Duties:

- Schedules all slickline and rigless cased hole logging surveys and operations, on a daily basis. This includes arranging for all equipment needs and no site supervision.
- Prepares all programs associated with onsite work and obtains proper program approvals. Ensuring that all approved programs have been issued and distributed as per approved distribution lists. Provides both Calgary and CPF with all data requirements. Files all operational reports and survey results from work.
- Prepares and programs all gauges and battery installation and any other preparations necessary for field operations (i.e. coordination of work on site, issuance of programs and tracking of equipment).
- Responsible for Inventory Control of all bottom hole pressure (BHP) gauges, batteries and spares. Using the "Echometer Well Analyzer" to estimate pressures from rapidly changing fluid levels and TWM software supplied by Echometer to supplement reservoir data acquisition. Echometers and spares will be maintained ready for use.
- Ensure all pressure survey data is downloaded from bottom hole pressure gauges retrieved by Slickline. Provides quality assurance by comparing the data between the two gauges run in each survey, and after the data have been validated sends to Calgary in a timely manner.
- Collects monthly raw fluid shot data from field operators, and interprets the strip charts before inputting this data into the monthly

- TDH (Total Dynamic Head) survey report.
- Reviews the monthly TDH survey and prepares a monthly opportunity list for recommended ESP pump changes or resizes, based on the results of the TDH survey.
- Carries out other similar or related duties such as installing Surface Data System pressure recorders and running rigless CBL/VDL logs prior to completion rig arrival.
- Assists with tracking cased hole logging results and possibly job supervision.

Minimum Requirements:

- B.Sc. in Petroleum Engineering preferred and will be given preference. B.Sc. in Mechanical, Electrical, Civil, Chemical or with strong mechanical aptitude also considered.
- Five years' experience in Petroleum related field.
- Excellent knowledge of written and spoken English.
- Valid driving license.

Production Administrative Assistant (Code – 001) Yemeni Nationals

Location: Al-Masila, Hadhramout
Department: Production
Schedule: 28 days on / 28 days off

Job Duties:

- Maintains the well files for the production group. Copies and distributes well programs. These tasks require the collection and sorting of electronic and hard copy well related documents to be filed in the appropriate well files. Ensures that the filing structure for well files is followed and maintains tracking log for all movement of the well files.
- Prepares final completion packages for distribution to Sana'a and PEPA. This includes collecting the final well completion packages and programs (daily completion reports, original completion program, wellbore schematics and the original work scope). Reporting packages are assembled, cataloged and distributed.
- Distributes all cased hole log documents. Sorting of logs, films and data mediums. Distribution to the CPF Production well files, Sana'a Production group, PEPA and Records Management in Calgary. Responsible for preparing all documents associated with the transfer of the logs as well as monitoring transmittals ensuring that shipments are received.
- Creates SAP service entries for field services managed by the Production Engineering group. Coordinates document flow between the Production Engineers, Accounting and the Contractors. Maintains log of all service entries and source documents and handles routing of documents between Nexen and the Contractors for invoicing.
- Within the SAP environment, clears reservations in Completion networks.
- Maintains the Production Engineering reference library. Catalogs all resource texts and periodicals, maintains usage logs of all reference materials ensuring that all materials are accounted for.
- Distributes staging sheets for ESP staging to Maintenance and Logistics.
- Backup for Production Administrator position. Prepares Daily Production reports in the event the Prod Admin is unavailable.
- Types correspondence and prepares reports/presentations for various groups within the Production department. Includes translating correspondence in English or Arabic as required.
- Carries out other similar or related administrative functions such as mail sorting and distribution, handling courier and export requests, preparing shipments of materials and associated documents and providing software assistance or as assigned by supervisor.

Minimum Requirements:

- Compassion of Secondary (12 years) education followed by Technical related diploma.
- 3 years' administrative experience. Computer skills including use of Word, Excel, Outlook, Lotus Notes and Access. Prior SAP experience is a benefit.
- Very good knowledge of written and spoken English.

Application Criteria:

- Please make sure that your CV contains all the needed personal, **contact** and qualification information, **no need** to attach any certificates unless we request them.
- Please **don't** call us, we will call you if you are selected for test and interview, which will be based on the most qualified applicants.
- Please **mention** in your application the **job** you are applying for and the **code number**
- Preferable to send CVs via the **E-mail** address. Faxed CVs **will not** be considered.
- Unclear and untyped CVs **will not** be considered, use normal font and **do not** decorate the CV.

If you have the above requirements, please send your CV to the following address, NOT later than April 3, 2004

**Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen
Human Resources**

P. O. Box 15137

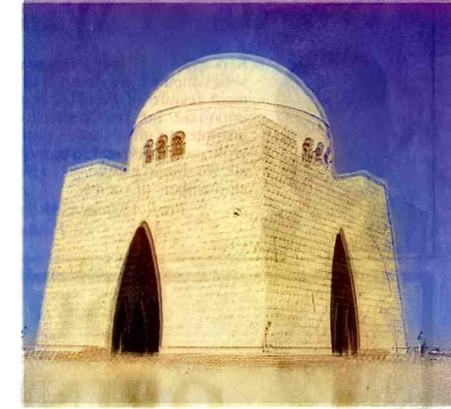
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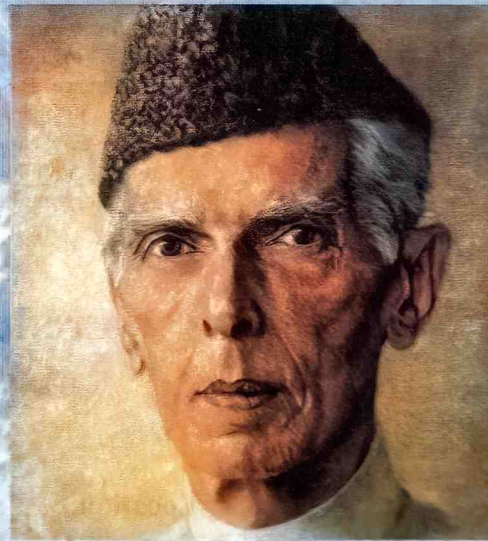
PAKISTAN



Celebrates 64th year of domestic structural reforms, economic stability, modernization and moderation



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“The Government and people of Pakistan cherish their fraternal ties with the Republic of Yemen”

Today we are celebrating 64th anniversary of Pakistan's National Day. On this auspicious occasion I offer my heartfelt felicitations to my countrymen particularly our community living in the brotherly Republic of Yemen.



H.E. Nawab Amir
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It was on 23rd March 1940 that the Muslims of South Asia under the leadership of Quaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah declared their collective resolve in the historic city of Lahore and passed a resolution for a sovereign state comprising the Muslim majority areas as their sole and common demand for the establishment of a homeland for their own where they could lead their lives in accordance with the tenets of Islam. It was this demand popularly called the Pakistan Resolution which gave impetus to the Pakistan movement and culminated in the creation of our great country on the map of the world on 14 August 1947.

While bowing our heads before Almighty Allah for the precious gift of freedom, we must also look inwards to assess as to whether we have been able to measure up to ideals and objectives, which constituted the basis for the creation of a separate homeland for Muslims of South Asia. Pakistan Day underlines the deep and abiding resolve of our people to surmount any and all difficulties in the way of freedom. Pakistan in its 57th year of existence bears ample testimony to the enormous spirit of sacrifice and resilience of our people. Pakistan has faced tremendous difficulties since its birth as a nation. It has struggled to live in peace and honour in a difficult part of the world.

President General Pervez Musharraf and Prime Minister Mir Zafarullah Khan Jamali are committed to bring domestic structural reforms, economic stability, modernization and moderation in the country.

We have achieved macro-economic stability and remarkable turn around in our economy. The GDP growth rate is expected to reach 6% this year and would be around 7% in the next few years, which is one of the highest in developing countries. Pakistan is attracting increasing foreign investment. The

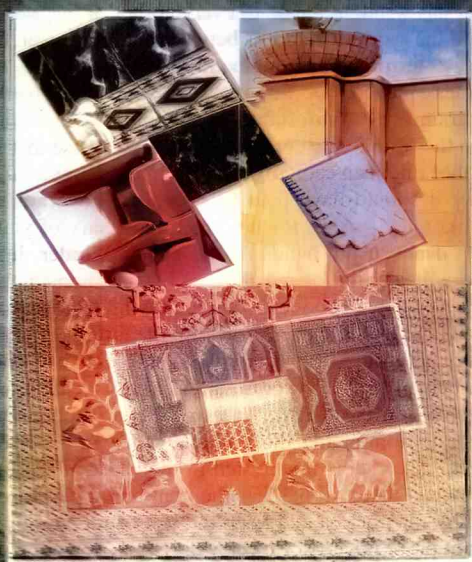
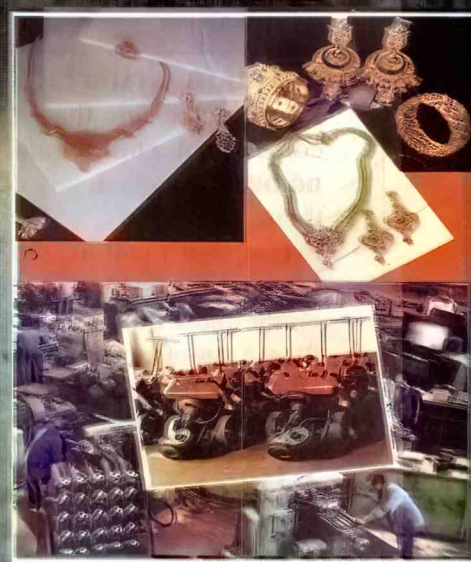
presence of more than 600 foreign companies, including well-known multinationals, testifies to the credentials of Pakistan as a safe and profitable haven for investment. The corporate profitability now ranges from 16 to 60%. For the first time in our history our exports have crossed US\$ 11 billion, and this year we hope to cross the US\$ 12 billion target. Our foreign exchange reserves stand at more than US\$ 12 billion. We are now poised to translate our macro-economic strengths into fulfilling the daily needs of our people, and raising their standards of living with effective participation of women.

Today Pakistan enjoys great respect in the comity of nations for its principled stand on different topical world issues. Pakistan stands for unity among nations for regional and global peace.

The Republic of Yemen and Pakistan enjoy warm, friendly and cooperative relations. These relations derive their strength from common cultural and religious ties and abiding interests of both countries in each other's well-being and stability. During the recently held 4th Session of Yemen-Pakistan Joint Ministerial Commission Meeting in Sana'a, the two sides reiterated their commitment to enhance whole range of bilateral relations between the two countries. The signing of agreements on trade, cooperation in the field of health and avoidance of double taxation between the two governments has provided a platform for meaningful cooperation between the two countries. Signing of the Protocol of Economic Cooperation between Federation of Yemen Chambers of Commerce & Industry and Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry will facilitate exchange of business delegation and exhibitions between Yemen and Pakistan.

The Government and people of Pakistan cherish their fraternal ties with the Republic of Yemen and the support and cooperation which we continue to receive from the brotherly people of Yemen under the wise leadership of His Excellency Marshal Ali Abdullah Saleh, President of the Republic of Yemen.

I pray for the progress and prosperity of the people of Pakistan and the people of Yemen.



Mohammad Ali Jinnah - Paradigm of Excellence

By Zahid Zia Cheema

"Little bird that can sing but won't sing must be made to sing."

