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INSIDE ▶ Kuwaiti Intellectuals Open Door for Normalization. Page 5. Industrial Census Shows a Backward Sector. Page 7. Paris Hosts Exhibition on Yemeni Civilization. Page 14. Prince Nasseem Faces a New Challenger. Page 19.

Under the Auspices of President Ali Abdullah Saleh:

Yemen Hosts 30th Conference of Arab MDs

Over 500 studies will be presented at the 30th Conference of Arab Medical Doctors to be held during 15-17 July. Many of the 350 or so participants have already arrived. They represent all Arab countries, hospitals, universities, companies, and organizations. This is a professional meeting that addresses twelve health issues and medical services in the Arab World. The conference also discusses interaction with other professions and specializations.

Sponsored and organized by the Federation of Arab Doctors (FAD), in conjunction with the Syndicate of Yemeni Doctors and Pharmacologists, the conference represents the largest annual medical gathering in Arab countries. "We are overwhelmed with the information that will be presented at this meeting, ranging from cloning to Ebola" explained Dr. Abdul-Majeed Al-Khulaidi, chairman of the conference.

The conference was preceded by the annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the FAD in order to decide on various issues related to the organization. This is the first ever FAD conference to be held in Yemen. That is why the Yemeni authorities have gone out of their way in order to help the workings of the conference. The FAD Board meeting took note of that and expressed appreciation for it.



Abdul-Wahab Al-Hajri Represents Yemen in DC

Yemen Times learned that Washington has approved Yemen's nomination of Abdul-Wahab Al-Hajri as ambassador to the USA. Abdul-Wahab, had first served in Washington in 1982, and had returned to it in 1990. Since then, he served in various capacities. He succeeds in his new job Mohsen Al-Aini, presently the Vice Chairman of the Consultative Council. Abdul-Wahab, 38, holds a master's degree in International Law, with emphasis on human and minority rights. The talented young man will go

on the double record as the youngest Yemeni ambassador serving at this time, and as the youngest ambassador in Washington. Mr. Al-Hajri comes from a well-respected family of clergies, and he is the brother-in-law of President Ali Abdullah Saleh. He had joined the foreign service in 1979. As such, he has the capability to serve well, especially since he knows his way around in Washington, and because he enjoys the full trust and support of Sanaa.



ADEN FREE ZONE: At Last, Ready for the Big Launch

Preparations for the big launch have taken too long a time. In fact, it had taken so long that some journalists wrote implying the whole thing may be a hoax. Now, the Aden Free Zone is approaching the climax of its launch. 1. The mapping, zoning and land distribution has been completed. 2. The dredging of the harbor has been going

on for some time, and is nearing its completion. 3. Contractors have been invited to bid for the fill-in and piers that are planned in parts of the harbor to expand the docking and storage areas. 3. The authorities are negotiating arrangements with a Singapore company to manage the AFZ.

Meanwhile, investments in the infrastructure and support facilities are fully underway in Aden city. The water and sewer program, financed with a DM 75 million German assistance in fully underway. The central electric grid system is now being extended from Taiz to Aden. The road network has been completed. The telephone capacity has been tremendously expanded.

"Work has been slow in the past due to many reasons. But as you can see, we have made a lot of progress. I believe that the turning point will be around the end of this year," said Mr. Dirhem Noman, Chairman of the AFZ.

Yemeni Delegation Flies to London :

Yemen Presents Files on Hunaish to Arbitration Court

The members of the National Task Force on Hunaish left Sanaa over the last couple of days on their way to London. Dr. Abdul-Karim Al-Iryani, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister and Head of the National Task Force, left on Friday, July 11th. The last batch of members left on Sunday, July 13th, in order to start their work today.

This is the second stage in the arbitration in which the two sides - Yemen and Eritrea - will file their responses to the initial positions of the other side. The two sides' rebuttals include documents, maps and other support evidence. The Arbitration Court, made up of five judges, sits in London and has final say on ownership of the islands.

Yemen and Eritrea have laid claims to the Hunaish archipelago on the southern part of the Red Sea. The islands were always under Yemeni sovereignty until Eritrea occupied some of them by force in December, 1995. Observers believe that Yemen stands to win the case, given the supporting evidence in its favor.

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OUR VIEWPOINT

The ME Peace IMPASSE ! Need for Vision & Renewed Commitment

The Arab-Israeli peace process is not going anywhere. Many pro-peace people like myself are increasingly disillusioned by the crisis and impasse. The reasons for this are threefold: Israeli intransigence, American bias, and Arab weakness. Let me explain how these factors are impediments to peace.

A: ISRAELI INTRANSIGENCE:

The Netanyahu Government has done all it can to block any meaningful peace. In its one-track drive to achieve its own goals, it is insensitive to the needs of its peace partners. Thus, the Arab peace promoters are put at an increasingly risky and untenable position, vis-a-vis their people and themselves. Not only that, but the vision and gains are short-term. Netanyahu has back-tracked on the very basis of the peace negotiations - normalization for Israel in return for giving back Arab land. The Israeli Government is building new colonies (settlements) on land, whose return to Arabs is being negotiated. What a mockery!

B: AMERICAN BIAS:

The very premise of US impartiality and even-handedness is at question. The American administration has shown, at the peril of the peace talks, that it is partial. It is biased in favor of Israel, whatever way you look at it. So, why do we Arabs accept American mediation? The answer is basically we have no better alternative, and that peace is worth enduring for. The American Congress is beholden to Jewish lobby groups. The Clinton Administration's top people are all Jews. Even the people representing the US intermediation in the Arab-Israeli peace negotiations are Jews. Some bias is inherent. But the present level of bias is unworkable.

C: ARAB WEAKNESS:

The Arab governments are as weak as they can ever be. They are divided, and they are engulfed in fratricidal feuds. They are even short-sighted. This has allowed Israel to force its ways. To add insult to injury, Arab Governments, in the face of Israeli intransigence and their own incapacity, have shown a disturbing ease with which they can shove aside the peace possibilities. They want to go back to the old 'order' of things. I have heard personally some frustrated Arab officials ask: "Why do we have to resolve this problem right now? Let it sleep for a while, until the world's power structure changes." Many journalists have written reminding us of the Crusaders. They had occupied Palestine and other adjacent Arab land for almost 200 years. The Israeli state has existed for barely half a century. They write: "There is no compelling reason why we should conclude peace with Israel, at this time, and especially not under humiliating terms."

Sacrifice in favor of peace is legitimate. In fact, as the pressure increases, commitment for peace should be renewed. At this time when the peace process has hit a visible snag - thanks mainly to Mr. Netanyahu and other extremist Israeli politicians - the pro-peace camp should not lose heart. It is exactly now that we need more courage and vision to push forward with the peace process. The people of the region should accept that war is impossible, and both sides should accept that they can't have it all their way. Some compromise is necessary.

The Publisher
Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

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German Exhibition in Sanaa

Under the theme "The Water of the Desert", a German exhibition will open at Dar Al-Kutub in Sanaa on July 14th. The two-week exhibition is based on a research project of the German Research Society. It deals with various aspects of water and the desert including remote sensing, ground-water, desertification, environmental management, etc.

HRITC Organizes Workshop on NGOs

The Human Rights Information & Training Center (HRITC) is now completing preparations for a 3-day workshop in Taiz. This will start on August 16th. Mr. Izzaddeen Saeed, Director of the Center, told Yemen Times that representatives of many Non-Governmental Organizations in Taiz, Sanaa, Aden, Ibb, Hodeidah and Lahej. The workshop is being financed through a support from the United States Information Attache's office in Yemen. The main issues to be discussed are how to manage NGOs, how to prepare projects and programs, and how to apply for funding. The HRITC is actively engaged in providing information and training on human rights issues. Its programs especially cover schools.

\$2 Million EC Support for Population Policy

During Yemen's second National Population conference, convened in October, 1996, the EC expressed its willingness to support a program designed to implement the IEC (information, education, and communication) components of the Yemeni population policy. On 13th July, Yemen and the EC signed an agreement in Sana'a to this effect. This program, the first of its kind in Yemen, covers a pilot phase of 3 years. It intends to increase, through the use of multi-mass media, the Yemeni public's knowledge, understanding and commitment, at all levels, with regard to population related issues, women's health and family care. The aim is to promote higher acceptance of the interrelationship between fertility and mortality rates, and the significant influence that imbalanced population growth has on persistent widespread poverty, low standards of reproduction health and serious social and gender inequities.

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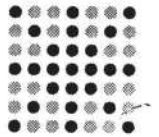
Yemen Times kicks off tomorrow, Tuesday, July 15th, a seminar on the Internet world-wide web. The Yemen Times effort hopes to raise the awareness of the community in this vital sector. Participating in the presentation are TeleYemen's Marketing Manager, Mr. Mohammed Abdul Kader, and the Internet Product Controller, Mr. Khalid M. Al-Duhbani. Also participating is Hilmi Noman of NASS, who will show how sites are built and used. The event will be attended by ministers, senior government officials, university lecturers, journalists, lawyers, and other public figures.

Yemeni Delegation Headed for Saudi

Yemenis are making one more dash to Saudi Arabia. The 9th round of border talks are scheduled in Jeddah next week.

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Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Sayyaghi:

"Many tragedies happen in private hospitals."

The economic transformation of Yemen has meant that the previously free services are now to be paid for by the beneficiaries, if at least in part. This means that government hospitals which used to offer free medical services now charge their patients.

One of the models where this process was applied is Al-Thawrah Hospital in Sanaa. Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Sayyaghi is the General Manager of Al-Thawra Hospital. He has experienced its high and low points, and has supervised its transformation.

Dr. Al-Sayyaghi is one of the senior doctors of Yemen with a long and rich experience in many fields.

Al-Izzi Al-Silwi of Yemen Times met Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Sayyaghi, and filed this interview.

Q: Could you give us some idea on the current conditions at Al-Thawra Hospital?

Medical services at the hospital were quite distinguished since its inauguration until 1988. Then there were complications, and I stopped working there. When I returned, a few years later, I found the place in a pitiful state.

The fall in the value of the Riyal and the subsequent loss of purchasing value is a key factor. Between 1984 and 1988, a newly graduated intern doctor would get \$1000 a month. A specialist used to get \$3000-\$4000. Today, can you imagine that the head of a department gets no more than \$300? What I am saying is that the staff interests are no longer compatible with the interests of the patients. Doctors and nurses are now more interested in improving their living conditions than they are in taking care of the patients. This explains the collapse in the services. We are now trying our best to rectify matters. Services are gradually returning to their higher levels of the past.

Al-Thawra hospital, for example, is the only place that offers cardiography services. The non-availability of heart surgery, however, makes us resort to clinical treatment. During cardiography, complications may take place. Such complications must be treated with surgery, which is not provided on a regular basis in any hospital in Yemen.

Heart surgery in this country is subject to the seasonal presence of visiting cardiologists. That is why we choose patients who are not likely to develop any complications.

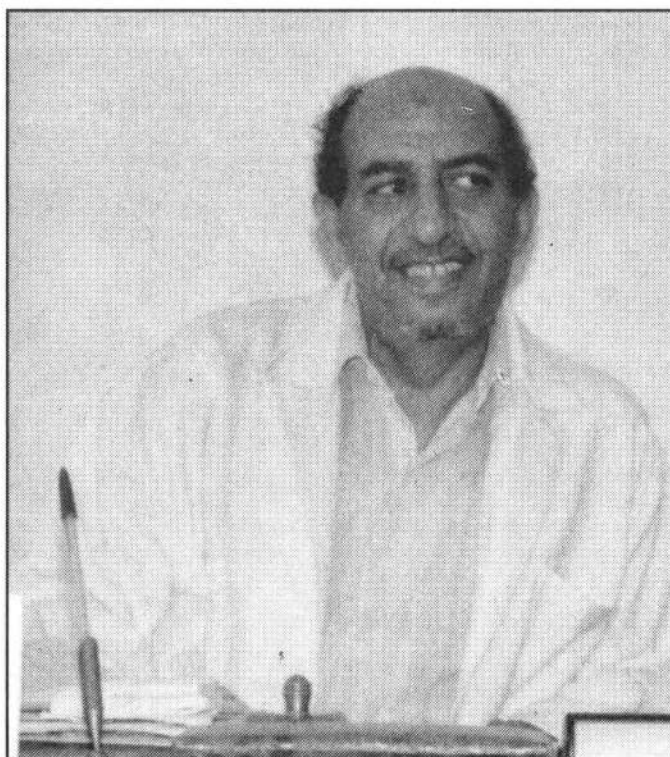
Many people come to the hospital, relying on its old reputation. They come needing brain or neural surgery. With our presently modest facilities, we are unable to provide such advanced services. The same goes for bone and cancer surgeries.

Q: What is the most unique case that was treated at the hospital?

A: There is the case of the 13-year-old boy who could not get treatment in Iraq nor in Jordan. He came to us. We had to remove his bladder and gall bladder. Part of his intestine was used to make a substitute bladder. The operation was very successful. The boy has survived, and is enjoying good health. Success like this is what gives the strength and will power to continue.

Q: How do you cope with the constant need for equipment maintenance and modernization?

A: During the years 1984-88, there was a complete maintenance system at the hospital. The equipment and facilities were quite new then. Much of the equipment has now passed its intended working life. We get a lot of breakdowns. After 14 years of operation, even the companies that sold us the equipment are



advising us to buy new ones. There are now more advanced and more accurate medical equipment. Buying them requires a lot of money, which we do not have.

Q: Al-Thawra has monopoly over issuing medical reports and certificates. Why?

A: We stopped issuing such certificates, because they were intended to award government support to poor patients who needed treatment abroad. Then there was a different system. We had two alternatives for such patients. They were either put on a waiting list, to be seen by visiting doctors and surgeons; or they were awarded special grants given to us by some countries.

But things have now changed. We no longer get such grants. We also are unable to equip the hospital with modern facilities. We still receive some visiting foreign doctors, though. But some of these doctors either do limited work, or just provide consultations. Lack of proper facilities prevent them from embarking on serious surgery.

Before my return to the hospital two and half years ago, going for treatment abroad, at the public expense, was almost a commercial matter. We made it purely technical. The patient has to see a consultant now. It is the consultant who decides whether a particular patient should be treated abroad or not (if government support is needed.)

The management is kept out of the process. The consultant's opinion is then referred to a high committee for a final decision.

We are trying, I am sorry to say, to restrict the numbers of those who go abroad for medical treatment at government expense. In any case, the US \$500 and airplane tickets we offer no longer help much. Fees for a heart surgery abroad are about \$15,000-\$20,000. Many of the patients are poor people whose means are way below such astronomical figures.

Q: Doctors working for the hospital are supposed to be devoted for this work. Many of them, however, have private clinics or other responsibilities. This surely affects their performance at the hospital. How do you deal with this problem?

A: This is a crucial issue. It is causing a big headache and many problems. It is a matter of clash of interest. A highly qualified and competent Yemeni doctor gets a salary far below that of a foreign nurse. When you ask people to work hard, you should provide with the minimum dignifying salary. This is a real dilemma. The solution is to pay these people what they really deserve. Then we can ask them to be completely devoted to their work at the hospital.

Q: What is the current status of the hospital's budget? What percent do the fees you levy from patients make in the budget?

A: In the past, we used to calculate what to charge based on our costs. The proposed budget was drawn up, and approved by the government. It was all well organized then. We also used to charge to cover operations.

But this system was discontinued. The budget is done today on the basis of negotiations with the Ministry of Finance.

We hope to revert to the old system of calculating the costs incurred by the hospital in order to ascertain what we should charge.

