

Parliament ultimatum on oil deal

MOHAMMED AL-QADHI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Yemeni parliament has given the government a 2-week ultimatum to call off the oil deal. The Yemeni parliament succeeded last month in thwarting an illegal government agreement to sell 60% of its stake in Yemeni oil fields. Prime Minister Abdulqader Bajamal was supposed to be summoned before Parliament to reply to their questions with regard to the oil deal. The

Parliament recommended on Saturday that the government should cancel the oil deal and that people involved in the sale should be held accountable. It said that the deal is a sort of corruption and a waste of public money. It decided on Monday to give the government a two week ultimatum to implement its recommendation or it said MPs would vote in favor of a withdrawal of confidence. However, Bajamal insisted that the deal will not be called off and threatened to resort to the Constitutional Court,

according to a reliable source.

The Ministry of Oil signed a contract with an investor in which it sold 60% of the oil in field No. 53 at \$13 million per year while its annual revenue reached \$ 20 million. It denied that the bargain was against the law and stated that it was in favor of Yemen. However, MPs said it would have caused Yemen to lose YR 37 billion, had it been implemented.

It was reported that some MPs tried to interfere to defuse the problem

between the government and Parliament, suggesting that the government calls off the deal and that the MPs will keep a close eye on the question of holding the officials behind the deal accountable, but Bajamal refused.

Political observers have seen the latest confrontation between the government and Parliament as a kind of a game played by the big guys at the power center in order to bring an end to this government, which is expected to take place in the upcoming few weeks.

President Saleh not to attend Arab Summit

Arab states call for war crime trials for Israelis

As Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh's announcement that he would not attend next Arab Summit scheduled in Tunis next week, Arab governments on Tuesday described Israel's demolition of Palestinian homes in the Gaza Strip as a war crime and ethnic cleansing, and said they would start judicial steps to bring Israelis to trial.

In a statement after an Arab League meeting in Cairo, the Arab governments also called on the United States and the U.N. Security Council to stop Israel going ahead with plans to destroy hundreds more homes in Rafah, on Egypt's border.

"(The council)...holds the government of Israel wholly responsible for the consequences of the crimes it is committing against the unarmed Palestinian



A Palestinian woman weeps in the rubble of her house after it was hit by a missile fired from an Israeli helicopter at the Rafah refugee camp southern Gaza Strip May 18, 2004. Israeli forces killed at least 16 Palestinians in the heaviest raid on the Gaza Strip for years as tanks and infantry thrust into a militant stronghold despite an international outcry. REUTERS

people, and condemns them as war crimes aimed at ethnic cleansing and collective punishment," said the governments, meeting at the level of permanent representatives to the Arab League.

According to U.N. spokesman Fred Eckhard, Israeli troops made 2,197 Palestinians homeless in the first half of May by destroying 191 buildings throughout the Gaza Strip. Israeli army chief Moshe Yaalon said on Sunday

that hundreds of houses would be demolished to keep forces in the border zone safe from gunmen and to stop Palestinians digging tunnels to smuggle weapons from Egypt. Reuters

Court sentence bans journalists from writing

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Three journalists were sentenced Monday to 3-5 months in prison and banned from writing on charges of publishing reports that abuse ethics. The Southern Court of Sana'a sentenced former Editor of al-Asboo Weekly, Jalal al-Shara'abi, to three months imprisonment while the two journalists who wrote the report, Naif Hassan and Fuad al-Rabadi, received

suspended sentences of 5 months imprisonment. All were temporarily banned from writing.

The newspaper published in early 2003 a report on the sexual acts practiced by school girls which the Ministry of Information has deemed unethical and filed a lawsuit against the journalists at the press and publications prosecution.

Lawyer of the journalists, Jamal al-Jubei, described the verdict as an attack on press freedom, and stated his

intention to appeal against it. He said this behavior on the part of the Information Ministry is dangerous for no-one has sought the court in this issue which means nobody has been hurt by the report.

Last month journalist Saeed Thabet was sentenced by the same court to a 6 month ban from practicing journalism and writing on charges of publishing false information on the attempted assassination of Colonel Ahmad Ali Abdullah Saleh.

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Discussion to evaluate draft of strategy to ease poverty

Sunday, 16 May 2004- Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, Mr. Ahmed Mohamed Sofan, said that his ministry would work to activate spending operations to cover demands and to overcome deficits, which hinder the progress of some development projects toward the aim of easing poverty.

He added, in a meeting with a number of members of political organizations and civil society organizations, within the frame of the discussion of the draft report on the evaluation of the first year of the Strategy to Ease Poverty, that the strategy has broad-

ened opportunities to develop the health and education sectors. Where the percentage of enrolled students in primary education for the year 2003 reached 67% of both genders, 317 new schools have been built, 244 schools were rehabilitated, and 339 schools were furnished. In the health sector, the government has also increased spending.

He also pointed out that the tourism sector witnessed a revival during the year 2003, when the number of tourists reached 154 thousand, 60% of whom are Arab and from the Gulf countries. Tourism revenues have increased by 31% to reach 131 million USD.

Yemeni society for consumer protection warns

The Yemeni Society for Consumer Protection, warned consumers against purchasing the 200gram sardine cans under the brand name of "TESHA" after lab tests proved the presence of an unnatural taste and a rotten smell. The cans also appear inflated.

In a similar letter addressed to the Minister of Public Works, they refer to the above-mentioned products as unsuitable for human consumption, and that the products bear the manufacture date 1/2004 and expiration date 6/2004. The Consumer Protection Society urges their withdrawal from the market for the best interests of the consumer.

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Shoura Council Concludes Discussion on Fisheries and conventional fishing methods

Sunday, 16 May 2004- Al-Shoura Council concluded a two-day discussion on fisheries and the role of traditional fishing and the horizons for its development.

The members confirmed the importance of encouraging the establishment of private companies to market and export fish products with special care to quality and packaging means. They

also confirmed the importance of improving the living conditions of traditional fishermen by providing them with primary services in their villages and residential areas and modernizing the fishing ports in order to accommodate the operations of unloading, storing, marketing and exporting fish, including providing precise statistics on the fish sector.

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:

In your opinion, how strong would the Arab summit's denunciation of Israeli actions in Gaza be?

- Relatively weak and humble
- Moderate
- Strong and effective
- I don't care, it makes no difference

last edition's question:

Do you think that the Arab summit will be held on time on 22 May in Tunis?

- No, I don't think so 65%
- Yes, this time they will make it 25%
- Too early to tell 10%

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

Yemeni Parliament condemns economic sanctions on Syria

The Yemeni Parliament, in a statement issued on Sunday, May 16, 2004, condemned the recent announcement of the US Administration to impose sanctions on Syria.

The statement cited that at the time humanity calls for an end to the Zionist crimes against the Palestinians and the ending of the US occupation of Iraq following the shocking revelations of crimes and violations of US troops against Iraqi citizens, the US is escalating the situation by jeopardizing the

world's peace and security by imposing sanctions against Syria in line with so-called Punishment of Syria Law approved by the US congress at the end of last year.

Toward that end, the Yemeni Parliament rejects this aggressive US policy against Syria and it declares its solidarity with Syria and calls on US to reconsider this decision, which harms the Arab-US relations and joint interests. The Parliament calls on all Arab, Muslim and international parliaments

and regional and international organizations to denounce this US decision. It also calls on Arabs and Muslims to boycott US goods and for Arab Labor Unions to boycott US companies, including loading and unloading US ships and planes. In addition, the Parliament calls on the expected Arab Summit to come out with brave and responsible decisions, which would meet the expectations and ambitions of Arab peoples in confronting the current challenges facing them.

A US official visits Taiz Republican Hospital

YEMEN TIMES
TAIZ BUREAU

Ms. Jules Kim, the Political and Economic Attaché at the US Embassy in Sana'a, during her visit to Taiz City, met with the Undersecretary of Taiz Governorate.

In a reconnaissance visit to Taiz Republican Hospital, she met with Dr. Abdulsalam Mohamed Al-Ghuras, Director of the Hospital and with a number of medical and health staff who informed her of the progress of work at internal clinics and the level of health and medical services the hospital provides.

Ms. Kim said that her visit to Taiz was to get an idea of commercial and economic activities in the city and to discuss with the Mayor of Taiz aspects of cooperation and what primary services the governorate needs.

Ms. Kim expressed her pleasure at the visit, which has enabled her to examine closely the good health services provided by the hospital. She cited that the work was going very well at the hospital, especially with regard to the renovation process. She expressed her comfort at the level of the perform-

ance of the hospital. She alluded to the cooperation of the US embassy with the hospital's administration through presenting training courses within the framework of the US program to train officials in the Middle East, MEET.U.S.

The training course was held in the US and Dr. Abdulsalam Al-Ghuras participated in it. This type of cooperation is an example of good cooperation between the embassy and hospital aiming at providing the trainees with the needed knowledge to work in hospitals.

Ms. Kim said that the gathered information, related to the needs and demands at the hospital, would be discussed with the embassy's staff in order to determine the possibility of support and assistance, which would be presented through local officials in the governorate.

Dr. Al-Ghuras, on his part, stated that he valued the US support in the field of rehabilitating the medical cadre and expressed his hope for the development of this cooperation to build the mechanism to modernize the medical equipment available, particularly the prognosis apparatuses.

Inauguration of first phase of the President's Project

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF
TAIZ BUREAU

Tuesday, 18 May 2004, Taiz-Mayor of Taiz, Judge Ahmed Al-Hajry, and Eng. Adnan Al-Kasous, Director of the Public Telecommunication Corporation, Taiz Branch attended the celebration held at the Hall of Al-Saeed Forum, organized by the Public

Telecommunication Corporation, Taiz Branch on the occasion of nearing 14th anniversary of the unification, and on the occasion of the inauguration of the first phase of the President's project to increase the use of computers. 276 personal computers were distributed to administrative employees of 20 offices at the corporation, the cost of which would be paid in easy monthly install-

ments. During the celebration 22 employees were honored as excellent workers at the corporation, including 8 who were retiring.

Sheikh Ali Al-Magdashi, Assistant Undersecretary of the Governorate, and Mr. Shawgy Hayel, Chairman of the Planning and Development Committee at the Local Council, also attended the celebration.

Bomb diffused in a busy street in Taiz

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF
TAIZ BUREAU

Tuesday 11 May 2004, Taiz-Security sources have confirmed that an expert from the Criminal Investigation Bureau in Taiz Governorate was able to diffuse a timed bomb found on the back tire of a Toyota parked on Jamal Street, only few minutes before it would have gone off.

The bomb, if exploded, would have

led to a high number of casualties and material losses since the car, belonging to a Yemeni expatriate working in Saudi, was parked in a busy and crowded street. The owner of the car said that he could not think of anyone who would want to blow up his car. This leaves only that the perpetrator was seeking to disturb the peace of mind, security and stability of Yemen.

Yemen Times has learned that the security forces are pursuing the elements behind the timed bomb.

New Indonesian Ambassador to Yemen

Mr. Kemas Fachruddin, the newly appointed Indonesian Ambassador to Yemen, presented on 15 May 2004 a copy of his credentials to Mr. Abu Bakr Abdullah Al-Qirbi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Yemen.

H.E. Ambassador Kemas Fachruddin was born in Jambi, South Sumatera, Indonesia, on 7 May 1945. He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1976, one year after graduating from the Faculty of Law of the University of Jakarta. He was a participant in the diplomatic course of 1976-

1977 and held some positions at the ministry up to Deputy Director of Asia Pacific for Administrative Affairs, and then Assistant Deputy of the Coordinating Minister for Political and Security Affairs.

He was posted abroad to the Indonesian mission in Syria, Tanzania, Sri Lanka, Spain and Saudi Arabia respectively. Prior to his appointment as the Indonesian ambassador to the Republic of Yemen, he served as Deputy Chief of Mission at the Indonesian Embassy in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Al-Saeed Group celebrates May Day

By Yemen Times Staff
Taiz Bureau

Monday, 17 May 2004, Taiz- The Al-Saeed Group held a celebration on the occasion of the World Labor Day to honor 202 excellent workers of both genders working in different companies and centers belonging to the group.

The celebration, held at the Vocational and Technical Training Center in Al-Houbann was attended by Judge Ahmed Abdullah Al-Hujry, Mayor of Taiz, Sheikh Ali Mohamed Anam, Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Shawgy Hayel and directors of companies in the group.

The Mayor, in his address, congratulated workers on the National Day of the Republic of Yemen, May 22, and congratulated those who were honored by Hayel Saeed Group, which have contributed tremendously to the development of the country in the projects and services the group provides.

Mr. Ali Mohamed Saeed, on his part, thanked all the group's workers and praised those being honored as excellent workers, where the honoring serves as an appreciation for them and an encouragement for everyone to exert more effort.

Other speeches were also delivered by Mr. Abdu Mohamed Al-Hakeme, Director of Social Affairs Office in



Mr. Al-Hakimi & Mr. Shawqi Hayel awarding Prizes

Taiz and by Ms. Najat Abdu Al-Khabeer, on behalf of the honored workers, which all valued the appreciation of the group and confirmed that the honoring would only motivate all to do more in the future.

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Lufthansa Flights to Yemen cost 6-7 million Euro Annually

BY: MOHAMED BIN SALLAM
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Mr. Uwe Wilck, Regional General Manager, confirmed in a press conference held at Sana'a Sheraton Hotel last Tuesday the importance of operating three weekly Lufthansa flights in order to meet the needs of passengers to and from Yemen.

Mr. Wilck presented a detailed explanation of the newly introduced services and accomplishments of Lufthansa during the past period at the world level. He pointed out that Lufthansa is part of a group of airlines (16 European Airlines) to possess the latest technology in the field of air transport, equipped with modern comfort. The net profits of Lufthansa during 2003 reached 36 million Euro, despite the losses inflicted on most airlines by the September 11 attacks. He attributed this success to distinguished service, which ranks among the top three companies in the world in terms of on time scheduled flight departures and arrivals (about 90%)



Mr. Uwe Wilck, Lufthansa Regional General Manager speaking at a news conference at Sheraton Sana'a Hotel

and excellent miscellaneous services.

"Lufthansa loses between 6-7 million Euro annually in its flights to Yemen, but the investment in Yemen, due to the strategic location of the country in the Arab Peninsula, will be prosperous in the future", said Mr. Wilck. He reiterated that the regular operation of flights to Sana'a would play a pivotal role in activating com-

mercial and investment relations between the two countries through the mutual visits of Yemeni and German businessmen towards expanding the scope of cooperation between the two friendly countries. "This is another indication of the deep historic relations between Yemen and Germany", Mr. Wilck concluded.

Population problem and health fertility in Yemen



BY ISMAIL AL-GHABRI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The human is the target of development. The societies strongly believe and abide by this principle in behavior and practice, and launch from the human being toward the ultimate goal "Healthy human beings capable of producing and comprehending, with the ability to think and create". This goal could be achieved only in a healthy environment. How? The answer is simple to realize. It begins with the health care of a pregnant woman during the pregnancy period and after delivery. Then it continues through dedicated attention to properly raising the newborns with the appropriate nutritional food in order to grow up healthy and capable of effectively contributing to immediate families and society at large.

Thus, each member becomes the basis of a healthy and productive family and therefore viable society. The Republic of Yemen, in recent years, has been able to accomplish tremendous progress at the level of human health in urban cities, but remains short in rural areas where more health awareness and preventive measures are still required in the field of family planning and health fertility.

The population problem in Yemen The Republic of Yemen is considered one of the countries with a very high birth rate. The population issue is one of two stumbling blocks beside the water crisis, which continues to disturb both makers and implementers of development plans. The problem, devours and deflates any development indicators and any economic plans. Researchers advocate that any development authorities understand this problem, and unless work to implement a national strategy on health fertility and family planning commences at a very rapidly pace, the constant increases in the number of newborns will always overwhelm any improvement in the development growth rate, otherwise, returning to the starting point is inevitable.

The increase in the population leads to unorganized population movement and consequently generates deficiencies from the migration from rural areas to urban regions, such as when people would either abandon their lands and critical work in planting and growing vital crops hopefully for finding better opportunities in cities, or they would remain in their villages and subsequently their valuable arable lands are irrevocably dismantled through the process of inheritance. Another form of deficiency is the drop in the level of health care and education because of the unequalled growth in services to meet the need and demand. There are many students who study in over crowded classrooms unable to interact properly in the educational operation. The low level of health awareness combined with the unavailability of appropriate health services to cover the needs and demands leads to constant increases of population are behind creating unhealthy individuals unable to work effectively and productively, just simply adding more burdens to the lines of unemployment. Therefore, the connec-

tion between the population problem and health fertility could be clearly seen in the outcome to the drop of population growth rates.