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan was the first Muslim educationist who realized that the sub-continent's Muslims were the little birds of the aforementioned English proverb, languishing like ducks in the thunderstorm that was destined to sweep across the subcontinent in the forthcoming decades. He inculcated in them an awareness that unless the Muslim leaders, who were on the primrose path to perdition, made concerted efforts to ameliorate their socio-economic, political and educational standing, they would be pulverized in united India.

Apparently, his clarion call fell on deaf ears but when Jinnah arrived like a good Samaritan, the Muslim populace that was wearing the willows and being wrapped around by Hindus and downright fiendish Congress, began to take umbrage against the vexatious Hindu-British confluence.

Mohammad Ali Jinnah, unlike Congress and its leaders, was averse to putting up a show and refrained from indulging in Gandhi-like histrionics and shenanigans. Hindu demagogues, in a desperate bid to institute a cleavage in the already divided Muslim League, poisoned the ears of Muslim hoi polloi against their own party, accusing their leaders of not making sacrifices in the Congressional mind.

Mohammad Ali Jinnah, mindful of their nefarious intentions, hit back with vehemence. "We are accused of having made no sacrifices for our goals. I am afraid we cannot contribute that sort of sacrificing to which the Congress seems accustomed to obtain leadership to sit like goats under the police lathi charge and then go to jail, then to complain of loss of weight and then manage release. I do not believe in that sort of struggle. But when the time for suffering comes, I will be the first to get the bullet shots in my chest".

They say what is the good of sundial in the shade. Mohammad Ali Jinnah reposed full faith in the abilities of the Muslim leaders. Yet, he was critical of their role and lamented that they did not come to the rescue of the Muslim commoners. He was petrified at the way the Muslim leaders who preferred to be called Nationalists, were acquiescent accomplices to diabolical schemes of Congress. He said of the Nationalist Muslims, "If the Nationalist Muslims are honest Muslims, their place is not under the shelter of the enemy of Muslim League. Let them join the national organization of Muslims and guide them."

Jinnah had to trump the ace of Congress, in addition to crossing swords with the Nationalist Muslims

and the British. Persuading the Nationalist Muslims, who were under delusion of grandeur, to join Muslim League, proved a hard row to hoe. To make confusion worse confounded, the 1935 Act, promulgated by the British, put yet another spanner in his works. Jinnah did not approve of the Act and wanted the draconian provisions of 1935 Act to be rescinded. Muslim League contested 1937 elections, held under the aegis of constitution of 1935, only under duress.

Mohammad Ali Jinnah termed the 1935 Act as a mere farcical perpetuation against India's Honour. "The German nation when it was forced, signed the Treaty of Versailles. If I have to deal with the constitution as the Germans dealt with Versailles Treaty, I shall begin by tearing off as many pages as the Government of India Act has and we shall not rest content unless that constitution is replaced with a constitution which is acceptable to us".

The Congress rule (1937-39) was as black as the queen of spades. This served as an eye opener for the Muslim leaders who were reluctant to blow the cobwebs away. Their ostrich belief that Congress would help them break the British shackles, withered on the vine.

As if God ordained, the Congress totalitarian regime suddenly ceased to exist. Congress relinquished after Britishers refused to be blackmailed which resulted in creation of a vacuum.

With the approval of Pakistan Resolution, Muslim League was encumbered with the task of shaping the reclining destiny of the Muslims yet again.

God finally tempered the wind to the shorn lamb and the writer of the golden legend of Pakistan incontrovertibly was Mohammad Ali Jinnah - "the observed of all observers".

Mr. M.C. Chagla said of Jinnah "He could be ferociously aggressive and almost boyishly persuasive as and when the occasion arose and what particularly helped him in his advocacy was the absolute clear head that he possessed and on which he justly prided himself".

Sir Patrick Spens, the last chief justice of undivided India paid homage to Mohammad Ali Jinnah in the following incoherent words.

"There is no man or woman living who imputes anything against his honour or his honesty. He was the most upright person that I know and he never, as far as I know, for one moment attempted to deceive anybody as to what he was aiming at or as to

the means he attempted to adopt to get it."

He was beyond reproach as is evident from the remarks made by someone who obviously was not his next of kin. Ironically, his arch foes in the Congress camp were always ready to their last gaiter button in presenting a bill of indictment, incriminating him of giving precedence to Muslim hood over nationalism, when they themselves were guilty of masterminding a whispering campaign against the downtrodden Muslims and putting an inch of cool iron, repeatedly in Jinnah's back under the guise of friendship.

Jinnah thus left Congress, virtually shaking the dust off his boots having read the minds of the leaders of double dealing Hindu Party like a book thriving on its hypocritical secularized outlook.

Congress hatched innumerable conspiracies to vilify the secular fame of the Muslim barrister, as their diabolical scheme of shining with his reflected light could not materialize. Jinnah was cognizant of the fact that an air of absurdity had pervaded their minds. In fact, Congress attitude served as a catalyst, giving impetus to the nascent Muslim freedom movement that later transcended all barriers and sub-continent no longer remained that medieval abode where Hindus and Muslims could smoke the calumet together.

The vice of his qualities during his prolonged misadventure with Congress was that though he backed the wrong horse-perhaps he backed it far too long. His indefatigable efforts to bring about a Hindu-Muslim rapprochement often withered on the vine owing to Congress' unflinching attitude. In the end, he had to concede point blank that Hindus and Muslims were as different from each other as chalk from cheese and there was no point in perpetuating a honeymoon that was not idyllic by any stretch of imagination. It was in fact a marriage of convenience which was on its last legs.

Congress partisan approach brought about a transition in his outlook; he thought of Hindu-Muslim fraternity as a phenomenon that was only destined to materialize on Greek calends.

The formation of Congress ministries in 1937 and their authoritarian rule proved to be the proverbial last straw forcing him to pronounce that the concept of Hindu-Muslim camaraderie was merely a cynic arm chair theory formulated by lunatics.

He explained the concept of state (hood) to his Congress friends "What is state? What is representative government? Does it mean that 70 million Muslims should be tied hand and foot in a constitution where a particular class of Hindus can possibly tyrannise over and deal with them as they like?

Is that representative government? Is that democratic government? Certainly not."

About the 1935 Indian Act, promulgated to put Muslim League and the Muslims hoi polloi under harrow, Jinnah lashed out at the draconian provisions of the constitution by enunciating "No constitution is permanent. Constitution is made by men but men are not made by Constitution."

The elections held under the aegis of 1935 Indian Act turned out to be a signal success for Congress and abysmal failure for the Muslim League simply because the Muslim leaders behaved more like mavericks, nursing grudges against each other and the Nationalist Muslims were averse to the very concept of parceling out sub-continent into two separate principalities.

Thus the days of wine and roses were replaced with under the rose dealings. To compound the felony, the Hindu ragnruffins unleashed a reign of terror, breaking the butterfly on the wheel at the behest of the Congress leaders. Jinnah, dismayed at the prevalent state of affairs, pleaded with the Muslims to shelve their differences.

"I say to all Muslims of India to organize, consolidate and establish solidarity and unity. Service, suffering and sacrifices are absolutely essential conditions before we can achieve anything big and secure our right place in the national life of our country."

Hindus unconsciously facilitated Jinnah in carving out what in the prevalent political scenario could be referred to as a harbour of refuge for the beleaguered Muslim plebeians and reuniting splinter groups.

Jinnah, the God sent emissary entrusted with the onerous task of sculpting the reclining Muslim destiny, finally, resurrected the fluctuating fortunes of the Muslim League. When Congress abdicated in 1935, it proved to be a blessing in disguise, providing Jinnah with yet another opportunity to wrestle away the initiative from them.

With the approval of Pakistan Resolution, many Hindu eye brows were raised and Nehru actually said he did not comprehend the meaning of the word Pakistan. Jinnah replied,

"Even Muslim children understand the meaning of Pakistan but here is the great leader, a great internationalist who says he does not understand Pakistan. Pakistan means partition, Pakistan means division. It means you must take Hindu provinces of your and leave out Muslim provinces where we want to establish our government."

Jinnah donned the mantle of Samuel Becket's Godet, who actually came and delivered, paddling. In the bargain, the Muslim canoe out of the oceans of adversity.

Women of Pakistan

Pakistan's women reflect large variety of the contrasts and diversities: social, cultural, geographical, rural, urban, and of class. There are women who are bound by tradition and apparently dependent on the family role and traditional structures; then there are the women charting out new avenues, broadening their horizons-dynamic, creative and articulate.

Major factor which has spurred this forward slide without an accompanying social dislocation stems from the egalitarian principles of Islam. Islam accords women respect and dignity. The attitude of Islam towards women is summed up in Surah Al-Nisa, which is dedicated specifically to women. Islam is a religion which first gave women the right to divorce, to child custody, to alimony and to inheritance. Muslim women are also permitted to carry on trade or business independently.

Quaid-i-Azam had included begum Mohammad Ali in the All-India Muslim League Committees. The Burqa-wearing woman attended all the meetings of working committee. The Quaid-i-Azam not only maintained the Islamic tradition but was also instrumental in giving the women their due share in society, politics and other institutions, particularly in the educational field.

Articles 24 and 35 of the Constitution of Pakistan guarantee that there shall be no discrimination against women on the basis of sex alone and that the State shall guarantee equal opportunities for their development in all walks of life.

The first great political issue which stirred Muslim women of the South Asian Subcontinent was the titanic struggle for the creation of Pakistan. This national struggle threw many women into the limelight as determined freedom fighters. Leading role in this regard was played by Mughtara Fatima Jinnah, sister of the Father of the Nation Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah.

With the birth of Pakistan came added responsibilities and new challenges. The women lost no time in rushing succor to the millions of refugees who poured into the newly created independent Muslim country from India. A number of welfare humanitarian organizations sprang up for the purpose.

While women were active in the struggle for political independence in 1947, in the post independence period their concern focused upon their rights. Repeatedly, a handful of women took the lead to mobilize other women into action. As early as 1948, Begum Raana Liaquat Ali Khan, wife of the Prime Minister, formed the Women's voluntary service to help in the rehabilitation of refugees and the displaced. Largely inexperienced women, many who had never stepped out of their homes, administered first aid, organized food distribution, dealt with health problems, epidemics and clothing, and provided moral and emotional support.

The subcontinent's WVS became the precursor of the first All Pakistan Women's Association (APWA) formed in 1949.

The objective of (APWA) was the wel-

fare of Pakistan's women and its activities spanned the social sector, girls' schools and colleges, health centers and industrial homes to provide skills and income-generating opportunities. In 1955, APWA spearheaded the campaign against second marriage. This led to the setting up of a commission to review personal laws and ultimately the codification of family laws through the Family Laws Ordinance in 1961. Though not as protective of women as some desired, the law nevertheless was subsequently a major factor in providing for registration of marriages through a standard nikah-nama (marriage contract), the delegated right of divorce for women and the right of maintenance and custody of children. APWA is the only NGO in Pakistan to have a consultative status with the UN and UNICEF.

The two women members of Pakistan's first legislature, Jahanara Shahnavaz and Shaista Ikramullah, were strong champions of women's rights and responsible for the passage of the Muslim Personal Law of the Shari'ah (1949) whereby a woman's right to inherit property including agricultural property was recognized. They also raised the demand for a ten percent quota of reserved seats for women in the assemblies.

