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# YEMEN TIMES

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## President seeks national figures intervention

BY MOHAMMED SALLAM  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

President Ali Abdullah Saleh on Tuesday July 27, discussed with JMP leaderships and a number of influential national figures on the Yemeni arena, all possible ways and means that would lead to stop bleeding of blood of Yemeni brethren, resulting from a more-than-a month old ongoing armed confrontation between state's armed forces and Sheikh Hussein Badradin Al-Houthi and his followers, entrenched in Mran-Haydan mountains in the governorate of Sa'adah.



President Ali Abdullah Saleh

During the meeting chaired by the President, it had been decided to set up a 25-member committee chosen from political parties and organizations, chiefs of tribes, leading clerics, the Shura Council and independent personalities to study the situation and form a vision leading to solve the problem and also to exert mediation to convince Al-Houthi to surrender himself.

President Saleh had earlier given his

orders on halting hostilities against Sheikh Al-Houthi and his followers in a prelude to facilitate the task of the mediation committee.

But reports mention that fighting between the two sides did not stop completely but rather was more pitched and Al-Houthi supporters are increasing in number.

Reliable sources reported that the government forces were advancing towards the last stronghold of Al-Houthi. The sources also refuted state-run newspapers reports, describing them as groundless, and that the battles claimed hundreds of lives on both parties in addition to large numbers of wounded during the past forty days of fighting.

Government's forces, supported by fighter tribesmen from tribes of Hajour Al-Sham, Uthar, and Usaimat, have so far failed to decide the battle in their favor and scored triumph on Al-Houthi and his followers. The main reason is

that they are entrenched in mountainous caves, difficult to be swept over or bombed by warplanes and missiles.

Along with the increasing calls demanding the cessation of military operations, reliable sources in Sa'adah confirmed the return of the mediation committee that had been entrusted with negotiating with Al-Houthi to Sana'a.

The sources said the committee, comprised of a number of sheikhs and members of Parliament and Shura Council, was unable to reach Al-Houthi's stronghold because of intensive fighting by the two parties, and refusal of the temporary ceasefire so that the committee could be able to carry out its mediation task.

On his part, sheikh Al-Houthi has said a group of conditions before surrendering himself to the government, such as:

The recognition by authorities of his right as a citizen to express his opinion and chant slogans condemning America and Israel.

Withdrawal of the government forces from the region.

Giving guarantees that his supporters and all citizens should be safe from any military attack against their areas after surrendering himself, and

The release of all detainees who are considered to be his supporters.

In a statement to Yemen Times, Member of Parliament Yahya Badradin Al-Houthi, brother of Sheikh Hussein Al-Houthi, said that, 'There were among military commands some who would not intend to stop fighting and bloodshed between the Yemenis,



Iraqi police officers dispose of a weapons cache found in a truck which was stopped near the city of Kut July 27, 2004. REUTERS

because that would contradict their own interests.'

He added: 'for that reason, they worked for raging the bloody confrontation and did not abide by President Saleh's orders.'

In response to a question about possible way out of this crisis, Mr. Yahya Al-Houthi said, 'If there are good mediators to intervene and if there is a good will harbored by the state, the crisis would be solved, and there are mediators would be able to work out solutions for this crisis.'

Mr. Al-Houthi also said, 'Nowadays, I and my family are exposed to continuous harassment and threats by some gunmen putting on civilian dress, but I am protecting myself in my house in Sana'a with the help of my tribe and family to prevent any attempt of aggression against me.'

## Yemeni authorities deny bin Laden's interceding to release bin Attash

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Official sources said in a statement on the Yemeni Ministry of Defense's Website that no Yemeni official has ever received a call from Osama Bin Laden or any other al-Qaeda leader.

This statement comes in response to

a US report claiming that al-Qaeda leader Osama Bin Laden made phone calls with an official in the Yemeni Political Security in 1991 to release one of al-Qaeda's members.

A US panel set up to probe into Sept 11th attacks said in a report released Friday 23rd July that Bin Laden himself interceded with a Yemeni official in 1991 in order to release an al-Qaeda member.

Tawfiq Bin Attash, the al-Qaeda member, known also as Khaled bin

Attash, was arrested early 1999, along with another suspect on the wanted list of the Yemeni authorities, said the US panel's report.

The Yemeni source considered the alleged call between bin Laden and a Yemeni official as "false information, lacking precision and objectivity, and beyond reality."

Yemeni authorities set bin Attash free, only to be arrested once again in the Pakistani city of Karachi and handed over to the US in April, 2003.

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## By-elections in two constituencies

Elections are expected to be conducted in constituencies 186 in Sana'a province, represented earlier by late GPC member Naji Al-Soufi who died about two months ago, and 231 in Hodeidah, held formerly by the ruling party GPC's member.

The results of these elections won't affect parliamentary blocs since the GPC has the majority of seats in the parlia-

ment.

An alarming recent phenomenon is the inheriting of such positions by late MP's sons, as their sons have been proposed as candidates, which may intervene with the democratic process.

The Supreme Committee for Elections and Referendum has sent the polling sub-committees, and urged constituencies' residents to practice their election rights.

## Tragic incidents in Taiz

YT TAIZ

The central prison in Taiz witnessed a suicide committed on Sat. 24th July 2004 when the prisoner Abdul Aleem Mahyoub Saeed of 30 years of age, hung himself. The prisoner was being detained by South Taiz Prosecution, under a charge of killing his uncle and his cousin.

A 39 year old laborer, Ahmed Salem Abdullah, who was a citizen of Al Udain, fell down dead in a building

belonging to Abdul Wahab Al Huzmy located in Al-Houban area neighboring the Paint Factory there. The cause of death is not yet known giving rise to speculations of a possible murder or suicide.

A fire blazed out on a bus with Saudi plate no. 199 A A A. The bus was destroyed entirely. The incident took place in Hudedah on Taiz-Hodeidah road, but, the reasons for the fire are not known yet and the security authorities are still investigating.

## In Brief

**Thunderbolts kill 11**  
Four people died on Monday July 26th in Hajjah, when they were struck by thunderbolts accompanying heavy rain. With this, the death toll of thunderbolt victims in Hajjah reaches 11 people and seven wounded from July 6th-25th, as well as causing cattle and property losses. No awareness campaign has yet been conducted to teach villagers how to treat people in such emergencies or the 'do's and don'ts' when it is raining.

**Yemen-IFAD sign agreement**  
An agreement was signed between the Yemen Government and the International Fund for Agricultural Development, to finance the rural development project in Dhalee Gov'te. In accordance with which IFAD will contribute by US\$14.6 million of the project, the total cost amounting US\$22.8 million.

**Corniche & Cafeteria Foundation Stone, in Hodeidah**  
A foundation stone was laid for Phase III of Western Coast Project and the third stage of the Cafeteria project in Hodeidah, at Ras Kathib, on Monday 26th July 2004. At a total cost of more than 115 million Yemeni Riyals, the project is financed by the local council of Hodeidah Governorate. The foundation stone was laid by the deputy Prime Minister / Minister of Planning & International Cooperation.

**Two 320 Air-Bus planes added to Yemenia Fleet**  
Two giant 320 Air Bus planes will be joining the Yemenia Airlines in September and October 2004. The planes are aimed at improving Yemenia's performance. There are also plans to modernize the ground equipment which will cost US \$10 million so as to improve the services of the main aerodromes in the Republic of Yemen. In addition, two new routes will be inaugurated in August 2004, one to Dakar, the capital of Bangladesh, another to Johannesburg, South Africa.

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## Training course on population at Aden university

A training course on population culture and gender was started Sunday 25th July at the Woman Training and Research Center, Aden University.

The course is attended by 40 participants from different primary and secondary education schools.

They receive lectures on the role of teachers and students in preserving a sound school environment, the school role in raising student's environmental awareness, and defining the effect of frequent pregnancies on mothers health and its impact on the family's economy, as well as the Islamic view on family planning.

The course will inform the participants of the Arab woman's situation and political participation, and define gender and international pro-woman

conventions, besides addressing the role of teachers and students in embodying the gender concepts in curricula and methods of teaching.

Dr. Yahya Al-Shua'aibi, Aden Governor, gave a speech on the occasion, expressing his happiness at holding the course, which intends to develop communicative knowledge and skills of the participants in order to spread population awareness which is strongly entwined with development.

He emphasized the importance of sensing population problems, and the cooperation of the society to achieve real human development. "To do that, we should mobilize all official functions, NGOs, and local councils to cope with the population crisis in

Yemen by showing people the significance of family planning to reduce the 3.7% growth rate, one of the highest in the world," added the governor.

Speeches were delivered by Dr. Abdul-Karim Ras'e, Rector of Aden University, Dr. Rakhsanah Ismail, Director of Women's Center for Research and Training, and Khadija Qasim, director of inspection government in the Aden Education Office.

The political leadership is concerned with the population issue and the social behavior because they affect the comprehensive development, they said, emphasizing the significant role of the school to implement the national education and training strategy along with that of population.

## Course on Health Sector Reform in Taiz

The Ministry of Public Health and Population, represented by the Health Sector Reform Program, held from July 24th -27th, at the Republican Hospital Taiz, a workshop on the first of a series of short-termed courses on introducing the EU-supported Health Sector Reform Program.

The program was attended by some 30 representatives from health institutions and local councils in Taiz city and Shamaitan and Haifan districts, said Dr-Abdul-Karim

Mashhoor, assistant director of the program.

The course aimed at acquainting the participants with the Health Sector

Reform Program, its goals, reasons for adopting it, and phases of implementation. The course also seeks to introduce the elements of the program especially the establishment of decentralized health departments, which the program supports adopting in targeted districts.

The program is advocated by Minister of Public Health and Population Dr. Mohammed Yahya Al-Naimi, and Taiz Governor Judge Ahmed Abdullah Al-Hajri.

The opening of the course was attended by Mohammed Al-Haj, Secretary General of Taiz Local Council, Deputy Governor, and Dr. Abdul-Nasser Al-Kabab, Director of Taiz Health Office.

Lectures were given by Dr. Ali bin Buraik, Dr. Abdul-Jabar Ali, and Dr. Mahmoud Al-Ariqi.

Similar courses will be conducted in Taiz, Saioon, Lahj, and Baidha'a.

## A workshop on social integration, Taiz

The French organization DIA has organized from July 25th-27th a workshop for private societies on social integration with the participation of 20 trainees representing several local societies in Taiz.

Mr. Ayoub Al-Qasimi, officer of media and social activity in DIA, said participants received a number of theoretical and practical lectures on the concept of social integration, its effect on development, and the importance

of integrating the poorest classes into society. The workshop gave information on obstacles, ways, advantages and disadvantages of social integration as well as lectures on local societies' role in achieving social integration.

He said the objective of the workshop was to activate the role of the community in propping up social integration programs directed towards the poorest classes in Taiz.

## Sana'a Cultural Days launched

The launching of Sana'a Cultural Days was concluded last Saturday with the inauguration of a plastic arts gallery featuring work of the artists Abdul-Jalil Mua'ath, Mohammed Mosa and Mohammed Mayaz. The gallery included paintings of the Old City of Sana'a and others.

Part of the gallery was devoted to handicrafts produced by Alshahba Women's Society of Manakhah Haraz, and the Women's Society for Qualifying and Supporting Women and Children, Bani Hushaish. The event witnessed poetry recited by a number of poets, and song performances with the accompaniment of folklore bands.

## CSSW Honors Former UNFPA Representative in Yemen

BY YASSER AL-MAYYASI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Charitable Society for Social Welfare (CSSW) held an honorary ceremony for Mrs. Bettina Maas, the former UNFPA Representative in Yemen, on the occasion of the completion of her tenure. A group of government officials and representatives of UN agencies in Yemen attended the ceremony. Dr. Tariq Sinan Abu Luhood, CSSW Chairman, welcomed and thanked Mrs. Bettina Maas for her efforts in supporting NGOs in Yemen, and particularly for serving the CSSW in the fields of sustainable development and health.

In a statement to Al-Thimar magazine, Mrs. Bettina Maas said: "I consider the partnership between the UNFPA and CSSW is productive and effective."

She expressed her appreciation of the good work being performed by CSSW in fields such as reproductive health, family planning, women's empowerment, and HIV/AIDS control.



The former UNFPA Representative in Yemen indicated that she had had the opportunity to participate in a number of activities implemented by CSSW in various fields, adding that the cooperation between the UNFPA and CSSW was a distinguished model of working with faithful social organizations. "This cooperation was reflected recently in UNFPA global publications in which

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Will president Ali Abdullah Saleh orders of halting hostilities on Sheikh al-Houthi and his followers bring an end to the crisis?

• No, I think it is more complicated 78%  
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## Workshop on investment plans, policies

A workshop on appropriate investment methods, policies and plans adopted by social insurance institutions was held Thursday 22nd July in Sana'a, by the SEFM. It was attended by Mr. Christopher Bender, senior financial officer of the SEFM with the participation of six sides relating to social insurance.

The SEFM is based on partnership and cooperation among the Yemeni government, the UK's International Development Ministry, the International Monetary Fund, and the

United Nations Development Program. The SEFM attempts to apply reforms recommended by the IMF in seven governmental bodies.

The workshop concentrated on the following:

Defining and classifying investment assets, recognizing markets and who issues shares, identifying illegal investments, informing managers of principles and concepts used for developing investment policies and plans, as well as giving information on managing and investing social insurance funds.

## CSSW Honors Former UNFPA Representative in Yemen

These publications indicated that there is a program called working through faithful organizations." CSSW deserves this title, Mrs. Maas said.  
CSSW Chairman presented a certificate of appreciation to Mrs. Bettina Maas in recognition of her excellent and sincere efforts in supporting NGOs for more than three years of her tenure in Yemen.



Sheikh Abdul-Wahab Ziad to Yemen Times:

“Yemenis in America are deprived of the Yemeni government’s help unless they pay”

BY MOHAMMED BIN SALLAM  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Sands are moving under Yemeni expatriates in the United States. In the past, immigration to the US was a dream and a wish. Nowadays, those who are in America are crying over the past few days. Yet, youths inside Yemen are still longing to migrate overseas despite the narrated suffering of and control over Muslims in general and Arabs in particular, including Yemenis.

Sheikh Abdul-Wahab, whom we are interviewing, is different. He is hopeful, and soothes the pessimistic views of other people on the New World. Nevertheless, he laments the lost democratic atmosphere that used to be prevalent before the ominous Sep. 11th attacks.

May be this is because he has been almost integrated into the American society, he is well-to-do, or may be because he carries a religious message he thinks he should endure difficulties and troubles to deliver it.

Let us come closer to this person, and know projects in his life and religion:

Sheikh Abdul-Wahab Ziad is a graduate from the Islamic Studies Department, Sana'a University. He immigrated to the US, as many other Yemenis with relatives over there did. Abdul-Wahab became in a short time an imam for an Islamic center in a city



Sheikh Abdul-Wahab Ziad

of New York State called “The Islamic Center in New York”, and is a former member of the American Islamic Council, from which he moved to join a year ago the Association of North America Islamic Scholars. He is also a member of the Council of American Islamic Relations (CAIR).

He has recently come back to Yemen to visit his family and relatives in the

accompaniment of his American wife who has converted to Islam after marriage, and become an effective caller for Islam (Da'iah). She is impressed by others, and is affected by Islam and its appealing principles as well.

Abdul-Wahab got American citizenship eight years ago, besides his Yemeni citizenship, which he did not give up.

He has business in Hinat in the US.

Excerpts

**Q: How many is the number of Yemenis present in the US, and what sorts of business do they practice?**

**A:** The Yemeni community is one of the oldest communities in the US. They are concentrated in the State of Michigan especially in the city of Atrair, then in New York, and California. Their number is estimated between 250-300 thousand expatriates. This number is not that accurate. More families were notable after 1990, and Yemenis are known for reproduction.

Most of them work in car factories, workshops, and private business.

The Yemeni community over there does not pay attention to educating their children until they reach prestigious positions as Pakistanis and Indians do. Some may stay the course until their children are lawyers or doctors, but some Yemeni students opt out and turn to trade. Yet, many of Yemeni community's people are successful. You can find among them doctors, teachers and university professors, though they are few number.

**Q: Are you married to a Yemeni?**

**A:** My wife is a Muslim American woman. She is an Islamic caller who has guided 15 American women to Islam. She has given me three daughters.

**Q: What about the Yemeni Jewish community in the US? Do you have contacts with them?**

**A:** There is no contact with them. It is said their number is 8000, most of them reside in New York. What we know about them is that some of them yearn for Yemen, and are still preserving the Yemeni traditions such as meals and folklore like dancing and singing.

**Q: Are you planning to deal with them in the future as Yemenis?**

**A:** They have infused themselves into the Jewish community in America. Thus, communication is limited and does not occur usually only in restaurants and public places. Yet, if it will be possible to keep in touch with them in the future, that would be good.

**Q: Why have you chosen to immigrate and settle down in America?**

**A:** No doubt, the US used to enjoy laws it lacks nowadays. They are freedom, justice, peace, human rights, and fostering freedom of religion and thought, what tempted some Islamic callers and figures before the Sept 11th was the excessive liberty for which the US was praised.

Always I say, even on TV shows in America, that it is not trees, streets, or skyscrapers that beautify the US. The source of its prettiness lies in its laws, freedom, justice, peace, human rights, and supporting freedom of religion and thinking.

The US, as I think, was established on a religious basis. Those who founded the US searched for a land to worship God in. Therefore, it is no wonder to find so many

religious signs in it. Churches, temples, and mosques live together peacefully.

The US can dominate the world in two ways:

Through peace and helping the needy, and taking the side of the oppressed against oppressors, and the weak against the strong; and through providing medicines and food for disaster-ravaged countries. This is the best way. Other methods such as those implemented now manifested in use of violence and occupation will take off the US glamour and will lead to its decline and may be disintegration.

We hope that US policy makers take the peaceful path and export freedom and human rights principles without resorting to force.

**Q: Can you tell us about the condition of Muslims before and after Sept 11th?**

**A:** The Muslim community in the US forms a significant minority. There are between 8-10 million Muslims and Arabs, some of them immigrants and others converted to Islam. There are also about four-five thousand mosques, and Islamic centers and schools.

Muslims are present everywhere, in universities, schools, academies, hospitals, factories, workshops and business offices.

