

MDG youth program concludes

By: Yemen Times Staff

TAIZ, August 11 — A youth based development project called "We are the Millennium" has just concluded in Taiz on Monday after around a year of intensive development work by youth on eight of the nine Millennium Development Goals.

The "We are the Millennium" project, known as MDG-Youth is a project that focuses on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and carries out activities in the MDGs eight fields. It includes eight groups of young men and women volunteers from various governorates.

In the concluding ceremony 40 young men and women were awarded for their contribution to the program. The youth came from Taiz, Aden, Hodeida and Ibb governorates where the project operated. The project was implemented by the Youth Cultural Center with funding from Naseej, a youth initiative based in Jordan.

The youth who participated in this project influenced more than 5000 Yemeni youth in the four governorates through their work.

The latest activity of the project was conducted last week. It was a cleaning activity carried out by a subgroup of the "We are the Millennium" project called "For a Better Environment."

Eighty young Yemeni men and women started off on a cleaning spree on Al-Awadhi street in Taiz last week. The youth are members and volunteers of the initiative.



Eighty youth volunteers cleaned Al-Awadhi Street in Taiz planting seedlings and painting the sidewalk as part of a long term initiative towards the seventh Millennium Development Goal of protecting the environment.

"This is a sound initiative steaming from the basic fundamentals of Islamic principles which endorse cleanliness and environmental protection. It is heartwarming to see those youth take responsibility of their community and I thank them for their hard work," said Abdullah Amir, Deputy Governor of Taiz who was part of the event launching ceremony on Monday.

"We launched our initiative to coincide with world youth day so as to send a message to all youth that they should take part in making their country better. We are cooperating with the municipality, traffic authority and the Yemeni

Corporation for Paint Manufacturing in order to beautify this street as much as possible," said Maged Mohammed Saleh, one of the volunteers and coordinator of the environment group.

Al-Awadhi Street was chosen because it is one of the main streets in Taiz and the group decided to use it as a model for an ideal clean street in the city. It is one of the most crowded streets with 144 shops and 40 residential buildings. Not only did the volunteers clean the garbage and maintain the pavement, they also maintained the shrubs and planted new saplings on the sidewalks. They also painted the

street's borderline and put up educational billboards to emphasize the responsibility of the local community towards its neighborhood.

The environment group has carried out several activities throughout the year since its establishment in October 2009. In March this year, the group carried out a greening activity on the Taiz-Aden highway where they planted 189 saplings in cooperation with the city greening office.

In February, the group in cooperation with Taiz University conducted an awareness seminar to encourage all stake holders including religious preachers, to take responsibility in maintaining the environment. A previous street cleaning initiative was carried out in January this year similar to the one just launched this week also in Taiz governorate where the environment group is based.

Abdullah Abdulrahman Sallam, director of the youth center praised the youth and said that they provide an example of productive youth who are committed to their country.

"We have several youth groups working on many initiatives. Once the "We are the Millennium" project concludes, we will evaluate the work of everyone and chose one group that excelled in its work to be rewarded," said

Al-Beidh calls for help

By: Mohammad Bin Sallam

SANA'A, August 11 — Ali Salem Al-Beidh, former president of South Yemen, last Tuesday called on the international community to solve the problems in the south of Yemen as violations against people in the south are still ongoing.

"We call on the authorities in Sana'a to stop all violations against people in the south and to use peaceful ways in dealing with them when they protest," Al-Beidh said in a statement published on websites.

Al-Beidh, who lives outside of Yemen, said in the statement that the southern governorates have been deprived of their natural resources since the civil war in 1994. He called on the international community to spare no effort in stopping the violations against people in the south.

However, President Saleh said on Tuesday that dialogue is the most civilized way to solve all the problems regarding the country, and is the way to face the challenges threatening its future. He said that dialogue is the only way that will defeat all those who call for secession from outside Yemen.

Saleh expressed his eagerness that dialogue between the ruling party and the JMP would succeed in solving the country's problems.

"Dialogue is the solution for our nation and country and we should not abandon it. The dialogue will help our society become more related and coherent and will help us overcome destructive calls for secession that are against our unification as one Yemeni nation," Saleh explained.

The Joint Meeting Parties (JMP)

- a coalition of six opposition parties - warned the security forces to stop beating protesters, and desist in suppressing the opposition parties and the peaceful activities of the parties.

The JMP called on the government to respect the law and stop arresting innocent people. They said that this way is not going to solve the problems, rather it will help exacerbate them. The statement condemned the frequent attacks that have killed civilians and targeted security forces' leaders and government establishments.

The JMP called on the state to try the criminals and to stop arresting people in Zinjubar, Abyan governorate. They also called on the state to improve its services such as water, electricity and the sanitation system. They said that the unstable security situation should end, especially in Zinjubar and Khanfar districts in Abyan.

Rivalry between officials in Abyan

According to local sources, an armed group attacked the General Director of the International Cooperation in Abyan, Hadiara Saleh Al-Shaddadi, in Zinjubar, Abyan. They said that Al-Shaddadi and two of his men were badly injured.

The locals believe that the attackers wanted to take revenge on Al-Shaddadi because of a personal case between them. They also said that the attackers are gunmen of the director of the police station in Khanfar district, Abyan.

According to Al-Shawa Net, the Islah Party website, Al-Shaddadi had earlier attacked the director of the police station of Kahnfar district assuming that the latter had killed his brother.

Yemeni merchants call for official imports from China

By: Ali Saeed

SANA'A, August 10 — In the presence of Yemeni and Chinese businessmen and officials, the private sector in Yemen -represented by the General Federation of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GFCCI)- on Sunday morning signed a memo of agreement to encourage Yemeni traders to import Chinese products through official channels.