Over the years, women demanded and received greater rights and space for their activities: the right to vote, to sit in assemblies, receive education, have relatively greater security in marriage, enter new fields and professions. The most significant recent development is the recognition at the national level of the women's question. All political parties have begun to include women's issues in their manifestos and establish women's wings/sections.

Women are also active in organized volunteer activity. A large number of non-governmental women organizations are actively engaged in carrying out projects in education, health and income generation for the integration of women in development.

The nation, today, is witnessing a remarkable upsurge in female education in the sciences, humanities, law, medicine, journalism and home economics. The number of girls' schools and colleges, including medical colleges, have increased rapidly: so has enrollment. The first women university has been established.

Like her sisters elsewhere in the world, the modern Pakistani woman has not yet fully resolved the dilemma of a career combined with her home life. But by and large, she has taken both in strides to avail herself of the unprecedented opportunities Pakistan has opened up.

Inevitably, teaching occupies the pride of place among the careers chosen by Pakistani women. Even in conservative families which do not look with favour to the idea of a working woman, the teaching profession is considered respectable. Women have flocked to this profession from the university down to kindergarten level.

Similarly, the number of women in

other professions, business, engineering, accountancy, etc., is on the increase. Several of them work as editors, reporters, columnists in the nation's newspapers and magazines. Girls are employed in Radio Pakistan and Pakistan Television as news editors, programme executives, staff artists, producers, announcers and newscasters. Countless women work as doctors, nurses, social workers, air-hostesses, office secretaries, bank managers, insurance executive, receptionists, telephone operators constables and railway ticket checkers.

In early seventies, a decision of the Government to open up the prestigious civil service and the foreign service to talented women provides an example of the increasing number of women participating in important government jobs. Women have been sent out as Ambassadors, Counselors and First Secretaries in Pakistan's missions abroad.

Just as it was rare at the birth of Pakistan to find an office where a woman worked, today it is equally rare to find an office where they do not work. They are emerging in their own in both public and private sectors as educationists, lawyers, judges, civil servants, bankers and entrepreneurs.

While the educated women in the urban areas today have the freedom to elect a fascinating career, work for their sisters in the villages is not a choice but a necessity. Traditionally, women in the rural areas have been the helpmate of their menfolk- tending the ancestral farms, pitching in with harvesting or making the family cow or goat as their daily chores. In their spare time, they have turned out beautifully embroidered garments, handmade carpets and quilts or a whole range of colourful basketry to supplement the family income. A more organized trend in this respect is the establishment of a string of industrial homes where women perfect their skills in knitting, embroidery, tailoring or dyeing of materials for sale through outlets provided by the co-operatives or government sponsored agencies.

In addition to the various development projects for women, some concrete steps have also been taken to increase the level of their representation in the service sector, provide them greater security and protect their rights. Women police officers have been inducted and ten per cent quota has been fixed for women in police service. Five per cent quota has also been reserved for women in public and private sector organizations.

Considering the growing incidence of crime of violence against or involving women and taking into account the fact that a considerable number of offences against women are not registered with the police to avoid embarrassment, the Government introduced the revolutionary concept of Women Police Stations. Such police stations have already been opened at Rawalpindi in Punjab, Karachi in Sindh and Abbottabad in NWFP, and at Islamabad, to deal exclusively with cases involving women and children.

In the area of women's issues, there is

National Consultative Committee for Women which provides a leadership role in articulating women concerns and to identify feasible national targets as well as suggest measures to achieve them.

Other major programmes include setting up of computer training centers across the country to add to women's eligibility for jobs and to speed up overall development through participation of well-trained women in the active labour force. The First Women Bank is conducting training courses and promoting entrepreneurship development. Training of NGOs in management skill is similarly underway.

Women Development Centres are also being established. To begin with, three centres have started functioning to impart intensive training to Community Development Workers in family planning, hygiene, sanitation, agriculture, livestock, poultry, appropriate technology, adult literacy, community organization, procurement of credits, legal rights, basic education and promotion of social and cultural awareness among rural women.

An area receiving priority attention of the Government is human resource development. To enable women to participate in economic activity, an elaborate apprenticeship programme has been chalked out to train girls as assistants in hospitals. Such programmes are to be extended to vocations and trades like leather and sports goods industry, carpet weaving, flower and basket making, and ready-made garments. This scheme is to be implemented in coordination with Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry. The government would provide stipend to apprentices while the Chamber would make training arrangements.

Women Protection and Free Legal Aid Centres to ensure justice to victimized and oppressed women, who otherwise cannot fight out their cases for lack of financial resources or social constraints, are another noteworthy step. These centres are to arrange temporary residential accommodation to oppressed women in emergencies, create awareness of legal rights among them, provide counseling and guidance services and free legal aid, and work for social rehabilitation of victimized women.

Pakistan convened the first ever International Conference of Muslim Women Parliamentarians. The three day conference, on August 1, 1995, was attended by more than hundred delegates from 35 Muslim countries.

Priorities of the Government
Action has been initiated for implementation of the National Plan of Action on Women's Development in collaboration with all provinces and community based organizations. The National Plan of Action establishes a set of priorities to reduce gender imbalances through various affirmative actions and national development initiatives. The basic theme of National Plan of Action is that the principle of shared power and responsibility should be established between women and men at home, in the work-place, and in the community.

Initiative has been taken to review the Commission Reports by the Commission on the status of Women, for identification of implementable recommendations.

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Words of Wisdom



It is my belief that terrorism will be something with which we are destined to live, and it will be a main feature of the 21st century. It is therefore important for our universities and specialized institutes to offer studies on it. If our world is to grow more open and to ensure cooperation among all, we should also try to address the grievances of all members of society.

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



OUR OPINION

African Union:

A source of inspiration for Arabs

One day, the European Union was only an idea. Today it has become a reality. Today, the African Union is also an idea slowly evolving. I have no doubt that it will one day be achieved.

But for us Arabs, the idea of the Arab Union has not fully developed yet, and that warns of consequences in possible delays and disruptions for any potential strong position for the Arab world.

Last week, the African Union inaugurated its Pan-African Parliament in Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa. This has been meant to be a booster of efforts to bring a common stand in issues of interest to the whole continent, and it proved to be influential.

Millions of Africans throughout the continent hailed this step, naming it a historic move towards a unified Africa with common objectives and prosperous future.

Looking into our conditions as Arabs today, we see the many divisions, border disputes, gaps in stances on local and foreign issues, and sometimes envy and hate between us. Ironically, this is happening to countries that share many aspects with each other including language, religion, culture, heritage, history, etc.

The other interesting point here is that we are left behind other alliances that have united even though they share little in common compared to ours. But they have something very important in common, and that is political will, which is the thing missing in the case of Arabs.

Historically speaking, the League of Arab States or Arab League was formed in Cairo in March 1945, for the purpose of securing Arab unity, or forming the Arab Union. Because of inter-Arab rivalries, the League has generally been unable to pursue a consistent agenda beyond general opposition to Israel and other hypothetical duties that have resulted in very little results.

The anticipated expansion of the European Union to 25 members and the recent inauguration of the African Union need to be a source of inspiration to our Arab leaders to bring their countries out of their stagnancy and weakness which are a direct result of years of differences, rivalries, and conflicts of interests or ideologies.

There are somewhat humble efforts exerted to reform the Arab League and bring the change anticipated to start a new page in working together rather than against each other.

With the recent reforms proposed to the structure and work of the Arab League, there is a bit of optimism in the horizon. Yet, this may end up as a failure if commitment is not seen and felt in the Arab regimes, which is the case in many attempts of the past.

What we need to learn from African nations is that commitment is the first step towards achieving dreams. This is how one can visualize any change in the Arab world.

Of course, there should always be internal reforms within Arab countries as well as steps towards unification. The two go hand in hand to provide a platform for a democratic Arab Union that can have a strong role on the global arena.

However, from what we can see so far in Arab countries, there is little evidence of major reforms. There are reformists being imprisoned in some countries, freedoms oppressed in others. This signals a dangerous sign of unwillingness to change and do major reforms.

There can be no alternative for Arab regimes to real change that comes from within.

Learning from the African Union's experience will be a positive step towards becoming a region respected and appreciated throughout the world.

The Editor



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Plight of Ethiopian refugees must end

DR. AHMED A. MOEN*
ahmedmoen@yahoo.com

I have read your news article on the "Plight of the Ethiopian Refugees" in Yemen. I am saddened and outraged to know that the Yemeni authorities failed to understand the implications of the stand off and the historical linkage and affinity between Ethiopia and Yemen. In fact, they should have automatically reciprocated with the kindness of the Ethiopian people regardless of the position of the incumbent Ethiopian Government. For centuries Ethiopians have welcomed Yemeni refugees fleeing, for various reasons, to Ethiopia and other neighboring countries. Political oppression and economic hardships have been the driving forces for migration from Yemen to Ethiopia. These two factors and the hospitality of the Ethiopian peoples have created the cultural bridges between Ethiopia and Yemen. Perhaps the younger generation of politicians ignore the importance of the depth of the historical affinity between these two nations since time immemorial. Even today, Yemenis live and work in Ethiopia, and many of the first and second generations of immigrant Yemenis have been granted Ethiopian citizenship for centuries. Of late, I understand, some Yemenis came back to claim their properties and legal status after they left Ethiopia because of the political uncertainties and regime changes.

The issue of granting permanent settlement and citizenship to the Ethiopian refugees who have lived for more than one decade in Yemen, and I believe that many of them have already established familial connections, married and mingled with the Yemeni society and economy, is a fundamental human rights issue, rather than a political demand and desire to be resettled and be accepted elsewhere. Their concern seems to be the unwelcoming attitudes and intolerance for the under-privileged and refugees from neighboring Ethiopia and Somalia. Islam as a religion was greeted everywhere outside Arabia because it valued asylum and freedom from persecution and economic wants is humanitarian and fundamental human rights. Prophet Mohamed [PBUH] invoked the name of Ethiopia as "the land of justice where no-one would be oppressed." How would an Ethiopian who is proud of his history as the "Land of the First Hijra" be denied permanent settlement leading to citizenship in Yemen? It is ridiculous to pretend that waiting for the passage of new laws would give them new status and peace of mind. The callous attitude towards the Ethiopians

and people of Ethiopian descents in Yemen has been a nagging issues for a long time and especially now because this case is a fundamental human rights issue by any measures. It is indeed hard for a Yemeni to claim that Ethiopians have not been kind to the Yemenis and their ancestors throughout history. The blood of these two nations are already mixed, their culture is identical and their affinity goes back into thousand years of history from the Queen of Sheba on and down to today. Very few Yemenis dare to draw the line between these two peoples. Even the Red Sea loses its meaning and international marks when it comes to the historical and familial connections between the Ethiopians and Yemenis.