No doubt, America before the Sept 11th is not America after that date. Before, there was an inviolable freedom. But, after, new laws have been enacted under the slogan of safeguarding the security and stability of the US, these have effected the lives of Arab and Muslim communities. There have been certain violations by those who seized the chance to harass Arab and Muslims.

We are in favor of US security and stability as we are US citizens. We are more concerned than any others to reflect a good picture of Arab and Muslims inside America for both people inside and outside the US.

Any improper doing on our part would mean a flaw in Arab and Muslims. We are very particular to represent Islam in a good manner.

Islam, if translated well, and presented well, is a religion that Americans usually embrace, and prefer to other heavenly religions.

**Q: The media talks about violations committed against Muslims and Arabs in America. What are these violations, and are they spreading or diminishing?**

**A:** The US people are good and pacifist. I will never forget that nice letter sent with a bunch of flowers from a nearby church after the Sept 11th, saying, “If you have one enemy, you have a million friends.”

This is a plausible cooperation with the Arab and Islamic community.

There are certain annoying acts at airports, during travel, at border checkpoints. Your phone, bank account, and mail are often monitored. You may find a security team investigating your personal data for ten years ago. If they find any legal breach they will snatch you away.

Yet, the American people are still attempting to preserve the US traditional value of which they are proud, that is, justice and stability.

**Q: How many Yemenis were interrogated and arrested over the last years?**

**A:** I can not remember exactly. There are some Yemenis who were interrogated. Annoyances differ from one state to another. In a state, annoyance may occur, and in another may not.

**Q: Give us a brief idea about the activity of your center.**

**A:** We, as Muslim residents of America, have guidelines and goals:

Protecting the solidarity of the Arab and Islamic community. Holding programs to preserve the religion and design educational and cultural programs that teach Muslims their religion and their Arabic tongue, and what benefit their spouses and offspring.

We have also set up programs for dialogue with other churches, and introducing the message of Islam to the American people in a mild pleasant manner, with wisdom and good advice, as prophets did.

We have other programs for seeking our rights, and participating in elections and activities.

**Q: Who supports these activities?**

**A:** Self-finance. Communities and minorities do their duty in establishing Islamic centers and schools as well as mosques.

The American law encourages donating for these projects with tax exemptions. Those who donate for religious, charitable, or social organizations will be exempted from as much taxes as the sum of his donations.

**Q: Do you call for Islam among the American people? And how successful is it?**

**A:** The constitution and law of the US gives individuals the freedom to choose the religion they want.

Islam in America, thanks God, succeeds like fire. I don't exaggerate if I tell you that any US university contains a mosque, or a prayer place for Muslim students. There is no US prison without a mosque.

All factories and big workshops in which Muslims work witness congregation prayers, and a room in every establishment may be set for prayer.

As I said earlier, there are some 5000 mosques and Islamic schools and centers, and Islam spreads mainly among prisoners.

It is a sign of God's that you find prisons a fertile land for Islam. Why? The US government has failed to reclaim these prisoners. Due to their number, they might have formed an economic burden. They want to reform the beast behind the bars. They have found that religion reclaims criminals, and do not object to Islam being a solution. Islam is recognized in the US. It is number one in terms of spreading, num-

ber two in terms of the number of followers, and number three in terms of influence over some national events.

After prisons come universities, schools, research centers, and academies. Thirdly come workshops, factories and socialization of Muslims with other people.

**Q: Are there cases of relapse among Muslims?**

**A:** Cases of relapse are not common. A person who has not understood the principles of Islam correctly may relapse, or a person who has not been brought up according to Islam, and this rarely occurs.

**Q: What is the positive or negative role of the Yemeni government represented by the Ministry for Expatriates? Does it have an important role, and do they support expatriates?**

**A:** When the late Dr. Al-Bashari was the Minister of the expatriates, the situation was better. This does not mean we belittle others, but we want to point out the positive things honestly and with transparency. Dr. Al-Bashari, may God bless him: Sent us curriculums - Covered the needs of schools teaching Arabic and Quraan - Helped some teachers financially though a little - Was concerned about cases of Yemenis in the US -

The negative aspect we feel nowadays. The Yemeni government has not formed a legal team to defend Yemenis as is supposed to, especially those who have suffered from violations.

We hope that the responsible authorities will take care of us in the future by forming a legal team to defend Yemenis in general and provide facilities both in exchanging passports or travel procedures for US passport-bearers who are required to give fees as foreigners to have visas even if they show documents proving they are Yemenis.

**Q: Do you mean that the ministry of Expatriates does not have any significant role? We hear the official media telling another story.**

**A:** Actually, it has some activities, but we hope they will be increased and promoted especially at present.

The Yemeni community is able to collect donations to commission lawyers, there is a fund, but a real, and not media, presence of the Yemeni government beside us would contribute much to our victory. I met ambassador Abdul-Wahab Al-Hajri and discussed with him this issue. He explained that it is a matter of finance and there is no ability on the part of the Embassy to play any active role. I suggested to him that we collect donations from the community through representatives. “They may gather a sum of money sufficient to set up a defense team for all Yemeni expatriates’ cases. He appreciated the idea, and promised to report that to Sana'a.

**Q: Were you able to visit Al-Mouayyad and his companion in prison?**

**A:** Concerning Sheikh Al-Mouayyad, nobody is allowed to visit him except for the Yemeni consul and ambassador. Trials were allowed to be attended. There is an 8-hour distance separating us from his prison.

**Q: What about Muslim sects in the US? Is there any conflict among them as it is common in the Arab world?**

**A:** Muslims in the US belong to several religious schools. Our school follows the Quraan and Sunna. We believe in calling with wisdom and good advice, teaching our children with the Yemeni curriculums and make sure to maintain civilized and cultural relations with the country of origin, Yemen.

**Q: Do you suffer from any security supervision or annoying acts in America?**

**A:** Muslims in America in general have become subject to monitoring. Islamic figures, and establishments are being scrutinized, and some of them have been closed down, especially those involved in supporting Palestine or former Iraq.

We, however, attribute that to security measurements and the premonition of the US. Yet, we do not support those who take this as an opportunity to annoy Muslim minorities, which results in limiting the Islamic activities.

**Q: Do you play any sort of political activity at your center?**

**A:** The Arab and Islamic presence in the US has a good effect. They play a role in pressing the US government regarding many issues concerning Muslims like Iraq and Palestine.

The number of Muslims in the US has reached 12 million, and this by itself is a considerable figure.

Last year, we celebrated the appointment of the first Muslims secretary in the White House, receiving

Muslims' letters and settling their problems.

**Q: How do you define moderation, and what does it mean?**

**A:** The message of Islam is great. The meaning of Islam is the meaning of “Peace be upon you”. It means peace, love, mercy, justice and goodness.

If you look at pilgrims in Mecca dressed in white, you will perceive a manifestation of peace. We stress that the call for Islam based on wisdom and good advice has a great effect, but we can not deal lightly with Islamic principles.

**Q: Are there people who call for a particular sect among Muslim communities in the US?**

**A:** No doubt there are certain different groups such as Shiite, Sufi, Kidiani, Bahai, and others.

The Islamic presence in the US is an extension of the Islamic presence in the world. There is a variety of sects.

The majority are the Sunna followers, or the so-called moderates. There is also MYA, a group founded by Arab Muslim youth who studied in the US and it was much notable before Sept 11th.

**Q: What are the last words you want to say?**

**A:** Let me say that everything in Islam has an effect. The factor they get most affected by is the Holy Quraan and holy rites such as prayer. The view of prayer affects the American people. They get really impressed by Islam, by the view of Pilgrimage which is the symbol of peace, love and justice, and by the view of hijab which is the symbol of chastity and good manners. They get also affected by fasting and Islamic dealings also affect them when they come into contact with virtuous Muslims.

**Q: Is there contact between you and other Islamic communities?**

**A:** Yes. Muslims visit and contact with each other in America. The Islamic community contains Yemenis, Pakistanis, Indians, Americans, etc. this means that you find mosques open to all Muslims. It is not necessary that you have an ID or membership card. Prayer is held always. And this means constant contact.

There are Islamic organizations like Kalisna which is a great Islamic organization with several centers in the US, Canada and is run by Indians, Pakistanis

Kashmiris, Asians and many Arabs.

We participated in the establishment of an organization named (The Association of North America Islamic Scholars), which is the first political council in America that has been renamed as CAIR, which is an Islamic Arabic organization interested in defending the rights of Muslims and Arabs. It is concerned with rights more than with politics. There is also the North America Islamic Assembly.

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# An official report warns of increased child crime rates

BY MOHAMED BIN SALLAM  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Following its field visits to state prisons and juvenile detention centers in Taiz, Hodiedah and Hajjah governorates, the

parliament's civil liberties and human rights committee reported that there were 26 children at the juvenile home in Taiz. 14 of them were involved in murder cases and most of them were aged between 10 and 11 years old. The incidence of killing ranked top of the list of

offences among the juvenile cases. This could be an alarming sign of the current trend in society. Many incidents of killing resulted from the misuse of arms, which serves as an indication of the seriousness of sustaining the current situation of the widespread possession of and bearing of arms. Not to mention the personal tragedies that many families end up suffering from or the insecurity and instability of society in general.

The committee reported that there

was a single juvenile detention center in each of Taiz and Hodeidah governorates. Each center was adequately furnished. The home in Taiz was isolated from the central prison, but in Hodiedah not all juveniles were in the home that was rented by UNICEF Organization and which accommodates 30 juveniles. That was considered an achievement, however, the committee was not able to determine the exact situation in Hodiedah and Hajjah. The juveniles were not sorted out according to

their ages and some of them were still detained pending the payment of due financial sum.

The Parliamentary Committee recommended establishing juvenile homes for female delinquents in Hodiedah and Hajjah Governorates and providing more facilities, health care services and suitable environments at all juvenile homes in order to better train, rehabilitate and educate them, so that they are able to resume normal lives when released back into society.

The Committee urged the related authorities to present an amendment law on juveniles and to present it to the Parliament for the necessary constitutional procedures. It called on the government to provide suitable education, emphasizing religious values that would prevent the children from becoming delinquents. It also called on the various media organizations to launch awareness campaign programs on the proper treatment of children, so as to raise them to be good citizens.

## Samira A. Ali exhibits paintings in Sanaa

IRENA KNEHTL  
iren\_knehtl@maktob.com  
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

The Yemeni artist Samira Abdo Ali, (also the first female Yemeni TV director, writer, cartoonist and winner of several international awards), is exhibiting her newest collection of paintings at the House of Culture in Sanaa this week. The exhibition which is in the framework of Sanaa - the Arab culture capital festivities, was opened in the presence of local and foreign dignitaries, artists, writers and friends by his Excellency Mr. Khaled Rowaishan, Minister of Culture. Her artwork offers some beautiful combinations of Yemeni landscapes, people, tales and legends.



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The new entity, formed by the partial merger, has adopted the new legal company name of CALYON and will trade under the brand name of CALYON Corporate and Investment Bank.

Consequent to the above and following the approval of the Central Bank of Yemen and of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, all branches of Credit Agricole Indosuez in Yemen are renamed CALYON Corporate and Investment Bank.



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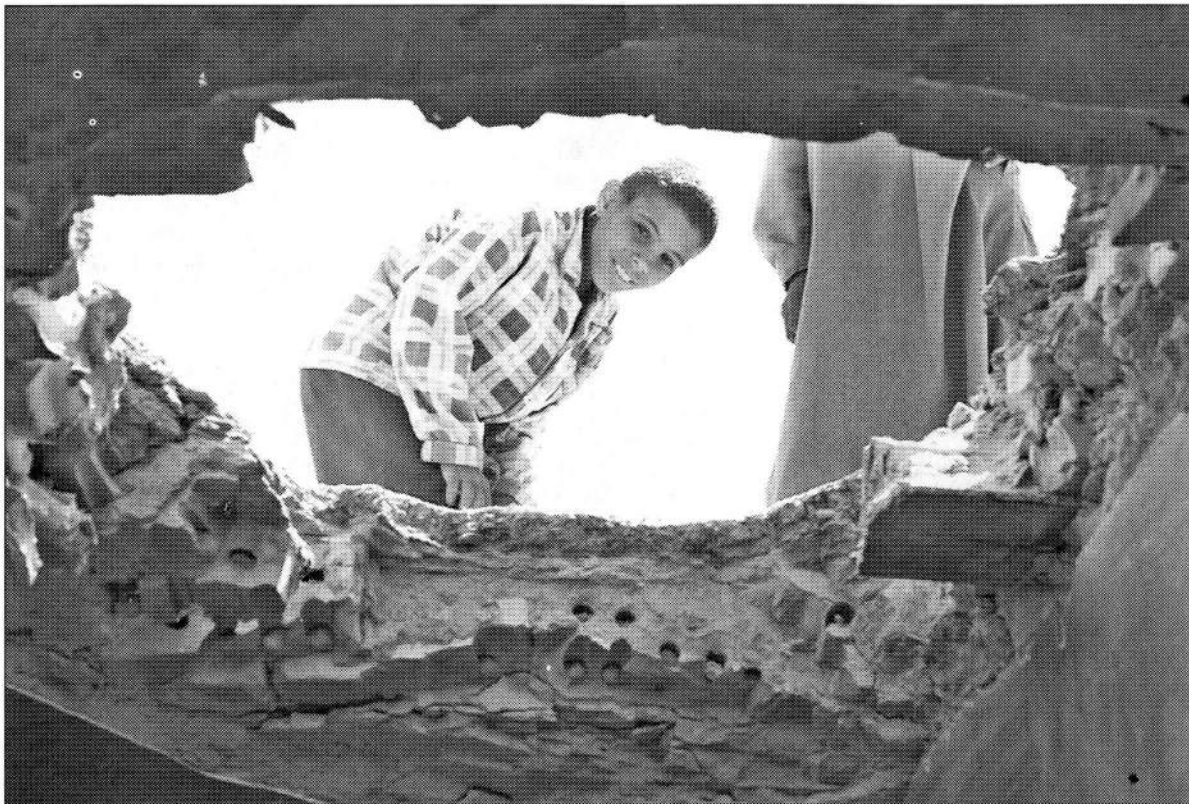


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# U.S. threatens to withdraw aid for Iraq's Falluja



An Iraqi boy smiles as he looks through the hole at the ceiling of his house which was hit by a rocket earlier today in Falluja July 27. At least six civilians, including three women and a young girl, were wounded when their houses were damaged in an air strike which struck the restive city of Falluja early on Tuesday, eyewitnesses and hospital officials said. REUTERS

BAGHDAD, July 27 (Reuters) - U.S. aircraft dropped leaflets on the rebellious Iraqi city of Falluja on Tuesday, warning residents they would lose \$102 million in rebuilding funds if they did not halt attacks and allow U.S. troops to enter freely.

After fierce fighting in April in which hundreds of Iraqis were killed, American forces withdrew from Falluja and handed over responsibility for security to an Iraqi brigade.

Critics say the move has turned Falluja into a safe haven for insurgents and put the city under the control of guerrillas.

"If the security situation does not improve you will lose \$102 million, which is already allocated and

approved.

This amount of money will be transferred to peaceful and open towns," the leaflet said.

"We ask the citizens of Falluja ... to make way for multinational forces to start the rebuilding of Falluja, and to make way for American forces to move freely in the city and make real estimates for construction.

Since U.S.-led forces ousted Saddam Hussein 15 months ago, the city west of Baghdad has been a hotbed of anti-American violence.

On March 31, four American security guards were killed and their bodies burned in images that shocked the world. U.S. warplanes have launched several air strikes on the city in recent

weeks, targeting its most wanted man in Iraq, Jordanian militant and suspected al Qaeda ally Abu Musab al-Zarqawi.

American troops are still based near Falluja.

The leaflets said one project that Falluja could lose was a \$35 million water treatment upgrade.

"Our fight is not with the honest citizens of Falluja, but with those who want to destroy the future of Falluja and those who are doing this for their own benefits," added the leaflet.

Washington has allocated \$18.4 billion for rebuilding across Iraq, but the country's precarious security has prevented large amounts of that money from being disbursed.

# Palestinian PM drops resignation in deal with Arafat

RAMALLAH, West Bank, July 27 (Reuters) - Palestinian Prime Minister Ahmed Qurei retracted his resignation on Tuesday after Yasser Arafat granted him some powers to carry out reforms, easing a paralyzing leadership crisis, officials said.

Qurei's chief of staff said he had won effective control over parts of a security apparatus whose internal corruption and lawlessness are seen by U.S.-led mediators as an obstacle to reviving peacemaking between Palestinians and Israel.

But Arafat, a former guerrilla leader turned president, retained his grip on the bulk of a dozen security services. He has not implemented reform pledges made in the past under international pressure and U.S. reaction to what Palestinian officials billed as a breakthrough on Tuesday was sceptical.

Arafat acted after an unprecedented explosion of public unrest in Gaza over inaction on demands for reforms, including elections, to weed out an entrenched old elite around Arafat and make Palestinian institutions more democratic and accountable.

The strife, which has raised fears of a descent into anarchy, hinted at a power struggle brewing in Gaza in anticipation of Israel's planned evacuation of settlers next year to "disen-

gage" from conflict with Palestinians in some of the territory it occupied in the 1967 Middle East war.

"(Arafat) rejected my resignation and I will now comply," Qurei, who said 10 days ago he would quit, told reporters.

"I am satisfied that President Arafat is serious this time, that it is not just words but that this time there will be action," the veteran moderate added. Qurei and Arafat, for decades comrades atop the Palestinian national movement, emerged from a cabinet meeting holding up their hands together and exchanging kisses to the cheek in a show of reconciliation after two weeks of tension and turmoil. Hassan Abu Libdeh, Qurei's chief of staff, said the deal put his cabinet in charge of the police and preventive (internal) security services for the first time.

Arafat further agreed to allow the Palestinian attorney general to pursue investigations into high-level graft to foster the rule of law, Qurei's negotiations minister Saeb Erekat said.

But Arafat retained control over a murky collection of national armed forces and intelligence agencies which encompass most security personnel and have been the fount of his power. The interior minister, who formally oversees the police and is an Arafat loyalist imposed on Qurei when he

formed his cabinet with a reform mandate late last year, retained his post.

