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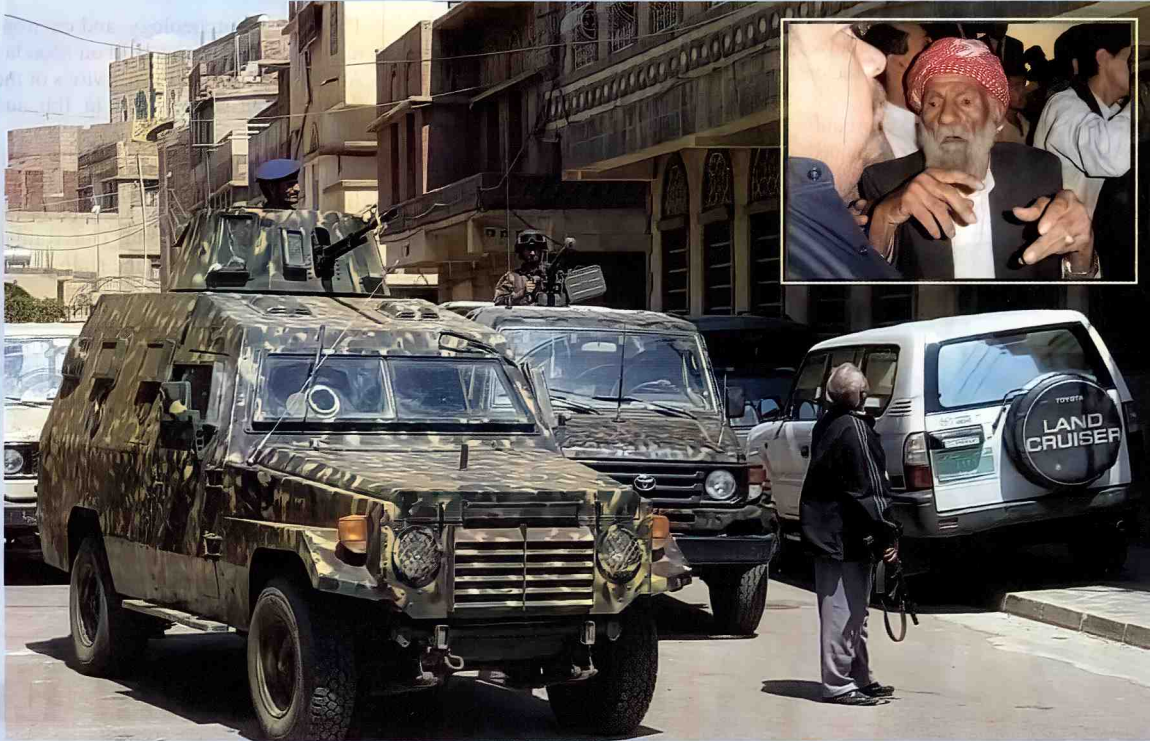
Al-Qaeda militants convicted of terrorism

By MOHAMMED AL-QADHI
 YEMEN TIMES STAFF

On Saturday, the Sana'a Criminal Court concerned with terrorism, sentenced one al-Qaeda militant to death, while 14 others received prison terms of between 3 to 10 years, having been found guilty of forming an armed group and carrying out attacks on Yemeni and Western targets. The court run by Judge Ahmad al-Jermozhi sentenced Hizam Mujali to death for killing a security man named Hamid Khasroof at a security checkpoint.

Five other al-Qaeda supporters, namely: Omar Saeed Hasan Jarallah, Fawzi al-Wajeh, Mohammed Saeed Ali al-Amari, Fawzi Yahia al-Hababi, and Yasser Ali Salem (tried in absentia), received sentences of 10 years for bombing the French super-tanker Limburg.

The judge, while reading the verdict, said these defendants were found guilty of participating in the October 2002 bombing of the Limburg oil tanker, which killed a Bulgarian crew member and spilled 90,000 barrels of oil into the port of Mukala. *Continued on page 11*



Armored vehicles and heavy security around the court where the sentence was made. Inset: father of Hizam Mujali protesting the verdict after it was read out. His son was sentenced to capital punishment. YT photos by M. Al-Qadhi

In Guantanamo

Yemeni detainee asks to represent himself

By PETER WILLEMS
 YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A Yemeni suspect disrupted the war crimes tribunal proceedings in

Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, last Thursday by demanding to represent himself and pronouncing that he is a member of the Al-Qaeda network.

Ali Hamza Ahmed Sulayman Al-Bahlul, a 36-year old Yemeni, said in front of the five-member panel that he would not accept military lawyers but would agree to having a Yemeni attorney

if his request was denied.

"I don't want an attorney representing me," said Al-Bahlul. "I'll attend the sessions if it's mandatory. If I don't have to attend the hearing, I'd rather not attend."

While his request was being discussed, Al-Bahlul said "I am an Al-Qaeda member" and began to speak about the attacks in New York and Washington on September 11th 2001.

US Army Colonel Peter S. Brownback, the presiding officer, ordered Al-Bahlul to stop and said to the members of the tribunal that Al-Bahlul's statements should not be used against

him.

Prosecutor Navy Commander Scott Lang believes that Al-Bahlul's comments on being a member of Al-Qaeda can be used as evidence and plans to file a motion to use the defendant's statements in the military commission's proceedings.

Brownback initially rejected Al-Bahlul's request to represent himself, but later decided to send the request to retired Major General John Altenburg, the lawyer who oversees the military commission in Washington.

Continued on page 11

Possible terrorist threats to Yemen

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Last week, a Yemeni security source said that the government received information that foreign terrorist groups are preparing to carry out attacks at the country's ports.

"The government received information confirming the intention of terrorist groups abroad that are planning terrorist acts on Yemen's sea ports," the source told Reuters last Wednesday.

The security source added that security forces have been put on a high state of alert and instructed to increase patrols in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden, including boosting security

around oil installations.

"The Interior Ministry has issued instructions for security forces at coasts to take strict precautionary measures in the face of any terrorists infiltrating from the sea," said the source.

But last Friday, Yemeni Foreign Minister Abu Bakr Al-Qirbi denied reports that Yemen had received information of terrorist threats aimed at the country's ports.

When asked whether Yemeni authorities knew of any possible dates or locations of attacks, he said, "We do not have this information."

Continued on page 11

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Flooding in Taiz: Residents waiting for compensation

Effects of the flooding in the Saleh district, when high water flow caused much damage to homes and property in the proximity of the Taiz-Sana'a taxi station, are still being felt by locals of the area. Two years ago Judge Ahmed Abdullah al-Hejri, the Governor of Taiz, formed a tribunal to assess the damages and set up the measures for compensation. After considerable difficulties Mr. Muhammad Mansour Muhammad, Mr. Sadeq Abdullah Rajeh and Muhammad Saleh finally obtained the compensation allotted by the Public Works Office but since then, no one else affected has received any

payment. During the last visit to Taiz of the President, the residents headed for the Republican Palace gate and delivered their reports and appeals to the officer-in-command of the President's guard. They hoped that he would transmit their appeals to the President Ali Abdullah, so that he might instruct the payment of the anticipated compensation. But regretfully, the reports have not yet been returned. Chasing up their initial requests, the residents were eventually told that the reports and the appeals had been dispatched to the President, in Sana'a.

Minister of Youth and Sports meets YJS

The Minister of Youth and Sports, Abdul-Rahman Al-Akwa'a, met on August 22nd, the board and members of the Yemeni Journalist Syndicate, along with the temporary committee of sports media. The meeting was held to add the final touches for the screening of the upcoming elections for the general assembly of the sports media. The minister stressed the importance of enforcing rules and regulations on the sports field, and urged journalists to fight corruption, manifested in fanaticism, nepotism, and formalities, in the sports community.

"The misconduct of men on the sports field forebodes disaster. It should be eliminated by the state, out of respect for the institutions and of freedom of expression," he said. Mahboob Ali, chief of the Yemeni journalists, praised the minister for his courageous stances, and the achievements of the Yemeni sports media. The committee from the YJS was appointed to help screening the cadre, according to the prescribed conditions of the YJS, for one month from this meeting.

Survey on disabled children in Aden

The Handicapped Training and Integration Society, in July 2004, finished a survey conducted in Al-Twahi district in the Aden governorate. Yasin Abdulwadod, director of the society, said that about 2,400 families have been surveyed. "We recorded some 400 cases, with different kinds of disabilities and belonging to different age categories." He added, "The number of disabled children below the age of 18 totaled 170. The survey form includes information

about the population in the area, age categories, social and economic background details as well as a special abilities section in the special needs category, and recommended training programs." Last year the society surveyed 1,205 families in the Sheikh Ishaq area in Al-Mu'ala district, and found 469 disabled, among whom were 187 below the age of 18. The society tries to identify the needs and requirements of disabled children.

Philippine Consul visits the GIPCO

Mr. Faez Saeed, general manager of the General Industries and Packages Co., one of the Hail Saeed and Partners Group, held a reception for businessman and Philippine consul to Lebanon, Mr. Nabil Muhi Al-Din. During the visit, the consul visited the production and quality sections in

the company which he expressed his admiration for, and appreciation of the company. He also expressed his appreciation of the technology and advanced machinery he has seen in other companies of the group, and wished them continued success.

YCH celebrates new batch of graduates

BY MOHAMMED BIN SALLAM
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Yemeni Consultant House celebrated on Wednesday the first batch of graduates from the "Leadership and Effective Supervision" course as part of the YCH's plan for human resources development set up in 2004.

The intensive one-week course was attended by a number of administrative staff from ministries and private sector organizations.

Under the supervision of Dr. Abdul-Hadi Al-Hamadani, the course provided an introduction to the administrative process and defined management quali-

ties. It aimed at providing the selected staff with inter-personal, problem solving and decision-making skills.

The course also taught the participants the twenty features of the successful leadership, such as careful planning, defining goals, and the methods to achieve them.

The conclusion was reached, at the end of the week, that the secret behind the success of Japanese is their team spirit, whereby less attention is given to the individual.

Since its conception in 1984, as the first management consultant house in Yemen, the YCH has always employed highly qualified staff suited to its activities.



Private societies law discussed in a workshop

A workshop on promoting an awareness program about the laws and regulations of private societies was organized from August 18th-19th, by the Social Cooperation and Care Association at Al-Saeed Hall in Taiz.

Hadi Saeed Abdu, executive director of the association, said the workshop reviewed a number of themes important for the recently enacted law on private societies.

The workshop aimed at raising the level of awareness of directors and secretary generals of 72 private societies participating in the workshop.

The 216 participants have been dis-

tributed over 6 sub-workshops to be held over 18 days.

The workshop is organized under the auspices of the Minister of Social Affairs and Labor Abdul-Karim Al-Asbahi.

The opening ceremony was attended by Mohammed Al-Haijem, the Secretary of Taiz Governorate, Abdu Mohammed Al-Hakimi, Director of Taiz Social Affairs and Labor Office, Shawqi Al-Qadhi, member of Parliament, and several other interested people.

The workshop came out with recommendations which serve the work of societies and private establishments.

New gas pipeline for power stations

The Public Corporation for Electrical Power is currently studying the possibilities of laying gas pipelines to possible sites for three new power stations. The general consensus is that the first pipeline will be extended to Maaber, Sana'a, where a new power station is being planned with a capacity of 1200 MW. The second pipeline will be extended into the Aden Governorate where a station will be established with a capacity of 700 MW. The third one will possibly be laid to Hodeidah, so as

to establish a gas generation station with a capacity of 400 MW. This would make a total of five gas-fired power stations in the country.

The Public Corporation for Electrical Power is currently attempting to increase the national electricity generating capacity by adding 400 MW. This is expected to happen after the completion of negotiations with an investment company to establish a second gas-fired power station for generating electricity in the Marib Governorate.

Foundation stone laid for Aden dock

The Minister of Transportation Omar Al-Amoudi, on Saturday August 21st laid the foundation stone for the dock of Aden Gulf Company, one of the Hail Sa'eed An'am and Partners Group. The 30 million euro dock is 260 meters long, and 28 meters wide.

This project will help reduce congestion of vessels at the Al-Mu'ala

Port, and boost imports to the Horn of Africa, the Middle East, and other areas around the world with a daily capacity of 18,000 tons.

The dock, which will be built in 18 months, has a depth of 14 meters on the northern side, and is ready to receive large vessels loaded with up to 90,000 tons.

The launching ceremony was attended by Abdul-Karim Shaif, Secretary General of the Aden Local Council, Eng. Wahid Ali Rashid, secretary of the governorate, Ahmed Al-Dhila'i, Undersecretary of the governorate, and Rashad Hail Sa'eed, Executive Director of Hail Sa'eed Group in Aden.

Statistics on Yemeni fish

A Yemeni research team from the Marine Science Center in Aden, is collecting statistical data on fish and marine organisms along Yemeni coasts.

The World Bank and donors have agreed to finance a new fish project for several years.

Ibb hosts symposium on tourism, archeology, and environment

The tourism, archeology, and environment symposium was held on Monday August 23rd within the activities of the Second Tourism Festival in Ibb and Dhafar.

The themes highlighted by a number of specialists showed the historic status of Dhafar city as a capital of the Kingdoms of Saba and Thu Raidan from 11 B.C. to late in the sixth century.

The symposium also discussed the means of protecting and safeguarding the environment, and limiting water exhaustion, and construction at the cost of agricultural lands.

The symposium came out with several recommendations including the maintenance of ancient forts and castles in the Ibb province, and supplying services and amenities to sites of cultural, tourism, and natural significance.

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:

Why do you think President Saleh came one day earlier to Yemen?

- Perhaps to follow-up with al-Houthi's developments
- Due to emerging security concerns in Yemen
- Some event that took place in the UK
- Something else

last edition's question:

Could the Shiite Iraqis maintain their influence in the country even after the current confrontation with the interim government?

- No, they will maintain their influence 57%
- Let's wait and see 27%
- Yes, they will be marginalized 16%

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

Small Enterprises holds event in Sana'a

Over the 21st- 25th August, the Social Fund for Development sponsored an event for Small Enterprises to introduce a program for funding small and start-up businesses. The project is designed to aid the provision of loans to people who are not currently capable of benefiting from the traditional credit sector.

The project aims at introducing different funding programs in various areas in the country and to assess which scheme offers the greatest benefits. Further, it is intended to encourage the initiation and development of projects by availing opportunities for comparing the experiences and lessons of successful projects.

Symposiums and discussion seminars took place on the role of small-scale loans in the growth of the private sector. This in turn should help resolve the wide problem of unemployment and aid economic growth.

The event was organized by Small and Micro Enterprise Unit of the Social Fund for Development which is established by Law No. (10) FY 1997. The aim of the unit is coordinating the resources available to the SFD and to lessen the side effects of the economical reform program. The fund has already and is executing several projects in the health, education, transportation, and local community development as well as credit facilities for small enterprises.

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Speech festival at the Palestinian Embassy

BY HASSAN AL-ZAIDI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Palestinian Embassy has organized a speech festival on Saturday August 28th in Sana'a to support the Palestinian and Arab prisoners in Israeli prisons.

At the opening of the festival, verses of the Holy Quraan (Al-Fatiha) were recited to bless the souls of martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the sake of Palestine.

Then, Palestinian ambassador Khalid Al-Sheikh delivered a speech stressing that despite the suffering, prisoners are still striving, and have extended a period of hunger strikes until Monday.

"Some of their demands have been answered, and others not," he said, acknowledging the efforts of the Yemeni government in advancing the Palestinian cause.

Dr. Ahmed Al-Kibsi delivered a speech on behalf of civil community organizations, which expressed their support for the protest of the prisoners,

and the stance of the Palestinian people on the tyrannical occupation.

Halima Sulaiman, head of the preparatory committee of the Palestinian Woman Union, delivered a speech explaining the suffering of prisoners.