The perception of health fertility is mixed up in the mentality of many people, as many people are unaware of the definition of family planning and birth control. Many people are also not aware of the danger of consecutive birth deliveries on the health of the mother and the infants, not counting the financial burden on the mainstay of the family who is usually the man. Many people do not fully realize the importance of regular visits to doctors during the period of pregnancy until after delivery.

Furthermore, many young mothers, due to early marriages, lack required awareness of how to provide health care for newborns and the proper nutrition for them. In order to shed more light on the

point, a young female was married to a man whose occupation is based on daily earning, meaning he could work for one day and wait ten days before he could work again. The illiterate wife performs some services for other well-to-do neighboring families in order to improve their living conditions. This family who happens to live nearby my house, live inside a small unsanitary home. Amid these difficult conditions, the family, following one year of marriage, has had a newborn baby girl, of course the mother did not have any medical attention and care during the pregnancy period and she almost died during the unmonitored delivery. The health situation of the baby girl is not very encouraging and continues to deteriorate. Amid these miserable conditions, the mother has conceived again. You can imagine what will happen to this family.

Training course for Girl Scouts

BY FAHMIA AL-FOTIH
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

Supporting female participation in the field of sport, the Girl Scouts Association holds a 5-day training course for 36 women leaders and activists that concluded on Wednesday 12 May at the Girls' Center for Training.

The participants were from four governorates; Amran, Marib, Mahweet and al-Jawf.

The participants were lectured on a number of topics,

and certificates were distributed in the end.

Mr. Mohamed Monasar, the Deputy Minister of Youth and Sport, Mr. Mohammed Al-Faqih, consultant at the Ministry of Youth and Sport, Mr. Abdullah Ubaid, Boy Scouts representative and Ms. Faten Essa, the Girl

Scout representative attended the closing ceremony.

Yemen Times met some of the trainees to find out their impression about the workshop.

Elham Al-Nuzaili, the program officer of Al-Mahweet Girl Scouts, talked to Yemen Times: "This workshop was for 5 days and it tackled a lot of new topics and skills, including an introduction about the foundation of the Scouts' Movement and its goals and principles. The workshop also discussed guiding, planning, and preparing plans, besides topics related to communication and community relations. Various rich topics really integrated the ones who came from remote governorates like Marib, Al-Jawf and Al-Mahweet. We are required to train leaders that will in the long-term enhance developing society. So our role and efforts should be doubled. Girl Scouts particularly

should be aware about her work as well as society's problems and concerns." Iman Thabit Al-Kohlani, Marib, "The workshop was fruitful even though it was intensive. We have benefited much regarding how to evaluate and follow-up and how to integrate a cadre of Girl Scouts. We learned also to lead in a systematic manner, besides to the importance of the media that should accompany Girl Scout work to show her work to the public" Fana Hussein Mohammed, Al-Jawf, said "We have been taught a lot of things in this workshop. We have learnt how to deal with young Girl Scouts when we will go back to Al-Jawf besides a lot of things we have to teach them." Fairouz Al-Halhal, Amran governorate, said also "We have been trained so well that we can go back to our governorates and do our best"



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Deadline: Thursday 27 May 2004.

Executive Director of YODRDF complains about treatment at Hajjah Preliminary Court

The attorney Jamal Mohamed al-Jaube, Executive Director of the Yemeni Organization for Defending Rights and Democratic Freedoms, sent a letter to the Minister of Justice complaining about the illegal behaviour he encountered at noon on Wednesday May 5, 2004 at Hajjah Preliminary Court, involving the criminal judge of the court, Judge Hussein Hamoud Mohamed Al-Huthy. The attorney, as a practicing lawyer at the court and a representative of one party, claimed that he was not allowed to present his defense before the judge and he had to take verbal abuse from the judge inside the courtroom in front of the audience.

The attorney complained that he had to go through an illegal detention and abusive treatment by two policemen in the court and the personal guards of the judge.

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Al-Arhabi takes on many tasks for social development

Abdulkarim Al-Arhabi has been given a tremendous amount of responsibility and number of challenges. When the Social Fund for Development was established in Yemen in 1996, Al-Arhabi was appointed the Managing Director of the organization. Two years ago, he was also appointed as the Yemeni Minister for Social Affairs and Labor.

Al-Arhabi oversees numerous aspects of social development in Yemen. Social projects cover many areas that range from poverty, basic services and water supply to improving the lives of children, women and workers.

Yemen Times reporter Peter Willems spoke with Al-Arhabi about the progress of social projects and what should be expected in the near future.



Abdulkarim Al-Arhabi, Minister of Social Affairs and Labor and Managing Director of Social Fund for Development.

Q: What is the Social Fund for Development focusing on these days?

A: We have three main programs in the Social Fund. The first and largest program is community development. It has small, labor intensive projects in the area of basic services dealing with primary health care, basic education, water supply projects, roads, the environment and we have gone into cultural heritage as well.

The second main program is small

and micro enterprise development. We have lending programs in the area of microfinance.

The third main program is capacity building: capacity building of partners, NGOs, communities, government institutions, and capacity building of individuals, consultants and small contractors.

The first phase was scheduled for five years, but we managed to reach our targets in three years. We started the sec-

ond phase by doubling the first phase. It was also supposed to go on for five years but managed to do it in less than three years. We are starting the third phase that will be carried out between 2004 and 2008. During the third phase, we will continue to do the same thing, more or less, to increase access to basic services around the country but also to focus more on capacity building by helping the government agencies develop systems, policies, procedures, and

train them to do their jobs.

Q: Could you give more details on capacity building?

A: Through the years we recognized that there was a huge need for capacity building. For example, there was a mushrooming of NGOs in the country, but many didn't have the capacity, for instance, not knowing how to do accounting, manage an activity and implement, manage, or market a project. We are helping them by providing training and developing systems and putting systems in place. We make sure to coach them until they really have a system in place and the system is functioning.

We also help communities to mobilize themselves. When we go to an area in need of some assistance, we talk to the people, try to help them to prioritize their needs and mobilize themselves around the project. That way, they participate in the implementation and take on the responsibility of maintenance and operating the service later on. That's what we have been doing in communities with NGOs.

We realized that government agencies are also in a huge need of capacity building. So we are doing more of that as well.

Q: Yemeni reform programs focus a lot on developing education. How has the Social Fund been involved in education?

A: We are involved in basic education and have constructed a lot of schools. We have built over 7000 classrooms all over the country since we started operations in 1998. We have been involved not only on the construction side but also on the software side, like systems, training skills, and so forth.

We also found in urban areas that there was a huge overcrowding of classrooms. Sometimes there are over 100 students in one classroom. We developed a program to reduce the crowded classrooms by expanding schools in urban areas, and we also expanded in smaller cities. The problem has been reduced, but it continues because of population growth and newcomers.

Q: What has the Social Fund been doing to try and get more girls to enroll in schools?

A: We put an emphasis on the education of girls to increase enrollment. We try to build schools and provide enough space. We found that once there are proper schools, enrollment for girls automatically goes up. It has been successful when there is a schedule for boys to go to class in the morning and girls in the afternoon or where there are special classrooms for girls. We also found that it is crucial to have female teachers. If there are female teachers, more girls enroll. We work closely with the Ministry of Education and try to recruit female teachers. It is not easy because the country is huge, is scattered and resources are limited.

Q: Has the Social Fund been suc-

cessful working on the supply of water in rural areas?

A: We shifted our strategy from a mechanized water supply system to water harvesting. This is to try and harvest some of the rain water to increase the availability of water in communities. Ground water is depleting, there is not sufficient water in many areas and mechanized systems are expensive and not sustainable. Water harvesting includes traditional small cisterns on top of mountains that collect water. We are helping people to expand cisterns and build dams and reservoirs in many areas. This program has worked very well and we will continue on this.

We have also been working on roads. We started on village access roads. There are scattered villages that have virtually no access to main roads, so they do not have access to the markets. We developed a concept of constructing feeder roads to provide isolated villages with access to markets. This helps to alleviate poverty because it enables farmers to market their products, and it lowers the cost of commodities for the people in the villages when transportation is easier and cheaper. Therefore, the people can market their products, the commodities they need are cheaper and it is faster and cheaper to get to the closest health facilities.

Q: What has the Social Fund focused on to help develop health-care?

A: In the beginning we built health units, but we found that this was not the right way of doing it. Setting up health units included the cooperation of the Ministry of Health to provide the staff, the budget and so on. But it did not materialize. We also found that the problem is more complex and deeper. It has to do with the supply of paramedical staff and demand. Even if the Ministry appoints a few people in a particular village, after some time they move to urban areas because there is demand in urban areas, they can earn more money and life is better for them. So, it is not building structures for medical care but providing the supply of paramedical staff. There is no benefit without the staff. It is the service and the delivery of the service that counts.

We tried to increase the supply of the paramedical staff. We helped the health institutes to expand their capacity. We built around ten health institutes to train paramedical staff and supported the existing health institutes by providing them with equipment and training. We even provided scholarships for trainees. Instead of going to a particular area and building a building for a health unit and trying and struggling to make it function, we got some people from the area and trained them. Some will go back and work there or some will move to an urban area. But it is the best strategy to try and get people from those underserved areas and train them. We believe that a large percentage of those people will go back to their areas after they graduate.

Q: Has the Social Fund's microfinance program to help small businesses done well?

A: Microfinance has been a very difficult area. It is a kind of banking operation. We provide credit all over the country ourselves. We picked some NGOs and cooperatives for lending programs. However, we found that NGOs and cooperatives didn't have the capacity. We had to train them to implement the program and it was a big challenge. It included recruitment, training and introducing systems which were complex and difficult.

There were also difficulties on the market side. In Yemen we have not had the tradition of money lenders. People used to go to relatives or friends and borrow without interest. So we had to develop the market ourselves and make a breakthrough in our culture.

We have learned from our experience. We had a lot of problems when we first started. The first problem we had was interest. We were forced to apply Islamic banking in microfinance. Islamic banking is used in large-scale operations but not in microfinance. This made it difficult, but we developed operations based on Islamic banking.

Over time we learned a lot from successes and failures or mistakes. What

we learned from our experience we applied in the new programs to avoid the problems we had earlier. Now it is bearing fruit. The new programs are doing very well. We have very high repayment, nearly 100% repayment. We are strong believers in microfinance and the impact of microfinance on the living conditions of the people. So we have invested a lot of energy and tried everything. We now have 14 programs in many different areas around the country.

Q: The new National Strategy for Children and Youth is being put together to help working children. Do you believe it will be effective?

A: The Ministry is involved and the Social Fund is heavily involved as well. I am personally committed to it because I believe it is an important program to really understand what the problems are, their magnitude and to see how to deal with different problems. There are already several initiatives, like the child labor project with ILO funded by the United States which is a pilot project. We have several initiatives to deal with children under difficult circumstances, like children in conflict with the law. We progressed very well in the development of juvenile justice. There are courts for children in conflict with the law, and we moved juveniles from prisons to care centers. Most of the children have been moved to the care centers, and we have an ambitious program to build care centers all over the country.

At the same time, we have other initiatives, like providing Safe Children Centers for street children. So we are doing a lot for children, but most of the work is done by the Social Fund because the Social Fund has the resources and flexibility.

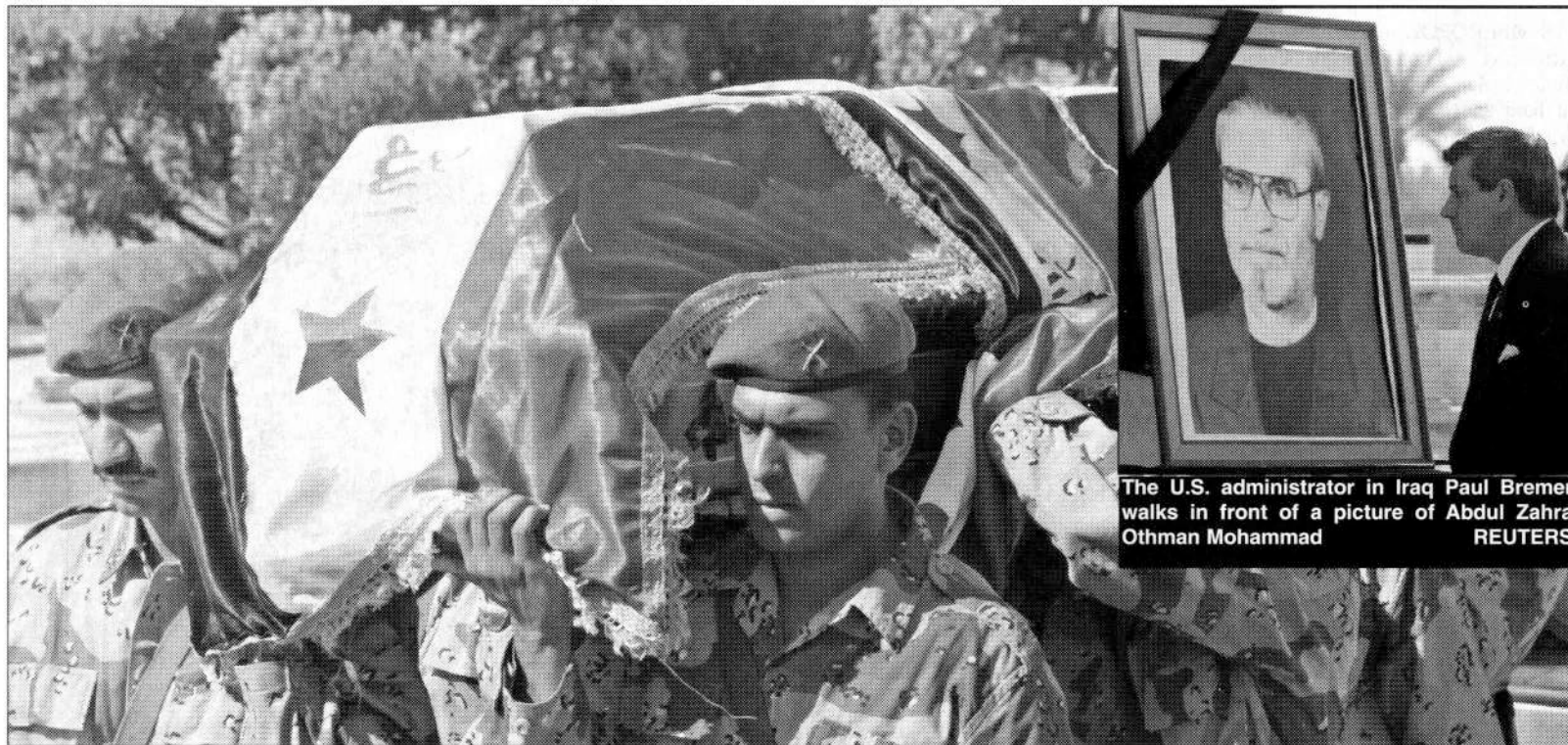
The National Strategy will provide the country with a vision, and we will try to disseminate the strategy and get all the parties to work together. We must have a multi-sector approach, including the Ministries of Health, Justice, Social Affairs, Education, the Interior, and so on. We are doing a lot to prepare for this. The strategy will help us know what the problems and challenges are, what are the right ways to deal with them, what are the right policies. We will develop an action plan, and everybody will be involved.

The most important aspect of the strategy is that it is done with full participation. It's not just researchers coming here, observing things and putting it on paper. We have to listen to the children. There will be focus group discussions all over the country with different age groups and try to listen to them, how they see their problems, how they see their challenges, what are their ambitions and what are their priorities. It's not enough to have experts analyze things and put together a strategy. Those times are over. We have to listen to the target groups, to the children in different parts of the country. We have to do it the right way this time.

Q: Even though Yemen is working on basic education and the future of working children, some wonder what will happen in the long run since Yemen's economy is having problems growing and there may not be jobs available for the youth. What do you think is the solution?

A: The relevance of the education system is very important, including the level of education and vocational training. In order to know the relevance, you need to research market demand to have education and vocational training systems respond to market needs. At the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor we are trying to develop the labor market. We had a labor force study to know the supply of labor, and we needed to do a survey on the market demands. The labor market demand survey was recently carried out and the results are being finalized. It is very important. The results will be given to the people involved in education and vocational education so they know what the market demand is. We will try to create momentum around the country to meet the market needs. Young people now go blindly into secondary education and university studies, and then discover after they finish their studies that there is no demand for their skills. The young people will be given orientation to guide them.