A spokesman for young militants in Arafat's Fatah movement, who sewed chaos this month by abducting several senior officials and attacking security units to back anti-graft demands, said they were studying the changes to see whether they were genuine.

U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell was not convinced.

"We need action, not propositions, not proposals, not commitments, (but) action," he said during a visit to Hungary.

"Real action that transfers power to the prime minister, to the Palestinian people, Palestinian Authority and a consolidation of security services ... under the direction of the prime minister," Powell told reporters. International mediators see Palestinian reforms, along with Israeli restraint in military operations against Palestinian militants, as crucial to reviving a peace plan promising Palestinians a state in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza.

Two Palestinians, at least one of them a Hamas militant, were killed in a clash with Israeli troops on the edge of Gaza City. The army said forces fired at militants preparing to launch a mortar at a nearby Jewish settlement.



Palestinian Prime Minister Ahmed Qurei and President Yasser Arafat (L) celebrate in the West Bank city of Ramallah July 27 after Qurei withdrew his resignation. Qurei retracted his resignation on Tuesday after Yasser Arafat granted him some powers to carry out reforms, easing a paralyzing leadership crisis, officials said. REUTERS

# Hidden Sudan refugees suffer away from camps



Sudanese displaced women take care of a sick relative in Ablouc village in eastern Chad July 27. The United Nations estimates some 30,000 people have been killed since fighting erupted last year in Sudan's Darfur province and up to 200,000 refugees have already crossed into Chad where many of the refugee camps are overcrowded, with some families living in makeshift shelters in the bush. REUTERS

ABLOUC, Chad, July 27 (Reuters) - Fatma Abdel Karim, a 14-year-old refugee from Sudan's Darfur region, lies sick inside a round hut of thatched straw in a Chadian border village.

While most of the 180,000 black Africans who have fled to Chad to escape Arab Janjaweed militias are now in camps, thousands more like Karim are living with local communities near the border, cut off from most international aid.

"Some have been here for five months," said Arbab Gamar Ibrahim, from the Sudanese town of Mestre, a refugee himself who acts as a representative for some 1,500 others scattered across villages about 30 km (20 miles) south of the town of Adre.

"They are living with their brothers." These refugees do not have access to the food handouts or daily medical clinics in the camps and have to rely instead on the generosity of Chadian villagers and occasional visits

by aid workers to these isolated settlements. Karim has been sick for six days, her relatives say.

She suffered a severe headache and has been almost lifeless since, mumbling incoherently and barely responding when she is touched.

Men carry the girl on a green stretcher to a four-wheel drive vehicle for the bumpy one and a half hour journey.

Villemaire initially suspects meningitis but staff at the hospital believe she may have cerebral malaria.

Rainy season forces move the refugees living away from the camps used to be easier to find, Villemaire says, as they set up a makeshift community close to a pickup point for transfers to the camps.

But the arrival of the rainy season about a month ago turned the land from semi-desert into fertile green terrain and local people needed the area the refugees were camping on for farming.

The refugees have dispersed to live with host families in villages or try to make their own way to camps some 50 km away.

"You have to go to every village (now)," said Villemaire, who comes from Montreal and has spent the past five months in eastern Chad. "Before, we knew where they were."

They have yet to be properly registered so they can receive tents and other aid.

At the Adre hospital, the arrival of refugees in the area has increased admissions by 50 percent, putting extra strain on a very basic health system.

Seven malnourished children — two local, five refugees — lie in beds draped with mosquito nets in the 40-bed hospital. "Every day we have two or three coming," said Virginie Georges, a French nurse with Medecins Sans Frontieres who is working as a hospital coordinator.

# Diplomat's release in Iraq offers some hope

BAGHDAD, July 27 (Reuters) - The release of an Egyptian diplomat in Iraq offered a ray of hope on Tuesday for a dozen other nationals held captive and under threat of execution.

Guerrillas have stepped up a campaign of hostage-taking in the past week, piling pressure on foreign troops and firms to leave as a 15-month insurgency shows no sign of abating.

Egyptian diplomat Mohamed Mamdouh Qutb was freed overnight after being snatched as he left a Baghdad mosque last Friday. Qutb, the number three in Egypt's embassy, said he was seized because his captors had objected to Cairo hosting a visit last week by interim Iraqi Prime Minister Iyad Allawi. "Thank God, I was treated well," a relaxed Qutb said outside Egypt's embassy on Tuesday.

He was the first diplomat to be seized in a wave of abductions to hit Iraq since April. He said no deal had been struck to secure his release.

Nationals from India, Kenya, Egypt, Pakistan and Jordan, mainly truck drivers, have been seized in the past week. Their capture has coincided with the Philippines' withdrawal of troops to spare the life of a Filipino hostage.

The United States, Australia and Iraq's interim government have accused Manila of encouraging more abductions through the withdrawal. Guerrillas have also intensified a wave of assassinations of senior Iraqi officials since U.S.-led occupiers handed over sovereign powers on June 28.

A senior official at Mahmudiya hospital south of Baghdad was

killed late on Monday, a Health Ministry spokesman said.

Kassim Mohamed al-Ubadi, the hospital's assistant director, died in a "terrorist act", the spokesman said, without giving details. Insurgents also fired at least one mortar round in central Baghdad early on Tuesday, killing an Iraqi civilian and wounding another, police at the scene said.

The mortar landed in a residential area near the "Green Zone" compound which houses the Iraqi government and the U.S. embassy, a target of repeated guerrilla attacks.

It's not right, young men are being killed every day. For what?" wailed an elderly woman at the scene. It was unclear if she was related to the dead man, whose body was under a sheet.

The insurgents are believed to be a mix of loyalists to deposed dictator Saddam Hussein, nationalist guerrillas opposed to the presence of 160,000 foreign troops in Iraq and foreign Islamic fighters.

### Kenya hopeful

Dozens of foreign nationals have been taken hostage since April.

Some have been freed, but at least six have been killed by their captors, four of them by beheading.

Kenyan Foreign Minister Chirau Ali Mwakwere said he was hopeful about the fate of three Kenyans being held.

"A number of significant developments have taken place.

These developments have raised our hopes and left us more optimistic that this unfortunate crisis will be resolved, sooner than

later," he said without elaborating.

Three Indians and an Egyptian were taken hostage with the Kenyans, who all work for a Kuwaiti firm. Other hostages include two Pakistanis and two Jordanians.

A number of Iraqis have also been seized, although these abductions often have financial rather than political motives.

Nearly two dozen countries have had to deal with kidnappings since April. Their dilemmas have sparked some testy exchanges with the United States and its allies, especially Australia.

The Australian government refused to apologise to Spain and the Philippines on Tuesday after blaming them for encouraging militants to issue threats by withdrawing troops from Iraq.

Foreign Minister Alexander Downer said both countries needed "to face up to the truth" that they were being exploited.

Spain summoned Australia's ambassador in Madrid on Monday to protest at Downer's comments over the past two days. "There's no point in trying to scurry away from the truth ... I am sensitive about the fact that terrorists use the examples of Spain and the Philippines in order to put pressure on Australia," Downer told Australian radio.

Spain's Socialist party had vowed to pull troops out of Iraq and made good on its promise after unexpectedly winning a March 11 election, three days after 191 people were killed in coordinated train bombings in Madrid blamed on militants.



# Asia floods kill 1,000, Bangladesh capital swamped

DHAKA, July 27 (Reuters) - A boat carrying people to a flood shelter capsized in Bangladesh on Tuesday pushing the death toll higher as the worst flooding in years turned the capital, Dhaka, into an open sewer and disease spread.

The death toll from three weeks of devastation in Bangladesh is more than 400 and across south Asia floods have killed more than 1,000, officials said. A boat taking people to a shelter in Dharsingdi, 100 km (60 miles) from Dhaka, capsized, drowning 11 people, officials said.

About two-thirds of the low-lying and impoverished nation is under water in the worst floods in 15 years.

Disaster relief officials said new deaths were reported from all over the country from drowning, disease and snakebites and when houses collapsed. The floods have also killed as many as 630 people in India's eastern state of Bihar and northeastern state of Assam. In Bihar, state relief minister Ram Vichar Rai said more than 320 bodies had been found in remote areas in the last 72 hours as flood waters receded.

The toll could rise sharply in coming days, he said.

This year's death toll in Bihar was the highest in three years of floods. State relief and rehabilitation officer R.S. Tewari said he expected the toll to rise as rescuers reached remote parts of the impoverished state.

The death toll in the northeastern Indian state of Assam rose to 170, officials said. About 12 million people had been affected by the floods, which had disrupted essential supplies.

"There is an acute scarcity of baby food and over 500,000 babies affected during the floods are starving," Assam Health Minister Bhumidhar Burman said.

More than 200 doctors and paramedics had been called in to battle disease, he told Reuters.

Floods have inundated large parts of



A rickshaw driver and people in a raft move through a flooded road at Chagaon near Keraniganj in the Bangladesh capital Dhaka on July 27. At least 100 more people were reported killed in floods in Bangladesh on Tuesday, taking the death toll from three weeks of devastation to almost 400 in the country and over 1,000 in south Asia, officials said. About two-thirds of the low-lying and impoverished nation is under water in the worst floods in 15 years with the capital Dhaka, among the worst-hit areas. REUTERS

the Bangladeshi capital, forcing thousands of families into shelters where authorities were distributing food and drinking water.

Officials said more than 100,000 people had moved into schools and high-rise buildings in the city, and thousands more were expected to join them.

"There is hardly any room left for them," said an official in the Old Dhaka area.

Some shelters had been flooded. "OPEN SEWER" A city soccer stadium had been turned into a shelter for about 10,000 people.

"We came here from slums around

the city but life is even harder here, with little food but no electricity, no latrines and mosquito bites at night," said Sufia Begum, a woman taking shelter at the stadium.

The number of people nearly doubled in one Old Dhaka shelter in the 24 hours to Tuesday afternoon and food and medical supplies running short. Streets were waist-deep in water and boats replaced rickshaws.

Dhaka's sewage system had stopped functioning and water-borne diseases were rampant.

"Conditions are getting worse every day. The water is rising and bringing in more filth," said govern-

ment official Abu Kalam.

"We are living in an open sewer." Officials told people not to eat fish caught in floodwaters.

Health officials said at least 60 people had died of diarrhoea and other water-borne diseases and doctors said the flow of patients, most of them

children, would rise. It is the worst flooding in Bangladesh since 1988 when about 3,500 people died.

The floods have left more than 10 million people homeless.

Agriculture officials said paddy and other crops worth \$380 million had been lost.

## Ivory Coast foes to hold last chance peace talks

ABIDJAN, July 27 (Reuters) - Ivory Coast's president, rebels and opposition leaders will start make-or-break talks in Ghana on Thursday to revive a moribund peace deal in the world's top cocoa producer, still split in two by civil war.

The rebels, who accuse President Laurent Gbagbo of hobbling the peace accord, say the meeting in Ghana's capital Accra is the last chance to find a political solution to the crisis.

Gbagbo's camp says the rebels must disarm before key issues of the deal — such as new rules on who can run for president — can be addressed. Reforms, including a nationality law which is a major aspect of the agreement, are also stalled in parliament.

Sceptical diplomats in Ivory Coast's economic capital Abidjan fear the meeting in Accra, which will be attended by U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan and several African leaders, is unlikely to yield a breakthrough.

"It's hard to see what will come out of it," said a Western diplomat. "I think the best we can hope for is fresh pledges on disarmament and transparent elections."

The conflict, which grew out of a failed coup in September 2002, killed thousands and displaced more than a million people.

While the war was officially declared over last year, progress towards peace has been stalled by political bickering and no disarmament has yet taken place.

The country is now divided between a rebel-controlled north and a government-held south,

with French and United Nations troops policing a ceasefire line in the middle.

Fighting has largely stopped but a power-sharing government set up under a French-brokered peace deal has been paralysed since March after the rebels and opposition parties pulled out.

"The central problem in the Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) crisis is that neither party to the conflict is operating in good faith," said a recent report by Brussels-based think-tank International Crisis Group.

It said politicians, rebels, businessmen and security forces were making so much money out of the political deadlock — called by Ivorians a "neither peace nor war" situation — that few had the will to break it.

The talks also risk being overshadowed by the Darfur crisis, which Nigeria said on Monday would also be discussed in Accra.

Gbagbo was elected in a disputed poll in 2000 from which key opposition candidates were barred.

The next presidential election is due in 2005 and the peace accord signed near Paris in January 2003 says the constitution must be changed to ensure all candidates are allowed to stand.

However Gbagbo says this must be put to a referendum which can only take place if the country is reunited, effectively making rebel disarmament a condition for any political reform.

Diplomats also say the possibility of U.N. sanctions against people seen as blocking the peace process is being looked at, although no decision has been taken yet.

## Militants disrupt radio in Pakistan tribal belt



A Pakistani military soldier takes position in a bunker on a mountain in the outskirts of Wana, the main town of Pakistan's South Waziristan tribal region, near the Afghan border. REUTERS

WANA, Pakistan, July 27 (Reuters) - Militants in Pakistan's troubled tribal belt sabotaged a radio transmission tower, forcing a pro-government radio station off the airwaves, officials said on Tuesday.

The state-run Pashto language radio station began broadcasting just a week ago as part of a government campaign to win over disaffected Pashtun tribals in the South Waziristan tribal agency. The army has pursued several offensives against al Qaeda and Taliban fighters and their local supporters in the tribal region bordering Afghanistan

in recent months.

Militants detonated explosive charges at the foot of the tower, officials said. After the saboteurs struck, they exchanged small arms fire with security forces.

"Part of the base of the tower has been badly damaged," one Wana resident said. "The tower is not standing straight now. It is leaning on one side." Radio broadcasts from South Waziristan's main town of Wana had included news, discussion and religious programmes and music.

Some 200 people have been killed in

clashes between militants and security forces in South Waziristan since March.

Officials estimate 600 foreign fighters, including Arabs, Chechens and Uzbeks, are hiding in Pakistan's tribal belt bordering Afghanistan.

Many tribesmen sympathise with the Afghan Taliban — who are also mostly fellow Pashtuns.

They are angered by Pakistan's support for the U.S.-led war on terror that toppled the Taliban militia rule in Afghanistan in late 2001.

## Ex-general favoured for Indonesia presidency

JAKARTA, July 27 (Reuters) - Indonesian presidential election front-runner Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono is likely to win a September run-off against incumbent Megawati Sukarnoputri, according to two opinion polls published on Tuesday.

The polls came a day after the election commission released results from the July 5 first round presidential poll in which Yudhoyono took 33.6 percent, while Megawati won 26.6 percent to come second among five candidates.

But Yudhoyono said a brief September 14-16 official campaign period before the September 20 run-off might benefit Megawati, and hurt his chances. "With only three days for campaigning, someone like me ... does not have a big chance."

While my competitor Madam Megawati, who is still the president, has opportunities to communicate to the public.

That holds political value," Yudhoyono told reporters in the city of Surabaya. Both candidates are free to speak and attend public events outside the official period, but they cannot run advertising or engage in direct campaigning such as holding rallies. Yudhoyono is an outsider who became hot favourite after

resigning as chief security minister from Megawati's cabinet during a row this year.

He has ridden a wave of popular sympathy over his departure from the cabinet but some analysts say this has waned.

As the daughter of Indonesia's independence hero and founding president, Megawati inherits support from many Indonesians who adore the memory of her enigmatic father, Sukarno, despite criticism that she has been an aloof president who has had limited success boosting the economy and fighting corruption.

Both are secular nationalists whose anti-terrorist stances and relatively orthodox economics go down well with investors, but some analysts see Yudhoyono as a stronger leader.

In a nationwide survey by the Indonesian Survey Institute (LSI) in mid-July, 68 percent of 1,200 respondents said they would choose Yudhoyono.

Megawati got 23 percent of support while nine percent of those questioned were either undecided or declined to answer.

"Interestingly, Megawati Sukarnoputri's gain in the second round, according to this poll, was lower than what she got in the first," LSI research

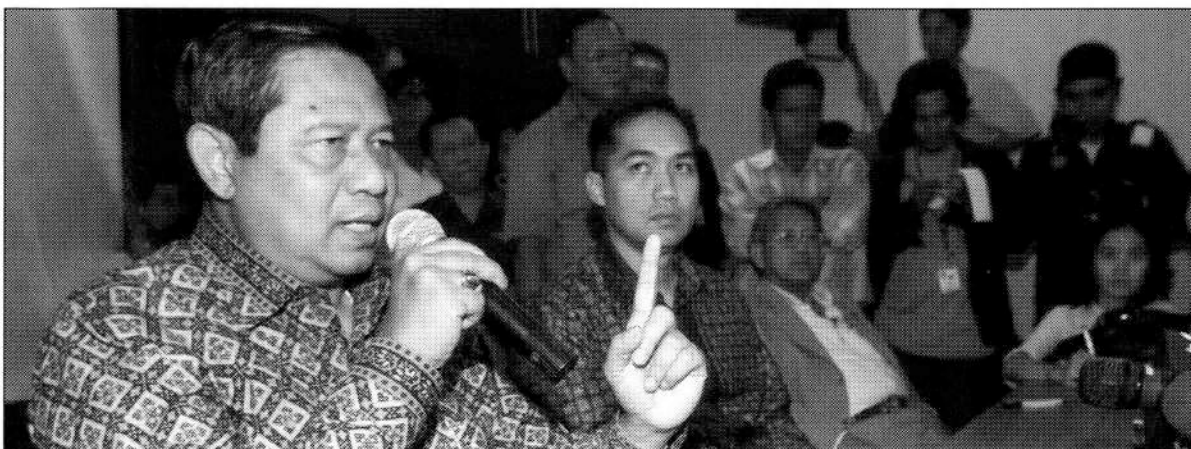
director Muhammad Qodari told reporters.

"The public in a head-to-head battle may think over their previous picks and change their choices or probably Megawati's supporters are just hiding their preferences," he said

Swatching votes

A survey earlier in July by the Jakarta-based Institute of Social and Economic Research showed most supporters of the three presidential candidates who lost in the first round had not yet made a choice about the next round. "But for the voters who have decided to switch, SBY seems to have a better chance," Muhammad Husain, the institute's research director, told reporters, referring to Yudhoyono by his nickname.