She pointed out that over quarter a million Palestinians have passed through Israeli prisons since the start of the occupation, and that over ten thousand Palestinian women have been incarcerated in Israeli prisons from 1968-1976, experiencing all sorts of torture.

She said they had made more than eleven open hunger strikes, and over twenty of them were martyred.

"The number of prisoners was at one time 32,000, and now the number is fluctuating around at 7500, 470 of them are children, and 107 women. Some 28 Palestinian woman prisoners have prison sentences, including life-sentences. There are 69 imprisoned female suspects, 3 administrative prisoners, 18 mother detainees. There are 1873 administrative prisoners, 3058 who are being detained while under investigation, 373 prisoners with life sentences, and 309



Theatrical play to demonstrate the suffering of Palestinians. (YT photo by Hassan Al-Zaidi)

serving 15-50 year sentences. About 150 prisoners have been executed while in detention," she explained.

The participants sent a petition letter to the President of the Republic, asking him to keep on supporting the struggle of the Palestinian people, and pay efforts to protect their lives, and answer their

rightful demands.

They also sent a letter to UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, demanding him to act according to his responsibilities and intervene to protect Palestinian prisoners from the Israeli terrorization and persecution as well as to make Israelis execute UN resolutions.

The Twelve-Imam Shiite Sect

BY HASSAN AL-ZAIDI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Twelve-Imam Shiite sect followers are Muslims who claim that Ali is the legitimate successor to the Prophet and that he had the right to the Caliphate. They believe in 12 imams the first of whom was Ali and the last is Al-Mahdi. They claim they are as powerful in thought and ideology as the Sunnah and Jama'ah sect, and aspire to spread their religious beliefs until they prevail over the Islamic world.

The Twelve-Imam Shiite in Yemen is an extension of the Shiite thought present in Iran and Iraq, but they do not have specific referral sources (marjaiah) as there is in Iran and Iraq such as Al-Sistani and Al-Shirazi.

Moreover, they do not have big centers or wide appeal activities like other sects especially the Salafi which is found in all corners of the country. The Shiite, however, have their call activities confined to two centers in Sana'a and a number of libraries where their books and pamphlets are distributed. They celebrate their religious festivals such as Al-Ghadir Eid, and annually commemorate the killing of

Imam Al-Hussein ibn Ali as well as other festivals.

The Shiite and Sa'ada events

The recent events in Sa'ada that have occurred since July 19th have cast a gloomy shadow over the Shiite sect in Yemen. The government has cast its attention onto them, monitoring their movements and tightening its grip upon them, as well as confiscating their books from the libraries sporadically scattered across the country.

The events have also led to a campaign of arrests against some members of this sect.

The statements released by the so-called Twelve-Imam Shiite in Yemen has not safeguarded them from troubles, though they defined their stance on the events of Sa'ada, denied that Al-Houthi belonged to their sect, and denounced his acts. The State, however, is still pursuing them, accusing them of allying with Al-Houthi. Not only that, but it manipulated leaders from other opposing sects to propagate that they are wrongdoers and rejecters of the truth.

Recently, a Twelve-Imam Shiite cleric, Ahmed Abdullah Al-Zaidi, who is active and in the past established a party, and

then the Revolutionary Islamic Forces, which was later dissolved, has returned to a sectarian call by the formation of Al-Khumaini worshipping houses (huseiniats) in Marib. He has also recently published a book defining the Twelve-Imam Shiite.

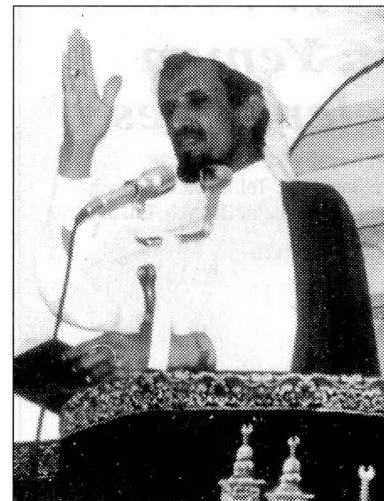
He differentiates between Imamate and leadership. The first entails the referral leadership for jurisprudence issues, fatwas and the alike, and it is performed by great references in the age of Imam Al-Mahdi's absence.

He described the ideal governance system as being republican, constitutional, revolutionary, pluralistic, and electoral. He rejected oppressive monarchies, individual dictatorship, or dynasty rule.

He believes that all Islamic leaders should be selected with sincerity and honesty, which means that he believes in democracy and elections.

Moreover, he sees that the call and advice should not be imposed by force.

Dealings among Muslims, according to him, should be geared towards preserving their unity as much as possible, and safeguarding the interests of Islam and Muslims. Pronouncing Takfiri (labeling infidel) upon sects and terrorist groups as described by Muslims like Wahabis and others, should be based on advising them to repent and to abandon their use of



Ahmed Abdullah Al-Zayidi, one of the 12-imam sect followers Shiite heralds in Yemen

force.

He claims that Shiites do not please themselves at the expense of obeying God. They do not kill except the killer, or in self-defense to protect their family, property or religion.

His book included a wish to debate with any side they are at odds with. "We are ready to hold dialogue with all Islamic sects to resolve problems and sticking points," the book read.

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S.P.Y. officers inducted by Philippine ambassador

The 2004-2005 officers of the Samahang Pilipino sa Yemen (S.P.Y.) was inducted into office by H.E. Bahnamir A. Guinomla, Philippine Ambassador to K.S.A. and the Republic of Yemen on August 19, 2004 at the Al-Mankal Restaurant in Sanaa.

By this induction, S.P.Y. became the first Filipino Organization in Yemen whose officers were inducted by an ambassador.

The renewal of Certificate of Recognition for the Association was also awarded to the organization, aside from the Certificate of Appreciation. The elected officers are headed by Ms. Josie L. Oliva as President, Mr. Gerry De Leon as Vice-President and Ms. Liza I. Vitangcol, as Chairwoman of the Executive Committee.



Members of S.P.Y. during the induction ceremony held at the Mankal Restaurant in Sanaa on August 19.

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من أبوولاد ٢٠٠٤

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حمزة سيف أحمد ثابت - تعز



عبدالله علي عبدالله راجح - ريمية



محمد جثمان بن ناصر - المكلا



توفيق عبدالله علي - إب



محمد ظه أحمد العمري - صنعاء

السحب الثاني ٢٠٠٤/٨/٣٠

السحب الثالث ٢٠٠٤/٩/١٣



Iraqi government surveys damage in battered Najaf

NAJAF, Iraq, Aug 28 (Reuters) - A team of Iraqi ministers flew to Najaf on Saturday to discuss plans for rebuilding the holy city after three weeks of fighting that killed hundreds, drove oil prices to record highs and sparked a political crisis.

The five ministers drove through a shattered urban landscape of buildings pockmarked with bullet holes and streets littered with wreckage and ammunition to the Imam Ali shrine, where Shi'ite militants were holed up during their uprising.

Fighting between the Mehdi Army militia of rebel cleric Moqtada al-Sadr and U.S. and Iraqi forces ended on Thursday when Iraq's most revered Shi'ite leader, Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, returned from his London hospital bed to broker a peace deal.

"We have come to Najaf to consolidate the peace settlement we reached and to congratulate Sistani," Minister of State Kasim Daoud, who led the delegation, told Reuters.

The ministers arrived outside Najaf in two Black Hawk helicopters and were driven into its old city in a convoy led by police cars with sirens wailing.

After inspecting the shrine — the holiest in Shi'ite Islam — Daoud said it was now free of weapons. He said the government hoped to reopen it to the public within 10 days.

The ministers held a 20-minute meeting with Sistani to discuss the government's plan to rebuild Najaf and to restore water, electricity, sewage and hospital services.

Destruction

Surveying Najaf streets strewn with mangled vehicles and mortar shells, the ministers promised the city would be rebuilt.

"The destruction is huge," Health Minister Alaadin Alwan said.

"Najaf is going to be a big priority in the budget of the government. It needs a great deal of work to rebuild it."

Public Works Minister Nasreen Berwari said the government would "bring Najaf back to what it was before the war".



A tractor pushes aside destroyed market stalls as municipal crews began the cleanup of Najaf after a peace agreement August 28. After Iraq's top cleric Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani brokered a peace deal between militants loyal to radical Shi'ite Moqtada al-Sadr and U.S. troops, Najaf's traumatised population was trying to start repairing the damage from weeks of violence. REUTERS

Under the peace deal brokered by Sistani, Sadr's armed fighters and U.S. forces withdrew from the area and security was handed over to Iraqi police.

The government agreed not to arrest Sadr and pledged to fund the city's rebuilding. Dazed residents said reconstruction would be a huge task. "The only thing the fighting accomplished was the destruction of Najaf. Look at our hotel.

We were just making progress building it," said hotel employee Rafaat Maher, standing on a balcony pockmarked by bullets and looking down on a makeshift roadside graveyard for victims of the fighting.

"They are not rebuilding Iraq. They are destroying it," he said.

"I must have seen 100 people buried right there in front of the hotel."

After Saddam Hussein's fall, residents

of Najaf hoped for peace and prosperity, with the city's holy sites attracting Shi'ites long oppressed by the former ruler.

Hotels and businesses sprang up. But fighting between Sadr's militia-men and U.S. forces has taken a heavy toll.

At one makeshift graveyard, residents exhumed the bodies of people they said were militants from Sadr's Mehdi Army and a few civilians.

The fighters' names were written on pieces of paper stuffed into small medicine bottles and placed above the graves. They were described as "hero martyrs".

Renewed violence

Najaf seemed peaceful, but violence elsewhere in Iraq showed the size of the task facing interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi as he prepares for elections in January.

A reflection shows Iraqi Shi'ites resting at the holy shrine of Imam Ali in the southern city of Najaf August 27. Shi'ite fighters left the holiest shrine in the Iraqi city of Najaf Friday and began turning in their weapons, after tens of thousands of pilgrims celebrated a peace agreement that ended a bloody rebellion. REUTERS

In the Shi'ite slum district of Sadr City in Baghdad — from where the militant cleric draws much support — Iraqis clashed with U.S. troops on Saturday, witnesses said, in a reminder that the Najaf peace deal did not end the animosity of Sadr's followers towards the U.S.-led occupation of Iraq.

In Falluja, a city west of Baghdad that is seen as a haven for insurgents, U.S. planes bombed targets in an eastern district.

U.S. forces have mounted several air raids on Falluja this month, and say they are aiming to destroy foreign fighters loyal to al Qaeda ally Abu Musab al-Zarqawi.

A mortar attack in the town of Baiji, north of Baghdad, killed an Iraqi civilian and wounded a civilian and a policeman, the U.S. military said. Several people were also wounded in mortar attacks in Baghdad.

Lebanon cabinet backs extending president's term

BEIRUT, Aug 28 (Reuters) - Lebanon's cabinet threw its weight on Saturday behind keeping the country's pro-Syrian president in office after his term ends, through a widely opposed change to the constitution. Lebanese President Emile Lahoud, who has strong backing from Syria, the main power broker in Lebanon, said this week he wanted to stay in office after the end of his six-year term in November.

Information Minister Michel Samaha told reporters the cabinet agreed to a plan to extend Lahoud's term by three years.

It would send the decision to parliament, which picks the president and where a two-thirds majority can change the constitution.

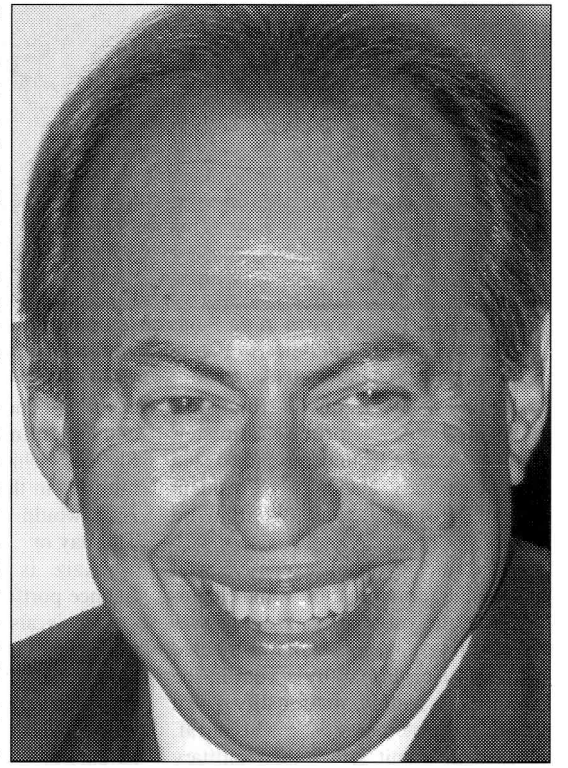
The proposal had been denounced by Lahoud's opponents and even some allies of Syria in Lebanon, where Damascus poured troops in the 1975-1990 civil war, afterwards

consolidating broad sway in the presidency, army and security services. "I thank you in advance for your trust in me to handle the responsibility and for amending the constitution in the higher interest of the country," Samaha quoted Lahoud as telling the cabinet.

Parliament's session will begin on Monday.

The cabinet meeting came after Lebanese leaders, including Prime Minister Rafik al-Hariri, met Syrian President Bashar al-Assad over the matter of the presidency, in which MPs said Syrian officials made it clear they backed Lahoud's bid.

Critics and supporters of the proposal link the fate of the presidency to Syria's foreign relations, particularly with the United States, which is pressuring Damascus to cut support for Lebanon's Hizbollah guerrillas and pull troops out of the country. Hariri was among the many politicians opposed to the move.



Lebanese President Emile Lahoud smiles during the cabinet meeting in Beirut August 28. Lebanon's cabinet threw its weight on Saturday behind keeping the country's pro-Syrian president in office after his term ends, through a widely opposed change to the constitution. Lebanese President Emile Lahoud, who has strong backing from Syria, the main power broker in Lebanon, said this week he wanted to stay in office after the end of his six-year term in November. REUTERS

A prominent businessman who has led efforts to repair public finances, Hariri has clashed often with Lahoud in this and a previous government before leaving office in 1998.

Iran says US lacks options on its atomic programme

TEHRAN, Aug 28 (Reuters) - Washington has hit a dead-end over Iran's nuclear dossier, lacking enough proof to demand U.N. sanctions and too bogged down in Iraq for a military strike, President Mohammad Khatami said on Saturday.

Washington is pushing the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to report Iran to the sanction-imposing U.N. Security Council, accusing Tehran of a clandestine weapons programme.

"I assure you that the Americans have no evidence to prove their claims," Khatami told reporters at a news conference.

Iran says its nuclear programme is peaceful and is intended to meet booming domestic demand for electricity.

Khatami added any U.S. attack on Iran would be "suicidal".

"The Americans have to deal first with their problems in Iraq before taking military action against Iran," the reformist president said.

"I believe the Americans are still rational enough not to repeat their mistakes," he added, referring to the attack on Iraq.

Iranian officials have said that Tehran's case will not be sent to the U.N. Security Council at next month's IAEA board of governors meeting in Vienna.