Suicide car bomb kills Iraq Governing Council head



The U.S. administrator in Iraq Paul Bremer walks in front of a picture of Abdul Zahra Othman Mohammad REUTERS

Iraqi protection force soldiers carry the coffin of Abdul Zahra Othman Mohammad before a commemoration ceremony in Baghdad, May 18. Mohammad, head of the Iraq's Governing Council, was killed in a suicide attack on Monday at the entrance of the so called "Green Zone". REUTERS

BAGHDAD, May 17 (Reuters) - A suicide car bomb killed the head of the U.S.-appointed Iraqi Governing Council and at least eight other people on Monday at a checkpoint outside the main Baghdad headquarters of the U.S.-led administration.

Abdul Zahra Othman Mohammad, a Shi'ite council member also known as Izzedin Salim, had been waiting at a checkpoint to enter the "Green Zone" compound in Baghdad when the bomb went off. Deputy Foreign Minister Hamed al-Bayati told Reuters.

"Izzedin Salim was martyred," he said.

The attack underlined the vulnerability of the U.S.-backed administration just six weeks before the occupiers are set to return sovereignty to Iraqis, though Iraq's

foreign minister insisted the violence would not derail the political process.

Bayati said Salim's car had been the last in a Governing Council convoy which included other council members, who were due to hold a meeting in the coalition compound, where the council has its headquarters.

"The other members escaped unharmed. They managed to get through the checkpoint before the explosion. Salim was still waiting to enter. It is too early to say whether the attack specifically targeted the Governing Council convoy," he said.

Salim, who was the current holder of the rotating Governing Council presidency, was the second of the 25-member Council to be killed. In September gunmen assassinated Aqila al-Hashemi, one

of three women on the council.

devastation

The checkpoint had been crowded with civilian cars and minibuses when the bomb was detonated. More than a dozen vehicles were destroyed by the blast, which melted the asphalt of the road and covered it in pools of blood.

Doctors wearing masks and rubber gloves pulled burnt bodies from twisted wrecks of minibuses. Shoes and human remains were hurled through the air. A scorched foot hung from barbed wire 30 metres (yards) away. A large crater was blown in the road.

Suicide bomber

"There was a huge crowd at the checkpoint," said Raad Mukhlis, a security

guard at a nearby residential compound.

"There were a lot of cars and people on foot standing there, and then this massive explosion. I saw body parts and martyrs everywhere."

Brigadier-General Mark Kimmitt, deputy director of operations for the U.S. military in Iraq, said the car bomber had been waiting in a queue of vehicles at the checkpoint.

"It is our understanding that it was a suicide car bomb," he told reporters at the scene, adding that two U.S. soldiers were wounded in the blast.

Salim, from Iraq's Shi'ite majority, was the head of the Islamic Dawa Party in Basra and the editor of several newspapers and magazines. He was one of the nine council members who each hold the rotating presidency for a month at a time.

Stay or flee? Gaza refugees ask under fire

RAFAH, Gaza Strip, May 18 (Reuters) - Surveying the blood-stained ruins of her daughter's home in the Rafah refugee camp, Miriam Abu Jazzar wondered aloud on Tuesday whether she should now flee like hundreds of her neighbours in Gaza.

Israeli missiles crashed into her part of the camp overnight, flattening a house next door to her own and killing three men, including her nephew, described by residents as a Palestinian intelligence officer moonlighting as a militant.

The military onslaught in the southern

Gaza Strip began after tanks sealed off Rafah for what the army called an open-ended operation to stop militants smuggling weapons through tunnels from Egypt.

The assault drew international condemnation after Israel threatened to destroy hundreds of refugee homes near an Israeli-patrolled corridor on the outskirts of Rafah.

Emerging into nearly deserted streets during a break in the fighting, Abu Jazzar gave thanks that her daughter and grandchildren had escaped unscathed, seeking refuge at a local school. But she cursed the Israelis for killing her nephew.

"They said they were going after wanted people. It's all lies," she said near the destroyed house, where a bloodied cinderblock lay amid the rubble.

to stay or flee

Abu Jazzar had not joined panicking neighbours who abandoned the area on Monday, piling mattresses and belongings on donkey carts and rickety old trucks.

She thought her neighbourhood was far enough from the army-controlled "Philadelphi" road to be out of harm's way.

On Tuesday she appeared to be

rethinking her decision.

"We are afraid," she said. "Every hour there is shooting."

Some Palestinians voiced fear that Rafah could suffer the fate of Jenin refugee camp in the West Bank, where Israeli forces flattened an entire neighbourhood in 2002 during pitched battles with militants following suicide bombings in Israel.

Ashraf al-Jamal, 30, a police officer, said he rushed his wife and three young boys out of their home when the missile strike began in Rafah.

"My kids slept in the street. I don't even know where they are," he said.

But amid the despair, there was also a mood of defiance.

As the Israeli raid began under cover of darkness, Palestinian fighters fired rockets and set off hidden bombs in Rafah's slums, a hotbed of militants who have often ambushed soldiers patrolling the Egyptian border.

"We will die and they will die, but we are Muslims and we go to heaven," Jamal said. "They will go to the fires of hell."

Hundreds of mourners who carried the body of Abu Jazzar's nephew from the hospital for burial chanted: "With our blood and souls, we will sacrifice for you."



Mourners carry the body of Waled Abu Jazar, who was killed after an Israeli helicopter fired missiles, during his funeral at the Rafah refugee camp southern Gaza Strip May 18. Israeli forces killed 13 Palestinians in Gaza's Rafah refugee camp early on Tuesday as tanks and infantry thrust into the militant stronghold despite an international outcry. REUTERS



JOB VACANCY

Oxfam works with others to overcome poverty and suffering. We work in partnership with CSOs and government. Oxfam's program in Yemen has expanded which requires new areas of work with new specialization. We are looking for dynamic people to work as part of the Oxfam Sana'a team. The Staff member appointed will be based at the Sana'a office

Job Title: Policy Advisor

Key Competencies

- University degree in economics, or relevant discipline and higher education is an advantage (M.A or PhD).
- At least 3 years experience of NGO work preferably in an INGO as development professional (desirable)
- Relevant knowledge, experience and good understanding of development, information and advocacy work (essential)
- Experience of academic research within the area of economics (essential)
- Commitment to all aspects of equal opportunity and diversity and strong commitment to the aims of Oxfam's work (essential)
- Analytical thinking and ability to present difficult information to all levels of people (essential)
- Excellent written and verbal communication (English and Arabic) including representation skills; report writing skills; negotiation and influencing skills (essential)
- Able to travel within Yemen and if necessary outside Yemen. (essential)
- Good organisational skills with an ability to work under pressure and to deadlines (essential).
- Ability to work within a team and at an individual level (essential)
- Ability to use IT systems – databases, Microsoft office (desirable)

Job Title: Campaigns Officer

Key Competencies

- University degree in social science or relevant fields.
- Proven knowledge, skills and experience in campaigning on issues for social change related to ideas, attitudes and practices and preferably in gender related issues
- Understanding and sensitivity to development issues and context
- Well developed management skills to support, develop and build capacity of staff and partners in campaigning
- Ability to mentor and support national staff to build local capacity
- Excellent communication skills
- Demonstrable creative thinking, and problem solving
- Flexibility, responsiveness and sensitivity to the needs of the local context and culture and listening and supportive attitude
- Experience of working with media and sound understanding of messaging and public positioning and adapting it to the needs of the local context

Job Title: Administrator and Human Resources Officer

Key Competencies

- University degree in business administration and/or related discipline (management, human resources etc).
- Two years experience of office management and administration.
- Experience of managing a team of staff.
- Excellent communications skills including written and spoken Arabic and English.
- Ability to deal with people at all levels including partners, staff and officials in government offices.
- Highly organised, able to meet deadlines and gets things completed on time.
- Interested in learning about and applying correctly procedures in office management, human resources and logistics.
- Ability to use Microsoft Word, Excel, Internet/e-mail and able to type in both English and Arabic.
- An interest in Oxfam's work and the programme.
- An understanding of diversity issues.

Please apply (application forms to be filled) along with a copy of your CV latest by 7th June 2004

The Programme Representative, Oxfam GB Yemen P.O. Box 1045,

Sana'a, Republic of Yemen

Fax no: 01 445 650 Or email:

mmalahy@oxfam.org.uk

or aal-thwari@oxfam.org.uk

for Administrator & Human Resources Officer post

melsanousi@oxfam.org.uk

for Policy Officer & Campaign Advisor posts

Oxfam GB is a development, relief, and campaigning organisation dedicated to finding lasting solutions to poverty and suffering around the world. We believe that every human being is entitled to a life of dignity and opportunity; and we work with poor communities, local partners, volunteers, and supporters to help this become a reality.

Vacancy

A leading private Educational Institution based in Sana'a, Yemen is looking to recruit dynamic and professional employees to work in one of its branch offices in the following posts:

Marketing Manager:

A male with the following qualifications:

1. A University Degree (B.Sc. or Higher) from a reputable University.
2. Demonstrated command of written and spoken English.
3. Good Computer skills.
4. Good Administration skills.
5. Negotiation, presentation, and self motivation skills.
6. Prior experience working with educational institutions is preferable.

Counselors(Training Advisors):

A male and female candidates with the following qualifications:

1. A University Degree (Diploma or B.Sc.) from a reputable University.
2. Demonstrated command of written and spoken English.
3. Good Computer skills.
4. Acceptable communication skills.
5. Presentation and self motivation skills.
6. Prior experience working with educational institutions is preferable.

Interested applicants may please send their C.V.'s with references to e-mail: info@alandalus.edu.ye or Fax: 675885 no later than 29/05/2004.

Pope marks 84th birthday with new book

VATICAN CITY, May 18 (Reuters) - Pope John Paul marked his 84th birthday on Tuesday with the launch of a book sure to become a bestseller, and a routine round of audiences for visitors.

The pope, who was born Karol Jozef Wojtyla in a tiny flat in the poor southern Polish town of Wadowice in 1920, was spending the day in an Apostolic Palace whose rooms were painted by Renaissance masters.

The leader of one billion Roman Catholics received Portugal's prime minister and Poland's president as well as 60 humble participants from a symposium on human migration.

The pope suffers from Parkinson's disease and severe arthritis, and for a while last autumn could not read his own speeches. But his health has improved markedly in recent months and he plans to visit Switzerland in June and France in August.

It is the pope's first birthday in years that has not provoked talk of a funeral or a resignation around the corner.

The pope, now history's third-longest serving pontiff, shares his memories with the world in his new book "Get up. Let us go!", which went on sale with an initial printing of 500,000 copies in Italy alone.

Memory lane

In it he takes perhaps his last trip down memory lane, recalling carrying a sleeping bag in a grubby Polish train to

his twilight years as pontiff.

The book is a stream of consciousness from youth to old age, from vigour to fatigue, that covers mostly the years since 1958, when he was appointed Poland's youngest bishop at age 38.

Published by Mondadori, it includes some candid revelations.

He writes that he has never felt "lonely" despite a life of celibacy. But he offers some rare self-doubt, in one section asking whether he has not "tried hard enough to lead".

In Krakow, the Polish city where he was cardinal until his election as pontiff in 1978, his compatriots lined up to buy it.

"The book made my memory race back to the time when the pope was our bishop here in Krakow," said Gabriel Turowski, who grew up with the future pope in Wadowice.

"During this whole time he had the same relationship with us as he did when we used to go hiking together. As a bishop he continued travelling with us, always singing, and we saw that he did not change as a person," Turowski said.

The new book looks destined to be another international bestseller, with royalties going to charity. His 1994 book "Crossing the Threshold of Hope" has sold more than 20 million copies.

He defends the rule of clerical celibacy, saying it allows a priest to dedicate his whole life to the Church.

Crimean Tatars grimly mark deportation day

SIMFEROPOL, Ukraine, May 18 (Reuters) - Thousands of Crimean Tatars called on Tuesday for the return of land and homes lost 60 years ago when their whole nation was deported by Soviet dictator Josef Stalin.

About 20,000 Tatars, old and young, mourned at the spot where some of their 200,000 or so kin were herded on May 18, 1944, and then shipped by cattle train to the steppes of Central Asia, accused unjustly of collaborating with Nazi occupiers.

To the sound of wailing Turkic music, they marched to "Soviet square" in Simferopol, centre of Ukraine's southern Crimean peninsula, to decry the mass deportation before a huge statue of Soviet state founder Vladimir Lenin.

"All these 60 years have been years of battle for us," said Mustafa Jemilev, a Tatar leader who won the 1998 Nansen Medal from the United Nations for helping Tatars resettle.

Crimea was a Tatar fiefdom allied with Turkey for 400 years when Russia's empress Catherine the Great won it in 1783 after a series of bloody wars.

After the 1917 Bolshevik revolution, Crimea became part of the Russian Federation. In 1954, long after the deportation of the Tatars and after Stalin's death, Communist leader Nikita Khrushchev handed it over to Soviet Ukraine.

"First it was a battle to live through the deportation, which we did not really succeed in doing as about 46 percent of the population died. It was genocide. Then we fought to return, and then for our rights," Jemilev told Reuters.

He called on Tatars still living in exile to return, adding Ukraine had made life more difficult for many by failing so far to pass legislation securing their rights.

Rehabilitation

Crimean Tatars were officially rehabilitated by the Kremlin in 1967, but



Tatars applaud during a memorial rally to honour those who died in the 1944 deportation from the Crimea to Central Asia, in Simferopol's central square, May 18. About 20,000 ethnic Tatars marched through the capital of Ukraine's Crimean peninsula to mark the 60th anniversary of their mass deportation by the Soviet dictator Josef Stalin. REUTERS

allowed to return to their region only in 1989. About 250,000 Tatars returned to Crimea after the Soviet collapse in 1991 from Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan.

Many have since started businesses, built homes and found work in their native land. Most live easily side-by-side with Ukrainians and Russians on the peninsula.

But some complain of poor treatment and harassment. Many demand more political representation, autonomy for Crimean Tatars, return of homes and land and Tatar language rights.

For the elderly, the memories of the mass deportation are deeply etched.

Zekiye Aliyeva, 84, was deported when she was breastfeeding her son,

and her first-born daughter had just learned to walk. She says two soldiers came, telling her to gather her things.

"We were stuffed into cattle wagons. It was drafty and I got ill," she said. "There were many dead, from cold, from hunger. At every stop they would bury some or just throw them into the snow, and then we would carry on."

Her daughter, Zira, said after returning to Crimea from Russia, the family had struggled to make ends meet. They eventually "claimed" land, part of a field outside a town.

"We were deported twice. Once by the state and then by ourselves, when we sent ourselves back here to live in these conditions," she said.

"I do not feel like I've been helped

by the state."

Ukraine, an impoverished nation of 48 million which neighbours the European Union and Russia, has struggled to find funds to help the Tatars.

But many Tatars see their fight not with Ukrainians but with Russians who are now the leading ethnic group on the peninsula and dominate life there.

Clashes between Tatars and Russians are sporadic, and Tatars complain the Russians have taken the best land. Many Russians feel their property and rights are under threat.

"I agree that they were deported unfairly," said one Russia, Alexander Shevstov. "They now have come back and ask for some privileges. But why at my cost?"



Pope John Paul II sits with Portuguese Prime Minister Jose Manuel Borroso during a private audience at the Vatican 18, May. REUTERS

REPUBLIC OF YEMEN
MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT
SOCOTRA CONSERVATION AND
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM - Coordination Unit



الجمهورية اليمنية
وزارة المياه والبيئة
برنامج صون وتنمية جزر سقطري - وحدة التنسيق

SOCOTRA CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT
Environment Protection Authority

Post advertisement:
Terrestrial Ecology Officer (TEO)

Indicative terms of reference:

Socotra Conservation and development programme (SCDP - www.socotraisland.org), is seeking a dynamic and motivated individual with background in ecology, botany, zoology natural sciences or related topics, to join and support the EPA terrestrial research team as a technical staff in the island of Socotra.

The TEO will work under the direction and the guidance of the team leader of the EPA terrestrial ecology research section (Socotra), and shall have the following broad responsibilities:

- provide assistance and technical support to the EPA Socotra multidisciplinary team of terrestrial ecology researchers.
- participate in and support the EPA's long-term ecological monitoring program overall the archipelago. This entails a wide range of tasks including botanical surveys, herbarium preparation and maintenance, zoology and taxonomy research, collection of samples and field expeditions in Socotra and in the outer islands, computer-based data analysis, report writing and GIS data handling.
- Interact with National and international scientists and experts of government and non-government agencies and universities who are working with the EPA and SCDP towards the protection of the terrestrial biodiversity of the Socotra archipelago.
- Contribute to the work of other sections of the EPA and SCDP team in the island (environmental awareness, marine ecology, protected areas management, environmental impact assessments, ecotourism, community development, support to local NGOs and Socotra Conservation Fund, water resources management, support to the health sector, local governance, etc.), as requested by line management.