"SBY at least would get around 10 million more votes from supporters of the candidates who did not pass while Megawati would receive three million," he said. Surveys published before the first round predicted Yudhoyono would win with 40-48 percent of the vote and Megawati would trail him by 10-20 percent. Some pollsters said those surveys might have failed to assess Megawati's appeal as Sukarno's daughter.



Yudhoyono speaks in a news conference in Surabaya. Indonesian presidential election front-runner Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono speaks during a press conference in Surabaya, East Java on July 27. Yudhoyono is likely to win a September run-off against incumbent Megawati Sukarnoputri, according to two opinion polls issued on Tuesday. REUTERS



# U.S. releases French Guantanamo suspects: Radio

PARIS, July 27 (Reuters) - The United States has handed over to France several French nationals held without charge in the U.S. military prison at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba for more than two years, state-run France Info radio said.

A lawyer for one of the detainees said he had been informed by the Foreign Ministry on Monday of the men's impending release but could not confirm all seven French detainees at Guantanamo would be sent back to France.

The radio said the men were due back in France around midday (1000 GMT) aboard a special flight and would be interviewed later by a leading anti-terrorist investigator.

"I was informed by the (Foreign Ministry) yesterday of their return and that a plane had been chartered," lawyer Jacques Debray said by telephone. He added that the plane had been chartered by the French government and had arrived in Guantanamo on Monday to pick up the men.

Debray told RMC radio separately: "They will very likely be placed

in detention as soon as they set foot in the plane. In terrorism cases, detention can last up to four days."

Some of the men could be placed under formal investigation, he said, adding it was too early to say what the precise charges might be.

The Foreign Ministry declined comment on the reports. "We have nothing to say at this stage except that we are continuing our contacts" with the United States over the men's release, said spokesman Herve Ladsous.

Justice Minister Dominique Perben said during a visit to Washington in May that some or all of the Frenchmen held in Guantanamo could be released within weeks.

But last month his ministry denied a local government official's claim that four men had been freed. The Justice Ministry was not immediately available for comment.

## RUSSIA ATTACK PLOT

Among those detained is Mourad Benchellali, son of a Muslim prayer

leader in the Lyon suburb of Venissieux, who is under official investigation by anti-terrorist magistrates along with another son, his wife and three others.

They are investigating alleged plans to attack Russian interests in France, including Moscow's embassy in Paris, as a reprisal for Russian actions in its rebel Chechnya region.

The Frenchmen are among about 600 suspected al Qaeda and Taliban members still held at Guantanamo after being captured during the U.S.-led war in Afghanistan, which began weeks after the September 11, 2001, attacks on the United States.

Washington, criticised by human rights groups and many governments for holding the detainees without charging them, has already handed over some prisoners to Britain and Denmark.

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled last month that the detainees could challenge their confinement in the U.S. courts, a major setback for U.S. President George W. Bush.



French military plane carrying the released French detainees from the U.S. military camp in Guantanamo Bay, lands at the military air base at Evreux, 70kms (40 miles) from Paris, July 27. REUTERS

# Kerry calls for extension of 9/11 commission

NORFOLK, Va., July 27 (Reuters) - Democrat John Kerry portrayed himself as a viable alternative to George W. Bush as commander in chief on Tuesday and sought to erode the president's advantage on homeland security by vowing to extend the Sept. 11 commission's work for another 18 months.

On the eve of his arrival at the Democratic National Convention in Boston where he will formally accept his party's nomination as Bush's opponent in the Nov. 2 election, Kerry said the United States "simply must act, not as partisans, but as patriots."

"We understand the threat," the decorated Navy veteran said as he stood in front of the battleship Wisconsin moored on the Norfolk waterfront. "We have a blueprint for action. ... The only thing we don't have is time."

The four-term senator from Massachusetts said the panel, which found "deep institutional failings" in government led to the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, should stay on the job for at least another 18 months and report every six months on the progress made in implementing its recommendations.

The bipartisan commission issued its final report on Thursday. It is to formally dissolve on Aug. 26.

"If I'd been president last week, I would have immediately said to the commission 'yes, we're going to implement those recommendations,'" Kerry said. "Leadership requires that we act decisively. Not talk. Not vague promises. Not excuses. Pedaling and back-pedaling is something America can't afford."

Bush, who originally opposed creation of the commission, said last week he wanted to study the report before deciding what to do.

## A GREAT DEBATE

However, Vice President Dick



Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry (D-MA) walks past the USS Wisconsin battleship in Norfolk, Virginia, July 27. Kerry will formally accept the Democratic nomination for president at the party's convention in Boston on July 29. REUTERS

Cheney indicated the administration may not embrace all aspects of the report. "We're at the beginning here of what should be a great debate," he said on Monday. "I don't agree with absolutely everything that's in it."

Adding to pressure on Bush was a warning by commission Chairman Thomas Kean that "time is not on our side" in heading off another attack on U.S. soil. Kean has said that al Qaeda is determined to launch an attack and if it can, it will try to use nuclear, chemical or biological weapons.

A contentious issue Bush must tackle is whether to endorse the creation of a new post of national intelligence director, something Kerry has advocated.

Bush has focused his campaign for re-election largely on the argument that he has made America safer since the Sept. 11 attacks, which killed nearly 3,000 people, and has maintained an advantage in the polls over Kerry on the issue of homeland security. One of

Kerry's key aims — and also of Democrats at the Boston convention — is to chip away at that.

Kerry, a decorated Vietnam War veteran, was joined by retired Vice Admiral Lee Gunn, who told about a 1,000 supporters gathered at a waterfront park in Norfolk — home to the world's largest Navy base — that they should have no fear about changing commanders in chief "in the middle of a war."

Kerry vowed to expand active duty U.S. military forces by 40,000, stop the Bush administration's "backdoor draft" and redirect the National Guard for homeland security, double special forces capability and reform national intelligence services.

"As president, just as I fought for our country as a young man, I will never hesitate to use force if we need it," Kerry said, but added he would never take the United States to war simply because "we want to" but "only because we have to."

# Thousands watch funeral of IRA icon Cahill

BELFAST, July 27 (Reuters) - Joe Cahill, a founding father of the modern Irish Republican Army (IRA), was buried on Tuesday with his funeral procession watched by thousands of the streets of staunchly Catholic west Belfast.

Catholic republicans saw Cahill as an icon because of his central role in their fight to end British rule in Northern Ireland, but he was reviled by pro-British Protestant unionists who considered him a terrorist godfather.

Senior members of the IRA and its political ally Sinn Fein attended a requiem mass in Cahill's native west Belfast, after which the veteran guerrilla leader was buried in the republican plot at nearby Milltown Cemetery.

Cahill, who narrowly escaped hanging in the 1940s and was briefly IRA chief of staff in the early 1970s, died on Friday after a short illness. He was 84 and had suffered from asbestosis for some years.

"Joe was a physical force republican, he made no apology for that," said Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams in a graveside speech.

"But like all sensible people who resort to armed struggle because they feel there is no alternative, he was prepared to defend, support and promote other options ... Without doubt there would be no peace process today without Joe Cahill."

## GUARD OF HONOUR IN BERETS

Earlier Adams and Sinn Fein deputy leader Martin McGuinness had helped carry Cahill's coffin, which was



Mourners follow the coffin of former IRA chief-of-staff Joe Cahill past Andersonstown police station on the Falls Road during his funeral in west Belfast, July 27. The 84-year-old veteran Irish republican leader, who escaped execution in 1942 after killing a policeman, died on Friday after a short illness. REUTERS

draped in an Irish tricolour and accompanied by a guard of honour in black suits and berets.

Cahill was one of six IRA men sentenced to death for the murder of a policeman in 1942, but his sentence was commuted to life imprisonment by the British and he was freed in 1949.

He was imprisoned during the old IRA's failed 1956-1962 "Border Campaign", and was among hardliners who split from the Dublin-based organisation and formed the Provisional IRA when sectarian violence erupted in Belfast in 1969.

As the guerrilla group's first Belfast commander he gained a reputation for ruthlessness at a time when the IRA was carrying out gun and bomb attacks with no warning in Northern Ireland and England.

But he later became a strong supporter of the peace strategy adopted by the Sinn Fein leadership, helping Adams and McGuinness persuade IRA hawks to support a ceasefire in 1994.

In 2003 he won a standing ovation at Sinn Fein's annual conference in Dublin when he told delegates: "We've won the war, now let us win the peace."

# Iraqi victims allege UK troops committed war crimes

LONDON, July 27 (Reuters) - British troops committed "war crimes" in post-war Iraq, unlawfully killing civilians and beating and torturing prisoners in their custody, lawyers for the victims said on Tuesday.

Soldiers played cruel "games" with prisoners — forcing them to recite lists of English or Dutch footballers and beating them if they failed, Phil Shiner, a British lawyer leading six test cases in the High Court this week, told reporters.

In allegations echoing claims of prisoner abuse by U.S. soldiers in Iraq, Shiner said another "game" favoured by British troops involved a group of soldiers surrounding a prisoner and taking turns to see how hard they could kick-box him.

"The idea seemed to be to splat (the prisoner) against the wall if at all possible," he said at a news conference.

"I feel ashamed that we could have gone to war over principles of democracy and the rule of law, and that something (like this) could have happened,"

Shiner told a news conference.

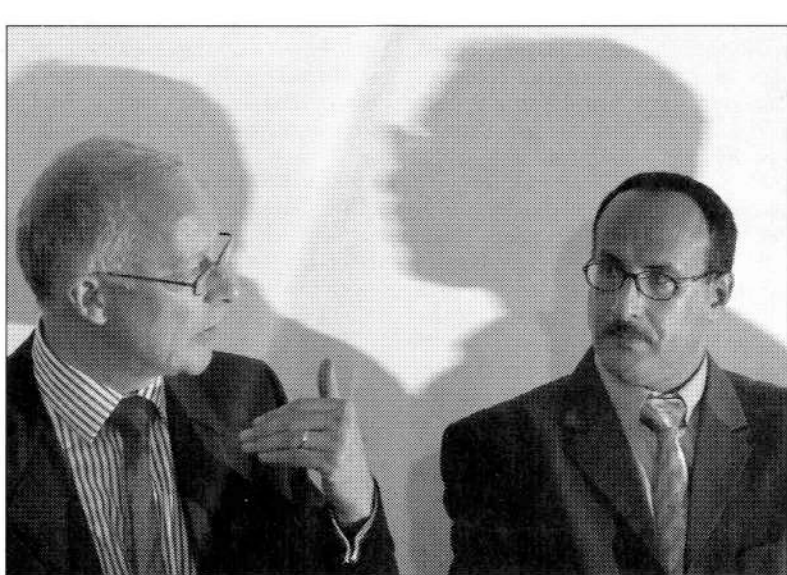
"These cases raise absolutely fundamental issues of human rights and international law. If these abuses go unchecked, if there is no accountability, then that completely undermines the rule of law."

Shiner, of Public Interest Lawyers, said he was now acting for 37 cases of alleged unlawful killing, torture or mistreatment by British troops in postwar Iraq.

The test cases, which open in the High Court on Wednesday, involve five Iraqi civilians who were killed in shootings while going about their daily lives after the official end of the U.S.-led war on Iraq in May 2003.

Another case involves the death of Baha Mousa, an Iraqi former hotel receptionist who died in British custody after suffering what his lawyers said were "severe beatings".

A spokesman for Britain's Ministry of Defence (MoD) said it would be "robustly" defending the case.



Iraqi Kifah Taha al-Mutari (R), who claims he was beaten whilst being detained by the British Army in Iraq, and lawyer Phil Shiner attend a news conference in London, July 27. British troops committed "war crimes in post-war Iraq with the unlawful killing of civilians and beating and torture of prisoners in their custody, lawyers for the victims alleged in the news conference on Tuesday. REUTERS

"We have every confidence in the existing legal framework in which our armed forces are operating," he told Reuters. "The MoD will defend this position robustly."

Mousa, 26, died in September 2003 after soldiers arrested him and at least seven other young Iraqis in the southern city of Basra. His body was returned to his family four days later, battered and caked with blood.

Mousa's father, Daoud Mousa, said in a statement distributed at the news conference he was horrified when he saw his son's body.

"He had been beaten so severely I could not bear to look at him," he said. "I am not against British troops in Iraq and I am glad that Saddam Hussein has gone, but all my family demands is justice for the horrific death of my son."

A former colleague of Mousa, Kifah Taha al-Mutari, told reporters he too was almost beaten to death by British troops after being arrested at the same time.

"I wish to know why I was detained

and beaten so badly by British troops," he said. "A British medical expert concluded that I could have died of my injuries. I believe my treatment by British soldiers was inhumane, illegal and unjustified."

In a preliminary hearing at the High Court in May, lawyers won the right to a judicial review to challenge the government's refusal to open independent inquiries into the civilian deaths.

At this week's hearings lawyers will argue that because the Iraq war was officially over when the six victims died, and because Britain was an occupying power, the European Convention on Human Rights should apply and full independent inquiries should be launched.

"If we succeed, then we will get an inquiry — and it would be a single inquiry to look at the cause of these deaths," Shiner said. "If the allegations ... were to be found proven at an inquiry, then undoubtedly they come full square within the definition of war crimes."



**Words of Wisdom**



One of the major problems of Yemen is that there is no way of identifying the true worth of an individual in terms of knowledge and know-how. All levels of examinations in schools have lost their meaning, and they have become hollow procedures. Cheating is rampant, evaluation is less than objective and thorough, and grades are "adjusted and readjusted" long after the results are announced.

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

**Opposing 'same-sex' marriage**

By ABDULHAQQ ABDULLAH  
ministry\_of\_truth\_101@yahoo.com  
For the Yemen Times

I'd like to respond to the letter on same sex marriages by Mr Christoph Lombardo, printed in the Yemen Times (issue no 754 on Monday 12th July 2004)

Firstly his presumption that 'we all agree that one is born straight, gay or bisexual, and that one does not choose one's sexual orientation' is not only incorrect but completely misses the point. Assuming that in one blasé statement Mr Christoph Lombard has solved the whole nature / nurture debate - it is of no importance. Debating whether homosexuals are born as such or are shaped by social circumstances misses the point, and either way, the logical conclusion is one that alleviates all responsibility from the individual, and implicitly depicts all homosexuals as victims. One feels obliged to exclaim out loud "ah, there, there, poor oppressed homosexual, it's not your fault you're gay and have had to suffer cruel subjugation all your life at the hands of an ignorant and bigoted world which refuses to understand your terrible plight and daily struggle for acceptance. You poor, poor oppressed - and by

definition innocent - minority". However, child molesters, rapists and insane axe murderers all have just as strong a case - surely they too were either born that way or shaped by society, in neither scenario did they 'choose' their desires or their 'way of life' - are they not also victims or members of an oppressed minority group just as deserving of our sympathy? The point is that whether one chooses it or one feels compelled, degenerate or criminal behaviour is shunned and reprimanded by society. A murderer is not absolved from blame because he hears voices in his head, rather the criminally insane are taken into care and criminals into custody precisely to protect everyone from the dangers they pose. Whether we perceive those who commit crime (or encourage criminal activity) as being victims or criminals is far less important than the fact that they commit or advocate crime.

So is homosexuality a crime? Well certainly in the West homosexuality is not a crime, on the contrary the personal and sexual freedom of homosexuals is championed and to voice disagreement with that is a terrible social faux-pas. However according to the three largest monotheistic religions (Judaism, Christianity and Islam) homosexuality is

a crime. And more precisely, according to Yemeni law (by which Mr. Lombardo must surely abide whilst a resident in Yemen) homosexuality is a crime.

I myself am a Muslim, and therefore hold that homosexuality is a crime. Not because I'm a bigot, not because I have any particular prejudice against a choice of lifestyle, or because I have any particular 'phobia' or deeply hidden doubts about my own sexual identity. I understand homosexuality to be wrong because I'm a Muslim and know that Islam forbids it - just as Islam forbids theft, murder, the eating of pork, any extra marital sex and many other things.

By calling for tolerance of same sex marriages Mr. Lombardo implicitly argues the irrelevance and impracticality of Islam, and the need to separate religious teaching from ruling. It is this clandestine propaganda and the effort to justify something that Islam explicitly forbade, which is really the problem. Quite honestly I don't care what sordid activities Mr. Lombardo conducts in the privacy of his bedroom, whether with animal vegetable or mineral, but when he draws public attention to himself and seeks a public nod of approval - a society of Muslims must say no. I wonder if the authorities in Yemen agree with myself or with Mr. Lombardo.

**COMMON SENSE**



By Hassan Al-Haifi

**Where health comes in**

The Yemeni Constitution guaranteed adequate health care for all citizens, with the government footing the bill if necessary. We have indeed made tremendous strides in making a significant amount of health care available to the Yemeni people. The father of this observer was the first General Manager of the first hospital in Yemen, the embryo of what is now the Republican Hospital in Sana'a. In the Early 1950s, this hospital was no more than a few mud brick buildings of a few rooms each and a small administration at the entrance way. There were a couple of Italian doctors manning the hospital, as there were not even any Yemeni nurses. The best that any Yemeni health staff could do then was maybe administer a syringe (There were no disposable syringes yet, so the syringes had to be sterilized and boiled and used over and over again. Over time, many Yemenis were under the impression that if you were not given a needle, you were not given proper medical attention. This may be the reason why Hepatitis is widespread in Yemen.

In any case, now we are fortunate to find quite a significant number of doctors in Yemen, many of whom are proven good doctors. On the other hand quite a lot of them are quite exploitative, and some have managed to establish many private hospitals which have done quite a lot to alleviate the burden on already overcrowded government health and medical facilities. Most of these public hospitals are poorly equipped and furnished and going through the ordeal of obtaining treatment there is a nightmare for some, especially the poor and deprived, who do not have any connections in these hospitals.