It is the lack of political will and gratitude to the Ethiopian people who are denied recognition and protection at the time of their needs. This does not mean that the present government in Ethiopia violated the rights of the refugees and thus they should seek a way out or back at this point of time. It is a matter of choice and their fundamental human rights to live as free as possible on God's earth. Fundamental human rights assert that people must have an identity and a country where they can live, and belong to the adopted country regardless of race, religion or ethnic origin within international boundaries. That is the difference in the understanding of the value of fundamental human rights between Yemen and America, Australia, and Canada, which the protesters keep referring to in order to get a way out of their dilemma. People have the right to be citizens and be recognized not only in the industrially developed and affluent countries but anywhere where they have cultural and historical affinity. The ancient Yemenis understood the message of Prophet Mohammed, peace be upon him, when he authenticated the right of choice by sending his relatives to Ethiopia. How can one forget the Yemenis flying to greener Ethiopia during the Sabeen times and until 1980s in search of freedom and economic welfare. One can imagine the life of the Yemenis changing when they were allowed to marry whom they wish, settle wherever they choose and their children become citizens of Ethiopia or any other country. One can imagine the Yemenis remitting extra money back to Yemen to support their families. One can imagine how much of the wealth in cities such as Taiz, Sanaa, Hodeidah and villages were built by Yemenis from Ethiopia and other parts of the world. How could one lose all of these historical and cultural links and favors? Those who do not learn from history are con-

demned to repeat its past mistakes. Gratitude is an important cultural and religious quality.

As a believer in the fundamental human rights and dignity of man, and as a follower of Islam that attributes its success in Africa, Asia and Europe to its moral values and just treatment of refugees. Guaranteeing refugees full citizenship and the right to live free as human beings is a higher moral obligation than any other act of charity. It is disheartening to see that Ethiopians in Yemen have unequal status and are denied their dignity for legal reasons. They are not seeking amnesty, they are just seeking to live in peace and establish an address and an identity at this time and age. Islam as a just religion protected even the polytheists who fled to the Muslim territories many centuries back. How come one chooses to ignore history just to be politically correct and be excused from practicing good judgment and justice regardless of the prevailing inconvenient international circumstances plaguing the world? History will judge the Yemenis by what they do now. The descendants of the Yemenis who scattered to every corner of the world from Indonesia to Malaysia and from Ethiopia and to Mauritania just to seek economic securities and freedom will witness how ungrateful is their ancestor's land. Now when tables have turned round and Ethiopians are seeking protection, we hear that Yemen is trying to create excuses to exclude them and deny their human rights to live in peace and dignity.

The policy must change and the Qur'an says: "Allah shall never change a condition of any people, lest they change first within their souls." Change begins with the heart and Ethiopians are known to have greater hearts and are just when they accepted Yemeni refugees for centuries before and after Islam. Islam learned its history and respect for fundamental human rights outside Arabia by moving to Ethiopia rather than anywhere else. This is a distinction given to this great nation over all others by Prophet Mohammed, peace is upon him. It is a great nation and its people deserve better treatment. Justice for the Ethiopian refugees in Yemen is overdue. Any cover-up reason to deny peaceful people the right to live among the Yemenis is unacceptable and it is only right to be grateful for the Ethiopian people who gave much to Yemen at its time of need. Much is expected from those who receive.

Dr. Ahmed A. Moen is a prominent Professor at Howard University, Washington, D.C.

Letters to the Editor

In support of Saeed Thabet

I have a question to our President Ali Abdullah Saleh: What is the meaning of freedom and democracy?

Our President has to release orders to set free the journalist and reporter Saeed Thabet at once and without any delay, otherwise no need for him and his government to talk day and night about democracy and freedom when he doesn't know its meaning!

It is really a shame when a journalist is detained by his security people, and yet they ignore that he (Mr. Saeed Thabet) is in their custody!

Karam AL-Hashmi
deyazan@hotmail.com

In support for your efforts

As an American, I feel for your struggle for free press and independence. I feel that most Arabs, like Americans, are salt of the earth types who can look beyond international boundaries and national stereotypes to see the good/evil in each individual based on merit and intention. I want to say this because I realize there is too much hatred and desire to destroy on both sides. Hatred and animosity that will destroy us both if we don't sit back and start looking at each other as individuals and not ideologies.

Stephen Hjelmstad
stephen_hjelmstad@yahoo.com

Access to capital is the key

Access to capital is a critical step in development. There are also investors and groups of investors large

enough to manipulate individual stocks, some currency markets and some stock markets.

It may serve just as well to negotiate with an existing exchange to handle Yemen's financial interests. Negotiations would probably make that exchange more open to scrutiny, improve reporting standards and strengthen the exchange.

Board seats and control would be shared by both countries. And the stronger institution would be less easily manipulated. For the largest companies, the tighter standards will make it easier for them to get listed on the DAX or DOW as well.

David Lockhorn
nightsht@fuse.net

Opinion on Iraqi constitution needed

I'm impatiently anticipating the impressions of Arabs and Yemenis on the Yemen Times, on the progress, or otherwise, of the proposed Iraqi constitution. Please give it as much factual and editorial coverage as possible. I'm very much looking forward to seeing the issue through Yemeni eyes.

Roy Yerey
bigroy@mts.net

Youth need media support

Words fail to express my sincere thanks to the editor who, in a brotherly way, receives and respects readers' opinions.

It is the opportunity to send the first letter to you to express my feelings to you about your subjects.

I wonder why do our major newspapers neglect the youth problems and innovations, in spite of their importance in life, and that youth are our future?

In addition, the world cannot improve without them, but the press in general does not take care of them. The press should have a good view to see the youth condition is improved.

Let me knock on your door, and say to you "Please take of your glasses and see with a marvelous eye, the youth, and go hand in hand with them to places where they can deal with their challenges."

Abdullah Ali Foteini

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Abdullah Ali Foteini
Sana'a

COMMON SENSE



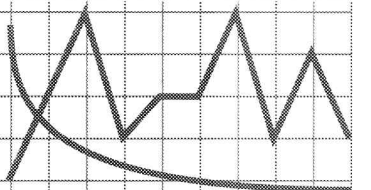
By Hassan Al-Haifi

The murder of Rachel Corrie
and the invasion of Iraq

Related anniversaries, yet so far apart

Last week brought with it two very important anniversaries in their implications for the United States and the region. On March 16, 2003, American made tractors driven by Israeli thugs simply drove over a brave American young lady, who was waging a big battle against the oppressive treatment the Palestinians were accorded by the mis-called Israeli Defense Forces. Yet despite the obvious violations against human rights this heinous crime entailed and despite the American passport borne by this phenomenal American citizen, not a hair was raised in officialdom USA to even try to find out who the culprits of this heinous crime are and to send them to Guantanamo Bay. No, word, because Rachel Corrie had the audacity to stand for true justice in this world and not for the Might Makes Right Attitude of the present White House Administration. America has no intention of displeasing the Zionist lobby that has the right of way all across the ruling establishment in Washington and elsewhere in the prominent spheres influence in policy making in Washington, DC. In fact Israeli bulldozers have the right way of way to trample on 100 American activists for Palestinian rights and not a hair will be moved in Washington. This clearly marked and according to eyewitnesses, "can't be missed" by the operators of the bulldozer operator was murdered in cold blood to signal to the American people that advocating for Palestinians was simply un-American. The people who said "if you are not with us, you are against it", will simply look the other way while Rachel Corrie and the many brave international advocates from the United States or even Israel, who are not "with them", for all they care, could all be thrown in foundation pits for the Israeli Security Wall. This is the mentality that reigns supreme in Tel Aviv and the White House, who were then so busy gearing up for the biggest international political sleaze of all times. Amidst all the pre Iraqi invasion yeas and nays and the great debates of pro and anti Iraqi invasion forces throughout the world, poor Richard Corrie was left to the hand of the tractor driver, which was enthusiastically shifting forward and reverse gear for the bulldozer to roll over the body of this young advocate for peace and human rights several times. He did not have the slightest apprehension that American outrage will be raised at the cold blooded murder of one of them. Poor Rachel Corrie! She was really under the impression that what she was doing was genuinely what America is supposed to be all about according to all the textbooks she read on American history! Alas! Illusions are indeed misleading! CNN and CNBC or any of the big media giants in the United States did not even bother to carry out a poll to put the matter of the untimely and sadistic death of one of the truly brave Americans to the public to get their views on the matter. Rachel Corrie put her body up in front of that monstrous Caterpillar to shout to the world, hay American bulldozers paid for by American taxpayers had no business destroying the homes of innocent indigenous Palestinians, who go back millennia to make way for the biggest territorial robbery by those who hail from every settlement of descendants of converts to the Jewish faith north of the Mediterranean and East of the Danube. So, the world was actually forced to overlook this genuine goodness coming out of the United States that left her soul in the Holy Land for God and the world to see that America is truly a lot more than what George W. Bush and his monstrous clique at the Department of Defense and the Cheney operations room make it to be. Of course, make no mistake about it, for the Israelis the timing was just right to get rid of this unwelcome ("NOT WITH US") American nuisance to the Sharon mob in Tel Aviv, because everyone was so busy gearing up for the big battle that was to come at the Euphrates Valley. So the message would be delivered exactly where it should be: American peaceniks and international do-gooders, Palestine is simply not your turf. An Israeli Officer at the scene confirmed this well, when he said that Rachel simply "had no business being there!", as he nonchalantly commented on the intentional crushing of every bone in Rachel's delicate body. Even the anniversary of the intriguing death of this truly fine woman would be surely overshadowed by the anniversary of yet another mischievous rape: the launching of the Iraqi invasion, another Zionist-Evangelical masterpiece of cunning and deception that one is bound to believe the Americans will simply not forsake for the sake of retuning the wily and mischievous gang that has wrought havoc to every corner of the world and made the world a standoff between two monstrously evil forces: terrorism and dogmatic rightwing fanatics of war games, played out far away in simulation battle ground rooms in comfortable Washington, DC to be waged in the Middle East or Haiti or any place else that is ripe for the American capitalist establishment to invest the taxes that it should have paid to save their government from bankruptcy. Alas, Rachel, the anniversary of your ferocious death at the hands of the Israeli Murder, Inc. Machine will also be overshadowed by the momentous celebration of the not so victorious right wing legions that look at a name like Rachel Corrie with the utmost of contempt, because she was "not with them", and had "no business being there". To confront real Israeli weapons of mass destruction is un-American to these vagabonds to riches clique dominating the political scene in America and Israel. America is manifested in the chase after illusory WMD that will harness the continuing wealth of the wealthy in America and keep the rest of the world in the bottom pit of poverty. So carry on Israel, you are free to crush anyone you like with as many American bulldozers as you need. Don't worry, America has more important mischief to cover you up with!

YT Business



Central bank of Yemen adopts DMFAS system

By MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The mayor of the Central Bank of Yemen Ahmed al-Samawi has recently said that Yemen has scored great successes in the installation and operation of the UNKTD Debt Management and Financial Analysis System/DMFAS that is adopted by all international organisations as the best system for paying back debts.

The Central Bank has in cooperation with the UNKTD organised a training workshop for 35 trainees where they got acquainted with the mechanism of implementing the criteria of the system pertaining to the strategy of public debt. Mr al-Samawi has deemed that connecting the Central Bank of Yemen to this system would help analyze and pinpoint financial requirements of Yemen and work out means and successful measures for paying debts.

The central bank mayor has also affirmed the bank's intention of training and qualifying its cadres in various banking specialties that would contribute to promote the banking performance and to be reflected on the banking performance in Yemen generally.

Mr al-Samawi pointed out the success the Yemeni banking sector and the monetary policy had realized during the past years, indicating that the total amount of deposits in this sector amounted to YR 476 billion while in 1995 they were not exceeding YR 50 billion when the government inaugurated the program of economic reform.

Mr al-Samawi also pointed out that those successes have pushed the Cyprus-based Capital Intelligence Establishment to promote the degree of its evaluation of the credit merit of Yemeni commitments to the foreign currency. It raised the evaluation from (c) to (b) for the long-term and from (c) to (b) for the short-term. The Establishment has for the first time



Central Bank of Yemen

given credit merit for Yemeni commitments in local currency, granting it (b) degree.

