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The Drying Up of Yemeni Tourism

Lost Revenue Put at \$28 m for First Half of 1998

The numbers tell a sad story - the story of the death of a hope. Tourism had held a tremendous hope for Yemen. It is over, for now, at least. The kidnappings, the senseless violence, and the statelessness have done it. During the first six months of 1998, the number of tourists who visited Yemen was less than 24,000 persons. This is 22% less than the numbers of last year, which was decidedly a bad year. Total revenue loss for the first half of 1998 is put at US\$ 28 million. Yemen Airlines, in spite of its best efforts, has been bleeding. It lost more than US\$ 2 million on the disruption of its Rome sector. It is now getting more cancellations from all over Europe. The major hotels in Sanaa - Taj Sheba Hotel and Sheraton Sanaa - now show an average of 50% occupancy rates. The rate for the first half of 1997 was 65%. Tour operators, airline agents, handicrafts shops, and other tourism-related businesses tell the same story. That tourism is hurting. Yemen has the makings of a major tourist destination. It has clean smooth sandy beaches extending over 2,700 kilometers. Its coastlines are excellent for scuba diving, snorkeling, and simply great

swimming and fishing. It has majestic mountains for hiking, and lush valleys for picnics and good times. It has plenty of desert land for adventure-lovers. It has souqs which tell tales of the Arabian Nights. It has ancient sites that speak of events of centuries ago. It has a culture embodying a rich folklore, beautiful architecture, and a friendly population. It has islands untouched by man or unspoiled by time. In short, Yemen has all the attractions of great tourism. Yet, tourism in Yemen today tells a sad story. The hotel rooms are empty. The airplane seats are empty. And all the tourism-related industry and services are suffering. A great potential and hope for the Yemeni economy is withering away. The reasons behind such damage is the lack of security. Tourists will put up with virtually many things, except jeopardizing their safety. In Yemen, tourists are the target of kidnapping. True, they are generally not hurt. In fact, they are treated well. But the international media reporting the events have damaged the image of the country. Yemen is now seen as a country not safe for foreign travellers. Hence the



many cancellations. The recent riots, violent demonstrations and other forms of restlessness have also added to the problem. The events were also widely reported in the international media. This added to the already bad image of Yemen as a place which is not safe. Finally, many tourists and tour operators have been complaining about the statelessness. This means that respect for the law is minimal, and that people generally do what they please, and they often get away with it. The situation can be fixed. In fact, what it takes to redeem Yemen's image is a little bit more coordination and planning. It takes more efficient government officials who are interested in what they are doing. It also takes officials who stand on a higher moral ground than the kidnapers. At the moment, that is not true.

Repair Costs Exceed US\$ 1 Million:

Hole Number 7 on YHOC Pipeline

There we go again. The tribesmen have just punctured a 7th hole at kilometers 82 on the pipeline carrying Marib oil to the Red Sea. The cost for repairing these holes is rising fast. According to Yemen Times sources, the bill has just topped one million US dollars. Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh, desperate for a way out, replaced Brigadier Mohsin Al-Anisi with the more ruthless Brigadier Mohamed Al-Hawiri

as commander of the 7th Armed Forces stationed in the area. The authorities can do very little against a local population which holds a grudge, and a gun. Even if the whole army of Yemen is mobilized, it cannot achieve any results. The best way to go about this problem is for the state to re-capture some of its legitimacy and credibility. That cannot be achieved with corrupt and inefficient government officials.

President Saleh to Visit the Vatican, Canada & South Africa

Plans for presidential visits abroad are being finalized. Informed sources told Yemen Times President Ali Abdullah Saleh is scheduled to pay a 5-day official visit to Canada. During August 24-25, he will meet with federal Canadian officials in Ottawa. Then he will spend the next three days in Calgary - heartland of the oil industry - where he will be hosted by Canadian Occidental Petroleum.

His trip to Canada ends on the 28th. On his outbound flight, the President is planning a stop-over in Rome for an audience with the Pope. In addition to talks about strengthening the recently established diplomatic relations, he will discuss Israel's insistence to liquidate the Christian and Muslim parts of Jerusalem. On his return flight, President Saleh will travel to South Africa.



He will participate in the 1-4 September Summit of Non-Aligned Nations.

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OUR VIEWPOINT

Time to Reflect... and To Change a Few Things

The recent violence that followed the price hikes is basically over. Yet, the issues and the problems are not. Let me list a few of them, and make suggestions.

1. Lack of Trust:

The people of Yemen do not trust the politicians who run our affairs. There is a deep feeling that most politicians are not interested in the welfare of the general public, and that the majority are busy amassing wealth and transferring their "savings" abroad.

Therefore, the first suggestion to President Ali Abdullah Saleh is to introduce confidence-building measures. For example, why hasn't the law which requires senior state officials specifying their private wealth been enacted?

2. Replace Corrupt Officials:

The President of the Republic should understand that change is necessary to retain the dynamism of the nation. There have been clear signals from the public that some individuals and policies need to be changed. Even if the president likes these policies and individuals, he should bow to the people's demand and change them.

Moreover, the public demand is justified on many grounds, notably because of corruption and inefficiency.

3. Yemenis Should Judge:

The regime of President Ali Abdullah Saleh uses quotes from foreign diplomats or visitors to assert that it is doing well. But that is not the right yardstick. It is the people of Yemen who are to decide whether his regime is doing well or not. The comments of foreign observers can only serve as additional signals, not as the key yardstick.

So far, the majority of the Yemeni people would conclude that the regime is not doing well. It has failed on many counts - social justice, economic development, political harmony, general safety and security, and even in regional and international relations.

4. Paying Mercenaries:

The regime regularly pays people to buy their loyalty. For example, the President regularly pays local and foreign journalists to write nicely about his 'achievements'. This is a bad policy. If loyalty has a price, he should see that there are others who can pay better than him.

The point is, if the system in Sanaa functions properly, it would not need to do this. And if it is not doing well, no matter how glowing the reporting, it won't help.

This week marks the 20th anniversary of the presidency of Mr. Ali Abdullah Saleh. In my mind, it is a good occasion to reflect on the affairs of the nation. It is in the hands of President Ali Abdullah Saleh to initiate steps that will help reduce the tension between the regime and people. This is actually for his own good.

In the final analysis, President Saleh has to bring into the system qualified Yemenis who have dignity and self respect in the way they handle themselves. These people may not obey him blindly, but they will do wonders for the country. Strong nations are built by strong men and women!

The Publisher
Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

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'Somme' Arrives

The French battleship Somme arrived at the Port of Hodeida on Saturday, July 11th, on a 5-day friendly visit to Yemen. On board is the naval brigadier Jean Louis Baté, the commander of French naval forces in the Pacific region. Somme's first visit to Yemen was in June of last year.

The commander and his senior officers met with Yemeni military and civil officials and discussed strengthening bilateral military cooperation.

Pilot Public Survey

The Ministry of Civil Service and Administrative Reform is currently implementing a public employment survey and public register update. Started on July 8, this experimental week-long survey aims to test the validity of the basic surveying forms and the extent of willingness of executive administrative units to respond to a full-scale survey.

TB Meeting Concluded

The bi-annual meeting of the National Program to Combat TB was concluded on Friday, July 10th, at the National Institute to Combat TB. The program is implemented in cooperation with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

A large number of Yemeni doctors and health workers took part in the meeting.

YCPH Launched

The Yemeni Center for the Protection of Heritage (YCPH) was launched in Sanaa on Sunday, July 5th, after its founding members succeeded in obtaining the necessary license from the Ministry of Culture and Tourism. Headed by Mr. Amin A. Al-Madhaji, the YCPH membership includes a large team of technical experts, artists, and intellectuals. Its executive board of 5 members has a 3 year-term.

"The center aims to collect and preserve the national cultural and artistic heritage of Yemen so that it is kept for posterity," said Mr. Al-Madhaji. The YCPH aims to organize seminars, establish cultural clubs, publish books, and hold various other activities.

Health Workshop

An administrative workshop was jointly held in Hajjah by the Ministry of Public Health and the German Project.

The 3-day event, in which 11 trainees took part, aimed to improve primary health care services in health state-owned centers and clinics.

UNICEF Issues Report

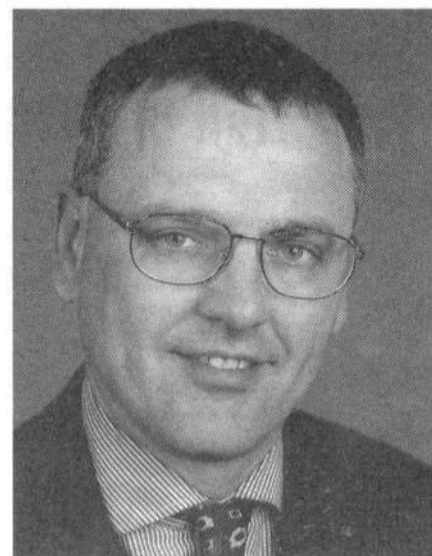
The UNICEF launched its annual 1998 Progress of Nations report on Wednesday, July 8, in Sanaa. The report, which is launched from a different country every year, is a combination of statistical data, analysis of trends, and explanation of principles, said a statement made by the UNICEF Regional Director. UNICEF activities in health, education and social projects have increased in Yemen - from a budget of \$2.3 million in 1996 to \$5 million this year. It is currently working to formulate an expanded US\$ 52 million project, to be financed by a soft loan from the World Bank.

Procession Sets Off

The Islamic Organization for Science and Education is organizing a youth procession during 12-21 July, in cooperation with the Yemeni Organization for Education, Culture and Science. The procession, which sets off from Sanaa, includes young people from Yemen and several other Arab countries, and aims to develop responsible youth leaders.

Lufthansa Top Executive in Sanaa

Mr. Josef Bogdanski, Vice President Sales and Services - South-East Europe, Africa, Middle East and Pakistan - Lufthansa German Airlines arrived in Sanaa on Sunday, 12th July. The 3-day visit aims to strengthen Lufthansa's cooperation and presence in the Yemeni market. That is why the visit agenda includes meetings with senior government and airlines officials, travel agents and representatives of the media.



Josef Bogdanski was appointed Vice President Sales and Services - South East Europe, Africa, Middle East and Pakistan as of 1 July 1997. His appointment is an integral part of the corporate restructuring at Lufthansa and the subsequent creation of the new Lufthansa Passenger Airline business unit in April 1997.

Mr. Bogdanski joined Lufthansa in 1984, following his studies in economics at the University of Duisburg. During his first three years with the company he worked on the development of computer systems for sales and marketing. In 1987 he was appointed Assistant to the Member of the Board of Executives, Mr. Bechmann, a post which he held for

four years. He then took up his first foreign assignment with the company, as Passenger and Cargo Sales manager. In 1995 he was promoted to Regional Director Passenger Services south-east Europe, based in Athens, where he remained until his move to Dubai, on 1 July 1997.

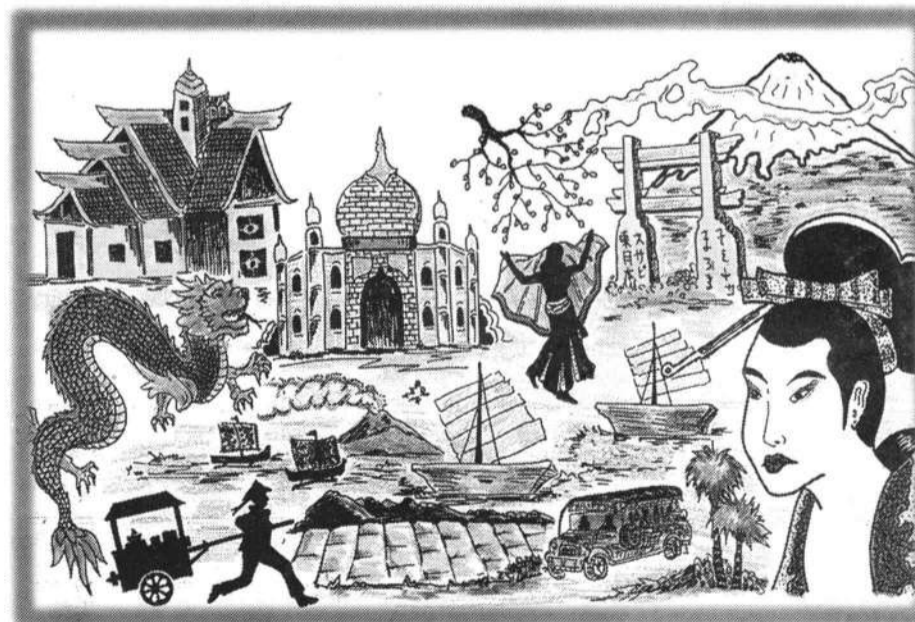
Based in Dubai, he has overall responsibility for all passenger sales and services for this vast area which covers some 34 destinations in 26 countries, including Yemen.



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Woes of Administering Elections

Dr. Abdullah Hussain Barakat, Chairman of the Supreme Elections Commission (SEC), has a rich and varied career that extends back to 38 years. With a BA in law, an MA in general and special law, and a Ph.D. in economic and social development, Dr. Barakat, 62, had occupied several ministerial and ambassadorial posts. He was appointed chairman of the SEC on November 1, 1997, following the re-organization of the 7-member body which is responsible for administering elections. Ismail Al-Ghabiry of Yemen Times talked to Dr. Barakat and filed the following interview. Excerpts:

Q: Will there be any amendments to the elections and or the by-laws regulating the functioning of the SEC?

A: Law No. 27 of 1996 Concerning General Elections is one of the good laws that regulates all aspects pertaining to the election process. Nevertheless, referring back to past experiences, the introduction of a number of amendments is quite necessary for our democratic to be a truly unique one in the Arab World. Some of the changes to the law introduced by the SEC include opening branches in different governorates, specifying a sufficient period of time between the withdrawal of a candidate and polling day, opening the ballot boxes and counting the votes at every individual polling station, instead of gathering all boxes in one center, as well as several other amendments.

The SEC was not alone in making these changes. It is also keen on giving ample opportunity for the various political parties, independent law experts and former SEC members to express their opinions and submit their recommendations, to be taken into consideration.

Q: When will the local election law be promulgated and will the actual local elections be held?

A: The local elections law is still being debated by parliament. As far as the SEC is concerned, the necessary plans are being formulated. As soon as the law is ratified by parliament, the SEC will make the necessary technical steps to implement it.