Qualifications:

Applicants should possess the following key qualifications:

- bachelor of Science degree in relevant topics, or two years of college courses, or equivalent combination of education and practical experience.
- good spoken and written English and Arabic
- full immediate availability and demonstrated lack of any other employment
- willingness to be posted full-time in Socotra, and to spend a significant amount of time working in demanding field conditions, with frequent in-island travel and camping outdoor as required.
- good knowledge of terrestrial ecology and principles of wildlife conservation
- computer literacy (MS office, databases, GIS)
- Ability to work effectively within the context of a large national and international team
- good communication and interpersonal skills
- Yemeni nationality. Applicants from Socotra island will be given priority consideration.

Conditions of Employment:

The initial appointment will be for one year and will include an initial three months probation period. Contract is renewable for up to 4 years, based on annual performance evaluation. A competitive salary and benefits package will be offered on the basis of qualifications and experience. Duty station: Hadibu, Socotra island. The SCDP is an equal opportunity employer.

Applicants should submit, by June 2nd 2004, an application letter in English language describing their interest in the position advertised and curriculum vitae (in English) by fax or email to:

Socotra Conservation and Development Program, Coordination Unit; Ministry of Water and Environment, Sana'a, Yemen; Tel: +967-1-425 310; Fax: +967-1-425 309; email: scdp@y.net.ye

SOCOTRA CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT
Environment Protection Authority

Post advertisement:
Marine Ecology Officer (MEO)

Indicative terms of reference:

Socotra Conservation and development programme (SCDP - www.socotraisland.org), is seeking a dynamic and motivated individual with background in marine ecology, fisheries, biology, natural sciences or related topics, to join and support the EPA terrestrial research team as a technical staff in the island of Socotra.

The MEO will work under the direction and the guidance of the team leader of the EPA marine research section (Socotra), and shall have the following broad responsibilities:

- provide assistance and technical support to the EPA Socotra multidisciplinary team of marine researchers.
- participate in and support the EPA's long-term marine monitoring program over all the archipelago. This entails a wide range of tasks including marine surveys, fisheries data collection, marine specimens collection preparation and maintenance, marine zoology and taxonomy research, scuba-diving and collection of samples and field expeditions in Socotra and in the outer islands, computer-based data analysis, report writing and GIS data handling.
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Conditions of Employment:

The initial appointment will be for one year and will include an initial three months probation period. Contract is renewable for up to 4 years, based on annual performance evaluation. A competitive salary and benefits package will be offered on the basis of qualifications and experience. Duty station: Hadibu, Socotra island. The SCDP is an equal opportunity employer.

Applicants should submit, by June 2nd 2004, an application letter in English language describing their interest in the position advertised and curriculum vitae (in English) by fax or email to:

Socotra Conservation and Development Program, Coordination Unit; Ministry of Water and Environment, Sana'a, Yemen; Tel: +967-1-425 310; Fax: +967-1-425 309; email: scdp@y.net.ye

SOCOTRA CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (SCDP)
MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT (MOWE)
Environment Protection Authority (EPA)

Post advertisement:
Information Technology Officer (ITO)

Indicative terms of reference:

Socotra Conservation and development programme (SCDP - www.socotraisland.org), is seeking a dynamic and motivated individual with background in Information Technology, Computer Science or related topics, to join and support the EPA and SCDP team as a technical staff in the island of Socotra.

The ITO will work under the direction and the guidance of the team leader of the SCDP Socotra, and shall have the following broad responsibilities:

- provide assistance, maintenance and repair and general IT support to all sections the EPA and SCDP multidisciplinary team. Be responsible for network and one way sat-link maintenance and operation.
- Arrange formal and on-the-job training for EPA SCDP staff at basic, intermediate and advanced levels in MS Office, databases, internet, GIS data handling.
- Contribute to and assist the IT components of the work of all sections of the EPA and SCDP team in the island (environmental awareness, marine ecology, protected areas management, environmental impact assessments, ecotourism, community development, support to local NGOs and Socotra Conservation Fund, water resources management, support to the health sector, local governance, etc.), as requested by line management.

Qualifications

Applicants should possess the following key qualifications:

- Bachelor of Science degree or higher degree in IT, computer science, engineering or equivalent combination of education and practical experience.
- ability to design and deliver computer training courses (MS office, databases, GIS, internet, network maintenance)
- demonstrated experience in maintenance and repair of complex sets of IT networks and equipment (i.e. networks, computers, servers, web connections, printers, all-in-ones, photocopiers, projectors, etc.)
- good spoken and written English and Arabic
- full immediate availability and demonstrated lack of any other employment
- willingness to be posted full-time in Socotra, and to spend a significant amount of time working in demanding field conditions.
- ability to work effectively within the context of a large national and international team
- good communication and interpersonal skills
- Commitment to the principles of nature conservation
- Yemeni nationality. Applicants from Socotra island will be given priority consideration.

Conditions of Employment

The initial appointment will be for one year and will include an initial three months probation period. Contract is renewable for up to 4 years, based on annual performance evaluation. A competitive salary and benefits package will be offered on the basis of qualifications and experience. Duty station: Hadibu, Socotra island. The SCDP is an equal opportunity employer.

Applicants should submit, by June 2nd 2004, an application letter in English language describing their interest in the position advertised and curriculum vitae (in English) by fax or email to:

Socotra Conservation and Development Program, Coordination Unit; Ministry of Water and Environment, Sana'a, Yemen; Tel: +967-1-425 310; Fax: +967-1-425 309; email: scdp@y.net.ye

India's Gandhi walks away from PM job

NEW DELHI, May 18 (Reuters) - Italian-born Sonia Gandhi dropped out of the race to become India's prime minister on Tuesday to end debate over her foreign birth, opening the way for her Congress party to choose an economic reformer as its leader.

"I must humbly decline this post," she told an uproarious meeting of lawmakers from her Congress party.

Fighting to make herself heard above indignant shouts from her supporters, she said: "I request you to accept my decision and to recognise that I will not reverse it."

"It is my inner voice, my conscience," said Gandhi, 57-year-old widow of murdered former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi.

She gave no immediate public signal as to who she wished to head the new government. But the NDTV network said Gandhi was pushing former finance minister Manmohan Singh, the architect of India's economic reforms.

The withdrawal by the heir of the Nehru-Gandhi dynasty — India's equivalent of America's Kennedys — had earlier triggered anguished scenes outside her New Delhi home as hundreds of supporters rallied to press her to change her mind.

One man stood on the roof of a car, held a home-made gun to his head and waved a stick to deter people trying to calm him.

"Call Sonia Gandhi! Tell her I will kill myself if she doesn't become prime minister!" he said before being disarmed.

Others lay down in the street or torched effigies of Gandhi's Hindu nationalist opponents, who have run a bitter campaign targeting her Italian background after their humiliating election loss last week.

"Congress has informed us that Mrs Gandhi will no longer be leader of the Congress Parliamentary Party, and they

are meeting to elect a new leader," said Sitaram Yechuri, a leader of the main Communist Party of India (Marxist), which has pledged its support to a Congress coalition government.

law makers meet

Congress leaders had made frantic last minute efforts to persuade Gandhi to stay on and become India's first foreign born prime minister and the fourth from the Nehru-Gandhi clan.

Her withdrawal, and the prospect of Singh leading Asia's third-largest economy, spurred markets, helping stocks on the Bombay exchange post their second-biggest daily rally just a day after the worst plunge in the exchange's 129-year history.

At Gandhi's residence, Congress leaders, some beating their chests, urged her to ignore what they called the ousted Bharatiya Janata Party's "racist" campaign.

"She feels the country comes first, she does not want the country to be faced with this," said Congress official Salman Khurshid. "We are stunned, it is shocking, I just can't see the Congress party accepting such an outcome."

Left-wing parties, with more than 60 seats, were supporting Gandhi without formally joining her coalition, but have spooked markets with anti-privatisation comments.

As news of Gandhi's possible withdrawal filtered out, the stock market rebounded sharply and recorded one of its biggest gains.

"The market has gone up because of news that Sonia is reluctant to be PM," said Bharat Shah, director of Vikram Kenia Securities. "This means that Manmohan Singh, who is very reformist, will become prime minister."

Gandhi, an Indian citizen, and Singh met President Abdul Kalam earlier on Tuesday to open talks about forming government. Gandhi said later she would



Sonia Gandhi speaks to the media at President House after she met with Indian President A. P. J. Abdul Kalam in New Delhi May 18. Gandhi met the president on Tuesday to discuss the formation of a new government, but left without staking a formal claim to power. REUTERS meet Kalam again on Wednesday. Kalam had invited Gandhi to meet him as leader of the biggest party in the new parliament, and is likely to accept Congress' claim to power in the world's largest democracy.

Ethiopia says kills 20 armed gang members in west

ADDIS ABABA, May 18 (Reuters) - Ethiopia said on Tuesday soldiers had killed the leader of an armed gang and 19 of his followers who it blamed for a series of massacres in the western region of Gambella.

Government soldiers killed them in an attack on a jungle hideout last week, the Ministry of Federal Affairs said in a statement.

It said the gang, led by Major Kut, was behind killings in the region last December and armed robberies and violence in Gambella town early last week.

The army captured a member of the gang and seized radios and rifles in the raid on their hideout, it said.

A human rights group had blamed militias backed by the government for

violence in Gambella, saying more than 1,100 people were killed in the region between mid-December and the end of March.

The Swiss-based World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT) said militias had carried out a campaign of systematic killings and mass rapes among the 100,000-strong Anuak community in Gambella.

But Prime Minister Meles Zenawi dismissed that report last month as a fabrication.

He said about 200 people had been killed in various clashes in the region and that the only ones killed by the military were armed Anuak insurgents who had launched cross-border raids from Sudan.

Announcement

Invitation to Tender for the Supply and Delivery of One plot Launch for Port of Aden

Yemen Ports Authority (Port of Aden) intends to announce for the above tender.

The tender documents is available to bidding companies at a cost of US\$ 150.00 Quotations are to be submitted **on Sunday 27th June, 2004.**

For collection of tender documents or more information, Please contact:-

**YPA- Head Office,
Tawahi -Aden,
Tel: 967-2-202669 /201541
Fax: 967-2-205805 /205802**

Seven dead as cargo plane crashes in China

BEIJING, May 18 (Reuters) - A cargo plane crashed into cowsheds and burst into flames on Tuesday two minutes after take-off from the capital of the Xinjiang region in northwest China, killing all seven crew, rescuers and media said.

Rescuers said no one on the ground was hurt after the Russian-made Il-76 crashed and burned around 10:50 a.m. (0250 GMT) about 10 km (six miles) from the airport in Urumqi.

State-run news agency Xinhua said the plane was Azeri but the deputy director of Azerbaijan's state-run air company, Azal, said it was Ukrainian.

In Kiev, Markiy Lubkivsky, spokesman for the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry, said the plane was owned by an Azeri air company. Earlier he had said, in error, that it was Ukrainian.

Six Ukrainians were among the dead and there was one Azeri citizen onboard, he said.

Xinhua said the plane's forward fuselage was destroyed and the bodies of seven crew, six Ukrainians and an Azeri, had been found. The crash turned 80 percent of the payload to ash, it added. Local television said the plane was carrying clothes.

"The only thing we can be sure of is that there's no casualty reported on the ground, because the plane dropped in an open space," an official at the rescue scene told Reuters.

Witnesses told Xinhua the plane appeared to try to make an emergency landing before ploughing into fields.

Farmer Zhang Yuping said she was doing household chores when she heard a deafening explosion. At first, she thought there had been an accident on the highway.

"But when I turned round and



Chinese rescuers search the fuselage of an Il-76 cargo plane of Azerbaijan after it barrelled into a cowsheds 10 km (six miles) from Urumqi Airport in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region May 18. Rescuers said no one on the ground was hurt after the plane crashed and burst into flames, killing all seven crew. NO ARCHIVES NO SALES REUTERS

looked out of the back window, I was stunned to see a big plane hovering toward me and I thought that was the end of my life," she was quoted as saying.

"However, the plane swirled and came to a stop before it reached the house."

The plane was en route to Azerbaijan's capital Baku. It began its journey in Taiyuan, in China's northern

province of Shanxi, and had made a stopover in Urumqi, airport officials said.

The Il-76, the workhorse of the cargo fleets of Russia and other former Soviet states, has suffered a string of accidents over the past few years.

An Iranian air force Il-76 crashed into mountains in Iran last year killing all 302 passengers and crew. In March, a Ukrainian-owned Il-76 came down

shortly after take off from Baku, killing three of the seven crew.

Close to 1,000 of the aircraft, which first flew in 1971, have been built by Russian manufacturer Ilyushin.

China's last major crash was on May 7, 2002, when a China Northern flight from Beijing to Dalian fell into the sea after the pilot reported a fire in the cabin.

That crash killed 112 people.

(Tender announcement No. 3/2004)

Purchase, import, examining, and submitting of various video cassettes

The Yemeni Public Corporation for Radio and Television invites all companies specialized in the manufacture, purchase and import of video cassettes to contact the corporation's headquarter (Engineering Sector) in Hasaba, near the Ministry of Public Health and Population in Sana'a so they could receive a copy of the tender document for the non-refundable amount of USD 200.



Those who wish to obtain the document by mail can do so by adding USD 100 as mailing, custom, and expenses fees.

All the information, details, instructions, conditions, and specifications are available in the tender document.

Bid letters will be opened at 10:30 on the morning of Tuesday June 8th 2004 at the main headquarters of the corporation in Sana'a amid the presence of bidders.

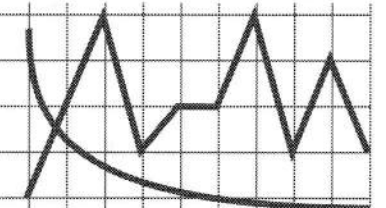
Tender Correction

In the last edition of Yemen Times published on May 17, specifically on page 7, an error appeared in the tender announcement no. 3/2004 on "Purchase, import, examining, and submitting of various video cassettes" advertisement published by the Yemeni Public Corporation for Radio and Television.

The error occurred in the last paragraph concerning the date of opening envelopes, which is supposed to be June 8th 2004 and not July 8th. Hence, the correct time for opening envelopes of bidders is: June 8th 2004

Our apologies for the inconvenience...

YT Business



YR 1.8 billion for fish port in Al-Shahr

BY MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Navigation sources have in the governorate of Hadramout expected the completion of the project for building the Fish Port in the city of al-Shahr at the end of this year. The project is to be an encouragement to investors to invest their capitals in projects related to utilization of fishery and development of fish wealth. The project represents the Yemeni government keenness on finding a balance between the population growth and economic resources required for the people.

The sources have made it clear that the cost of the project of building the port amounts to one billion and eight hundred million riyals to be funded by the government. Presently the work is underway to finish the two quays of the port, one of which is 1200 meters long and the second 650 meters. Width of each of the two wharfs is seven meters and with depth of about 6.5 meters so that to be capable of receiving 10 thousand fishing boats.

The same sources said the second phase of the project was to include the construction of service utilities for fishermen to provide their boats with fuel and maintenance and a center for training and guidance to receive 60 tons of fish in order to help remarket them to local markets or for export to foreign markets.

Accomplishment of this project is within the government's efforts to develop services of infrastructure for investors in the fish sector. Survey studies estimate that Yemen possesses a huge reservoir of fish wealth that is able to fishing about 840 thousand tons a year covering a coastal area of more than 2500 km long on the Red Sea, the Gulf of Aden and the Arabian Sea. Sea studies also refer that the proportion of

fishing is still low if compared to the volume of reservoir in the Yemeni regional waters. For instance the total production of fish last year amounted to around 195 thousand tons, 25 thousand tons of which for commercial companies, whereas fresh and frozen fish exports amounted to 70 thousand tons at the end of 2003, and 25.759 thousand tons in 2002, 19 thousand tons for commercial companies.

Fish wealth sector is considered among the promising sectors in Yemen as it is one of the strategic elements of food security, especially following the unification of the country in 1990 that resulted in extension of Yemeni coasts.

The long coasts of Yemen and its possession of more than 150 islands with a great reservoir of fishes and marine life estimated at more than 300 species have exposed this wealth to tampering and misuse, according to the agricultural committee at the parliament. The committee's report accused officials of sea monitoring and inspection of conniving with commercial companies for misusing the fish wealth and heedlessness towards operations of sweeping away and destruction caused by commercial fishing boats and some traditional local fishing boats. The report has mentioned further about random and unplanned fishing processes of marine life existing in the regional waters by using destructive means of fishing by commercial companies and that have caused marine environment pollution as a result of throwing away hundreds of tons of dead fish into the sea and that has caused extinct of great numbers of fish and marine life.