Q: Do all patients who visit the hospital pay the fees?

A: Actually, 10% of the hospital's income is allocated for poor patients. This is the decision of the hospital's board. We also want to involve other parties in the process such as the Ministry of Social Affairs. This could be the first step towards a health insurance system.

Q: Are there any plans to expand the present emergency ward, considering the rise in the number of patients?

A: We do feel the burden on the emergency ward. This ward barely copes with the influx of emergency cases. People often tell us that they come from different in search of the necessary medical care. Other hospitals in Sana'a and the country must share this burden with us.

Q: How do you see the role of private hospitals?

A: We had hoped that private hospitals would help. These hospitals often try to do things well beyond their capabilities. When disaster strikes, they send the patient to us. We have instructions not turn back any patient, irrespective of who is responsible for the complications.

The Ministry of Health must make a complete and objective evaluation of private hospital or clinic. Continuous supervision must also be administered by the Ministry. Many tragedies take place in private hospitals.

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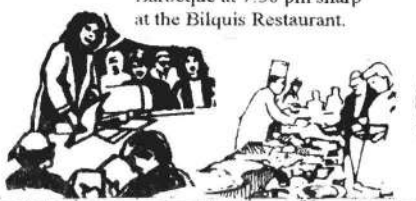
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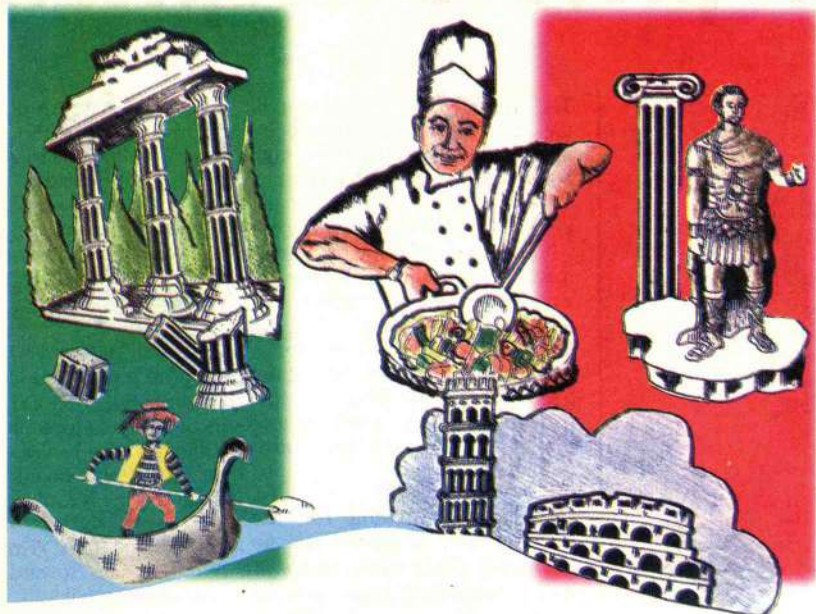


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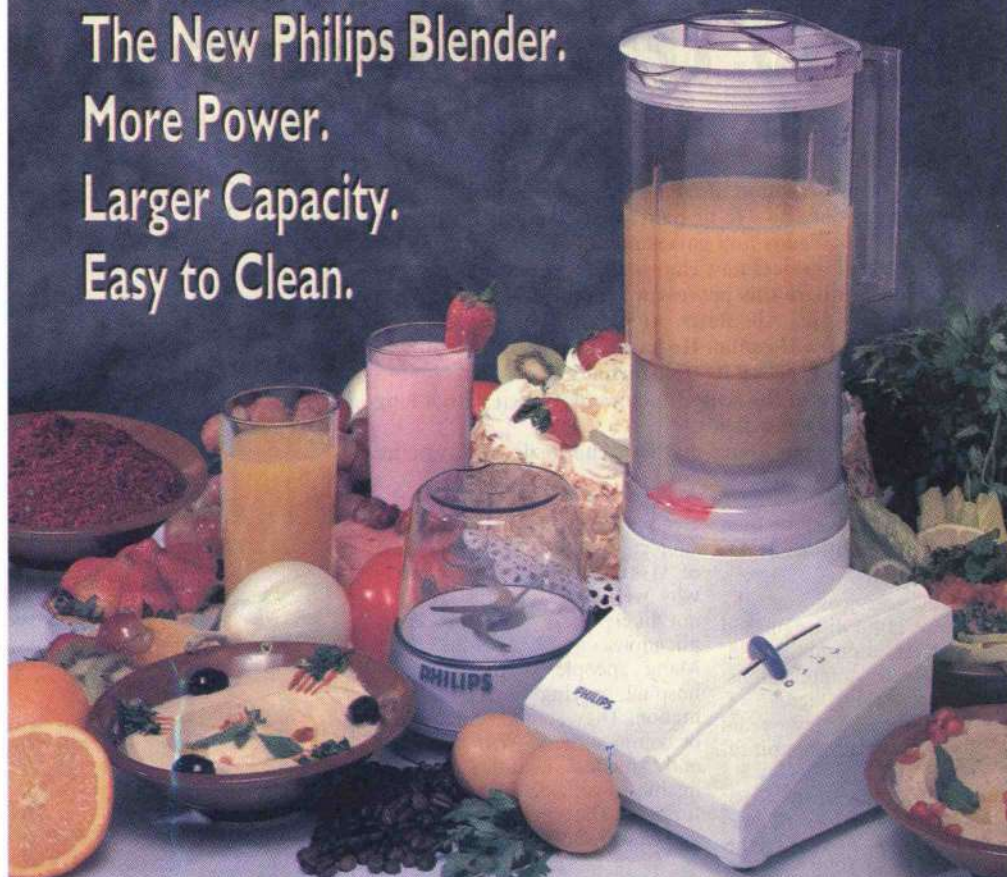


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"It is so obvious how much we have misunderstood each other!"

Kuwaiti Intellectuals Open the Door for Normalization

During the period 7-12 July, 1997, a Kuwaiti delegation of senior intellectuals and opinion-makers visited Yemen. They participated in many talks with Yemeni counterparts. They discussed bilateral relations, and pan-Arab harmony and solidarity in many places; notably at Sana'a University, and the Arab Center for Strategic Studies. There were three qat chews organized to discuss these same issues - at the homes of the House Speaker Abdullah Al-Ahmar, Mr. Mohammed Salim Ba-Sindiwah, and Dr. Abubakar Al-Qirby. The Kuwaiti group was received by President Ali Abdullah Saleh, Sheikh Abdullah Al-Ahmar, Foreign Minister Dr. Abdul-Karim Al-Iryani, etc. Two local newspapers - Yemen Times and 26th September - hosted special events for the quartet. During the visit, the group talked to Yemen Times. Excerpts:

Dr. Hassan Al-Ibrahim is a former Minister of Education and Rector of Kuwait University. He is the founder and director of the Arab Childhood Society. Specializing in political science, Dr. Al-Ibrahim has written and lectured extensively on different aspects of inter-Arab relations.



Q: How did this visit come about?

A: Due to the stances taken by some Arab countries towards the invasion of Kuwait, a deep feeling of sadness prevailed immediately after liberation. The primary feeling was that of denial and great anger over every thing that happened. Reconciliation comes when people start to think about the future and overcoming what took place. This feeling differs from one person to another. Many people in Kuwait, especially intellectuals, started to seriously think about the future and initiating a new era in the Arab world. Contacts were made with our colleagues in other Arab countries. With Jordan, the general secretariat meeting of the Arab Thought Club in Doha, Qatar was the venue for the start of reconciliation.

As with Yemen, contacts were made with Dr. Al-Rumaihi. We received invitations from the Arab Center for Strategic Studies, Sana'a University, and Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqaf. Our immediate feeling was quite responsive.

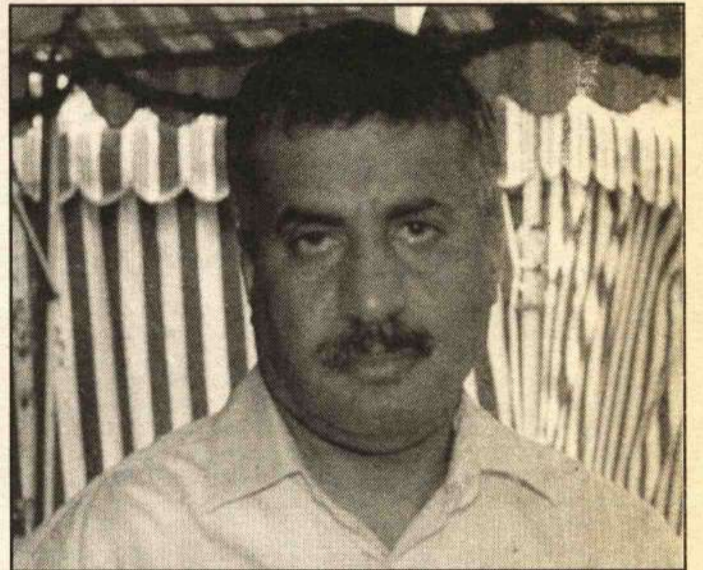
Q: What are your impressions of your meetings with Yemeni intellectuals and politicians?

A: Although this is my first visit to Yemen, I had many connections with Sana'a University since the early 70s. I was on the committee entrusted with choosing the university lecturers. I did not expect what I found. I found that many Yemeni intellectuals share with us what I call the new Arab intellectual dialogue. It is based primarily on abandoning the old demagogic ideologies of the 50s and 60s. I found that many of our Yemeni colleagues agree with us on many issues. We learned many lessons from the past. After all, if we do not learn from our mistakes, we will keep repeating them. For example, there is an important lesson to be learned from the disaster (of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait).

Q: What has struck you most of Yemen?

A: I think it is the majestic mountains. The mountainous regions we visited are absolutely fantastic. They combine the beauty of nature with an ancient history. Much of the scenery is more beautiful than anything else I have seen before. I kept marveling at the way the Yemeni people have been able to conquer this harsh terrain. I was quite amazed to see women climbing mountains, carrying heavy loads. Concerned with children, I hit upon the idea of setting up summer camps for Gulf children to visit these beautiful areas. Many well-off families in the Gulf send their children to expensive summer camps in Europe or America. Why not come here!

Mr. Jassim Al-Sa'adoun is an economist. He is the general director of Al-Shal Establishment for Economic Consultations. The esteemed Al-Shal periodical economic report is published by Mr. Al-Saadoun. He has a keen sense of the future and the region.



Q: How is the Kuwaiti public opinion evolving regarding normalization with Yemen?

A: There is development to the better. People in Kuwait were very shocked by the positions taken by some Arab countries. Yemen had a special place in the hearts of all Kuwaitis. This was lost, unfortunately. What Kuwait endured was not just an invasion. It was as savage as one can imagine. I do not want to exaggerate, but many of the deeds committed are unbelievable. It is true that these cruel acts were committed by a small group of individuals who commit the same atrocities or even worse in Iraq. But this fact does not make the tragedy less gruesome. But any wound is bound to heal with time. There are many rational people in Kuwait. They do not want Kuwait to remain isolated. New voices started to rise about three years ago. There were calls to come to terms with what happened. There was resistance in the beginning. Many articles were written branding those who called for reconciliation as traitors. Three years on, Kuwaiti public opinion towards Yemen has positively changed. Kuwaiti society is more mature today.

Q: How do you assess the views of Yemenis towards Gulf issues in general and Kuwaiti issues in particular?

A: We found much that we could agree on. We agreed that there should be a security system in the Gulf and Arabian Peninsula. Yemen has to be part of this. And so has to be Iraq, after the downfall of the dictatorship there. The Gulf is like a lake whose people should live in peace and cooperation. The world is rapidly changing. We should all keep abreast of these changes. I got a tremendous response from many Yemenis. Few, however, are still holding the same old views. I think that more meetings are called for in order to crystallize a stance towards the new challenges.

Q: What do you propose to do once you return?

A: Generally speaking, public opinion in Kuwait is not yet in favor of immediate normalization and closer relations. But we plan to initiate discussions leading to more understanding and cooperation. Many people and the ruling authority agree with the need for normalization. Those people will have the upper hand. We will work on this upon our return.

Q: What can we do to help your mission?

A: If it is possible, a clear and frank stance should be declared towards what happened. Yemen's full and public support for all UN resolutions on this matter will be very helpful.

Dr. Mohammed Al-Rumaihi is the Chief Editor of the highly regarded Al-Arabi magazine. He previously worked as professor of sociology at Kuwait University.



Q: As a columnist, how is this visit going to change what you write?

A: The first lesson I learned is not to speak about what I write before it is done. However, I can say that our experience during our visit will certainly provide me with a lot of important ideas and information. You know I write weekly, fortnightly, and monthly for different newspapers and magazines. So some of these ideas are bound to be expressed in some place. I always try to be independent and objective in my writings.

The main idea to advocate is that inter-Arab conflicts will lead to nowhere. Second, dictatorships, no matter how much they sing the praises of the masses, in the end will destroy the people.

Q: As a follower of Yemeni affairs, what has surprised you most in this visit?

A: The personal meetings and interviews were quite intimate. They created strong and deep human feelings. I, along with the rest of my colleagues, were deeply touched.

I am saddened, however, to see the deterioration in the living conditions of Yemenis. The standard of living has been declining since 1990. This is bound to create

many social and humanitarian problems. I also found that many of our brothers in Yemen tend to mix personal matters with external relations. External relations should never be intertwined with personal matters. States change their stances according to their interests. Personal or subjective views must never stand in the way of such changes.

Q: How do you see the general political atmosphere in Yemen?

A: Yemen is taking the first steps in political progress. More time and patience are needed. I think that we, in the Arab world, are still in the pre-state phase. To build this state, we need to

bravely face the realities. Many of us escape from the pre-state stage to what is high above the state. By that, I mean the call for regional, pan-Arab, or even Islamic unity. We should first concentrate on building the proper institutions of the state.

Q: As a well-known pan-Arab nationalist, how do you now view Arab unity?

A: Let me say that all living souls change their positions. This is the nature of things. I am still a pan-Arab nationalist. Our coming to Yemen attests to that. But we need to abandon the utopian or idealistic ways. One of the basic principles is that each state must be democratic first.

Dr. Mohammed Al-Rabei' is a professor at Kuwait University. He is a former Minister of Education and a former MP. He is also a writer and columnist in many important newspapers.



Q: You had lived in Yemen before. Has this visit revived some of your old feelings?

A: My yearning for Yemen never ceased. I find Yemen in many things - in art, poetry, history and heritage. I have many friends here. Yemen has a very deep place in my heart. It is very difficult to dissociate it from myself.

Q: How much have your pan-Arab feelings been tortured because of the recent events?

A: My faith has been tortured by the shattering of many dreams. We were quite naive to dream of an immediate Arab unity. As a child, I remember buying a book entitled "Learning English in 7 Days Without a Teacher". I really believed that after one week, I'll be able to speak English. I think our pan-Arab ideas were similar to that. It has transpired now that much more efforts and more profound preparations are needed. We need greater insight. Emotions are not enough. We will still need the emotional drive, for that will give us strength. But we also need to resort to reason to get what we want. We are more in need of rationalism and giving precedence to mutual interests. Without that, there is no hope whatsoever.

Q: Do you have a new dream?

A: My new dream is the same old one. I dream of a strong Arab bloc that is capable of competing with the new powers blocs in the world. I dream of seeing Arab children going to good schools, living in clean houses, and getting healthy food. They deserve better than what they are getting now. The road is still long and hard. We, as intellectuals, bear much of the responsibility for giving the future generations a better life. Those who got their qualifications at their countries' expense, and are sitting now doing nothing should be ashamed of themselves. We need to work hard and prepare better for our dreams to come true.