Q: Do you envisage and replacements of some SEC members with perhaps, better qualified and more independent people?

A: Paragraph C of Article 23 of the Elections Law stipulates that a member of the SEC can only be dismissed by a republican decree, and only in the case of ceasing to satisfy the conditions stipulated in Article 22 of the law and according to a final court decision.

Q: What new improvements, if any, have been introduced to the SEC since it administered the general elections of April 1997?

A: Since the re-forming of the SEC in November, 1997, we started working on re-organizing the whole outfit. We started with the administrative staff, which lacked qualified people. Cooperating with international organizations concerned with promoting democracy worldwide, training courses are often planned for SEC staff.

SEC work is now being computerized, thanks to a gift of several computers by the EU. For example, these computers will help organize comprehensive archives of documents from previous elections. These achievements and many others are part of our patriotic duty, which is an honor to perform.

Q: Ever since the 1997 general elections, the SEC does not seem to be conducting any training courses for its staff. Why is that?

A: The SEC concentrates a lot of its efforts on training programs in order to fully prepare the staff for a successful administering of elections and the training of new staff members.

Q: What are the international organizations that provide assistance to SEC, and to what extent?

A: There are several such bodies and countries such as the EU, UN, the International Foundation for the Development of Democracy, Britain, Germany, the US and few others. The SEC is very keen on cooperating with these parties in order to help consolidate the country's democratic experience.

Q: What preparations has the SEC made for next year's local and presidential elections?

A: Since early in its existence, the SEC has been making intensive preparations and comprehensive plans for the presidential election of 1999, an important event in our country.

Q: What lessons has the SEC learned from the 1997 general elections?

A: Each election process conducted in Yemen or in other developing democracies has its positive and negative sides. The thing we are proud of is the fact that elections in our country are free, fair and transparent. This is attested to be all the international election monitors who that supervised Yemeni elections.

I ascertain that any shortcoming in the democratization process can only be rectified by more democracy. Since the general elections of 1993 and up to this date the democratic process has been continually refined.

Q: Have you analyzed the voter rosters at all?

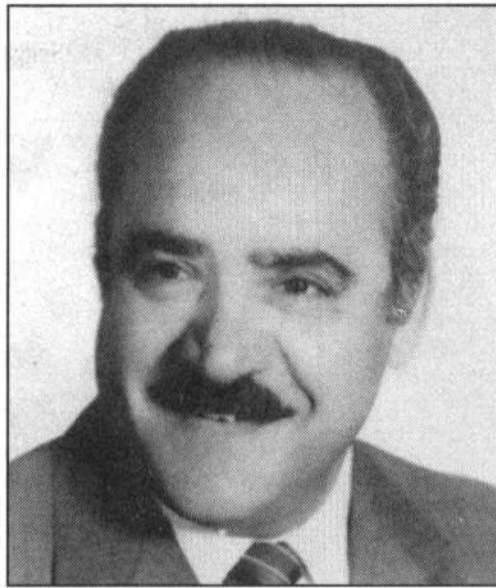
A: The SEC, in cooperation with the Central Statistics Authority, analyzes the voter rosters and prepare for the registration phase, as stipulated by the Elections Law. This is essential for ascertaining the number of people who have reached the legal age, deleting the names of the dead, or re-registering those who change their residence.

Q: Is there any possibility of redesignating the constituency boundaries?

A: This is not an easy matter, as it has many constitutional and legal aspects to it.

Q: Will the political party symbols, used to help illiterate voters, remain the same?

A: The symbols submitted before the last parliamentary elections remain the same, no party has expressed any desire so far to change its symbol. All political parties have the right to choose or change their distinguishing symbols, provided they do not conflict with other parties'.



Q: How can the SEC be financially independent when it is really controlled by the government?

A: I do not agree with what you just said. The SEC is, according to the law - financially and administratively independent. It accurately and precisely implements the law that regulates its activity. The only connection it has with the government is that it submits its budget to be included within the central budget.

Q: Does the SEC intend to establish a databank?

A: This is an excellent idea, which the SEC is currently studying. Data and information on past elections are constantly being collated to form a nucleus for a comprehensive databank. We are in the process of establishing a special new department for this purpose.

Q: What has become of the contestations of some of the last election results?

A: Such rebuttals were dealt with at the time they were made, according to the law. I'd like to emphasize here that the SEC is quite committed to whatever is decided by the judiciary so the democracy can be built on sound foundations in this country.

Q: What about raising public awareness? The SEC does not seem to be doing much in this respect.

A: Raising public awareness of the democratization process is very important. The SEC's Information and Public Relations sector is currently studying the appropriate plans, in cooperation with the relevant official bodies. Actually, the SEC has a program that will be implemented on the public and other levels to make people more aware of the necessity to vote in elections and partake of decision making.

Q: Does the SEC intend to hold workshops for voter education?

A: The SEC will organize a conference in September in Sanaa, in cooperation with the International Foundation of Elections Systems, the UN and other international organizations and figures.

The conference, in which several experts and people concerned with democracy will take part, aims to make people aware of the SEC activities and benefit from the recommendations and the expert opinion that will be expressed by the participants.

Q: Some observers allege that SEC activity is 'seasonal,' i.e., it is only active when an

election is due soon. What do you say to that?

A: One of the proposed amendments to the law is make the SEC's work continuous, not only around election time. When these proposed amendments are endorsed by parliament, things will change considerably. We aim to make the SEC a permanent organization that keeps its by-laws and administrative staff when the actual members are changed.

Q: How harmonious are relations between the SEC members?

A: The SEC members work in quite a congenial atmosphere and in total harmony, which reflects

positively on the SEC overall performance. There is really no need for this question because by abiding by the law and regulations, all disagreements can be resolved or avoided altogether.

Q: Does the ruling authority or the political parties interfere in the SEC's work?

A: There is no such interference whatsoever. The SEC is completely independent. We are, nevertheless, open and listen to all opinions, suggestions and advice in order to reach the best. Meetings are often held with representatives of political parties and local and international organizations for that purpose.

Q: Has the SEC established

any links with similar organizations in other countries?

A: The SEC is very keen on consolidating its contacts and links with all similar organizations in other parts of the world. We really hope to strengthen this side of our activity.

Q: How many administrators work for the SEC?

A: The SEC's administrative staff consists of about 80 employees, with a budget of YR67 million for 1998.

Q: How much have the state and the voters spent on the last parliamentary elections?

A: According to the law, the state bears all general elections expenditure. All capabilities are put at the SEC's disposal. The voters do

not spend anything.

Q: How much will the number of eligible voters increase by in the next elections and what increase will there be in the polling stations?

A: In the 1993 elections, there were 2,271,126 registered males and 478,389 females; while, in 1997 the numbers rose to 3,364,723 and 1,272,073, respectively. More increases are expected in the number of voters, especially females.

Q: What are the main difficulties facing the SEC?

A: There are no difficulties to speak of. Operational difficulties or problems are dealt with as they arise, in cooperation with the relevant bodies.

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IDEA in Mind

The International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) was formed in 1995 by 14 governments from different continents. The founding members are Australia, Barbados, Belgium, Chile, Costa Rica, Denmark, Finland, India, Netherlands, Norway, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland. In addition some newly-joined members include Canada, Botswana, and Namibia.

Based in Stockholm, IDEA aims to promote democracy worldwide, with special emphasis on sustainable, free and fair elections. The focus, so far, has been on the promotion of democracy in the new, infant democracies. Contact has also been initiated with those countries that have not yet adopted a democratic system of government. Two IDEA representatives visited Yemen last week and met with a wide spectrum of people representing government, political parties, the media, etc.

Dr. Salah Haddash, Yemen Times Managing Editor, talked to the visitors and filed the following report.

Mr. Roel von Meijefeldt,
International Director of Programs at IDEA:

We provided some ad hoc assistance to some Arab countries, but have not yet developed a systematic cooperation with the democratic institutions in the Arab world. IDEA is not an NGO, but an inter-governmental organization working with NGOs. The aim to engage in further dialogue and to establish relations with the democratic institutions in Yemen and other Arab countries.

We work with governments, political parties - both in and out of power - and with the private sector especially with civil society organizations. There has to be a platform where people can meet.

IDEA does not set up offices around the world, but works with institutions in individual countries. We like to support and facilitate these institutions by providing technical assistance on specific issues relating to democratic developments.

Yemen is a committed democracy facing many challenges. One of the major ones is to strengthen

the functions of the democratic institutions. So this needs to be looked into: How can these institutions perform, and how can assistance be provided to increase the capacity of the democratic institutions here in Yemen?

In Yemen, there is a very strong conviction in the process of democracy. This is rather unique, in respect to other discussions we have had around the world where there was the same strong commitment and belief. But here in Yemen, we heard it stated very clearly and very definitively. The desire not to go back on the process of democracy is often repeated.

IDEA has published a handbook about electoral systems, which provides information about all the electoral systems available around the world, including Yemen. The purpose is that people can decide which systems operate where and with what effects. This is very important when electoral systems are being discussed.

The second handbook is about the participation of women in parliament. How can women increase their effectiveness of participation in parliament? This handbook aims to increase and enhance the participation of women in political decision making, specifically in parliament.

A third handbook which will be available very soon is on deep-rooted conflicts. It addresses questions like 'How societies in conflicts have transformed towards a peaceful management of their public affairs, what are the negotiations and processes, dialogues, mechanisms, what are the constitutional arrangements.'

A fourth handbook is about the issue of the Palestinians and the South Africans. It highlights how these conflicts were slowly transformed into peaceful situations.

We are not ignoring the fact that we cannot take on everything at the same time. That is why we are phasing out our process of involvement. We therefore realize that it would probably be wiser to go into specific countries where there is a very obvious democratic movement, and where the situation is not that complicated.

We would like to share with other countries like Canada, India, South Africa, etc., which are



building their democracies, or even in democratic societies which are renovating their institutions. We aim to benefit from the experience of others. In short, we want to build a platform where people can meet impartially. We are a sort of resource center. It is important to underline that this is a collective effort and not an initiative driven of any particular country.

Dr. Azza M. Karam,
Program Officer at IDEA:

We have chosen to begin our Arab World Program with six countries: Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia and Yemen. So far we have visited Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, and Yemen. The next stage is to visit Tunisia and Morocco.

We are very eager to see how the Yemenis as well as the Jordanians, Lebanese and the Moroccans, perceive democracy. We are very keen to listen and to have a better understanding.

So, during our meetings, we listened to what the Yemenis themselves perceive as their needs in their democratization process.

One obvious need is to strengthen the democratic institutions. The 'hardware' is available, so to

speaking. There is need for developing the 'software'. IDEA is an international democracy forum. One of our key activities is an international conference that brings to Stockholm people from different parts of the world. The participants are both governmental as well as non-governmental people who come to discuss a specific theme.

Each year, IDEA adopts a new theme. This year's democracy forum was on the culture of democracy and the prospects and the obstacles to it. Next year it will be on youth and democracy.

تهانينا الحارة

أجمل التهاني والتبريكات نتقدم بها للأخ
محمد النجار
بمناسبة زواجه المبارك
الف مبروك، وبالرفاه والبنين
المهندون
د/ أحمد السباعي
وجميع موظفي إدارة التموين الطبي
في مستشفى الثورة
وكافة آل النجار



DHL SAYS THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION'S DECISION WILL BENEFIT CONSUMERS

DHL International today welcomed the decision of the European Commission to allow Deutsche Post AG to complete its purchase of 22.5% stake in the company. DHL believes that the investment and future co-operation between the two organizations will significantly benefit the consumer.

According to a DHL spokesman, "Deutsche Post's long-term vision of the market-place is the same as our own, and we believe that by building and expanding our complementary networks, we will be creating new customer choices.

The Express market has doubled in size every four years since 1969, and developments such as new trade agreements in Europe and Asia, and the huge increases in cross-border trade in recent years, presents a number of challenges and opportunities. Our alliance with the Deutsche Post will help us meet these changes more effectively."

As a first step, from 1st July Deutsche Post will be offering its express document service, called "Express International", co-branded with DHL, in 2,000 German Post Offices. This will enable Deutsche Post customers to send documents throughout DHL's network of 227 countries and territories around the world.

At the same time, Deutsche Post's commitment to developing in the future a European ground parcel business will over time allow DHL customers to access Deutsche Post's road based distribution network in Europe. Deutsche Post joins Lufthansa Cargo, Japan Airlines and Nissho Iwaj as a major shareholder in the company.

DHL is the pioneer and market leader of the global air express industry. Its founders effectively created the industry on the West Coast of America in 1969 by moving shipping manifests from port to port by air to speed ocean cargo. In doing so, it started a process that would revolutionize the way the world does business. Last year DHL delivered more than 140 million shipments worldwide.

Today DHL Worldwide Express employs over 55,000 people worldwide, and operates in 635,000 cities. Earlier this year in a study by INSEAD which rated global companies on their abilities to remain successful into the future, DHL was named number one of 173 companies in 'mission and value' and seventh for its 'market effectiveness'. Each year DHL re-invests between 2.5% and 8% (in emerging markets) of its annual revenue in training and developing its people.

The DHL Worldwide Express network is composed of DHL International Limited, its subsidiaries and affiliates which serve all locations outside the United States and its territories; and DHL Airways Inc., its subsidiaries and affiliates which serve all locations in the United States and its territories.



VACANCY HYDROGEOLOGIST - Yemeni National

Hydrogeologist with at least a Master degree, five years of experience or equivalent & fluent in Arabic & English.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Hydrogeologist will be working in the Water Resources section of the Planning Department, in association with a section leader.

- Designing and implementing monitoring programs related to produced water disposal.
- Monitoring produced water disposal operations and produce monthly interpretation of the state of disposal at various locations.
- coordinating chemical analysis programs of potable and produced water with COPY's laboratory and outside contractors.
- Assisting in the selection of drilling location for water supply wells and disposal wells.
- Participating in drilling operation by describing rock cutting and identifying completion zones for monitoring wells and water supply wells.
- Interfacing with water related operation activities and advising on water disposal issues.
- Detailed planning of projects related to providing access to water resources for the local communities.
- Providing technical advice and assistance for the Planning Manager on environment and water related issues.
- Assisting the Executive Director in planning execution of Community Affairs Program and in particular, community water projects.
- Assisting in the coordination of water related project between the contractors, government agencies and NGO's.
- Other ground water related activities.