The parliament agricultural, fish and water resources committee also disclosed that licensed commercial companies were committing violations of articles of agreements concluded with the ministry of fish wealth. Meanwhile, owners of traditional fish-



Traditional fishing boats used by Yemeni fishermen

ing boats are exposed to firing by owners of violating fishing boats that carry out fishing to be then smuggled to their countries without completing necessary measures for licensed fishing.

To encounter those violations the ministry of fish wealth worked for activating the role of the monitoring and inspection in the regional waters after reconsideration legislation and regulations organizing the fishing operation, along with qualifying and training sea monitors and planning for pursuing developed ways for monitoring via satellites.

The ministry also sought for control-

ling those infringing the fishing methods in the regional waters through effecting common cooperation with all concerned and relevant parties related to sea affairs. More important of those measures are the coast guard police that have been recently established to control infiltrators and terrorist elements, and that is for protection of national and food security. Sources at the ministry of fish wealth say the outside demand for Yemeni fish is increasing, especially those of high quality kinds and therefore there are now many researches conducted for improving fishing on scientific rules

defining realistic potentials, fish reservoir, average of its growth, its species and geographical distribution as well as fixing seasons and sites of fishing.

The Yemeni government has also taken many measures for utilization of the fish wealth such as the implementation of a center for oceanology project in Aden, the project for developing traditional fishing in the Red Sea and a project for development of marine life at a cost exceeding \$163 million. In addition the government encouraged the private sector to invest in this field and developing the industry of fish products and caning in response to

meeting needs of the local market and involvement of exports.

Among the most important projects implemented at the end of 2001 was the fourth fish project at a cost of \$39.5 million that was meant for increasing the quantity of caught fish through improvement of methods of fishing and supporting centers of research and preservation of marine environment and building coastal facilities for fishermen consisting of seven units in Hadramout and Muhra, in addition to factories of ice and water and cooling and electricity and other basic services.

700 million Riyals allocated for illumination and road projects in the province

The year 2004 is the year of modernization and the completion of infrastructures at most districts of Aden Governorate. Aden governorate has witnessed major expansions in road network construction, the number of asphalted and illuminated roads, the demolishing of randomly-built constructions.

These activities continue at an unprecedented rapidly high pace. Since early of last week, the removal of randomly constructed fences has been going on aiming at widening roads before asphalted and lighting them up, in addition to the rehabilitation of Al-Dureen region.

75-million Riyals is allocated for the rehabilitation of Al-Dureen region and five schools, where works in three of them have been begun.

"The year 2004 is the year of modernization and the completion of infrastructures at Al-Mansourah province in Aden Governorate", said Mr. Yousef Ali Abdul Jaleel, Director General of Al-Mansourah district, in an interview with Mr. Radhwan Al-Saqqaf of Yemen Times.

"This year Al-Mansourah district has been witnessing an integrated workshop starting from the demolishing of randomly-made constructions, which have extended to streets and have formed obstacles to both pedestrians and traffic, not counting the deformation they cause to the beauty of the city. Street in the district amounting to 32 km long will be widened at al-Mansourah old city, and will be linked to new neighborhoods at cost of 500 million Riyals", said the

Director General.

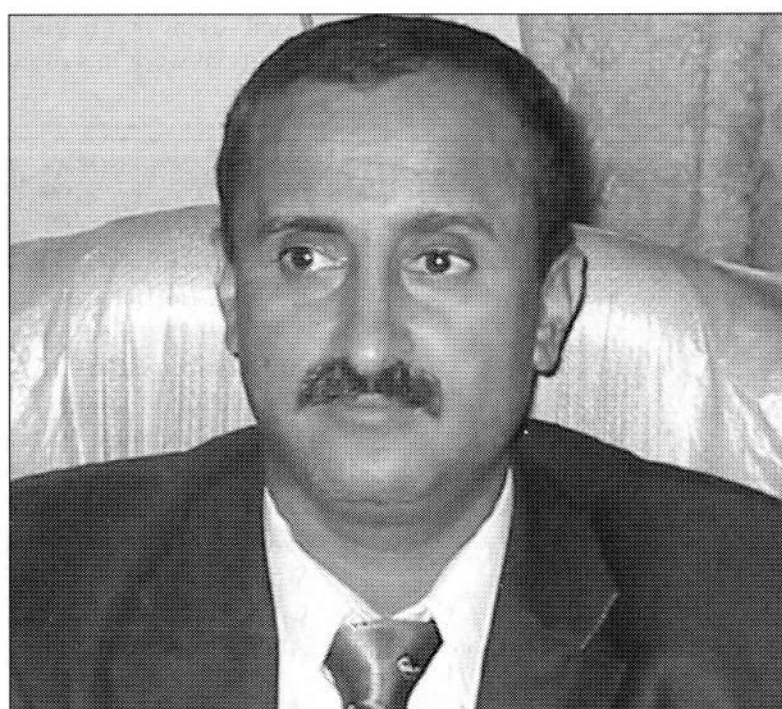
Additional 200 million Riyals have been allocated for lighting up streets at Al-Mansourah and or to replace previous ones.

"The rehabilitation of Al-Dureen region as an industrial zone and furnishing it with all related-infrastructure equipment would commence after some problems related to construction permits to establish housings were solved. Directives have been given to grant any permits in order to avoid inconsistencies with rehabilitation of Al-Dureen region as an industrial region. As far as previous housing, coordination will take place between the executive authority of the project and owners of houses in order to reach an agreement on how to submit the designed model for the region and future activities", said Mr. Abdul Jaleel.

He confirmed that the intended rehabilitation of Al-Dureen region is an industrial one to all shops, plants and transformation factories while taking into consideration the environment aspect. "The concept of an industrial zone in Al-Dureen came about with the aim to prevent further disturbances and pollution to the environment many of the residential neighborhoods suffering from at Al-Mansourah province in particular and in Aden Governorate in general. It will be a model for industrial zone", said the Director General.

With regard to the educational operation in the province,

"75 million Riyals have been allocated for building of five schools, three of which are already under construction and the other two are also



Mr. Yousef Ali Abdul Jaleel, Director General of Al-Mansourah district

included in the plan for the year 2004, at the state's expense", said Mr. Yousef Abdul Jaleel.

As far as the renovation of old schools, Mr. Abdul Jaleel confirmed that there is a plan in the investment program for the year 2005 and that schools' bathrooms have been rehabilitated by the Public Works authority. In addition, Al-Sharouq Kindergarten has been rehabilitated in order to play its role beside Muaeen Kindergarten.

With regard to the situation of the poor in the province, Mr. Abdul Jaleel said that three measures have been taken to handle the situation:

First: To involve as many as possible in the social security network.

Second: As many citizens as possible from the province will be merged in the projects to be carried out soon in the asphalted and illuminating processes and in other fields of work.

Third: We have worked to determine the number of unemployed labor force through field surveys carried out by members of the local council in order to calculate their numbers and qualification in order to get actual knowledge of the true indicators to find solutions within the future plans in the province in the frame of investment program for

the year 2005. As well, the Social Affairs Office has been assigned by the Local Council to reckon the number of available associations (charitable) in the province and to examine their foundations' documents in coordination with the Social Affairs Committee at the Local Council. Soon a meeting will be held with these associations in order to determine and to correct aspects of deficiencies and shortfalls. The associations which have not completed legal procedure will be notified on that.

As far as the treatment of situation concerning the random constructions in the province, it requires collective efforts of the leadership of the governorate and the province and of the related authorities. Mr. Abdul Jaleel said that works have commenced in the eradication of unauthorized constructions on streets such as fences and bookstores. And concerning the situation of the illegally built inhabited homes, it will be dealt with in the second phase of the plan until the completion of other technical works related to asphalt, illumination.

Mr. Abdul Jaleel alluded to the health situation in the province by saying, "Efforts are being exerted to utilize all available health facilities. Soon, Al-Mansourah Hospital will be inaugurated after the required preparations are completed. A Health Center, equipped with all administrating and technical requirements with a qualified medical team at Al-Gaherah region was opened last week, where more than 20 thousand citizens would be able to benefit from.

The difficulties facing the province

"Any work must face difficulties", said the Director. However, he summarized the difficulties facing the province in the following:

- Shortage in administrative capabilities, offices and machines.
- The homes built long time ago and are currently inhabited, which require gradual process for their removal.
- The uncompleted infrastructures of the executive apparatuses of ministries and the unstructured of some others according to the law of the local authority and executive regulations. Some offices such as electricity, water and sanitation are still working according to the previous administration division, inconsistent with new administration division.

Exchange Rate for the Yemeni Rial

Currency	Buying	Selling
US Dollar	184.4500	184.6600
Sterling Pound	325.4100	325.7800
Euro	218.2700	218.5200
Saudi Rial	49.1800	49.2400
Kuwaiti Dinar	625.6800	626.3900
UAE Dirhem	260.2200	260.2800
Egyptian Pound	29.6600	29.6900
Bahraini Dinar	489.2600	489.8200
Qatari Rial	50.6600	50.7200
Jordanian Dinar	260.1600	260.4500
Omani Rial	479.1100	479.6600
Swiss Franc	141.4300	141.5900
Swedish Crown	23.8100	23.8300
Japanese Yen	1.6237	1.6255

Source: Central Bank of Yemen



Vacancies

Yemeni Nationals

Canadian Nexen Yemen Limited – CNYL, Block 51

1. Buyer 2

Location: Block 51 East Al-Hajr – Hadhramout
Department: Logistics
Schedule: 28 days on/28 days off

Job Duties:

- Purchases goods and services for CNYL Block 51 Operations, using the SAP Materials Management module, and following established company purchasing procedures.
- Responsible for local, regional and International purchasing general to Oil Field supplies, automotive, construction, office equipment, lubricants etc.
- Maintains local vendor database.
- Assists in the development of supply agreements, administers supply agreements, and prepares vendor evaluations for delivery, quality and overall execu-

- tion.
- Responsible for the investigation and resolution of OS&D's.

Minimum Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in Business Administration or equivalent and 5 years purchasing experience in the Oil & Gas industry. Two years of supervisory experience preferred.
- Excellent English skills, spoken and written.
- Advanced PC Skills.
- Basic understanding of accounting practices.
- Strong knowledge of supply chain management, and basic contract experience.
- SAP skills preferred
- Ability to work in a multicultural environment

2. Customs Coordinator, Exemptions and Clearance

Location: Block 51 East Al-Hajr – Hadhramout
Department: Logistics
Schedule: 28 days on/28 days off

Job Duties:

- Ensures import documentation is accurate and expedites the custom clearance process.
- Follows up with the Customs Agents to ensure that exemptions are received in accordance with government regulations, which is essential for full cost recovery.
- Maintains the Lotus Notes database that tracks Nexen's duty liability, and ensures that all material imports and exports are recorded.
- Provides assistance for unusual situations involving freight and inspections

- requirements.
- Meets with Customs Agents and Government Officials to ensure that all materials are cleared and exemptions processed in a timely manner.

Minimum Requirements:

- Completion of grade 12.
- 5 years experience in customs clearance, similar or related experience.
- SAP experience preferred.
- PC literate with strong skills in MS Word, Excel and Lotus Notes.
- International Oil and Gas experienced preferred.
- Fluent in Arabic and English.
- Ability to work effectively in a multi-cultural environment.

3. Marshalling Yard Coordinator

Location: Block 51 East Al-Hajr – Hadhramout
Department: Logistics
Schedule: 28 days on/28 days off

Job Duties:

- Directs and participates in issuing, staging, storing and tracking activities for Project or Facilities materials requests.
- Ensures materials handling equipment such as loaders, forklifts and cranes are used in a safe and efficient manner with certified operators.

- Assigns contractor resources depending on nature, location and priority of work to be done.

Minimum Requirements:

- Completion of grade 12.
- 3 years warehouse Operations experience or equivalent.
- Good Arabic and English language skills (oral and written).
- Ability to work in a multicultural environment.

4. Receiving Coordinator

Location: Block 51 East Al-Hajr – Hadhramout
Department: Logistics
Schedule: 28 days on/28 days off

Job Duties:

- Co-ordinates all receiving functions for materials delivered into Yemen by verifying transactions are complete in MEPAW and SAP, and that the material is presented for distribution.
- Compares material received with Purchase Order details to ensure accurate records are maintained.
- Responsible for shipping material to the Terminal, Sana'a or direct to port for Export.

- Responds to end user requests with timely and accurate information.

Minimum Requirements:

- Completion of grade 12
- 5 years warehouse operations experience including 2 years in shipping and receiving or equivalent.
- Good PC skills required. Proficient in Excel and Word.
- SAP knowledge an asset.
- Working knowledge of MEPAW interface.
- Good Arabic and English language skills (oral and written).
- Ability to work effectively in a multicultural environment.

If you have the requirements for one of the posts mentioned above please send your CV to the following address **NOT later than June 1st, 2004.**

Canadian Nexen Yemen Ltd.
Human Resources
P.O. Box 19010, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen
Fax No. 01-413046
Attention: Human Resources Manager

Please don't call us; we will call you if you were selected for test and interview

Students' week celebrated in Sayun

BY SAEED OMER AL-BATATI

The Faculties of Education and Applied Sciences-Sayun (Hadramout University) celebrated Students' Week from 10 to 16 May 2004.

The inaugural ceremony was attended by the deans of both colleges, Prof. Salwan K. Al-Ani and Prof. Mohammed A. Al-Kathiri, teaching staff and a large number of students. The ceremony began with readings from the Holy Quran. Then, Prof. Al-Kathiri said in a speech that the week coincided with the celebration of the 14th anniversary of the unification. He pointed out that Yemen has witnessed a huge shakeup in all aspects of life since that unforgettable day. "It is a turning point in Yemen history" he added. He said also that this week is considered an opportunity to show all sorts of creativity. After the ceremony both deans cut the ribbons of the show-rooms, where walls were decorated with paintings, pictures and cre-



During the award ceremony

ative works of the students. On the third day a three-act play, was performed. Its theme can be summarized by the proverb "If there is a will, there is a way".

This year, the Students' Week held under the motto of "Sanaa - the capital of Arab culture".

On the last day, Prof. Al-Ani gave a speech in which he praised the effort



Audience watching students' performance

of the organizing committee in planning and arranging the activities of the week

Later, local poets delivered some Bedouin poems in praise of President

Salah and the Iraqi and Palestinian resistance.

Finally, distinguished students in the first term were honoured by the deans of the two colleges.

So old, yet so new...

DR. M. N. K. BOSE, IBB UNIVERSITY, IBB.

I listened to Professor Thakur's talk on *the Gita* for the third time running on 30 April 2004 at the Indian Embassy auditorium, Sana'a. As Professor A.K. Sharma, who welcomed the audience to the talk on behalf of the India Embassy Club, the organizers of the talk, said, "every time you listen to the talk on *Gita*, you get a new meaning; it is an ocean, dive deep into it, you will not come out empty-handed", now I realize a new meaning, a new notion and a new outlook of human life.

Professor Thakur in his inimitable and enviable simplicity of expression, made us realize that *the Gita*, which

was written thousands of years ago, is ultra modern in its scientific perspectives, revealing most of what the 20th century neo-scientists such as quantum physicists, cosmologists and ecologists have found out after years of research and hard work.

The quantum theory which demolished the atomistic, mechanistic and reductionistic theories proposed that reality is nothing but relatedness and interconnectedness, which is what we find in *the Gita* in these words: "all that is here in the universe is on me like pearls on a thread; Understand me in everything, everything in me, everything in everything". The concept of reality, as *the Gita* presents, is a web of interconnections, and that is why the famous scientist, Oppenheimer, with his sound knowledge of Indian writings in Sanskrit,

said "what the quantum theory has to say has already been said by the mystics of the East". In addition to the oneness of reality, the quantum theory revealed that 'the event and the observer are not separable and they are one'; This concept that the subject and the object, the seer and the seen are not different has been stated in *the Gita* clearly in Sri Krishna's words to Arjuna: "You think you are the object and I am the subject. No. You and I are one". I am Dhananjaya among Pandavas...

The Cosmologists of the 20th century are struggling to prove that the universe began from nothing; it keeps on expanding up to a point and then keeps contracting and this phenomenon will continue forever. *The Gita*, which was nothing but 'revealed intuition' gave us this message long ago.

The Ecologists who say "don't spoil the earth; if you treat the earth with respect, you are treating yourself with respect; learn from the earth, etc" are not saying anything newer than what Sri Krishna said in *the Gita* thousands of years ago: "I am Garuda among the birds, I'm the moon among the stars; I'm Himalayas among the immovable things; I'm lion among the beasts" advising us to respect the animate and inanimate things on the earth so that we respect ourselves.

It is also not surprising to hear the super medicos of this century proclaiming that anger is destructive to human health, because *the Gita* proclaimed it long ago in these words: "anger leads to delusion, which leads to bewilderment and to loss of intelligence and finally to destruction". In fact, the holy scripture went a step fur-

ther to suggest a solution, which the super medicos are not able to; it suggested that one should get attached to 'a Krishna', namely, his or her God.