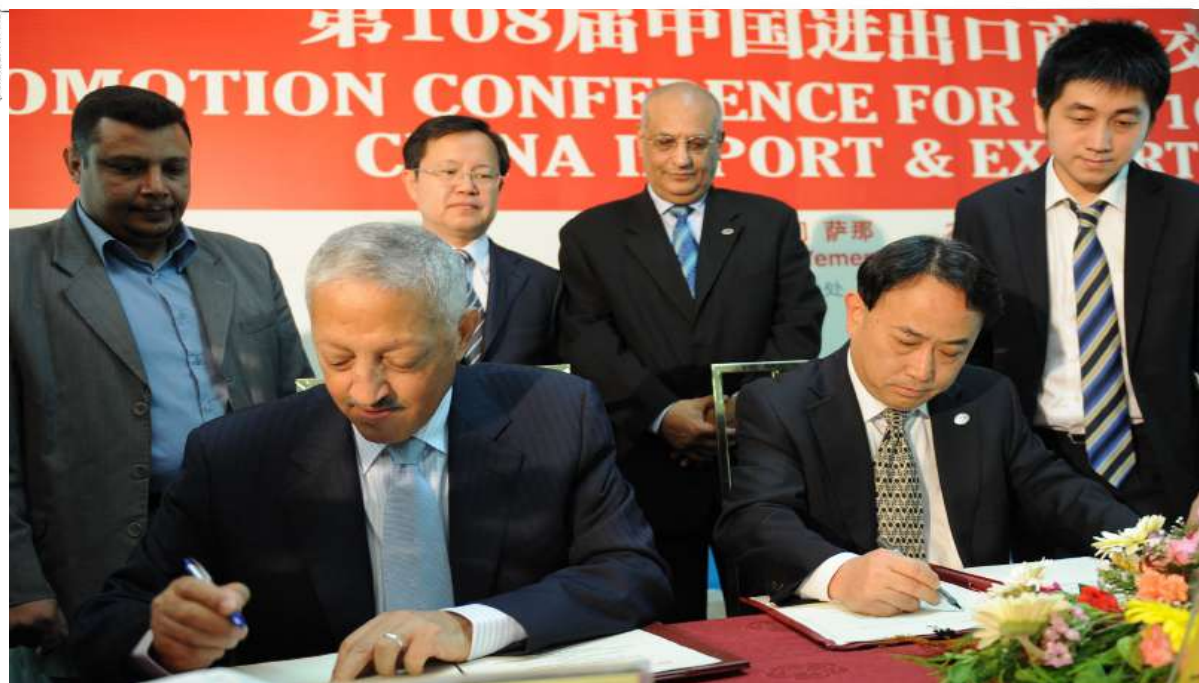
Some Yemeni businessmen come to China, look for low standard commodities at a low price and import them to Yemen through non-official channels, Vice Chairman of the China Foreign Trade Center, Ren Xiangdong told the Yemen Times.

"So encouraging traders in Yemen to import Chinese products via an official channel will solve the problem of bad quality Chinese products in the Yemeni markets," said Xiangdong.

The memo was signed by Mohamed Abdo Saeed, Chairman of the GFCCI, and Xiangdong during a promotional conference for Chinese products organized by the Chinese Embassy in Sana'a and the Yemeni GFCCI.

During the conference, Chinese participants showed the attendees a movie on China's export and import fair in Guangzhou - also known as the Canton fair - which is held twice a year in April and October.

Xiangdong said in the conference that the international fair is a chance



Chinese and Yemeni delegates sign the cooperation documents at the promotion conference for the 108th session of China Import & Export Fair (Canton Fair), in Sanaa, capital of Yemen, Aug. 8, 2010.

boost the growing commercial relations between Yemen and China.

Saeed told the Yemen Times that the Chinese invitation for Yemenis to participate in the Guangzhou fair in China is an opportunity for Yemenis to think about their national products and turn Yemen from being an import

"We should not only focus on how to import from others, instead we should work on how to be an exporter country," said Saeed.

Canton fair was established in 1957 and is run twice every year under the sponsorship of the Chinese Ministry of Trade. Around 20,000 Chinese

in each round of the fair. More than 200,000 buyers visit the fair every session, 1,000 of them from Yemen who buy about USD 50 million worth of products.

In 2008, Chinese imports accounted for about eight percent of the total imports to Yemen.

Ramadan diabetes precautions

By: Malak Shaher

SANA'A, August 11 — To the grumbles of other participants, Abdulla Mohammad, 70, kept asking questions about what kind of food he should eat in Ramadan, as he is a diabetic.

He and 39 other diabetes patients were attending a lecture at the National Diabetes Center in Sana'a last Sunday to listen to medical advice for diabetics fasting during Ramadan. The lecture was held in cooperation with the Yemeni Diabetes Association.

The chairman of the National Diabetes Center, Abdulkafi Al-Haddad, told the Yemen Times that they held such seminars each year for diabetes patients. The seminars are to help patients be aware of what kind of food they are required to eat in Ramadan while fasting and after they break their fast.

He added that the center conducts four workshops for nurses during the year in all Yemeni governorates teaching them how to work with diabetes patients.

More than 300 diabetes patients attended the lectures held in the center, according to Al-Haddad.

"This is the first Ramadan I will fast being a patient of diabetes. The lecture was important for me because they told me what specific foods I shall not eat in Ramadan and how to spend the day," said Sameera Saber, 54, a patient who



Universal blue circle symbol for diabetes

has recently been diagnosed with diabetes and attended the seminar.

The three-day seminar included distributing brochures with instructions for patients about when to break their fast in Ramadan.

According to the brochures, people with diabetes who have regular blood sugar levels can fast, but those who have irregular blood sugar levels are excused from fasting in Ramadan.

However, a patient must break their fast during the day if they have symptoms of vomiting, cold sweats, intensive hunger with shuddering, losing consciousness or apathy.

Fasting in Ramadan is dangerous for those with chronic renal failure, hepatitis, heart disease and people who depend on insulin to keep their blood sugar level regulated.

Yemen's under-15 table tennis team wins gold

By: Ibrahim Al-Jaadi
For the Yemen Times

SANA'A, August 11 — Last week, Yemen claimed gold in the 22nd Arab Table Tennis Championships in Manama, Bahrain. The national under-15 table tennis team won the finals against Tunisia 3-0.

The Yemeni team consisted of four members: Majd Ahmed Al-Dabhani, Muneer Al-Dabhani, Husaam Jamil and Amr Abdullah.

Majd Al-Dabhani, 15, told the Yemen Times that he was very happy to have won gold, because he is now the first Yemeni ever to have won two gold medals at the Arab Table Tennis Championships. He won his first one in 2007 for the under-15 singles event.

Majd previously participated in four international tournaments: the Qatar Table Tennis Open in 2008, the Arab Table Tennis Championships 2007 in Yemen, the Arab Table Tennis Championships in Morocco in 2008 and the Arab Championships in



Chinese coach Liang Fe and the winning team: Majd, Amr, Muneer, and Husaam

Bahrain this year.

He started to play table tennis, or ping pong, when he was 8 years old. He said that his father encouraged him to play it. As many other children his age, Majd played football and he

wanted to become football player. After a while, he tried table tennis and he found that it was exciting. With his father's encouragement, Majd became more and more skillful at the game. After his father passed away, his elder

brother stood by his side and encouraged him to continue in the game.

His brother Muneer, 15, is the team captain. He also originally wanted to become a football player, but found that in Yemen it would be impossible to become successful in football as there is not enough money for it. Instead, he looked into non-team games. When he was about nine, he played table tennis for two days to try it out and liked it.

He played for the Wahda Club in Sana'a for 3 seasons and then for the Saqr Club in Taiz offered him and his brother Majd contracts to play for the team. Now he is playing for Saqr with a fixed salary. He and his brother say that Saqr is the only club in Yemen that gives its players their salary regularly.