LOCATION

Canadian Occidental Petroleum Yemen's head office in Sana'a, Republic of Yemen.

If you have these qualifications, please send your C.V. to:

Canadian Occidental Petroleum Yemen,
Attention: Human Resources
P. O. Box No. 15137,
Fax: (01) 269896
Sana'a, Republic of Yemen

This is an **OPINION** page.

Every week, a different intellectual writes a **FOCUS** on a pertinent issue!

White or Red? What's Your Poison?



Dr. Salah Haddash, Ph.D. Law (France)

have rather funny names of various alcohol brands. "Abu khatwa" (one taking a step) or "Hanna almashi" for the famous Johnny W.... Or they use the alcoholic drinks' respective colors to refer to them: white, red, etc.

Locally made alcohol or "baladi" (literally means 'my country' but used home-made or home-grown) is translated literally into "my country" (said in English by the more educated drinkers).

Alcohol & Yemeni Law

Yemeni Penal Law No. 12 of 1994 defines alcohol as "any inebriating substance of any kind, irrespective of the amount required to induce a state of drunkenness." (Article 282)

Article 283 of this law stipulates a punishment of 80 lashes for any sane, adult Muslim who drinks alcohol. If the drinking of alcohol is done in a public place, then a year's imprisonment is added to the flogging. As for non-Muslim drinkers, a prison sentence of not more than six months is stipulated if the alcohol is consumed in a public place. 'Now be careful, you hear!'

Any one who makes, sells, offers, proposes, facilitates the consumption of alcohol is punished with a prison sentence of not more than one year or a fine not exceeding YR 2,000. If the trading in alcohol is done in a public place,

then a prison term of not more than 3 years or a fine not exceeding YR 6,000 are stipulated. In addition, of course, to closing down the place for not

Governorate	Consumption	Making
Sanaa City	17	4
Sanaa Gov.	19	-
Aden	135	37
Taiz	50	5
Hodeida	113	6
Lahj	43	2
Ibb	13	-
Abyan	40	9
Dhamar	-	6
Shabwa	3	-
Hajja	8	3
Baidha	5	-
Hadhramaut	116	-
Saada	4	-
Mahweet	-	-
Mahara	9	-
Mareb	-	2
Jawf	-	-
Total	575	74

more than one year. (Article 285)

Alcohol Crimes in 1996

Statistics issued in the Statistical Year-Book (1997), published by the Ministry of Planning, show the following:

It can be seen that most alcohol consumption is concentrated in coastal areas: Aden, Hodeida, and Hadhramaut. It is easier to smuggle alcohol in these seaside places, especially with the coming of many tourists, both foreign and Yemeni.

Two of the above governorates were part of the former southern

Yemen, where alcohol consumption was legal.

In tribal areas such as Mareb and Mahweet, cases of alcohol consumption are virtually non-existent. However, there were two cases of moonshining in Mareb, which indicates that there is some degree of alcohol consumption in these areas.

Alcohol & Social Customs

It is quite customary in Yemen that when a man asks for a girl's hand in marriage, her family would almost certainly ask him whether he drinks alcohol or not. They go further by asking his friends and relatives if he drinks or not. So drinking alcohol means the difference between accepting and refusing the suitor.

This custom had declined in the southern governorates because consumption of alcohol was legalized during British colonial rule (1839-1967), and also later by the former socialist regime which ruled during 1967-1990.

In many instances, excessive alcohol consumption becomes the main cause for divorce and family break ups. It is enough for a wife to complain against her drinking husband to be granted a divorce by a court.

Alcohol & Qat

Qat is known as a stimulant at least during the early stages of the chewing. It causes, blood pressure to rise, heart beat to go faster, etc., leading the qat chewer to feel active and euphoric. A few hours later, however, the qat chewer starts to feel depressed, lethargic, and in a bad mood.

Since qat also somewhat weakens the sexual drive, some qat chewers wrongly believe that when qat and alcohol are combined, the sexual drive is strengthened.

Consumers

There is no doubt that in every society there are people who do

not adhere to the teachings of their religion. Yemen is no exception. There are very few Yemenis who drink alcohol.

It was found through observation that most of those Yemenis who do consume alcohol are people who had lived, studied, or traveled abroad. A large number of Yemeni students went to study in Arab and European countries. Some Arab countries, especially those with non-Muslim minorities, such as Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Algeria, Jordan, even manufacture alcoholic drinks.

Alcohol in Yemen is usually consumed privately at home or among friends. After drinking alcohol, people do not usually go out or drive a car. In the evenings, but especially after 11 pm, policemen who man street intersections make it part of their search routine to smell drivers for alcohol. Alcohol consumers also do not dare to use public transportation because of the smell.

A policeman who smell alcohol on the breath of a person has enough evidence to detain the violator, at least for the night. The affair could also go to court, which is very damaging to the accused person's reputation and social status.

Reasons for Rising Alcohol Consumption

Alcohol consumers in Yemen can be divided into the following categories:

- Some people are driven to drink through personal suffering, disappointments and frustrations in life. These are mostly people with limited income, and their numbers are likely to increase with life's increasing hardships.

- Other people, especially the nouveau riche, drink because they want to emulate foreign culture and it is the trendy thing to do among

this new class in Yemen.

- Young people also try to emulate what they see in the movies.

Methods of Smuggling

Alcohol is smuggled into Yemen is done by small ships and boats from countries in the Horn of Africa, notably Djibouti. It is taken on land to the major towns and cities such as Sanaa, Taiz, Aden, etc.

3-star and better hotels are licensed to sell alcohol to non-Yemenis only.

I contacted one former smuggler who revealed that he used to sell about two to four dozen bottles of hard liquor a night. An unscrupulous hotelier, on the other hand, would sell about 48 to 96 bottles a night to Yemeni consumers.

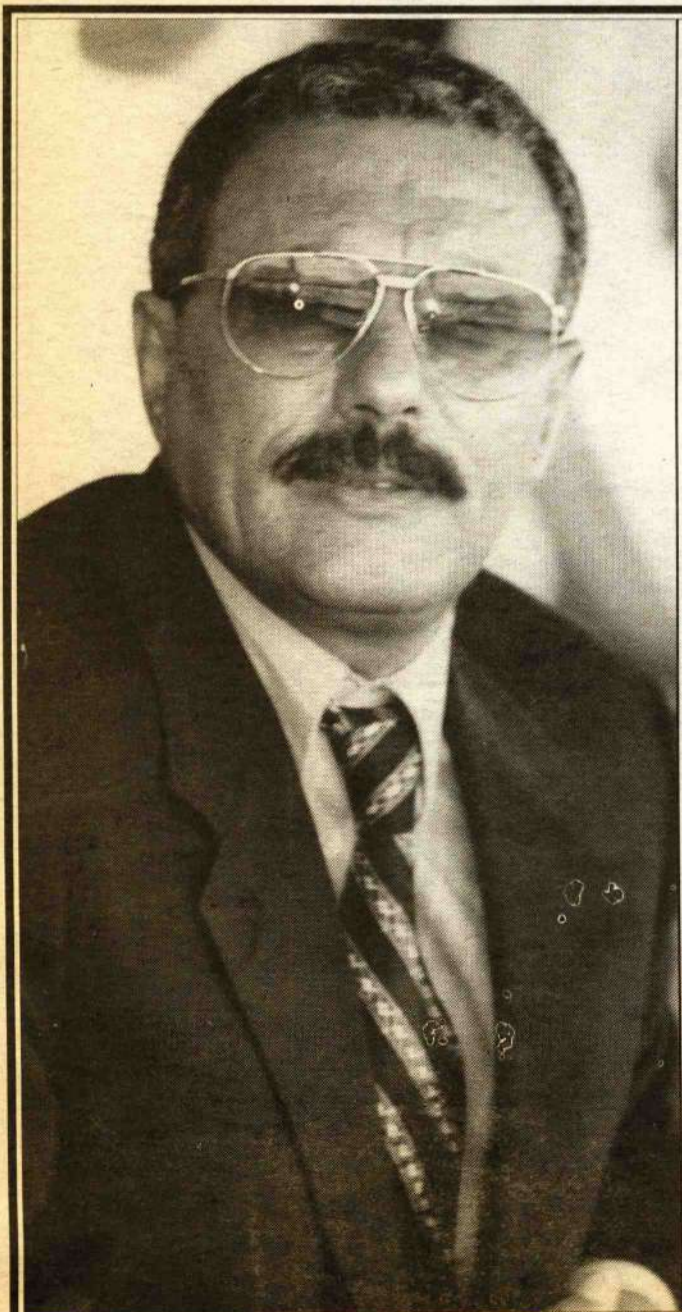
Smugglers and alcohol vendors only sell to people they know or to others through mutual acquaintances, never to a stranger.

Police raids are frequent, and alcohol-stashing places are always on the look-out. Yemeni television displays from time to time the destruction of alcohol bottles in public, and the arrest of bootleggers.

Alcohol Addiction in Yemen

Consuming alcohol is bad for human health. General observations and hospital records in Yemen indicate there are no alcohol addicts in this country. Continuing prohibition on alcohol in Yemen, therefore, respects the tenets of Islam and protects people's health.

حصل الأستاذ/ عادل محمود حبيشي
على درجة الماجستير بتقدير جيد جداً بموضوع
"تقويم عملية اتخاذ القرار في مدارس التعليم العام
بمدينة عدن من وجهة نظر المدرس وأعضاء الهيئة
التعليمية"
وبهذه المناسبة نتقدم بأطيب التهاني والتبريكات
ودوام التوفيق والنجاح
المهندسون
مهتاب عبدالله بجاش، عائلة عبدالله بجاش،
عائلة محمد حسين



الإستاذ أحمد حسين الباشا - رئيس مجلس الإدارة
وكافة منتسبو

شركة الخطوط الجوية اليمنية

Yemenia اليمنية
Yemen Airways الخطوط الجوية اليمنية

يتقدمون

بأحر التهاني وأطيب التبريكات وأجمل الأمنيات لابن اليمن البار فخامة الرئيس

علي عبدالله صالح

بمناسبة الذكرى العشرين لإنتخابه رئيساً وقائداً لليمن
وقد كانت هذه السنوات حافلة بالعطاء والمنجزات الرائعة وفي مقدمتها
إعادة توحيد اليمن، والنهج الديمقراطي، والتنمية الشاملة، وإلى مزيد من العطاء

Mr. Ahmed Al-Basha, Chairman of the Board of Directors,
and all staff of

Yemen Airways

present their heartfelt congratulations and happy wishes to

President Ali Abdullah Saleh,

on the 20th anniversary of his election as to lead the country.

Those years have borne lots of fruits and achievements including the
re-unification of the nation, the democratization process and socio-economic development

Many Happy Returns

Endangered Terraced Farming: Problems and Possible Solutions

ICARDA stressed the importance for farmers to "adopt modern methods of agriculture so as to make terraced farming a viable economic endeavor and induce the farmers to continue working on their lands."

Ahlam Al-Mutawakel,
Yemen Times

Organized by the Agriculture Research and Extension Authority (AREA) and the International Development Research Center (IDRC) of Canada, a special workshop was held at Sanaa University on 29 and 30 June on the project of mountain terraces research.

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Dr. Abdul-Rahman Ba-Matraf, indicated that the project to study mountain terraces in the Kohlan and Sharis areas is "very important because its results can be used to deal with the problems plaguing terraced farming nationwide."

The study found that about 50% of the surveyed area was not suitable for agriculture, 25% has incurred medium damage, and the remaining 25% regularly undergoes extensive erosion because of flash floods.

"The project, therefore, aims to improve terraced farming and natural pastures through better understanding of the reasons behind the deterioration of resources," said Ba-Matraf.

Dr. Ahmed M. Abdul-Haq, Manager of the Northern Uplands Project, said that the mountain terraces project (April, 1995 - March, 1998), which was jointly funded by the Yemeni government and IDRC, has three main components:

- diagnostic studies,
- technique evaluation, and
- dissemination of information and data management.

Dr. Mahasin Munaibari, lecturer in the Faculty of Agriculture at



Mohammed Moqbil



Mohammed Al-khawlani



Aden Hassan



Ahmad Mansoor



Ali Abdulmalik



Mahasen Munibari



Marleen Belder

Sanaa University, submitted a paper analyzing rural family labor in Hajja. "I tried to find out more about the role of rural women in the workforce - the number of hours they spend, their problems, and possible solutions," explained Dr. Munaibari. The paper found that Hajja women spend on average 6 to 7 hours a day collecting firewood, and bringing water. The chores inside the home generally took as much time. Work is distributed almost evenly among the female members of the household, although the male members have much lighter tasks. In some villages, almost all work is done by women as the men have gone to work in the city or abroad.

"In some places, men bring jerrycans filled with water by car. As a rule, the men bring the water to the doorsteps of the house, and it is up to the women to carry it to the top of the house. Men consider it beneath them to do that.

"Also, if farming is done by both men and women, marketing is the men's responsibility. It is shameful for women to go to market, except those who have no menfolk available to do so.

Actually, men monopolize the marketing of products partly because that way they control the proceeds (money).

Dr. Munaibari made suggestions to reduce the reliance on firewood and canned liquid gas such as increasing the efficiency of the Yemeni "tannour" or oven by increasing its oxygen intake. She also recommended the planting of special trees to produce firewood so as to save other endangered species of plant. Dr. Abdulrashid Y. Ibrahim of the Agricultural Research Corporation's Kode station in Aden, said: "The Wadi Yaharr study is a two-year survey that covers animal wealth, crop production, regarding many issues that could reduce the burden on women. "Rural women can be saved a lot of effort if provided with small agricultural equipment such water pumps, etc." Farmers in Wadi Yaharr suffer from lack of water (there are only 5 wells in the area), water pollution, epidemics, soil erosion, and overgrazing."

he also discussed the impact of cutting down too many trees for firewood on the soil, water, natural pastures, and economic

and social aspects.

Mr. Mohammed Moqbil Mofrih is a researcher and coordinator for Pastures, Fodder, and Animal Wealth at the General Directorate of Agricultural Research and Guidance in Dhamar. His research concentrated on mountain terraces and pastures in Kohlan because of its topographic diversity. "During the first year of this study, fuel consumption was analyzed. It was found that natural woodlands and pastures were being quickly depleted through over-wooding and overgrazing," said Mr. Mofrih.