Q: What do you see happening upon your return to Kuwait?

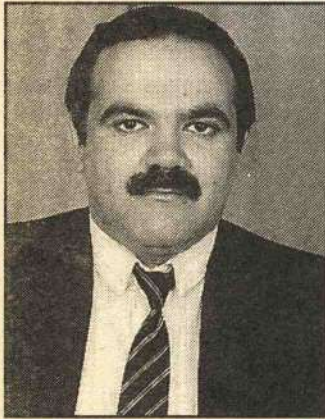
A: We will be overwhelmed with questions. I'll certainly convey what I saw and heard here. We have a cause to defend; and for that, we have to first be clear and frank. I assure you that I'll answer all queries based on my conviction. I believe that our responses will be effective back home.

Q: What is the next step?

A: The next step is to hold more meetings. I talked to colleagues here on organizing a seminar at Sana'a University on Yemen-Gulf relations. The aim is to study the future of the region, and figure out what should be done to move on.

This is an *OPINION* page.
Every week, a different intellectual writes a *FOCUS* on a pertinent issue!

The Iraqi Diaspora: The *EXODUS* Continues



By: Saad Selah Khalis*

to that undefined numbers that flee across the Northern and Eastern borders through the Kurdish areas, the outcome is disastrous.

Destinations and Loss of Identity

This mass immigration turned to be directed to certain destinations. Those in favor of the theory of conspiracy believe that such destinations are pre-planned. Others believe that the prevailing global circumstances have forced such directions. To classify the immigrants into categories based on destination, we find the following map: -

1- Jordan and Yemen : Ruled by the ACC, Jordan and Yemen allowed Iraqis to flow into their lands with no restrictions or entry visas. These two countries have absorbed the greatest number of post war initial immigration. Yemen in particular, proved to be the most lenient and open hearted. Many immigrants settled in the two countries, seeking worldly exploits using their expertise to work and earn a decent living standard. Others used these countries as a transit point to move elsewhere.

2- Western Europe : The vague dream of a western style life and proposed freedom had pushed a large number of immigrants to seek asylum in the West, mainly through specialized local and international Mafias that elaborated hideous plans to smuggle Iraqi immigrants to certain countries in Western Europe, making use of prevailing laws therein that allow for either political or economical asylum.

Many lost their lives on their way, and for sure all have lost all or the largest part of their savings. Such countries indiscriminately absorbed thousands of these immigrants. Asylum, especially in its political status, was once very difficult to acquire. Now it is provided mainly on sectarian and racist basis. Such indiscriminate raised the question of the real motives of those countries.

3- Malaysia, Canada and New Zealand : Malaysia, is one destination that qualified Iraqis have set forth to. This growing country which is in need of technical manpower, has quite selectively opened the doors for Iraqi expertise with the right experience to work decently. Canada and New Zealand had openly announced their requirement for legal immigrants. New Zealand in particular, required highly qualified immigrants for fees affordable by many. It has already absorbed several thousands of Iraqis.

Nobody really understood aid, and are quite unable to secure decent jobs in compliance with their qualifications. Their status, as well as that of their home mates in Western Europe, can be called no less than humiliating. In addition to their loss of identity, the next generation of immigrants in such countries is foreseen to lose a great deal of its dignity as well. Canada, on the other hand, has different demands but almost

equal chances for the immigrant to live decently. Immigrants have reached as far as Australia, just to find out that the case there is the same if not worse. It is unfortunate that the greatest majority of Iraqi immigrants to those countries are willing to give all financial and moral sacrifices just to have an identity that can, as they wrongly believe, grant them the respect and the protection! This will take us to the next point: -

Racial discrimination in International Organizations, Arab, and Western Embassies

When the mass immigration exploded after the Gulf War, most of these immigrants firmly believed that they will be met and treated as victims that need help and deserve mercy. In contrary, the actuality proved that most of the countries, represented by their embassies, treated them as drop-outs and terrorists. They were denied visas, or even kind words and treatment. Many spent long days at the gates of such embassies just to get application forms which were never given.

Based on such mistreatment, many Iraqis felt that the target of such embassies was not other than their Iraqi identity, the belief that was confirmed by the similar position of Brotherly Arab embassies, some of which instructed their outside gate guards not even to listen to Iraqis! UN organizations, in several cases were no different. The discrimination even included employment in private sector firms and companies, both Arab and Western, where Iraqi applications were rejected several times for reasons other than right qualifications!

Such treatment, combined with bitter frustration and disappointment, lead many immigrants to seek the change of nationality, as the only way out to have a chance to earn a living. The fact that almost all ordinary people miss, is that this is not merely the matter of the change of passport or a travel document, it is rather the matter of change of national identity.

The other side of the problem lies in Iraq itself. The violent and intolerable environment that the people lived under more than three decades had turned the Iraqi layman into a bursting volcano, that is ready to explode at an instance. Iraqis have always proved the ability to adopt and live under pressure, but no patience and ever be made the issue of changing the identity as easy as changing a dress. Many Iraqis were driven to believe that the destruction of the free and proud Iraqi soul seems to be the result of joint action (either determined or not) of the West and Iraqi rulers.

On the other hand, the West, namely the US, knows quite well that governments are coming and going, and that no ruling regime can live forever. But they are going on penalizing the Iraqi people for a political position of their government, showing clearly that those people are the

real target of those sanctions. Iraqis and Arabs in general, know quite well that justice is not the name of the game, as the treatment differs highly a few miles away to the west, where Israel, the spoiled child of the US, is playing around, crushing all human rights values without punishment. It was conveyed to me, that an American congressman (unfortunately, I neither have the name nor the occasion), stated lately that we (the US) should not allow the creation of a new Japan in Iraq. I believe that this expression is self explanatory.

It is quite harmful to see such people of great history and heritage, the sons of one of the richest spots in the area, scattered around the world seeking minimum charities. Gradually losing the national characteristics that once were unique and distinctive to them. Some shocking facts indicate that several, although limited, sum have sought refuge in Israel itself. The number is not of real significance, but the concept it.

I would like finally to address both the Iraqi government and the international community, especially its status-quo leader, the US. I want to tell them that the Iraqis abroad are neither traitors as the former believes, nor terrorists as the latter tries to envisage. They are from the place where the man first wrote, painted and built the earliest civilizations of all on this globe. Both parties are responsible for protecting this people before it is too late to do so, as they hold sole responsibility for the possible outcome from the

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frustration of millions of youth who suffer from the loss of freedom, dignity, basic living rights and identity. Such possible outcome will surely be unfavorable to everybody.

I would also like to address the Iraqi immigrants, telling them no home can be created in exile, and that the national identity is far more reaching and deeply rooted than any current, past or future political regime. I beseech them not to give up their identity, and not to accept alternative ones no

matter how seductive they may seem. It is not an easy matter to change one's identity, no matter how bad conditions are. Their despair is well understood, but times change, and nobody, be it a person, a government, or even a superpower, can be eternal or stand against change.

* Saad is an Iraqi intellectual who hails from an illustrious family. He contributes regularly to Yemen Times.

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Around Twenty Eight years ago, in a prophecy like manner, a reputed (yet tabooed) Iraqi poet (Mudhaffar Al-Nawab), proclaimed in a very popular poem: "We (meaning Arabs) shall be the Jews of modern history and will cry in the desert seeking shelter". This prophecy proved to be true again and again, starting with Yemenis, Palestinians, Lebanese, and in the most tragic sequence, the Iraqis.

The Hammer and the Anvil

The Iraqi emigration dilemma exploded six years ago, after the (second) Gulf War. But we should not forget that the bleeding of human resources has started earlier. The curve of emigration started gradually in the fifties, extended a bit in the sixties, has witnessed a sudden increase in the seventies, just to have a terrifying turning point in the nineties in a form of mass immigration, very nearly an exodus.

If the estimated number of Iraqis abroad is true (around 4 millions which means one quarter of the population and is still going up), then we are witnessing one of the most tragic human disasters of the twentieth century, given that most of this departing mass is composed of highly qualified scientific and technical manpower.

Thus, the hammer of local policies and the anvil of western (rather than international) sanctions have pushed thousands of Iraqi families across the borders in all directions possible. The Western borders was the major hub. One monitor advised that this border has witnessed one thousand and one hundred formal crossings in a single day. An easy calculation process can give us an estimated yearly amount. Adding

Recent Industrial Census:

Industrial Sector Accounts for 4% of GDP and 2% of Employment Only

By: Abubakar Abdullah,
Yemen Times.

A recent census, carried out jointly by the Central Statistical Organization (CSO) and GTZ of Germany, has shown that the size of industrial sector in Yemen has decreased over the last few years. Excluding the petroleum sector, industry in Yemen accounts for only 4% of the GDP. In addition, not more than 2% of the Yemeni labor force is employed by this sector. Finally, the whole sector has a capitalization of less than YR 51.1 billion.

According to the results of the census presented at a seminar last week, manufacturing witnessed a negative growth of -9.7% to -16% during 1993-94. However, other non-petroleum industries witnessed a real growth of 6.3% in 1994, compared to 2.9% in 1993.

The study also indicated that the decline in the value of industrial production in 1993 and 1994 was not offset until 1996. This is despite a rise in growth from 1.4% to 10.2%, achieved during 1995 and 1996.

The study also indicated that the petroleum and gas sector has undergone a huge growth, especially in production and refining. Its contribution to the GDP has reached 18.2% in 1996, compared to 13.7% in 1995.

According to detailed information released by the CSO, the number of industrial enterprises covered by the census was 33,291. Of those, only 364 (1.1%) are classified as large, 1,189 (3.6%) are medium-size, and 31,738 (95.3%) are small. The categorization is based on a formula which takes into account capitalization, annual value of output, and the number of persons employed.

In terms of output, the 1.1% large industries contribute by 67.9% of the total industrial production, and the 95.3% small industries chip in by 26.1% of the sector output.

Sana'a came in first place, hosting 5,062 industrial projects. Of those 2% are large, 6% medium, and 92% small. Second in order came the Governorate of Ibb with 3,636 projects. That is followed by Taiz (2,980 enterprises), Dhamar (2,668), Hadhramaut

(2,631), and Hodeida (2,361). These governorates together are home to more than 70% of the total number of industrial projects in Yemen. The governorates of Al-Mahra and Al-Jawf came at the bottom of the list, with virtually no industry.

The statistics have also shown that 95% of the industrial projects - by number of enterprises - are owned by the private sector. The rest are shared by the public sector (1%), the cooperative sector (3%), joint ownership (1%), the foreign private sector (0.2%), and the mixed sector (0.1%).

On terms of the structure of ownership, Individual ownership companies represent 93%, while 3% are public-share companies, 2% are closed partnerships, and 2% are government.

The annual value of the output of this sector is YR.173.3 billion. Large industrial projects contribute 69% of the total output, while medium and small projects represented 6% and 25%, respectively. The average productivity per worker per year was YR.2.4 million in large projects, YR.1.3 million in medium enterprises, and YR.828,000 in small projects.

The presentation concluded by stressing the importance of analyzing the factors that led to the negative indicators in the industrial sector. National research efforts should be channeled to come up with an overall strategic view of ways to enhance the development of industry in Yemen, it was demanded.

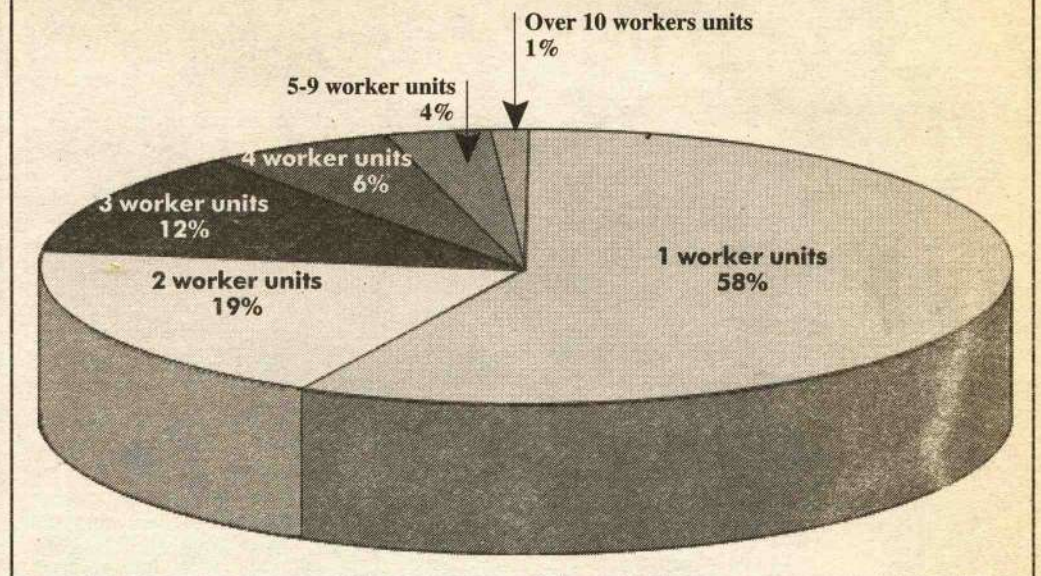
Labor and Wages

According to statistics, the number of workers in the industry sector is 110,342 persons. The annual average wage in large projects reached YR.115,000; YR.101,000 in medium projects; and YR.71,000 in small projects.

Of these, 10370 are day-wage workers, while 99972 are salaried workers. Small industrial projects employed 48% of those workers, the medium projects 7% and the large projects 45%.

The study indicated that the total amount of wages paid was YR.8 million. Large industrial projects paid 72% of the total, medium projects 7%, and small projects 21%. The total average of wages in large projects was about YR.15 million,

Percentage of Number of Industries by Number of Workers



YR.445,000 in medium and YR.25,000 in small projects.

Characteristics:

Statistics have indicated that manufacturing industries account for 90% of the total number of projects, while electricity and water for 9% and mining/quarrying industries for 1% only. Food and beverage industries constitute 55% of the manufacturing sector, followed by the metals industry (11%), the non-metal and clothes industries (9%), and the other industries with smaller and varying proportions.

Sana'a houses 17% of the conversion industries, followed by Ibb (12%), Sana'a Governorate (10%), Taiz and Hadhramaut (9%), Dhamar (8%), and the rest of the governorates with varying percentages. As far as electricity and water installations are concerned, the Governorate of Sana'a has 21%, followed by Ibb with 17%, Al-Hodeidah with 13%, Taiz with 10%, and the other governorates with different percentages.

Last but not least, 58% of the industrial projects employ one worker only - the owner; 19% employ two workers, 12% employ three workers, and 11% employ four workers.

Not Included:

Unfortunately, many industries did not respond to the survey of the CSO. The report attempts to provide information on at least the 40 largest enterprises which did not respond. These together add another YR 5 billion to industrial output. The numbers pertaining to medium and small-scale enterprises are far harder to estimate.

Difficulties:

When asked what the major problems and difficulties facing this sector, Yemen's industrialists were almost unanimous in singling out energy (electric) supply. For the large industries, for which the external market is important, the instability of the local currency was presented as a problem. Again, the large companies indicated that tax issues were of concern to them. The medium and small enterprises were worried about the marketing channels and credit facilities.

The four-volume report is not easy reading for those who are not comfortable with numbers and tables. But they do provide a rich data base for policy-makers and planners. Indeed, the census and the way it is presented is an important contribution to better economic management in Yemen.