Professor Thakur concluded his talk with his oft-repeated message from *the Gita* that the secret of the success of life is in harmony not in division, in unicity not in plurality, in oneness not in multiplicity. What most of us in the audience, along with Mr. Karuppaiah, the honourable Indian Ambassador to Yemen, who expressed his admiration and gratitude to Professor Thakur for the excellent talk, felt that we need a Thakur to take us through *the Gita* again and again to unravel its mysteries hitherto untold, and make us realize the new meaning, as he sees it, everytime. This was also reiterated by Professor Abraham, who thanked the audience on behalf of the Club.

Immigration to the West

BY FATMA AL-AJEL FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

Many people leave their countries to other countries to look for the rest of their lives. They do that for one reason or another. Emigrants from Arab countries travel to the New world, the US, Brazil, Canada...etc, because of the good job opportunities that are available in these countries.

There are several reasons for thinking of immigration. Some reasons are major and the others are minor. The emigrants who emigrate to the western world live in these societies and their life becomes a kind of conflict between their Islamic instructions and what they see in these societies. In this case, even the Muslim immigrant is affected or influenced by these societies' concepts and traditions.

They are divided into two kinds. Many immigrants are active; they travel to gain knowledge or develop their personalities and earn money. There is nothing which affects their religious instructions. They move from one place to another to work hard. They explain the real meaning of Islam. They become good examples, a real picture about Arabs and their life.

On the other hand, there are many

immigrants who reflect a different picture of Islam and Muslims. They travel to the West and they don't know the aims of their travel. They spend their time and money they spoil their children who grow up in these countries. In addition to that the children lose their identities and miss their birth place. They feel no responsibility for anything, they look like the western people, and they ignore their traditions and customs. The western culture affects their personalities and characters.

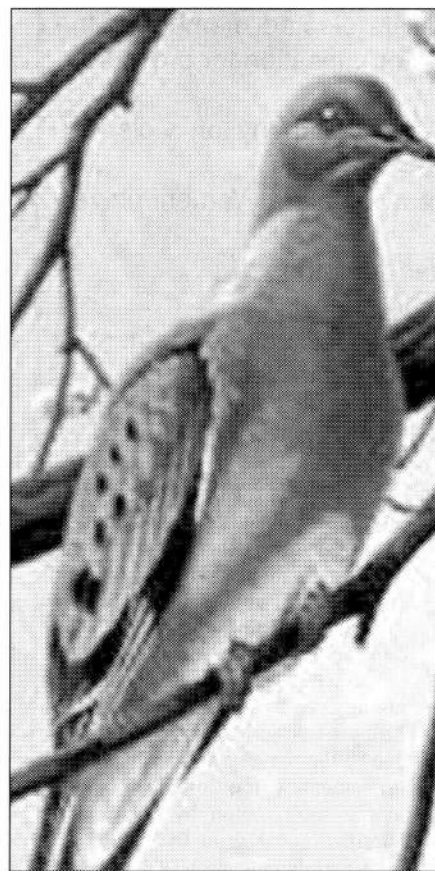
Muslim immigrants face a lot of problems after 11th September events. Western nations think that Islam is a symbol of terrorism and Muslims are terrorists. As a result of these events, western people hate immigrants, especially the Muslim immigrants without thinking of their job for no reason; just because they are Muslims. There becomes a kind of paranoia. In this time, Muslims in the West have responsibilities to change the bad opinion of the Western nations. They must show them that our religion is great and what the real meaning of Islam is. Islam means peace. Islamic instructions stand against war. In addition to that, Muslims should be honest with people faithfully, because our religion orders us to be like that. When a Muslim performs his duties and implements Islamic instructions, he will live a peaceful and comfortable life.

Pigeon racing in Aden

BY: MOHAMMAD SAEED AL-MEKHLAFI YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The phenomenon of Zajel pigeons racing is prominent. International races for pigeons are held in different countries around the world. The most famous of them is in Barcelona, where large amounts of money are paid for the winning pigeons, reaching up to one million dollars.

In Yemen, the first "Zajel" pigeons society was established in Aden on 16th April 2004. Student Helmi Salman Ahmed, Faculty of Education, English Department of Aden University, is the source of the idea of establishing such a society. It is known that "Zajel" pigeons provide humans many services, in both peace and war. In peace for example, pigeons helped people in Egypt when they suffer drought. When the Pharaoh heard that there was a lot of corn at Syria, then he sent 100 pigeons with his messenger to Syria, who placed on the pigeons' legs two seeds for each pigeon, that is 200 seeds. Then he released the pigeons and when the pigeons came



Carrier pigeon

back to Egypt the corn was planted and helped Egypt to recover from the drought.

Once, one ship's engine stopped in the ocean, and they had no any communications with the control center or anyone to help them. Fortunately, one boy among the people on the ship had one Zajel pigeon. They wrote a message and sent it with the pigeon and it reached its home, where the man who trained it found the message and told the appropriate authorities the location of the ship was saved, allowing it to be saved.

In war, on the other hand, the Zajel pigeons were used to carry very secret messages to the military bases, in which the enemy's situation and his locations were explained. There are many other examples of the help that Zajel offered to humans, and what is mentioned here is a drop in an ocean of Zajel services. We have to thank Dr. Yahya Al-Shaibee, Governor of Aden, for his approval of the establishment of this society, hoping honest people will offer needed facilities to raise this project, which is unique in Yemen, and hope they give the project good stimulation and care.

CHANGE She Wrote

In memory of Nicholas Berg

BY SADAF SHAH MSADAFSHAH@YAHOO.CA FOR THE YEAMEN TIMES

In my article last week, I condemned the prison abuse scandal and called for the demolition of Abu Ghraib prison.

This week, my humanity compels me to write about the horrifying death of an ordinary American who lost his life only for being in the wrong place at the wrong time. I did not know Nicholas Berg at all. In fact, the first time I saw him was on the news right before his beheading.

I am appalled that those crazy terrorists justified his murder in the name of Islam. I mourn for all those innocent people, no matter what their race or religion is, who are caught in the middle of this stupefying 'war on terror'.

And yet, somehow, the main players of this war do not seem to care. They do not care who gets killed, as long as it is not them. Apologies are thrown across the board and then, everything is forgotten.

Why should we forget Nick Berg and all those 'other' people who lost their meaningful lives? Why should we not hold our 'responsible' government officials accountable for the loss of such an extraordinary high number of lives? Just like Saddam Hussein, George Bush, Donald Rumsfeld and all of his top military officials should be charged with crimes against humanity.

Throw in Putin for his role in Chechnya and Sharon for his merciless killing spree in Palestine. All of these high-ranking government officials held accountable in the same manner as Osama bin Laden and all those other terrorist organizations that willingly attack a civilian population based on their color, creed, or religion. The world should be shown 'live' that to commit crimes against humanity is unacceptable and will be dealt with most harshly.

Building monuments and engraving the victims' names on a wall are not enough. We need to lobby our governments to look into this matter seriously and consider all of humanity as one.

Citizens of the world are dying and I refuse to stand by and watch. I am truly sorry for the gruesome killing of Nicholas Berg. I am sorry that his murder was committed in the name of Islam, for Islam has never sanctioned the killing of non-combatants.

It is my passionate belief that no religion in the world can sanction such crimes; no matter how passionately Bush, Sharon, or bin Laden believes in themselves and their cause.

The example of the Holy Prophet

Muhammad, the Holy Prophet of Islam fought some wars during his lifetime and never, ever were any civilians targeted or killed. After a battle, prisoners of war were either ransomed or exchanged for prisoners of war of either side. Never were any civilian homes destroyed or infrastructure even targeted. There were strict rules of battle that were adhered to at all times. It is surprising now that Muslims have resorted to terrorism, which is considered worse than killing in Islam. These Muslims are misguided and misled into believing in their cause. They are used as pawns; just like neo-conservative Christians use their version of Christianity to further their cause. Jesus preached to offer the other cheek in response to a slap on the face. However, we see that Bush and Rumsfeld drop bombs in response to terror. That is the way to go! Kill more civilians! For their only crime is to supposedly live in a region where terrorists are suspected of hiding! The response of the terrorists is no less horrifying. They forget that the religion of peace, in whose name they apparently commit murder, amazingly lays a powerful emphasis on love for mankind and on the vital importance of showing mercy and sympathy towards all creatures of God Almighty. For indeed, love and true sympathy are the very antidote of terrorism. By committing acts of terrorism, these people place themselves further away from the God they believe they are pleasing. Offering the blood of His creation cannot please God!

Yemeni Press, A week in review

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr

Al-Thawri weekly,
organ of the YSP, 13
May 2004.

In his article this week columnist Abdeh Farie Nouman says if the Arabs were sincere with their cause with a unified stand and one anti-imperialism word, they would have really been the best among nations and the strongest. They possess the strategic geographical position and possess the huge wealth extending over the area of the Arab homeland. In other words they possess in their hands the interests of America and the west. The Arabs could strangle imperialism and Zionism and put them in a bottleneck if they sincerely unified their ranks and did not divulge their secrets or sell them cheaply immediately after concluding their meetings. They can renew the building of their contemporary history. But the period of intellectual decline and division the Arabs live has as effect as the enemies have been able to study the psychology components of the Arab mentality and its traditions and history and benefited to the utmost from coining their greed and ambitions and visions in controlling the course of life, especially in how to deal with the Arabs.

Nevertheless the Arab solidarity is presently depicted in results of the latest meeting of the Arab foreign ministers that yielded steps and measures that may herald some thing good for supporting struggle of the Palestinian people whose effect spreads all over the Arab homeland. That end would not be realized unless that enthusiasm is changed into an established awareness unifying the Arab nation's regimes and organisations to stand up for backing the uprising of the Palestinian people.

Al-Sahwa weekly, 13
May 2004.

Columnist Zaid al-Shami says in an article that the issue of torturing Iraqi prisoners at Abu Ghraib prison constitutes a mark on the forehead of the western civilization in general and has exposed the defect of the American false calls for respect of human rights and the call for freedom. It is meanwhile a slap dealt to the face of every Arab and Muslim and another evidence that the ruling regimes in our Arab and Islamic world have had their fervor and sense of responsibility frozen inside their veins, as no reaction have been issued by them against the brutality and size of the crime and have not even risen to the level of some western countries reactions.

After all that happened in this regard what has remained of the slogans of freedom, democracy and human rights which American claimed to be the pioneer and defender? All of us have seen the images of humiliation practiced by the occupation forces while happiness is drawn on their faces, entertaining the acts of torture and violation of prisoners' honour and humanity.

Back to ourselves as peoples and rulers to see what must be done to obliterate this shame before thinking of punishing the doers? Protest and demonstration of pain is something required but we have to raise the ceiling of that protest in terms of the people and the state. Why should not angry demonstrations are allowed to take to the streets, why our ambassadors are called back home even for a while from the coalition countries as an expression of resentment and denunciation? We have to summon ambassadors of the occupying states to inform them on the popular and official protest and resentment. Why is not the issue aroused at the UN Security Council and its general assembly? Why don't we embark on a campaign for supporting the people of Iraq materially and morally?

Al-Shumou weekly, 15
May 2004.

Columnist A'del Ahmed Saif writes saying what is happening now in Iraq was clear from the very beginning but it does appear and its ambiguity is removed day by

Main Headlines

- American embassy makes an inroad into Journalists Syndicate,
- CIA entrusts a woman to train journalists on detecting terrorists
- Ministry of constructions embark on demolishing citizens' houses in Aden
- Interior minister: We foiled a plot for assassinating the American ambassador
- Government to deprive 50 thousand students of university education
- World Bank warns against drop in oil production in Yemen
- Heads of state attending the Arab summit in Tunis, ceremonial
- Parliamentary report discloses 365 crimes by refugees
- Parliamentary report reveals incapability of the Coast Guard
- Intensive security measures to receive tourists
- Dr al-Iryani stresses the necessity of deepening the culture of dialogue and tolerance and abandonment of that of fanaticism and extremism
- A field study unveils phenomenon of trafficking Yemeni children to neighbouring countries
- Parliamentarians describe Bajammal with bankruptcy, call for his accountability
- Yemeni-Egyptian Higher Committee meetings postponed till mid June
- Diplomatic sources: most Arab League resolutions on Iraq derived from Yemeni initiative
- Amidst bewildering ambiguity, operations of kidnapping Iraqi scientists escalate in Iraq
- In a parliamentary report,
- Most of refugees are elements practiced war crimes
- America demands replacement of Arabic alphabets by Latin characters
- PM Bajammal opens fire on parliament, private sector, YSP and Islah
- Hand grenade explodes in Eman mosque in Sana'a
- American companies prepare to trade with films depicting raping of Iraq woman prisoners
- European diplomat: America tries to disclose torture practices in the Arab countries to hide its scandal
- Trafficking children and girls to the KSA
- Reports on torturing Yemenis in Abu Ghraib prison
- UNHCR works for re-settle Yemeni migrants in European countries
- Security team to interview Yemeni detainees in Guantanamo
- Higher studies students in Saudi Arabia cut their studies due education corruption and financial reasons
- Five-year sentence for a Yemeni in America against backdrop of the case of Sheikh Sa'tar
- Iraq's foreign minister Zibari refuses presentation of Yemen's plan on Iraq at the Arab summit
- Iraqi resistance would stand firmly against a scheme for internationalization of the Iraqi issue and imposition of guardianship on its people and riches
- Chairman of Yemeni journalists elected member of the executive council of the Arab organisation for press freedom
- American soldier gives a new testimony on violations against Iraqi prisoners
- Save for specializations not available at Yemeni universities,
- Granting scholarships abroad are stopped
- During its visit to Free Zone in Aden,
- Belgian senate delegation promises encouragement of Belgian and European investments in Yemen
- American pressures on human rights organisations to open files of torture in Arab countries

day. America's intention was not riding the people of Iraq from the tyrannous ruler, as it alleged, or getting rid of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. A few days ago Bush declared that he was not willing to relinquish Iraq as his father did in 199. And this is a clear indication and public disclosure of the American goals in Iraq.

What America has done and is doing in Iraq of killing, demolition of houses and terrorization of children and women as well as torturing of prisoners immorally has not been committed by Saddam Hussein himself who was accused of oppression and torture of

his people. What has happened in Abu Ghraib prison is the best evidence of the American rancour on all of the Arabs and about the extent of America's readiness to suppress freedoms and oppress peoples for the sake of its interests. Here is Bush announces his deserve to be re-elected for presidency of America for a second term due to the bravery he has displayed in implementing the American schemes in the Arab region by coercion and humiliation. Despite the world reactions and denunciation of what is happening in Iraq of violations and crimes the Arabs have not show any response

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By Samer A.



and their leaders have not uttered even words of denunciation or protest.

Al-Wahdawi weekly,
organ of the Nasserite
Unionist Organisation,
11 May 2004.

The political editor of the newspaper says the weakness of opposition that all of its representation in parliament has not given it more than quarter the size of representation is not an evidence of popularity or success of the ruling system. It rather is an indication of a horrible failure depending on all means of power and influence and polarization of majority towards it and with it. It uses the simplest of rights and the least of things for the simplest stand trying to trespass the lines of that majority or exceed any of its boundaries. It seems there is no other issue but that of showing the opposition in the position of the weak.

It is the right of each position to criticize another to help it for the reform of itself because any imbalance at any of the two positions means failure in the pursuit of the political system. When criticism aimed for reform does not receive acceptance it is normal to have opposition happened and it must be subject to responsible dialogue that would rectify the criticism and restores he state of equilibrium and achieves meeting at concepts supporting that system.

Al-Nahar weekly, 13
May 2004.

The writer Abdulbari Tahir says the invasion and occupation are the origin of crime and torture in jails, despite of its ugliness, remains an indivisible part of the great offence, i.e. the aggression on people and a nation, occupation of the land, and raping of everything. It is the destruction of the Iraqi state, plundering antiquities dating back to thousands of years and dismembering the unity of Iraq is the epidemic that gives birth to all crimes, including the destruction of mosques, besieging cities and demolition of houses on heads of their inhabitants as well as cases of continued storming, as Israel does in Palestine. International condemnation of the torture and inhumane practices is no longer enough and therefore there must be a concentration on the occupation itself because it is the essence of all calamities. The Arab nation is called for solidarity with the Iraqis and the Palestinians who are confronting with their chests and bodies the most criminal military force in this time.

Al-Balagh weekly, 11
May 2004.