He also cited lack of road maintenance as a cause of soil erosions and land slides. "Debris left from road building into the mountains increases the mountainside slope, a factor leading to more severe landslides," he explained.

Dr. Zaynul-Abidin, an expert working for the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), said, "ICARDA aims to conduct field studies with the participation of the farmers. This project gives priority to proper management of natural resources."

"This main conclusion of the workshop was that Yemeni farmers are able to protect their terraced farms from erosion, if there are financial incentives to farm the fallow fields."

He indicated that abandoned arable land can be planted with pasture bushes that will help protect the soil from erosion and provide grazing grounds for farm animals.

"In Kohlan, for instance, the good results achieved by planting pulses made the farmers more enthusiastic and has helped to hold the soil together. But farmers need more information and better guidance by the media and the Ministry of Agriculture to be able to sustainably exploit the land," added Dr. Zaynul Abidin.

Ms. Marleen Belder, FAO soil scientist currently working in Dhamar, pointed out the importance of maintaining terraced farms as "they are a major part of the agricultural land in Yemen." She emphasized the need to resort to the age-old traditional methods of protecting these terraces from violent landslides and soil erosion.

Dr. Aden Aw-Hassan of

Eng. Ali Abdul-Malik, researcher at the Agricultural Research Corporation in the Northern Highlands, said, "The second phase of this project is divided into three stages: research, agricultural crop intervention and water consumption rationalization."

Eng. Abdul-Malik submitted a paper on domestic water consumption. He indicated that if water supplies are modernized and regulated, farmers will have more time to look after their terraced farms. He cited the use of special home cisterns in Taiz and the southern highlands as a good example for storing water on roof tops or mountain sides.

Finally, Dr. Mohammed Al-Khawlani of the Faculty of Agriculture at Sanaa University, added, "As part of the project, which costs around \$400,000, improved international strains of lentil, peas, wheat and barley have been introduced. These seeds were delivered to the farmers, who were also given the necessary information on their optimal use. In addition, vital information on proper use of chemical and organic fertilizers in order to increase soil productivity was provided."



الإدارة العليا، والمهندسون، والفنيون، والعمال في

مصافي عدن

يتقدمون

بأعمق التهاني وأجمل التبريكات وأطيب الأمنيات لفخامة الرئيس

علي عبدالله صالح

بالذكرى العشرين لإنتخابه رئيساً للجمهورية

وكذلك بمناسبة ذكرى السابع من يوليو - يوم تثبيت الوحدة اليمنية الخالدة

وإلى مزيد من العطاء - وكل عام ويمننا الحبيب في الف خير

The Top Management, Engineers, Technicians and Workers at

The Aden Refinery

present

their warm congratulations to

President Ali Abdullah Saleh,

on the 20th anniversary of his election to the presidency
and on the occasion of the 7th of July - Re-affirmation of Yemeni Unity

Many Happy Returns!



ANOTHER "GREAT DEPRESSION"

Introduction:

Depression is a disease, common among many people around the world. Think of it as a negative force which can control your whole life. Many people are in despair, which can often lead to the feeling of being unwanted, helpless, suicidal, aggressive, isolated, lonely, and confused, among other things.

Depression is a serious illness, which people must take seriously, we cannot just think of it as something which will gradually disappear if left alone, because it does not work that way, as with other illnesses they don't just disappear, that would be a miracle in itself. But depression is a reality and we must face it, and it's not something to be ashamed of.

Ourselves:

People may feel depressed and

angry one day, and happy and friendly another day, this may be a case of schizophrenia, a very grave illness which can affect your mind, body, and soul. Manic depression, you could say is an illness beyond (depression). In a few Arab countries, Yemen in particular, I've noticed that some people do not believe that one can be mentally ill or depressed, or even schizophrenic for that matter. They would simply accuse you of being "possessed by evil spirits", and their cure would be to visit your local clairvoyant!

Physical aspect:

Depression can cause great stress to your body, with or without proper medication. Symptoms may include sleeplessness, loss of appetite, head aches, dizziness, and over-all pain basically, explains Mr. S (a man who has been suffering from depression for a number of years) explains, "I'm not a doctor, I can only describe what I've experienced myself." That is not to say these people are mental of course, it does not make you less intellectual, imaginative or creative. Some people like to do more things than they should, maybe

trying to take their mind away from their present dilemmas, it's still going to be there, you can't ignore it, well maybe you can but it's not advised, it eventually may cause a mental breakdown, which is an experience not many would like to encounter, I know I wouldn't!

Emotional aspect:

All people go through various mood swings, it is normal to be happy or sad, in response to life's changing circumstances. But for some people these mood swings are more violent and extreme. For depressed people, feeling down and sad dominates their way of thinking and their approach to life. For these people, feeling down is a clinical state of mind, not a transient feeling brought about by an actual real-life situation. According to modern scientific research, the down-beat feeling is brought about by an imbalance of the brain's chemical reactions. Hence, doctors nowadays prescribe non-addictive anti-depressant medicines to rectify this imbalance. If left untreated, depression may lead to schizophrenia. People may have illusions and find that they have no

control whatsoever. Or maybe one day they may reach the end of their patience and destroy whatever and whomever. "I have experienced this once before. I felt somewhat bewildered afterwards, thinking, 'that cannot have been me'," explains Miss F, (who has suffered from depression for a number of years), describing her emotional state and distress.

Depressed people generally lack a real interest in social activities, and often fail to appreciate the positive aspects of their lives. Many people become paranoid, isolated, aggressive, and generally distraught basically. Also they may become depressed for no apparent reason, as Miss G explains (also suffering from depression), "if somebody upset me purposely, I would automatically become depressed, thus, ruining my whole day as it were.

Other people may have a great deal of patience and tolerance, but for me, often that is not the case, I don't mind being corrected, but to be insulted is a completely different matter, this would cause great distress."

Compounding Factors in Yemen:

Yemen does not hold many distractions, you can't really take your mind off anything. There are not many social events for ordinary people to get involved in. There are also not many privileges for women either. There is only for example the local TV or satellite TV for those who can afford it. Women are particularly

at a disadvantage because of the restricted nature of society. Except for the immediate family, there are no counseling or support groups to help people cope with their emotional problems. People in general do not consider psychiatric treatment as essential for alleviating depression. They don't believe that emotional problems can be a real illness, similar to a physical illness.

All the above factors exacerbate depression or any emotional problem for that matter. Many people do not put their emotional problems first, they don't consider this as important. But what could be worse than perhaps losing your sanity, due to the mistake of leaving your emotional distress last in line. Many people can't or won't recognize their emotional problems.

Professional Help:

Local GP's can refer such people to professional counselors and psychiatrists etc. Tests will be carried out, this can go on for quite some time, trust is essential, although many people find it hard to confide in a complete stranger. But in Yemen, some people would prefer to see a *sayyid* or a *sheikh* (sorcerer or clairvoyant). Good professional help is expensive, and many people cannot afford this, or even don't believe in it. Some of these Sayyids or Sheikhs are charlatans, and others use the most extreme methods imaginable, actually I think some of the patients don't actually get cured,

it may even make them worse, their methods may include hitting people on the head with a stick, or strangulation to the point of unconsciousness. This is indeed rather an extreme way of curing their patients, this method as I mentioned may worsen the patients situation.

In Mr. S' case it did, "suddenly I was in possession of experiencing illusions (seeing things to put it mildly), he explains. But ultimately, a strong belief in Allah is the only cure one would ever need, and eventually you will be answered.

Conclusion:

Depression and similar illnesses must be taken seriously, it could happen to anybody. Ignore the cliché "you'll snap out of it, in good time". That is not the case, one must be positive. I know it's not easy, and people need all the help they can get, but being isolated and anti-social does not help. To be isolated may seem like a good idea, at first, but gradually it becomes a problem in itself.

I understand that when people feel this way, they find it a threat to mix with people, they may feel alienated or paranoid, and naturally they tend to avoid human contact as much as possible. Try to talk to people whom you feel you can confide in, if not, then just try to listen, I'm not saying this is a guaranteed cure, but at least try, have confidence, you may well succeed.

By: Wajfa Alawi Nasser, Yemen Times

ARTHRITIS: A Non-Professional Point of View

Arthritis is a very common disease in Yemen. It produces so much pain that it interferes with our work. The root causes in my opinion are faulty diets, habitual over-eating of unsuitable and acid-forming foods deficient in vitamins and causing digestive troubles, etc.



We city dwellers suffer more as we are either standing up a lot or sitting down a lot during the performance of our duties at home and office; thus, exerting more pressure on our knees, hips, ankles, feet and spinal column. Our walking activity is very limited as we don't walk much due to lack of free time.

I'm 68 years old. I eluded arthritis for quite a while by regular exercise, proper diet and proper guidance from an orthopedic surgeon. But I now have a sore knee. The marrow of the bone is beginning to wear out, causing pain and restlessness, not withstanding my jogging and other sporting activities.

According to my estimation, 80% of the middle aged and old aged people in Yemen suffer from arthritis. In rural areas this proportion may be smaller as both men and women routinely exercise by doing physically-demanding work, which helps in maintain their health and keep their bones and joints in sound condition for a much longer period through old age.

Thus how can we city dwellers in Yemen keep away from this menacing disease which afflicts most of us, and makes our lives miserable?

I understand that there are two

forms of arthritis. Rheumatic arthritis which is a disease of the joints. It can result in deformation of the hands, feet, wrists, ankles, knees and cervical vertebrae, and can restrict the movement of the joints.

In Osteoarthritis the bones and the cartilage on which we move are affected. Degeneration sets in. It results in a mineralized deposit enlargement of the large bones in the neck, hip, knees and back. Most Osteoarthritic patients are over the age of 40, and often overweight. Let me now tell you how I keep my arthritis under control, and how we can all ease our pain, and halt this menacing disease. My views have been endorsed by an orthopedic surgeon.

- 1) If we lose weight, we can to a great extent get relief from pain in our ankles, hips, feet and spinal column.
- 2) Yoga exercise is a key to restoring health to arthritic joints. Moving the painful joint may hurt, but if we don't move it we're likely to destroy the joint.
- 3) Less stress can give relief to arthritic sufferers, tensing up could hurt even more.
- 4) All arthritic patients suffer from morning stiffness. We should apply a good muscle ointment before going to bed. It will relax our sore muscles and give us a psychological boost too.
- 5) We ought to learn to relax mentally and physically. We should listen to our body, and follow what it tells us.
- 6) Water exercises are excellent for arthritic patients. The pain

reduces in water. We become more flexible. The exercise could consist of waving, walking and bending motions.

7) When a joint is stressed from over use or over work, use ice in a plastic bag to cover the sore joint for 20 minutes, then repeat as above for another 20 minutes. When a joint becomes hot or swollen, rest it. And when the pain is reduced, exercise the relating joint.

8) Calcium is needed by every cell in the body. It is needed for bones, teeth, muscles and other organs. Lack of it can cause cramps and convulsions. Its deficiency can also be a cause of arthritic crippling. Milk and yogurt are full of calcium. Let us take them abundantly.

9) Arthritic joints may not be fully corrected once damaged. The process can be halted by correct foods and correct living. We must avoid the intake of high protein especially when we have gut troubles.

10) High protein includes all types of meat products which are not easily digested, and cause intense acidity in the stomach. Take alkaline foods, namely lemons, oranges, salads, carrots, tomatoes, grapes, papaws, raisins, apples, green peas, apricots and dried fruits etc.

11) Carrot juice, celery juice and tomato juice without white sugar reduces pain for many arthritic patients. I enjoy these drinks in the summer and winter climate.

12) White sugar neutralizes calcium in the blood stream. It should be eliminated from the diet and should be replaced by dates, raisins, honey and other items which contain natural sugar.

13) Omitting salt from food is good for arthritic patients. Salt is unnecessary. It coats veins and arteries, stiffens the joints and makes them painful.

By Yusuf Abdulhamid

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Is It Possible To Live Like Others?

Being a physically handicapped person should never be a cause for shame or should cast any social stigma on the handicapped person. Although being mentally handicapped is actually a great loss, such a person is given another faculty to compensate for this deficit. Disabled people are a very important part of society and should be well looked after. This article aims to shed some light on their life conditions, problems and aspirations. We will start with Sanaa.

a) Sanaa

The Center for the Intellectual Development & Rehabilitating the Handicapped in Sanaa, aims to provide the disabled (blind, dumb and mentally retarded) with qualifications to help re-integrate them into society. Established in 1989, this center is divided into two departments: educational & vocational.

1) Vocational Department

This department has 101 students; 79 males and 22 females. They joined this department after completing their studies in the educational department. Here they acquire diverse vocational skills, which enable them to mix with society and earn their living themselves.

Around 11 trades such as sewing, carpentry, typing, computer programming, smithery, book-binding, etc. are taught at this department. It has recently witnessed some expansion when new sections were established to meet the needs of society. Raw materials are now more easily

supplied. The mentally retarded students within this department are a little bit old but their education is conducted by following simple methods.

2) Educational Department

This department has 229 students, 156 of which are males and 73 females. It prepares the students to join the vocational department, and follows the syllabus of the state schools. But it is taught in a different way using sign language, depending on the individual teacher's mastery of this language.

There are 187 students in the section for the deaf and dumb studying in 10 separate classrooms. Their teachers are female graduates of the Psychology Department, Sanaa University and male graduates of the Scholastic Institutes.

The mental retardation section within the Educational Department has four classrooms for 42 students. There is no specific syllabus for this section. It depends on the competence of individual teachers to create an interaction between them and their students.

3) Department for the Blind

The section for the blind in this center is small and lacks teachers. It follows the curriculum of the Ministry of Education and Louis Braille methods in teaching and learning. This section has nearly 20 female students.

Sanaa Governorate

There is another center in Greater Sanaa named Al-Nour Center for the Handicapped, which was

established in 1967. It contains two sections, educational and vocational. The educational section follows the curriculum of the Ministry of Education. The vocational section teaches the students various skills in some professions.

Al-Nour Center like those in Aden and Hadhramaut is funded by the Ministry of Insurance and Social Affairs, which provides food, beds, and blankets. Some businessmen and organizations provide them with schooling equipment. The number of the students enrolled in this center is 109 male students.

With a budget of YR 703,860 per a month, this center is short of some very essential teaching aid and facilities.

b) Aden

1) Al-Nour Center of the Handicapped

Although established in 1952, the number of students registered in this center is very low because its dilapidated building makes it unable to cope with a large number of students. There are only 30 students, most of whom do not live in the center itself.