"I believe that if we had many clubs like Saqr, table tennis players would improve," Majd said.

The third team member Husaam, 13, has played table tennis since the age of 8. He played in the Ahli Club

in Sana'a for two seasons, before coach Nashwan Al-Hamadi discovered him and invited him to play on the national team at the age of 10. He was on the national team when it won silver at the Cairo Table Tennis Tournament in 2008.

The youngest player on the team is 13-year-old Amr. He started playing table tennis after his brother who inherited the passion from his father.

"Table tennis has become a member of the family," he told the Yemen Times.

He has played for the Ahli Club in Sana'a since he was 9. This championship was the first one for him outside Yemen.

"We won because we were a family before we were team members," the team told the Yemen Times, thanking Nabil Al-Faqeeh, Dr. Essam Al-Sunaini, and all other members of the Yemeni Table Tennis Association.

All the members agreed that achieving victory in Bahrain was a challenge for them. In June, they stopped training

because of the final exams in school. After they finished them, they had less than one month left before the beginning of the tournament, so they attended intensive training in Sana'a.

Table tennis is one of the most popular racket sports in the world, with over 300 million active members of governing associations worldwide. Since 1988, table tennis has been an Olympic sport.

However, Majd told the Yemen Times that it would be difficult for Yemen to qualify for the Olympics because Yemen is classified as an Asian country, and other Asian table tennis teams such as Japan, South Korea and China are very good.

Over the past ten years, China has dominated the World Table Tennis Championships in teams events for both men and women. Overall, China took first place in this year's championships.

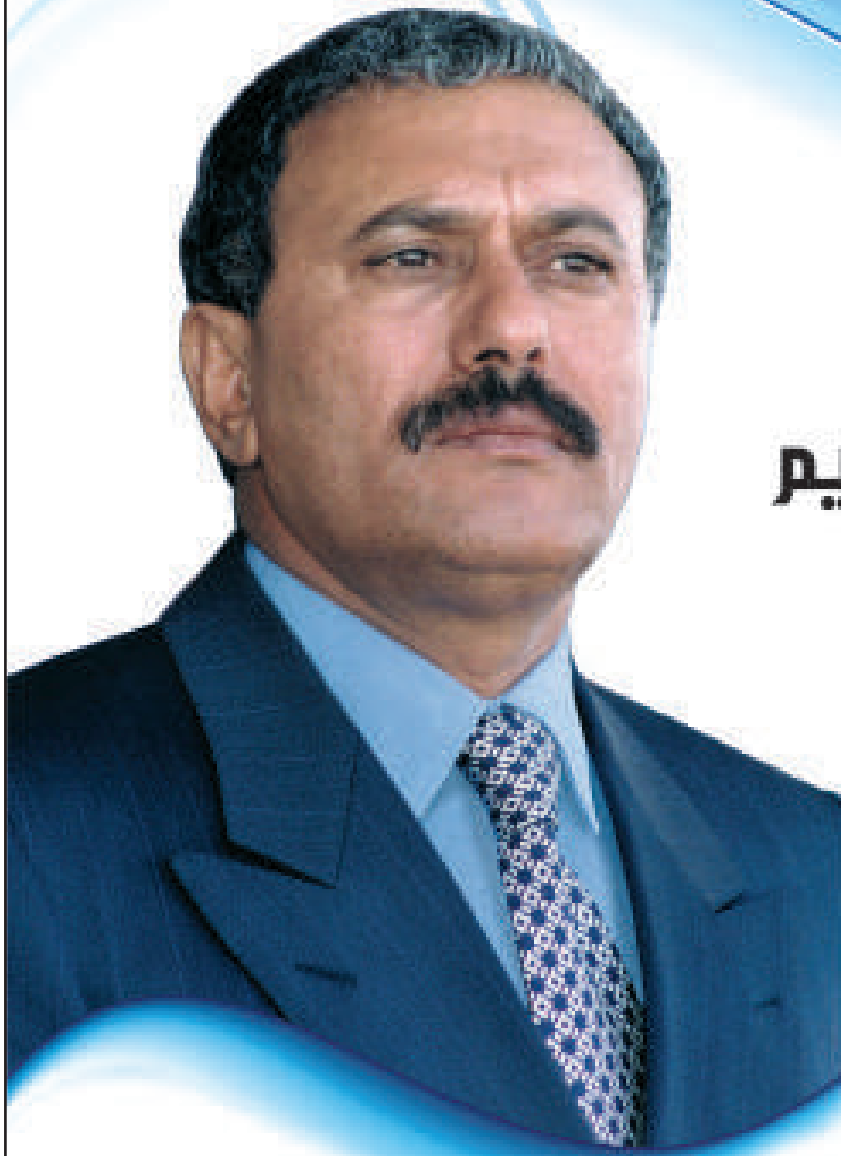
Since 2004, the coach of Yemen's under-15 national team has been Chinese.



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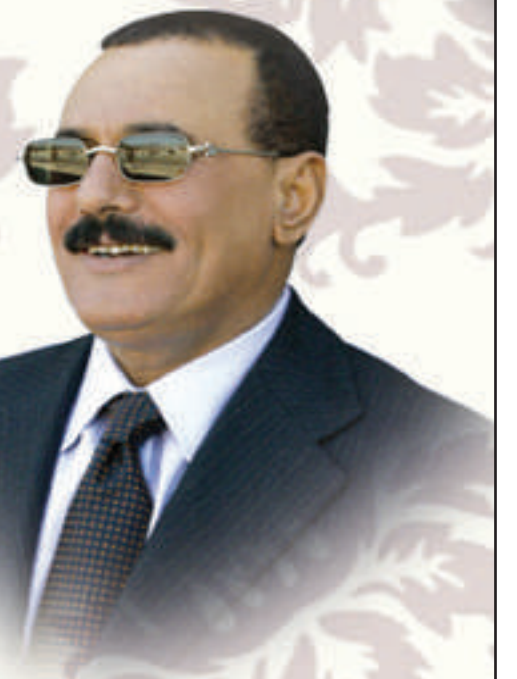
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Windows into international development work in Yemen:



Situation in northern Yemen still volatile

This is a summary of what was said by UNHCR spokesperson Melissa Fleming – to whom quoted text may be attributed – at the press briefing, on 23 July 2010, at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.

More than five months into a cease-fire and a month after the new 22-point peace agreement was signed between the Yemeni government and Al-Houtis forces to end violence and seek political dialogue, the situation in northern Yemen remains volatile. Some 30 people have been killed in incidents in northern Yemen this week alone, according to media reports.

We estimate that so far only around 14,000 internally displaced people (IDPs) have returned to their areas of origin out of Yemen's displaced population of more than 324,000. Many fear retaliation or have no place to return to due to the destruction of houses and infrastructure. The lack of basic services, such as health care, education and water supply in many parts of the Sa'ada governorate also discourages many IDPs from returning. A third of the displaced are living in Sa'ada governorate and most of them are being hosted by local communities, staying with relatives, friends or neighbours.