It used to be said that the only way you can get sick in Sana'a is if you forced yourself to be sick. The air in Sana'a was so clean and with the humidity so low, you do not have suitable breeding grounds for germs and bacteria. But now with Sana'a so overpopulated and crowded, and with inadequate sanitation facilities make some neighborhoods a health disaster area, the rate of affliction is increasing and one is not surprised to see all the public and private medical clinics and hospitals crowded with whining sick people, each with about five people accompanying them. One is rather amused at seeing so many people accompanying sick people at these clinics. One wonders if this does not make the ill more uncomfortable and even might frighten the sick to think that these people are just here to see them pass away. Whatever the case, health service in the country definitely needs a giant overhaul. Public health service should be for the poor and the deprived. Standards need to be set up for proper health care and for this the medical profession needs to get its act together to set up the oversight mechanisms that will insure both public and private ethical conduct in meting out medical services. The government alone is incapable of oversight of this nature. The government health sector also needs a significant boost in their budget allocations, since the percentage of the budget for the health sector does not exceed 5%, in the best of years. The observer is inclined to believe that channeling much of the irrelevant and mostly political expenditures to the health sector would do a lot to improve the situation in the public health sector.

Much of the work in spreading health care is being carried out by some of the Social Safety Net schemes, especially the Social Development Fund and the Public Works Project, both funded by donors. The former is doing outstanding work in this area in far remote areas of the country and is indeed fulfilling its social protection component with a greater finesse than most of the other schemes.

One is also aware of the great strides that the public sector has made in providing health care to a substantial element of the population, who would otherwise have had to go overseas - a very taxing undertaking for most Yemenis. Now most overseas medical trips are carried out by senior government officials, who will somehow manage the appropriate budget allocations from which to pay for their expensive medical expeditions abroad for the most minor of illnesses. Albeit, this is happening when, in fact, most of these officials can pay for such expeditions out of their pockets without denting their net worth.

We now come to an important element that is still missing in Yemen in health care provision. We need the private sector to come with a health insurance scheme for many of the Yemenis, who are reliant on fixed salaries and thus cannot afford to meet serious health emergencies when they arise. There are already good developments in the insurance market, including pension schemes and car insurance and other risk protection, but the health sector has been mostly closed to the insurance business. There are some minor schemes that have developed here and there, but they do not cover large elements of the population and their rates would be unaffordable for most salaried employees.

The observer is inclined to agree with the observation that the private health sector needs to be regulated, but the medical profession should be encouraged to set up and manage the regulating mechanisms. Most Yemeni doctors have proven that they have strong ethical standards and would be best able to institutionalize ethical medical practice to the benefit of all the medical profession and their growing clientele of Yemeni patients.

**OUR OPINION**

**Israel against the world**

The defiance of Israel, and the support it got from the USA and Australia, in opposing the UN vote on the necessity to have Israel demolish the so-called security barrier, is yet another indication that the small state is again at odds with most of the rest of the world.

This also confirms the belief of many countries and people, about the unbelievably strong influence of Israel on the USA concerning various issues about Israel. Such extreme or radical positions of the USA and Israel are deepening the gap between those two countries and the world. The polls around the world, particularly in Europe, are unprecedented in their anti-Israel stance and in a way more than at any other time.

The support of 150 countries for the UN decision to request Israel to remove the barrier, (which was judged to be illegal according to the International Court of Justice of The Hague, was also not enough to enforce this state to abide by international law.

It is easily concluded that Israel is almost 100% dependent upon the USA to block any potential security resolution that would force the country to comply. If we take the vote as a democratic expression of nations of the world, we would arrive at the conclusion that again, Israel, and its regular ally, the USA, have come out again against the international will of the rest of the world.

Then again, Americans still ask, "Why do Arabs hate our government?". It is obvious that the USA's performance in Iraq, the Middle East, and elsewhere was very inefficient, and biased. With the USA doing its best to hurt Arabs through its unjustified, non-conditional support for an occupying country, in violation of international law, it will never be appealing to Arab and Muslim people any where in the world.

Again, we find Israel defying intentional opinion and consensus, and we still find the US supporting it regardless of whether it is right or wrong. I wonder if Americans are as undemocratic as to think that the whole world is wrong and only Israel is right. If they think so, then I deeply believe that Americans are still unable to resist the influence of the political media and resort to common sense and logical thinking. Will the day come that Americans realize this?

I hope so.

*The Editor*

**The true colour of Israel**

By ALAWI TAHA  
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FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

A crime has been committed, especially when the reason for the war has been all based on lies. You can't say 'this is why we are going to war' and then fail to give the evidence which we already knew never existed, and then say, 'ok, it wasn't my fault but CIA and FBI and MI6' and 'well we know he has the power to do it and make chemical weapons.' Bush is the President and he gave the order and so he is accountable for his actions and venomous words, and so is the case with Tony Blair.

Israel has made a farce of Truth and Justice, playing games as they usually do by focusing the media on Syria. Ariel Sharon is a terrorist and doesn't

give a damn about anyone's law but his own.

If Israel doesn't abide the decisions of the worlds courts then what the hell has the USA given Israel 5-6 billions dollars for? Why are they providing Israel with all the tanks, guns and all the weapons they need to kill the Palestinian people? Is Israel above the law? It looks like the USA isn't run by Americans and nor by any leader but is a puppet for Israel!

The wall in Occupied Palestine is illegal, and has been taken to court and Israel still wont abide by the law.

This like I said before is showing the true colour of Israel! The true colours of Israel, are shown by the hatred and despise evident in their political games to kick out the Palestinians from their own homes.

Let us not forget...It is called Occupied Palestine because of two

nations...USA and BRITAIN! These two governments seem to be puppets of Israel.

To the people of America! Why are you giving your billions of dollars, especially in light of the growing debt that you are in, why are you giving 5-6 billion dollars to Israel...a YEAR! 6 Billion dollars a year from your hard earned wages! This money comes from your taxes! The taxes that suppose to provide an education for your children, help your economy, and pay the debts USA is accumulating.

A crime has been committed and three men should be on trail for crimes against humanity: 1) Ariel Sharon 2) George Bush 3) Tony Blair

America and Britain have been suckered by Israel for so long, it is remarkable how such so called great nations can be this dumb to not see the plot and the agenda of Israel.

*Letters to the Editor*

**Haifi's columns not like used to be**

Once upon a time I used to enjoy Hassan Al-Haifi's column. I don't read it anymore. Mr. Al-Haifi, I am finding out, has a "Bush" fixation. I think he sleeps and wakes up muttering president Bush's name. On the other hand, I don't think Mr. Bush is even aware of Mr. Al-Haifi's existence. That is not the point, though.

I would like Mr. Al-Haifi to exercise the freedom of press that president Ali Abdullah Salih has granted journalists and name government officials in Yemen, or other Arabic countries, just like he names American officials.

Journalists in Iraq and Palestine have no problem voicing their opinions against their respective governments.

So, it is just funny, to me, that freedom of speech exists only in the "occupied" territories. Do you see the irony here?

*Farouk Samawi  
U.S.A  
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**Responding to 'same-sex' marriage article**

I want to comment on the Article written by Christoph Lombardo about the same sex marriage published in Yemen Times recently. I am very surprised to find a man who is proud of being a gay. What a shame!

My dear, you have to be proud of yourself for being a great doctor, teacher, etc or for getting a Nobel Prize or for doing something useful for mankind, but not for being gay nor for supporting same sex marriages. You claimed that you were born gay, what

a silly excuse! All human beings are born natural, then some like you became gay. You are in favor of same sex marriage? i.e., you want a man to marry another man, how? Who will be responsible for the family? Who will give a birth to a child, the first man or the second? My dear, what kind of life are they going to have? Frankly speaking, are you going to have sex with another man, and will you let him have sex with you?

Please, you have to answer.  
*Ian macdonald  
educayem@hotmail.com*

**Qat production must be reduced**

In response to a letter which condemns the consumption of qat and its dire socio-economic consequences on individuals, families, societies and eventual reverberations on the state.

Yemenis potential is hopeful, yet the quagmire of relations between producers, users, and the state is really quagmire alarming, as is the effect of eventual malaise qat has had on Yemeni society.

Qat production should be reduced, working hours increased and consumption restricted to the weekends, namely Thursday and Fridays. Yemen's fertile ground could be used in producing fruit and vegetables rather, than in the import of poorer quality perishable goods which is often more costly to the average buyer.

I guess the failure to see this simple alternative, would illustrate the strength of the qat economy, surely it is the duty of every government to implement the best for its countries' development and

*Letters to the Editor*

its people, that is the tenet of parliamentary representative politics, and the idea of accountability of parliamentarians to their citizens.

Failure to implement a comprehensive program of education on qat, and marginalize the profiteers from this time consuming habit, is counterproductive to some of the fundamental steps that Yemen has undertaken in democratization and the development of the country and its people.

*Najla Abu-Taleb  
najla10@hotmail.com*

**More about Abyssinia**

I am incredibly delighted to see such a critical and intellectually analyzed article on Habesha/Abyssinia. They are people of myth and want to talk just about hallucinations without any historical grounding. They have in fact, very good monks who spent all their lives in caves making up stories and have done a number of imaginary and fantasized depictions of 3000 years of Abyssinian history. The reality lies in your analysis.

They (the Habeshas) also robustly deny that they have colonized non-Abyssinians since 1880s while their king Minilk II was on power for their regions of Tigray, Gonder, Gojam and part of Shoa. Since those times, the have brutalized other non-Abyssinia nations including my second largest Cushitic nation (Sidama) of today's Ethiopia. As you know the Oromo is the largest Cush of Ethiopia and even Africa.

So thank you very much for your deep analysis. Please visit our web site on (www.sidama.org) if you can

and see what I always write on brutal treatment of non-Habesha nations by successive Abyssinian rulers under the pseudo name 'Kambata Xoola' at the news page. If you don't mind we will keep your link on our web site so that we can get information.

Please do you have any comprehensive book written by you on Abyssinia? If you do, I will definitely buy it immediately. Please let me know.

*Denboba Natie  
halale@hotmail.com  
Scotland*

**Save Yemen from catastrophe**

It is obvious that other nations are progressing and moving forward with their lives and we are moving backwards with ours. The cost of living in Yemen is now more than New York City or any world capital, compared to the average national income. How can we make ends meet, bills need to be paid, families need to be fed, sick children need to be treated, and the whole country needs to be saved?

Where are the schools, hospitals, universities that Yemenis were promised? Poor Yemenis are getting more and more depressed every day and are finding it very difficult to survive. In fact, adding insult to injury, rain this year is below average causing potential famine disasters. We don't have enough water anymore, and many underwater wells are now polluted. Action is needed, and hard work is better than sitting, chewing qat and talking nonsense.

*Abdelsam Hidarh  
kbcc@yahoo.com*



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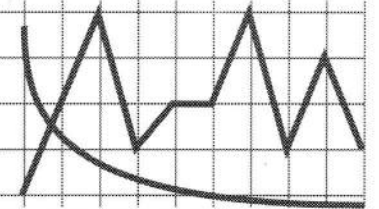
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- To advertise in the paper, contact the advertising department in any of the offices of the newspaper.



# YT Business



## European Commission allocates \$ 11 million for food security in Yemen

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The European Commission has adopted an \$11 million program to support the Yemeni government's efforts to improve food security and alleviate poverty in the country.

The programme seeks to reduce poverty and improve access to food entitlements, by increasing the human, social and physical capital of the poorest segments of the population in the three coastal provinces of Hajja, Hodeidah and Taiz. Employment opportunities and income-generating activities will be created in these three provinces, targeting especially the most insecure and vulnerable households in terms of food.

Under the programme, \$7.2 million is allocated to infrastructure development - including the construction of small-scale irrigation schemes, dams, village access roads, and the upgrading of the water management system - as well as building institutional capacity and community development.

An additional \$1.2 million is allocated to strengthening Yemen's Social Welfare Fund, whilst another \$1.2 million will help establish a food security and vulnerability information system, to assist the government in identifying areas

where further interventions are needed, with the ultimate goal of more effectively poverty fighting. The remaining \$1.4 million is going to be devoted to technical assistance, to follow up on the programme's overall implementation. The EU assistance will be made available to Yemen through two allocations: a \$5 million allocation from the 2004 budget and a \$6 million allocation from the 2005 budget.

This latest food security programme reflects the Commission's firm commitment to encouraging development in a country where around 40% of the population lives under the poverty line. It brings the

total food security assistance granted by the EU to Yemen up to \$68 million since 1996. The Head of the European Commission Delegation to Jordan, Ambassador Robert van der Meulen, who is also accredited to Yemen, stressed that the programme comes in support of Sana'a's own five-year Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper, launched in 2002.

In addition to this new food security programme, the European Commission is also granting \$2 million to non-governmental organizations working in the areas of women's empowerment and food security, Ambassador van der Meulen added.

## Group of infrastructure projects for islands, prepared

BY MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The State Institution for Development of Yemeni Islands has lately prepared a program of a number of projects for infrastructure and development needed by the Yemeni islands numbering about 153 Sea Islands, 20 of which are situated in the Gulf of Aden.

Sources at the Coordination Council entrusted with islands projects have expected that implementation of vital projects are to be started in the island of Kamaran in the Red Sea, which is the second largest Yemeni island with regard to population density amounting to 6 thousand people.

The island of Kamaran was selected to be after the island of Socotra concerning attention to be offered and the state support for building infrastructure projects consolidating the island's capacity of attracting investment funds and tourists to visit it. The State Institution for Development of Yemeni Islands had carried out an economic survey of six Yemeni inhabited islands to determine their infrastructure and the extent of each island needs and the

number of its population. The Coordination Council on projects of Yemeni islands is formed from the ministry of Fish Wealth, State Establishment for Tourism, State Establishment for Geological Survey, State Authority for Marine Affairs, State Authority for Environment protection as well as the State Institution for Development of Yemeni islands.

## Choosing the latest communication systems for competition

BY MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Yemen has chosen the most state-of-art communication systems in the world known by "CDMA" to be the first Arab country to use this system. This comes after Yemen has managed to adopt in an advanced way the use of electronic rial service and occupied the third place in the Arab

region. The CDMA system is an advanced one in its developed technological and services characteristics in the GSM networks.

The MH2 band capacity of this system is 1.25 as it forms in the GSM/02 and channels as a one cell transmission/reception in the CDMA, i.e. 45 while in the GSM is A. the number of subscribers who can contact at the same moment from the same cell can be 405 in CDMA system and 66 in the

GSM system. There are 460 models of the new system available on the market and 46 classified companies and 415 models of the type CDMA 2000. The new system provides video recordings, according to demand, along with compact cameras and RUM chips.

The Yemeni government has opened the competition in the area of offering GSM services and has refused renewal of a contract monopolizing the competition between the two companies of

SABAFON AND SPACETEL. Sources at the state establishment of communications have affirmed that the establishment has already finished technical supplies for operating the CDMA system covering all regions of the republic of Yemen.

It is expected that the concerned parties would shortly announce about the tender to companies intending to invest in this field after the termination of the competition contract of SABAFON AND SPACETEL Yemen.

### Exchange Rate for the Yemeni Rial

Currency	Buying	Selling
US Dollar	184.6700	184.8900
Sterling Pound	339.8500	340.2500
Euro	224.4900	224.7600
Saudi Rial	49.2400	49.3000
Kuwaiti Dinar	626.5700	627.3200
UAE Dirhem	50.2800	50.3400
Egyptian Pound	29.6400	29.6800
Bahraini Dinar	489.8500	490.4300
Qatari Rial	50.7300	50.8000
Jordanian Dinar	260.4700	260.7800
Omani Rial	479.6900	480.2600
Swiss Franc	146.5200	146.6900
Swedish Crown	24.3900	24.4200
Japanese Yen	1.6809	1.6829

Source: Central Bank of Yemen

### Invitation for Bids Republic of Yemen Child Development Project

#### Textbook Warehouses Equipment

Credit No. 3326-YEM  
Bid No. PCU/ICB/02/2004

1-This invitation for bids follows the general procurement notice for this project that appeared in UN Development Business No.555 of 31 March 2001.

2-The Republic of Yemen has received a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) toward the cost of the Child Development Project (CDP),and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this credit to payments under the contract for the supply of Textbook Warehouses equipment .

3-The Project Coordination Unit (PCU) now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for Delivery:

- 50 Hand Held Cellophane Wrapping Device
- 50 Cellophane for wrapping Pallets
- 50 Rolls Plastic Strap
- 5 Battery Operated Walkie Pallet
- 5 Pallet Racking System
- 7 Mini Pallet Lifter
- 5 Normal Length Pallet Lifter
- 30 Porta Cabins to be used for Books storage
- 5 Hand Held Strapping Machine

Bids must be submitted with 100% of the items.

4-Bidding will be conducted through the international competitive bidding Procedures specified in the World Bank's Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits, January 1995 (revised January and August 1996 and September 1997 and January 1999), and is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the guidelines.

5-Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding documents at the Project Coordination Unit (PCU) of Child Development Project at the address below from 08:00 to 15.00 hours.

6-A complete set of bidding documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of USD\$ 50. The method of payment will be cash or bank transfer to the Central Bank of Yemen in Sana'a, account No.1076-0010235. The document will be sent by mail or Urgent post/Air carrier. In the latter case, the bidder will be charged for the additional cost.

7-Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before 11:00 am on Wednesday, 15 September 2004. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of minimum 2.5 % of bid price. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below at 11:00 am on Wednesday, 15 September 2004.

Child Development Project  
Project Coordination Unit  
Attn: Dr. Nafisa Al Jaifi, Project Director  
Hadda District , behind of the Crown Hotel  
Sana'a ,Yemen  
Tel: 967-1-426470 - Fax: 967-1-426457

### Invitation for Bids Republic of Yemen Child Development Project

#### Medical Drugs

Credit No. 3326-YEM  
Bid No. PCU/ICB/01/2004

1-This invitation for bids follows the general procurement notice for this project that appeared in UN Development Business No.555 of 31 March 2001.

2-The Republic of Yemen has received a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) toward the cost of the Child Development Project (CDP),and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this credit to payments under the contract for the supply of Medical Drugs.

3-The Project Coordination Unit (PCU) now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for Delivery:

- 165,000 Bottle of Amoxicilline
- 30,000 Bottle of Cotrimoxazole
- 30,000 Bottle of Pencillin V.
- 60,000 Bottle of Paracetamole
- 30,000 Bottle of Erythromycin
- 30,000 Tab of Mebendazole
- 30,000 Bottle of Iron syrup
- 45,000 Bottle of Chloroquine Syrup

Bids must be submitted with 100% of the items.

4-Bidding will be conducted through the international competitive bidding Procedures specified in the World Bank's Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits, January 1995 (revised January and August 1996 and September 1997 and January 1999), and is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the guidelines.