The older blind students practice some handicrafts like making various vessels made of weaved straw or reeds. But the center teaches its students other handicrafts such as renovation and construction work, typing, etc.

2) Deaf & Dumb Center

This center, established in 1990, provides training in around 8 occupations and some classes for teaching illiterate people. It has

nearly 90 male and female students and a budget of YR 214,000 a month.

c) Hadhramaut

This governorate has a center for the handicapped named Al-Nour, which contains two sections: vocational and educational. The students study and practice some handicrafts and sculpture. The money allocated for this center is YR 98,300 per month.

d) Hodeida

It has two centers; one for the deaf and dumb with only an educational section. The second center is for the mentally retarded. The budget of these centers is YR 401,200 per month. The two centers are supported by the Local Assembly.

e) Taiz

In Taiz there is also a center for the handicapped established by the Ministry of Insurance. It is mainly funded by the Hayel Saeed Group of Companies with a monthly budget of YR 256,000.

There are some other societies undertaking the education and training of the handicapped like Al-Eman Center and the Dumb & Deaf Society in Sanaa, etc.

Financial Support of the Centers

The handicapped centers are funded by the Ministry of Insurance and Social Affairs. But money allocations differ from one governorate to another according to the number of the centers and the actual number of handicapped people. The budget of the

ministry was YR 45 million in 1997, but this year it has dropped to YR 40 million distributed among 18 branches.

Future Projects of the Ministry

The ministry has made plans in 1998 that are scheduled to be completed in 1999 concerning the construction of a few centers for the handicapped in Hadhramaut, Al-Jawf, Abyan, and Aden. The plans also include establishing a hall in Al-Halali Institute in Sanaa, finishing the Social Care and Handicapped House, providing support of the Center for the Blind in Hadhramaut, finishing the Community Rehabilitation of Handicapped Children project in cooperation with the Swedish organization Rada Barnnen, and completing the Social Service Institute.

The Ministry of Insurance Policy towards the Handicapped

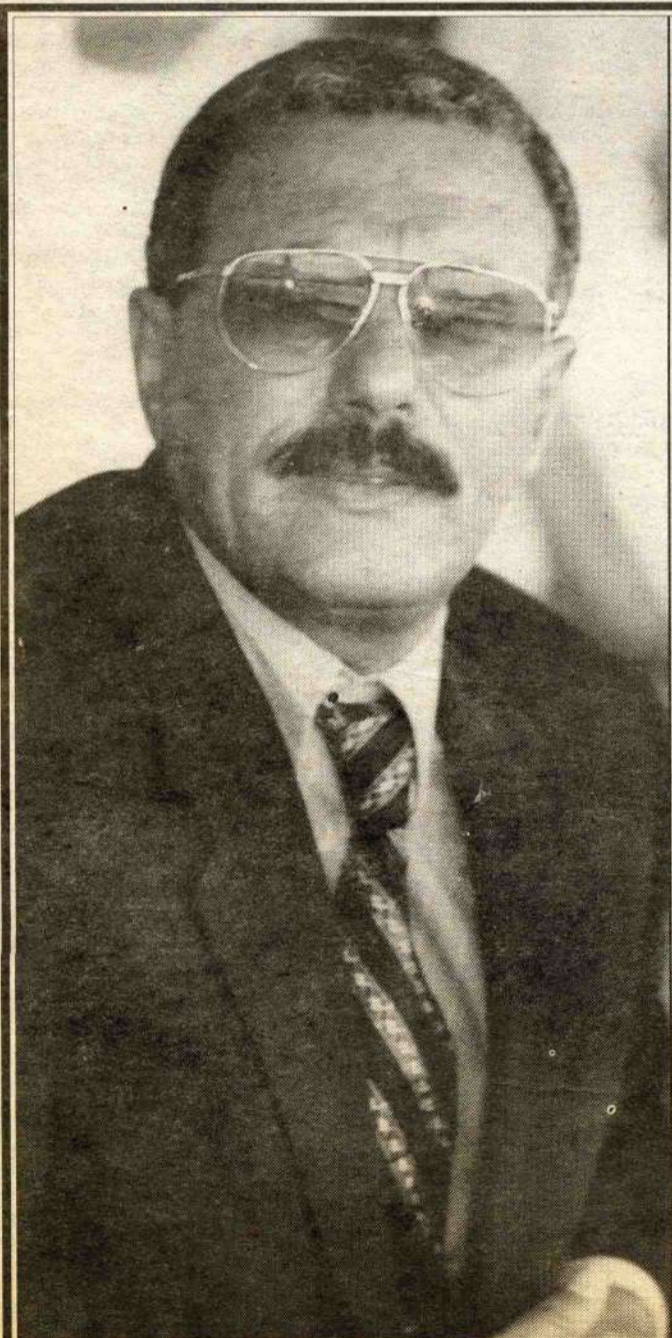
The Ministry aims at:

- 1) including the national organizations in rehabilitating the handicapped;
- 2) enhancing coordination between the relevant bodies concerned with the handicapped;
- 3) activating the Supreme National Committee for the Care of the Handicapped;
- 4) raising the possibilities of Arab and international cooperation in this field; and
- 5) establishing an information center to serve the people concerned with the handicapped.

Obstacles Faced by the Handicapped Centers

There are a lot of obstacles facing the centers of the handicapped such as the lack of financial support, the nonexistence of psychological specialists and social workers active in this field, and the lack of teaching and learning aids. Another point is that the administrative staff is generally not qualified enough.

By Sana Qannan



تتقدم
وزارة شؤون المغتربين
بأعمق التهاني وأجمل التبريكات وأطيب الأمنيات لفخامة الرئيس

علي عبدالله صالح

بالذكرى العشرين لإنتخابه رئيساً للجمهورية
وإلى مزيد من العطاء، وكل عام والجميع بخير

Ministry of Immigrant Affairs

presents

its warm congratulations to Yemeni President

Ali Abdullah Saleh,
on the 20th anniversary of his election to the presidency

Many Happy Returns

SORCERY: A Profitable Way of Making Money

Sorcery is actually a retardation and a benighted practice. Religions and ethical norms denounce it. And because of their persuasive and efficacious ways, the stream of the sorcerers' practice has not ceased to flow on. In addition, sorcerers used religion as an umbrella to protect them and enable them to veil their loathsome and abashed misdeeds. What helps them more is their close relationship with sheikhs of tribes and too many other important personalities. In other words, their prestige becomes high when some of the influential people start visiting them for therapy. Of course, when common naive persons come to know that a VIP of his region has visited this or that sorcerer for treatment, they soon pay him a widespread acceptance and confidence. It

should be noted that those swindlers don't directly ask for money and other requirements from their innocent victims but it is the jinni who is going to ask whatever he likes. This jinni whose role is a mediator between the victim and the sorcerer may ask for sheep, cows, goats, cocks, money, a piece of land, qat, aloes, expensive incense and perfumes...etc.

Sorcerers Better than Physicians

Mrs Marriam, a victim of this evil practice, says: "one year ago I always had an acute unbearable headache. I felt as knives hammering upon my head. Sometimes I lost my eyesight. No physician was able to put it to an end. Eventually, I visited a well-known sheikh who demanded two

goats, YR 10,000, qat and other expensive presents daily and he will give them to the jinni in order to accept leaving my head. Moreover, he asked me to stay at home in a very dark room for three days without speaking. In addition, he gave me 'fasokh, mor, heltit' - all are kinds of herbs used as incense with a bad scent. Now I am getting much better after using them regularly".

I believe that such people have psycho-diseases rather than organic illnesses. Since they have confidence and strong faith in these sorcerers, they immediately feel released of their pain. Doctors can't help them because they no longer have confidence in them. Occasionally, sorcerers must be distinguished either in their fearful appearance or in their strange uniforms so that they could deceive gullible people easily convincing them with their miraculous power.

Ways of Getting Patients' Trust

Equally, every sorcerer must have a reception room with a window covered with a black curtain. His assistant may hide himself behind it spying on the patients or he may get a seat close to the patient's to recognize all their complaints and details. After that, he goes and reveals everything to his sheikh. When the sick person enters, the sorcerer hastens to expose all his causes. Consequently, the patient doubtlessly trusts in him and therefore surrenders to his endless



from the holy Quran to be hung on the arm or somewhere else to protect the patient from jinnis). In about two days, he took me to a very dark room. While he was reading some verses from the holy Quran, I was shaking and yelling and I heard the voice of the jinni asking me to give him one of my daughters as a wife for him otherwise he would not let me alone threatening that

an exercise for draining off energy.

100,000 for 2 jinnis

Miss W.S. is another victim of this practice. She had never believed in sorcery at all, rather she was strongly against it. But at last, owing to her bad living conditions, she came to believe blindly in it. She says that she is a university student and before joining college, she was so clever and active that she spent all her time in studying, ranking at top place. But, as she says, when her wicked cousins bought two jinnis for YR100,000 and sent them to disturb her, she became lazy and stupid. As a result of this, she repeated level two twice.

When she starts reading, she feels like crying and disturbed and might destroy anything before her. She dislikes everything around her. She also says that she went to see many doctors but in vain. Ultimately, on her neighbor's advice her mother took her to a reliable sheikh who promised to cure her and take revenge on her cousins. He would send to each one of them, five jinnis on the condition that she should get married to him. My mother convinced me to accept his condition. I am really very frustrated and afraid of tomorrow. I am about to go mad. Now I don't know whether this is sorcery or reality.

These are only some victims of sorcerers and the list can go on. It has become a profitable way of making money and fulfilling some people's desires at the cost of the future of others. This practice has to be battled and sorcerers should be harshly punished. The evil figures should be removed from the screen of the society. You agree with me, don't you?

By: Haifa Yahia Qanbar, Taiz



he would send two more jinnis to disturb me. After that, the sheikh picked a stick and started lashing me till I fell faint. Two weeks later, I was invited to a dancing party. I spent all day and night just eating, dancing and laughing. After that, I really felt comfortable and relaxed. Now I am awaiting for the next step to get the final treatment.

Psychology & Sorcery

From the point of view of psychology this is explained as a sort of psycho-suppression and psycho-suffering. That is to say, such women have psycho-repression and this long period of dancing and laughing can help them explore the subdued power dormant in these patients, particularly women who may find in it a release of their repressed and suppressed feelings and emotions beyond bearing. This is because we know that dancing is

THE TREATMENT OF THE POOR NOBODY IN... "THE DEATH OF BED NUMBER 12"

The concept of being nobody is one of the elemental aspects of democratization of Third World Literature. This concept is well presented in "The death of bed no. 12", by Gharsan Kanafani, a well known Palestinian writer. The writer in this short story is mainly concerned with ordinary people - poor people who strive to make their way through life by

willing to provide him with only a death bed. The essence of the story is about a non-entity. Right from the out-set of the story, the writer refers to Mohammed Ali as "him" to imply that the main character is not considered significant in society. However, the reader soon notices the full name of the main

character, his age and his birth place. Mohammed, a 25 year old man, is so poor that poverty is "something engraved on his forehead", the writer explains. Equally, his village under-goes the same poverty. Since poverty is an inescapable part of his life, Mohammed has disciplined himself to live a "contented poverty". In this respect, poverty

becomes an imposed art and like all arts, it has to be learnt. This is seen when Mohammed seems to be aware of his dizziness, as he puts the "water skins" down on the ground; yet he is convinced that when he picks them up the next morning, he can feel that his existence is continuing over and over again.

Mohammed is a destitute of love, wealth and status. Being raised without the care of his parents, he grows up to be very isolated from his own community. Living in such a poor community, he is even more alienated from the real experience of faraway civilization. And being indifferent to possessing things of great value makes him unprivileged. Although Mohammed Ali Akbar is "equal" with his community with respect to poverty, he finds himself to be an outcast. When he asks his sister to arrange his marriage with a village girl, she answers, "why not?... we are all equal [here]." Yet the father of his beloved turns him down, accusing him mistakenly for a "scoundrel" who coincidentally has the same first two names of Mohammed Ali. Just as Mohammed attempts to affirm his bond with the village community through marriage, they reject him through the accusation of being a wicked person. This incident has affected Mohammed so much that, from then on, he demanded to be called by his full name: Mohammed Ali Akbar. But the impact was so much greater than his demand that he does not feel his past "contentment" anymore, and his perception towards his

own community is shattered. Feeling as a lost identity among his own people, Mohammed's next step in life is to emigrate (run away) in order to achieve his "fabricated" dream of becoming wealthy as well as to confirm his own existence and entity.

Mohammed's journey from a rural community to a civilized town is a representative journey of a nobody from innocence and tranquillity into wickedness and madness. On his arrival, Mohammed feels a great sense of betrayal, "he feels as if he has fallen from a fantasy world into the realm of harsh reality," the writer describes. All the features of a civilized life seem to Mohammed as obstacles standing between him and his dreams. Being already a nobody in a civilized state, he aimlessly runs through the crowd feeling a deep sense of loss.

Mohammed Ali Akbar as a nobody is a representative victim of a capitalistic society of the Third World. When he gets an "ordinary" job at a shop, he clings with all his strength to the small fortune he always dreamt of. But, exhaustion, a major symptom of a modern society, overcomes his strength without any prior notice, and he is so weak to fight for anything. His role in this inhumane civilization is played out, and he is simply ruled out of it. He deems it essential to possess his own identity, for he's so poor, but society denies him his rights. And when he insists on cherishing the possession of a mere insignificant "box", in which he

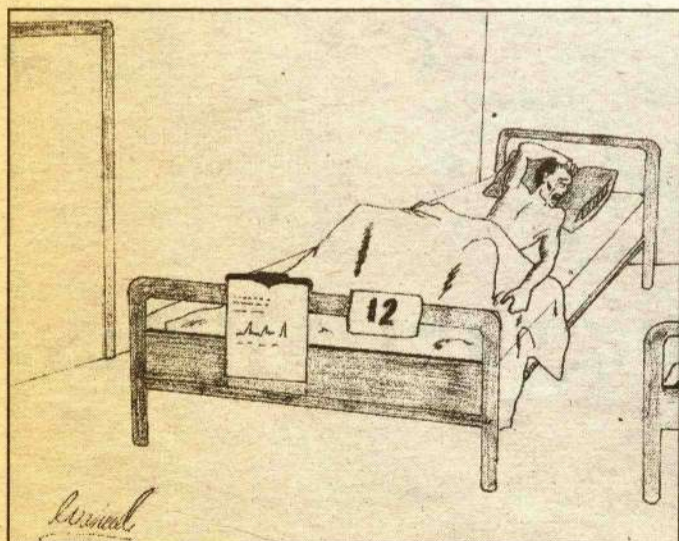
saves his little fortune, society intrudes, and finally gets hold of it.