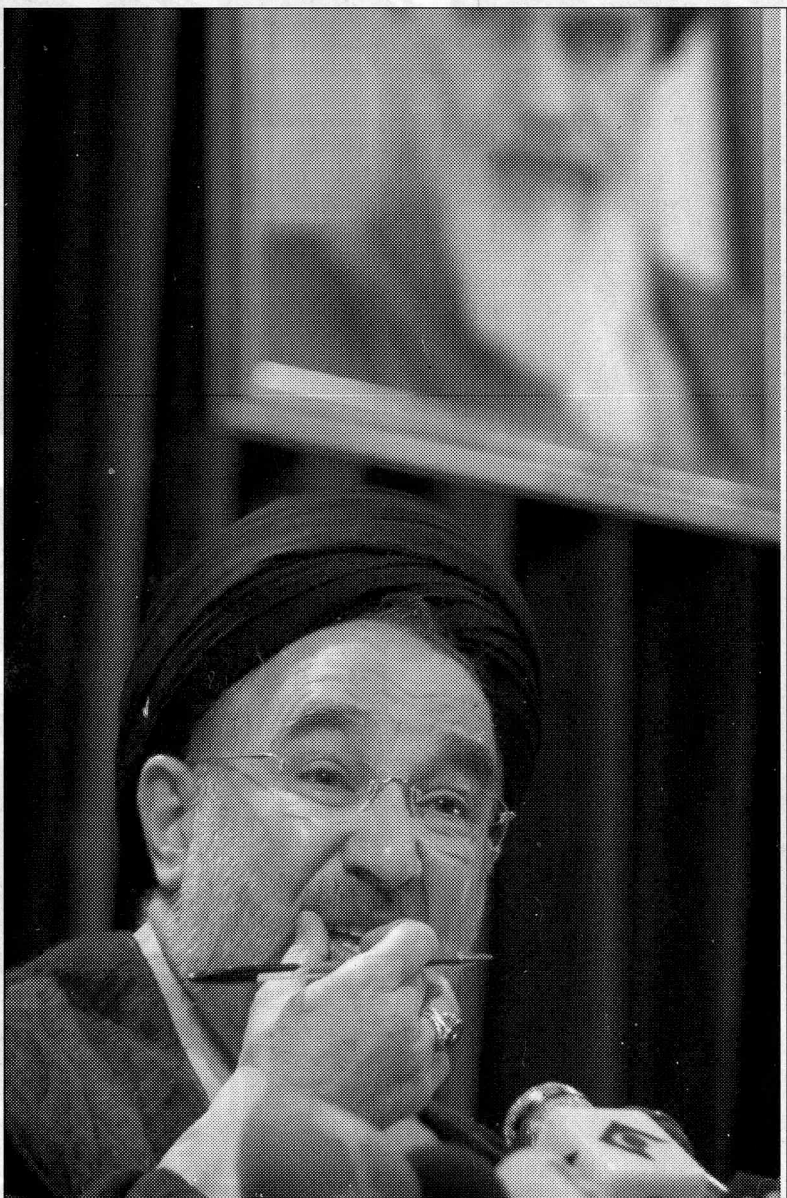
The IAEA's new Iran report is due to be circulated to the board of governors in the coming days.

Khatami called for the board of governors to take Iran's dossier off the agenda but suggested he was being optimistic.

"I doubt that Iran's case is going to be closed at the next IAEA meeting," he told the reporters.

Diplomats in Vienna reckoned the report would be inconclusive and would neither confirm nor reject the view that Iran has a secret military nuclear programme.

The IAEA is probing the origin of traces of enriched uranium found at some Iranian sites and Iran's interest in advanced P2 centrifuges, which can be used to make bomb-grade uranium twice as fast as its less advanced P1 centrifuges.



Iranian President Mohammad Khatami talks to reporters at a news conference in Tehran August 28. Khatami said Washington has hit a dead-end over Iran's nuclear dossier, lacking enough proof to demand U.N. sanctions and too bogged down in Iraq for a military strike, warning any U.S. attack on Iran would be "suicidal". REUTERS

EU insists on WMD clause in Syria accord -Fischer

DAMASCUS, Aug 28 (Reuters) - The European Union wants to sign a trade and aid pact that may ease Syria's diplomatic isolation, but only if Damascus agrees to renounce weapons of mass destruction, Germany's foreign minister said on Saturday.

"We have an interest in finalising the Association Agreement but for us it is crucial that the clause about weapons of mass destruction will be also accepted," Joschka Fischer told reporters after a meeting with his Syrian counterpart.

EU diplomats said this month that Syria was poised to accept tougher wording on nuclear, biological and chemical arms than it originally negotiated with Brussels, in a pact that has gained significance since U.S. sanctions took force in May.

Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq al-Sharaa had said in July the 25-nation EU was reconsidering the controversial clause, which he called an Israeli demand, with a deal possible by September.

But Fischer said the European Union

would not dilute the clause and urged Damascus to accept it.

"It is for the European Union important to reach an agreement about this clause, not to water down this clause," he said. "I think it is a great opportunity and this opportunity should be used by our counterparts here in Syria."

The executive European Commission negotiated a text with Syria in December but Britain, Germany, the Netherlands and Denmark complained it fell short of an EU commitment to make the fight against weapons of mass destruction a key plank of ties with third countries.

Liberalisation urged

They agreed to add a clause on weapons to the pact diplomats say Syria is keen to finalise to offset U.S. sanctions imposed over its support for anti-Israeli groups, accusations it is doing too little to secure its border with Iraq, and alleged pursuit of unconventional arms.

The Europeans contend that engaging Syria would do more to promote eco-

nomical, political and human rights reforms than isolation would, and hope Syrian President Bashar al-Assad will overcome the resistance of an entrenched "old guard" to reforms he pledged when he succeeded his late father in 2000.

"We have an interest in the opening of Syrian society, the economy. We see problems, bureaucratic problems. We see problems with respect to human rights," Fischer said, adding that Europe hoped for a substantial improvement, to boost cooperation.

Syria is the last full member of the EU's Euro-Mediterranean partnership, known as the Barcelona process, yet to have concluded an association agreement with the wealthy bloc.

"The Mediterranean will define our security, our common security," Fischer said. "This is an important issue for the Europeans, the weapons of mass destruction clause. Not only does it reflect one of our basic approaches on a very sensitive issue but the European parliament has to vote on this."

Sudan agrees to process Eritrean asylum seekers-UN

CAIRO, Aug 28 (Reuters) - Sudan has agreed to consider the asylum claims of 76 Eritreans who forced a Libyan plane to land in Sudan because they feared returning home, a U.N. official said on Saturday.

Libya had denied the Eritreans refugee status.

The Libyan military transport plane took off from the town of Khufra and was heading for the Eritrean

capital Asmara when some of the angry deportees moved into the cockpit and forced the plane to land on Friday.

"We have an agreement from the Sudanese government that they (the Eritreans) will be admitted ... we are

looking at now how to process them — to determine whether they are asylum seekers," said Michael Lindenbauer, the deputy representative in Sudan of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees. Speaking to Reuters from Sudan by telephone, Lindenbauer said the process should take two or three weeks.

Asked whether the Eritreans would be sent back if they were not found to be asylum seekers, Lindenbauer said: "We are not there yet. We would hold further discussions and see where we could go from there."

UNHCR

recommends that even failed asylum seekers are not forcibly returned to Eritrea.

Eritrean government regulations forbid young people from leaving the country.

Human rights groups say hundreds of Eritrean refugees and asylum seekers have been forcibly sent home, where many have faced torture and detention without charge or trial. Eritrea denies the allegations. Sudan has poor relations with its neighbour Eritrea and has accused it of backing Sudanese rebel groups. There were conflicting reports surrounding the incident on Friday. An Eritrean official in Khartoum said the group had no weapons but one of the plane's pilots told Dubai-based Al Arabiya television the Eritreans had attacked the crew with "knives and metal objects".

Musharraf ally sworn in as Pakistan prime minister



Shaukat Aziz (R) is sworn in as Pakistan's new prime minister as he repeats the oath being recited by Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf (C) in Islamabad August 28. Aziz, a technocrat and trusted ally of military leader President Pervez Musharraf, was sworn in on Saturday. REUTERS

ISLAMABAD, Aug 28 (Reuters) - Pakistan's new prime minister, Shaukat Aziz, a technocrat and trusted ally of military leader President Pervez Musharraf, was sworn in on Saturday.

A former Citibank executive who has led the turnaround of the economy from the verge of bankruptcy over the past five years, Aziz was elected to the post on Friday by a vote in the National Assembly, a formality given its pro-military majority. Musharraf, dressed in a suit rather than military uniform, stood alongside Aziz at the President's House as the two men read the swearing-in oath. Speaking to reporters after the ceremony, Musharraf said the "smooth transfer of power" would augur well for democracy.

Pakistan has been ruled by the military for more than half of its 57-year history since independ-

ence. "The political culture is gradually maturing in Pakistan," he said. Sheikh Rashid Ahmed, the information minister in the former cabinet, said Aziz would announce his cabinet on Tuesday or Wednesday.

Aziz is expected to keep the finance portfolio.

He is also expected to retain key ministers, including Foreign Minister Khurshid Mehmood Kasuri, who has represented Pakistan in recent peace talks with nuclear-armed neighbour India, officials said. Officials and analysts said there would be no changes in Pakistan's support for the U.S.-led war on terror, as Musharraf, who wields ultimate power as president, would continue to lead the fight against Islamic militancy and direct foreign policy.

In his acceptance speech on Friday, Aziz vowed to continue to deal strictly with terrorism and corruption

and also to take forward the peace process with India "with an open mind".

Aziz secured 191 votes in the 342-seat house. Opposition groups boycotted the vote after the speaker refused to allow their candidate, Javed Hashmi, who is serving a life term in jail for defaming the military, to attend the vote.

Musharraf made Aziz his finance minister after seizing power in a bloodless military coup in 1999 and then in June this year hand-picked him to become head of government after the abrupt resignation of prime minister Zafarullah Khan Jamali, who had a falling out with the president. Aziz needed to win a seat in parliament's lower house National Assembly to make him eligible for the post, so Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain had taken over as interim prime minister.

We were tortured in Zimbabwe accused mercenaries

JOHANNESBURG, Aug 28 (Reuters) - Two South African men accused of plotting to overthrow the government of oil-rich Equatorial Guinea said they were stripped, beaten and threatened with electrical shocks during six months detention in Zimbabwe.

Harry Carlse and Lourens Horn, two of some 85 men in Africa who have been accused of plotting a coup d'etat, said at a press conference on their arrival in Johannesburg they expected to face charges at home under South Africa's anti-mercenary laws.

The case has gained growing notoriety with the arrest in South Africa of the wealthy son of former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and the conviction of a former British special forces officer in Zimbabwe, who is accused of being coup leader.

A Zimbabwe court on Friday convicted former British special forces officer Simon Mann of attempting to possess dangerous weapons, but acquitted most of the 69 other men including Carlse and Horn, held in Harare's Chikurubi maximum security prison.

"I was stripped naked and beaten with a stick... I slept in leg irons for a week and

a half," the 40-year-old Carlse said.

He said he lost 14 kg (30.86 lb) in weight because of the abysmal prison conditions at Chikurubi.

Face s.African trail

They declined to answer questions about how they were recruited for a mission which their lawyers have said was to guard mining installations in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Mann and the South Africans were arrested in March when the accused ring-leader met a plane carrying dozens of men and military equipment in Harare.

Zimbabwean and Equatorial Guinea officials said it was a step in a plot to overthrow Equatorial Guinea President Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo.

South Africa's FBI-style Scorpions unit plans to charge all the men arrested in Zimbabwe when they return, the men's lawyer said.

Carlse and Horn agreed to meet the Scorpions on Monday.

"We also know for a fact the rest of the guys being detained in Chikurubi will also stand trial in South Africa for contravening the Foreign Military Assistance Act," lawyer Alwyn Griebenow told

reporters.

The act is part of the South African government's efforts to discourage companies and individuals on its soil from planning, recruiting or gathering equipment for mercenary activities.

Most of the other men pleaded guilty last month to lesser charges of violating Zimbabwe's immigration and civil aviation laws.

Carlse and Horn had no other charges since they entered Zimbabwe legally to meet the plane with Mann. Sentencing is due on Sept.

10 for the other men, including Mann, who is the scion of a wealthy British brewing family and former pupil at Britain's elite Eton school.

Mann faces up to 10 years in prison for his conviction, but Griebenow said he should not receive the full term since it was merely an attempt to buy weapons.

Friday's verdict came just days after South African police arrested Mann's acquaintance Mark Thatcher on suspicion of involvement in financing the suspected plot.

Thatcher denies the accusations and is under house arrest at home in Cape Town.

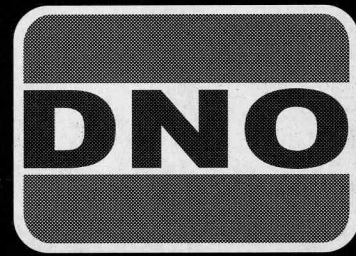
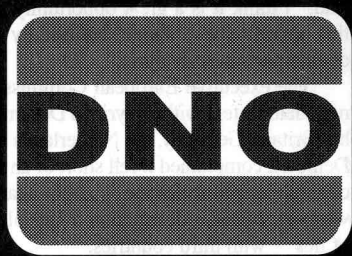


A court in Zimbabwe on Friday convicted a British man accused of leading a coup plot against the government of oil-rich Equatorial Guinea on weapons charges, but acquitted most of the 69 other men held with him. Former British special forces officer Simon Mann was found guilty of seeking to possess dangerous weapons and could face up to 10 years in prison when sentence is passed on September 10. REUTERS

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وَبَشِّرِ الصَّالِحِينَ الَّذِينَ إِذَا أَصَابُوا مَصِيبًا قَالُوا إِنَّ الْبَلَاءَ مَا أَلَدَّنَا وَإِنَّا لِلَّهِ رَاغِبُونَ

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Condolence

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Convey their sincere condolences and deepest sympathy to

Aziz Saleh Al-Ashtal
and to the whole family

on the death of his brother,

Abdullah Saleh Al-Ashtal,

Yemen's former Ambassador to the United Nations,

who passed away on Thursday, 26 August 2004.

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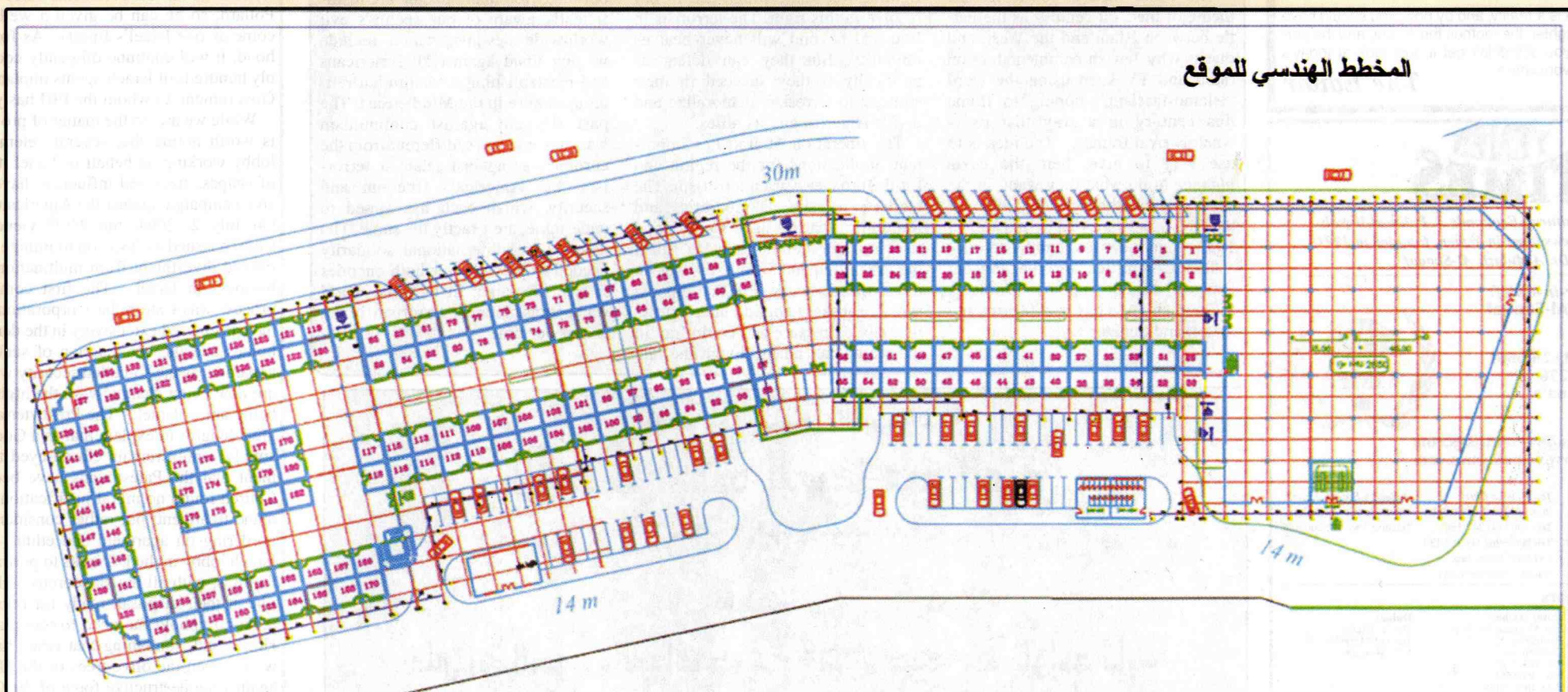
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Words of Wisdom



The role of ethics is central to establishing acceptable norms and relations among members of the community. Degeneration of values can only lead to more trouble. Even from an economic point of view, high morals are important. I can remember a time when many deals were done on the basis of a handshake or a person's word. These days, you cannot depend even on a notarized contract, unless you have the power to make it stick.