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Child Development Project  
Project Coordination Unit  
Attn: Dr. Nafisa Al Jaifi, Project Director  
Hadda District , behind of the Crown Hotel



# Weaving

## Job opportunities develop income

BY MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Yemeni families possess many handicraft, they have retreated under influence of industrialize imports especially a portion of hand - made industries. But these handicraft are still providing thousand of job opportunities and improve income of many of those working in this field, particularly in areas reputed by such professions in Hadramout, Tehama, Lahj, Hajja, Taiz, Saad'a, Aden, Al-Mohara and others.

Weaving profession occupies the higher proportion among women working in this field, with regard to easiness of learning it or the women capability of creativity and producing various genre of well-produced knitted products a weaver Aisha Mohammed Ali who works in knitting cattle wool in Al-Baidha says many Yemeni families weave wool making of them blankets to protect against cold. These covers and blankets are mostly used in the season of winter. Women also work in the industry of children flannels and shawls, as these profession alleviate poverty of many families.

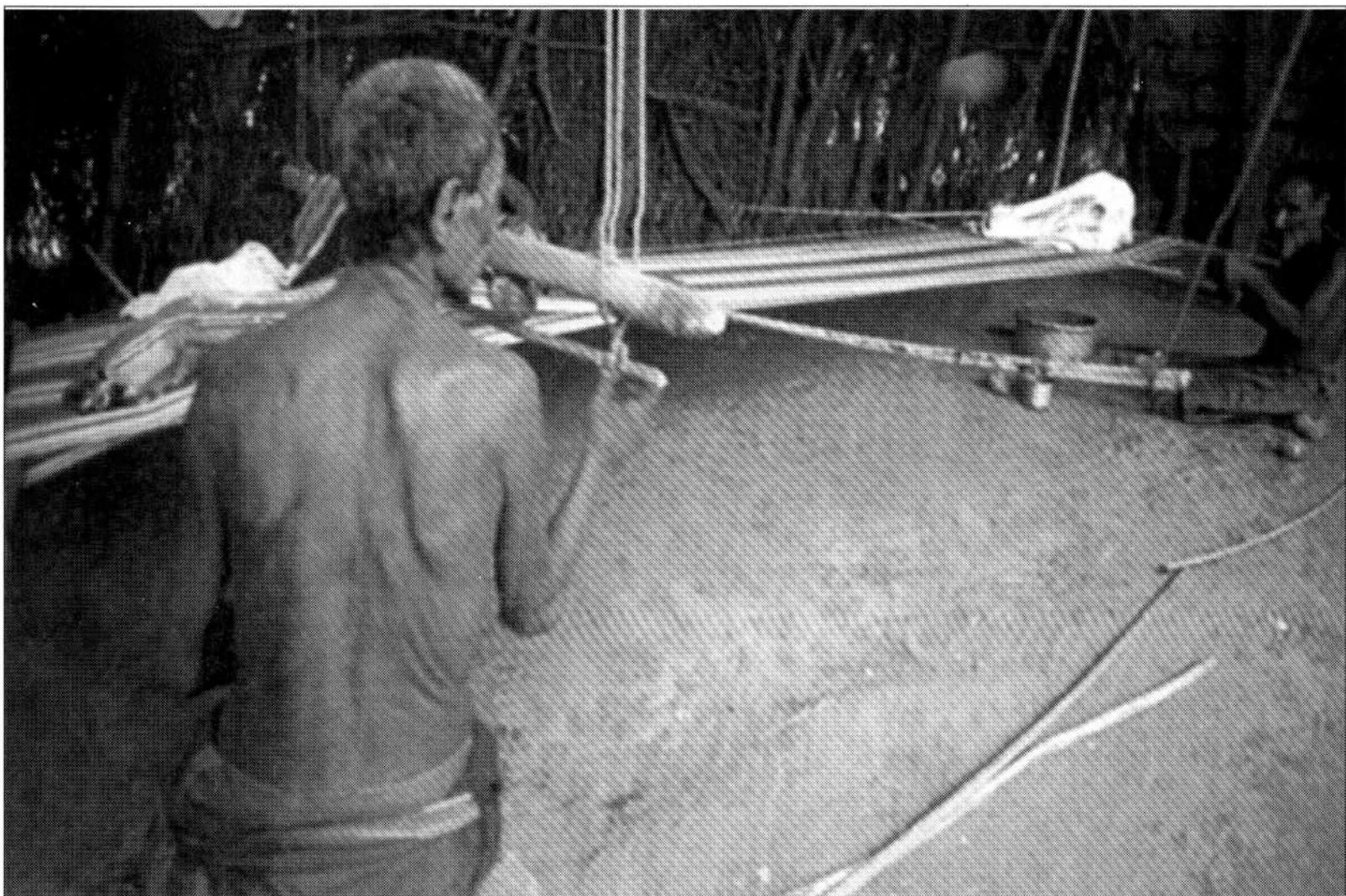
While wool weaving is up to now spread in areas of governorates of Shabwa, Marib, Al-Jawf and Al-Baidha, a large number of Yemeni poor families are being trained on weaving and embroidery in an effort for reducing unemployment, poverty and improvement of family revenues annual income. Nevertheless, Aisha says the despite of significant of women training centers for qualifying the women for certain profession to help her obtain a work opportunity, Yemeni women turn out to these

centers is regretfully still not very much as their number each year does not exceed 5700 trainees, 55% of them learn the art of weaving designing, and 12% of them household management, 10% embroidery and 8% in handicrafts.

In its support for weaving and embroidery, the government intends to improve its revenues of hard currency in future by increase of production by using most sophisticated methods with good quality and encouraging prices in a prelude to invade external markets.

Mariam Abdullah Al-Lahji affirms, on the other hand, that training and qualification are useful for women and that woman centers played a good role in reviving handicraft tread in the market, especially products of weaving Maqateb, the production of which has been improved through using imported textiles. Mariam who works at the centre for weaving Maqateb, adds that this trend helped many women overcome their financial problems such as those women in Lahj, Shabwa, and Hadramout. She also says that the weaving profession is nowadays undergoing steady growth as there is an increasing demand for these products because of their convenient prices for people of limited income.

By studying the situation of women training centers it appears that professional production is need of support for the purpose of providing work opportunities, and development of income for a large number of the poor and the unemployed. Weaving profession in Yemen has, however, been affected, as is the case with other profession, by competition of alternative products of imported industries. This situation is



A weaver working at a traditional loom for weaving fabrics

observed despite of the fact that there are continue offers for increasing Yemeni handicraft production to provide guaranteed sources of income.

People concerned and interested in folklore and handicraft profession emphasize that there are chances for investment in the area of developing handicraft industries and introduc-

tion of developed techniques for investment in handicraft sector. Under the situation of non-availability of other work opportunities, women training centers have only

one option, i.e. consolidating existing offers for paying attention to handicraft production to enable it compete with external industrial alternatives.

### At the Egyptian Cultural Week:

# Artists and musicians were present, theater stars absent

BY MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Egyptian Cultural Week, (held as part of the celebrations for Sana'a as the 2004 Arab Cultural Capital), accommodated various collections of plastic arts, literary works, songs, dances, political lectures that expressed intellectual and cultural views stressing the importance of renewing Arabic cultural discourse, and enhancing the concept of the role of art in defending national causes.

The Egyptian cultural days, held from July 17<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>, attracted the attention of many sectors including Yemeni

intellectuals, the general public, men of arts, and media which described the function as reflecting a blazing presence, characterized by a rich participation that shows the fraternity between the Yemeni and Egyptian peoples.

"Launching the Egyptian cultural days with the inauguration of a gallery on contemporary Egyptian plastic arts has carried certain allusions that stress the link between art and people-adopted national causes which the artist reflect in his creative paintings," said Yemeni artist Dr. Amnah Al-Nusairi in her introduction of a lecture by Dr. Ahmed Nawar on art and revolution.

Hamid Al-Haj, university student at the Faculty of Arts, said the gallery rep-

resents a cultural connection between artists in both countries. "It also acquaints the Yemenis interested in plastic arts with different schools followed by participants."

Yet, young Yemeni artist Ahmed Al-Odaini described the paintings as belonging to the Abstractionism school, "mimicking the Egyptian environment from a modern perspective, but their social dimensions may not suit Yemenis." He thought, "they should have come closer to our issues."

"They are Egypt's days of creativity, intellectuality and culture," proclaimed journalistic writer Jamil Mufarih, pointing in particular to Dr. Asim Al-Dassouki's valuable lecture on the

necessity for renewing the Arabic cultural discourse. The lecture tackled the western factor in the Arabic culture via expeditions, colonization, and orientalism, warning against "taming the Arabic cultural discourse for the sake of western culture."

"The participation of a group of artists, intellectuals, creators, musical performers, and dance bands, in the activities of Sana'a as the Arab Cultural Capital, 2004, has reflected the performance of the creative people in Ardh al-Kanana (Land of Quiver), Egypt, and strengthened relationships between the two countries, activating mutual cultural bonds so as to improve the overall cultural production of the Arab world,"

added Mufarih.

Members of the Yemeni public who attended the Egyptian cultural function were not altogether pleased with the kind of participation. "We would have liked to have watched a play performed by Egyptian theatre stars, reflecting the shameful Arabic reality and political repression, since there is no theatre in Yemen playing this role," said Mansour Fadl al-Qadai. "Yet, we enjoyed the Cultural Centre, the night song and dance performances of the Shararah and Ridha bands." He called on the ministries of culture in both countries to arrange for Egyptian comedians to visit Yemen in order to act out plays that address the crisis of the nation as did

Nour Al-Sharif's play "Al-Quds Will Not Fall", which was highly acclaimed by the public.

Despite this criticism, the Egyptian Cultural Week comprised many purposive functions, including a lecture on mummies in Yemen by Dr. Abdul-Hakim Nour Al-Din, and a group discussion on cultural interactions between Yemen and Egypt from different perspectives, which was presented by a host of Yemeni and Egyptian men of letters. There were also a number of artistic and cultural performances that displayed the deep relations between Yemen and Egypt, and the all-pervasive presence of Egyptian culture in the Arab World.

## New discoveries in Al-Jouf

BY MOHAMED BIN SALLAM  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Dr. Yousef Mohamed Abdullah, the chairman of Antiquity, Manuscripts and Museums, announced that several significant new discoveries were found in Al-Jouf governorate that would unveil some mysterious secrets relating to ancient Yemeni histo-

ry. Dr. Yousef, in a statement to 26 September newspaper, published in its latest issue, said that the historical discoveries are temples at Al-Soda town whose ancient name was "Nshan" with inscriptions on inside pillars and gates similar to those found in Iraq. These inscriptions point at religious rituals. He indicated that archeologists were studying them to determine the type of culture, cloths and tools used at the time. He also pointed out that old

Al-Jouf city was known to have inscriptions on its gates that referred to rituals, animals, weapons and dances. However, the new findings show forms that combine reality and myth, an indication that they represent the of worship gods at that time.

Dr. Yousef pointed out that the historical sites and antiquities which have been found at Al-Jouf city, confirm that ancient civilizations flourished in that part of the country.

## Will she continue?

BY FATHEAH ABDULKAREEM  
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

With a skinny hand, she grabbed the handle of the bus to get on it. It was past eleven o'clock in the morning and the sun was blazing. I was sitting by the window and she was sitting next to me, by the door. She had very delicate features and I put my arms around her because I was afraid she might fall. The bus was driving very fast and going over bumps: the

impacts of which her slim body could not withstand and she struggled to keep her balance. She was holding tightly to five Riyals and she was telling the bus driver that that was all she had. I tightened my grip around her, and was holding her more closely as I had wanted to compassionately hug her.

She was very young, probably she was going to the first grade, yet she was carrying a large bookcase. She got off the bus at a very busy street with traffic and crossed the street to reach her school. I wished I could get of the bus with her, just to ensure that she

would be very safe. I was closely monitoring her as she crossed the street.

I couldn't forget her face or the way she was carrying that heavy load of books and trying to cross the street towards her school. I wish that I were her teacher, I would have received her with open arms. I would not intimidate or threaten her, on the contrary, I would only give love, passion and occasionally some sweet candy. I wished I could give her a seat to herself, or a field for her to run and play safely and a toy to play with. Will that continue... may be!



The Reality of childhood in Yemen

# Government's failure, hard life, and overwhelming despair

By HASSAN AL-ZAIDI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

**Introduction:**

Our children are the pillars of our future, and hold our hopes to build up this country. When we scrutinize the reality of Yemeni children, we surely feel a premonition of the ugly future awaiting Yemen in years to come.

Despite much media fuss in newspapers, and through workshops and organizations' discussions, the reality is something different. Childcare organizations in Yemen, the Childrens Parliament, child labor fight squads, and child smuggling police have not effected a change on the ground. Figures warn that hazards beset our children, and these phenomena forebode future catastrophes.

**Official confession:**

The government has admitted its failure to fulfil its primary responsibility towards children and improving their conditions. Minister of Social Affairs and Labor Abdul-Karim Al-Arhabi, said last week in his speech before the Childrens Parliament, "The government can not construct schools, nor can it provide healthcare or pave roads. "We are suffering from an increasing population crisis, and a bad education quality, while we have little petrol."

Concerning the government's role in eradicating child labor, he said, "The government has made strides in child-related legislation. Many awareness programs need to be implemented before the society and responsible authorities can understand the seriousness of child labor."

Thus we find that the government's role is still limited to papers. It is "ink on paper," and has not impacted the virtual setting.

**Child Parliament:**

It is a distinctive experience that

children have an assembly that represents them. Yet, the aim of the planners of this initiative is to get foreign funding. "The government makes legislations but does not apply them," the parliament stated. It called on the government to shoulder its responsibility to safeguard children, and provide free-of-cost education and parks in all corners of the country.

It is something appreciable on the part of the Childrens Parliament.

**Proliferation of organizations and more abuse of children:**

It sounds likely that soon we will hear the birth of an organization claiming its fighting child smuggling, and does not fight it. Their first ritual they do is to appeal to international donors for funding the destination of which is known.

We need to conduct a probe into private and public organizations concerned with child issues: what they get, what they offered, and what they have done to cope with the risks surrounding our children.

Exaggeration for the sake of pocketing funds is a simple task, but what we should concentrate on is to be able to set up programs to eliminate negative phenomena.

**Higher Council for Motherhood and Childhood complains of the Ministry of Finance:**

The Higher Council for Motherhood and Childhood (HCMC), established by a presidential decree, has a pack of plans and programs, but it is complaining about the Ministry of Finance for not handing out the allotments needed for implementing its activities, said director of the HCMC in an earlier interview with the Yemen Times.

As though the bitter reality was not enough for children, new gangs have emerged, smuggling children across the border to Saudi Arabia, and using them as money earners. Not only that,



Child labor is one of grave problem that must be solved in Yemen

these children are abused by these gangs.

Saudi authorities have returned a great deal of children to Yemen, and national police have caught smugglers with children at borders.

Information indicates that some have been sexually abused, employed in adult jobs, or sent into the street to work as beggars.

Parliamentarian Mansour Al-Zandani has revealed official documents proving the restoration of 3500 male and female children who were smuggled to neighboring countries.

This case was described as tolling the knell of danger of the people, government and parliament.

The UNSEF and the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor conducted in May 2004, visits to a border outpost to closely examine the phenomenon of smuggling children to neighboring countries.

**Child Labor:**

The number of children working in Yemen is estimated at four hundred thousand children. Some 30-40% of them work in hard conditions. The

Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor has issued a set of regulations prohibiting jobs that cause health or moral risk, and defined the legal labor age at 14.

**Observations in a city:**

Children selling items in the streets or on pavements, and even sleep there, are usually seeking out a living. They earn money because their families depend mainly on them. Employers do not know conventions and regulations of child labor. Parents, too, ignore the danger lying in their offspring's labor

and opting out of education.

It is observed that children are spending more time than adults working in order to earn money because their wages are low, ranging between YR 100-300 (1-105) daily.

These horrible figures tell us horrible stories about children opting out of school in favour of the labour market, and their immigration from rural to urban areas of work as hawkers, vendors etc. All these observations are due to economic factors. All of them are a warning of a foreboding catastrophe, while the government is inactive!

# Spinster... a humanitarian crisis

By HADEAH SAEED-ADEN,  
ASMHAN MOHAMED SAEED- TAIZ  
AND  
DBWAN AL-SOFI - SADDAH

Economic and social causes, primitive traditions and heavy burdens. Who is responsible for so many unmarried females? Owing to a set of social traditions, restrictions and economic conditions, many women are deprived - against their will - of experiencing the joy and happiness of getting married.

The rate of unmarried women in the Arab countries has reached 35%. In Yemen and Saudi, the rate stands at 30%. Who is responsible for the decline in their chances of marriage? Family and Development magazine, affiliated to the Yemen Times, conducted a field referenda in a number of governorates of Yemen, on the meaning of the term spinster, in order to find a clear definition and the actual causes behind this social problem.

Some of answers reached in this referenda contain several discrepancies regarding the definition of spinster, since the term is considered by some as a scientific illusion. 37% of those surveyed said it was a true term, 25% thought it was an unreal term. We first sought Taiz University to get a more decisive answer from a sociological perspective.

Dr. Abdulrazaq Mahmoud Al-Haiti

said that spinster was a true phenomenon and a social problem that society suffers from. The term spinster, said Dr. Al-Haiti, is the most respected term to refer to an unmarried female as it should not affect the dignity, personality, character, life and reputation of the unmarried girl. The reason behind not getting married could be attributed to many factors that may differ from one girl to another and from one society to another depending on economic and social aspects.

40% of the participants in the referenda said the term spinster was mainly used in Arab societies, 15% said Muslim countries used this term and 7% said it was a foreign term.

Regarding the age for one to be labeled and referred to by the term spinster, 33% said at the age of 35 years old, 11% said the age of 40 years and 9% said at the age of 45 years old.

Regarding social effects on girls, 15% said that unmarried females become frustrated, depressed, isolated and desperate, while 15% said that unmarried females usually encounter mental illness, and 21% said that the harsh treatment of society and the way society looks upon unmarried females could lead them to commit suicide or become deviated. The unmarried female may feel frustrated and unwanted, and subsequently feels useless so may decide to put an end to her life by committing suicide, especially those unfortunate females who

are ugly and poor.