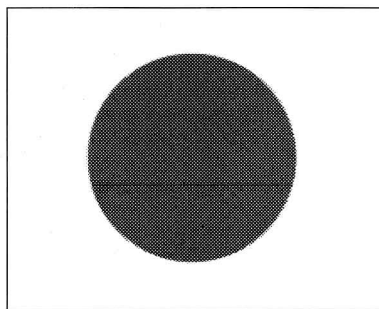
The establishment has justified the improvement of those indicators by the surpluses achieved in the current balance of the balance of payments

and accumulation of official monetary reserves that have lately exceeded \$5 billion, in addition to a series of rescheduling of Yemeni debts for members of Paris Club and others. This has led to reducing the total value of the loans to the half.

Japan grants USD 300,000 to implement 5 grassroots projects in Yemen

Under the Japanese scheme called "Grant Assistance for Grassroots Projects" the government of Japan has decided to extend grants amounting up to USD 300,000 to implement other five projects in Japanese fiscal year (April 2003 - March 2004). Those projects are as follows:

- 1 The Project for Livelihood Improvement Through Ecotourism in Socotra Island valued at USD 81,950. The project will be executed by Socotra Conservation Fund and aims at providing trainings to Socotra inhabitants on certain skills that could promote tourism in the Island.
- 2 The Project for small-scale gardening development for the improvement of Nutritive Status in Socotra Island, valued at USD 79,545. It will provide vegetables and fruits necessary for their nutrition.
- 3 The Project for the Irrigation of Farmland for the Improvement of Women's Income in Hubeish District in Ibb Governorate valued at USD 69,736. It will be executed by Hubeish Local Council and shall provide necessary irrigation to the farmlands in the area, increasing the income of women who work in those lands.
- 4 The Project for the Improvement of Solid Waste Management and Environment in Hamdan District in Sana'a Governorate, valued at USD



52,100. The project will be executed by Hamdan Local Council which will utilize the grant to improve the cleanliness situation in one of the major tourism destinations in Yemen.

- 5 The Project for Vocational Training for Unemployment Reduction Amongst the Youth in Taiz, valued at USD 17,282. The project will be executed by the Youth Centre and will enable the centre to procure machines and tools like sewing machines, Trico machines and weaving machines that would allow some of the youth in Taiz to gain more skills to face the requirements of life.

H.E. Mr. Yuichi Ishii, Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Yemen on Wednesday has signed the agreements to this effect with concerned officials of those organizations, namely, Mr. Abdul-Rahman Al-Eryani, Chairperson of Socotra Conservation Fund, Mr. Serge Di Palma, Head of Mission of Triangle Organization, Mr. Ahmed Al-Baseer, Chairperson of Hubeish Local Council,

Mr. Atef Al-Mosali, Chairperson of Hamdan Local Council and Mr. Abdulla Sallam, Chairperson of Youth Centre. During this Japanese fiscal year, ten projects have been implemented in Yemen under the above-mentioned scheme, which aims at supporting small-scale community-based projects in basic human needs fields, such as primary health care, basic education and public welfare in developing countries, including Yemen. As of now, the total amount for those projects amounts up to USD 565,338. This remarkable increase in the budget of this scheme provides evidence of its success and close coordination with people's needs in Yemen.

Exchange rate for Yemeni Rial

| Currency | Buying | Selling |
|-----------------|----------|----------|
| US Dollar | 184.4000 | 184.6400 |
| Sterling Pound | 336.6000 | 337.0400 |
| Euro | 226.5600 | 226.8600 |
| Saudi Rial | 49.1700 | 49.2400 |
| Kuwaiti Dinar | 625.5300 | 626.3400 |
| UAE Dirhem | 50.2000 | 50.2700 |
| Egyptian Pound | 29.9100 | 29.9500 |
| Bahraini Dinar | 489.1400 | 489.7700 |
| Qatari Rial | 50.6500 | 50.7200 |
| Jordanian Dinar | 260.2500 | 260.5900 |
| Omani Rial | 479.0100 | 479.6300 |
| Swiss Franc | 145.0100 | 145.2000 |
| Swedish Crown | 24.5000 | 24.5300 |
| Japanese Yen | 1.7185 | 1.7208 |

Source: Central Bank of Yemen

VACANCY
ANNOUNCEMENT

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) invites Yemeni nationals to apply for the following positions with its **Disaster Management Programme**.

Job Title: I. Administrative and Finance Assistant

Duty Station: Sana'a, at the General Directorate of Civil Defense

Responsibilities**1. Finance related matters:**

- Handle day-to-day petty cash (opening, administration and closing)
- Maintain and update Programme budget (assist in the preparation of budget revisions)
- Monitor Programme expenditures, prepare and maintain necessary financial control reports
- Prepare and follow-up on payments and other expenses

2. Personnel related matters:

- Process entitlements (daily subsistence allowance, remuneration) and follow-up on contracts of Programme staff and national consultants (extensions, renewals...), and maintain various personnel records and files
- Brief other personnel on administrative matters, advise and ensure administrative support as required
- Follow-up on administrative matters between the Programme and UNDP-office

3. Logistical/clerical support:

- Perform the tasks of office supplies requisition including the preparation of equipment specifications, collection of bids and preparation of purchase orders
- Maintain appropriate inventory records of office material and equipment and prepare the corresponding reports
- Assist in the logistics preparation and implementation of training, workshops, meetings and other awareness activities (exhibitions, fairs...) pertaining to the Programme
- Assist the Programme Manager in drafting progress and other reports
- Maintain general office files and keep information and reference in a manner that allows easy retrieval
- Prepare and design printed material pertaining to the Programme (Leaflets, posters...)
- Prepare correspondence and offer documents as required on general administrative or specialized tasks, log incoming/outgoing correspondence
- Assist in assembling briefing material, documentation and correspondence for the use in official meetings or missions
- Undertake other office duties which may be requested by the Programme Manager.

4. Qualification:

- University degree in business administration, management or communications.
- Good Knowledge of accounting and budget handling.
- Good research skills.
- Good computer skills in both English and Arabic.
- Good knowledge of the Internet.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills in English and Arabic.

Job Title: II. Public Information Specialist:

Duty Station: Sana'a, at the General Directorate of Civil Defense

Responsibilities

1. Administer key elements of, and operationalize awareness, mitigation, and rescue communication strategies of disaster management programme activities utilizing multi media including Internet, electronic and printed media in close cooperation with the ministry of information.
2. Propose and implement activities, initiatives, and programmes to promote public awareness and access to the Disaster Management Unit information. Effectively liaise with the Government, donors, local media, national and international NGOs and other potential counterparts to this end.
3. Provide technical advice to the disaster management units in Sana'a and other governorates about organization and communication activities for disaster management; compile, monitor, and implement agreed areas of communication and awareness.
4. Compile, summarize, plan and arrange briefings on different aspects of disaster management, utilizing the national and international news media; identify appropriate sites and topics regarding disasters including the slow onset ones pertaining to environment, cultural sites, ground water aquifers and others. This would include preparation of special reports on different aspects of disaster and disseminating them, thus contributing to the overall awareness and mitigation activities of the programme.
5. Arrange field visits and accompany media teams, donors, and other interested parties, write articles, coordinate and contribute to arrangements for special events and throughout disaster related activities.
6. Produce periodic publications on disaster management and disaster prone areas, and disseminate them to all concerned parties.
7. Formulate and monitor media strategies and outputs for disaster management activities.
8. Develop strategies and cooperate with the UNDP public information officer.
9. Contribute to the resource mobilization efforts and maintain a donor database.
10. Compile material and organize the Yemen Disaster Management website, as part of the UNDP Yemen website, in close cooperation with the IT specialist.

Qualifications:

- An advanced university degree in journalism, public information, or related field of study.
- At least five years of operational experience. Experience in writing articles and media briefs. Experience in the country is an advantage.
- Excellent command of Arabic and English languages is mandatory.
- Good computer skills in both English and Arabic. Good knowledge of the Internet.

Job Title: III. Information Technology Specialist

Duty Station: Sana'a, at the General Directorate of Civil Defense

Responsibilities

1. Collect and organize data relevant to the different aspects of disaster management.
2. Develop databases.
3. Develop and maintain the programme web page.
4. Ensure proper information linkages of the Programme;
5. Procure hardware and software materials for the office as needed and as according to the rules and regulations of UNDP.
6. Train and assist programme staff on management of information and use of online services.
7. Install and maintain the computers, other relevant equipment, and the LAN at the office in Sana'a and as needed and indicated by the NPM in other governorates at the disaster management locations.
8. Manage the data on non-expandable items of the programme within the rules and regulations of UNDP.
9. Follow up the activities of the programme in Sana'a and in the governorates, and where possible actively contribute to the preparation of training programmes, division of labor, and supervision of computer trainers and follow up on software utilized.
10. Carry out continuous assessments to disaster management terminals in the governorates, and advise the NPM accordingly.
11. Work closely with the Geographical Information Systems (GIS) consultant, and follow up on the installation of the systems, implementation of relevant data entry, training and other activities to ensure the smooth running of the system and its benefits to the programme.

Qualification:

- Completion of a university technical degree in information technology.
- At least five years of information technology experience.
- Excellent command of the Arabic and English languages is required. Experience with UN is desirable.

Interested candidates who have the necessary qualifications and background for the above positions may submit their applications indicating the title for the post applied for by mail to Human Resources Unit and response will only be made to short listed candidates.

UNDP, P.O.Box 551 Sana'a/Fax: 448841/E-mail: registry.ye@undp.org

The deadline for receiving applications is Monday, 5 April 2004

For further details for our vacancies you may visit our website at:
<http://www.undp.org/ye/undp-vacancies.htm>

Local Press

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr

Al-Shoura weekly, organ of the People's Forces Union of Yemen, 17 March 2004.

Main headlines

- Tension prevails Rada' area, 6 persons killed
- After five years, al-Aleemi confesses killing an old man
- Businessmen, capitalists warn from imminent economic collapse
- Defence body of journalist Thabit sticks to hunting down kidnappers
- Demonstration of military veterans to the presidency
- Journalist Syndicate Council discusses 2004 plan
- Large-scale storming campaigns in the capital secretariat

Columnist Jammal A'mer says in his article the authority in Yemen via its official source quickly welcomed the signing of the interim constitution in Iraq and further has welcomed that by evaluating the 'positive role played by Mr Bremer' head of the provisional civil administration of the coalition forces in Iraq. This statement by an official source is similar to many statements given without depending on an objective or political reading comprehending the situations of overlapping and contradictory realities. The regime in Yemen considered rushing to welcoming the signing of the Iraqi interim constitution as a form of getting closer to America.

Yemen is one of the Arab states that did not recognize the governing council and its authorities were more hostile to the occupying forces and as they were sincere in refusing the war on Iraq. The problem is that rectifying those stances was by taking wrong attitude in time and venue.

Part of Yemen's regime impasses is that in its policies deals in dependence on hasty reactions and usually not firm on any stand to the end. This is also because of the non-existence of institutions making decisions based on realistic data and logical calculations. Thus I think Yemen would continue far from influencing as long as the mentality of the ruler deals with foreign policy as if with tribal sheikhs.