The editor in chief of the newspaper says in his article we are not surprised or astonished about those flagrant violations that have been practiced against our brethren the Iraqi prisoners at the hands of soldiers of the United States of America. We also do not fell sur-

prised about the report referred to the American secretary of defence about those practices more than four months before the disclosure of the scandal. It is not a surprise because we know fully hat an administration that launched a war on Iraq without justifications is a one practicing crime in all of its forms. An administration that supports all shapes of terror practiced by the Israelis against the Palestinians is a terrorist administration that is surviving on a terrorist basis using all sorts of crime.

Disclosure of those crimes and practices is dropping he mask of this administration perhaps those among us who claim that America as an example to follow suit in order to go back to reason and to realize that the safety boat would only be in clinging to what would bring good in life and afterlife.

No doubt the American administration after the scandal would turn to exercise pressures on the Arab regimes to practice more pressure on their peoples but we would like to call the attention that the right path to face the American pressures would be via reconciliation with the peoples and not by practicing more pressures on the peoples. The Iraqi regime fell as a result of non-reconciliation with the people of Iraq who stood as spectator watching the drama of the American attack till Iraq fell and then the resistance began after the people realized the actual fall of the regime.

Here we want to warn the Arab rulers and regimes to the importance of inter-relationship with the peoples and to find a mechanism of dealing with he peoples and to reject all sorts of violence and torture practiced against the peoples, whether they are inside public prisons or private jails.

Al-Mithaq weekly,
organ of the General
People's Congress, 10
May 2004.

Columnist Iskander al-Asbahi says in an article that there is a linking connection between security and enhancement of the state strength. Politics decides that the more the state power is the more stable its security is.

That is the equation according to which the states achieve their security. Pondering the Yemeni scene, there appears before us a fact that Yemen has the ability to realize this equation.

During the last year and this year Yemen has witnessed a recession in terrorist operations and almost ended after Yemen was a target of international terror hat exposed it to various kinds of dangers and losses. Even under the weighing burden of its suffering from terror Yemen has not abandoned democracy and human rights and has not resorted to taking measures violating constitution in fighting terror but rather managed to defeat I because it realizes that democracy and human rights is one of the strong sources of its might as a state. It dealt with fighting terror through security dealing within the framework of the law. That does not imply that Yemen should loosen its grip in this regard as long as it has become free from terror but should remain alert and open-eyed in facing all that can threaten its security y and stability.

26 September week-
ly, organ of Yemen
Armed Forces, 13
May 2004.

Columnist Ahmed Nasser al-Shareef says in his article that we all fully agree with president Bush announcement of his apology in his name and on behalf of his administration leaders to the Iraqi people for the scandal of mistreatment of Iraqi prisoners of war by his soldier at Abu Ghraib prison when he said they did not represent the American people. Bush was quite right in that. They did not represent the American people but rather represent the American administration that he is on its head which in its turn does not represent the American people and the proof is that this administration head assumed power under a ruling of a court and not by the people's will.

Thus what those soldiers and officers have perpetrated is but a reflection of what the American administration is doing of inhumane practices not only in Iraq but against a number of world peoples. The best evidence is the facts that are everyday being disclosed about the massacres and unsightly crimes and tortures at Abu Ghraib prison and other prisons in Afghanistan and Guantanamo at the hands of the American and British occupation troops.

The crimes the American forces are committing in Iraq have made the former regime's history brighter if compared with that of the American record.

مرحباً طارق

أجمل التهاني والتبريكات نهدبها الأستاذ/

عبد العزيز شريان

بمناسبة إرتزاقه مولوده البكر طارق

«جعل الله فرقة عين والده وأنبته نباتاً حسناً وبارك فيه»

المهنتون: الزيري محمد الذيب، هاني محمد الذيب، نصري أبو بكر السقاف.

موظفي بنك أندوسويس وكافة آل الذيب

Game five win puts flames on verge of Stanley Cup berth

NEW YORK (Reuters) - The Calgary Flames cruised to a 3-0 win over the San Jose Sharks Monday to move within one victory of clinching a place in the Stanley Cup finals.

Jarome Iginla opened the scoring with a shorthanded, unassisted goal after six minutes and Miikka Kiprusoff made 19 saves as the Flames took a 3-2 lead in the Western Conference finals.

If the Flames win Game Six in the best-of-seven series at home Wednesday, they will advance to the Stanley Cup finals for the first time since winning the trophy in 1989.

The road team has won every game in the series and the Flames continued the unusual sequence by jumping all over the host Sharks in the first period, outshooting San Jose 12-6.

Calgary has won eight road games this post-season and is closing in on the all-time NHL record of 10 playoff road wins, set by the New Jersey Devils in 1995 and 2000.

Kiprusoff rebounded with the shutout after struggling in San Jose's 4-2 triumph in Game Four Sunday.

"It wasn't my best night last night but you can't think about those things,"



Calgary Flames goalie Miikka Kiprusoff makes a save against the San Jose Sharks during Game 5 of the NHL Western Conference final at the HP Pavilion in San Jose May 17.

he told reporters.

"It was a new game today and we did great...they have some players who are good behind the net but we did a good job on them."

The sixth-seeded Flames are hoping to become the first Canadian team to reach the Stanley Cup finals since the

Vancouver Canucks lost to the New York Rangers in 1994.

The San Jose fans booed their team off the ice at the end of the second and third periods as the Sharks lost their fourth straight home game in the playoffs.

After Iginla opened the scoring at

6:27, Marcus Nilson grabbed his third goal of the playoffs two minutes later to double Calgary's advantage. Craig Conroy added an unassisted goal at 10:26 of the second period.

Evgeni Nabokov made 18 saves in goal for San Jose as the Flames outshot the Sharks 21-19.

Police Sports Union Organizes Marathon

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF
TAIZ BUREAU

Sunday, 16 May 2004, Taiz Police Sports Union, Taiz Branch, organized a running marathon championship on the occasion of the 14th National Day, for the cup of the late Col. Mohamed Abdullah Saleh.

500 competitors from the security and military camps and sports clubs in Taiz Governorate took part in the championship. The marathon started

from the gate of various factories belonging to Al-Saeed group in Houban to the gate of the Central Security Camp at the wholesale market.

At the end of the marathon, a celebration was held attended by Brig. Dr. Ahmed Mohamed Al-Olefy, Director of Security in Taiz and the commanders of Central Security, Police and Military Camps participating in the marathon. At the end of the celebration prizes were awarded to the winners.



Prizes awarded to winners in marathon organized by police sports union, Taiz branch

Stojakovic, Miller help kings force series decider

SACRAMENTO (Reuters) - Peja Stojakovic scored 22 points and Brad Miller contributed 17 as the Sacramento Kings defeated the Minnesota Timberwolves 104-87 in the Western Conference semi-finals on Sunday to force a series decider.

The winner of Wednesday's Game Seven in Minnesota will play the Los Angeles Lakers for a berth in the NBA Finals.

The Timberwolves got off to a fast start thanks to four three-point shots from Latrell Sprewell.

Sacramento eventually battled back from a nine-point deficit to lead 57-44 at the half after Stojakovic's three-pointer at the first half buzzer.

"Unbelievable game," Sacramento coach Rick Adelman said.

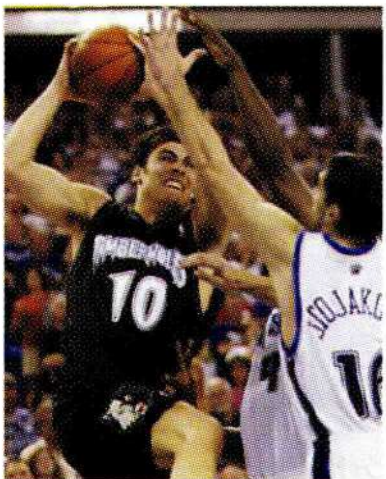
"Both teams played so wild and so hard. We just hoped we'd have some people to survive and get in there."

It was also a physical game, as evident by a tussle with 13.5 seconds left in the third quarter.

Minnesota's Kevin Garnett and Anthony Peeler of the Kings threw elbows, ending with the ejection of Peeler and a technical on Garnett.

"It's always the guy that responds that is the one that gets suspended or ejected," Peeler said.

"So if I get suspended or ejected I think that he (Garnett) should as well.



Minnesota Timberwolves Wally Szczerbiak (10) is blocked by Sacramento Kings Peja Stojakovic (16) in the fourth quarter of Game 6 of the NBA Western Conference semifinals at the Arco Arena in Sacramento, California, May 16, 2004. Reuters

We were both out there battling and for one goal and that is to win."

After Peeler's ejection the Kings had great contribution from Rodney Buford off the bench with seven fast points after the technicals

"Rodney was huge," Adelman said.

"With Anthony gone and Mike

(Bibby) and Doug (Christie) with five fouls, it was huge he came in and did that."

Sacramento was in control for most of the game, with Bibby turning in a strong performance despite being in foul trouble for most of the game

Bibby had 16 points, 10 assists and five rebounds, while Chris Webber added 14 points, seven rebounds and three assists after boldly predicting a seventh game.

Christie added 16 points for the Kings and played his strong defensive game against Garnett, the regular season MVP.

Sprewell lead the Timberwolves with 27 points.

Garnett added 19 points, 10 rebounds and five assists for the T-Wolves, but had trouble moving against Christie for most of the game.

Sam Cassell had 16 points for Minnesota, but fouled out with 2:32 to go.

Up until this season, the Timberwolves have never been past the first round of the playoffs but are now just a win away from the conference finals.

The Kings had dropped three straight home games to Minnesota this season, including Game Three of this series, but have won the last two at Arco Arena to send the series to a deciding game.

Twins score four runs in ninth to down blue Jays

TORONTO (Reuters) - Jacque Jones recorded a tie-breaking homer to spark a four-run burst in the top of the ninth inning which led the Minnesota Twins to a 9-5 victory over the host Toronto Blue Jays in the American League (AL) Monday.

Lew Ford, Torii Hunter and Jones all hit two-run homers as the Twins won for the sixth time in seven games.

Hunter led off the ninth with a double and Jones followed by knocking a pitch from reliever Michael Nakamura out of the park to give Minnesota a 7-5 lead.

Michael Cuddyer also scored on an error by Toronto catcher Kevin Cash before Cristian Guzman added a run-scoring single.

The Blue Jays were down 5-2 but fought back with three runs in the seventh to tie the game off Minnesota starter Brad Radke and reliever JC Romero.

Juan Rincon (6-2) came on in the eighth to get five outs for the win. He did not allow a hit over 1 2/3 innings while striking out five batters and walking one.

Aaron Fultz came on to pick up the last out in the ninth and earn his first save of the season.

Matthew LeCroy had two hits and scored two runs for the Twins while Ford, Hunter and Jones all had two hits to lead Minnesota's 13-hit attack.

Nakamura (0-2) pitched one inning,



Minnesota Twins base runner Michael Cuddyer (top) scores over Toronto Blue Jays catcher Kevin Cash during ninth inning American league play in Toronto, May 17. Reuters

allowing three runs, two earned, on three hits to take the loss. Starter Ted Lilly went 5 2/3 innings, giving up five runs on seven hits.

Frank Menechino went 3-for-4 and drove in two runs for the Blue Jays, who have lost five out of seven despite splitting a four-game series with the Boston Red Sox at SkyDome on the weekend.

Carlos Delgado, Frank Catalanotto and Cash drove in the other runs for Toronto.

In the other AL game played Monday, Victor Martinez had three hits

and drove in three runs to give the host Cleveland Indians their fifth straight win, a 7-2 decision over the Chicago White Sox.

Cliff Lee (5-0) went five innings for the victory, allowing one run on two hits with three strikeouts and three walks. Travis Hafner and Matt Lawton both drove in two runs for the Indians.

Felix Diaz (0-1) went 4 1/3 innings, surrendering six runs on eight hits with two strikeouts and three walks. Ross Gload homered for the Sox while Frank Thomas drove in Chicago's other run

Rio's 2012 Elimination a 'Monstrous Surprise'

RIO DE JANEIRO (Reuters) - Rio de Janeiro's failure to make the shortlist of candidates to host the 2012 Summer Olympics came as a "monstrous surprise," a Brazilian Olympic Committee (COB) official said Tuesday.

"Nobody expected this," COB technical director Marcus Vinicius Freire told Reuters.

"This was a monstrous surprise for us. It wasn't just a bucket of cold water,

it was a complete shower.

"Brazil had a very well-designed project and we didn't expect this at all."

Rio de Janeiro mayor Cesar Maia canceled a news conference which was due to take place one hour after the International Olympic Committee (IOC) announcement in Lausanne.

COB president Carlos Nuzman said Brazil might try again in 2016.

"I'm convinced these Games (2012)

will be in Europe, which opens the doors for the 2016 Games to be in South America."

Paris, New York, Moscow, London and Madrid were accepted on Tuesday as candidates to stage the 2012 Summer Olympics.

Havana, Rio de Janeiro, Istanbul and Leipzig in Germany were dropped from an initial shortlist after a unanimous decision of the IOC's executive board.