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Curious Little Researchers



At 10 o'clock, on the morning of July 8, they arrived. A group of 18 smart kids from the Sana'a British School recently visited Yemen Times with some of their teachers. Led by the

school's able head teacher, Mr. Christopher Noble, the group went through a guided tour of the newspaper's premises.

First there was a little talk given by Adel Moqbil, of the journalistic staff, on the different stages a newspaper article passes through until it comes out in print. The Yemen Times' computer wizard, Ramzi Al-Saqqaq, showed the little kids the computerized part of the process. A few electronic tricks by Ramzi held the children spellbound. Being curious and inquisitive, the tiny researchers asked several very good questions that went beyond their tender ages. They also quite correctly answered the questions put by their teachers.

The group then went to see the next stage of the process at the printing press. Here Yusuf Al-Shareef accompanied them. "I am struck and amazed at the very many intelligent and pertinent questions the children asked."

A couple of days later, a very pleasant surprise came to Yemen Times. To show their appreciation, the little children sent handwritten letters thanking the paper for our efforts. It was quite heart warming. Thanks!



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PROCUREMENT SPECIALIST	A) 10 years experience in procurement management. B) Familiarity with government and IDA or other donors' similar guidelines and procedures.
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SPECIALIST	A) Master of Science degree in Vocational Training. B) Five years Experience in program development and implementation in the field of vocational/education. C) Excellent communication & computer skills. D) Experience in preparing & following-up on training, workshops, and inputs from specialists under TA program.
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4. Applicant must present copies of certificates and experiences.
5. Applicant must furnish a copy of his/her CV in both Arabic and English.
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وكل عام واليمن بخير

Minister Abdul-Malik Mansoor and Employees of
the Ministry of Culture and Tourism
present

their felicitations and greetings
to the Leader of our Nation, General Ali Abdullah Saleh,
the Government and People
on the occasion of Unity Victory Day, and
on the 17th of July - Anniversary of
the Election of President Saleh

Sponsored Page

Professional Arbitration Services

1. INTRODUCTION:

In response to the circumstances - the new economic changes, increase in local and foreign investments our country, the visible commercial progress, to raise the confidence level of investment companies and the investors of different nationalities, and in light of the success of commercial arbitration centres, which have been established in number of Arab and foreign countries to settle commercial and civil disputes, the Yemeni Centre for Conciliation and Arbitration was established.

2. THE YEMENI CENTRE FOR CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION (YCCA):

The YCCA was established with the purpose of contributing to settling commercial and civil disputes. The efforts of the YCCA will be based on the objectives set out in its Memorandum of Association, the Articles of Association and the rules of conciliation and arbitration, and annexes.

A. Objectives of the Centre:

The centre aims to contribute in setting up a conciliatory and arbitral system, sound and just, taking in consideration the provisions of the law and ensuring prompt decision on disputes and at the same time safeguard the secrets of the litigants and clients...

The centre intends to create relations with different global, regional Arab arbitration centres and sponsors, and to participate in seminars, workshops, and conferences. In addition, it aims to create relations with investors from various nationalities to ensure confidence to their best satisfaction. In Yemen we aim to provide ARBITRATION CENTRE that investors can resort to protect their rights. The centre shall examine disputes according to the rules of conciliation and arbitration of the centre, and recognized worldwide.

B. Documents of the Centre:

i. THE CENTRE'S MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION: This is the legal instrument through which the shareholders agreed to establish the Yemeni Centre for Conciliation and Arbitration in Sana'a city, Republic of Yemen. The Memorandum of Association has set out three aims for the centre, as explained earlier.

The centre shall present successful services in conciliation and arbitration to disputing parties of different nationalities who resort to it, and to decide/adjudicate their disputes based on the rules of the centre.

ii. THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION:-

The articles of association specify the rules and procedures of the centre's function, its mechanisms and revenues. The centre is one of the organizations of civil society, and it shall be conducted by institutional system as follows:

a. The General Assembly:

This consists of all the shareholders of the centre. Its periodic meetings shall be annual, and it may hold extraordinary meetings according to the articles of association. The general assembly has a lot of functions according to the system.

The most important of these functions are:

- approve the general policy, the plans and the programmes of the centre's operations,
- supervise their implementation,
- electing the Board of Directors; members and their dismissal
- approve the centre's documents and their amendments
- approve the balance sheet and the final profit and loss account
- appoint the auditor and approve his fees

b. Board of Directors:

- * Consists of (9) members including the chairman,
- * Each Board has a 3-year term,
- * Supervizes the implementation of the centre's general policy and to achieve that, the Board shall undertake many functions, of which the most important are:
 - to draw up proposals regarding the general policy of the centre and plans and programmes for their implementation,
 - to approve the panels of conciliation and arbitration tribunals and experts,
 - to prepare the centre's draft budget,
 - to submit the centre's activity reports to the general assembly
 - to call the general assembly to meeting,
 - to propose the financial statements and regulations of the centre,
 - to approve the by-laws and the administrative regulations of the centre,
 - to implement the general assembly resolutions,
 - to supervise the executive duties of the centre.
- * The board holds monthly meetings and may hold exceptional meetings according to the articles of association.

c. Chairman of the Centre:

The chairman shall be elected by the Board of Directors and

shall hold a number of responsibilities, of which the most important are:

- to appoint the centre's employees and fix the functions and responsibilities related to them.
- to conclude contracts in the name of the centre.
- to propose setting up relations with similar Arab regional and global arbitration centres.
- to represent the centre before all official and private bodies specially the judiciary.
- to call the Board of Directors to convene.
- to submit the periodical report to the Board regarding the activity of the centre.
- to propose programmes, plans, and different by-laws related to the implementation of the centre's aims and steering its activity.



d. The Executive Body:-

It consists of the secretary general and number of Legal and Technical employees well experienced, competent and qualified.

e. The Secretary General:

He is responsible for directing the executive body and for managing its affairs. According to the articles of association, he holds a number of functions and responsibilities of which the most important are:

- to supervise the centre's unit and sections and coordinate their operations.
- to steer the centre's administrative, financial, and technical business.
- to develop the operational system of the centre.
- to assist the chairman of the Board of Directors in implementing the Board and the General Assembly resolutions.
- to prepare the periodic reports on the activity of the executive body of the centre and its performance level.
- to perform the administrative and technical duties related to, and to facilitate the functions of the conciliation and arbitration tribunals.
- to supervise the maintenance of the archives related to the arbitration cases.

C. The Centre's Finances:

The resources of the centre consist of:

- a. The contributions to the centre by the share-holders;
- b. Administrative fees collected by the centre in return for services rendered to a third party;
- c. Donations and assistance extended to the centre.

3. THE RULES OF CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION:

These Rules specify the General Provisions and Procedures which pertain to conciliation and arbitration efforts of the centre, by which the conciliation and arbitration tribunals are obliged to adhere while examining any dispute referred to them by the centre.

These rules fix two ways to settle dispute between the parties. They are:

a. Conciliation:

I. The parties may settle their dispute through conciliation when they write or one of them writes application addressed to the centre's secretary general.

II. When an application is submitted from one party, the secretary general shall notify the other party within a period not exceeding three days from the date of the application receipt.

III. The other party shall have a time not beyond (15) days to reply either with acceptance or refusal.

IV. If the other party accepts the conciliation, the centre shall immediately prepare an agreement of reference to conciliation between the two parties, containing points of issues, the name of the conciliator chosen from the centre's panel of the conciliators and the arbitrators and the fees of the conciliator.

V. The conciliator shall perform conciliation proceedings based on considerations of equity and good conscience principles.

VI. The proceedings of conciliation shall be confidential and the information being disclosed during the conciliation proceedings shall not be divulged.

VII. If the dispute between the parties is not settled by the conciliator's attempts within the time-limit, the parties may file their dispute to arbitration if they were bound by arbitration clause, arbitration agreement or according to their own will.

b. Arbitration:-

I. Any commercial or civil dispute may be settled through arbitration pursuant to the RULES of the centre if the parties agree to make reference to arbitration or they have between them an arbitration clause or an arbitration agreement.

II. The arbitration application shall be submitted to the centre showing the facts of the dispute and all related documents.

III. The secretary general of the centre shall inform the other party immediately and furnish him with a copy of the arbitration application and its annexes. The fixed period for his written reply shall be within (30) days maximum.

4. APPOINTMENT OF ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL:

The disputing parties may settle their dispute through:

1. Arbitration tribunal, composed of three arbitrators where every party shall select one arbitrator and the third arbitrator shall be selected by the two chosen arbitrators. This last arbitrator shall be the chairman of the tribunal.

2. OR tribunal of one arbitrator, on which the disputing parties agree upon. If they do not come to agreement, the centre's secretary general shall select this arbitrator.

3. The selection of the arbitrators shall be from the centre's arbitration panel and this shall be the same with the conciliators.

5. PROCEEDINGS AND VERDICT OF ARBITRATION:

- The arbitration proceedings shall take place in the centre's building or in any other place decided by the arbitration tribunal.

- The Arabic language shall be the language of the pleadings and the award. The arbitration tribunal may decide to hear the disputing parties, the witnesses and experts to whom the Arabic language in not a native tongue, through interpreters after being under oath before the tribunal.

- The arbitration tribunal may admit presentation of memorandums, notes and run pleadings in foreign language, with attached official Arabic translation.

- At the start of its duty, the tribunal shall prepare minute-book, specified in its assignment, based on documents presented to it.

- The tribunal shall examine the case immediately following the completion of the formalities of its formation and it has the right to appoint an expert or more for certain assignments.

- The tribunal shall issue its verdict during a period of (3) months maximum from the date of signing the minute-book at the start of its assignments.

6. PRINCIPLES:

- Arbitration means the intention of the disputing parties to establish their special forum by their own will. It is a sort of special judicature.

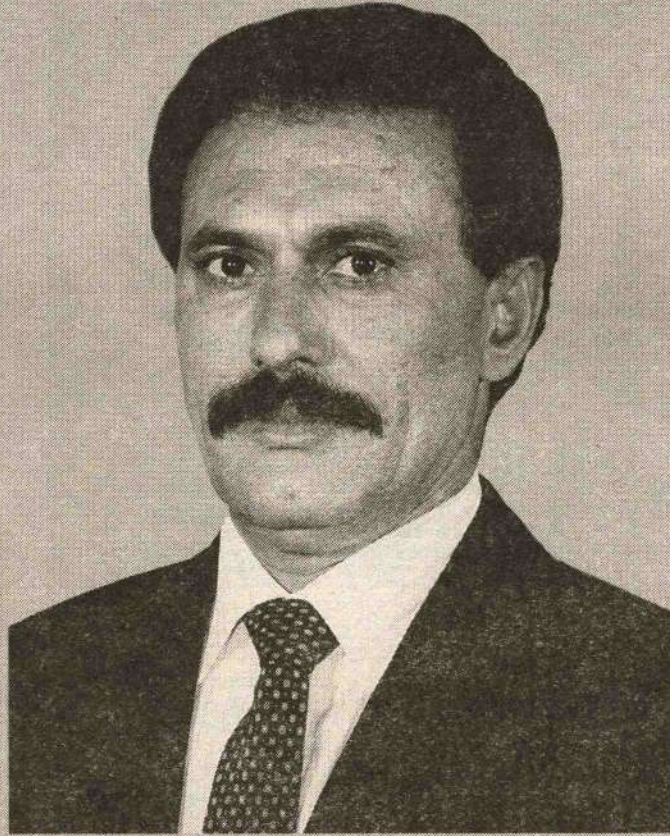
- An arbitrator is not a judge forced upon the disputing parties, but he is a judge whom they select.

- An arbitrator shall not serve as attorney of the disputing party who chooses him, but he shall be a neutral, just, and impartial judge chosen to examine the subject case.

For more information, contact: Telefax: (01) 248-034

شركة شاهر للتجارة

تتقدم بخالص التهاني وأعطر التبريكات
للفريق علي عبدالله صالح - رئيس الجمهورية
وحكومة الدكتور فرج بن غانم والشعب اليمني
بمناسبتى ذكرى انتصار الوحدة اليمنية - السابع من يوليو
وذكرى إنتخاب الأخ الرئيس القائد - السابع عشر من يوليو
وكل عام وأنتم بخير



Shaher Trading Company

presents its best wishes and congratulations to

General Ali Abdullah Saleh,

President of the Republic,

the Government of Dr. Faraj bin Ghanim and the Yemeni People

on the anniversaries of July 7th and the 17th of July

Many Happy Returns

الدكتور وليد جزراوي - الرئيس/المدير العام، ومنتسبو شركة

كنديان أوكسيدنتال بتروليم يمن

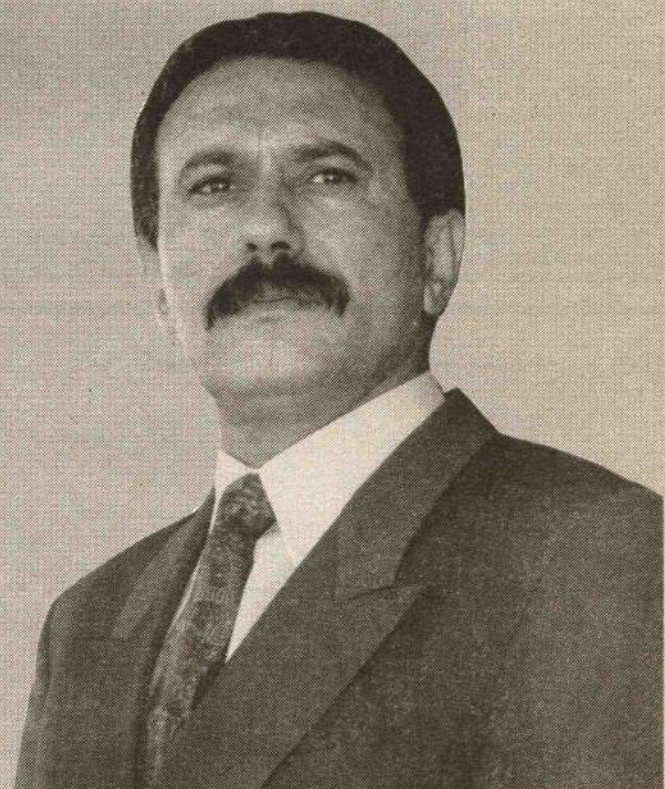
يتقدمون بأعمق التهاني وأطيب الأمانى لفخامة الرئيس