RAY weekly, organ of the Sons of Yemen League party, 16 March 2004.

Main headlines

- 170 Arab leading personalities call for urgent political reforms
- Chairman of the Chambers of Commerce:
- Recession of national economy and growing rates of poverty and unemployment
- France calls for European meetings to discuss terror
- Exchanged accusations between Iran and the international agency of energy

Columnist Khalid al-Harawachi says it has become certain that the government of Bajammal has determined to launch its latest dose and the whole question is of time that may not exceed a few days. The government was rather in a hurry but it has preferred to give the people a space of time to get prepared psychologically while it preparing justifications and lies the task of which would be entrusted to official media for promoting them. It is not only that for the government is getting ready in terms of security to face any one thinking of voicing his protest of refusal of the government policies and decisions. It is well-known that the program the government had begun since 1995 under the so-called program of economic and administrative reform, was not implemented but the article concerning price rises o basic goods and services and for the reforms concerning the government they have been disregarded by the successive governments.

Al-Sahwa weekly, 18 March 2004.

Main headlines

- Large-scale condemnation to attack on engineers union
- Political parties and Sana'a University sign an agreement of principles
- Brooklyn Court in New York studies the case of al-Mouayad
- Condemned Madrid explosions,
- JMP holds the government responsible for dealing with allegations against al-Zindani

Main headlines

- 14 killed, 10 wounded in 5 days in Ibb
- A massive demonstration on the world day on rejection occupation of Iraq and Palestine
- Families of the U.S. embassy demand punishing the perpetrators
- JMP denounced authority measures against engineers syndicate, condemned Madrid explosions
- Sit-in in front of Egyptian consulate in Aden
- Yemeni labour harmed by 'Saudisation' of 25 professions
- FM: Amendment of Arab League Charter at Algiers summit in 2005
- Danish Agency Bureau reopened in Sana'a
- Saudi foreign minister in Sana'a
- Shura deputy chairman: International response to attend senates councils league
- World demonstrations against continuation of Iraq occupation
- JMP demands stop of the dose, calls he people to encounter it
- YR 1000 billion, Yemen's losses from smuggling
- JMP: government responsible for protection of its citizens
- Saudi Arabia delivered 25 children, Poverty and absence of security behind children smuggling gangs
- Thinkers and academicians: Middle East project bitter tasting medicine
- Cancer in Yemen, a journey of suffering ending in death
- Gulf campaign against terror
- 40 thousand cubic meters of water wasted every day at the hydroelectric station in Aden
- Arms prohibited be carrying and taking into Ibb
- The killed Khalid al-Haj was in charge of Al-Qaeda operations in the Gulf
- Kuwait demands Saddam execution
- News of bin Laden arrest to be announced on the eve of American elections
- Interim constitution makes Iraq springing board for American conspiring against the Arabs
- International employee saves Saddam message in his memory
- Sheikh al-Ahmar leaves hospital
- Yemeni political parties demonstrate for sovereignty
- Popular general rejection of the dose
- Merchants and industrialists demand postponement of the general tax
- Prosecution replies on Thabit kidnapping case Tuesday

Columnist Zaid al-Shami says a year has elapsed since the latest aggression on Iraq. Thus it was the American-British war on Iraq that lacked any moral justification and its leaders failed to obtain an international cover. America failed to bring out approval of the UN security council and France announced it would use the veto to prevent the catastrophe, which was a noble stand, and America was forced to wage the war without being able to claim it was implementing resolutions of the international legitimacy but depended on the law of he jungle and the logic of power. The war has disclosed the hidden rancor against the Muslims and their culture because it did not stop at the destruction of buildings, roads and bridges but extended the libraries and treasures of human heritage which the war burned and destroyed. It violated the honour and dignity of the Iraqi citizen who is known by his willfulness and pride and opened the doors before sectarian fanaticism. And now Iraq is engaged with disturbances and troubles. The Arab leaders are to meet a year after the aggression on Iraq in circumstances more complicated on the Palestinian arena and we do not expect from them but what we used to of worrying and precautionous expression. Arab leaders do not want to reconcile with their peoples and do not want to review their mistakes. They are determined to follow the course of hard line and extremism inside their countries and concession internationally.

- Journalists Syndicate Council proposes specialties of its members
- Demonstrations against the war on Iraq.

Columnist Ali al-Saqqaq writes saying that insistence of the ruling party on dominating over the non-governmental organizations and unions confirms the totalitarian mentality that still controls behaviour of the party.

After the results of the journalists syndicate elections some of those deemed followers of the ruling party aroused disputes about distribution of tasks among members of the syndicate council while they were scrambling for such posts. The engineers union was rendered into a barrack after being occupied by soldiers and some engineers of the GPC who have set up an alternative preparatory committee to dominate the union. The engineers are still unable to hold their conference because the ruling party realizes well that it would not be under its control. As for the physicians they have held their conference in Sana'a and the result came against the wish of the ruling party.

Al-Wahda weekly, 17 March 2004.

Main headlines

- European information and cultural delegations arrive in Sana'a soon
- Minister of civil service and securities: Employee unified card begins next April
- Loading and unloading movement at container port increasing
- 12 investment projects implemented in Hudeida
- Police attacks gangs of drug trafficking
- The Spanish prime minister describes the war on Iraq as a great catastrophe

Columnist Ahmed Muhidin writes saying the Spanish premier Aznar represented the third pillar in the triangle that took the decision of invading Iraq beside the American president Bush and the British prime minister Blair last

SKETCHED OPINION



BY SAMER AL-SHAMIRI

March. With the approach of the first anniversary of launching the war outside the fame of the international legitimacy on 20 March, the Spaniard electors brought down Aznar and elected Zapatero who in his first press conference on Monday described that war as disaster and big mistake. According to observers the fall of Aznar is the price he has paid for his disregard of the Spanish people opposition of the war and their country's involvement in it. This result that brought the socialists to power and dropped the conservatives

was not expected and this means that peoples' will must be respected.

Recalling the weeks before the war we would find that most world peoples had refused the launching of the war by massive demonstrations in various capitals of he world. It means that the insistence on the war represented a challenge to the will of peoples by the leaders who had taken the decision or those who had supported them. With the fall of one of the triangle sides of those who have taken the decision of war the door has become open for observers to predict

the fall of the other two sides of war triangle, Bush and Blair in the American and British elections. Undoubtedly the world peoples opposition of the war on Iraq proceeded from perceiving the catastrophic results that would follow it and now the facts began to reveal themselves gradually. The other thing is that peoples have been convinced that the justifications advanced by both American and British administrations for launching the war are lacking credibility.



By Yahya Al-Olfi
alolfi@hotmail.com

Reflections

BORN ILL!

A friend once told me that development, in any given country, can be easily noted and measured by two things, the efficacy and abundance of its uninterrupted electrical power supply and the orderly traffic on its streets. I always remember this whenever the electricity goes out and I am watching my favorite Latin American series, the newscast or whenever I ride to and from office. Electricity power stations in Yemen, namely in Hodeidah and Mokha, were established in order to meet the needs of the whole country and were proclaimed to be so. Large amounts of moneys were destined for such a project and European companies were hired to do the job.

Luckily during the late seventies and early eighties corrupt officials were so wary compared to the brazen actions of today's responsables. I remember that during those days the electricity did not used to go out except due to troubles with overhead randomly-connected lines and the electricians used to show up immediately, although they used to ask for fees.

Following the reunification of Yemen and during the early nineties, I remember having read a war of words between two prominent PEC administrative personalities on the pages of the Yemeni Military Mouthpiece (26th September Newspaper).

I remember that both men accused one another of embezzlement and each one gave concrete evidence. Both spoke about embezzled moneys and assets in the U.K and in USA. They spoke about purchasing obsolete machinery under the disguise as new etc. The strange manner in which such a scandal surfaced likewise appeared to be a cover up.

Nowadays, like the few past years, failures or programmed blackouts are recurrent under the pretext of overloads, the need for an overhaul, reduction of wasted energy etc. It is a shame that a revenue institution fails to become sustainable due to continued corruption. People working in this domain told me that every new minister assuming the responsibility claims at the beginning that he is going to solve the problem and that everything is going to be fine, but because like his peers or predecessors he came to the possession wishing to gain and is surprised with the electricity corporation being on crutches and nothing changes. No Yemeni or Arab Minister has ever presented his resignation due to a delict, scandal or failure to perform. So sedative solutions are undertaken

(relief power plants are said to be installed but no difference is being noted) all along his tenure until he cedes responsibility to the newly appointed minister. The problem of electricity can be tackled easily, just take the example of Iraq whose electricity was totally destroyed and within months the electricity has returned to its prior war status (equaling nine times Yemen's electricity). Of course none of the ministers had the courage to address the problem because everyone wants to get along, acting by the Arab proverb which says 'If you are amongst the one-eyed people make yourself one-eyed'.

In other ministries or authorities the responsables make false statements to polish their images in front of the higher ones and their tricks seem to be working (the more one appears in official journals the better are his prospects of promotion) but with electricity it is difficult because it is noticeable and needed so the people always comment derisively about the incessant promises of the consecutive ministers. Some ministers or deputy ministers etc. give moneys to certain state underpaid journalists to publish false or exaggerated figures or news about their accomplishments so that people higher than them can take notice, albeit their achievements are imaginary.

Naturally, the people at the top do not suffer from electricity blackouts because their houses are equipped with uninterrupted power supplies and extra care is being paid to areas where the well to do and responsables live so as to avoid dangerous criticism. In fact one electricity minister is not to be blamed alone because the problem has passed on from one minister to another but none of them has been frank with the people because they do not want trouble and are just acting like the Ottoman Valis (administrators).

I find it necessary to mention that the Electricity Corporation has got offices in certain zones of the capital where people go to pay the bills or contract in the service and certain of such offices commit many transgressions, for example when someone comes to subscribe they receive him well, take the fees and then tell him they will pass by his home and connect electricity to his home, shop etc. The days pass by without any news so the concerned returns again asking why they have not come yet. They tell him "Be patient we have run out of electricity counters, but we can connect you temporarily until counters are available in our stores". The subscriber feels happy because now the electricity is connected. After a month or so he or she returns asking for the

counter but to no avail. Finally, the subscriber gives up and rather feel somewhat solaced because there is no bill to be paid thinking that the electricity people are to blame for the delay and that no problem shall ensue because he has done his best and approached them many times only to receive the same answer. Although the subscriber's assumption is right, the status quo and realities on the ground impose themselves. Being right is not enough, you have to have power in order to prevail. After five months, six months, one year or two the electricity people finally show up and tell the subscriber "Ha.ha. You are enjoying free electricity, why you did not come to take your counter? Well, you have consumed so and so units and must pay an amount of so and so". Then another of their lot approaches the subscriber and tells him "Look this is the government. If you do not pay for what you have consumed and settle it right now and right here this will entail problems for you including imprisonment, so the man acquiesces and of course pays a lesser amount than the surmised but large enough to suffice the greedy pockets. The supposed amount is distributed amongst the general manager and his clique members. Of course, this is just an aspect of many forms of fraudulence. An observer of such an incident recounted to me how elderly people and women are mistreated so that they give in at last and pay the keenly sought bribe and if such employees are asked why, they charge the government of non-transparency, that they are not paid enough and they are compelled to do this, bearing in mind that sometimes they are disappointed in their attempts whenever their target turns out to be one of the heavy weights i.e. has connections to influential people.