Right after Mohammed's quietus, the writer, on this helpless situation, comments that Mohammed, "would now be content at being merely

"Bed Number 12" if he could only be assured about the fate of his box." Where there is no social equality, death seems to be the only alternative to life. During Mohammed's stay at the hospital, he knows nobody and so nobody will visit him. And nobody among the hospital staff could not even care less about him. It is here at the hospital, that he would not allow anybody call him except by his full name. But briefly after his death,

Mohammed Ali Akbar loses his full identity as the "male" nurse calls, "Bed number 12 has died!" He was always and still is considered a number among many and not a human being of any significance. Since he is just an ordinary man, he is unworthy of even having a mailing address. And having no recorded address, his burial was attended "solely" by the hospital grave diggers! In brief, "he" is a representative anti-hero. He finds himself pushed out of the out-skirts of society and life, because of the helplessness in a world over which he has no control. Because of society's persistence on rejecting social status as an outcast, he is a typical anti-hero.

By Khaled Ghalib Al-Sharai.



simply accepting their small lot in life as it is. In this short story, the main character, Mohammed Ali Akbar is a representative of a nobody. In this respect, the title of this story suggests the shocking and horrifying experience of Mohammed Ali in a society that refuses to acknowledge his full identity, while the same third world society is

character, his age and his birth place. Mohammed, a 25 year old man, is so poor that poverty is "something engraved on his forehead", the writer explains. Equally, his village under-goes the same poverty. Since poverty is an inescapable part of his life, Mohammed has disciplined himself to live a "contented poverty". In this respect, poverty

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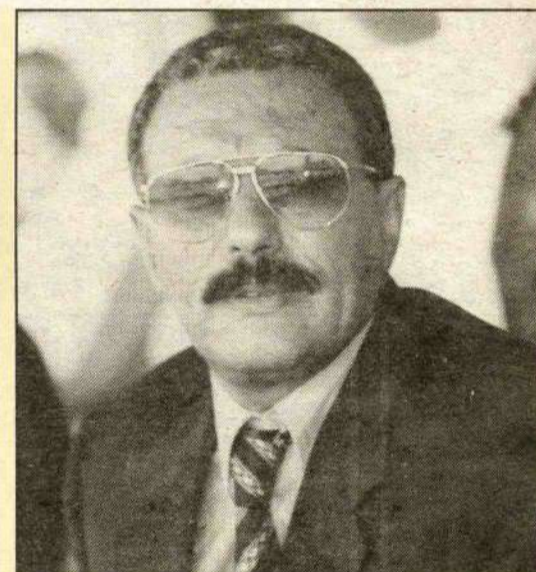
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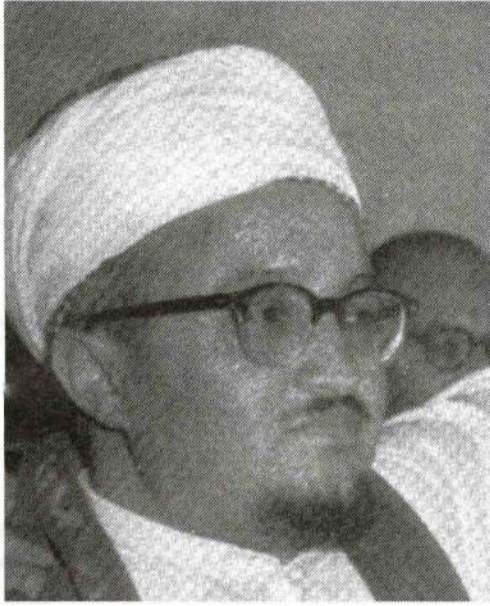
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Many Happy Returns

MOMENTS OF INSPIRATION

لحظات الإِشراق

مقتطفات من شعر محمد محمود الزبيري



By Mohammed Mahmoud Al-Zobairi
(Excerpts)

I feel the winds of Paradise
soon rhymes are stirring,
This one slips away,
another departs in despair;
I scatter them across the world,
for when they touch my soul
I pour into my poems
to people the world with nations.

dazed yet caring and joyful,
Had I not known these symptoms
blowing through the depths of my soul;
ant-like in my mind.
that one submits responding,
now this one's promising,
in their fragrant innocence;
and I am deeply moved,
the essence of all dreams,
I surrender to my rhymes,
as I listen in peace or anger.
of genius, I'd rush to a doctor.

احس بريح كريح الجنان
وأشعر أن القوافي تدب
فهذا يزوغ وهذا يروغ
وذاك يفارقني يائسا
ومنها أوزع للعالمين
إذا لمست مهجتي لمسة
أخلف فيها لقاح المنى
أسلم نفسي لها ذاهلا
وأصغي لها هادئا تارة
ولولا اهتدائي لسر النبوغ
تهب بأعماق روعي هبوبا
كالنمل ملء دماغي دبيبا
وذلك يذعن لي مستجيبا
وهذا يواعدني أن يؤوبا
طهرا وانشر في الأرض طيبا
توثب قلبي بصدري وثوبا
وانجب للأرض منها شعوبا
حريصا عليها بشوشا طروبا
واحرص حينما عبوسا غضوبا
واعراضه لطلبت الطبيببا

Mohammed Mahmoud Al-Zobairi (1909 - 1964) was born in Sanaa; studied at religious schools and then at the University of Cairo. He returned to Yemen after the 1962 revolution and became Minister of Education and member of the Executive Council. Al-Zobairi was killed by royalist forces in 1964 and has since been regarded as one of Yemen's martyrs. Several collections of his classical poetry were published.

How Tourism Influences the Yemeni Economy

By: Obaid Mohammed Al-Hadha*
General Director of Planning and Statistics

Measuring exactly the influence of tourism on the economy is a rather difficult task in developing countries. This is partly because of inadequate statistical accounting, and partly since the tourism sector goes together with other productive and service sectors such as transportation, industry, and commerce.

In Yemen, though, the difficulty of knowing specific detailed information about tourism lies in the lack of experience in statistics gathering and material support. Therefore, we depend only upon enumerating the effects made by the foreign tourists who come to Yemen on our statistics. We find that tourism influences economy in two aspects:

a) Direct Economic Effects:

1. Effect of tourism on the balance of payment:

The tourism revenue in Yemen reached its highest in 1997. It was \$60 million; about \$5 million more than what it was in 1996. This means a 2.5% rise in the foreign currency revenue for the balance of payment. Regardless of the oil revenue, tourism contributed about 30% of the total exports revenue.

Some studies even indicate that the real tourism revenue reached more than \$120 million. The question here is where do \$60 million of the tourism revenue go?! The blame is on the ineffectiveness of the laws regulating tourism. These laws, for example, cannot stop the activities of unlicensed tourism agencies.

2. Effect of tourism on employment:

Several studies on the influence of tourism on employment indicate the following:

- Hotels: there is at least one new job vacancy for every hotel room.
- Other tourism activities: new job opportunities are created at the rate of 75% of the vacancies available in the hotel sector.
- All other sectors: 100% vacancies become available out of the hotel work activities.

In 1997, the number of hotel rooms reached 8109. This means that the tourism sector employs 22,300 employees. Despite that, the Yemeni employees do not have enough skill and work experience. Therefore, employing foreign people becomes a necessity, especially in the 4-star and 5-star hotels.

3. Effect of tourism on the income redistribution:

As tourism activities take place in some remote areas, it helps to vitalize investment and tourism projects and activate the traditional handicrafts there. Thereby it directly contributes to increasing the personal income of the people in these areas. Accordingly, redistributing income between urban areas and rural areas automatically comes to effectively being. What is of real importance is that the emigration movement from rural areas to urban areas gradually begins to stop.

b. Indirect Economic Effects:

1. Upgrading the income:

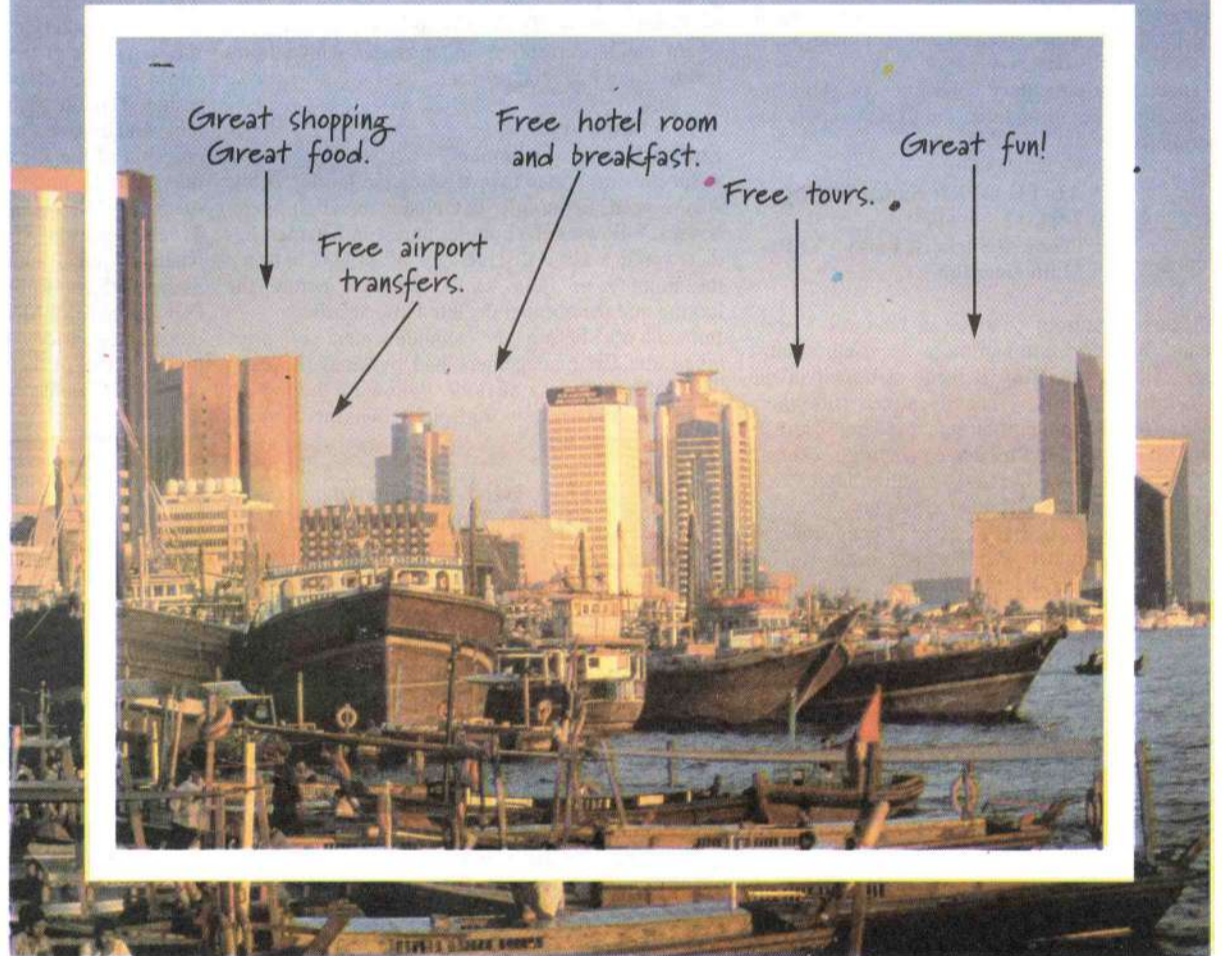
Tourism needs large capital since it needs a lot of facilities. But the revenue of tourism makes huge return on the invested capital. The revenue of tourism in the developed countries might reach up to 5 times of the original amount of money invested in the tourism sector. In the developing countries, though, it becomes at least 2 times of the original capital.

2. Effect of tourism on the market:

Some studies by the International Tourism Organization show that tourists usually spend some of their money on buying local goods from the countries they visit. This is, to some extent, a kind of exporting local goods without a need for cargo or foreign markets. Thus, whenever tourism becomes more active, exporting becomes more active, and so the income of the country becomes stronger.

Taken from testimony to the Consultative Council's hearings on 1st June, 1998.

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AL-SAHWA: Sanaa weekly, 9-7-98.
[Yemeni Congregation for Reform (Islah)]

Main Headlines:

- 1- Official sources deny foreign media reports attributed to a bogus Yemeni security source implicating Islah in the recent acts of violence and looting.
- 2- Islah condemns violence and rejects price rise.
- 3- The conference to establish a coordination council for university teachers syndicates has failed to gain the participants' support.
- 4- A special parliamentary committee is to investigate allegations of human rights violations in Aden.
- 5- Security bodies in Aden warn mosque speakers and Imams against criticizing the reform program in their sermons.

Article Summary:
Tender Irregularities

A parliamentarian report has strongly criticized the Agricultural Bank of Borrowing (ABB) and the Central Organization of Control and Audit (COCA) for an "unnecessary delays and irregularities in a tender to supply irrigation equipment and execute a number of agricultural projects.

The tender was announced in November, 1996, to which 14 different establishments applied. After the ABB awarding the tender to a French company and its local agent, several other applicants made formal complaints, which were sent to COCA for further investigations.

The COCA report of December, 1997, indicated that, in addition to the long delays, the technical specifications set by the ABB were not sufficient. Several shortcomings in evaluating and analyzing the submitted tenders were also cited by the report. Some proposals were given higher technical marks than they actually deserve.

The special parliamentary committee investigating the case, however, found that the COCA report was rather biased.



AL-THAWRI: Sanaa weekly, 9-7-98.

(Yemeni Socialist Party - YSP) .

Main Headlines:

- 1- Military operations continue in Jawf and Mareb. Air and artillery bombardment is used against villages. The 14th Army Brigade stationed in the area is still besieged by heavily armed tribesmen. Security forces conduct a large campaign of arrests among Mareb and Jawf tribesmen staying in Sanaa.
- 2- YSP Secretary General congratulates Col. Qaddafi on the success of his leg surgery.
- 3- Political circles in Sanaa express deep concern over the disappearance of opposition leader Hassan Ba-Awm since the violent break-up by police of the Mukallah demonstration on April 27.
- 4- YSP condemns Israel's expansionist policies.