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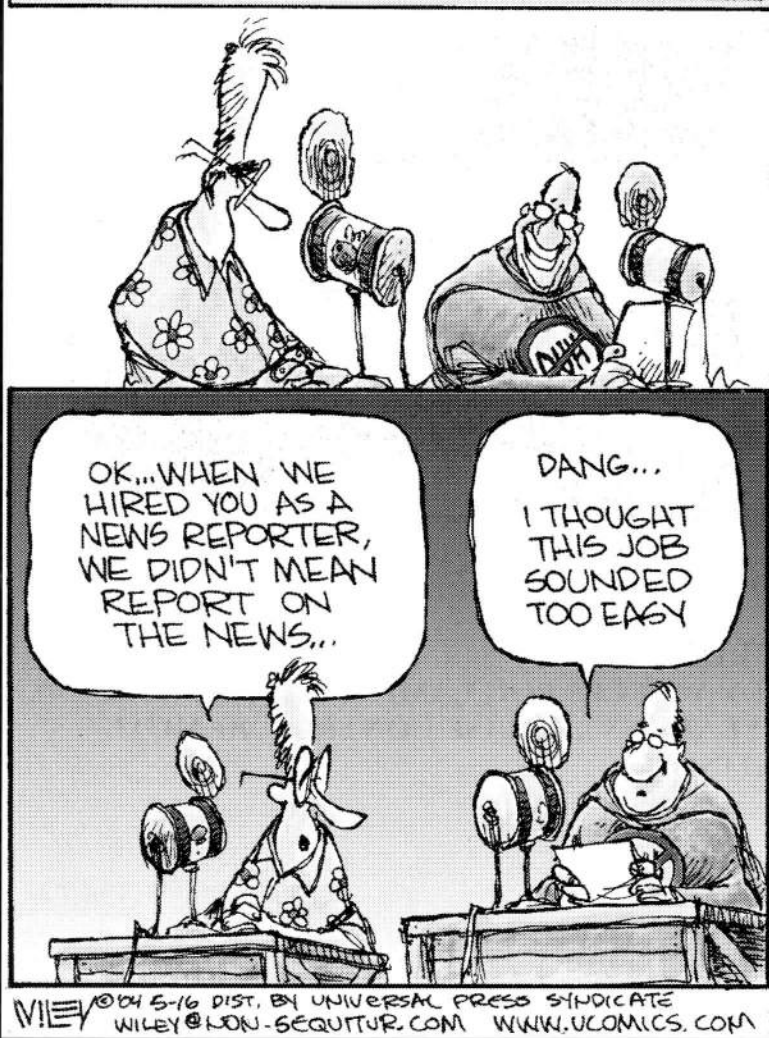
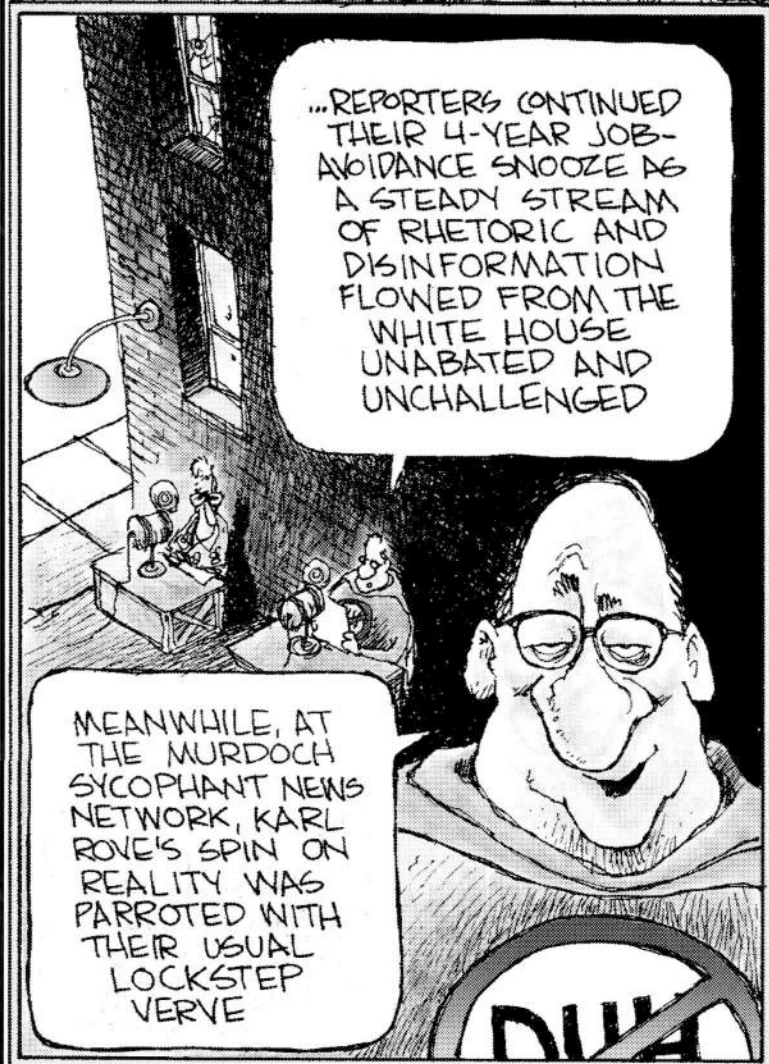
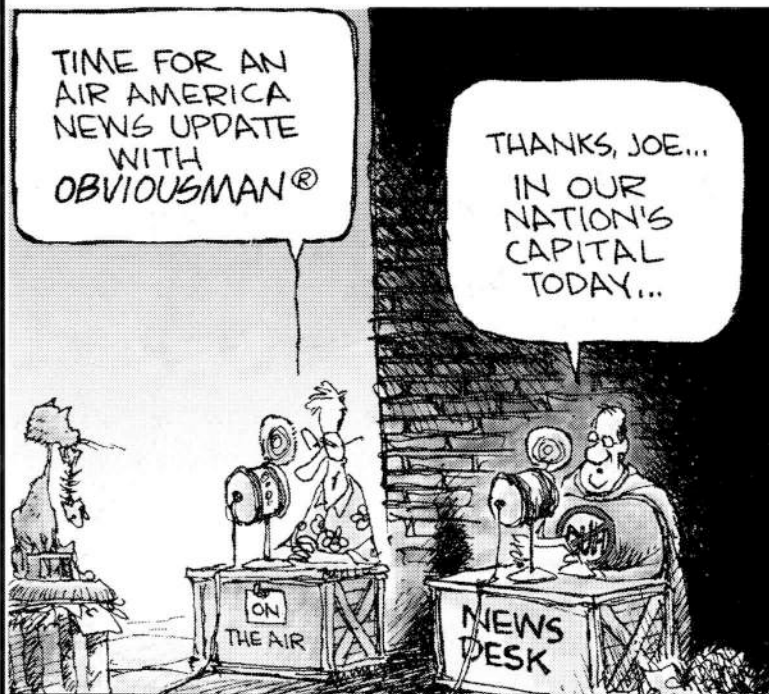
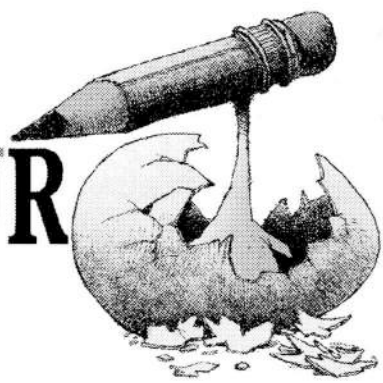
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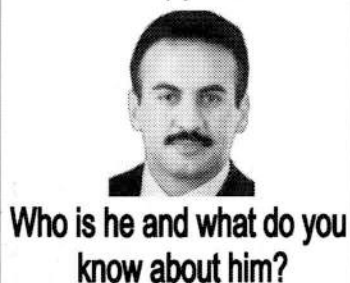
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NON SEQUITUR

by Wiley



Separate Contest on Common Names & Symbols
Contest (6) مسابقة



Ans cont (5)
Mr. Mohammed Abdu Saeed
Member of Parliament
Winner
Ibrahim Al-Ghawaii

Contest No. (14) مسابقة رقم
إعداد معهد الفاروق للغات والكمبيوتر
Prepared by Al-Farouk Institute of Languages & Computer
الممثل الوحيد لكليات سانت جيلز ومركز اكسفورد في كل من بريطانيا وأمريكا
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شريطة إصطحاب كوبون المسابقة عند التسجيل ودفع الرسوم مقدماً

مسابقة خاصة بمناسبة الذكرى الـ 14 للوحدة اليمنية

ليس هناك فائز واحد في هذه المسابقة بل ان جميع المشاركين والمشاركات يعتبرون فائزين بجائزة المعهد المتمثلة بتخفيض 50% من رسوم برامج اللغة الانجليزية او الكمبيوتر سواء في نظام الدورات العادية او الدبلوم لمدة سنة .

Verb	Noun
<i>greet</i>	
<i>move</i>	
	<i>collection</i>
<i>advertise</i>	
	<i>enjoyment</i>
	<i>explanation</i>
<i>suggest</i>	

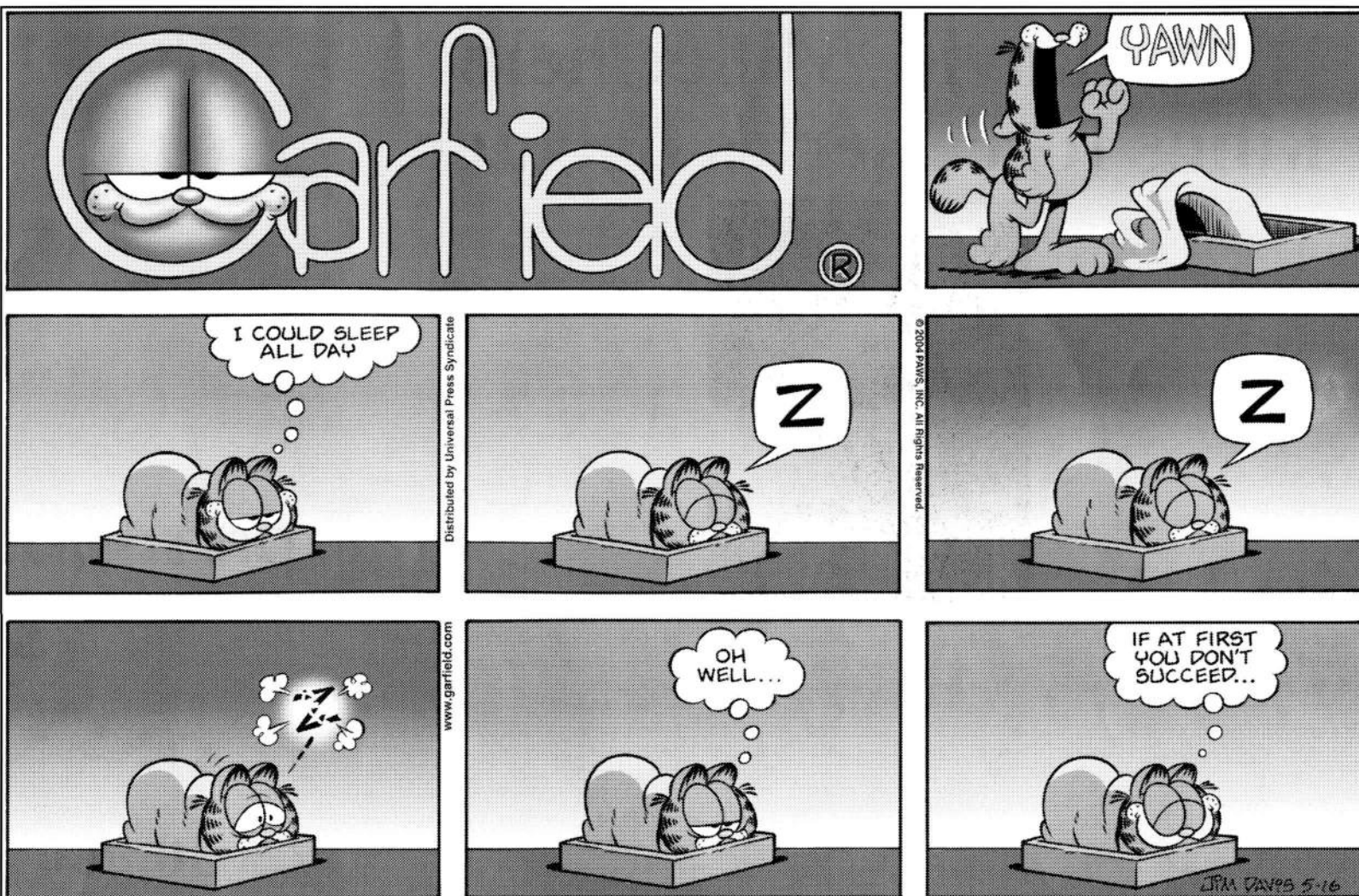
الاسم:
المدينة:
رقم التلغون:

Ans. Cont. 13

- (d)
- (a)
- (e)
- (b)
- (c)

Winner
Nohad Al-Asbafi

أقطع كوبون المسابقة و ارسلة عبر الفاكس مع بياناتك كاملة.
معهد الفاروق للغات والكمبيوتر صنعاء صغافس 213711
التسجيل بهذا التخفيض سوف يستمر حتى تاريخ 2004/6/10 م.



THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY



BY Eugenia

- Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 19)**
You will be interested in many things today, but if you try to do everything you will not benefit. A friend is likely to need your help. You are in a high love cycle, so put on the charm.
- Taurus (Apr 20 - May 20)**
If you are bored or thinking that you might be following the wrong path, think again. There are plenty of ways to take your current situation and make it better.
- Gemini (May 21 - Jun 20)**
Your fickle attitude may cause some problems for your partner or a close friend. Being in a social mood is good, but don't hurt someone's feelings or leave yourself open to be hurt.
- Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22)**
Take on a new project that will enhance your surroundings or make you more comfortable. Don't spend too much in the process. Money matters must be tended to quickly. Put agreements in writing.
- Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 22)**
Help is on the way. Partnerships will turn out better than anticipated, so don't hesitate to make your move if there is someone you would like to hook up.
- Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22)**
Think before you do something that could backfire. You may not have all the facts — today is not the day to venture down any avenue that could affect your position or your financial situation.
- Libra (Sept 23 - Oct 22)**
You will be willing to learn new things today. Your inquisitive nature will lead to an interesting turn of events. Not everyone you know will be happy about it.
- Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)**
Your dedication when dealing with people who need help will enhance your reputation. You can make a worthwhile investment, but avoid joint ventures.
- Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)**
You may confuse the people around you, especially someone who considers him- or herself to be very close to you. Your intentions may not be clear-cut. Be open about your feelings.
- Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)**
Your work ethics will provide you with the type of feedback that can only help you get ahead. You will have some spectacular ideas that should open doors to future prospects.
- Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)**
Schedule some time with children today. Challenge yourself both physically and mentally and you will regain the confidence you've lost.
- Pisces (Feb 19-Mar 20)**
You may be let down by someone you thought you could count on. Make your own decisions and plans so you aren't left out. You may be sentimental, but that doesn't mean you should let someone walk all over you.

Al- Khoos, a traditional handicraft at heart

BY NASSER ABDULLA NASSER SALEH
YEMEN TIMES STAFF
ADEN BUREAU

Traditional handicrafts are virtually pure artistic expression practiced by certain groups of simple people in the community. They are closely tied to the civilization and progressive development of nations and peoples, thereby such activity is shaping natural expansion for the immense creative accomplishments and scientific discoveries of today's world. Accordingly, to find clues to any level the development of

a certain nation, we should have cognizance of the varieties of its folklore and arts and crafts.

Our country has a broad scope of popular heritage that is characterized by a particular tone distinguished by the rest of other crafts in the Arab World. For this reason our social markets are fully decorated with varieties of Yemeni handicrafts under the existing circumstances of intense competition of new and modern products. As a matter of fact, Yemen possesses a considerable number of distinct handicrafts. There is a race against time to save them, while a few have disappeared and most are being influenced

by new domestic commodities mixed with a sense of modernity, causing the loss of the artistic essence of the folkloric heritage of Yemen.

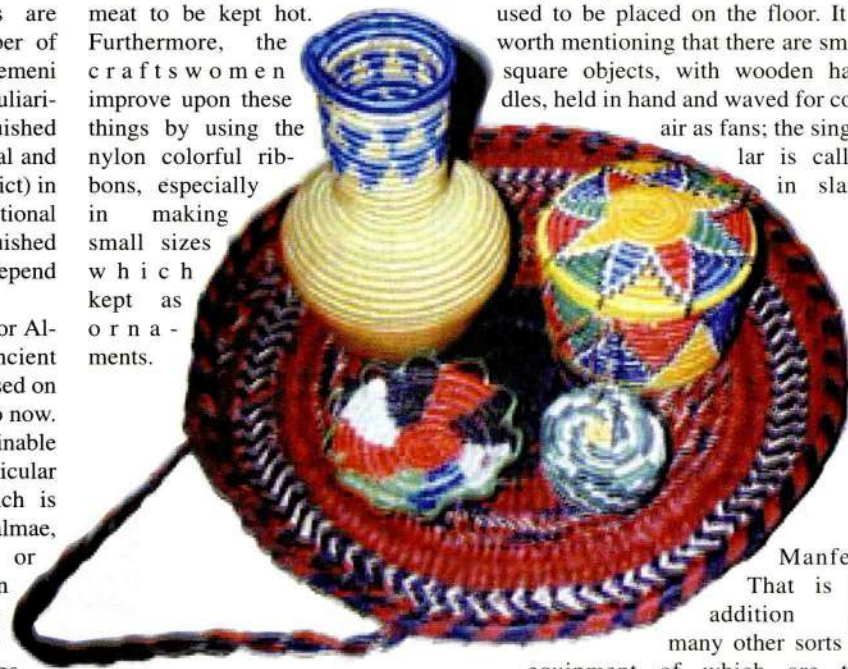
Nevertheless, many crafts are attached fact to a great number of skilled hands, maintaining the Yemeni originality. Shabwa has its peculiarities of having some distinguished conventional activities in general and Wadi Yesh-bom (ASSAID District) in particular, wherein various traditional handicrafts occupy a distinguished status, such that some families depend on them for their livelihood.

One such craft is Al-Khoos, or Al-Azef. It is considered an ancient activity women exclusively passed on from generation to another up to now. The raw material is simply obtainable from the palm, beside a particular type of palm-tree family which is called in agricultural sciences palmae, Hyphaene, Thepaica, Doush or Doum-tree. Everyone on his own produces the varieties of shapes and different sizes of attractive and admirable objects, things such as the set of "Tabeks", shallow round and flat bottomed objects, a flexible article that is to place on the floor for serving food individually, and similarly surrounded by a number of people, forming a circle around when sitting for meals if collectively. I might add that exquisite and deep-rounded objects, sometimes decorated with pieces of shells and patterns

of straw ribbons, are made, known as Gabeh and Toreh containers. They are used for holding and keeping loaves of bread and roasted or cooked meat to be kept hot. Furthermore, the craftsmen improve upon these things by using the nylon colorful ribbons, especially in making small sizes which kept as ornaments.

craft is Al-Khoos!

Other indispensable things are produced, such as the portable rectangular matting called Salkeh or Sefeh, used to be placed on the floor. It is worth mentioning that there are small square objects, with wooden handles, held in hand and waved for cool air as fans; the singular is called in slang



Manfeh.

That is in addition to many other sorts of

equipment of which are the adorned beautiful thermos-like object, with cone-shaped lids on, known as Shet, which was used for keeping the China cups out of reach of children, not to speak of the rectangular box-like shape objects, with lids on. In fact, marvelous, useful utensils are created and still in use, many of which are shown in our markets, such as brooms, ropes, sun-hats,

In addition to what mentioned, a set of shallow round and flat bottomed objects are created with bent sides used for serving dry food, toasted seeds or biscuits for instance, as well as other household uses. Moreover, it is said that it was used long ago as an unmovable 1st week temporary cradle for new-born babies. What an interesting handi-

shopping-bags, sweeping baskets, lids of beehives, sweet-wrappers which are famed for Luhiji sweets especially in Luhij markets. In addition to that, date-sacks are made, containers used for packing dates in some parts of Hadhramout and Shabwa, called Gareb.

Indeed, the traditional handicrafts suggested the deep originality of the Yemenis and their creative capacity to maintain their folkloric heritage. Accordingly, our markets are rich with these products that stand witness to a great history.



Beautiful designs of Al-Khoos handicraft

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