I should mention that some electricity zone managers have proven their honesty and sincerity. They are known and people know their efforts but unfortunately crooks are still the majority.

In my opinion, the problem lies in the overall absence of transparency of the whole system which is being reflected in the way people think, for everybody cares about his own selfish interests and there is a total disregard for the public interest, although public interest is the pretext exploited to achieve gains. Something should be done in order to get rid of non-transparency, lack of seriousness, negligence, absence of immediate justice, inequality of opportunities and the complete nonchalance on the part of the government and the people in general.

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تسليم جوائز السحب الأول لمهرجان كريستال

تم يوم الإثنين الموافق ١٥/٣/٢٠٠٤م وعلى قاعة المركز الثقافي بتعز إقامة حفل تسليم جوائز السحب الأول لمهرجان

(كريستال ... يمنحك الملايين)

وذلك بحضور مدراء العموم ومدراء التسويق بالشركات الشقيقة، وعدد كبير من وجمهور المستهلكين والعملاء، وقد تخلل حفل التسليم العديد من الفقرات الغنائية والثقافية والعروض المسرحية التي أمتعت الحضور.

ألف مبروك للخمسين الفائزين وحظ أوفر بالسحب القادم مع كريستال.



الفائزين بالمائتين ألف ريال



الفائز بالمليون ريال



الفائزة بالخمسمائة ألف ريال



صورة تجمع الفائزين بمهرجان كريستال



الحاضرين بالمهرجان



الفائزين بالمائة ألف ريال



الحاضرين بالمهرجان



السحب الثاني يوم الإثنين ٥/٤/٢٠٠٤م تسليم الجوائز يوم الإثنين ١٢/٤/٢٠٠٤م صنعاء

Improve Your English



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228

I. What to Say Situations and Expressions (64) Wedding wishes (II)

Marriage symbolises a solemn pledge of two loving hearts locked in a lasting partnership to fight the battle life together, with a spirit of deep understanding and abiding faith in each other.

- Marriage is a beautiful bond of love, strengthened by trust and togetherness. May all the joys of a happy marriage be yours to have and yours to share through many wonderful years together.
- As the two of you tie into a holy matrimony, here's sending you a world of luck. A wedding brings feelings that are based upon the love and hopes that two people share. So, as you experience the wonderful feeling of this special occasion, you're wished the best, that life can bring your way. Wishing you happiness always.
- Wedding greetings as both of you tie the eternal bond of love. Hope your precious relationship grows and strengthens each day, and life showers the best for you.
- As the two of you start on a new journey of togetherness, here's wishing that your journey be harbored with love and compassion, and may the moments you both live, be cherished by you all life through. Wishing life's best as you wed.
- On your wedding, wishing you life's best. Hope your wedding be a fresh season of spring. Wishing a ceremony that brings two unknown people so close, that nothing seems closer than the love they share, especially for you as both tie the knot.
- Warm greetings on your wedding. In marriage two people together, can create an infinite love.
- When two people join their lives together, they feel all of life's ups and downs. These two people will face each failure together and discover the strengths to go on. They'll encourage each other's dreams and forgive each other's faults through a labor of love. These two will become one, creating a marriage that'll grow into an infinite love.
- A wedding is a start of togetherness... of walks in the rain, basking in the sunshine, caring for one another and sensing the love that marriage carries.

II. How to Say it Correctly

Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences

1. He is the last but one boy in the class.
2. We doubted that he will win the case.
3. I have decided to substitute the old curtains by new ones.
4. If he tries hard he may succeed to accomplish the task.
5. They are studying in this college since 2001.

Suggested answers to last week's questions

1. Men are but children of a larger growth.
2. The answer should be written on a sheet of paper.
3. No other girl in the class is as resourceful as Aisha.
4. We must guard ourselves against bad habits.

III. Increase Your Word Power

(A) How to express it in one word

1. The theory of heredity tending to reduce to numerical law the recurrence of inherited characters.
2. Study of the form of animals, plants or words.
3. Place where dead bodies are kept.
4. Coining a new word.
5. Showing undue favor to one's relatives.

Suggested answers to last week's questions

1. An excessive morbid desire to steal: **kleptomania** (n)
2. One who compiles a dictionary: **lexicographer**

- (n)
3. One who is a free thinker on religion: **libertine** (n)
4. The philosophy of practicing duplicity in statecraft: **Machiavellianism** (n)
5. A ridiculous confusion and misuse of words: **malapropism** (n)

(B) Foreign words and expressions

Give the source of origin and meaning of the following:

1. gazette 2. genre 3. ghazel
4. grammatology 5. grotesque

Suggested answers to last week's questions

1. **essay** (Fr. 'essai' meaning 'attempt'): A composition, in prose, which discusses, formally or informally, a topic or a variety of topics.
2. **euphemism** (Gk. 'fair speech'): The substitution of a mild and pleasant expression for a harsh and blunt one, such as 'to pass away' for 'to die'.
3. **euphony** (Gk. 'sweetness of sound'): Pleasantness of sound.
4. **Farce** (Lat. 'Farcire' meaning 'to stuff'): Play full of ridiculous situations to make people laugh.
5. **Festschrift** (Gk. 'celebration writing'): A 'homage volume' compiled in honor of a distinguished scholar or writer.

(C) Words commonly confused

Bring out differences in meaning of the following pairs of words

1. aspire, expire
2. avocation, vocation
3. beneficial, beneficent
4. childish, childlike
5. complement, compliment

Suggested answers to last week's questions

1. **blue** (adj.): He was dressed in blue for the party.
2. **blew** (v. past of 'blow'): The referee blew his whistle to end the game.
3. **boar** (n.) (a wild male pig): A boar is a wild animal.
4. **bore** (v.t.) (make someone feel tired): I am never bored listening to lilting music.
5. **moral** (n.) (standards of behavior): This is a story with a moral.
6. **morale** (n.) (temper, state of mind): The morale of our army is very high at the moment.
7. **stairs** (n.) (series of fixed steps): He fell from the stairs and was injured.
8. **stare** (vt) (look fixedly at): Don't stare at me like this.
9. **advice** (n) (opinion about what to do): Please heed my honest advice.
10. **advise** (vt) (recommend): The patient was advised complete rest.

(C) Idioms and phrases

Bring out the meanings of the following in sentences

1. nigger in a wood pile
2. to pick a quarrel
3. penny wise pound foolish
4. once in a blue moon
5. maiden speech

Suggested answers to last week's questions

1. **eagle-eyed** (keen sighted): It is impossible to escape from the eagle-eyed police officer.
2. **an old flame** (some one with whom one used to be in love): She is an old flame of mine.
3. **gate crasher** (uninvited intruder): Such gate crashers as him should be properly dealt with.
4. **gift of the gab** (power of talking): He is adored for his gift of the gab.
5. **heart to heart** (free and frank talk without hiding anything): The two friends had a heart to heart discussion.

IV. Grammar and Composition

(A) Grammar

Choose the best answer

1. He wants to know

- A. What is the time?
- B. What is the time
- C. What the time is?
- D. What the time is.
- E. What time is it.

2. Monkeys use ----- tails to help them climb.

- A. is B. it's C. his D. their E. their's

3. The teacher gave him

- A. many good advices
- B. a lot of good advice
- C. many good advice
- D. a lot of good advices
- E. much good advices

4. Most children go to school ----- bus.

- A. on B. in C. by D. to E. with

5. This book is Eschrag's, but that one is not -----

- A. her B. hers C. her's D. hers'
- E. her's book

Suggested answers to last week's questions

1. As a result of the recession, we've had to **raise** the amount of money we spend on research and development.
2. Last year was a good year for the company and our sales **rose** considerably.
3. The price of coffee has **gone up** as a result of bad weather conditions.
4. Many Asian companies have entered the market and there has been a 20% **fall** in prices.
5. Some govts. fear a **drop** in Japanese investment in Europe.
6. The **decline** in profits is the result of poor management.

(B) Paragraph writing

Expand the idea contained in the maxim

59: FRIENDSHIP IS SELDOM LASTING BUT BETWEEN EQUALS

Last week's topic

58: FASHIONS IN DRESS ARE MUCH LESS HARMFUL THAN INTELLECTUAL FASHIONS

Fashion refers to the manner of doing or making something. It is the way of dressing or behaving that is considered the best at a certain time. In fact, trends in dress keep on changing in keeping with the change in people's taste. New trends in dress or manners are, by and large, harmless. However, some people love to flaunt new-fangled ideas and stylize themselves as 'trendy'. They project themselves as iconoclasts and flout time-tested ideas, social norms, beliefs and practices, dubbing them orthodox or conservative. They often set harmful new trends in thought patterns and pave the way for moral and spiritual degradation, or bankruptcy of the new generation. Thus, fashion in dress are much less harmful than the intellectual fads of the pseudo-intellectuals who misguide innocent minds by their misadventure.

V. Pearls From The Holy Quran

"Allah! There is no god
But He: of a surety
He will gather you together
On the Day of Judgment,
About which there is no doubt,
And Whose word can be
Truer than Allah's?"
S4: A87

VI. Words of Wisdom

"The only victory that counts is the one over yourself."

—Jesse Owens

A letter to the teachers of English: 48

How to develop your learner's vocabulary (1)



DR. M.N.K. BOSE
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Associate Professor of
English,
Faculty of Arts, Ibb.

Dear Fellow teachers,

This is another important aspect of teaching English in our classes – developing the learner's vocabulary in English. The term 'vocabulary' is defined in a dictionary as all the words known to a person. One's language ability depends on one's vocabulary; if one has a large vocabulary, one can be comfortable with the language one uses. Before we see how we can develop our learner's vocabulary in English, let's have some information about vocabulary in general.

One's vocabulary can be active or passive in one's mother tongue as well as in English. An active vocabulary comprises the words he/she knows and uses often; for example, in English words like table, breakfast, games, mosque, and classroom for our learners. A passive vocabulary or receptive vocabulary (I prefer the second name because it removes the passivity from the name), on the other hand, comprises the words he/she knows but not uses or uses occasionally; for example, snow, bear, skiing, valve etc. It is possible that words move from one to the other depending on the frequency of their use. For example, 'snow', which is a part of the passive vocabulary of our learner becomes a part of his/her active vocabulary, when he/she travels to Switzerland with his/her family for a vacation. Christine Nuttall, whom I have referred to in my last letter, identifies another category, which she calls 'throwaway vocabulary' (she herself admits as not a good term) by which she means the words not of immediate use to the learner; for example, words like epicenter, glaciers etc. But remember, these may become a part of the

passive or active vocabulary if the learner is placed in a different context where he needs such words. There is also the technical vocabulary i.e. the list of words used in a particular field or discipline such as medical vocabulary (with words like syringe, catheter, and intravenous) and military vocabulary (with words like roll call, platoon, bullets, target and haversack). You are familiar, aren't you, with the kinds of words used in the lessons in the Arts Reader and the Science Reader in the CECY Pupil's Book 5 and 6. You can ask your learners of these classes to make lists of words that are specific to the Arts Reader and the Science Reader as a preparation for some dictionary work, pointed out in the earlier letters.