Regarding why female graduates are less likely to get married, many males think that educated females are more liberal and opinionated and therefore, less acceptable by most parents than those who are stay at home. 13% say that exorbitant dowry for educated females also contributes to their abandonment by males. 19% said that the freedom of girls at universities and their interaction with male students and at the work place are also causes for not wanting to marry from them.

Regarding the wearing of veils, 10% said that the veil was not a problem, while 40% said it was for not wanting to get married to them. 4% said that many husbands insist on their wives wearing veils and would eventually divorce their wives if they insisted on their right not to wear a veil.

Dr. Abdulrazaq, regarding the veil, said that there are two contradicting views towards the wearing of the veil. Some see wearing the veil as a mask, to hide the ugliness of the girl and to preserve her anonymity if she behaves unacceptably. The second see the girl who wears a veil as decent and as abiding by social traditions and norms. The personal view of Dr. Abdulrazaq is that the veil hides an important part of the girl's personality. The face of a person could be the card to truly get acquainted with its bearer. Therefore, hiding the face rep-

resents the wrong approach in getting to know each other.

Regarding the unveiling of the mask and what the obstacles were in doing that at the university or at work place, 33% said that there should not be a problem for not wearing the veil at the university or at the work place since there were no apparent religious restrictions prohibiting that. 28% of those involved in the referenda said

that wearing veils were related to traditional norms of our society.

And whether male and female students can cooperate jointly in an educational scientific project for example, 25% said that it could be possible, while 33% said that it would be impossible under any pretext.

Some of the views that we reached from having talks with a number of unmarried females between the age of

23-46 years old, indicated that the reasons behind their not getting married varied from traditional norms, exorbitant dowry, to misconceptions of males and parents towards educated, graduates and working females. Such ideas require efforts to increase education and cultural awareness towards educated and working females in Yemeni society in particular, and at Arab countries in general.



CARE is currently implementing a long-term development project Yemen Adult Literacy and Life Skills Education Project" (YALLE) working in cooperation with the Literacy and Adult Education organization (LAEO) and the Yemen Women's Union in Amarn Governorate. CARE is seeking to fill a senior position, titled "Literacy Advisor"

**Women Applicants are strongly Encouraged to apply**

The Literacy Advisor will oversee the implementation of field activities with special focus on coordination of field activities with partners, identification of communities and formation of women's literacy associations, monitoring and evaluation. In addition, she will provide invaluable input into the advocacy work to be carried out under the project, to try to improve standards and develop policies that will be more effective in reducing illiteracy, especially among women and youth.

**Qualification and Experience required for the position**

1. Minimum 10 Year experience in Adult literacy
2. A broad background in educational quality issues, standards, policy.
3. Social development experience particularly with other international organizations
4. Monitoring and Evaluation experience
5. Management skills
6. English language skills
7. Masters degree preferred

Applicants are invited to send their applications ( a CV and covering letter) to P.O. Box 11101 or fax 01-504021 or 07 606910 or e-mail YALLE@y.net.ye Deadline ofr submission of applications is: 2nd August 2004.



# Yemeni Press, A week in review

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr

## Main headlines

- Mediation continues and battles continue,
- Tribal groups surround the house of MP Yahya al-Houthi in the capital downtown
- Trial proceedings of Sheik al-Mouayad postponed
- While his son still under arrest, Scholar Ibrahim al-Wazzir: There is no law preventing travel to Saada
- Limburg explosion suspects trial adjourned,
- Prosecutors withdraw from court after being exposed to criticism and insults
- 3500 cases of child trafficking, human rights ministry complains of official apparatus non-cooperation
- Attacker of assistant judge of the commercial court, arrested by security
- Areas of investment in the Free Zone, discussed
- High-ranking government delegation inspects the areas returned to Yemen by Saudi Arabia
- Yemen and Lebanese PMs hold talks in Sana'a dealing with enhancement of two countries' cooperation
- Polish president stresses his country's keenness on developing relations with Yemen
- Al-Quds foundation welcomes decision of The Hague Court
- Sources: Al-Houthi out of government guns' range
- Demanding damages of over \$100 thousand,
- Families of Cole victims sue Sudan for harbouring al-Qaeda network
- America detains 17 Americans from Yemeni origin
- Al-Mouayad one of 15 detainees Yemen seeks to have them released
- Silent idosei amidst tumult of Mran,
- Confrontations continue, signs of humanitarian disaster in Saada
- News about mediations with al-Houthi, military reinforcements continue
- Islah Shoura calls for uniting ranks, warns against fomenting bellicose chauvinism
- Zionist enemy threatens Syria
- Hamas refuses the use of force in internal disputes
- Iran confirms support for security and stability of Yemen
- Al-Houthi supporters adopt night sniper tactics
- Nasserite party in Iraq: No legitimacy for the government appointed by the occupation
- The president: I appreciate Islah's role in standing by legitimacy in 1994 summer and appreciate the YSP role in achievement of the unity
- Human rights minister: reports of the US State Department and Amnesty International neglected the truth and ignored our peculiarities
- Seven armed gangs terrorize inhabitants in Jaar
- Islah Shoura calls for a stand containing events of Saada
- The president to visit Italy late November
- Yemeni-Saudi Coordination Council to convene on 15 September
- Directives for halting hostilities in Mran to give al-Houthi room to surrender himself to justice
- The president welcomes Chinese investments, pledges to offer all facilities

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By Samer A.

of issues of corruption and bribery and other developments. All steps of changes were refused by battalions of al-Aqsa Martyrs, of Fatah led by President Yasser Arafat. Some might say it is a rebellious movement in the ranks of Fatah movement or a split of two factions, one sees the Palestinian political situation as becoming stagnant after three years of restricting movement of president Arafat in his headquarters, a matter that weakened the state and that was reflected negatively on the citizen's living socially, politically and economically.

There is another analysis saying the developments on the Palestinian arena are an external conspiracy, which is an un-ruled out explanation. The "rebellion" among Al-Aqsa battalions could be supported by some Arab regimes or Israel which intends to get rid of Arafat

under encouragement of America.

### الموقف

Al-Wahdawi weekly organ of the Nasserite Unionist Organisation, 20 July 2004.

Main headlines

- Government incapability of watching the coastal line
- Senior officer and four sheiks of Hajour and Usaimat, killed
- Prisoners tortured in Hodeidah
- Human Rights Minister asks journalists to confine to wailing

Columnist Hamdi al-Bukari writes saying every now and then stress is put on that the evidence of democracy and its embodiment of the Yemeni political regime is the freedom of press represented by critical writings published in opposition newspapers that reached a

degree of criticizing the president of the republic.

Yemen is one of the countries where political and media pluralism is associated with reintegration of two parts of two states. Their two regimes were not able to coexist more than three years after which there was the war of the summer of 1994 followed by a bilateral alliance between the partners of the victory. Even the latter alliance did not last long until the unilateral grip returned to practice its war against those differing with it, rightfully or not.

Abbreviating democracy to the presence of opposition press, originally emerging from the constitutional recognition of multi-party system has a big distortion because it intentionally abolishes the economic and social dimensions of democracy.

Al-Ayyam daily, 25 July 2004.

Main headlines

- Aden governor responds positively to an issue of a female citizen who died after a surgical operation, gives directives to speedily form a medical committee
- Selling 60 fadans of land with fraud contract in Zayadi village in Lahj
- Bickering between prosecution and suspects of Limburg blast at court
- UNICEF supports illiteracy eradication activities in three districts in Lahj

Mr Ahmed Saif Hashid says in an article regarding the question of visiting prisons affiliate of the political security, the committee on rights and freedoms at the parliament was divided into two. One, the larger part, sees the committee should not visit detention places of the political security, as it is has not used to do so and may create certain problems and difficulties. The minority at the parliament sees that visiting detention places of the political security is an essential part of the committee's tasks as long as it is concerned with rights and freedoms.

The more important thing is to study deeply the indications that the majority of the said committee is against the desire to visit detention places of the political security.

Al-Umma weekly, organ of al-Haq party, 22 July 2004.

Main headlines

- New arrests among the citizens because of opinion
- Two persons killed in firing incident at a private hospital in Dhamar
- Half million children between trafficking and dangerous labour
- The political editor of the newspaper says in occupied Iraq, the occupation

forces have tried all colonialist ways and Zionist intrigues to sow the seeds sectarian and ethnical conflict between Iraq's Shiites and Sunnis, its Arabs and Kurds and its Muslims and Christians in order to be able to impose their sinister whims and aims on the Iraqi people.

It has been very well seen the ugliness of the terrorist crimes and horrific massacres and targeting Iraq's sanctities and its scientists in order to use sectarian reactions. It has also been noted the occupation endeavour to adopt the sectarian and ethnic policy in posts that it has entrusted with its agents and collaborators. The sectarian card is one of the powder barrels ready to explode in more than one Arab and Islamic place, as is the view of the extremist Zionist rightist. Yemen is not far from this goal as the ill investment of the regrettable event in Saudi could drag the country into such conspiracies.

Al-Sahwa weekly, 22 July 2004.

Main headlines

- Saada, increasing fears and continuous bleeding
- Al-Shoura accuses Information Ministry of violation
- Combating democracy, an encouragement of terror
- Al-Hodeidah hosts the first medical exhibition
- Iraq accusing neighbouring countries in acts on violence
- Female Journalists Forum holds training course on skills of writing press reportages and news analysis
- Columnist Zaid al-Shami says in his article that despotism and injustice and monopoly of the fact would generate rancour and hatred. Political pluralism came as an alternative to bloody conflicts and the use of force and violence
- The process of dictating ideas and

opinions. Political parties are known by their principles they are adopting, the stands they take, services they offer and the persons representing them. Under a democratic pluralistic system it is inevitable to provide freedom for parties to introduce themselves through legitimate peaceful media under atmospheres of freedom that should be allowed for all. Though these are axioms for all those adopting the stand that he is with the freedom of opinion, the amazing thing is that after fourteen years for the declaration of unity and political pluralism in Yemen, we still listen objection against the parties that try to gain support of the people and are being accused as aiming at the narrow partisan gaining, whereas the doors are kept wide-open for the ruling party in this respect. The policy trying to strip the opposition parties of patriotism and give itself the right to render accusations on others and further more to prevent them from practicing any of their activities to introduce and inform about themselves.

Annas weekly 26 July 2004.

Main headlines

- YSP leading member: Government drives those deported from their jobs to mass graves in Saada
- Mahatwari: The state cares for the south and forgets the north
- Parliamentary committee discusses with Human Rights minister the trafficking of children and girls to neighbouring countries
- Columnist Dr Hosni al-Jawshaie says in his article there are rapid events going on in Palestine began with kidnapping the Palestinian director of security and released hours after that as a result of a promise from the Palestinian government to conduct investigation with him at the backdrop

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عن افتتاح

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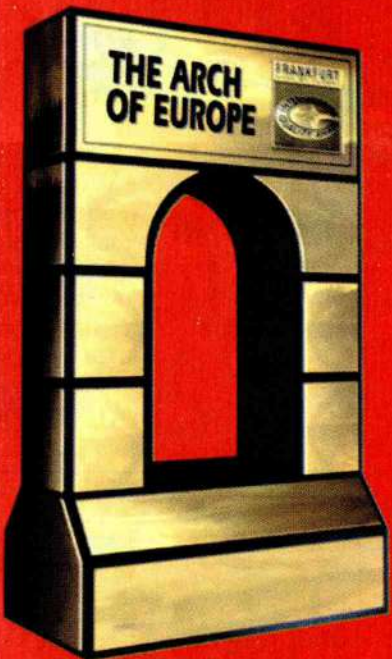
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**In continuation of its moments of recognition :**  
**Yemen Company for Industry and Commerce Ltd. awarded local and international certificates in Quality , Manufacturing and Technology**

Yemen Company for Industry and Commerce Ltd. (YCIC), one of Hayel Saeed Anam Group of companies, has received in July 2004 the "Good Manufacturing Practice" (GMP) certificate of the first class.

The awarding is based on the Minister of Industry and Commerce's decree No. 2 for 2003 concerning the evaluative regulations of products and establishments in conformity to prescribed standards, and the decree of the Director of the General Authority for Specifications and Standardization No. 14, 2004.

The company deservedly received this certificate in the light of its good practice in applying food manufacturing standards, and conditions of food hygiene .

The YCIC is the first company in Yemen to receive such a certificate. Besides, it received last month the HACCP certificate from the SGS international, which certified that the company applies the HACCP system in the cake and cookies factory, which is correspondent to the Hazard System Application Guide issued by the Codex Alimentarius commission .

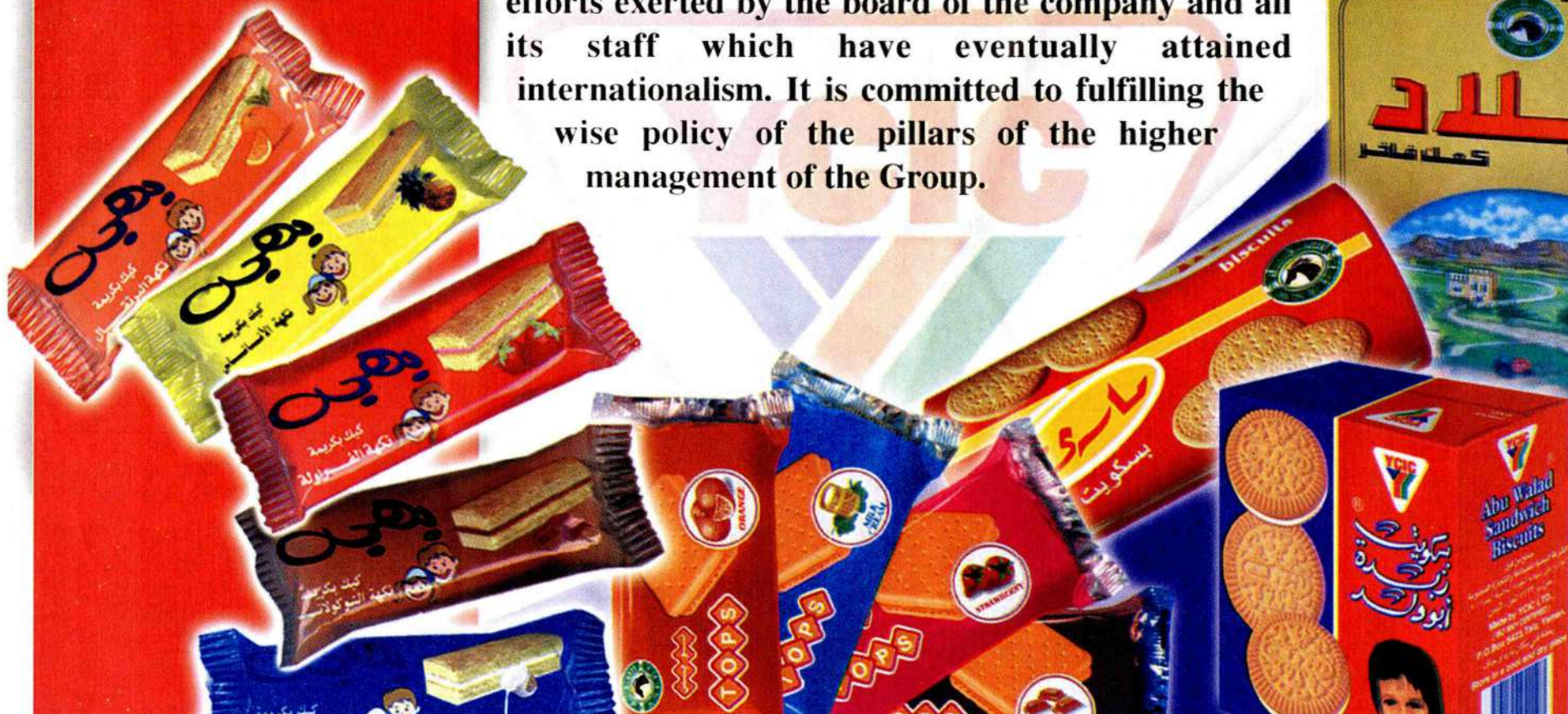
Last March, the company was presented in Germany with the European quality and Technology award in the golden category (Arch of Europe), an award sought by many international companies.

With these great awards and certificates, YCIC has made long strides towards internationalism, and underscored its presence in the industrial sector of international quality in addition to its other achievements.

On this occasion, Mr. Abdulla A.G.H. Saeed, General Manager of the Company said, These achievements will be followed by other ceaseless better achievements.

He added; We will proceed shining superiority and making distinction. All these are indications of our honesty, seriousness, good dealing and commitment to quality . We pride ourselves on these international awards, and the fact that we are the first national company to receive the GMP certificate.

Mr. Abdul-Fatah Al-Aswadi, Deputy General Manager, expressed the company's pride saying, This wonderful achievement shows indisputably the great efforts exerted by the board of the company and all its staff which have eventually attained internationalism. It is committed to fulfilling the wise policy of the pillars of the higher management of the Group.





# NON SEQUITUR

by Wiley

## LOST LEONARD'S LOGS

MY GALAXY POSITIONING SYSTEM WAS STILL OUT AND NONE OF THE STAR SYSTEMS LOOKED FAMILIAR.

IT ALL SEEMED HOPELESS WHEN THE ADVANCED CIVILIZATION RADAR DETECTOR SUDDENLY PICKED UP SOMETHING NEARBY...

AW-RIGHT! MAYBE I CAN GET FUEL AND DIRECTIONS

THIS PLANET WAS AMAZING! OBVIOUSLY, THE PEOPLE HERE WERE HIGHLY EVOLVED, AS THEIR CITIES SEEMED VERY PROSPEROUS, CLEAN AND SERENE.

WAS IT TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE?

THE LOCALS WERE FRIENDLY AND CONTENT, AND WERE EAGER TO LEARN ABOUT ME AND MY CULTURE. NATURALLY, THAT MADE ME SUSPICIOUS...

APPARENTLY, THEIR CIVILIZATION WAS CENTERED AROUND THE ART OF DISCOURSE. THEY LEARNED LONG AGO TO LISTEN AND TRY TO SEEK COMMON GROUND INSTEAD OF DEMONIZING EACH OTHER AND SHOUTING DOWN OPPOSING POINTS OF VIEW.