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



OUR OPINION

Mother & daughter vs. neighborhood!

This is a story I heard from a friend lately and wanted to share with you.

It is about a mighty mother who is spoiling her daughter and ensuring that she gets all she wants, regardless of anything else. Whenever the daughter does wrong to others, instead of punishing or even showing disapproval of her actions, the mother keeps on praising and rewarding her.

The girl took some toys belonging to other children but instead of the mother taking those toys back to the rightful owners, she simply helped her daughter maintain possession of them. This has resulted in the emergence of stress between the daughter and the boy who is the owner of the toys. The boy, encouraged by others around him, has been told that as the toys are his, he should retain them either by patience or by fighting. The boy would seize the opportunity to harm the girl if she didn't have her mother by her side to defend her. On the other hand, the girl continues to behave selfishly and does actions that harm others, and such actions are beginning to cause the neighboring families to dislike the 'vicious' girl. But because her mother keeps on defending her, the girl keeps on regardless. Perhaps, the mother is the only one in the neighborhood that still loves the little 'naughty' girl.

With the mother's help and guidance, the girl starts to develop skills and construct harmful tools that cause injury to other children. She began using her tools to take over toys and belongings of other children, while no one could hold the girl accountable as her mother is always there to defend and justify her actions.

Taking into account the might and power of the mother, who is the neighborhood bodybuilding champion, no one dares to punish the daughter.

On the other hand, the mayor of the city is much weaker than the mother, so is the whole parents' council, whose strongest and most powerful member is this very mother. No one stands up to the mother and tells her that she should stop letting the girl get away with everything she does. Feeling empowered by this blind and unconditional motherly support, the girl starts making mockery out of the whole neighborhood who are helplessly unable to stop her from doing whatever she likes.

The daughter begins to use harmful means that have caused injuries to other children, and in some cases, those kids have been hospitalized. Yet, the mother continues to stubbornly defend her daughter's actions, and criticizes anyone speaking ill of her. In fact, the mother herself, once beat up a number of children who had tried to approach and attack the girl. Those children were frustrated as they were punished severely by the mother, despite the objection of the parents' council and the mayor.

In almost every house in the neighborhood, hatred towards the mother has been steadily growing. In fact, the enmity of the whole neighborhood is directed more towards the mother than the daughter.

The gulf between the mother along with her daughter and the rest of the neighborhood has become the talk of town, and the mother is beginning to fear for her safety as more and more radical kids are emerging with a view to taking revenge on the mother or the daughter.

Despite all of this, the daughter continues to act violently and behaves irresponsibly in bullying other kids without caring about the relationship between her mother and the neighborhood. The daughter is crossing boundaries, and sometimes putting her mother in difficult situations, but the mother still insists that whatever her daughter does is absolutely right and vows to destroy whoever stands in her daughter's way.

This scenario continues until today, and both the daughter and mother are slowly finding themselves isolated from the neighborhood.

This is not fiction, it is a reality, and by now, you should have guessed who the daughter, the mother, the mayor, and the parents' council are. If you still didn't get it, just look at today's news, their story is everywhere.

The Editor



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

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A correctional movement the President leads

Expected change

By Prof. Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Tarb
For the Yemen Times

Yemen awaits impatiently for the coming reforms and change. Everyone predicts changes following the candid and transparent speech of the President on the occasion of the celebration of National Yemeni Day. The historic speech had set the Yemeni public up for a comprehensive change.

Despite the caution of some on the extent and scope of the expected change, and their suggestions that any change would take a gradual process, the change is imminent and probably inevitable, considering the intensity of talks on the importance of change. The decision could have been taken prior to the delivery of the President's speech on last national day.

What is more important concerning the demand and need for change is that it has evolved beyond the circle of the elite, intellectuals and those interested in the well being of the country, who had been insisting on reforms and change. The need and demand for the reformation has become the desire of general public. The

President understands that the currently deteriorated situation which manifests corruption in all aspects of life, must be stopped and countered, through the adoption of a comprehensive series of measures, expeditiously implemented.

What is more interesting though is that there are ultra-nationalist writers and corporations, (including the Yemen Times which recently issued a booklet with title "Together to build the modern state of Yemen"), who care about this country and who express their concerns towards rooting out corruption. But, what concerns us here is that there is a unanimous consensus that corruption must be eliminated and combated, as it reflects negatively on the status of Yemen abroad.

The latest form of corruption was the unprovoked increase of prices on several commodities and consumer goods, and the dissemination of disputes between the legislative and executive authorities with and without a reason. This is an indication that comprehensive change and effective reform must take place to rescue the country from serious consequences. There must no illusions that Yemen can get away with evading change and reformation, or to implement ineffective

reforms, which some people bet on, which would only lead to a very serious deterioration of the situation inside the country.

However, I lay my bet on the President, because of his political and national sense and his long applied expertise in governance amid very difficult conditions to feel the impulse of the Yemeni general public. Thus, change and comprehensive reforms are coming, not only to certain individuals, but also in policies.

Frankly and clearly, Yemen requires a correctional movement to be led by the President (because of his popularity) to steer us in this direction, towards genuine and essential political and constitutional reforms, that would be suitable for the stature of Yemen. The President would strengthen his position and credentials in history, after already overseeing the unification and its protection during the secessionist war in the summer of 1994.

If the President would commence that, it would be a political step of no less importance than his amnesty decree during the 1994 war, the pardon on the 16-black listed figures and to the latest decision to say "no to the imprisonment of journalists".



By Richard Melson
www.cambridgeforecast.org
For the Yemen Times

AMERICAN VIEWPOINT
Clash of civilizations for Israel's and the neo-cons' sake

The basic idea of the Zionist/neo-con grouping is to bring about a global civil war between America-led-by-Israel and the Arab and Muslim world.

This would result in:
- Israel's "eternal" domination of the Middle East via nuclear weapons.
- Neo-con, ie Jewish, domination of world policy, via the control of Washington.

The Zionist/neo-con grouping has a kind of now-or-never urgency about them and fear that globalization might mean that non-Western peoples could eventually achieve a say in world affairs and one day perhaps threaten to supplant them. They have what is called in German, "Torschlusspanik" ("door will close on me panic"), with the world at an either/or crossroads. Either the Palestinian will be defeated, or Israel and the Jews "lose" not only the territories, but the whole world as a political territory.

Degrading and killing and "bantustanizing" the Palestinians or expelling them entirely is seen as the key "symbolic theatre" in this counter-globalization movement.

The basic idea is to depict the theme of the 21st century as the battle between Islam and the West, and that is why Jewish commentators on radio and TV keep using the word "Islamofascism," hoping to frame this century in a way that overwhelms rival frames. The idea is to use 9/11 to give them the *carte blanche* to do what they want, in the same way that the Nazis hoped to use the Reichstag Fire of February 27th, 1933 to engineer fear and hysteria.

The Committee on the Present Danger, headed up by Woolsey, Lieberman (Al Gore's 2000 running mate), and Senator Kyl.

Committee on the present danger
Statement by Lieberman and Kyl,
July 20, 2004:

The successful handover of sovereignty to the Iraqi people last month offers fresh hope for stability and democracy in their country, but it could also mark a turning of the tide in the world war against terrorism. While the deposed tyrant and terrorist Saddam Hussein stands trial, the people of the great Muslim country he suppressed for so long are now standing proud and free, and taking control of their own destiny. And they are showing strong support for their new leadership and new optimism about their democratic future. According to a BBC/Oxford Research International poll released this month, 55% of Iraqis believe their lives today are quite good or very good, 56% believe their lives will get better in the next year, and 70% believe Iraq needs democracy.

These survey results are significant because they show we are making real progress in the war of values and ideas in Iraq, ideas that are at the heart of the larger war on terrorism. Iraq has become a proving ground for the freedom and security we are fighting for, and a tough test of our resolve in this fight. The terrorists in Iraq and beyond will never beat us militarily. But they can defeat us politically if they succeed in their strategy to terrorize, demoralize and divide America and its allies.

The liberation of Iraq has important implications for the region and for the broader war on terrorism. The leaders of the Democratic and Republican parties have so far stood firm in their commitment to finish the job in Iraq and to fight the war on terrorism to victory. But that bipartisan consensus is coming under growing public pressure and could fray in the months ahead. Although the tide

is turning in the war on terrorism, a political undertow in this country could wash out our recent gains. We must not let this happen.

To make sure it doesn't, we are re-launching today the Committee on the Present Danger, a group of citizens of diverse political persuasions who will work to sustain and strengthen bipartisan support for the war on terrorism in Iraq and beyond.

The Committee on the Present Danger was first formed at the dawn of the Cold War in 1950 to educate Americans about the growing threat of Soviet communism. Democratic senator Henry "Scoop" Jackson of Washington state revitalized the group in the mid-'70s; this time it was focused on working for a stronger stance toward the Soviets and the increased defense spending necessary to carry out that policy.

In this third incarnation, we intend to focus the committee on the present danger our generation faces: international terrorism, from Islamic extremists and the outlaw states that either harbor or support them. The Sept. 11th 2001, terrorist attacks awoke all Americans to the capabilities and brutality of our new enemy, but today too many people are insufficiently aware of our enemy's evil worldwide designs, which include waging jihad against all Americans and reestablishing a totalitarian religious empire in the Middle East. The past struggle against communism was, in some ways, different from the current war against Islamist terrorism, but America's freedom and security, which each has aimed to undermine, are exactly the same. The national and international solidarity needed to prevail over both enemies is also the same. In fact, the world war against Islamic terrorism is the test of our time.



COMMON SENSE

By Hassan Al-Haifi

Only AIPAC knows for sure:
Does Israel need to spy on the US?

This observer has often pointed out that the many organizations and NGO's that are active on behalf of Israel in the United States are more than just public organizations or advocates for the "pioneering spirit" of the Kibbutzim life in Israel. The Israelis have enjoyed tremendous access to highly sensitive defense information, which no other US "ally" enjoys. Thus, one is really amazed that the Israeli Government finds that not sufficiently worth appreciating and still insists on penetrating all the corridors of US officialdom, especially in the strategic departments like the Department of Defense or Department of State. Even its overzealous supporters and friends in the highest government offices are bound to be under the watchful eyes of Israeli agents, who may themselves be fellow employees of these officials, albeit with double loyalties - traitors in any language.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation announced this week that a Pentagon analyst was found to be passing on secrets obtained, while carrying out his duties, to the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, one of the many dubious organizations that are supposedly lobby groups for Israel. AIPAC in turn dutifully passed the info to Israel. Incidentally, the name of the agent has yet to be exposed! This is not the first time AIPAC has been involved in such presumably illegitimate snooping work. They were also involved in the John Pollard case (although the news reports about the most recent case did not mention this at all). In that case, Pollard, a Naval Intelligence Analyst was arrested for passing "large volumes of classified material to his 'Israeli intelligence handlers' (*The New York Times* of 8/28/2004) - AIPAC". That was back in 1985. But, the amazing thing is that why should Israel really have to spy on the US, with Israel now having the best friend Israel could want for a US Administration at the helm? The White House and most of the neo-con clique have gone out of their way in accommodating Israel, not just in terms of policy adjustments that suit Israeli whims, but even to the extent of engaging the United States in a senseless war in Iraq, which was vigorously pursued by Israel's friends from George W. Bush down to the Defense Policy Board members, including Douglas Feith and Assistant Defense Secretary Wolfowitz. While the Defense Department tried to assure that policy influence was not involved in this spy case, one should not forget that Douglas Feith as far back as 1996 signed a paper, "titled 'A Clean Break,' issued by a Jerusalem-based policy group that called for the toppling of Saddam Hussein in order to enhance Israeli security", *NYT*. Thus it is clear that Israel was more than just looking for "defense information". The FBI noted that the analyst was very much interested in US policy towards Iran although they did not divulge the actual details of the intelligence services he was providing Israel.

The outcome of this snooping case is not clear, since the White House should really, first of all, rightfully feel somewhat insulted by this development, but the *NYT* states, "As a result, the investigation is likely to give rise to questions about whether Israel may have used the information to influence American policy in the Middle East." That is really putting it mildly. Of course, Israel will use the information accordingly. While the DOD tried to assure that the "Analyst" was not at a "policy making level", he was certainly as close as anyone needs to be, since Mr. Feith (the agent's boss) is at present a bona fide member of the most influential policy making team in the US Government.

Yet, in all likelihood, Israel will get away with it, just as it did in the Pollard case (the Israelis have aggressively lobbied all the US Presidents since then for the release of Pollard, so he can be given a well-deserved hero's welcome as one Israel's finest). As for AIPAC, in all likelihood, it will continue diligently coordinating with probably hundreds of Israeli agents implanted throughout the US Government, to whom the FBI has yet to expose.

While we are on the matter of pro Israel lobby groups, it is worth noting that several elements of the American lobby working on behalf of Israel (they come in all kinds of shapes, sizes and influence) have launched an aggressive campaign against the American Presbyterian Church. On July 2, 2004, the 216th General Assembly of the Church issued its decision to initiate a process of selective, phased divestment from multinational corporations doing business in Israel. The first company targeted in this process was Caterpillar Corporation, because Caterpillars have been used extensively in the demolition of Palestinian homes and the construction of such humiliating security apparatus as the so-called security wall. The Presbyterians are now being charged with the highly criminal offense of being anti-Israel. The Presbyterian Church has gone to great lengths to explain that as a God serving institution, it simply cannot remain closed-eyed to the inhumane treatment that the Palestinians have been subjected to. The Church found no moral justification to support such inhumane treatment, but rather considered such repression as bordering on apartheid and ethnic chauvinism. Yet, the Israeli lobby in the US seeks to portray such sensible moral feelings, with all the slanderous and vicious name calling jibe at their disposal, ready for release whenever anyone seeks to uphold the need to reimplant high morals in the Holy Land, something that Israel has literally done away with. Even the olive trees of the Holy Land are helpless against the destructive force of the Caterpillars. Needless to say, the importance of this development is further enhanced by the overwhelming voting in favor of the decision at the Presbyterian Assembly with 431 in favor against 62. It is high time American officials realize that indeed a great number of decent citizens of the United States do still have a feel for what is right and wrong and for the kind of friends that America should really have.