الفريق علي عبدالله صالح

وللحكومة الرشيدة برئاسة الدكتور فرج بن غانم وللشعب اليمني

بمناسبة ذكرى انتصار الوحدة اليمنية - السابع من يوليو

وبمناسبة ذكرى إنتخاب الأخ الرئيس - السابع عشر من يوليو



Dr. Waleed Jazrawi - President/General Manager and All Staff of
Canadian Occidental Petroleum Yemen

present

their warm congratulations to Yemeni President

General Ali Abdullah Saleh,

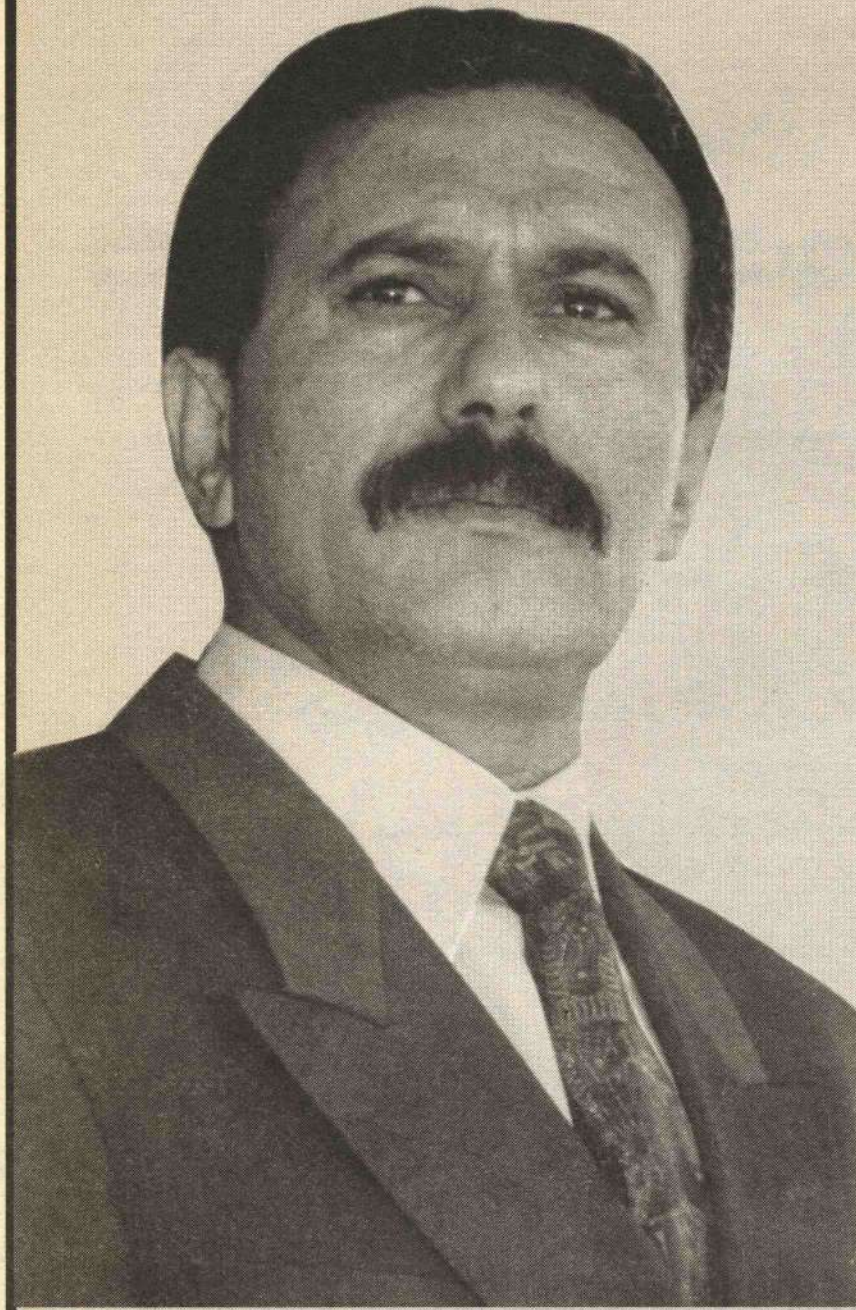
the Government of Dr. Bin Ghanim, and the Yemeni People
 on the anniversaries of July 7th and July 17th.

Many Happy Returns to All

المهندس محمد الطيب وزير العمل ومنتسبو الوزارة
يتقدمون

للمرئيس المُظفّر وحكومتنا الرشيدة والشعب
بأجمل التهاني

بمناسبتى ذكرى ٧ يوليو «يوم النصر»
وذكرى ١٧ يوليو يوم إنتخاب الرئيس القائد
وكل عام واليمن بخير

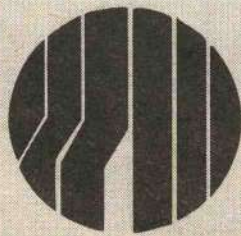


Eng. Mohammed Al-Tayyeb, Minister, and All
Employees and Workers of the
Ministry of Labor & Vocational Training
present
their felicitations and greetings
to the Leader of our Nation, General Ali Abdullah
Saleh, the Government and People
on the occasion of Unity Victory Day, and
on the 17th of July - Anniversary of
the Election of President Saleh

الأدارة العليا والمهندسون والموظفون في
شركة نيبرس يمن المحدودة
يتقدمون

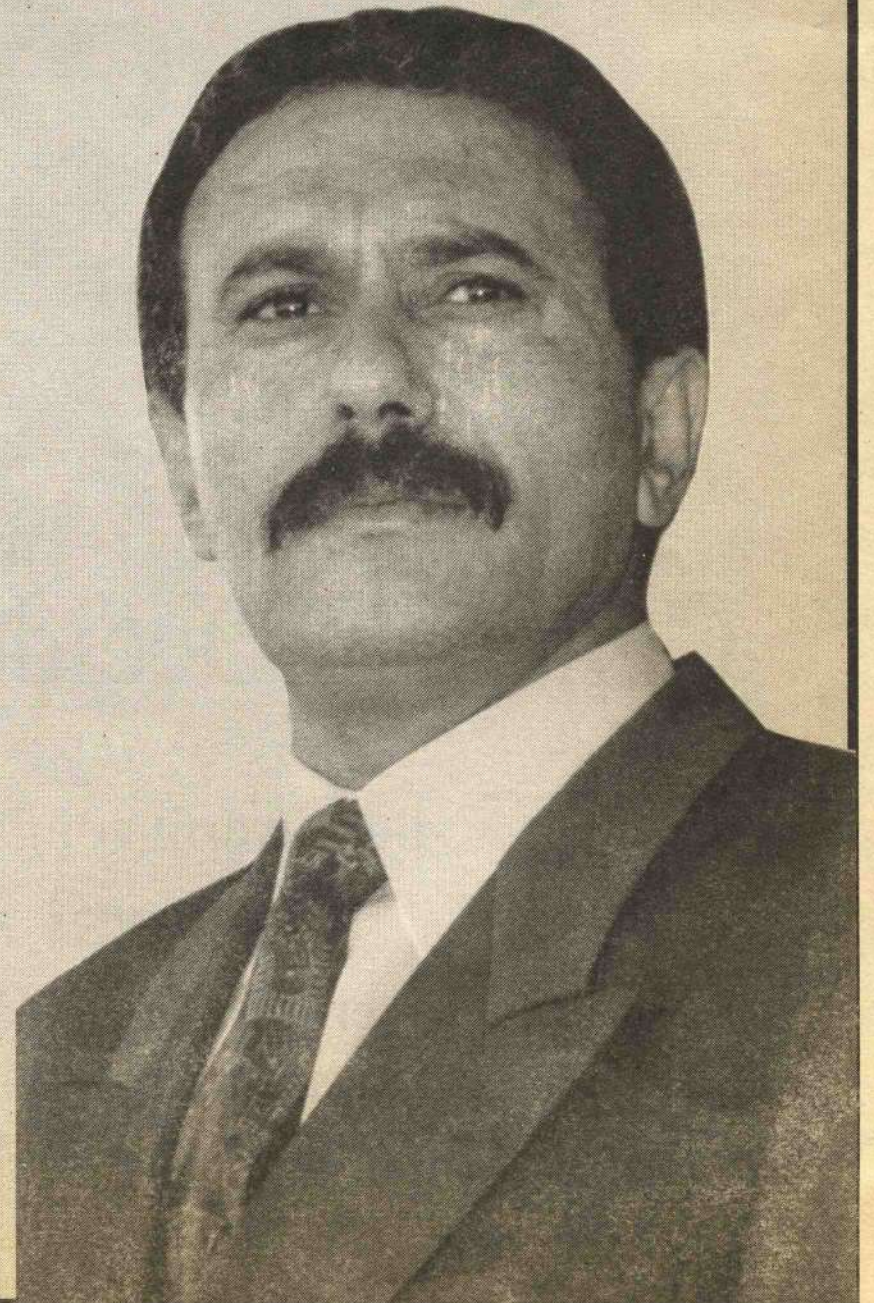
للمرئيس القائد والحكومة والشعب
بأجمل التبريكات

بمناسبتى ذكرى ٧ يوليو «يوم النصر»
وذكرى ١٧ يوليو يوم إنتخاب الرئيس القائد
وكل عام وأنتم بخير



The Top Management, Engineers and Workers of
NABORS YEMEN LIMITED

present their felicitations and greetings
to the President, General Ali Abdullah Saleh,
the Government and People of Yemen
on the occasion of Unity Victory Day, and
on the 17th of July - Anniversary of
the Election of President Saleh



Sponsored

SIEMENS NIXDORF & ORACLE: Reliable and Competitively Priced Computers

As the Yemeni computer market grows, many international manufacturers are coming in to carve out a place for their products. Last week witnessed the launch of two of the important International brands in Sanaa - Oracle and Siemens Nixdorf.

The local representatives of those companies - Tihama Computers and Peripherals - has mobilized the local media and business circles to get a glimpse of what those companies and their products can offer to them. A seminar was held on Sunday



SIEMENS NIXDORF
APC
AMERICAN POWER CONVERSION
ORACLE

More than a promise...it's an achievement.

شركة تهامة للكمبيوتر والأجهزة المساعدة
TIHAMA COMPUTER & PERIPHERALS

Tel: 219234, 208065; Fax: 219660



6th July to promote the products of the two big computer manufacturers. Representatives of the companies introduced the most modern versions of the information technology. "These systems offer solutions to meet all possible requirements," said Mr. Jamal Qaqesh. Indeed, starting from the smallest p.c. up to the largest system for banks or airlines, a whole range of products visibly aroused the interest of all visitors. In addition to the quality of the products, service and maintenance and adequate and upto-date software was assured.

Tihama Computers and Peripherals was established with a view to supply the Yemeni market



with the most recent technologies in the world. TCP's contribution in introducing the computer and communication technology to the Yemeni working arena is a mark of recognition and a source of great pride for them.

"We don't only sell computers, but we offer complete solutions," said Mr. Abdulkarim Abu-Ghali, Tihama's General Manager. According to Mr. Abu-Ghali, a complete solution means that a client gets a computer system, networking, and post-purchase maintenance. In other words, Tihama has the ability to find a complete solution to every client's requirements.

There was another point that Mr. Helmut Rishel emphasized. Some people wrongly believe that since German products are top quality, they must be exorbitantly priced. This is not true. "Our prices are highly competitive, compared to other less reliable products," Mr. Abu-Ghali assured all potential clients.

Mr. Abu-Ghali expressed great optimism for the future of the computer market in Yemen. "Siemens Nixdorf of Germany has put a lot of faith and investment in the ever-expanding Yemeni market. "It is a greatly promising market."

Mr. Amin Dirhem, Chairman of Tihama Group of Companies, also had a message. "I think that people should choose the most reliable products. This is important because when your computer lets you down, the cost could be enormous. So, as much as possible, businessmen and companies should minimize that risk. This can only be assured with Siemens products," he stated.

Jannah
Hunt
OIL COMPANY
شركة هنت-جنتا للنفط

شركة جنتا هنت
للنفط

تتقدم بخالص التهاني القلبية لفخامة رئيس الجمهورية
الفريق علي عبدالله صالح

وإلى الشعب اليمني العظيم وحومتنا الرشيدة
بمناسبتى ذكرى انتصار الوحدة اليمنية السابع من يوليو
وذكرى إنتخاب الرئيس علي عبدالله صالح - ١٧ من يوليو
وكل عام والجميع بخير

Jannah Hunt Oil Company

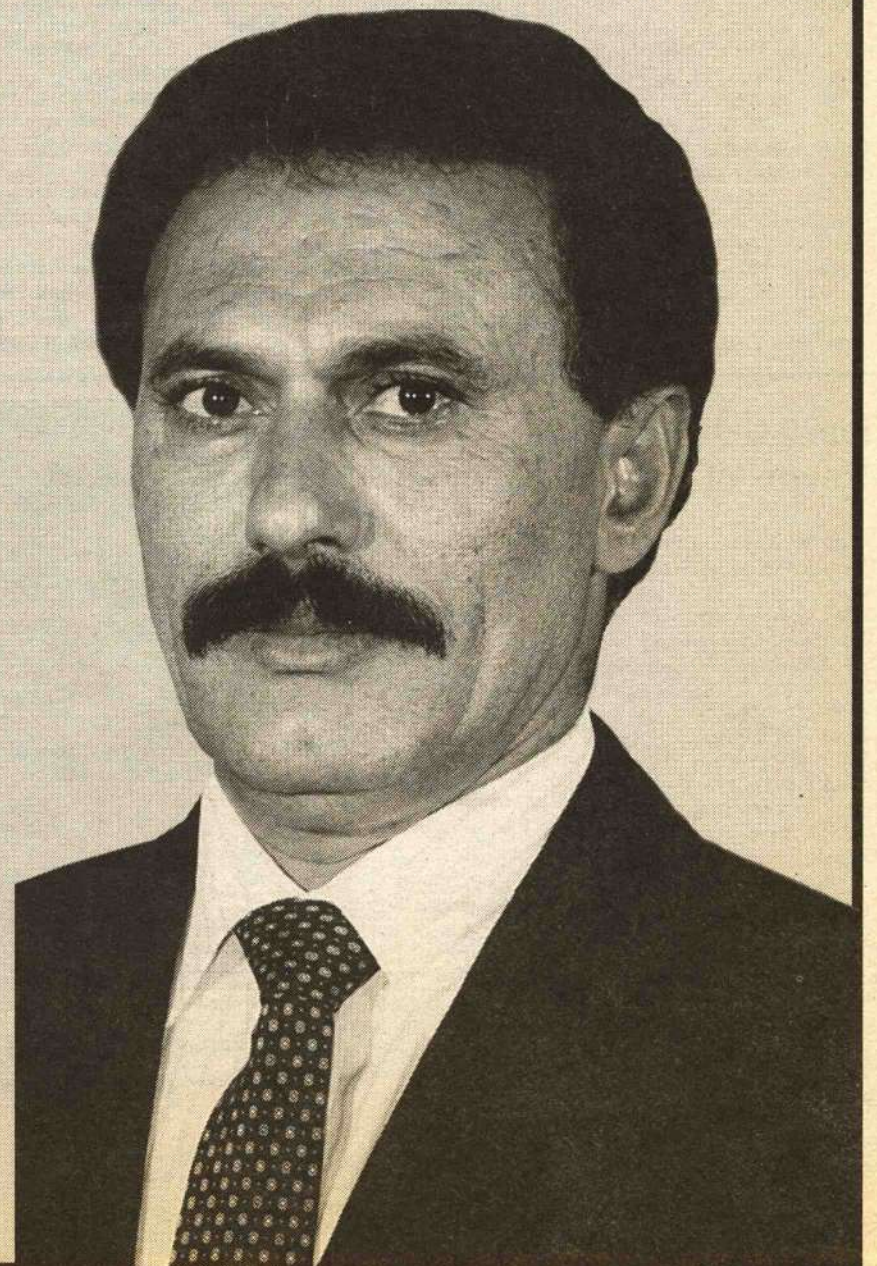
presents its heartfelt congratulations to

President Ali Abdullah Saleh

and to the Yemeni People

on the anniversaries of 7th July, and 17th July

Many Happy Returns to All !



Paris: Exhibit on Yemeni Civilization

An exhibition of pre-Islamic Yemeni antiquities will be launched on October 20th, 1997, at the Arab World Institute in Paris.

Professor Yousuf Mohammed Abdullah, Director of the General Organization of Antiquities, Museums & Manuscripts and Professor of Archaeology and South Arabian Epigraphy at Sana'a University, is the contact person on this matter.

Prof. Yousuf is an old hand on the subject. He has authored several books and numerous articles on Yemeni history and archeology. In recognition of his efforts, he was awarded the First Degree State Medal for Sciences by the President of the Republic. He was also decorated with Arab Historian Medal.