NOTING MY ASTONISHMENT OVER THIS AMAZING CONCEPT, THEY INQUIRED ABOUT MY SOCIETY BACK ON EARTH AND HOW WE RESOLVE DIFFERENCES.

SO I TRIED TO COME UP WITH THE SIMPLEST WAY TO EXPLAIN OUR COMPLICATED WORLD...

JUST WISH I HAD REMEMBERED TO GET DIRECTIONS FIRST. OH, WELL. LOG OUT.

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Talk (.....)

Establish (.....)

Large (.....)

الاسم: .....

المدينة: .....

رقم التلفون: .....

أقطع كوبون المسابقة وارسله عبر الفاكس مع بياناتك كاملة. ( معهد الفاروق صنعاء - تلفاكس ٢١٣٧١١ شارع هائل المنديل الفرعي مقابل مجوهرات الجابري ) \* آخر موعد لاستلام الاجابات هو يوم الثلاثاء من كل اسبوع

## THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

BY Eugenia

**Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 19)**  
You may think things are going all right, but watch out — someone is about to broadside you. Take note of all the promises you've made and do your best to fulfill them.

**Taurus (Apr 20 - May 20)**  
You can make things happen today if you take advantage of the opportunities going on around you. You will be well received by others. Follow through with your plans.

**Gemini (May 21 - Jun 20)**  
You can make a financial deal that has the potential to pay huge dividends. Take care of any little health issues that arise and you will spare yourself grief later.

**Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22)**  
You will be up and down emotionally, making it difficult for everyone around you to know what to do. Help is available, but only if you are prepared to ask

**Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 22)**  
The more enthusiastic you are about your work, the further ahead you'll get. You will impress everyone and have lots to gain today.

**Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22)**  
This is a great day for love and getting together with people you find inspiring. Get involved in activities that will enhance your looks and your attitude

**Libra (Sept 23 - Oct 22)**  
You may face opposition at home. Compromise will go a long way. If someone else is being stubborn, give a little today.

**Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)**  
Prepare to present and promote whatever creative project you are working on. Publishing is looking good, so don't be shy — let everyone see what you are capable of doing.

**Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)**  
Work will pay off so don't slack off. You will make a very good impression if you put everything you've got into a project. This is the perfect day to look for advancement.

**Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)**  
You may find it difficult to hold things together today. With so many different issues looming, you will find it hard to stay cool and go about your business

**Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)**  
Take care of the paperwork that has built up or tend to those mundane but necessary jobs that you hate to do. You will feel much better knowing you finally got them out of the way.

**Pisces (Feb 19-Mar 20)**  
You will be able to convince anyone of anything today. You can make a difference if you share your ideas with organizations working toward a cause you believe in.

TOP

1 R 2 F 3 A

4 E 5 L D

OH, NO! I'M LOSING MY HAIR!

MY DAD'S BALD. DOC BOY DOES A COMB-OVER!

NOW I'LL NEVER GET A WOMAN!

YAAAAAH!

TODAY, A BALD SPOT...

TOMORROW, A MOHAWK!



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**وظائف شاغرة**  
مطلوب: مدرس لغة انجليزية اجنبي للعمل في المكتب الامريكي للدراسات والتكنولوجيا. (٧/٢٢)  
للتواصل: ٤١٣١١٤، ٧٣١٩٩٥٩١  
مطلوب: سكرتيرة شرط ان تجيد اللغة الانجليزية كتابة ونطقا وخبرة في مجال التدريس. (٧/٢٩)  
للتواصل: ٧١٧٧٧٦٤٠  
مطلوب: خريج كلية التربية، جامعة صنعا، قسم انجليزية، يرغب في العمل في مدرسة أو أي شركة. (٧/١٥)  
للتواصل: ٧١٩١٦٦٦٥  
مطلوب: مدرب متمرس على برنامج قواعد البيانات (أوراكل Oracle) للعمل في شركة معروفة. (٧/١)  
للتواصل: ٢١٢٥٦٠، ٢١٢٥٢٠  
مطلوب: مدير مالي وإداري، محاسب قانوني ويجب ان تتوفر في المتقدم الشروط التالية: مؤهل جامعي، خبرة لا تقل عن سبع سنوات في المجال المذكور، يجيد اللغة الانجليزية كتابة ونطقا، يجيد استخدام الحاسوب. (٧/٢٢)  
للتواصل: ٤٦٨٨٨٤، ٤٦٨٨٨٦، ٢٠٧٨٠٢  
مطلوب: محاسب حاصل على بكالوريوس محاسبه وديبلوم كميونتر، مرضات اجنبيات وعربيات ومينيات وذلك للعمل في مستشفى الشاري بمدينة باجل - الحديدة. (٧/١)  
للتواصل: ٧١٦٥٨٣٦٤  
مطلوب: كوافير للعمل في محل كوافير برانت أو بنسبه. (٧/١)  
للتواصل: بيت معاد ٧٣٨٣٤٢٠  
مطلوب: طباط، محاسب، ميساترين معلم، سائق، عمال نظافة، للعمل في مدينة سياحية في السعودية، علما بان هذه الفترة جازا. (٧/١)  
للتواصل: ٧٣٨٧٦٤٣  
مطلوب: لادباچار: مركز طبي مكون من شقتين على شارع الزبيري بجانب مركز المسعيد التجاري، جوله كنتاكي، فمن لديه الرغبة في فتح مركز طبي الاتصال على ابو سليمان. (٧/١٥)  
للتواصل: ٧١٩٠٦٤٨، ٤٠٦٧٨٠٨  
مطلوب: مندوبي تسويق لصحيفة إلكترونية. (٧/١٥)  
للتواصل: ٤٤٧٠٤٧، ١٤٧٠٤٧

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تلفون: ٢٠٢٢٥٥، ٦٠٢٣٥٥، ٢٠٩٤٥، ٤٤٠٩١٩، ٤٤٠٩١٩

**معاهد**  
الشركه العربية للتأمين  
صنعا  
٦٠٢٨١٠٠/١٢٢٢/٤/٥

**شركات للتأمين**  
فاكس: ٦٠٢٨١٠٠  
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المكالات: ٢١٨٤٥/٨

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صنعا: ت: ٤٤٣٨٨٠، ٢٠٢٧١٩٩  
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تلفون: ٢٠٦١٩٩، ٤٤٠٠٠٠  
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**حتى ٢ بعد الظهر ومن الساعة ٥ عصرا حتى ٧ مساء (٧/٢٢)  
للبيع: أودي A6 ١٩٩٦ أو ١٩٩٦  
٥٥٠٠٠٠، بحاله جيده جدا.  
للتواصل: ٢٠٨٠٠ (٧/١)  
مطلوب: سيارة بوني سعة ٤ ركاب، تكون بحاله جيده وسعر مناسب. (٧/١)  
للتواصل: ٥٥٠٠٠٠، ٥٥٠٠٠٠، ٥٥٠٠٠٠  
مطلوب: سيارة تويوتا مارينو سور موديل ٩٥ في حالة جيده.  
للتواصل: ٧٣٥٦٠٩٠٣، ٧٣٥٦٠٩٠٣  
مطلوب: سيارة تويوتا مارينو سور موديل ٩٥ في حالة جيده.  
للتواصل: ٧٣٥٦٠٩٠٣، ٧٣٥٦٠٩٠٣  
مطلوب: سمسويش جالت موديل ٩٧-٩٨ كامل التحسينات بحاله ممتازة بدون جمارك. (٧/٢)  
بسر نهائي ٥٥٠٠ دولار. (٧/٢)  
للتواصل: ٧٣٥٦٠٩٠٣، ٧٣٥٦٠٩٠٣  
مطلوب: أدوات كهربائية، تليفونات، وأشياء أخرى.**

**مطلوب**  
كمبيوتر نوع كميونتر ماركة باياني ماركة (H.S) بكامل موديل ٢٠٠٠  
ويشترط يكون من نوع ستور وفي حالة جيده  
مطلوب: طابعه ليزر HP ١٢٠٠  
مطلوب: طابعه جيده وسعر مناسب.  
للتواصل: مايل راجح/ ٧١٩١٦٦٥٥ (٧/١٥)  
مطلوب: تلفون نوكيا ٣٣١٠ فيلندي ممتاز بسر ١٤٠٠٠ ريال مع خط ساقون.  
للتواصل: أنور فارغ البورجي، صنعا، تلفون: ٧١٢٠٦٩٤٣، ٧١٢٠٦٩٤٣  
مطلوب: شراء قاموس اطلس ناظق مستعمل بحاله جيده.  
للتواصل: ٧١٦٤٣٢٩٩  
مطلوب: طابعه ليزر HP ١٢٠٠ مستعمل بحاله جيده وسعر مناسب.  
للتواصل: مايل راجح/ ٧١٩١٦٦٥٥ (٧/١٥)  
مطلوب: تلفون نوكيا ٣٣١٠ فيلندي ممتاز بسر ١٥٥٠٠ ريال.  
للتواصل: أنور فارغ البورجي، صنعا، تلفون: ٧١٢٠٦٩٤٣، ٧١٢٠٦٩٤٣  
مطلوب: مكتبه آيس كريم نوع امريكي ثلاث فاز حوضين سعة كل حوض اربعة لتر وكل حوض ممكن تشغيله منفردا. (٧/١)  
للتواصل: ٧٣٧٢٠٦٩٤٣، ٧٣٧٢٠٦٩٤٣

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صنعا: ت: ٤٤٣٨٨٠، ٢٠٢٧١٩٩  
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**عقارات**  
حرفي وايدى عطان حده على شارع واحد، شرقي حريه، سعر اللبنة ٧٠٠٠٠٠٠ سيعمان الف ريال صافي بدون اعجاب.  
للتواصل: ابو علي ٧٣٨٠٢٨٥٥ (٧/١٥)  
مطلوب: شراء منزل في العاصمه صنعا، في حدود اثنان مليون ريال.  
للتواصل: نيل الشامي ٧١٧٥٥١٣٠ (٥/٢٧)  
مطلوب: ارضيه حر حوالي ١٠ عشر لين في منطقة الشباب والرياضه. عن (بدون وسطاء). (٥/٢٧)  
للتواصل: ٢٠٢٠٦٩٦٦  
مطلوب: بيت نوس، سعر اللبنة ٤٨٠٠٠٠٠ اربعمانه وشامون الف ريال.  
للتواصل: ابو علي ٧٣٨٠٢٨٥٥ (٧/١)  
مطلوب: لادباچار: بيت مقارب ل (التحرير، الزبيري، حده، الستين) دور ثاني مسلح، غرفه وحمم منفرد، وغرفتين وحمم افرنجي ومطبخ (عائله).  
للتواصل: ٦٣٣٢٢٢، ٦٣٣٢٢٢ (٦/٣)  
مطلوب: مركز اتصالات يحتوي على قسم سونوكي موديل ٩٤ بحاله ممتازة مسافة ٤٢٠٠٠٠ فقط وذلك لواعي السفر. بسر نهائي ٦٥٠٠ دولار.  
للتواصل: ٧٣٥٦٠٩٠٣، ٧٣٥٦٠٩٠٣

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صنعا: ت: ٤٤٣٨٨٠، ٢٠٢٧١٩٩  
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للتواصل: ٧٣٨١٢٢٤٢، ٧٣٨١٢٢٤٢  
مطلوب: دار دورين بمساحة ليتبين (مكون من شقتين) واقع في الدائري (٥/٢٧)  
مطلوب: عمارة مكونة من ثلاثة ادوار بناه مسلح وحديث في منطقة الصافية وقريبة من جولة الصافية.  
للتواصل: ٣٦٨٠٢٨ ناصر الزبيدي (٥/٢٧)  
مطلوب: شقة مكونة من ثلاث غرف نوم، صالة، مطبخ، حمام، في مدينة التواهي (٥/٢٧)  
مطلوب: لادباچار: غرفة في شارع حده لشخص نظيف مسلح.  
للتواصل: ٧٣٨١٠٤٤٢  
مطلوب: محل انترنت كامل تجهيزاته (1,7 GHz, 40 GB) P4 (256 MB Ram).  
للتواصل: ٥٦١٠٦٧  
مطلوب: لادباچار: بيت مقارب ل (التحرير، الزبيري، حده، الستين) دور ثاني مسلح، غرفه وحمم منفرد، وغرفتين وحمم افرنجي ومطبخ العيديروس، ويساع مغريه.  
للتواصل: سالم أحمد (٧١٧٣٢٨٤١)  
مطلوب: مركز اتصالات يحتوي على قسم سونوكي موديل ٩٤ بحاله ممتازة مسافة ٤٢٠٠٠٠ فقط وذلك لواعي السفر. بسر نهائي ٦٥٠٠ دولار.  
للتواصل: ٧٣٥٦٠٩٠٣، ٧٣٥٦٠٩٠٣

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# Yemeni community football team in Birmingham

By MOHAMMED BIN SALLAM  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

**H**.E. Mike Gifford, The British Ambassador, held a reception party in his residence where he hosted the Yemeni community football team from Birmingham (Muath Welfare Trust) team, on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2004. The team is comprised of 17 youth who arrived in Sana'a last Sunday

25<sup>th</sup> July, on an invitation by the Ministry of Youth & Sports, here. A number of Yemeni sports chambers in Sana'a, Ibb, Taiz and Aden will participate in the cordial matches till 15<sup>th</sup> August 2004. The team in question has actually started playing against Sana'a Al-Yermook team, yesterday - Wednesday (28<sup>th</sup> July). As anticipated, it will play versus Shaab team of Ibb, tomorrow, Friday (30<sup>th</sup> July). It



ered as one of the biggest communities in this Town (Birmingham).

The Yemeni community's sons in Birmingham could establish a charitable society called (Muath Welfare Trust) with the generous collaboration from Hayel Saeed Group taking care of their affairs and maintaining their problems. As well, the society offers humanitarian services to all the local community in the town (Birmingham), to both the Yemenis and non-Yemenis.



will also play against (Al Saqr team) of Taiz, the coming Tuesday - 3<sup>rd</sup> August. The same team will play in Aden against Telal on Friday the 6<sup>th</sup> August. It is anticipated to play its final matches against the Yemeni community team of Jeddah the ground of Sana'a stadium. The Yemeni team of Birmingham is headed by Mr. Buhlool Amin Saleh Al Shamiri, the relations director of Yemeni community team in Birmingham and accompanied by an English instructor. Mr. Buhlool has expressed his pleasure as well as the team members' joyfulness at their first visit to their homeland. "They will return again by a football team representing all the Yemeni immigrants in Britain as a whole but not just Birmingham alone", concluded Buhlool.

It is worth mentioning that the Yemeni community in Birmingham alone reaches to approximately ten thousand inhabitants; it is consid-

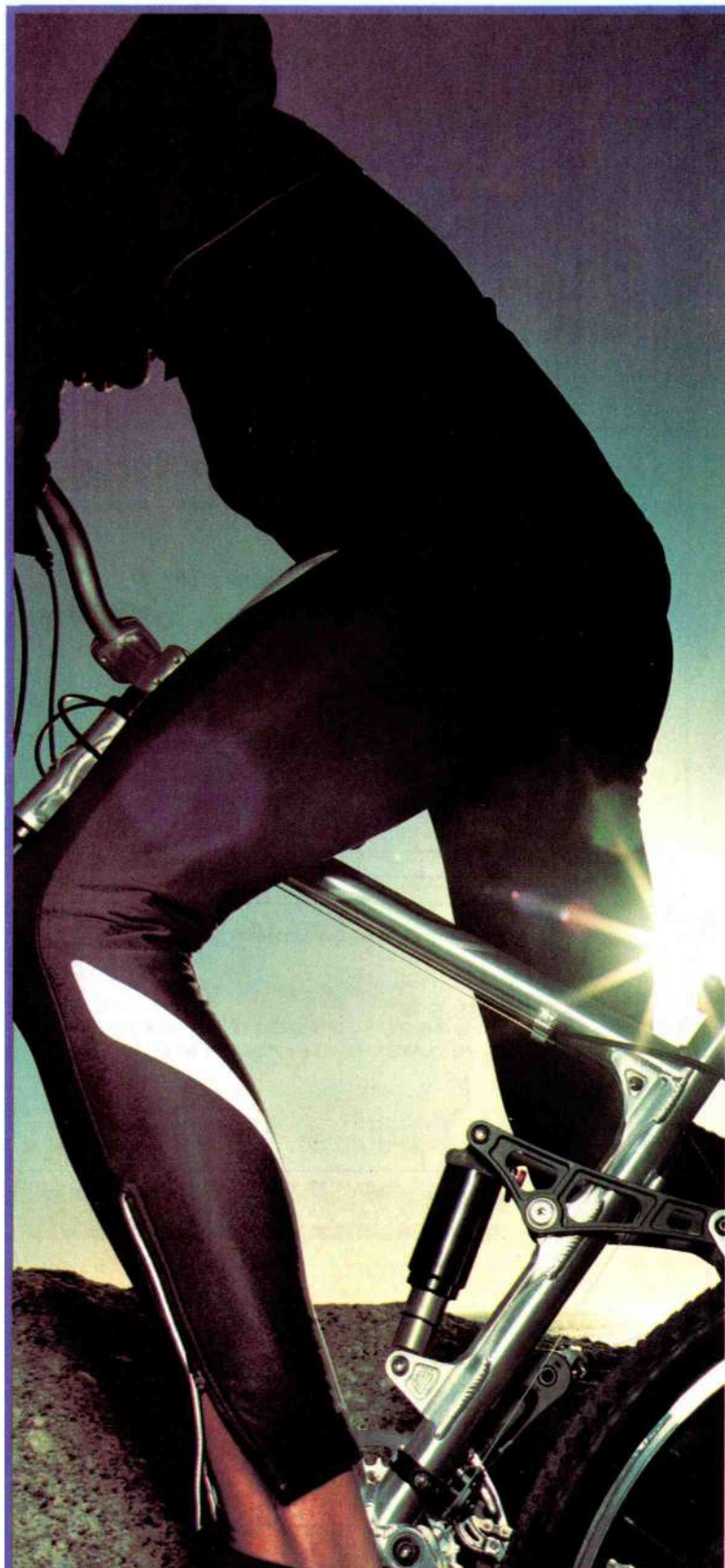
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