نتقدم بأحر التهاني والتبريكات

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بمناسبة زفاف نجله الشاب

بسام

على ربة الصون والعفاف كريمة الأخ / عفيف عبد الواحد ثابت

متمنين لهما حياة زوجية سعيدة وبالرفاه والبنين ، الف الف مبروك

المهنؤون / خالد عبد الواحد محمد نعمان

عن أسرة المرحوم الحاج عبد الواحد محمد نعمان

YT Business

The necessity of information at the MAI (2-2)

BY TAUFIK A. AL-DOBHANI
THE G.D. FOR AGRICULTURAL
MARKETING
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

Data is collected from the 7 Governorates (i.e. Sana'a, Aden, Taiz, Al-hudaida, Mokalla, Ibb and Sayoun) and transmitted to the HQ in Sana'a where further assessment, verification and analysis are undertaken. Meanwhile, the project has established an information flow canal on the local level by broadcasting

the prevailing prices and related quantities of agricultural commodities and products through Radio stations where available. These activities are conducted with the objective of informing farmers and others of the movements of the market so that farmers in particular are better off with respect to marketing and production decisions.

On the other hand, the flow of data and information to the HQ, represents an adequate basis for the creation of reliable and up to date database of information, available and sustainable over the long term. Due to the fact that accumu-

lated data and information are considered to be provided largely in Roh-forms, increased efforts are made at the HQ to re-check their validity, categorize them, and analyze them, so that they can be presented to different users in desirable forms. These efforts have resulted in summarizing data collected over a year and publishing it by means of annual reports. So far, 7 progressive annual reports, on the movements of prices and quantities of the main fruits and vegetables in selected Yemeni wholesale markets, have been published. By comparing and contrasting the different ver-

sions of annual reports, one observes that progress has been made in terms of contents, as well as with respect to the form of presented data. However, despite the progressive improvements, there are still ambitious objectives to be targeted in the future. On one side, data and information contained in the annual reports still need to cover more markets and all governorates in order to become more representative for the entire country. Additionally, collected data and information has to cover, (in addition to the wholesale markets), the respective retail markets, the production process and related agricultural input markets.

Since the MIS project's performance is subject to resource constraints, it can not cover all of these aspects unless more resources are allocated to it. Nevertheless, during the last 7 years of this project, it has established a good basis towards the sustainable provision of an adequate database, facilitating essential market analysis related to the main agricultural produce. In the near future, the project will initiate its next phase with the aim of widening its coverage to including a further 5 provinces. Undoubtedly, this will contribute towards further improvements of the agricultural sector in general - it will provide more data and information on the domestic agricultural market in particular, which will be of vital importance for agricultural exports as well. The project plans to initiate its second phase activities by September 2004 and is expected to last for 30 months. Basically, it is aimed at widening and

developing the currently applied information flow system for the main agricultural products. Hence, it is expected to cover up to 12 main wholesale markets in 12 governorates of the republic so that data and information on agricultural marketing products will be available and easily accessible. This data will be assessed, analyzed, and ultimately published, on an annual basis through the annual report on marketed agricultural products. To ensure sustainable performance and development of the system, it is expected that the project will train local personnel at both provincial and HQ levels, and update their knowledge, in particular, in the fields of data management and information processing. On the other hand, the MAI should, after the projects completion, support the GD for agricultural marketing, by ensuring proper system application and development, through allocating the sufficient resources required, in

Exchange Rate for the Yemeni Rial		
Currency	Buying	Selling
US Dollar	184.7400	184.9000
Sterling Pound	331.6500	331.9400
Euro	223.2500	223.4400
Saudi Rial	49.2600	49.3000
Kuwaiti Dinar	626.6600	627.2000
UAE Dirhem	50.3000	50.3400
Egyptian Pound	29.6500	29.6800
Bahraini Dinar	490.0200	490.4400
Qatari Rial	50.7500	50.7900
Jordanian Dinar	260.5600	260.7900
Omani Rial	479.8800	480.2900
Swiss Franc	145.2600	145.3900
Swedish Crown	24.3600	24.3800
Japanese Yen	1.6850	1.6864

Source: Central Bank of Yemen

particular, for technical personnel. Obviously, the Ministry, through its deputy and vice deputy, is considering the developed system as an essential progression towards improving sector and sub-sector database systems, which will provide all the necessary data and information, for all parties involved in agricultural related processes, including the export sector. In addition, the overall trend of macro policies, tends to focus on assisting the export sector for the purposes of increasing the quantity and improving the quality of exports and to ease the control of its related processes. All these and other efforts can only be successfully implemented if all the related information is provided and delivered in desirable forms, from the lower to upper levels so that the decision making process can be supported at all levels.

Law on encouraging investment in animal wealth

BY MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A law regarding development of animal wealth in Yemen has been issued and it represents the first of its kind in the country. The law, in addition to development of the animal wealth, it encourages capitals for investment in this field and aims at protecting the animal wealth and the increase of production of its products.

The law stipulates the necessity of uniting all efforts and activities related to animal wealth in all areas of Yemen in a way leading to realization of required economic goals and protection of this wealth against diseases and communicative diseases including those coming from outside.

The law is also aimed at encouragement and protection of local and foreign investment in the area of animal wealth and poultry as well as organization and encouragement of the national veterinarian cadre and qualifying it scientifically and technically. It also targets the growth and development of the countryside to raise its productive capacity of the animal wealth that in turn would help improve the Yemeni countryside living condition.

The law included terms on protection and development of animal wealth and health, slaughterhouses and meats markets, in addition to punishments for the protection of the animal wealth and fixing duties imposed in this field.

Figures indicate that the volume of the animal wealth in Yemen amounted

in 2003 to more than 15.5 million head against 15.2 million in 2002. The number of goats reached 7.3 million heads in 2003, followed by 6.5 heads of sheep and 1.3 million heads of cattle.

Pursuant to statements issued by the agricultural State Administration of Statistics and documentation, the governorate of Hadramout occupied the first place in raising goats and cattle reaching 1.1 million heads of goats and 79.7 thousand of cattle. The governorate of Hudeida occupied the second place as having 655.1 thousand heads of sheep and 220.3 heads of cows.

Therefore, the law aims at increasing production of meat, diaries and rawhide and to cover the increasing demand for meat products locally and externally.

YR 114 million support for civil society organisations

BY MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Social Affairs and Labour statement has affirmed the Yemeni government keenness on maintaining efforts for supporting organisations of the civil society to enhance their role during the next period in areas of social and developmental, charitable and legal areas.

The statement mentioned that the volume of direct financial support the ministry has offered to federations and unions, organisations and societies this year amounted to YR 114 million benefited by 244 private sector societies and establishments in the capital and governorates.

The statement stressed the necessity of evaluating the effect of that support on activities of civil society organisations and studying possibility of its increase and expansion in future. The statement has also affirmed the importance of activating the stand of local councils to encourage and support civil society organisations because some local councils and finance committees abstain from assisting and supporting civil society organisations activities and this would affect the realization of their objectives.

On the other hand, he National Committee for Woman in Aden has organized a meeting for private societies and civil society organisations where there was an exchange of discussion about projects and activities

of the non-governmental organisations in various fields. The meeting has stressed that civil society organisations work acquires its importance because it is based on volunteering activity and aims at interest of the local society and development

The meeting approved the necessity of work with partners of development in the present stage in order to interact with various issues, matters, and developments taking place locally, at the Arab level and internationally.

Civil society organisations in Yemen are still lacking of the structure necessary for implementation of their tasks accurately owing to their being in need of support and financing of local projects they supervise their implementation.

Announcement

The Poverty Strategy Follow up and Monitoring General Unit (PRSFU) in collaboration with the UNDP recruited an international expert on the preparation of budgets and revision of general expenditures in basic social services. PRSFU seeks to contract a financial national specialist or practitioner to work with the expert and to participate in preparing a training program of long duration.

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Interview

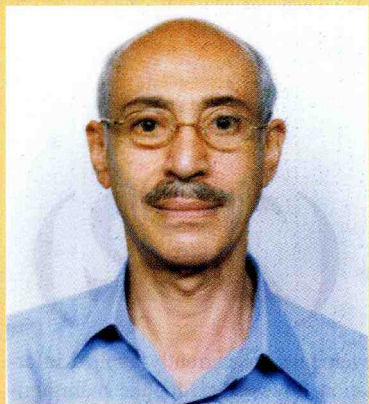
In commemoration of Zain Al-Saqqaf

BY BASSAM JAMIL AL-SAQQAF
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

A republished interview with the poet and intellect Zain Al-Saqqaf - interviewed by the Al-Hadharem Bulletin, and first published by the Charitable Al-Hadharem Youth Fund in 1999.

A man of letters with a lofty head and outstanding in the intellectual and literary scene in our country.

In the cultural realm his voice is distinctive and effective, he is a pillar in the institutional and organizational structure of the Yemeni Intellectual and Writers Union. We visited him at his office and he wel-



Late poet Zein Al-Saqqaf

comed us warmly, and delivered an interesting speech full of feeling and emotion.

home to my soul, and my mother's warm lap. It has granted me love, and taught me self-confidence in the face of the hardships and challenges in life.

I have hardly given Al-Hadharem anything, and parting is no doubt hard. I have no excuse, but I have demanding responsibilities, beyond my power to control, which contribute to this condition, and I wish they weren't there.

Q: What is your opinion of the recent presidential elections?

A: It is a confused and distorted process of a long and tiring path that people have to walk on.

The Political community organizations should have a clear vision and unshakable determination. They must make concerted efforts and actively participate to

The YIWU has a renowned and observable role though not an entirely satisfactory one. Yet, it continues offering services, surviving the difficult and complicated conditions.

Of course, it is subject to factors controlling the miserable and difficult life of culture, intellectuals and literary works.

Q: What is your advice for the Charitable Al-Hadharem Youth Fund so as to perform our duty well?

A: I am pleased with your bulletin and the activities of the fund. I also appreciate the substantial efforts and enthusiasm of the beneficent contributors to this useful charitable project.

You all deserve thanks, praise, and support particularly the youths.

I wish you success and continuity. No doubt, upholding good manners and morals is the best piece of advice, it is the way of improvement, advancement, and success.

Q: What is your last comment?

A: I would like your article to be devoid of any linguistic flaw either in grammar or spelling. You can do this by referring to experts.

The bulletin is an effective communication tool that spreads fraternity and boosts cooperation. It is like a pleasant whiff from my dear village, and the whole lovely district, as well as the good people over there. I tell you to go ahead, and I wish you every success.

"The breaths of dreamy romance in my poetry and narratives, are attributable to the profound influence of the village over me. It has given shape to my mood and personality since my tender years."

memories: changes in nature - sunrise and sunset - rain and thunder, that shakes the mountain - mist and seasons - agriculture - grilled grain ears and harvesting - racing on donkey back - feasts, weddings and funerals - religious festivals - majthoobs and chanters who roam around villages at harvest time - the suffering of parting and sad parting songs - celebrations of arrival.

Life, people, and relations were simple, easy and intimate. Dreamy romantic breaths - as my friends perceived in my poetry - might originate in the tremendous influence of the village on myself, for it has shaped my mood and personality since an early age.

I still remember late Abdullah Abdulhabib Al-Mansoub when he surprised me with a question. "Parse Quhfat Al-Wakd," he said jokingly. He was famous for irony, and knew my interest in Arabic and its grammar. Since then, Quhfat Al-Wakd has been planted in my mind, reviving at times dreams, memories, meanings and signs taking on fertile colors of expression that vanish only to reappear.

Al-Hadharem means much to me: kinship, tenderness, and sincerity. It is home to my soul, and my mother's warm lap. It has bestowed on me love, and taught me self-confidence.

Q: "An Adorer Since the Morning" is one of your nice and famous poems. We listen to it sung by artist and musician Ahmed Fathi. Do you have other sung lyrics?

A: Unfortunately, it is the only sung poem. I have published a few lyrics written in standard and colloquial languages.

I've given some of them to artists who wanted to tune them, but nothing happened. Actually, I do not persist with such things to avoid embarrassing situations.

Q: Zain Al-Saqqaf is an icon of Al-Hadharem. What does Al-Hadharem mean to you, and why have you kept away from it for a long time?

A: I thank you for this title. I hope I live up to it. I am proud of it as well.

Al-Hadharem means so much to me. It is kinship, tenderness, and sincerity. It is

effect a radical change in the behavior and thought of society, and instigate authority for the sake of establishing a wise governance based on freedom, justice, and democracy.

It has been the dream of freemen since the 1940s for tyranny and persecution to leave the country forever (in thought and action) so that we can catch up with advancement, development, and prosperity. There is no other choice.

Q: A year ago, there was a fuss over the new idea of the free verse poem (ouksoudah) and whether or not you are its creator. May you explain this?

A: I am under no restraint to say that I have written poems that originate this new literary genre. Yet, I don't like to get into quarrels over such a matter. I leave it for researchers and experts to decide.

Q: Some say your writing is characterized by vagueness and symbolism. What do you say?

A: This may be true. Nevertheless, it is a relative interpretation and differs from reader to reader according to levels of literary appreciation and knowledge as well as attitudes towards modern literary writing experiences, which are manifold and renewable.

Q: Are there among your literary productions regular-verse poems?

A: There aren't any. My first experiences bore the limitation of the genesis and sustained it.

Q: We glean your poetry from magazines and newspapers. Do you intend to compile it in to one collection?

A: My writing is like my life scattered here and there, and there is no way to pull it all together.

Q: Holding a post at the Yemeni Intellectual and Writers Union (YIWU), what are the achievements on the way of providing a sublime literature?

A: Official and private cultural establishments are usually fragile. They lack regular and stable constituents. Therefore, their performance fluctuates.

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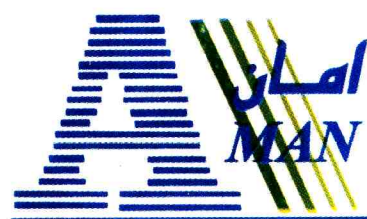
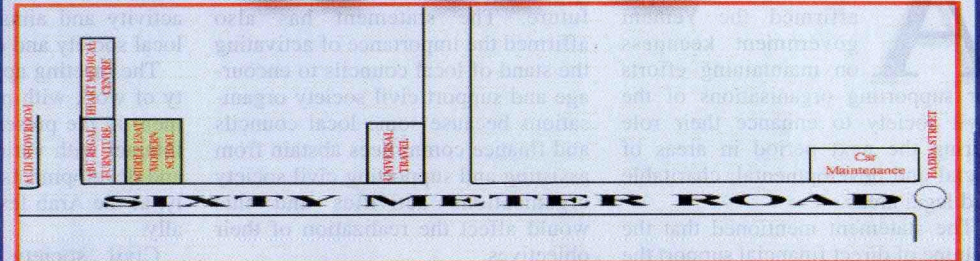
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The Embassy of the United States of America announces for immediate jobs opening within its organization.

"1. Human Resources Clerk"

The position is located in the Human Resources Section, American Embassy, under the direct supervision of the Human Resources Specialist and general supervision of the Management Officer. The incumbent will perform a wide variety of human resources clerk duties.

Desired Qualifications:

- Education:** Secondary school is required. A diploma in the field of administration or human resources is preferable.
- Prior work experience:** One and half to two years of clerical and/or administration experience in Human Resources is required.
- Language proficiency:** Level III (good working knowledge) English is required.
- Skills and abilities:** Ability to work under pressure, level II typing, a good working knowledge of Word processing and Access applications.
- Grade/Salary:** *EFM/MOH/Non Ordinarily Resident: FP-8 (to be confirmed by Washington)
*Ordinarily Resident: FSN-6.

"2. Janitor"

The position is located in the Facility and Maintenance Section, American Embassy, under the immediate supervision of the maintenance foreman and the general supervision of the Facility and Maintenance Manager. This position reports directly to the maintenance foreman and is responsible for the general cleaning and maintenance of Embassy complex's building, interiors and exterior. This position calls for dusting, sweeping, removal of trash, vacuuming, mopping of floors, washing of window interiors and exteriors, cleaning of bathrooms and water closets, and polishing of furniture and floors.