Dr. Salah Haddash interviewed him and filed the following:

Q: What is the role of your organization in this exhibition?

A: We have participated fully in the planning; selection, documentation and photographing the exhibit material; and in preparing the accompanying catalogue. Other organizers include the heads of the French, German, Russian, and Italian archeological teams working in Yemen.

Q: What are the main archeological pieces, and on what criteria were they chosen?

A: We chose the pieces that truly represent the ancient Yemeni civilizations, and show their chronological order. The purpose is to represent all Yemeni regions. The most important groups of items are:

- 1- The complete collection of finds from the temple (throne) of Bilquis, which are to be shown for the first time;
- 2- The Dhara' finds from Shabwa, which were stolen during the civil war, and were later bought back from the public;
- 3- A bronze collection from the National Museum in Sana'a, which includes the statues of Dhamar Ali and his son and Ma'adi-kareb;
- 4- Ausanic statues from Aden;



5- A recently discovered rare pottery collection from Sabir, Lahaj, dating back to the Bronze Age (1500 B.C.);

6- The Wendell Philips collection, which he discovered in Dahyan in the early 50s, and is now in Washington;

7- A collection from the Berlin Museum, which remained languishing in its vaults until the unification of Germany;

8- Private collections in Europe;

9- Antiques from the British Museum.

All in all, there will be about 550 pieces.

Q: What historical periods do these antiques represent?

A: They represent different kingdoms of ancient Yemeni civilizations. These include the kingdoms of Maean, Qataban, Saba, Ausan, and Hadhramaut. They mostly date back to the Bronze and Historic ages, i.e., 3000 years before Islam.

Q: What benefits do you expect from this exhibition?

A: It will be a great opportunity to better introduce the ancient Yemeni civilization to the world. It will also provide the means for cultural exchange between Yemen and Europe. Tourists will be more attracted to Yemen.

Q: Will the exhibition be held in other cities in Europe?

A: We have received several applications from Vienna, Munich, London, Washington, and Florence. These applications are now under consideration. A new agreement will have to be drawn for every such exhibition. After the five-month duration of the exhibition in Paris, my feeling is that the exhibit will certainly move on to other European cities.

Q: Do you think this exhibition might induce some countries to return the Yemeni antiques they now possess?

A: I was actually a member of a special UNESCO committee entrusted with such a task. This committee did not achieve much. Those who hold the antiques in question claim to have either bought them, or were given to them as presents by previous governments.

In the future, maybe, we'll be able to retrieve the important pieces that represent national symbols. We could also ask for some pieces to be temporarily exhibited in our national museums.

Q: Should there not be an international ban on the illegal transfer and possession of archeological finds?

Jamal Gabobe: Poems of Love & Memory

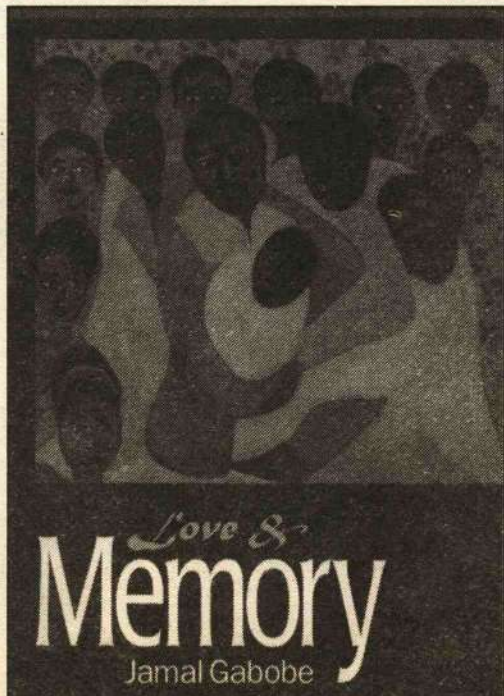
"And we always want to be where we are not.
We want to be back to the beginning."

Jamal Gabobe began in Aden. He was raised and educated there, and still has family ties and interests. Born into a Muslim family in Somalia in 1957, Gabobe now lives in Seattle, USA, where he studies comparative literature at the University of Washington. He has written poems, short stories, a play, and a novel. He is currently writing a memoir of politics and personal observation based on his 1993 travel in Somalia.

Love & Memory, published in the US in 1997, is Gabobe's latest collection of poems. "I wrote these poems during the 1980s. I was living in the US where I felt isolated, homesick, and disturbed by reports of brutality by the military regime in Somalia," Gabobe wrote in his commentary on the last page of the collection.

Sufferings of homesickness, yearnings for a lost past, and questions of identity feature prominently throughout most of the poems. "And we fall back on the only thing left: memory."

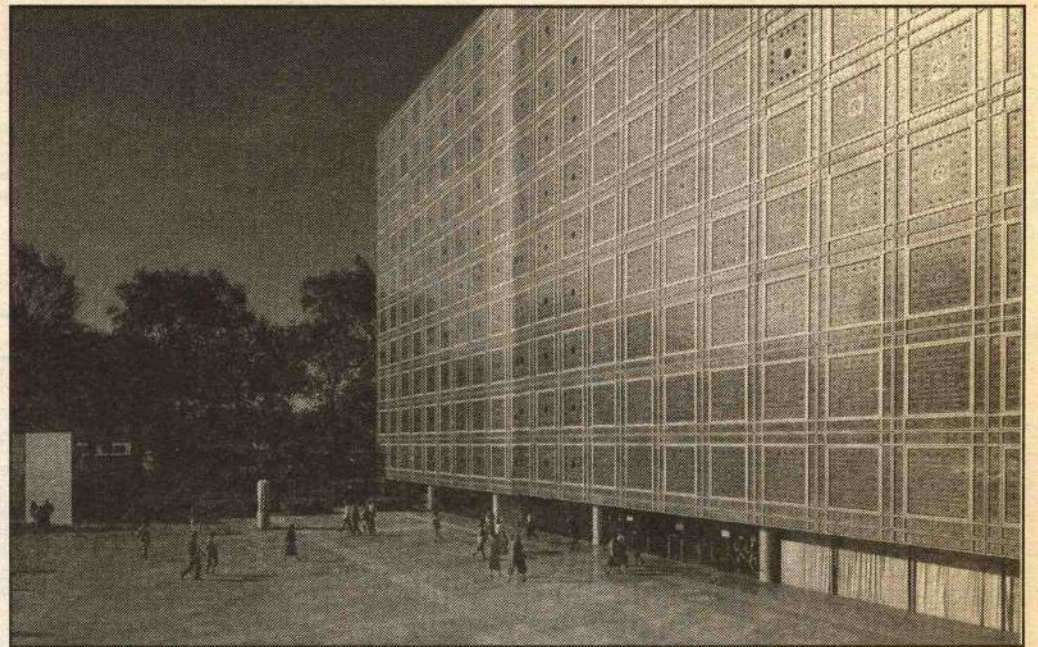
The loss of his native, war-ravished Somalia is another theme that is intensely displayed in Gabobe's poems. "Like the rest of you, I once had a home, a country, but no more." Somalia's former military dictator, Mohammed Siyad Barre, did not escape the poet's scathing. Nicknamed big mouth by Somalis, Barre is described by Gabobe as someone who feeds his fires with the people's flesh



to get high on its stench.

All in all, *Love* refers to the poet's unabashed womanizing in the US, and *Memory* to his seemingly awful past experiences under the bloody dictatorship of Siyad Barre.

By: Adel Mijbel



A: There is actually such a treaty since 1972. There is also another one signed in Italy two years ago. This second treaty prohibits the transfer of cultural properties. But it only applies to new finds, not to old ones.

Q: Any last comment?

A: This exhibition is supported by President Ali Abdullah Saleh and President Chirac of France. I believe the two leaders will jointly launch the exhibit. It will be one of the most successful antiquity exhibitions in Europe.

Mr. Haddash also talked to Mr. Jean-Francois Bretton, the French Cultural Attache' in Sana'a. Himself an archaeologist, Bretton is the contact point at the embassy.

Q: How did the idea to hold this exhibition come about?

A: The idea actually goes back to

six or seven years. It was not implemented for various reasons. The director of the Arab World Institute visited Yemen last year, and signed an agreement with the Ministry of culture. It was decided to hold this exhibition in Paris. It will then move to Germany, and maybe to Italy.

A catalogue will be distributed containing rich information on Yemeni archeology and history. It will be published in French, German, English, Italian, and probably Arabic, with beautiful color photographs.

Q: How many visitors do you expect to see this exhibition?

A: We expect about 200,000 to 300,000 visitors. Many visitors will definitely be intrigued by the mysterious and exotic image of Yemen.

If the response is big, the exhibition could very well be extended to March or April of 1998.

Q: What does this exhibition signify for the Yemen-French

relations?

A: Just like the teaching of French and providing scholarships, this exhibition will help to further develop the links between the two countries.

Q: How is the exhibit financed?

A: There are many sponsors such as Yemenia Airlines, Arab Horizon for Tourism, Total, Paris-Mach, and maybe Geo magazine.

Q: Are there any plans or ideas for other types of cultural cooperation?

A: Accompanying the archeological exhibition, there will also be musical performances, 2 or 3 plays, a handicraft exhibition, and several seminars on ancient and contemporary Yemen.

In addition, a French TV team will be visiting Yemen soon to make a documentary film about Yemen. A reportage has recently been filmed on Yemen's socio-cultural and politico-economic evolution. It will be shown on the

The Lost Secret Part I

4.30 p.m. Tuesday 8 July 1997

The Lost Secret is an exciting new English course for near beginners to elementary students. The video, divided into 11 episodes, tells the story of a man who has forgotten his name, a sinister professor, a mysterious plant and the long-lost secret of a South American civilisation. This intriguing story will make English language learning fun.

U 70 minutes

Sense and Sensibility

8 p.m. Tuesday 8 July 1997

Devoted sisters Elinor and Marianne are forced by tragic circumstances to set about the delicate tasks of finding suitable husbands. Marianne, with her passionate hunger for emotional experience, falls for the handsome, but heartless John Willoughby. The outwardly collected Elinor is in love with Edward Ferras, who is himself entangled with a sly and avaricious lady. Amidst disappointment and distress, will they ever find happiness and true love?

U 174 minutes

The Lost Secret Part II

4.30 p.m. Tuesday 29 July 1997

See Part I above for description.

U 70 minutes

Silas Marner

8 p.m. Tuesday 29 July 1997

Unjustly accused of theft and cast out from a small 19th century religious community in the Midlands, the young Silas Marner seeks solace and solitude in hard work and a new environment. But when he is robbed of his entire savings by the son of a local squire, it seems he has lost everything for a second time, until a young child mysteriously finds her way into his cottage one winter's night, and Silas's life is changed forever.

PG 91 minutes

Myths and Legends

4.30 p.m. Tuesday 12 August 1997

This film sheds a new and fascinating light on the ancient lore of Europe. What place is more fitting to conceal a monster than the deep waters of Loch Ness? And how easy to picture Count Dracula stalking his prey in the dense forests and strange and isolated castles of Transylvania. Spectacular photography, a fascinating narrative and evocative music give new life to Europe's oldest myths.

U 60 minutes

Alexander the Great

8 p.m. Tuesday 12 August 1997

The story of Alexander the Great, Greek hero and world-conqueror, is given epic treatment as international stars join a cast of thousands to bring history to life. Spectacular action blends seamlessly with vivid character portrayals as the age-old tale of wisdom and ambition, blood and glory unfolds.

U 130 minutes

Heart Attack

4.30 p.m. Tuesday 26 August 1997

Heart attacks are most common cause of sudden death in the world. This information film explains in laymans terms what a heart attack is, the possible causes and how you can reduce the risk of it happening.

U 48 minutes

The Last Emperor

8 p.m. Tuesday 26 August 1997

Peking 1908. A three year old boy becomes emperor of China. He was the Lord of Ten Thousand Years, the absolute Monarch of China. He was born to rule a world of ancient tradition. Nothing prepared him for our world of change.

15 158 minutes

Summer Film Guide
A guide to film shows in the British Council Library

India-Egypt: A Rising Economic Partnership

India has become the largest investor in Egypt with its investments totalling about US\$330 million last year, but industrialists say there is a tremendous potential yet to be exploited by New Delhi. Officials at the Egyptian General Authority for Foreign Investment disclosed last week that they had received 32 investment proposals from Indian companies by the end of June last year. "Indo-Egyptian political ties have always been good but lacked economic substance. Now with reforms underway in both countries, Indian exports to Egypt are going up," Kanwar Sibal, Indian envoy in Cairo, said. He said India was the second largest Asian investor in Egypt after Japan. The balance of trade between Cairo and New Delhi has been in India's favor and exports touched Rs4.5 billion (about \$150 million) during April, 1996 January.

Businessmen say Egypt is keen to collaborate with India in the capital goods sector, pharmaceuticals and software industry. Egypt asked for India's expertise and joint venture collaboration proposals in vehicle wheel-disc manufacturing projects, production of magnesium oxide, seamless pipes, setting up foundry complex projects, rails production, automotive alternator and capacitors manufacturing projects. Egypt is also interested in India's assistance in modernizing its textiles units of weaving.

World Bank Tells Bangladesh to Reform Banking Sector

The World Bank has urged Bangladesh to radically reform the banking sector to restore its viability and confidence. The three main pillars of the banking system have to be rebuilt, a World Bank Mission said in a report. They include an effective legal system, good management, and a strong and effective central bank. The report suggested that the government should go for privatization of national commercial banks, though only after financial restructuring is completed.

Bangladesh's banking sector has been grappling with defaulted loans that led to a liquidity crisis, powerful trade unions that often disregard management on recruitment and lending, and the absence of strict laws to deal with the problems, bank officials said.

The World Bank called for stringent legal provisions for recovery of bad debt. Current laws allow lengthy hearings of loan cases and provide for maximum penalties.

Iran to Be A Nuclear Power in Five Years

A Western intelligence report says Iran will be able to launch a nuclear attack within five to seven years at a range of 3,000 km, a newspaper reported. The report alleges Russian and Chinese involvement in Iran's development of a nuclear program and long-range missiles, according to the daily La Stampa, which said it had obtained a copy of a document which says so.

The United States has alleged Iran is working on nuclear weapons. Much of Iran's nuclear weapons are centered around Isfahan, where reactors and laboratories have been dispersed to avoid a crippling military attack, La Stampa said. The Western media, taking their cue from government officials, have increasingly been targeting Iran as an outlaw state. Observers believe that these are preludes to Western action against Tehran.

Clerics Say Penalty for Blasphemer Must Be Death

In the latest reaction to the Israeli woman's insulting poster of the Holy Prophet Mohammad (PBUH), Iran's chief judge said that the punishment for defaming Islam's prophet should be death.

The judge, Ayatollah Mohammad Yazdi, said in a Friday sermon that Muslims must act against such insults to Islam. "The Islamic world is troubled by these insults, and we have to stop just making condemnations. We have to act today," he said. Sheikh Mohammad Tantawi, Egypt's leading cleric also spoke out against the Israeli woman's caricature, saying that defamation such as this was punished by death. In Assyut, 320 km south of the capital, Cairo, protesters shouted against the Israeli prime minister Netanyahu, chanting: "Netanyahu is the enemy of God." Some called for Egypt to cut relations with the Israeli state. The reactions came as a result to posters distributed in the West Bank town of Hebron insulting the Prophet Mohammad and the Holy Quran.

Israeli leaders apologized for the incident, which attracted protests from several Muslim countries. The US officially denounced the action, and called the woman as "sick". An official spokesman for the US administration and Foreign Office insisted full respect for Islam.