UNHCR's team in Sa'ada City reports that the city is slowly recovering. Markets are coming back to life and some schools have resumed classes, allowing children who have lost nearly a year of education to return to classes. Health services in the city remain limited as a number of facilities were destroyed by fighting and many health workers have yet to return.

So far, access for UNHCR staff remains limited to Sa'ada City and nearby areas. We have scarce information on the humanitarian needs and situation beyond a seven-kilometre radius of Sa'ada City. UNHCR, with other

humanitarian agencies, continues to advocate for secure and unhindered access to all communities affected by the conflict. Overall insecurity and a lack of access to hundreds of thousands of civilians, especially in northern Amran and Sa'ada governorates, continue to hamper the delivery of assistance.

Many homes in Sa'ada governorate have been damaged or destroyed and work needs to be done to rehabilitate these areas. In the village of Malahit, for example, most people have lost their livestock – a primary source of income. Damage to water reservoirs and tanks forces people to rely on river beds, or wadis, for water for all uses, resulting in poor sanitary conditions. With some 80 per cent of houses damaged or destroyed, many people have found shelter close to or in the ruins of their homes. Those who never left and returnees alike are in need of shelter and other relief. UNHCR is planning to start distributing return packages, including food, construction tool-kits, plastic sheets and hygiene kits together with other relief items in the coming weeks.

Stability and security are vital for largescale, safe, and voluntary returns to Sa'ada. Currently, however, landmines present a serious threat. UNHCR is especially worried about the safety of civilians who decide to return spontaneously. Mine clearing and removal of unexploded ordnance remains a top priority.

Meanwhile, the three IDP camps at Al Mazrak in Hajjah governorate, continue to host some 19,000 IDPs. Almost a year after conflict erupted, in August 2009, the situation of the displaced is becoming untenable, with most people having run out of resources.

UNHCR's efforts to facilitate solutions for the displaced and refugees in Yemen are being severely hindered by the current funding crisis. Our revised needs for refugee and IDP programmes in 2010 in Yemen amount to USD 52.1 million. So far, we have received 44 per cent of the requested funds.

The Nansen prize: Documenting the Displaced - Salima's story

Salima is 19 and is wearing red lipstick, but the clothes she has on are not her own. She doesn't like them and appears very bashful – or "shying" as she puts it.

Along the rubbish-strewn lanes of Basatine, her temporary home is a cramped, dark room in a safe house controlled by trafficking gangs. There are four such clandestine houses hidden in this shantytown, sending young Somali men and women on to Saudi Arabia, where they hope to find work and a better life.

Having fled the ongoing violence that plagues their homeland, they are now free to stay with the traffickers until they find the USD 25 that they need to be driven into the desert. Here, it can take weeks to save that kind of money. Salima has been going begging.

Living the last three weeks in a daze, she returns from the city each evening to sleep on a threadbare mattress. If she is late, she passes out on the bare floor surrounded by 20 other women who share this makeshift room knocked together from thin plywood sheeting. Lately the rain has been seeping in. Far from home and without any other choice, this is all there is. She looks totally drained. The last six weeks of her life have been a nightmare.

From a generation that has known nothing but war, Salima grew up in Mogadishu but despite the risks, she was determined to stay. Along with her baby boy, Abdi Sallam, and the husband she adored, the family stuck together in their little two-storey house. "It was our home. My favourite place in the world." And besides, Salima was pregnant again.

One morning, undeterred by the sound of gunfire in the distance, Salima popped out to buy some bread for the family's breakfast. A man walking ahead of her fell to the ground, hit by a stray bullet. Rushing over to the wounded stranger, the screech of a Hound rocket sent her crashing to the ground. Mortars had pierced the upper floor of her home. "I found my husband and child but they were not with us anymore." Both had been killed in a random attack by the very soldiers that were supposed to be protecting them.

Like so many other families without a roof over their heads, enough was enough. Salima's mother, brothers and sisters began to pack up their remaining belongings in preparation for the trek on the only safe road out of the city: south to the camps. But Salima had other ideas, having heard just how bad things would be there. "I had just lost my husband and child. Now I wanted to help my mother – to try and make her life a bit better. I thought maybe I could help."

And so, at seven month's pregnant, Salima headed north. She had listened before to stories about the dangers that lay ahead but was more concerned about getting out of Mogadishu. Travelling for 20 days by truck, violence erupted at checkpoints every few kilometres, as bandits intimidated and looted passengers. "The road was horrible. I was so scared." A woman in the vehicle ahead was raped at gunpoint; Salima just tried to block everything out. Her last night in Somalia was spent sleeping out in the coastal mountains near Bossaso.

The following morning along with over 120 others, she was hauled from the water aboard a small wooden boat that would take them to Yemen. "The crew had been drinking gin and smoking hashish but they saw that I was heavily pregnant and so they allowed me to sit with my legs out." Everybody else was made to sit with their

knees tucked under their chins as the crew armed with guns, knives and hammers threatened to beat anyone who might upset the already unstable vessel. "The sea was rough and I started to get pains." Salima was starting to get contractions but didn't want [to] believe that she was going into labour, so just wished them away and tried to keep quiet.

That night a man started begging for water to drink; the smugglers beat him in the head with a knife. His bloody body was thrown overboard. Then Salima started to bleed. Whimpering quietly, those sitting beside her pleaded with her to keep quiet for fear that they might all be beaten. But the blood started dripping onto the men below and it wasn't long before the crew realised that she would give birth before they reached the shores of Yemen.

At first she was sure that they were trying to help. She was moved to the front of the boat as they washed the

blood away with seawater. Then she passed out. All she can remember is that when she came round, she saw one of the crew throw her newborn child into the sea as if it was a ball. "My baby was all I had left of my husband." She was going to call him Abdu Laahi after her uncle.

After arriving at a deserted beach in Yemen, Salima was registered at a UNCHR-run reception centre. She saw a doctor but didn't want to talk about what had happened.

It is still hard for her. It is only six weeks since Salima went out to buy bread. She is a fragile teenager who is now completely traumatised and on her own; and so now she is back with the smugglers. She says she will go "Where Allah takes me". Most likely it will be to spend the following years of her life enslaved as a housemaid in Saudi Arabia.

By Alexandra Fazzina, Basatine, Yemen



salima lost her baby boy abdi sallam and the husband she adored in a mortar attack on her home in mogadishu. with nothing left to lose she decided to make the journey to yemen. vulnerable and alone she is now in the hands of trafficking gangs and most likely will spend the following years of her life enslaved as a housemaid in saudi arabia.