Desired Qualifications:

- Education:** Completion of elementary school is desirable.
- Prior Work Experience:** Two years prior janitorial experience is desirable.
- Language Proficiency:** Level I English ability (rudimentary) is all that is required.
- Skills and Ability:** Ability to properly use cleaning supplies and equipment.
- Grade/Salary:** *EFM/MOH/Non Ordinarily Resident: FP-DD (to be confirmed by Washington)
*Ordinarily Resident: FSN-1.

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 contact the Embassy Personnel Office, American Embassy, Dhahr Himyar Street, Sanaa. Tel: 303-155, Fax: 303182, no later than September 11, 2004.

NOTE: ALL ORDINARILY RESIDENT APPLICANTS MUST BE RESIDING IN COUNTRY AND HAVE THE REQUIRED WORK AND RESIDENCY PERMITS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR CONSIDERATION.

Continued from page 1

Al-Qaeda militants convicted of terrorism

The two brothers Fawaz al-Rabee and Abu Bakr al-Rabee were sentenced to 10 years in jail. The conviction of Fawaz al-Rabee, the ring leader, included the attack on the helicopter of the US Hunt Oil company, and the detonation of explosions at a building of the civil aviation authority. Al-Rabee also was fined \$100,000 to compensate the civil aviation authority for damage to the building. He also participated in the murder of Khasroof.

The other five militants (Ibraheem Mohammed al-Huwaidi, Aref Saleh Ali Mujali, Mohammed Abdullah al-Dailami, Abdulghani Ali Hussein Kalfan, and Kasem Yahia al-Ramee) were sentenced to five years in prison. They were found guilty of plotting attacks against the US, French, UK, Cuban and German embassies, and plotting to assassinate former U.S. Ambassador to Yemen, Edmund Huli, as well as intelligence officials.

The two defendants - Khaled Ahmad al-Jalob, and Saleem Mohammed Ali al-Dailami, were sentenced to three years in prison, for falsifying documents relating to the various attacks.

The verdicts included that the explosives (approximately half a ton) and weapons seized with the defendants, be confiscated.

The defendants strongly condemned and rejected the verdict, doubting the legitimacy of the court. Upon hearing the verdict, the 13 bearded men in blue prison dress, burst into cries of "God is great. America is the enemy of God. Osama bin Laden is God's beloved" from behind the bar. The defendant Yasser Ali Salem was tried in absentia, while Saleem Mohammed Ali al-Dailami was absent from the pronouncement of the verdict due to his sickness. All the defendants and their relatives appealed the verdicts.

The judge said while reading the verdict, that Abdurraheem al-Nashiri, first prime suspect of the US Cole bombing (currently in the US custody), paid \$40,000 to fund the Limburg attack. The explosives were bought by the former al-Qaeda leader Abu Ali al-Harithi and were transported from his house in Shabwa to Mukalla in Hadramut. Al-Harithi was killed by the CIA with a missile fired from a drone aircraft later in 2002.

Relatives of the defendants who were present in the courtroom condemned the verdicts, describing them as political. The courtroom saw hustle and bustle as the crowd of the defendants' relatives gathered around the bar, furiously criticizing the court. Father of defendant Abdulkareem Kalfan told Yemen Times "the verdict was already decided and the tribunal was just a decoration to pass the verdict." While Saleh Mujali, father of Hizam who received death penalty, said, "The verdict is unjust and the agents are behind it." The father of Fawaz al-Rabee said that there is no legal basis for the verdict as the defendants did not get enough legal protection. Advocate Faiz al-Hajori who was defending al-Wajeeh said, "the court did not pay attention to the defense we presented. The verdicts were based on evidences which were proved false."

However, other observers had expected heavier verdicts for some defendants like Fawaz al-Rabee, a former employee at the Presidential office, and an al-Qaeda suspect wanted by the US government. However, they said that the process of the tribunal was full of mistakes and lapses, as the 12 suspects were left without defense. Advocates named by the defendants quit the trial twice in protest against the refusal of the court to provide them with a copy of investigation documents. Even the advocates appointed by the court did the same, for the same reason, leaving the defendants without a defense, which has shed doubts over the legitimacy of the tribunal despite the fact that some defendants admitted their guilt in the first hearing held on May 29th.

The verdict was issued amid the heavy security measures of the final session.

Yemeni detainee asks to represent himself

As for Al-Bahlul's request to have a Yemeni lawyer if he needs an attorney, the rules for a military commission trying detainees at Guantanamo Bay require defense lawyers to be US citizens.

Al-Bahlul is charged with conspiracy to commit murder and terrorist attacks. The US military accuses Al-Bahlul as being a "key Al-Qaeda propagandist" and of once being a bodyguard of Al-Qaeda's top leader, Osama bin Laden.

Another Guantanamo Bay detainee from Yemen, Salim Ahmed Hamdan, is facing the war crimes tribunal accused of once being Osama bin Laden's chauffeur. Last week, he and his lawyers declined to enter a plea until motions are filed in November.

The proceedings have been under criticism by defense lawyers and observers, accusing the panel of not being impartial. The defendants have yet to be classified as "enemy combatants," which would give them fewer legal rights.

Up to now, 15 out of 585 detainees in Guantanamo Bay have been prepared to appear before the military commission.

A Yemeni organization that supports human rights, The National Organization for Defending Rights and Freedom (HOOD), has been protesting against the treatment of detainees that have been held in Guantanamo Bay since the fall of the Taliban regime in Afghanistan in late 2001.

"The way the United States is dealing with Arabs is unfair," said Yemeni attorney Abdul Aziz Al-Samawi, who is the defense lawyer for the defendants accused of bombing the USS Cole at the port of Aden in 2000. "If they want them to be fair, the trials should be held in the United States where rights are more important, than in a place outside of its borders."

Samawi added that Al-Bahlul's confession of being a member of Al-Qaeda should not be used as evidence in the military commission.

Translations being used in the war crimes tribunal were also criticized. According to an Arabic-speaking journalist who attended the trials, a number of words that Al-Bahlul spoke in Arabic were not translated correctly.

The date for the next session was not announced when the hearing was adjourned last Thursday.

Possible terrorist threats to Yemen

Al-Qirbi added that "We are continuously tracking suspicious activities in this area, looking for possible movements of terrorist groups."

Terrorists bombed the USS Cole in October 2000 as it was refueling at the port of Aden. Seventeen US sailors were killed and 33 others were wounded during the attack. Militants also bombed the French oil tanker Limburg off the coast of Yemen near Mukalla two years later which left one crew member dead.

Yemeni authorities are said to have received information of the terrorist threats from foreign intelligence, but officials have not mentioned where the information came from. The reports of heightened alert came right after Lieutenant General Samuel Heiland, Commander of the US forces fighting terrorism in the African Horn, visited Yemen.

Six terrorist suspects are on trial charged with being involved in the bombing of the USS Cole. Fifteen others were convicted on Saturday of taking part in terrorist activities, including the attack on Limburg.

An analyst in Yemen said that the Yemeni government has made a substantial effort to improve national security.

"The Yemeni government has increased security a great deal in the last few years," said the analyst. "You never know that you can thwart every attack, but if there are threats, the security forces will do a good job of preventing attacks."

Security forces have rounded up hundreds of suspects, including key Al-Qaeda members, since Yemen joined the United States' fight on terrorism after the attacks in America on September 11th 2001. Last week, authorities arrested Yousef Al-Harazi, one of eight wanted suspects believed to be members of Al-Qaeda, during a raid by an anti-terrorism squad at an apartment in Sana'a, the capital.

Last April, the United States delivered seven gunboats to Yemen to help the newly established Yemen Coast Guard protect the country's coastline and ports. In July, the United States decided that its warships could refuel at the port of Aden due to improved security. US warships stopped arriving at the port after the bombing attack on USS Cole four years ago.

The analyst believes that since terrorism appears to be on the rise, terrorist threats will continue in a number of countries. "With the rise of terrorism happening in many parts of the world, it is as though the whole world is under threat," said the analyst.

Russian authorities discovered that one of the two Russian planes that crashed last week was the result of terrorism. During investigations, officials said that explosives were found in the wreckage of one of the two planes which crashed almost simultaneously last Wednesday.

A recent report from a UN committee said that freezing assets linked to Al-Qaeda and the Taliban in Afghanistan has been ineffective. It also said that winning the war on terror is not in sight.

"There is no prospect of an early end to attacks from Al-Qaeda," said the report. "They will continue to attack in both Muslim and non-Muslim states, choosing them according to the resources they have available and the opportunities that occur."

During clashes between Yemeni forces and armed supporters of Hussein Al-Houthi in north Yemen, which have lasted for over two months, terrorist groups have hinted at targeting Yemen. Early July, Abu Hafs Al-Masri Brigade, a group linked to Al-Qaeda, said that it would "drag the United States into a third quagmire, that is, after Iraq and Afghanistan, and let it be in Yemen, God willing." The group has claimed responsibility for attacks in Iraq, Turkey and the March 11th railway bombings in Madrid.

A month later, a little known Islamic group, Tawhid Wa Al-Hijra (Monotheism and Immigration), posted on its website support for Al-Houthi and condemned the Yemeni government because it "opened the country of Muslims to the crusader forces."

**Republic of Yemen
Ministry of Public Health and Population (MOPHP)
Health Reform Support Project (HRSP)**

**Request for Expression of Interest
Inspection Firm Consultancy Service for
Goods procured by the HRSP**

This request for expressions of interest follows the general procurement notice of the Health Reform Support Project that appeared in the United Nations Development Business (UNDB) issue number 607 on 16th May 2003, Al-Thawra newspaper issue number 13944 on 28th May 2003, and Yemen Times issue number 641 on 12th June 2003.

The government of the Republic of Yemen has received a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) towards the cost of its Health Reform Support Project (HRSP), and intends to apply the proceeds of this credit for the payment of goods, civil works, and consultancy services.

The Ministry of Public Health and Population now invites eligible inspection firms/ test agencies to express their interest in providing inspection and testing consultancy services of goods procured through the Health Reform Support Project.

The activities/responsibilities of this inspection firm/ test agency include but are not limited to:

- Pre-shipment inspection and testing services of goods procured through the HRSP to ensure that they are according to the specifications, models numbers, and origin as specified in the schedule of requirement.
- Inspection and reporting on quantity, quality, workmanship, and finishing of the goods and materials.
- Pre-shipment inspection of type, models, brand names of goods to be procured through the HRSP to ensure their conformity to technical specifications and contractual obligations, and their appropriateness and adaptability for the intended purposes.
- Review of the manufacturers' test certificate, test reports and catalogs as per contract.
- Supervise and check packing to ensure all items are included in the shipment according to the packaging list and labeled with the appropriate items code number.
- Sealing, stamping, signing and dating the packing list (verified against list of requirements), and checking shipping marks.
- Reporting to the client in clear and detailed manner as required by HRSP, along with required photographs and inspection certificates.
- Re-inspection if necessary as authorized by HRSP.

Interested consultancy firms must provide sufficient information indicating they are qualified to perform the required services, and have the relevant experience and have performed such services previously.

Consultancy firms will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank guidelines: *Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers, January 1997 (revised September 1997, January 1999, and May 2000).*

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours from 9:00 a.m. - 3 p.m. Expressions of interest must be delivered to the address below by 11:00 am on 21st September 2004.

**Credit Administration Unit
Health Reform support Project
Ministry of Public Health and Population
P.O. Box 1330 - Al-Hasabah - Sanaa - Republic of Yemen
Tel: +967 1 252224 Fax +967 1 251622 Email: hrsp@y.net.ye**

**Republic of Yemen
Ministry of Public health and Population
Health Reform support Project (HRSP) Credit 3625
Credit Administration Unit (CAU)**

**Announcing Vacancy for the Post of
Junior Procurement Specialist of the CAU**

The World Bank financed Health Reform Support Project (Credit 3625) seeks applicants for the position of **Junior Procurement Specialist** at the CAU. The **Junior Procurement Specialist** will report and be accountable to the Procurement Specialist and Credit Administrator, and will work closely with other staff of the CAU, relevant departments of the Ministry of Health and Population, Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, and the Ministry of Finance.

The junior procurement specialist will be responsible for the following:

- Developing and maintaining well-defined tools to manage and track procurement activities, on an annual and quarterly basis, as well as monthly reports on procurement activities.
- Assist in the procurement of all works, goods, and services for the project.
- Assist in developing the relevant procurement documentation of the project (e.g. bidding documents) in accordance with World Bank Guidelines for the procurement of Works and Goods, and for the Selection of Consultants, and the subsequent analysis of submitted bids, through committees or otherwise.
- Assist in establishing procedures for receiving and opening to bids, ensuring adherence to the evaluation criteria stipulated in the bidding documents, and recording the deliberations of procurement processes: bid openings, evaluations, etc.
- Updating the Project Procurement Plan for each year.
- Itemizing and listing all goods required for the project, showing specifications and the estimated unit and total costs of each item, and grouping goods in packages, to the extent possible, by main product (package) and groups (lots) to permit bulk procurement.
- Determining the procurement method to be used based on the size of the package as determined by the grouping of the items for: International Competitive Bidding (ICB), National Competitive (NCB), International Shopping (IS) & Local shopping (LS).
- Coordinate procurement activities with the financial department of the CAU as may be required to facilitate release of payments, letters of guarantee, etc.

Qualifications:

- A minimum of five years of private sector experience in managing procurement of goods, consultancy services, or civil works.
- A minimum of Bachelor's degree in engineering, business and administration, or a related field.
- Previous experience with Government and IDA procurement procedures and guidelines.
- Good interpersonal and communication skills.
- Proficiency with all office software.
- Proficiency in speaking and writing in Arabic and English.

Interested consultants must provide information indicating they are qualified to perform the required services and have the relevant experience. Consultants will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank guidelines.

Expressions of interest must be delivered to the address below by 11:00 am on 20th September 2004. Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm.

**Credit Administration Unit
Health Reform Support Project
4th Floor - Ministry of Public health and Population
P.O. Box 1330 - Al-Hasabah - Sana'a, Republic of Yemen
Tel: +967 (1) 252224 - Fax: +967 (1) 251622 Email: hrsp@y.net.ye**

Censorship of Al Jazeera

By JOHN MACKESY
MRTWIRLS@MCHSL.COM
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

The suppression of the Al Jazeera news office in Baghdad shows that the American military has given Iraq a new dictatorship with a free hand to violate rights guaranteed to citizens in the US Constitution. I read many articles from Al Jazeera on the Yahoo internet news page. Al Jazeera offered realistic reporting and assessments from a war zone, not just optimistic military propaganda. All people who believe in Freedom of the Press should denounce this blatant attempt to control thought with force. The Iraq war is a reaction to the dreadful event known as 9/11. The root cause of 9/11 was the American Government weapons profiteering and distributing weapons that empowered dictators like the Shah of Iran, Saddam Hussein, the Emir of Kuwait and King of Saudi Arabia. Human Rights watch ranks Saudi Arabia at the bottom of the list, Amnesty International reports its secret police as being as notorious in the use of torture as Stalin's. Yet the American Government sells the Saudi leaders billions of dollars of weapons. Most 9/11 suspects are Saudi Arabians. Yet Bush and his propagandist Powell falsely linked 9/11 to Iraq and launched a grotesque war that resulted in the deaths of tens of thousands of civilians and the maiming and crippling of many innocent people. This is lynching a crowd of innocent bystanders. The Iraq war is a flagrant violation of International Law. Just the act of plotting it was a war crime. Nuremberg Principles Articles VI and VII make it a Crime Against Peace and a Crime Against Humanity to "Conspire to Engage In, Wage or Be Complicit in the Waging of a War of Aggression." The Iraq war was plotted and hatched with lies and deceptions, so it is evil in nature.

If you heard a man say "I enjoy killing people. I just feel rage, hate when I go outside" you would probably think "Here is a serial killer who should be removed from society". In an article from the L. A. Times entitled "Enemy contact, kill 'em, kill 'em" a United States soldier is quoted saying "I enjoy killing Iraqis. I just feel rage, hate out there." How many American soldiers in Iraq think like that, their minds poisoned by a war that is evil in nature?