The authorities in Israel plan to put the woman on trial for her action. Much of the Israeli population also condemned the silly caricatures, although a small but vocal segment of Israel extremists have come to the support of the woman.

Violence and Protests Rock Central/East Africa

Anger and disdain is the order of the day, as the people of East and Central Africa take to the streets, and take up whatever arms are available to them to attack state symbols.

The most recent of the sweeping black anger was in Kenya where unarmed civilian protesters confronted a riot police trained to reign in the public. The toll of last week's confrontation is 3 dead and several injured. Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi, in power for more than 17 years, fears the fate of Mobutu, toppled a few weeks from Zaire.

At another level, Niger's government banned opposition protests to mark the first anniversary of chaotic elections in which president Ibrahim Bare Mainassara made the transition from coup leader to elected head of state. Interior minister Idi Ango Omar told state television that the government had banned all demonstrations. "We cannot, in conformity with the panel code, tolerate demonstrations aimed at disturbing public order and inciting citizens to rise up and take arms against the authority of the state," he said.

The rage that is now sweeping many parts of the black continent is making dictators re-consider their ways, in a new world order that does not tolerate authoritarian regimes.

Pakistan Passes Anti-defection Law

Pakistan's National Assembly (parliament) passed a constitutional amendment designed to prevent parliamentarians from changing political parties. The unprecedentedly stringent anti-defection constitutional amendment. The 217-seat Assembly voted 181-0 in favor of the bill, which was also passed by the Senate (Upper House).

The new amendment empowers the president of a political party to unseat a member who violates party discipline. His decision will be final. The speakers of Assemblies and the Senate chairman are exempted from application of this amendment. No court, not even the Supreme Court, can entertain any legal proceedings, exercise any jurisdiction, or make any order in relation to any action.

This action comes in response to childish side-changing by politicians and parliamentarians in order to advance their careers or capitalize on any given situation.

Defections from one's losing party to a winning side happen frequently in the new democracies. Cases in point, in addition to Pakistan, include Turkey, Yemen, Jordan, Egypt, etc.

Given Israeli Intransigence, Doha Economic Summit in the Doldrums

The Economic Summit for the Middle East and North Africa, scheduled for November in Doha, capital of Qatar, faces increasing resistance. One Arab country after another, has announced it will not participate in the meeting.

Qatar's Emir, Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, has reconfirmed his commitment to the summit during his visit to the USA, last month. Doha believes that more Arab rights can be protected by talking to the Israelis rather than by staying away from them. Even then, Doha has not yet sent an invitation to the Israeli Prime Minister.

The Arab countries which have already announced they will not attend the summit includes Saudi Arabia, Syria, Sudan, Libya, Lebanon, and Morocco. Jordan and Egypt have been sending conflicting signals, while many of the Gulf states, especially Oman and the United Arab Emirates are playing a 'wait-and-see' game. Other countries, like Yemen and Tunisia have been keeping a tight lip on the matter, probably waiting till the last minute to see where the tide flows.

Unless something dramatic happens to show that the present Israeli government has more far-sight than it has shown over the last year, the Doha Economic Summit looks like a non-starter.

Saudi Arabia's Campaign to Curb The Use Of Water

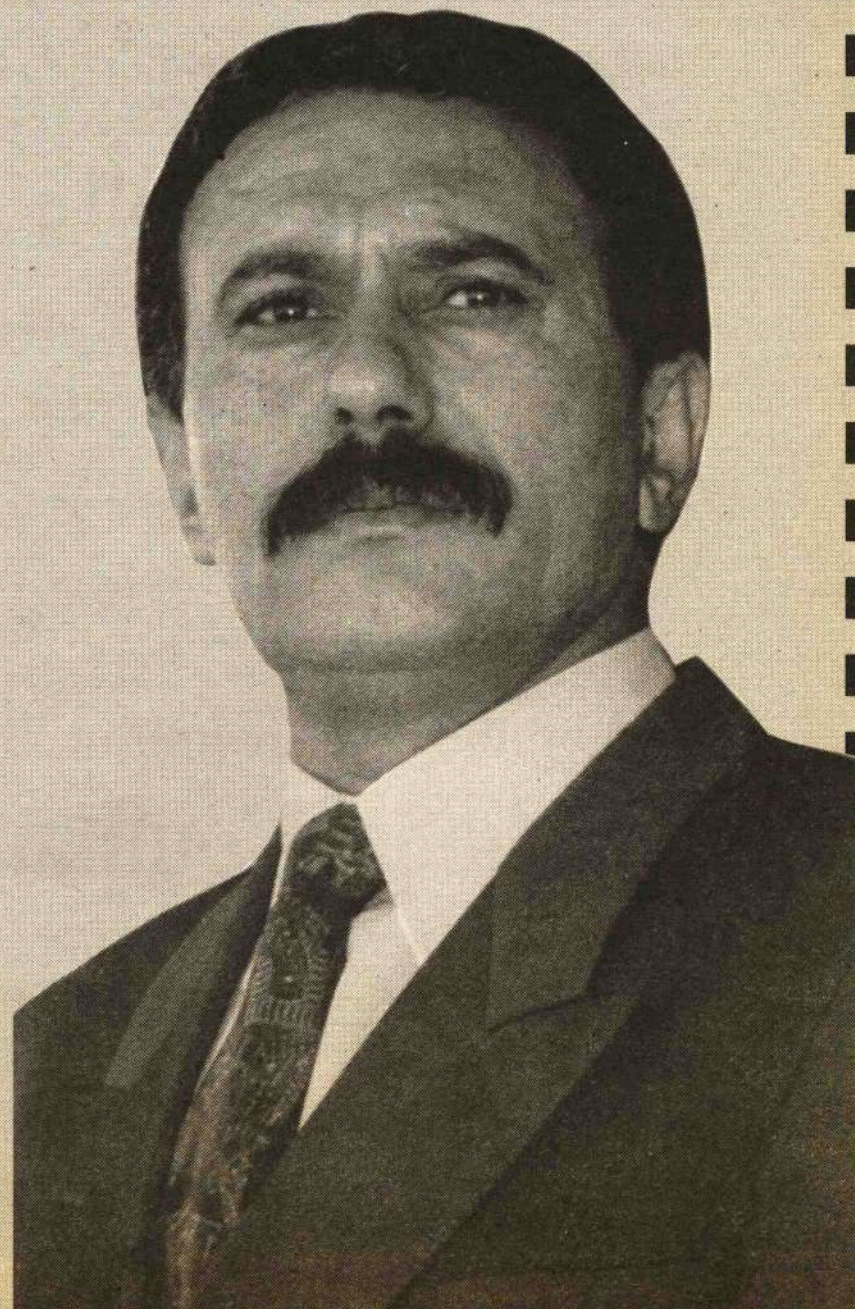
Saudi Arabia launched a six-month national campaign to curb the use of water and has urged its citizens to stop wasting the precious resource. Crown Prince Abdullah Bin Abdul-Aziz, speaking on the eve of the campaign last week deplored what he called the careless use of water in the desert kingdom. "Water is a blessing from God," Prince Abdullah said.

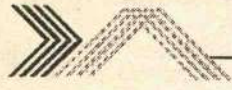
He referred to the difficulty in supplying adequate amounts of water to the public due to the country's geography and climate. Temperatures in the kingdom soar above 40 celsius in the summer, and in some regions temperatures rise more than 50 celsius. The kingdom relies on scarce rainfall, non-renewable underground water and desalination plants to meet the water demand of its population of 18 million, which is growing at 3.5-4% a year.

According to government estimates, total water demand stood at 18.2 billion cubic meters a year in 1995. The campaign hopes to achieve a drop to 17.5 billion cubic meters by the turn of the century.

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لرئيس القائد والحكومة والشعب
بأجمل التهاني وأطيب التبريكات
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their felicitations and greetings
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Saleh, the Government and People
on the occasion of Unity Victory Day, and
on the 17th of July - Anniversary of
the Election of President Saleh





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to Yemeni President

General Ali Abdullah Saleh,

the Government of Dr. Bin Ghanim,
and the Yemeni People
on the anniversaries of
July 7th and July 17th.

Many Happy Returns to All

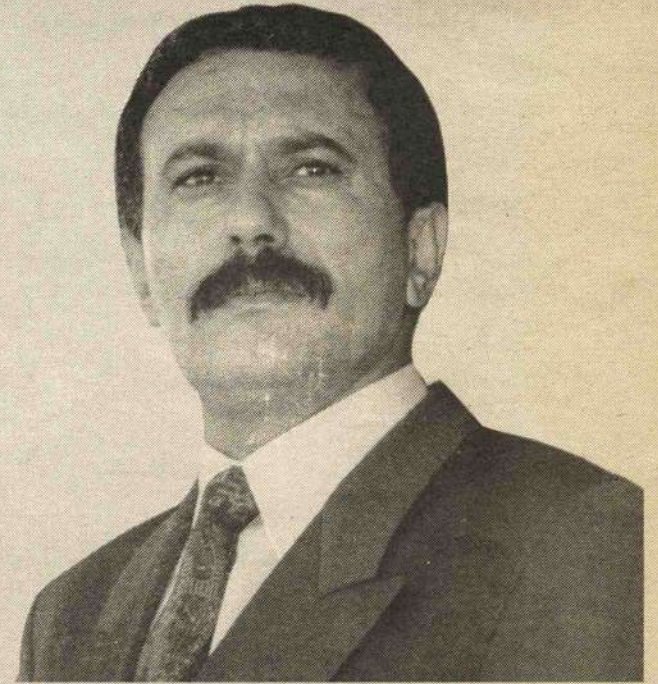
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the Government of Dr. Bin Ghanim, and the Yemeni People
on the anniversaries of July 7th and July 17th.

Many Happy Returns to All



United Travel & Tourism:



**Al-Sunidar Group
Working to Expand the Tourist Market**



Al-Sunidar Group is keeping ahead of the rising market demand. Last month, it launched a new company, United Travel & Tourism.

The task of this company is to work hard to make Yemen a viable international tourist destination. After all, Al-Sunidar Group is renowned as a leading tour operator; an agent for land, sea and air transport; and cargo and shipping agent. It also represents the Yemen Group Transport Company.

With branches already operating in Sana'a, Taiz, and Mukalla, the company is expanding as and where market demand warrants. "Immediately after inaugurating this branch, we are working to open a branch in Aden in a matter of weeks," stated **Mr. Ali Yahya Al-Sunidar**, the company's general manager.

Tourist inflows to the Republic of Yemen have been steadily growing. The number of visitors increased by over 18% in 1996/7 as compared to 1995/96. This is partly due to the marketing efforts of companies like United Travel & Tourism and others.

The inauguration of the new office was attended by **Mr. Hassan Sohbi**, Chairman of Yemenia, **Eng. Hussain Al-Sayyaghi**, Vice Chairman of the Civil Aviation Authority, and many

tourism industry leaders. "This investment is an indicator of the peace and stability in Yemen," said **Eng. Al-Sayyaghi**. The Civil Aviation Authority is responsible for licensing tourism agencies. The Yemenia chairman echoed similar



sentiments. The airline will benefit from such projects due to the increase in tourist numbers.

"United Travel & Tourism is opening new branches because of the huge untapped market in this sector," explained **Mr. Ammar Al-Bidani**, Marketing Manager at United.

Indeed, the growth rate of tourism in Yemen is expected to exceed 20% in the new year.

Staff of United Travel and Tourism

- Ammar Al-Bidani**, Marketing Manager
- Yahya Ahmed Al-Sunidar**, Financial Manager
- Yasir Al-Kirbi**, Sales Manager
- Mohammed Aqil Zaheer**, Sales Supervisor
- Ghada M. Raoh**, Sales

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AL-WAHDAWI: Sana'a (Weekly) 8-7-97
(Nasserite Unionist Party)

Main Headlines:

- 1) Ministry of Interior Bans Demonstration by Students in Mahweet Protesting Over University Land Used for Building Prison
- 2) Visiting Kuwaiti Intellectuals Suggest Gulf Scheme to Develop Yemen
- 3) YSP Secretary-General Searched and Intimidated in Sana'a Airport Upon his Return from Medical Treatment Abroad
- 4) Mareb Tribes Stop Fighting to Unite Against Government Troops

Article Summary:

Disappointment by Ali Al-Saqqaf

During the university exams, students were frustrated with government statements on laying off thousands of employees. This means that there is not much hope for new graduates. This is specially so after the World Bank's "brotherly" advice. It is feared that the government will do that, and neglect other more serious problems such as corruption. Corruption is hindering development and bleeding the country's resources. It is no exaggeration to say that what is stolen by a few corrupt officials may exceed what the government would annually pay its employees.

AT-TARIQ: Aden (Fortnightly) 8-7-97
(Independent)

Main Headlines:

- 1) The President Promises YSP Delegation to Address their Grievances
- 2) Minister of Planning Denies Relinquishing Land to Saudi Arabia
- 3) Yemenis Training in Egypt to Run Aden Free Zone

Article Summary:

a- Housing Benefits

An assistant deputy minister at the Ministry of Petroleum is paid YR.40,000 (\$310) a month as housing benefits. He is renting a villa in Hadda. It is well known that officials like him, who had moved to Sana'a from other governorates, are paid YR.7,000 a month by way of housing benefits.

b- For 20 Acres

A 35-year-old dispute over 20 acres of land has recently led to the death of 3 people from Al-Arasha clan in Abyan. The land is covered with trees and thickets, and is considered a good defense



Yemeni Press in a Week

by: Adel J. Moqbil

against torrential rains. The killer shot dead two of his relatives, and committed suicide immediately afterwards.

AL-AYYAM: Aden (Bi-Weekly) 9-7-97
(Independent)

Main Headlines:

- 1) New Thaw in Yemeni-Kuwaiti Relations
- 2) Trial of Brigands who Killed 3 Members of Family Started in Sayoun
- 3) Yemenia Airlines Employees on 3-Day Strike
- 4) Only Two Liters of Water a Day for Every Citizen in Al-Dhalie'

Article Summary:
Hadhramis Protest

The proposed administrative division of the present Governorate of Hadhramaut into coastal and inner parts has become a thorny issue. Tribal and public meetings are being held in the area in protest over the expected division.

A delegation of several Hadhrami figures, who agree with the division, has recently visited Sana'a, and met with the President. Despite that, many tribal leaders and ordinary citizens in Hadhramaut refuse to allow their governorate to be divided. Petitions bearing the signatures of thousands of people were made to this effect. There are mainly tribal and historical reasons for refusing the division.

AL-SAHWA: Sana'a (Weekly) 10-7-97
[Yemeni Congregation for Reform (Islah)]

Main Headlines:

- 1) Yemen Celebrates Victory of Unity on 7 July, 1994
- 2) Visiting Kuwaiti Intellectual, Dr. Al-Rumaihi: "Yemen's stability is important for all the Arabian Peninsula."
- 3) 5 Yemenis from a Family of 13 Died in Storm in USA
- 4) Aden Sewerage Network to be Renovated
- 5) Grievances of Kamaran Cigarette Factory Workers Still Unresolved

Article Summary:

The Dose and Chewing Gum by Ali Al-Wasie'

Economic reform seems to mean starving the people. A sack of flour will cost YR.2,000, while the minimum wage is YR.3,000 only. The 10% increase in salaries is like giving chewing gum to a starving person. So those who receive high salaries will get higher increases. It seems more logical that the salary increase should be inversely proportional to the actual salary. Otherwise, if the percentage is fixed, the rich will get richer, and the poor will stay the same.