Green streets

By: Ismail Sheikh
For the Yemen Times

He was walking up the street going to Maghreb prayer when he saw a greenish pile on the pavement with a footprint in it. He stepped around it wondering who would do such a thing. That's what Mohammad Al-Dhaboi, 21, said describing his experience when walking the streets of Sana'a.

"The habit of chewing qat is bad, but spitting it on the streets like that is just something I can't imagine."

Qat is a shrub that is chewed in Yemen among adults which is said to cause excitement.

After chewing qat many men spit it out on the streets or the pavement. The streets of Sana'a at 6:00pm turn a greenish color caused by the spat out qat.

"Regardless of whether qat is bad or not, the fact that some people spit it on the streets is something not pleasing



Qat remains in front of shop in Tahrir Square, in Sana'a, a place often visited by foreigners

to the eye," said 22 year old Bassam Al-Moti. "Some people spit qat on the streets saying that there is someone

else coming after them to clean it up, which is a bad way of thinking," Bassam added.

Fou'ad Ghailan, a 24 year old qat dealer said that people spit qat on the streets for several reasons. It could be because of the taste, before performing a prayer, or because they are done. "The taste of the qat plays a major role in spitting it on the streets," Fou'ad said. "Choosing the right qat with the right flavor makes you chew it for longer, until you get to a place when you can spit it away without any problems," Fou'ad explained.

"I work here for 10 hours. I don't have the time or place to spit qat in its proper place," said Fou'ad.

Spitting qat in its proper place such as sinks and toilets is the right way to dispose of qat remains, and it takes almost no time for spitting it there, said Bassam. "No one can say that he is too busy to spend two minutes spitting qat into the toilet after chewing it, it's where it belongs," Bassam added.



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Not without my sister

Israeli's search for missing sister in Yemen provides glimpse into lives of fearful Jews

By: Advah Cohen
Ynetnews

From his home in Beersheba, Yahya Marhabi still misses his hometown of Sana'a, Yemen. He left it nine years ago, but it is not the neighbors he misses, nor is it the air of constant fear.

Marhabi misses his sister, Lea (18), who disappeared several months ago.

Marhabi claims she was abducted, forced to convert to Islam and marry a Muslim. Some six weeks ago, he returned to Yemen to look for Lea, and saw firsthand how Jews were living in a country where al-Qaeda cells roam free.

Marhabi's concern for the Jewish community in Yemen, including his parents and brother who still live in Sana'a, does not give him a moment's rest. Lea, he said, was abducted from the Jewish quarter by Muslims, probably members of al-Qaeda.

"She was abducted just two weeks after marrying one of the Jewish men of the congregation. She was forced to convert to Islam and marry one of her abductors," he said.

Lea's Jewish husband, he continued, has since remarried, realizing chances of her return were slim. Marhabi, however, has vowed to find his sister.

"This was a hard blow for us. Not a day goes by that I don't think of her, try to figure out a way to help her, to bring her home," he said. "If I were there at the time of her abduction I would have done everything to bring her back, but it's not that simple now. There is little we can do – but we are doing it."

Did she or didn't she?

Arab media paint a different picture: According to reports in the Palestinian News Agency, Lea eloped with a young Muslim man by the name of Aaron Salam, converted of her own free will and kept in touch with her family – at least long enough to make it clear she had no desire to come home.

The reports claim that the wedding was celebrated by the local elite, with dignitaries such as the president of Yemen, the deputy prime minister and other high ranking officials attending the ceremony. The report further alleged that the young couple eloped after the Marhabi family rejected the young man's offer of marriage.

"They made it look like she went willingly rather than she was abducted," Marhabi said, "But we know she was kidnapped and we pray that she comes back to us, by some miracle."

New reality in Sana'a

After four weeks of searching to no avail Marhabi returned to Israel. The Sana'a he left nine years ago, he said, is not the one he found, or even the one he remembered from his previous visit.

Today, he said, the story of the Jewish community in Yemen is one of a few hundred Jews, trying to survive amid a Muslim majority. The Jews currently living in the Yemenite capital essentially live in a ghetto; and in constant fear of violence, abduction and murder.

Al-Qaeda's grip on Yemen has grown considerably over the past few years. "The real change began a year ago, when the brother of the head of the Jewish community was murdered," said Marhabi.

The act prompted the president to order a well defined, closed off area be set for Jews in Sana'a.

"Life there is very hard. They barely leave the area. They have no freedom, they don't work and they are afraid of coming into contact with the Arab population. Only the men leave the area, and only in broad daylight, and usually only to go to the market. They also make sure to disguise all their Jewish markings, like skullcaps. If they are recognized as Jews, they are spat and cursed at."

The volatile situation, he added, even had Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh order armed troops to guard the Jewish quarter of Sana'a. "He made a personal trip to the area to reassure them, that they would be protected."

"He really doesn't want any harm to come to any of them. He even gives them money, since they don't work,"

he said.

Jewish life in Sana'a is clouded by fear and uncertainty, said Marhabi. "There is no joy there. People there have no light in their eyes. They are very lonely – 185 Jews amid a huge Arab nation. There used to be such joy there. Contentment, despite the hardship. Now there is just fear. Al-Qaeda wants to eradicate the Jews."

To be or not to be

Some 18 families came to Israel from Yemen in recent months. Jews find it hard to leave despite the hardships, and Israel is currently trying to convince the remaining Jews to leave.

"There are several issues with coming to Israel," said Marhabi. "First, it's not easy to leave one's homeland. It's also a different world there, altogether."

"They are also afraid to leave, because they are afraid they will be left with nothing. The Arabs won't buy their property because they know it's only a matter of time before they leave Yemen anyway, leaving it behind for the taking."

The Jewish Agency is doing everything it can to bring Jews residing in Yemen to Israel, said Eli Cohen of the JA. "The connections we've made there and the support we give them will enable us to bring them here."

"We are trying to afford them the same way of life in Israel. They have been given (acclimation) grants and we're taking care of them. Israel is their natural home," he said. "We have been getting reports that al-Qaeda is targeting Jews and we advise them to leave. Jews no longer have anything in Yemen. The situation there will only get worse."

And what of Marhabi? For now he is using his Yemenite citizenship to visit the country every six months and assist in bringing the Jews still living there to Israel.

"I fear for my family and friends. We must bring them to Israel. Living by fear is no way to live. But we can't talk about it too much – it would put them in danger."

Danny Adino Ababa contributed to the story

Yemen: The next battlefield

By: Tariq Alhomayed
Asharq Al-Awsat

Just days after the Al Qaeda organization incited the Yemeni tribes against the Sana government; a new attack took place on Saturday, this time against a Yemeni intelligence headquarters in Aden. This is not to mention the large number of militants who have begun to gather in Yemen from all over the world, including America, Europe, Africa, and of course, Saudi Arabia and Egypt, amongst other countries.