The "Out there" is beyond the military fortresses. If the America and British occupying soldiers are doing anything good, ask "What would happen if all the soldiers and the new government leaders left their fortresses, and weapons, to meet the people they are supposed to be helping?" It is likely that the Iraq people furious at the suffering inflicted upon them would attack and beat the soldiers to death and cheer "Iraq is the cemetery of Americans" and "God is greatest."

Should not the Iraqi people be angry at the horrendous suffering and carnage inflicted on them in the name of "Freedom and Democracy?" How hollow those words are in light of the censorship of Al Jazeera. Iraqis are denied a free press as a foreign army occupies their land and war profiteers grow rich supplying weapons to kill their countrymen and feast on war loot. News reports indicate many billions of dollars of oil revenue has just disappeared. The money is being funneled through associates of the new power brokers and their appointees. The American military installed a government in Iraq by force. The ceremonies were held in a fortress on a military base with troops on full security alert with helicopter gunships circling and snipers on the battlements ready to blow apart any person who resisted. How can this be called anything but a puppet government? The leader of the Iraq governing council has assumed full powers of a tyrant. He declared martial law and a curfew, had political dissidents arrested, censored news and had houses bombed by the foreigners who empower him. By authorizing American warplanes to bomb houses in civilian areas that killed women and children, he has sealed a pact of blood with the occupiers of his own country. To stay alive the installed leaders must sign the papers put before them by their puppet masters, giving sovereignty over their nation to foreigners. The foreign military installed leaders are betraying their people for power, no matter how well intentioned the facade is presented. What good can ever come of this? The coalition

installed governing leaders know that if the foreign occupying soldiers leave, the Iraq people will swarm the Green Zone fortress and hang them from the nearest lamp posts. The only way the collaborators can live in their own country now is behind tanks and heavily armed troops, fortress walls and barbed wire. The leaders can dictate laws and give lucrative contracts and public funds to their friends and families by collaborating with the occupiers. What will come of this but more carnage and suffering, resistance and harsh repression, the fragmentation of a nation and destruction of the human spirit with the Iraq atrocity of the day? This will lead to more terrorist acts and excuses to drain hundreds of billions of dollars to the military industrial corporations that are looting the treasuries of the United States and Iraq. Many people suffer greatly so war profiteers can gain wealth and power in their illegal war with its evil foundation of lies and fabrications.

In America now, people are looking back over their shoulders nervously like something is gnawing at their consciences. They know that it is all wrong and are fearful of a payback. The media has the people in a state of fear awaiting a "Major terrorist event." I heard two doctors talking, one carries a gas mask in her purse, the other in his briefcase, prepared for a bio agent attack. Newspapers speculate about suitcase sized dirty nuclear bombs taking out New York or Washington D.C. Who made the shadowy enemies for the American people? The Executive Branch of the United States government created enemies by shipping weapons and interfering in foreign lands for economic motives. Just one big explosion or bad computer day is all it would take to throw the American people into confusion and panic and allow the Iraq war plotters to escape war crime justice by declaring a state of Emergency. If anyone doubts what Bush is capable of doing or Powell justifying, go on the internet and search "Iraq war civilian casualty photos." Look at the pictures of children with faces and limbs blown off, and mothers weeping in agony over bloody corpses. Face your own conscience, think how all this carnage and misery is the product of lies. Here is the news Al Jazeera reports that is not shown on American media. I work as a tour guide in the Napa Valley in California and talk with people from all over the world. I am told that Americans are becoming the most hated people in the world since Germans followed Hitler to war. Last week the Chief of Staff of the US military announced the military will keep at least 145,000 soldiers in Iraq for at least five years. His pronouncement makes it seem as though Congress doesn't exist and that who is President, or the opinion of the American people, doesn't matter. It's all about power and money for the military. A retired General said, "For the coming war American democracy will have to be replaced by a military government." The Republic seems to be in its last days, one bad day from Bush or a General signing a State of Emergency Declaration taking total power and getting away with murder. The American people are sleepwalking to dictatorship by financing and going along with this War of Deceptions. Think of curfews, resistance and repression in America, and the excuse to establish a draft and conscript millions of young men to kill people for oil power in the Middle East. Already in some American cities cars are stopped and searched by government security forces wielding automatic weapons. Here is 1984 unfolding and the citizenry is brainwashed to accept creeping totalitarianism by the propaganda of the out of control military that created terrorist enemies for Americans.

Bush says God chose him and that the interesting thing about being President is that he can do whatever he wants and he doesn't have to answer to anyone. This apparently includes using lies and exaggerations to sell a war and ordering bombings that have killed at least 10,000 civilians and led to the deaths of tens of thousands more.

The debacle will only get worse from here. American military field commanders say routinely "There is no room for failure." This means "We will kill as many people as necessary to achieve the goals." Yesterday's news quoted a Marine Captain triumphantly stating that the US military had killed 300 "Enemies of the Iraqi people" in the last two days. He should

have said they killed 300 Iraqi people who were "Enemies of a foreign occupying army." The suffering of the Iraqi will increase in proportion to the billions of dollars looted by the US treasury for the Generals and military industrial corporations. The fruits of the inflicted misery will be political campaign contributions, that finance television ads and mass mailings about winning the War on Terrorism. Here is the world's greatest scam brought to you by the most dangerous people since Hitler and his cadre used false propaganda to wage Wars of Aggression. The Democrat Party opponent to Bush, Mr. Kerry's solution is to give the military more equipment and continue the tragedy. If he is so blind morally, to not take a stand of conscience and say "We were lied to, this war is evil, I will order all American occupying soldiers home the day I take office" he doesn't deserve to be President. Kerry appears too weak to do what a President must do, stand up to the Generals who waged a war in violation of International Law and say "Back down." Here is an alternative future for Americans with two admissions and two actions. Americans must admit that the Iraq War is illegal and that it was plotted and hatched with lies and deceptions, so it is evil in nature. Nuremberg Principles Articles VI and VII make it a Crime Against Peace and a Crime Against Humanity to "Conspire to engage in, wage or be complicit in the waging of a War of Aggression "Admit that American taxpayers are individually and collectively responsible for financing the carnage and suffering caused by this illegal war.

On the Internet, search and print the Nuremberg Principles. Search Iraq war civilian casualty photos on sites like Victims of War, www.albasrah.net or www.robertfisk.com. See the pictures that are making Americans despised around the world. From the thousands of heartbreaking images, select and print 10 that touch you deeply. Concerned Americans should show the Nuremberg Principles and pictures to 10 people. Say "Here is something you need to see and act against. We are responsible for this." The sight of what the high explosive bombs they pay for are doing to innocent children, should reach people. Tell people to follow their consciences, download the Nuremberg Principles and 10 photos, show them to 10 people and pass it on and on.

Then American citizens must take a stand with good people and go to their Congress person's local office with the Nuremberg Principles and pictures and say with all their might. "THIS IS EVIL. WE DEMAND AN END TO THIS." The only hope is for American citizens to insist that Congress remove the war plotters before a "Major terrorist event" gives them cover to escape war crimes justice by declaring a State of Emergency and replacing Government by the People with Government by Decree.

The American military must be made by Congress to remove all occupying soldiers from Iraq and not use the aftermath of an illegal war as the excuse to divide and conquer a nation. The U.S. should offer asylum to the governing council members and other prominent collaborators for their own protection.

Then the American people must make peace with the world by swallowing their pride and admitting that the root cause of 9/11 was Americans allowing their government to distribute hundreds of billions of dollars of weapons around the world and looking away from the suffering their weapons profiteering caused. To go from being the most hated people in the world and restore their honor, the United States should impose an absolute embargo on the export of weapons from America. Have big parades for the returning soldiers to celebrate the triumph and victory of Peace and truth over a War of Deceptions. To make peace with the people of the world, all Congress members should stand on the steps of the Capitol and tell the world "I stand for the Nuremberg Principles." Then shout it out to the world, America. "WE STAND FOR THE NUREMBERG PRINCIPLES"

John Mackesy is a Harvard College graduate. He is a former businessman and teacher. He is currently working at the Napa Valley California. He contributes regularly to various newspapers and publications around the world.

Justified ambitions?



By Samer A.



By Yahya Al-Olfi
alolfi@hotmail.com

Reflections

False endowments, Basura's efficiency and the Houthisms

Sana'a During the seventies of the past century was a rather small city, barely emerging from a middle ages time capsule free from hundreds of years of Imamic oppressive rule and strangling isolation. Landplots at the time were very cheap because many Yemenis avoided living at the capital due to its contentious situation at the time. The years of stability, which followed that period, made real-estate business a prosperous lucrative business. Some people became millionaires all of a sudden because of selling landplots with an ever-increasing demand by newcomer inhabitants from all over Yemen, due to the centralization of administration and services. Thus, many people coveted non-owned lands and in order to justify their ownership for such large portions they at times counterfeited title documents and mostly claimed that they were within their hands as endowment property. Thus, in arrangement with the ministry of endowment, they sold landplots and purchasers were required to pay a lump sum to the endowment ministry in addition to the price already paid to the de facto owner. Now, that this has happened, it would be wise for the Ministry of endowment to suffice itself with what it has received from purchasers and to do away with further demands for rental money. Knowing that most newly sold landplots were in fact fake endowments, namely outside the typical city, during the eighties and nineties of the past century.

Assuming that the landplots were endowment property, they were left religiously for good purposes not for annoying purposes let alone the reality in that they were nobody's property and their values have been already paid. The ministry would do good maintaining clear-cut endowment property rather than tracking false ones.

Mr. Basura, the rector of Sana'a University was recently a subject of some negative comments in certain

newspapers in that he is inefficient and so forth. The man earned good reputation when he was a rector in Aden. In my humble opinion I think the man is qualified for such competency if it was not for some influential interventions here and there. The man should have sufficient free hand to run the university affairs and be able to get rid of elements giving the university a bad name. I personally have discovered bad performance on the part of the university's general registrar Mr. Al-Assali and his collaborator Mohammed Solaiman. These two elements in my opinion are fit to work as farmers tilling the land not hold positions in the university where they blackmail people and make them come and go for several months in vain. I am one of those who have been subjected to their misbehavior and of course felt angry at Basura's commissioning of such elements to run affairs they are not qualified for. In fact people have dubbed the General Registrar as the General Obstacles-Maker (in Arabic Al-Moaarqil Al-Aam). The rector, in order to win good reputation as when he was the rector of Aden university should inspect the performance of his underlings because their mismanagement reflects upon him negatively or positively according to people's impressions.

A man well-versed in Yemeni history, told me "...in order for Yemen to avoid future Houthisms openness should be addressed to issues implicating religious heritages and that the fact of the transformation from Persian descent to Hashemite pedigree should be alluded to clearly and that if this is done the majority shall for sure decide to shed off this distinctive oddity knowing that it would give them a bad image and hence we would be able to avoid once and for all future-like displays of such a repugnant chronic disease.

On the other hand, this week, I read the newspapers which are classified by the government as sympathetic with the religious daft Al-Houthi and his fellow

idiot fanatic combatants and deduced as follows: The YSP mouthpiece says that they are against the government's waging war against a certain group due to their belief and that the government ought to exercise law and order in Sana'a first before it decides to wage war elsewhere. Here the YSP contradicts itself and its principles and has gone astray for if the primitively minded clique were pacifist, there would have been no war in the first place. The Hadaoist newspaper, Al-Umma of "Al-Haq party" which people dub as "Haqalkhomos" i.e. claimants of one fifth of the country's wealth because of their alleged lineage to the celestial Jewel and that they are as such considered Yemen's crème de la crème. This newspaper calls the war on Shiite fanatics as an unnecessary daft mission, which has certainly proven its being a complete miscalculation. Truly, it is a grave miscalculation by the government to have permitted such a disease to grow unattended, while in the meantime it is every wise man's duty to praise the government in its endeavor to get rid of these backward devil henchmen, lest Yemen deteriorates even further. Aamir, a wily columnist in Alshoura newspaper accuses the people siding with the war against Shiite terrorists as people clinging to the past. The man is contradicting himself for he is writing in a newspaper deep to its forehead in obsolete and antique impractical thinking appropriate to jungle dwellers not people living in the twentieth century.

It is idiotic to make our anger from the government, blind us from differentiation between what is right for our country and what is wrong, here there is a lack of patriotism. Writers ought to respect their readers and I have stopped being an avid reader of Aamir's column because of the nonsense he uttered in Al-Shoura edition 497 because, deplorably, his claims are solely applicable on himself and the newspaper he wrote for.

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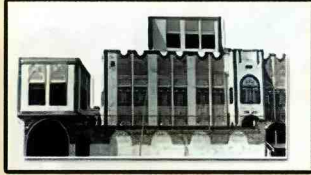
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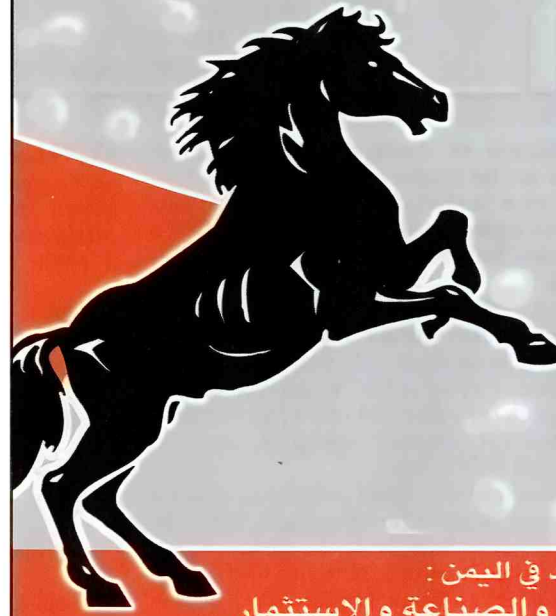
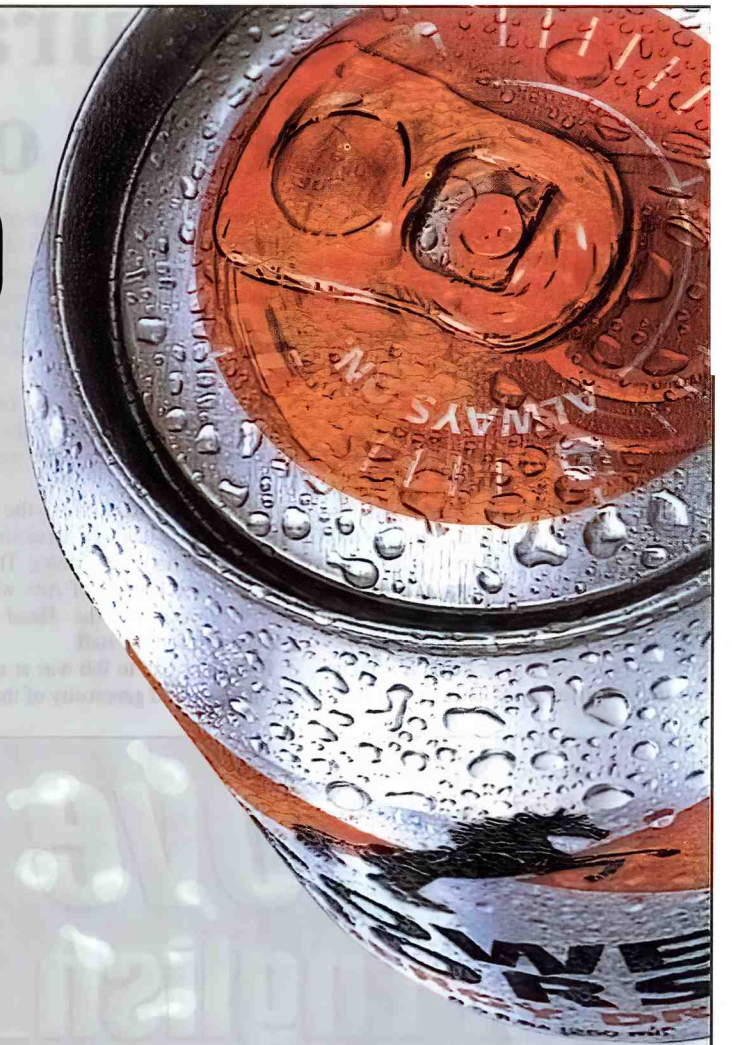
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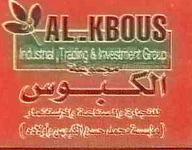
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Cultural Bridge-building between students of Sana'a and Ibb Universities



BY DR. AYID SHARYAN
DEPT. OF ENGLISH,
FACULTY OF EDUCATION
SANA'A UNIVERSITY

The Department of English (Faculty of Education, Sana'a University) held a number of activities during the second semester 2004. After so many cultural activities in the Department (as extension talks by visiting professors, seminars, and debates as well as MA students' presentations), the students organized (with the help of the head of the Department, Dean, Students Affairs, University of Sana'a) a 2-day academic trip to the University of Thamar and Ibb.