26 SEPTEMBER: Sana'a (Weekly) 10-7-97
(Yemeni Armed Forces)

Main Headlines:

- 1) New Officers Graduate from Military and Police Academies
- 2) Meeting Kuwaiti Delegation, President Stresses Need for Enhancing Dialogue Amongst Arab Intellectuals
- 3) Yemeni Civil War Dossier in UN is Closed
- 4) Yemen Gets 6 Million Kuwaiti Dinars from Arab Social Development Fund

Article Summary:

Heavy Rains in Hajja

Torrential rains have fallen in Al-Mahabisha and Aflah regions in the Governorate of Hajja on Tuesday 8th June. The rains lasted for an hour and a half. They were preceded by a strong sand storm, which obscured the

sun light. Some shop owners had to operate their electric generators. Torrents flew down valleys with great speed, distrustful terraced farms and roads. Small mountain villages became completely isolated. According to eyewitness accounts, these rains are the heaviest in years.

AL-THAWRI: Sana'a (Weekly) 10-7-97
(Yemeni Socialist Party)

Main Headlines:

- 1) Political Sources Rule Out Decisive Solution for Border Problem with Saudi Arabia
- 2) Yemenia Airlines Paralyzed by Strike
- 3) Public Protest Over Proposed Division of Hadhramaut Goes On Unabated

Article Summary:

Why War? by Abdullah M. Monasser

Since the war of the Summer of 1994 conditions in the country have been deteriorating. Despite the declared general amnesty, trials are still being held and prisons are still receiving the vanquished.

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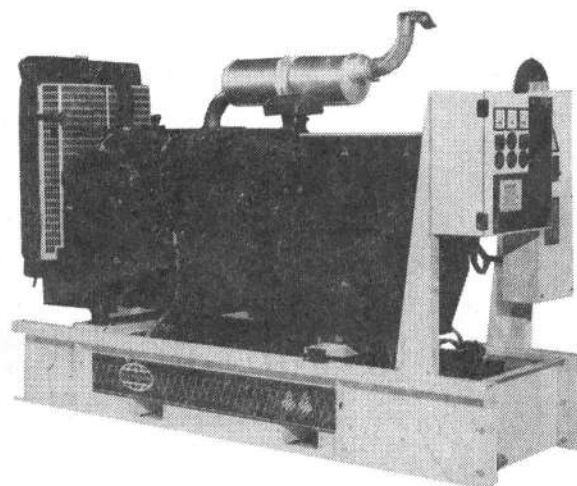


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Yemen Participates in 8th Arab Tournament in Lebanon

Solidarity..

Peace.. Sports

At last! The Arab Sports Tournaments re-started last Saturday after they were suspended for five years. The last tournament was in 1992 in Syria. This year, the 1997 Tournament is taking place in Lebanon. This is a good occasion for the Arab countries to bridge their gaps and promote a sense

of solidarity. In a country like Lebanon, which has suffered a lot of war tragedies and destruction, this round is of great significance for peace and Arab solidarity. Yemen has participated in this round with a large sports delegation. The delegation will compete in four events, as follows:

A. Wrestling:

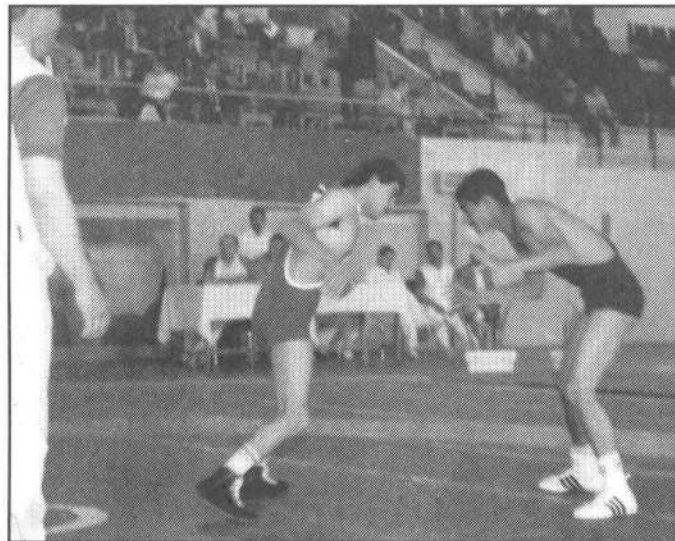
- 1- Abdulla Al-Azzani
- 2- Sameer Abdulkareem
- 3- Mohsen Al-Shoaibi

The coach: Ra'ad Abdulmohsen

B. Athletics:

- 1- Anwar Omer
- 2- Salah Abdulsalam
- 3- Afif Ghalib
- 4- Mosheer Al-Hayyani
- 5- Abdulrahman Abdulaziz

The coach: Nasser Moh'd Tarboush



C. Taekwondo:

- 1- Waddah Abdulmalik
- 2- Tariq Hussein
- 3- Nabeel Al Baydani
- 4- Omer Al Hattami
- 5- Omer Al Ba'dani
- 6- Saleh Ba monusser

The coach: Kamal Owaid

D. Judo:

- 1- Yahya Mofarreh
- 2- Qoraysh Al Haimi
- 3- Mohammed Jalal

The coach: Mohammed Ghadroof.

The president of the Athletics Association has announced that there is a financial award estimated at US\$1500 for every player who wins a medal in this round.

In the tournament, there are about 3000 athletes representing 18 Arab countries.

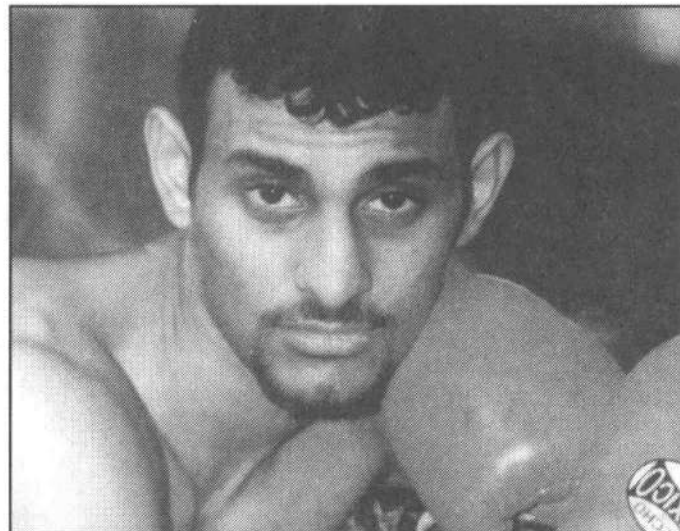
Winner Takes It All. Will Naz Win All Titles?

The British/Yemeni boxer Naseem Hamid is preparing for his next fight with an Argentinian challenger on 19th July, 1997. Naseem, or Naz as he is known to his fans, already holds two featherweight boxing championship titles. These are the titles of the International Boxing Federation (IBF) and World Boxing Organization (WBO).

Naz has set his sight on two other titles. The titles of the World Boxing Council (WBC) and the World Boxing Association (WBA). These are like two ripe fruits waiting to be plucked by our hero. Organized by Showtime TV Channel, the fight will be held in the US. Naz's fame has already reached and impressed the American public.

"I don't fear any challenger... the two remaining titles are mine to take," Naz confidently announced. He is certainly very determined. If Naz gains the WBA and WBC titles, he will be the first featherweight boxer to achieve this feat of holding four international titles

Will he do it? Let's keep our fingers crossed.



EMIRATES CRICKET CUP 97

Following are the results for Emirates Cricket Cup 1997, which due to lack of space had not been published earlier.

DATE	MATCH B/W	WON BY
27 June 97	ACC-YCC Man of the Match ---Nadeem	ACC
4 July 97	ICC - L & J Man of the Match ---Casper	L & J
11 July 97	PTC - ACC Man of the Match ---Arif Butt	PTC

PRESENT POINT POSITION

Team	M	W	L	P
PTC	2	2	-	4
ACC	3	1	2	2
YCC	1	-	1	0
L&J	1	1	-	2
PCC	1	-	1	0
ICC	2	1	1	2

Reported by: Masroor A. Siddiqui

Vacancy

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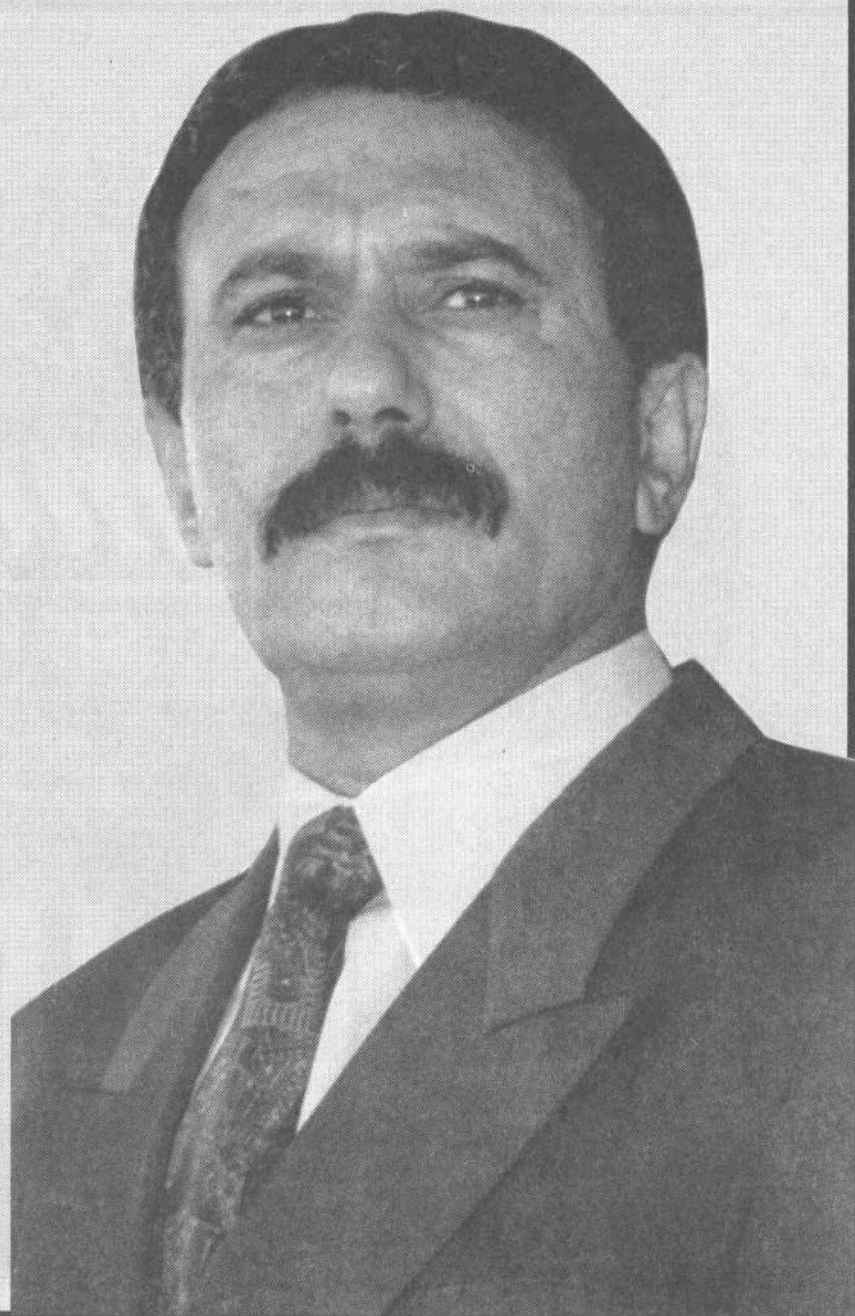
P. O. Box 19335
Sana'a, Republic of Yemen

Interviewing of qualified candidates
will take place in late July.

Please provide contact telephone numbers
and addresses with CV's

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and All Employees and Workers of
The Ministry of Health
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to the Leader of our Nation, General Ali Abdullah
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First, Yemen is classified as a developing country. The basic premise of this categorization is that, irrespective of the starting point, tomorrow will be better than today, and today is better than yesterday. In other words, there is forward change.

Second, the Government of Dr. Faraj Bin Ghanim has been presented to the general public as a savior. Therefore, the level of expectations is high. This makes its job even more difficult.

Third, the tasks facing this government are enormous. On the one hand, it is asked to straighten out things, like fighting corruption. On the other hand, it is supposed to prepare the groundwork for an economic recovery, like pushing ahead with the reforms. At a third level, this government is also required to contribute to Yemen's growth leading into the 21st century, like undertaking investments.

Given those tasks, it would be quite an achievement if the Government of Dr. Faraj bin Ghanim succeeds in stopping the deterioration of conditions, which is visible. Let me use a few important indicators to show the downward trend.

1. Illiteracy:
 According to the 1994 Popula-

tion Census, illiteracy rates among males was 36.5%, and among females, 76.2%. The combined national illiteracy rate was 55.8%. That is the starting point.

According to the enrollment ratios of our children in 1996, the facts are troubling. Only one out of two boys, and one out of four girls go to school. Of the school-age population, only 37.5% go to school. In other words, the illiteracy rate, is probably going to be higher in the future than it is today.

2. Population Growth:
 According to the 1994 Population Census, the annual population growth rate for the period 1986-94 was 3.5%. This is an untenable rate, and the burdens created by it are beyond the ability of the society. Now, the growth rates for 1995 and 1996 have exceeded 3.7%, and there are estimates that place it as high as 3.9%.

3. Unemployment:
 There are no accurate figures regarding the unemployment rate in the country. There isn't even an agreed-upon exact definition. Generally speaking, the 1994 census showed that some half a million people were unemployed. Calculating on a labor force of roughly 3,000,000 (Possibly, the government does not count adult women as part of the labor force.), one can say

that the unemployment rate was about 16.7%. The number today with which the World Bank and other donor organizations work with for unemployment in Yemen is over 30%.

4. Degradation of Habitat:
 The Republic of Yemen is fast degrading its habitat by:
 a. depleting non-renewable resources such as water;
 b. deforestation and erosion;
 c. mismanagement of mineral and oil resources. In less than a decade, Yemen will have extracted most of its oil reserves;
 d. mismanagement of waste disposal and dirtying of the environment, especially the cities.

These indicators show that the problems facing the country are growing in number and size. Therefore, the actions required will be extremely painful, and the Government of Dr. Faraj bin Ghanim are asked to address them. But the pain can be reduced in many ways if the well-to-do in society, especially those associated with the power structure, show that they are willing to make sacrifices. Such an attitude would help the government address the problems.

By Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, Professor of Economics, Sanaa University.

MBC: Professional Integrity vs. Political Agenda

On Thursday July 10th, the London-based Saudi-owned Middle East Broadcasting Company (MBC) ran a one-hour 'debate' on Yemen. It was repeated on Friday. The occasion was the 7th of July anniversary. Although this was normal, MBC's drive to make a political point has compromised its professionalism. I want to explain myself on two counts:

a) Taking quotes out of context:
 I have seen it happen many times, and it happened to me during this last program. In order to push a political point, MBC unashamedly takes quotes out of context, and presents half-truths. This is done by the art of cutting and piecing together parts of sentences.

b) Using Old Footage:
 Another tactic MBC used is to fall back on old footage, whether general reporting or old interviews. Although this is done by many a television station, footage from the archives is clearly indicated to the general public by specific references to their dates.

I am aware that many of the journalists at MBC are simply serving their patrons. The resultant low level of integrity and professionalism is clear especially when you compare it with Western channel, like CNN, CFI or BBC. That explains why, MBC, in spite of the millions of Saudi dollars pumped into it, will never gain the credibility that other media have attained!

By: Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, Chief Editor, Yemen Times

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