All of this means that Yemen represents a genuine battlefield against Al Qaeda, and may even replace Afghanistan [in this regard] which is what the Americans currently believe. Saudi Arabian security officials have been warning that Al Qaeda is gathering in Yemen, and that Yemen represents the coming threat for a long time, however nobody paid attention to this at the time. However today this threat is real, and is something that can be seen clearly in Yemen, even to those who take little interest in news of Al Qaeda.

Yemen's problem can be seen in the complexity and inter-relation of its internal issues, which of course is something that Al Qaeda desires as it allows the organization to operate

in the region once more, especially after it received a number of painful and wounding security and financial blows in Saudi Arabia. Al Qaeda is also receiving heavy blows in Iraq, particularly following confrontation with the Iraqi Sahwa movement in Iraq's predominately Sunni areas, and this is not to mention the violent strikes being delivered to Al Qaeda in Afghanistan, meaning that Yemen represents Al Qaeda's safe haven today.

Al Qaeda is benefiting from a number of crises in Yemen; such as the Huthi crisis, the southern Yemeni crisis, as well as the political and religious conflicts, and Yemen's tribal reality, not to mention the existence of geographic regions outside the government's control. Therefore, any foreign intervention to confront Al Qaeda would only serve to further complicate and inflame the situation, however intervention could be justified by the fact that the Yemeni authorities are in dire need of training and equipment, especially to its [intelligence] agencies, which represents the best weapon in counter-terrorist operations. However Al Qaeda would benefit from this intervention by inciting the [Yemeni] tribes and religious figures.

Ignoring Yemen would also be a disaster for everybody, and we can recall that the African youth who almost blew up an American airliner last year

was a student in London who received his training in Yemen. In other words, Al Qaeda's evil represents a threat to everybody, although its primary target is Saudi Arabia. Al Qaeda wants a region close to Saudi Arabia where it can attract and train fighters, and from which it can launch attacks. We must also not forget that the terrorist who attempted to assassinate Saudi Deputy Interior Minister Prince Mohammed Bin Naif was also traveling from Yemen.

Therefore the most effective solution to confronting Al Qaeda in Yemen must come from internal Yemeni action that is not based upon formalistic action so much as it is based upon genuine and practical solutions, otherwise the threat is not just against [governmental] installations and police stations and others, but against Yemen as a whole, and the region.

Therefore, the grand battle in confronting Al Qaeda in Yemen would be in convincing Sana of the necessity of putting forward real solutions to block Al Qaeda's path, for the threat is not just in what Al Qaeda is doing, but also from the extent of their infiltration and the level of their deployment.

Tariq Alhomayed is the Editor-in-Chief of Asharq Al-Awsat, the youngest person to be appointed that position.

Cluster bombs and civilian lives

By: Ramzy Baroud
The Jordan Times

Cluster bombs are in the news again, thanks to a recent report from Amnesty International.

The human rights agency has confirmed that 35 women and children were killed following the latest US attacks on an alleged Al Qaeda hideout in Yemen. Initially, there were attempts to bury the story, and Yemen officially denied that civilians were killed as a result of the December 17 attack on Al Majala, in southern Yemen. However, it has been simply impossible to conceal what is now considered the largest loss of life in one single US attack in the country.

If the civilian casualties were indeed a miscalculation on the part of the US military, there should no longer be any doubt about the fact that cluster bombs are far too dangerous a weapon to be utilised in war. And they certainly have no place whatsoever in civilian areas. The casualties are too large to justify their usage.

Yemen is not alone. Gaza, Lebanon and Afghanistan are also stark examples of the untold loss and suffering caused by cluster bombs. The unrepentant Israeli army will not consider dropping the use of cluster bombs in civilian areas. Instead, it is pondering ways to make them "safer".

The Jerusalem Post reported on July 2 that the army "has recently carried out a series of tests with a bomblet that has a specially designed self-destruct mechanism which dramatically reduces the amount of unexploded ordnance".

During the Israeli onslaught on Lebanon, in the summer of 2006, Israel fired millions of bomblets, mostly into the south of the country. Aside from the immediate devastation and casualties, unexploded ordnance continues to make victims among Lebanon's civilians, most of them children. Dozens of lives have been lost since the end of this war.

In Gaza, the same terrible scenario was repeated between 2008 and 2009. Unlike Lebanon, however, trapped Palestinians in Gaza had nowhere to go.

Now Israel is anticipating another war with the Lebanese resistance. In preparation for it, an Israeli PR campaign is already under way. It seeks to convince public opinion that Israel is doing its utmost to avoid civilian casualties.

"As a result of the collateral damage and international condemnation, and ahead of a potential new conflict with Hizbollah, the IDF has decided to evaluate the M85 bomblet manufactured by the government-owned Israeli Military Industries (IMI)," The Jerusalem Post reported.

Of course Israel's friends, especially those who are yet to ratify the Convention on Cluster Munitions, will be pleased by the initial successes of the Israeli army testing. Under pressure to ratify the agreement, these countries are only too eager to offer a "safer" version of current cluster bomb models. This would not only help maintain the huge profits generated by this morally abhorrent business, it would also, hopefully, quell growing criticism by civil society and other world governments.

In December 2008, the United States, Russia and China, among others, sent a terrible message to the rest of the world. They refused to take part in the historic signing of the treaty that banned the production and use of cluster bombs.

In a world that is plagued by war, military occupation and terrorism, the involvement of the great military powers in signing and ratifying the agreement would have signalled - if only symbolically - the willingness of these countries to spare unjustifiable civilian deaths and the lasting scars of war.

Fortunately, the refusal did not completely impede an international agreement. The incessant activism of many conscientious individuals and organisations came to fruition on December 3 and 4 in Oslo, Norway, when 93 countries signed a treaty banning the weapon.

Unfortunately, albeit unsurprisingly, the US, Russia, China, Israel, India and Pakistan - a group that includes the biggest makers and users of the weapon - neither attended the Ireland negotiations of May 2008 nor showed any interest in signing the agreement in Oslo.

Very few countries that signed the accords are involved in any active military conflict. They are in no way benefiting from the lucrative cluster munition industry.

The treaty was the outcome of intensive campaigning by the Cluster Munition Coalition, a group of non-governmental organisations. CMC is determined to continue its campaign, to bring more signatories to the fold.

But without the involvement of the major producers and active users of the weapon, the Oslo ceremony remains largely symbolic.

However, there is nothing symbolic about the pain and bitter losses experienced by the many victims of cluster bombs. According to the group Handicap International, a third of cluster-bomb victims are children. Equally alarming, 98 per cent of the weapon's overall victims are civilians. The group estimates that about 100,000 people have been maimed or killed by cluster bombs around the world since 1965. Unlike conventional weapons, cluster bomblets survive for many years, luring little children with their attractive appearance. Children often mistake the bomblets for candy or toys.