More than 20 twenty students participated in this trip with Dr Ayid Sharyan as the escort. The Dean, Vice Dean, and the Head of the Department of English Dr Taha Al Futiah, Faculty of Education, Thamar University received the students of Sana'a University.

Dr Taha took the students on a tour around the college: classes, labs, library, teachers room, etc. They met students in and outside classes.

The visit was delightful to the students of both universities who were so pleased to share one another's views. Then they moved to the Faculty of Arts where we were received by the Head of the Department and the staff.

Though arrival to Ibb was at night but the modesty and generosity of the people

there lit our journey. The Youth Hostel, the pride of Ibb City was magnificent. The next morning we were received by the Staff and students of the Department of English at Ibb University (Faculty of Arts). The warmth of the reception was evident; the whole staff and students cancelled classes and joined us in a Big Hall (22nd May Hall) where the cultural program took place. The Head of the Department of English Dr Anil Prasad welcomed the group.

The event started with the recitation from the Holy Quran by Abdulwahab Alfakeeh. Then the Head of the Department of English addressed students. He said "A journey of a thousand mile must begin with a single step... but the first step is difficult for it needs

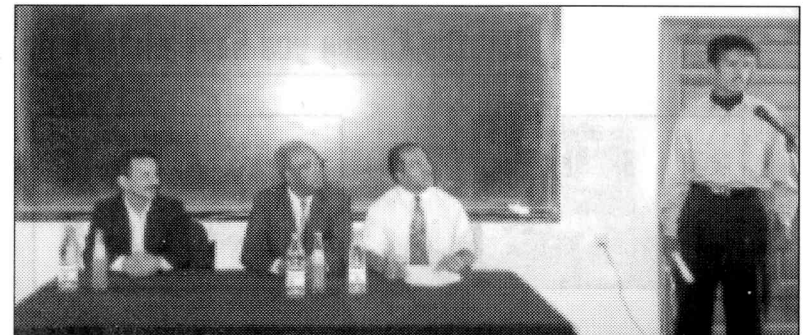
courage, confidence, and encouragement from others; the first step requires desire, ambition, and the blessings of God— God gives us so much light that we can take our first step. Such functions contribute to the growth of our own personalities, society, finally to the country/ world we inhabit," he concluded

Then he thanked Dr Ayid Sharyan for giving the Department a chance to be together, do things together and expressed his hope saying, "We need to be together- we need to be cooperative, collaborative and cordial to go ahead on the path of success and achievement."

The cultural program began by the recitation from the Holy Qur'an by Abulwahab Al Faqiah (4th level, Sana'a University). The Dean of the Faculty of



The students from Sana'a University, their guide Dr. Ayid Sharyan, Dean of the Faculty of Education and the Head of the Department, Thamar University



Dr. Sharyan, Dr. Abdulsharif (Dean), Dr. Prasad (Head), Ramzi Al-Absi (4th level, Sana'a University), reciting passages from Macbeth



Student of Sana'a University with the staff and students of Ibb University after the competition



President of Ibb University Prof. Shuja'a, Dr. Sharyan and Students of Sana'a University

Arts Prof Abdulsharif welcomed the guests and expressed his happiness over the collaborative cultural program organized by the two universities. He also welcomed the group on the behalf of the Rector Prof Ahmad Shuga Al Deen whom we met later.

Ramzi Al Absi (4th level, Sana'a University) recited a scene from *Macbeth* and later *The Love song of J. Alfred Prufrock*. A number of students from Ibb University participated with poems, speeches, and debates. Shaker Saddam, Sana'a University recited *Ulysses* by Tennyson and *The Death of the Hired Man* by Robert Frost, a modern poem and the soliloquy from Marlowe's *Dr Faustus*. Adel Al Khawlani presented some jokes in both English and Arabic.

The students who participated in the event from Ibb University are as follows:

- Level 1**
Blake's poem 'The Chimney-Sweeper'
Philip Larkin's 'Days'
Blake's 'London'
Stevenson's *Home from the Sailor*
Tennyson's *The Eagle*
Wordsworth's *My Heart leaps Up*
Blake's *Little Lamb*
Blake's an introduction of *Songs of Innocence*
Shakespeare's Passage from *Macbeth*
Joyce Kilmer's *Trees*
1- Salsabeel Radhwan Mohammad Waheed
2- Lubna Atef Mansour
3- Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ekaur
4- Mohammad Al-Badani
5-Nasseem Atran
6-Wafa Ali Mohammad
7- Mona'a Ahmad Al-jurani
8- Sahar Mohammad Al-Maghribi
9- Ahmad Al-duais
10-Fawaz Ali Ahmad Kassi

- Level 2**
Passage from *Macbeth*
1- Abdullah Al-duais
Dickinson's *I am Nobody*
2- Amany Hameed Naji Al- Rahabi
Frost's *Fire and Ice*
3- Ghamdan Mahmoud
Frost's *Trees at My Window*
4- Summer Mohammad
Dickinson's *Hope*
5- Najat Hassan Ashaiba
Hardy's *Time of The Breaking the*

- Nations*
6- Amatrhaman Golahi
- Level 3**
Whitman's "O Captain! My Captain"
2-Rehab Hazeb
Shakespeare's Sonnet
3-Fayez Sadek
Ahmad Shawqi
4-Tohra Naji Anakib
Shakespeare's Sonnet
5- Majid Al-Othmani
- Level 4**
Shakespeare's Sonnet
1- Sameera Ali
Elizabeth Browning's "How Do I Love Thee"
2- Fatema Hazeb
Poe's "Alone"
3- Ghada Al- Mulaiki
Eliot's passage from "The Waste Land"
4- Wadee Khateeb
Martin's Luther King Jr. "Speech"
5- Akram Salama

Dr Ayid Sharyan expressed his happiness over the performance of students from both universities. He thanks the Department of English, Faculty of Arts for the good organization and warm reception. Then Dr Rafeeq Al-Shameery thanked the participants for their active participation.

The presence of the Dean of Faculty of Arts, the Staff of the Department of English as well some of the teaching staff from varied Departments of the University of Ibb created an atmosphere of real cultural exchange.

After meeting the Rector and a section of students from Ibb University, we moved to other parts of Ibb (as Al Udien) for sightseeing. At 5:00 P.M. (05-04-2004), we began our journey back to Sana'a.

The journey was a success for students came to interact and share ideas with their peers in the universities of Ibb and Thamar. This motivated students from both sides so as to work better towards developing their personalities as well as their education. We look forward to repeating the experience in respect of other universities and we would feel happy to receive students from all Yemeni universities.

Improve Your English

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I. What to Say
Situations and Expressions (69)
'Thank you' wishes (III)

'Thank you' may be a small phrase but it has a massive emotional impact in our day-to-day social intercourse. It is that precious lubricant that facilitates the juggernaut of individual, inter-personal and social life move smoothly.

- Thanks a bunch. Words can never express the gratitude that's there for you.. But still this small note comes to let you know that your thoughtfulness and willingness to lend a helping hand have always meant a lot. You're truly appreciated.
- Thank you. Wish there were more people like you who with their kind deeds make this world a better place to be.
- Here are but few words of a sincere thanks giving. A hand outstretched in the hour of need, a kind deed can make a world bright, where sometime back nothing seemed right... Such is the help you've extended to me and so I desire to thank you today, just by saying that it's people like you, who make this world seem beautiful by all the good things you do. With sincere gratitude.

classification of stanza according to rhyme scheme and the number of lines per stanza.

- scribe (Lat. 'scriba': clerk): A copyst, especially one who copied manuscript before the invention of printing. Sometimes journalists are described as scribes.
- script (Lat. 'scriptum': written): There are five meaning: a) the characters used in a writing system; b) handwriting; c) the text of a manuscript d) the text of a play or film or television or radio broadcast; e) to write a script for a play or film.
- scripture (Lat. 'scriptura': writing): A sacred text such as the Holy Quran.
- Semiotics/semiology: Both terms have a common Greek root: 'semeion' meaning 'sign'. Hence the science of signs. Semiology is the science of signs (and signals) in general; semiotics refers to the theory of sign systems in language. They are both concerned with the means of communication as conventions, with particular emphasis on language.

(C) Words commonly confused
Bring our differences in meaning of the following pairs of words

- communication, communion
- cheat, deceive
- delightful, delicious
- freedom, liberty
- attend, escort

IV. Grammar and Composition
(A) Grammar
Match the words from the text with their corresponding definitions

1. profile	a. a sum of money given in addition to a salary
2. attitude	b. an assembly of people, especially for discussion
3. relationship	c. to tell an employee that he/she must leave his/her job
4. meeting	d. to be right or convenient for
5. suit	e. reduction in the number of employees
6. bonus	f. the connection between two or more people
7. motivate	g. to stimulate someone to take an interest in something.
8. redundancies	h. a statement which tells you what you should do
9. sack	i. a description of a person's characteristics
10. rationalize	j. a way of thinking or behaving

Suggested answers to last week's questions

- There is a marvelous collection of paintings in the National Gallery.
- I like the red dress and the pink shoes. The trouble is that they don't go with each other very well.
- There's something I want to talk to you about. Will you come and see me this afternoon?
- I usually go to work on foot.
- The successful applicant will be expected to take up the new post before the end of October.
- Her English has reached a high level.
- The new Prime Minister is trying to find a solution to the country's economic problems.
- He said he would come at eight o'clock, but it is already a quarter to nine.
- This is a word I have never come across before.

(B) Composition
Expand the central idea contained in the maxim
77: LOVE KNOWS NO BARRIERS

Last week's topic
76: LIFE IS NOT A BED OF ROSES
Shakespeare says: "The web of our life is of a mingled yarn, good and ill together." Indeed life is a curious admixture of smiles and wiles. Life's highway is fraught with hurdles and hardships which have to be overcome by dint of determined efforts. Life is a pilgrim's progress, in which the pilgrim inescapably confronts "a train of gay and clouded days/ Dappled with joy and grief and praise..." (Emerson). So one should be armed with boldness, preparedness, courage, self confidence and a positive attitude to successfully confront the battle of life. One should also have an open mind to accept whatever comes after investing the best of efforts. A defeatist or a cynic may see life as 'a long headache in a noisy street.' But the fact remains that one has to have the awareness about the prospects, the possibilities as well as the challenges life offers which can be overcome only by honest hard work. Lives of great men are shining examples of this.

II. How to Say it Correctly
Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences

- I love to go there at any time of the day.
- I feel that it is quite easy doing this work without the help of others.
- He should take your leave after an hour.
- You and he tried his best to pass this exam.
- Everyone of us should do our duty to the motherland.

Suggested answers to last week's questions

- Arwa has an urgent **piece of work** at home today.
- The news that Rehman gave you **was** wrong.
- I couldn't find it anywhere. Where is the **envelope of my letter**?
- His father was angry **at** his leaving the house at night.
- We think that it is no use **going** there.

III. Increase Your Word Power
(A) How to express it in one word

- The character, quality, feeling, etc. of a place.
- Having opposing feelings towards, or opinions, about one person or thing.
- Things or circumstances that make life easy or pleasant.
- Appliance for increasing the strength of electrical signals.
- Study of laughter.

(C) Idioms and phrases
Use the following idioms in illustrative sentences

- at full stretch
- out of the top drawer
- have a job
- to make one's bed and have to lie in it
- work like a charm

Suggested answers to last week's questions

- have the devil of a job** (doing something) (to find something very difficult to do): I had the devil of a job cleaning the mess.
- not to have a minute to call one's own** (to be very busy working and to have very little time for rest or leisure): I have not had a minute to call my own trying to clear the huge backlog.
- from the word go** (from the very start): From the word go I knew that I was going to have a fascinating experience in Yemen.
- press the panic button** (to react to a probable difficult or dangerous situation by panicking and acting in an over-hasty manner): He is used to pressing the panic button at the slightest hint of an approaching danger.
- cost an arm and a leg** (to be very expensive): Getting a new house cost him an arm and a leg.

Suggested answers to last week's questions

- Repetition of the first sound or letter of a succession of words: **alliteration** (n)
- Annual calendar of months and days with information about the sun, moon, tides, etc.: **almanac** (n)
- The set of letters used in writing any language, arranged in order: **alphabet** (n)
- Instrument in an aircraft for showing height above the sea-level: **altimeter** (n)
- Boy or man who was a student of a school, college or university: **alumnus** (n)

(B) Useful terms and their origin
Give the source of origin and meaning of the following

1. serial	2. sermon	3. sic
4. simile	5. similitude	

Suggested answers to last week's questions

- scansion** (Lat. 'scandere': to climb): The analysis of the metrical patterns of verse. It includes the arrangement of accented and unaccented syllables into metrical feet and the grouping of lines according to the number of feet. Also, the

V. Pearls from the Holy Quran

"To those who believe
In Allah and His messengers
And make no distinction
Between any of the messengers,
We shall soon give
Their (due) rewards:
For Allah is Oft-forgiving,
Most Merciful
S4:A152

VI. Food for Thought
"Can earthly things seem important to him who is acquainted with the whole of eternity and the magnitude of the universe?"
—Cicero

15 Classifieds

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In the match with Italy over bronze during the Athens 2004 Olympic games:

Iraqis bring no medal, but return with great pride



Italy's Emiliano Moretti (L) fights for the ball against Karim Mahdi (R) of Iraq during their Athens 2004 Olympic Games men's bronze medal soccer match at the Kaftanzoglio stadium in Thessaloniki, August 27, 2004. R

REUTERS, Athens (29 Aug) - The Iraqi football team returned to Iraq with no medal after losing to Italy 1-0, ending Iraq's dreams of winning only the second Olympic medal in the bronze medal match in Thessaloniki, Greece. In Baghdad, cafes and roadside stalls were crowded with Iraqis watching the match. The mood turned somber as Iraq fell behind but despite the loss, Iraqis were proud. "Winning or losing is not the point. Iraq has proved to the world that it has a great team. We never expected to get this far in the Olympics," said Ahmed Sabah, 23, a computer student who watched the match at an outdoor garden cafe. "Iraq was representing the Arab world and we are very proud of Iraq. This team has brought joy to our hearts. It's the only joy we've had since the end of the war," Ahmed Naash, 21, said. Mr Naash and his friends said they had brought loaded guns in their car to fire into the air in celebration if Iraq won. In the emotion-charged third place play-off, Italy's

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players wore black armbands in honour of an Italian journalist who was killed by kidnapers in Iraq. Parma striker Alberto Gilardino headed home a cross from captain Andrea Pirlo after just eight minutes to seal the match. Reporter Enzo Baldoni was seized by Islamic extremists on a road between Baghdad and Najaf. The Italian Government said on Thursday that his captors had killed him.

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