The larger the vocabulary, the faster your reading, the grander your writing and the more elegant your conversation will be. In other words, you will find it easier to use English. It is, therefore, necessary for any user of English to build a good and fairly large vocabulary as early as possible, and keep expanding it further. It is essential for teachers like us to have a rich vocabulary in order to command respect from our students. So, start thinking of ways to build your vocabulary and expand it as much as possible. It is, no doubt, a life long process, but a good beginning must be made to enrich one's vocabulary. You can test the size of your vocabulary with the help of certain books produced for this purpose, but the easiest and the best way is to write down all the words that you know, put them in active and passive lists, before you plunge into expanding your vocabulary. A rough estimate expects an English graduate in an EFL situation to have between 2000 and 3000 words in his/her vocabulary; don't panic, if you fall short of this number. You can always increase your vocabulary quickly, if you attempt to do so. Good luck. More about vocabulary later.

Yours fraternally,
Dr. M.N.K. Bose.

All the world's a cafe (1)



By Ms. AMRITA SATAPATHY
M. PHIL, UTKAL
UNIVERSITY
BHUBANESWAR, ORISSA,
INDIA

The 'syrup of soot or essence of old shoes', the 'new ambrosia of life', or the 'elixirs of liberation'! Does it tickle the brain cells? Well these are neither brain-teasers nor parts of a riddle; but the various labels attached to that much adored, chic and consumerist drink-coffee. So, how about a 'coffee break' while we excursion through the aromatic alleys, and take a peak into the coffee houses?

One of the several legends about the discovery of coffee dates as far back as 850 AD. It is about Kaldi, an Arab goatherd. Puzzled by the odd antics of his flock, he is believed to have sampled the berries of the evergreen bush on which the goats were feeding. On experiencing a sense of exhilaration, just like, his goats he proclaimed his discovery of the coffee plant to the world. Another version goes to say that the coffee was first found in Ethiopia and was known as Kefa or Kaffa. And history points towards Constantinople as the place where we come across our first ever coffee house. The year was 1550 AD. The 17th century witnessed the burgeoning of coffee clubs or houses better known as café (The English term café, borrowed from the French, derives ultimately from the Turkish 'kahve', meaning coffee.) in London, France and Vienna. In France, cafés became the inventive crucible of artis-

tic brilliance and literary movements. In the Austro-Hungarian Empire, they were the centre of cultural life as well as the hatching-ground of Machiavellian plots. A Turkish merchant first introduced coffee into England in the year 1610 in Lombard Street. By 1670 the coffee house movement had burst onto the London scene with such vim and vigor that hardly a city lane could be negotiated without coming across the inimitable sign - a fine glass lantern of a certain shape indicating that somewhere at the end of the dark road you could pay a penny at the bar and enter into a world of art and intrigue, often boisterous and effervescent but hardly dry.

17th century Europe boasts of a cosmically spruced metropolis and a dazzlingly debonair populace. Those were the elegant and well-groomed days of London too; the heydays of suave and dapper dandies, stylish ladies, darling coquettes and fashionable fops. So it was essential to introduce into the urban milieu a sophisticated drink that would shake the brain into action and animate conversations - a drink, unlike the insipid tea, that would add a punch to the long verbal fencing matches between the lovers and their paramours. By 1670, coffee had acquired the character of a 'cult-drink' and the coffee houses became local shrines giving an aura to English feudal and aristocratic life. If you thought that coffee was only a kind of favoured brew with the chatterati and the glitterati, then you are mistaken! Because it was the magic potion for the wits and the tonic of the literati.

To be continued next week

WONDERWORD

by DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: First read the list of words, then look at the puzzle. The words are in all directions — vertically, horizontally, diagonally, backward. Circle each letter of a word found and strike it off the list. The letters are often used more than once, so do not cross them out. It is best to find the big words first. When you find all the words listed in the clues, you'll have a number of letters left over that spell the Wonderword.

CLUES

| | | | | |
|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|--------------|
| Agent | Cook | Garage | Mayor | Rule |
| Architect | Copy | Gardening | Mover | Sale |
| Bank | Days | Goal | Nurse | Seller |
| Boss | Dentist | Grocery | Page | Shift |
| Buses | Designer | Handyman | Paid | Shows |
| Business | Director | Hire | Parents | Skill |
| Busy | Doctor | Hours | Pens | Sort |
| Butcher | Done | Hurry | Personnel | Store |
| Cabs | Duty | Income | Pilot | Stress |
| Calls | Early | Jobs | Plan | Sweep |
| Career | Earn | Labor | Poet | Teach |
| Cash | Economy | Labs | Police | Test |
| Cast | Engineer | Lawyer | Production | Tool |
| Challenge | Equipment | Lend | Punctual | Veterinarian |
| City | Farm | Long | Raise | Week |
| Clerk | File | Lunch | Redo | Will |
| Clever | Firm | Mall | Repairman | Worker |
| Company | Form | Managing | Rewards | |
| Competence | Function | Manual | Rich | |

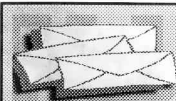
ANSWER NEXT WEEK

Last Week's Answer: Publish

A DAY AT WORK

Solution: 9 letters

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| P | R | O | D | U | C | T | I | O | N | T | S | K | I | L | L | E | N | O | D |
| B | U | T | C | H | E | R | C | P | B | O | S | S | O | A | R | C | O | R | O |
| U | M | N | S | P | U | R | E | E | R | A | C | I | B | O | K | R | E | L | C |
| S | B | A | C | E | A | R | S | V | T | L | O | O | T | M | C | N | K | A | T |
| I | C | I | Y | T | S | R | R | L | O | I | R | S | A | N | G | E | H | W | O |
| N | N | R | K | O | U | U | E | Y | A | M | H | N | S | I | E | O | C | Y | R |
| E | D | A | N | N | R | A | B | N | P | U | A | C | S | W | C | D | N | E | S |
| S | R | N | M | R | A | F | L | F | T | G | N | E | R | T | E | A | U | R | T |
| S | E | I | E | R | H | B | S | N | I | S | D | A | N | A | P | E | L | Y | R |
| L | L | R | E | L | I | F | R | N | C | R | Y | E | M | M | L | D | P | L | E |
| R | L | E | G | A | R | A | G | O | E | H | M | A | O | A | Y | O | I | C | S |
| N | E | T | G | B | E | R | P | N | D | P | A | C | D | L | C | Y | N | A | S |
| O | S | E | H | S | O | R | T | E | I | E | N | L | R | L | T | E | C | G | P |
| I | N | V | N | C | W | S | E | U | R | N | R | A | L | I | T | E | O | O | R |
| T | S | R | E | I | A | O | Q | R | E | V | E | L | C | E | L | P | M | A | E |
| C | F | R | A | C | G | E | H | A | C | T | K | D | P | U | N | A | E | L | C |
| N | Y | I | U | I | E | N | T | S | T | J | R | M | R | I | N | G | T | B | I |
| U | T | C | H | O | S | L | E | C | O | N | O | M | Y | A | L | E | E | U | L |
| F | U | H | E | S | H | E | A | B | R | C | W | I | L | L | G | O | S | S | O |
| S | D | R | A | W | E | R | S | S | T | E | O | P | M | R | O | F | T | Y | P |



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Dutch Queen mother Juliana dies aged 94

By MARCEL MICHELSON

Juliana, the people's Queen of the Netherlands who helped the country and its citizens recover from World War Two and oversaw the independence of the remaining colonies, died on Saturday at the age of 94.

The state information service said she died of a lung infection at 5:50 a.m. (0450 GMT) in the Soestdijk palace where she had lived most of her long life.

Three of her four daughters, including Queen Beatrix, were present when she died and the fourth landed shortly afterwards from the United States. Crown-prince Willem Alexander is returning from holidays in Austria.

Prime Minister Jan Peter Balkenende said in a televised speech that Juliana, who reigned for 32 years from 1948, had been a Queen "for the people and not for the directors" and had said she would have wanted to be a social worker if she had not become Queen.

"Together with Prince Bernhard, she worked for the reconstruction of our country after World War Two. Supported by her religion, she was an indefatigable campaigner for solidarity, community spirit and human dignity," he said.

"With the horrors of war still on her mind, she was a warm supporter of increasing cooperation between European nations," he added. Flags were lowered at Dutch official buildings until her burial and mourners began gathering in the rain outside the palace. The date for the funeral has not yet been set.

Juliana was much loved in the Netherlands. It is her birthday, on April 30, that is still celebrated as the Dutch Queen's Day holiday.

The shy and soft-spoken Juliana ascended to the throne in 1948 and soon captured hearts both at home and abroad as she strove to bring the royal family closer to the people. The royal family spent the war time in Canada.

Bicycling monarch

The "bicycling monarch" shopped at her local supermarket and sent her children to state school. Her popularity prompted the labour party to drop its demand to turn the country into a republic.

Juliana Louise Emma Marie Wilhelmina was born in the Hague, the only child of Queen Wilhelmina and Prince Hendrik.



Former Dutch Queen Juliana died Mar. 20, aged 94, the state information service has said in a brief statement. She died at 5:50 a.m. (0450 GMT) in the Soestdijk palace where she lived. Juliana is the mother of reigning Queen Beatrix. Dutch Queen Mother Princess Juliana waves during the wedding of her grandson Prince Maurits and Marlene van den Broek in the Palace "Het Loo" in Apeldoorn in this May 29, 1998 file picture. REUTERS

Juliana was not seen in public in recent years. Her health had worsened after breaking her hip in a fall at a friend's house in April 1998. She suffered some loss of memory and was "confused".

Since then she has needed round-the-clock medical care. In 2001, Bernhard announced Juliana had lost practically all her memory.

During her last public appearance, at the wedding of her grandson Prince Maurits and Marlene van den Broek in May 1998, she looked weak and was not keen to have her picture taken.

But even then, Juliana — a devout Protestant — caused an uproar in the press after taking Roman Catholic holy communion.

The Dutch royal family has managed to avoid the scandals that have dogged Britain's house of Windsor, but Juliana's reign was not without its problems.

The first major crisis early in her reign was triggered by Juliana's desperation to find a cure for her fourth and youngest daughter who was born in 1947 almost totally blind.

Juliana had German measles just before Christina was born and apparently blamed herself for her daughter's poor eyesight.

Faith healer

She turned to prayer sessions with austere faith healer Greet Hofmans. Juliana's confidence in Hofmans, whose beliefs were sometimes detected in royal speeches, annoyed husband Bernhard.

Foreign press spoke of marital strife and an impending split between the royal couple and a 1956 official enquiry advised Juliana to shun Hofmans to quell the storm of scandal.

The other major upset of her reign was Bernhard's disgrace in the 1976 Lockheed bribery scandal. Commander of the Dutch armed forces, Bernhard was forced to relinquish his military titles and uniform after a government commission found he had solicited bribes from the U.S. plane manufacturer.

After that, the decision of their daughter Irene to convert to Catholicism and marry a Spanish nobleman and the violent public protests surrounding Beatrix's marriage to Prince Claus, a German who fought briefly in the war, paled in comparison.

Juliana handed the throne to daughter Beatrix in 1980 on her 71st birthday, and said then: "Sooner or later everyone who grows old must face the sober fact that their strength is fading... and that it is irresponsible to carry on."

She chose to revert to the title Princess after her abdication, saying this signified she had taken a step backwards and would in future be one of her daughter's subjects. She was seen visibly moved and proud at Beatrix's investiture as queen.

She did not attend the wedding of Willem Alexander to Argentina-born Maxima and may have had only little notice of the birth on December 7, 2003, of their daughter Amalia who will in turn be queen one day.

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