Recently, some encouraging news emerged from the Netherlands. Maxime Verhagen, minister of foreign affairs, urged his country's House of Representatives to ratify the convention that bans the production, possession and use of such munitions. The ban leaves no room for any misguided interpretations and does not care for the Israeli army's experimentations.

In a speech, Verhagen claimed: "Cluster munitions are unreliable and imprecise, and their use poses a grave danger to the civilian populations. Years after a conflict has ended, people - especially children - can fall victim to unexploded submunition from cluster bombs."

To date, the agreement has been signed by 106 countries and ratified by 36 - and will enter into force on August 1, despite the fact that the big players refuse to take part.

The Netherlands' push is certainly a step in the right direction. But much more remains to be done. The onus is also on civil societies in countries that are yet to ratify the agreement or sign it in the first place.

"All that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good men [and women] to do nothing." This holds as true in the issue of cluster bombs as in any other where human rights are violated and ignored.

The writer (www.ramzybaroud.net) is an internationally syndicated columnist and the editor of PalestineChronicle.com. His latest book is "My Father Was a Freedom Fighter: Gaza's Untold Story (Pluto Press, London)". He contributed this article to The Jordan Times

SKETCHED OPINION



By: Hamid

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CHARSADDA, Aug. 7 -- An officer of the Pakistani army checks a child at a camp for the displaced in a college in northwest Pakistan's Charsadda on Aug. 7. Pakistani army started relief operations in all flood-hit areas in Pakistan. (Umar Qayyum)



LAPLAND, Aug. 8 -- Three female participants from Sweden cross a bridge during the second round of the five-day-travelling Sweden event called "Green Arctic" in Lapland, Sweden, on August 7. The route begins from Swedish Lapland, 250 kilometers north of the Arctic Circle. The whole course is 110 kilometers. Some 2,000 participants from 21 countries and regions will fight for the gold medals if they finish the match in 72 hours, silver medals in 96 hours and bronze medals in 120 hours. (Xinhua/Chen Xiaowei)



SINGAPORE, Aug. 7, Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong (3rd, R) and a torch bearer light the cauldron during a welcoming ceremony after the torch relay for the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games at the Nanyang Polytechnic in Singapore, Aug. 3. (Xinhua/Gao Chuan)



EDINBURGH, Aug. 8 -- A lion dance team organized by local Chinese communities attend the Edinburgh Festival's calvacade in Edinburgh, Britain, on Aug. 8, 2009. Sixty-one groups from across the world took part in the annual calvacade on Sunday celebrating the coming of the one-month festival season at the Holyrood Park. (Xinhua/Zeng Yi)



MEXICO CITY, Aug. 8 -- Cameras and photos of killed and missing journalists during a protest against violence towards journalists in Mexico City, Mexico, Aug. 7, 2010. Hundreds of journalists attended the protest triggered by the abduction of four journalists in the state of Durango on July 26. (Xinhua/Bernardo Montoya)



BOUILLON, Aug. 8 -- Two disguised swordsmen compete during an annual Middle Ages presentation event in Bouillon, Belgium, Aug. 7. (Xinhua/Wang Xiaojun)



JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Oxfam, an international NGO working with others to find lasting solutions to poverty and suffering, has been working in Yemen since 1988. Oxfam announces the following vacancies for its development programme:

Gender Governance Project Manager – Based in Sana'a
Starting gross salary per annum pro rata: \$27,420 USD
Contract Duration: 7 months

The role

In this key role you will have proven experience leading a team, will have strong project management skills, and will be able to develop programmes and deliver on objectives. You will be able to demonstrate a high level of coordination within a dynamic and changing context, and will be capable of managing all elements of the project, from planning, monitoring, evaluation through to learning. You will oversee budget preparation and project monitoring, and will assist in fundraising and proposal writing for new initiatives.

What we're looking for

We are looking for someone with 5 years of experience managing development projects, with a degree in social sciences or related discipline, good knowledge of project management, experience working in the development sector, ideally related to good governance and the national gender strategy. You will be able to demonstrate outstanding analysis skills and will show excellent organisational skills. You will be able to translate strategies into actions that make a difference on the ground. Equally important will be your creative approach to problem solving and your influential communication skills in both Arabic and English, and your ability to gain the confidence, trust, and respect of everyone around you.

Gender Governance Gender Project Officer – Based in Sana'a
Starting gross salary per annum pro rata: \$16,116 USD
Contract Duration: 7 months

The role

You will have a proven track record of contributing to overall project development by emphasising appropriate approaches to mainstreaming gender in all project activities. You will be able to provide intensive gender-focused and needs-based technical support to project partners, as well as an ability to monitor project activities on gender, both technically and financially. You will undertake project budget preparation and monitoring, and will assist in fundraising and proposal writing for new initiatives.

What we're looking for

We are looking for someone with 3 years of experience working in gender programmes, with a degree in social sciences or a related discipline. You will have an understanding of, and experience working in the development sector, and you will show sensitivity to gender and equity issues. The ideal candidate will have demonstrated communication skills and the ability to work well with others and as part of a team. You will have excellent oral and written communication skills in both English and Arabic, and will possess good computer skills.

To apply

If you believe that you have the qualifications and skills to excel in either of these positions, please send a copy of your CV and a cover letter, clearly stating the job you are applying for, to yemenjobs@oxfam.org.uk or send a fax to 01 458170.

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PADZEY Project

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tel: 01 - 561 914 or 220041
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The PADZEY project is a project resulting from the cooperation between the French Government (French Development Agency-AFD) and the Yemeni Government (the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation). The project aims at supporting rural development in animal production areas in order to alleviate poverty in pilot rural areas of Yemen (Taiz and Wadi Mawar/Tebana).

PADZEY announces the following position:

Title: Project Accountant

Duty station: Headquarters, Sana'a

The incumbent will have the responsibility for financial work of the PADZEY project under the direction of the Project Manager. This person will provide financial oversight, management and accountability of the PADZEY accounts to AFD and the Government of Yemen.

Responsibilities:

- Ensure that all financial operations take place according to the guidelines of PADZEY;
- Prepare checks and vendor payments;
- Review all expenditures and receipts and prepare vouchers for final Project Manager approval;
- Manage Bank reconciliation and all bank transactions;
- Submit monthly financial accounts package to AFD Home Office at the end of the month;
- Maintain all accounts and financial records, including grant financial records for subcontractors;
- Produce the local financial information needed for Annual reports;
- Work with the Project Manager on budget development and monitoring;
- Assure cost efficiencies and quality control;
- Maintain inventory list and assessment of project assets;
- Undertake any other related tasks as required.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor of accounting or an equivalent field;
- At least five years of relevant experience in the accounting and management field; work experience with similar projects is an advantage;
- Excellent management and administrative skills;
- Excellent interpersonal communication skills;
- Excellent computer skills (MS office);
- Proficiency in English and Arabic, oral and written.