Article Summary:
Tribal Alliance

Tribes in Mareb and Jawf held a major conference on July 2, and made a number of decisions and recommendations:

- 1- declaring solidarity amongst the tribes to confront oppression;
- 2- allowing tribes from other parts of Yemen to join the alliances;
- 3- calling on all political parties and prominent figures to reject the "policy" of starving the people'
- 4- strongly condemning the air and artillery shelling

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Yemeni Press in a Week

by: Adel J. Moqbil

- of innocent people;
- 5- rejecting any infringement on the freedom of expression;
 - 6- condemning all acts of violence and looting;
 - 7- calling on all human rights organizations to help the Yemeni people; and
 - 8- calling on the President to reverse the government's decision to raise prices.



AL-RAY AL-AAM: Sanaa weekly, 7-7-98.

(Independent)

Main Headlines:

- 1- New confrontations between the tribes and the army in Jawf.
- 2- Hadhramaut people demand the resignation of the government and annulling its decision to raise prices.
- 3- People in several governorates, including Sanaa, are still experiencing severe gas shortages.
- 4- Ministry of Finance strikes off the salaries of 200 teachers in Sanaa under the feeble excuse of not signing the wages statement of December, 1997.
- 5- Inhabitants of the Caltex area in Aden complain bitterly of the continued harassment of the local security force.
- 6- Federation of Trade Unions call on PM, Dr. Iryani tackle corruption and proceed with administrative and financial reform.

Article Summary:
Embezzlement in Khamer

A special committee investigating the looting of the state-owned Economic Establishment (EE) warehouses, following the popular unrest in Khamer, has discovered a large discrepancy of 41,000 between the number of flour sacks recorded before the looting and the number declared afterwards.

Immediately before the announcement of price hikes, the EE management had declared the existence of 6,000 sacks of flour. Following the looting of the warehouses, it transpired that the actual number was 47,000!



AL-TAREEQ: Aden weekly, 7-7-98.

(Independent)

Main Headlines:

- 1- Two explosions in Aden damage the fuel pipe feeding ships at the harbor, and lead to extensive pollution. Police arrested 20 fishermen who were in the vicinity of the explosions.
- 2- The government fails in persuading Mareb and Jawf tribesmen to stop fighting the army.
- 3- A camping of arrests is conducted in Dhale' and Radfan following several bomb explosions.
- 4- Saudi intelligence officers secretly visit the areas of civil unrest in Mareb and Jawf.
- 5- Agricultural Bank of Borrowing in Sayoun is insolvent.

Article Summary:
Water Pollution in Mukallah

Costing \$27 million and YR57 million, a large water supply project in Greater Mukallah - scheduled to start operating next August - is threatened with extensive pollution by sewage. Since there is no proper sewerage collection system in the area, waste matter is seeping into Al-Naqaa aquifer, the source of Mukallah water. A proposed sewerage system project at a cost of YR95 million was shelved for no apparent reasons.

There are no studies as to the extent of water availability in other aquifers.

AL-UMMA: Sanaa weekly, 9-7-98.

(Al-Haqq Party)

Main Head-

- lines:**
- 1- Yemeni and Saudi officials intensify their visits to their respective border military camps. Prince Sultan, in a talk to

the Saudi naval officers, stressed the his government's support for the Saudi navy because "it has to patrol Saudi shores on the 3 different seas!"

2- Minister of Religious Endowments and Al-Haqq party leader returns from Cairo following the conclusion of the 10th Islamic conference.

3- Religious leaders and scholars in Hadhramaut demand that the authorities reverse the decision to raise prices.

4- No information has yet been gleaned on the big explosion that rocked the Sanaa home of the chief of the Sanaa and Jawf Appeal Court two weeks ago.

Article Summary:
Hodeida Fire Victims Accuse

Traders and vendors whose property were damaged by the fire that raged in a Hodeida make-shift market have accused a local businessman and the People's General Congress (PGC) branch of being behind the incident last Thursday. Mostly immigrants who returned to Yemen after the Gulf War, the 2,000 or so vendors said in a statement that eyewitnesses saw the car of known merchant, Al-Hobaishi, leaving the scene of the fire immediately after it erupted.

The fire started when unknown men fired bullets on a number of fuel jerrycans at the market place, and a number of bombs went off inside. The fire fighters arrived at the scene one hour after the eruption of the fire, said the statement, hinting at collusion between them and Al-Hobaishi.

Trouble started some time ago when the local authority sold the market place, through the local PGC branch to Al-Hobaishi, who incessantly tried to evict the traders. Eight of them were imprisoned for a month by the military

police, despite the presidential order to leave them alone.



26 SEPTEMBER: Sanaa weekly, 9-7-98.

(Yemen Armed Forces)

Main Headlines:

1- Vice-President attends celebrations of the graduation of several military classes at Salahudin Barracks.

2- The Council of Ministers agrees to establish diplomatic ties with Macedonia and the Vatican.

3- Minister of Foreign Affairs: "Yemen has submitted sufficient documents to prove its sovereignty over the Hunaish Island."

4- The World Bank is to provide \$60 million for electricity projects and \$35 million for water and sewerage projects.

5- 200,000 people stand to benefit from the Social Care Fund by the end of this year.

Article Summary:

Democracy & Anarchy By Abdulqawi Al-Amir

The difference between democracy and anarchy is the difference between constitution-guaranteed freedom of expression and acts of sheer violence punishable by law. What happened in this country started as peaceful demonstrations by people protesting the rise in prices. Malicious and hateful elements, however, infiltrated the protesters and perverted the peaceful demonstrations into acts of violence and looting.

The Graduate Studies Program of Sana'a University

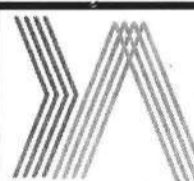
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1st Universities Sports Federation Elected

The meetings of the general assembly of the Yemeni universities, held during 5-9 July, were concluded last Thursday at the Faculty of Agriculture in Sanaa. The participants discussed the constitution, the technical regulations and the future plans of the assembly.

At the end of the meetings, the first Yemeni universities sports federation was elected as follows:-

- 1- Dr. Fadhil-Abu Ghanem as the president of the federation;
- 2- Faraj Abdulrahman B-Yusef as the vice-president;
- 3- Samir Al-Qaar as a secretary general;
- 4- Ali Ghaleb as the training and qualifying officer;
- 5- Dr. Shayef Abdo Salem as the

foreign affairs officer; 6- Abdulwahed Atiq as the deputy secretary general; and 7- Mustafah Saeed Naser as a member.

Mr. Samir Al-Qaar, the head of sport activities in Sanaa University and the secretary of the first Yemeni Universities sports federation told Yemen Times: "Establishing such a federation will unify the sports activities at Yemeni universities, which helps develop the university sports activities through selecting the best sports people in Yemeni universities. It can also help form a university team to represent Yemen at international and Arab championships."

Active Arab Participation in Sanaa Half-Marathon

The Sabeen field in Sanaa witnessed last week the sports festival which was organized by the Yemeni Athletics Federation and financed by Yemenia Airlines to celebrate the anniversary of July 7th. Several government ministers attended the event; the Foreign Minister, the Minister of Health, the Minister of Labor and the Minister of Trade.

Many Arab countries participated such as Egypt, Qatar, Jordan, while Syria and Lebanon declined the invitations.

The junior winners of the 5 km race are as follows:-

- 1- Abdulaziz Ali - Damar

1- The Yemeni athlete Abdulrahman Abdulaziz won the first position and the championship cup and was awarded a ticket to London and an amount of money.

2- Mohamed Al-Khowlani from Saada won the second position and was awarded a ticket to London and YR 15,000.

3- Salamah Abdulkari m from Jordan won the third position and was

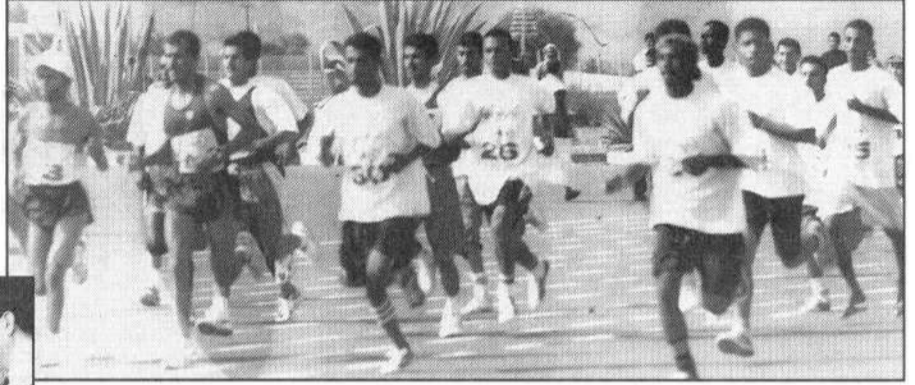
from Dhamar won the eighth position and was awarded a ticket to Taiz and YR 8,000.

9- Mohammed Al-Mursi from Egypt won the ninth position and was awarded a tick to Taiz and YR 7,000.

10- Mohammed Al-Sumakhi from Jordan won the tenth

position and was awarded a ticket to Taiz and YR 6,000.

The winners received their prizes by Mr. Abdulqader Bajammal, the Foreign Minister and Mr. Abdulwahab Rawah the Minister of Youth and sports.



awarded a ticket to Frankfurt and YR 14,000

4- Sufyan Abdulaqib from Sanaa won the fourth position and was awarded a

- 2- Mohammed Ali Abdulah - Sanaa
- 3- Mohamed Abdulah - Sanaa

The female winners of the 3 km race are as follows:-

- 1- Thaniya Tayri Abdulrazaq
- 2- Hamidah Tayri Abdulrazaq
- 3- Hanan Naser Al-Shaddadi

The winners of the Sana'a half-marathon are as follows:-

ticket to Lebanon and YR 13,000.

5- Abdulnabi Faraj from Egypt won the fifth position and was awarded a ticket to Cairo and YR 12,000.

6- Abdulshakoor Hussein won the sixth position and YR 10,000

7- Khalid Al-Ashashi from Dhamar won the seventh position and was awarded a ticket to Al-Rayyan in Yemen and YR 9,000.

8- Mohammed Naser Al-Jeda

تهانينا القلبية

خالص التهاني والتبريكات للأخ قيس أحمد السنفي وذلك بمناسبة زفافه المبارك ألف مبروك وبالرفاه والبنين

المهنؤون: والدك أحمد السنفي، د/ عبدالعزيز السقاف، وكافة موظفي صحيفة «يمن تايمز»

«كل نفس ذائقة الموت»

نتقدم بخالص التعازي للحاج عبدالقوي مصلح الصيادي وللاخوين صالح أحمد الصيادي ومحمد أحمد الصيادي

وذلك لوفاة الحاج أحمد مصلح الصيادي. تغمده الله بواسع رحمته والهه أهله الصبر والسلوان، وإنا لله وإنا إليه راجعون

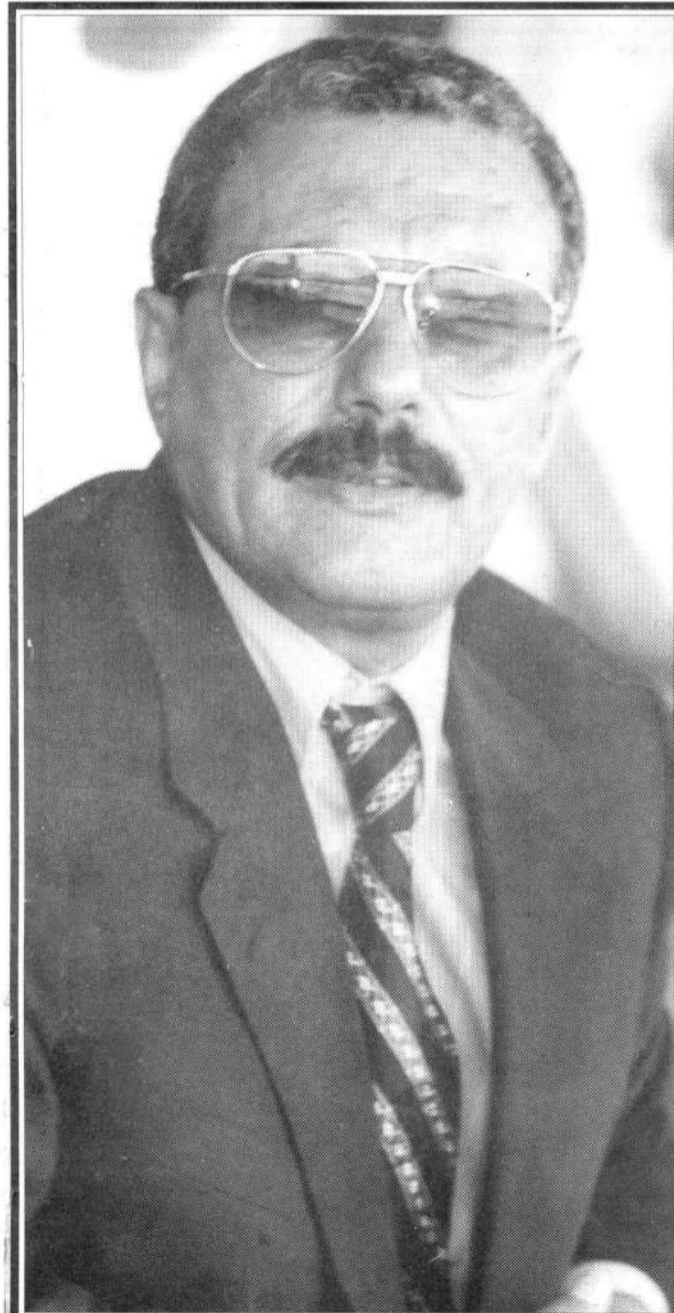
الإسيفون: دحان علي الصيادي، مرزوق الصيادي، وجميع موظفي «يمن تايمز»

Police Team 1st in Karate

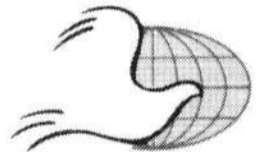
The Police Karate Team managed to secure the first position in the qualifying matches which took place last week at the Military Sports Federation hall. This championship was held under the sponsorship of the Karate Federation Branch in Sanaa. The results were as follows:

Team	Position	Medals
1- police	1st	4 gold
2- Al-Majd	2nd	4 silver
3-Al-Zuhra	3rd	2 silver
4- Al-Shaab	4th	1 silver

As a result of this victory, the police team will represent Sanaa in the final qualifying matches which are to be held at the end of July.



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علي عبدالله صالح

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Abdul-Baqi Lectures on Yemei Music at AIYS

Music is defined as the only language that can go beyond linguistic barriers and reach all ears without any need for translators. It is actually the world of wisdom and enchantment. The great artist William Shakespeare says in the Twelfth Night, "If music be the food of love, play on; give me excess of it."

For this reason, we find that most Americans residing in Yemen are immensely absorbed by Yemeni music and want to understand it better. Thus, the American Institute for Yemeni Studies (AIYS) invited the Yemeni musician Mr. Saleh Abdul-Baqi to give a talk on Yemeni music on July 5th.

Mr. Abdul-Baqi is musical editor of the Yemen Times. The lecture was translated into English by Ahmad Hameed.

Mrs. Marta Colburn, the Resident Director of the institute told the Yemen Times, "One of the purposes of our regular monthly lectures is to help educate expatriates in Yemen about different aspects of Yemeni culture. So the idea was to have a summer series or summer events that would bring new people into our organization and to help them understand Yemeni culture. The idea of choosing Mr. Saleh for the function came about when the organizing committee read his articles on Yemeni music and songs in the Yemen Times. They wanted this knowledgeable man to come and participate."

In his lecture on Yemeni music, Abdul-Baqi traced the Sana'ani song or muwashaha back in history. He said that it dates back to the time of the Andalusian muwashaha. The Arabs (including Yemenis), after conquering Spain, took with them music, literature and all types of art. The merger of that culture with the local art blended into the Andalusian muwashaha, which quickly gained fame. The present poems, lyrics and melodies relating to muwashaha existing in Yemen came through old and famous Yemeni singers and composers. The tradition of the Yemeni lyric muwashaha, especially of Hadhramaut indicates that it is very refined, rich and sophisticated.

The Yemeni muwashaha absorbed the Arab makamat songs, well identified in Arab music. However, comparing the Yemeni and other types of muwashaha in the Arab world, we immediately notice the uniqueness in composition of the Yemeni version. But one characteristic common in all Arab muwashahas is the use of intones like bal baly, dan daa, laila dan, etc., which have no meaning but are used for the sake of perfecting rhythmic patterns. This proves that the Yemeni muwashaha is a part of the whole musical Arab spectrum.

The Yemeni muwashaha flourished during the Rasulid state when it was played in wedding parties and other occasions. It remained as late as the reign of Imam Yahia and his son Ahmed, who prohibited singing completely. Because of this prohibition, Yemeni singers used to meet secretly at the house of Saad Abdullah, one of the Yemeni muwashaha singers and composers in Aden. The purpose of the meetings was to apply new lyric poems to abandoned traditional rhythmic patterns. Then, due to the establishments of gramophone companies in Aden, the Yemeni muwashaha started to cross the borders to neighboring countries. That phase was documented and it is still very popular. One of the main contributions of Yemeni composers is the development of Yemeni Humaini poems. A lot of Yemeni songs are composed on the Humaini pattern. Ahmad Al-Shamy refers to the development of the Humaini poetry in his book "The History of Poetry in Yemen."



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Whenever the players wanted to stop, the audience asked for more. It was fun. The session ended with questions pertaining to the art of music.

So the muwashaha is a refined lyrical type of poetry composed by a singer and a composer at the same time. It is made up of three parts: a base or introduction, a structure and a closing. Putting his theoretical lecture into an example, Saleh played some songs using the oriental lute (ud). He was able to capture the attention of the audience who was very responsive and applauded him with enthusiasm.

Then, Ahmad Taher Al-Adani played the mizmar (traditional reed flute) and Yahia Gadan tapped on the tambourine. That added more flavor to the performance, much to the excitement of the audience.

Whenever the players wanted to stop, the audience asked for more. It was fun. The session ended with questions pertaining to the art of music.

By : Mohammed Hatem Al-Qadhi, Yemen Times

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علي عبدالله صالح

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وقد كانت هذه السنوات حافلة بالعطاء والمنجزات الرائعة وفي مقدمتها
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اتحاد المقاولين العالمية

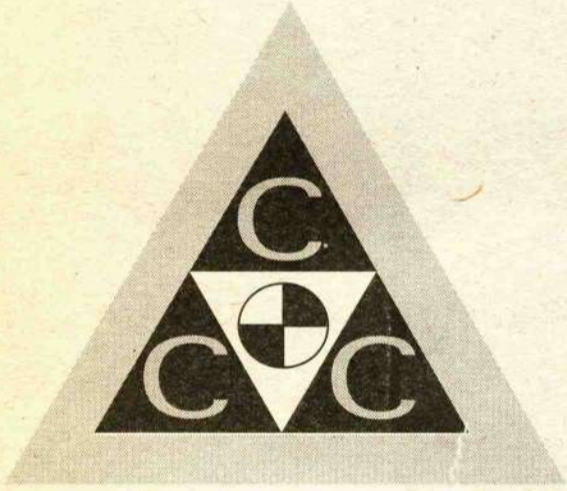
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لإبن اليمن البار فخامة الرئيس

علي عبدالله صالح

بمناسبة الذكرى العشرين لإنتخاب الشعب له لقيادة البلد
وقد كانت هذه السنة حافلة بالعطاء والمنجزات الرائعة وفي مقدمتها
إعادة توحيد اليمن، والنهج الديمقراطي، والتنمية الشاملة، وكل عام والجميع بخير



Mr. Abdullah A. Al-Barakani, Chairman of the Board of Directors,
and all employees, engineers, and workers of the
Cooperative Agricultural Credit Bank

present
their heartfelt congratulations and happy wishes to

President Ali Abdullah Saleh

on the 20th anniversary of his election as to lead the country.

These years have borne lots of fruits and achievements including
the re-unification of the nation, the democratization process, and socio-economic development.

Many Happy Returns!



اتحاد المقاولين العالمية

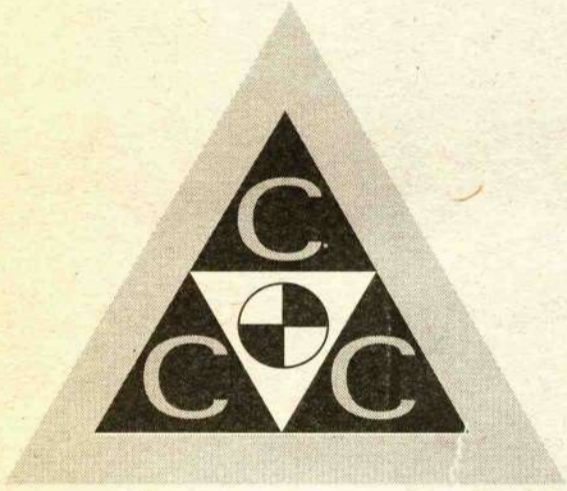
سلي سلي سلي

يتقدمون

بأحر التهاني وأطيب التبريكات وأجمل الأمنيات
لإبن اليمن البار فخامة الرئيس

علي عبدالله صالح

بمناسبة الذكرى العشرين لإنتخاب الشعب له لقيادة البلاد
وقد كانت هذه السنين حافلة بالعطاء والمنجزات الرائعة وفي مقدمتها
إعادة توحيد اليمن، والنهج الديموقراطي، والتنمية الشاملة
وكل عام والجميع بخير



Consolidated Contractors (International) Company

CCC

present its heartfelt congratulations and happy wishes to

President Ali Abdullah Saleh

on the 20th anniversary of his election as to lead the country.
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the re-unification of the nation, the democratization process, and socio-economic development.
Many Happy Returns!



الدكتور وليد جزراوي - الرئيس/المدير العام
وكافة موظفي وعمال شركة

كنديان أوكسيدنتال بتروليم يمن

يتقدمون
بأحر التهاني وأطيب التبريكات وأجمل الأمنيات
لإبن اليمن البار فخامة الرئيس

علي عبدالله صالح

بمناسبة الذكرى العشرين لإنتخاب الشعب له لقيادة اليمن .
شركة كنديان أوكسيدنتال بتروليم = شريك اليمن في التقدم والتطور
وكل عام والجميع بخير



Dr. Waleed Jazrawi, President - General Manager
and all workers of

Canadian Occidental Petroleum Yemen

present
their heartfelt congratulations and happy wishes to

President Ali Abdullah Saleh

on the 20th anniversary of his election as to lead the country.

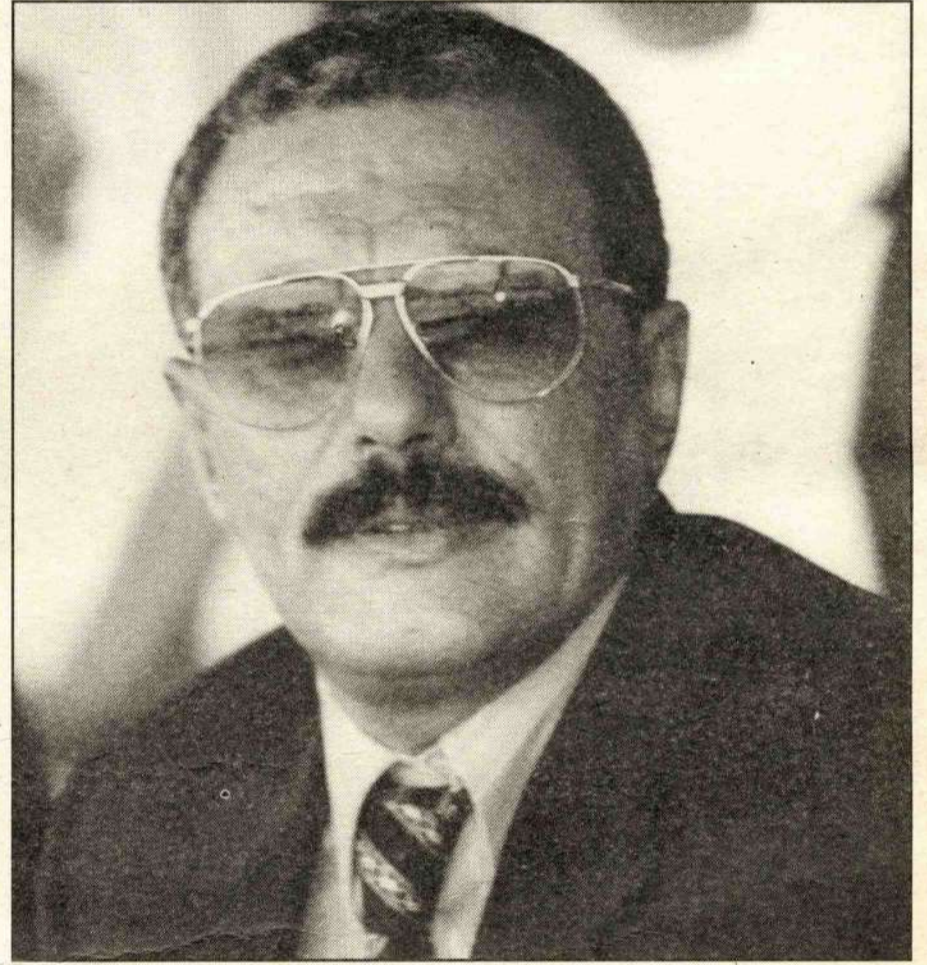
يتقدم الدكتور / محمد علي مقبل - رئيس مجلس الإدارة
وكافة موظفي وفنيي وأفراد

الشركة اليمنية لصناعة وتجارة الأدوية

بأحر التهاني وأطيب التبريكات وأجمل الأمنيات
لإبن اليمن البار فخامة الرئيس

علي عبدالله صالح

بمناسبة ذكرى السابع من يوليو - يوم تثبيت الوحدة اليمنية الخالدة ،
والذكرى العشرين لإنتخاب الشعب له لقيادة البلد
وقد كانت هذه السنوات حافلة بالعطاء والمنجزات الرائعة وفي مقدمتها
الوحدة اليمنية ، والنهج الديموقراطي ، والتنمية الشاملة وكل عام والجميع بخير



Dr. Mohammed Ali Mokbel, Chairman of the Board of Directors,
and all pilots, engineers, employees, and workers of

YEMEN DRUG COMPANY

present their heartfelt congratulations and happy wishes to

President Ali Abdullah Saleh

on the anniversary of the 7th of July - the Day Yemeni Unity was Cemented,
and on the 20th anniversary of the election of President Saleh to lead the country.

These years have borne lots of fruits and achievements including
the re-unification of the nation, the democratization process, and socio-economic development.

Many Happy Returns!



الإدارة العليا وموظفو وعمال

شركة شاهر للتجارة

يتقدمون

بأحر التهاني وأطيب التبريكات وأجمل الأمنيات
لإبن اليمن البار فخامة الرئيس

علي عبدالله صالح

بمناسبة الذكرى العشرين لإنتخاب الشعب له لقيادة بلادنا
وكل عام والجميع بخير



The Top Management, Employees, and Workers at
Shaher Trading Company

present

their heartfelt congratulations and happy wishes to

President Ali Abdullah Saleh

on the 20th anniversary of his election as to lead the country.

Many Happy Returns!

يتقدم الدكتور عبدالله عبد الولي ناشر - وزير الصحة
وكافة أطباء وموظفي وفنيي وأفراد

وزارة الصحة العامة

بأحر التهاني وأطيب التبريكات وأجمل الأمنيات
لإبن اليمن البار فخامة الرئيس

علي عبدالله صالح

بمناسبة الذكرى العشرين لإنتخاب الشعب له لقيادة البلد
وقد كانت هذه السنوات حافلة بالعطاء والمنجزات الرائعة وفي مقدمتها
إعادة توحيد اليمن، والنهج الديموقراطي، والتنمية الشاملة
وكل عام والجميع بخير



Dr. Abdullah Abdul-Wali Nasher, Minister of Public Health
and all medical doctors, employees, and workers of the Ministry of Health

present
their heartfelt congratulations and happy wishes to

President Ali Abdullah Saleh

on the 20th anniversary of his election as to lead the country.

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the re-unification of the nation, the democratization process, and socio-economic development.

Many Happy Returns!