Interested applicants should send their CVs and a covering letter within ten days of the date of this advertisement.

Only short listed candidates will be contacted for an interview.

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البريطانية في كردستان - العراق:
٢ دكاتره هندسة معمارية، ٢
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باحثون عن وظيفة - بكالوريوس

أربع سنوات في الأعمال المصرفية
والسكرتارية وخدمة العملاء، أرغب
في العمل في بنك أو سفارة أو
منظمة أجنبية أو شركة في عدن.

للتواصل: ٧٧٧٩٩١٢٤٨

مضيفي ناشر - بكالوريوس

محاسبة مالية جامعة صنعاء
دبلوم علوم حاسوب المعهد العام
للإتصالات، عشر سنوات خبرة في
الحسابات.

للتواصل: ٣٦٨٠٧٧٧٧

باحثون عن وظيفة

فلسطيني حاصل على بكالوريوس
هندسة عام ٩٧، الخبرات: مدير
معهد لغات - مراقب إنتاج في
مصنع أغذية خاص باللحوم.

لدية إقامة في اليمن.

للتواصل: ٣١٩٤٠٣٣٨٠

باحث عن وظيفة

رخصة قيادة سواق منذ عشرون
عاماً يبحث عن سواق خاصة

للتواصل : ٧١٤٦٤٨١٢٧

♦ فائز عبد الله - بكالوريوس إنجليزي
خبرة في الصندوق (التحصيل)
خمس سنوات، خبرة في المجال
الإداري والموارد البشرية
خبرة في المبيعات ثلاث سنوات إجادة
التعامل مع الكمبيوتر
للتواصل: ٧٧٧٥٦٤٣٦٩-٧٧٠٠٦٩٣٠٦

♦ بكالوريوس محاسبة - دبلوم
سكرتارية كمبيوتر وأكسل - عدة
دورات لغة إنجليزي مستوى جيد
في المحادثة والكتابة - خبرة في
مجال المخازن لمدة عشر سنوات
(أمين مخازن - محاسب مخازن -
متابعة مشتريات) يرغب في العمل
في أي مجال مناسب
للتواصل: ٧٣٣٤٠٩٦٥٢

ثانوية عامة خبرة مراسل - عامل
-حارس
للتواصل: ٧١٤٦٤٨١٢٧

♦ توفيق - بكالوريوس محاسبة
+ دورة تدريبية في الإدارة
المالية والتكاليف والمبيعات
والتسويق والرقابة في الشركة
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التسيق والإدارة وتنفيذ الأنشطة +
دورة في تخطيط الطاقة المتوازنة
للتواصل: ٧٧٠٥٩٦٧٥٩

كوبون للاعلانات الشخصية (كل الاعلانات الشخصية بدون أي مقابل)

☐ بيع ☐ شراء ☐ إيجار ☐ إستئجار ☐ طلب وظيفة ☐ وظائف شاغرة ☐ غير ذلك

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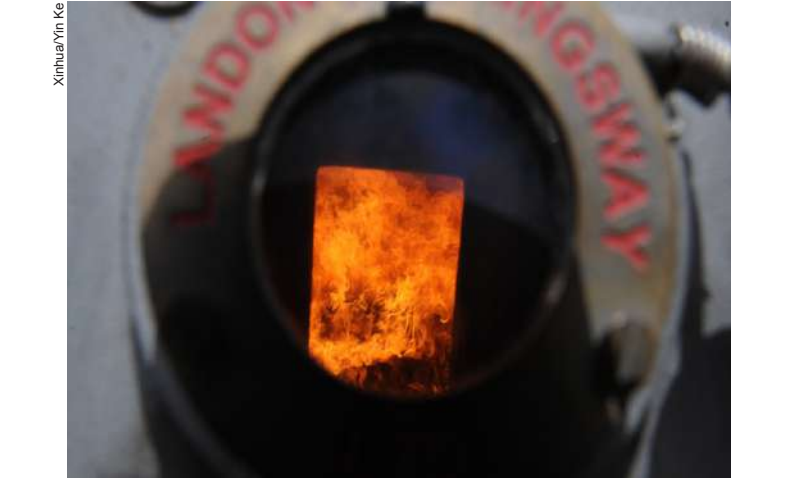
Drugs destroyed in Sana'a



Working staff prepare to burn drugs in Sana'a, capital of Yemen, August 4, 2010.



A total of 700 kg drugs, including 2.6 million tablets and 302 kg of marijuana, were burnt here on Wednesday.



Drugs are seen burning in Sana'a, capital of Yemen, August 4, 2010.

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 المنتجات الطبيعية

Dell Business laptop vostro 1014

Processor: Intel Core 2 Duo T8570 (2.1 GHz, 800MHz, 3MB)
 Display: 14.1in Widescreen WXGA (1386 * 768) Wled Anti Glare
 Camera: Integrated 2 Mega Pixel Camera without software
 LGE Black Cover: Red or Black
 Memory: 3072MB (1*2048+1*1024) 800MHz DDR2 Dual Channel
 Hard Drive: 320GB Serial ATA (5400RPM) Single Hard Drive BX CDDVD
 Burner (Dual Layer DVD+/-R Drive)
 Battery: Primary 4-cell 32WHr Li-Ion
 Graphics: Intel Integrated GMA 4500MD
 Wireless: Wireless Label (Dell Wireless Card) - Core 2 Duo
 Wireless: EMEA Internal Dell Wireless 615 Bluetooth Card
 Wireless: European Dell Wireless 1387 (802.11b/g) Mini Card
 Operating System: Ubuntu Edition Version 8.10
 3Yr Parts only Warranty

CEW

DOCUMENT EXAMINATION TRAINING (DET)

ادارة التدريب
Training Department

At the request of Yemenia (Yemen Airways) the International Organization for Migration (IOM) provided Expert Training in Travel Document Examination at the Yemenia Training Centre on 12th and 13th July 2010 which was attended by over 16 participants. The trainees invited for this course were not only from Yemenia and Yemen Ground Handling Turkish Airlines, Saudi Arabian Airlines and Gulf Air.

The participants greatly appreciated the training as it provided them with detailed, up-to-date and useful information relating to travel document security and abuse. The IOM training forms a part of the implementation of a European Union funded project entitled "Empowering Government and Civil Society in Yemen to Address Mixed Migration".

The Opening and Closing sessions were attended by Mr. Fawzi Al-Zioud the acting chief of IOM Yemen and Mohammed Y. Aljadabi Director Training along with Mr. Ali Jaffer Director Customer Service and Ground Operations.

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- Recorders, Paperless
- Recorders, Strip Chart

Sensors - C/W/S

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- Software Tools
- Thermal Conductivity
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