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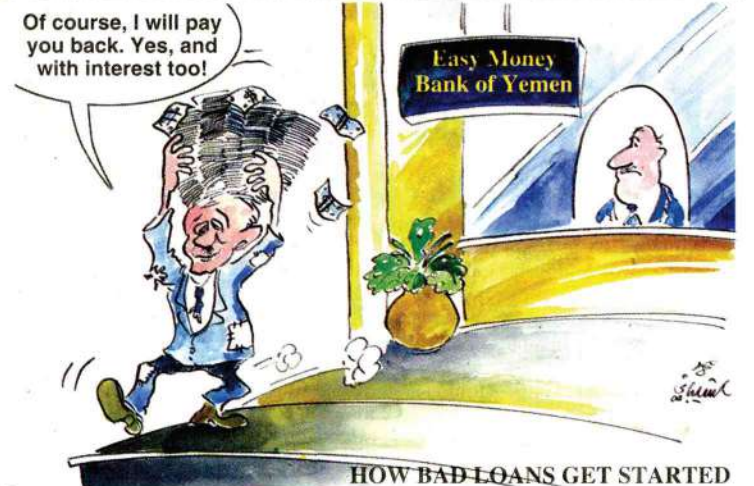
Gone With the Wind!

YEMEN'S BANKS: Saddled with 15 Billion in BAD LOANS

The total volume of bad debts owed to the banking sector is about YR 15 billion. That is more than double the total capital and reserves of these banks combined. That is why Mr. Abdullah Al-Olofi, Sub-Governor of the Central Bank of Yemen for Banking Supervision, in kicking off a 3-day workshop on *Non-functional Loans*, started with the following sentence: "One of the key problems facing banking today is the accumulation of sub-

standard loans." The 3-day workshop organized by the Yemen Banking Studies was concluded today, Monday, 16th November. It addressed the issue of bad loans. 42 bankers met and discussed what to do with bad loans, which represent more than 30% of the YR 45 billion in total loan portfolios extended by the banks in the country. The main paper of the workshop was presented by Mahmood Mujahid Noman, Director of Loans at the Yemen

Company for Investment and Finance. It laid down the basic problem and the reason for it. It found blame with everything and everybody, except the lending banks, that is. The main factors the author blamed were the legal system, which does not allow lenders to get back at borrowers, even when these are capable of repayment. Another reason is the volatile economic conditions which have rendered bankrupt many ostensibly viable projects. But the main contribution of



HOW BAD LOANS GET STARTED

this paper was in the many suggestions it offers as possible solutions. One key factor in all of this is the capital adequacy ratios of banks. That is to say the percentage of their paid-up capital to their gross lending. Another solution is, of course, better analysis of the borrowers and their projects. Other written interventions presented in the workshop were by Mahdi Alawi, Regional Manager of the Arab Bank, Sharaf Abdul-Rahman Sharaful-Deen, Deputy Director of Statistics and Planning at the Agricultural

Cooperative Credit Bank, Hameed Ad-Dahbli of the Industrial Bank of Yemen, Dr. Abdul-Latif Al-Kuhali from the Research Department of the Central Bank of Yemen, Abbas Nasser Ahmed, Director of Financing and Investment, Islamic Bank for Finance and Investment, Ahmed Mohammed Ali, Chairman of the Banking Association, Shahr As-Salehi, Secretary-General of the Yemeni Center for Arbitration, and Mr. Ahmed Mohammed Al-Wabr, lawyer at the Yemen Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

President Saleh's Field Trips Bring Temporary Relief to Citizens

President Ali Abdullah Saleh, temporarily anchored at Aden, has been paying field trips to the neighboring regions and governorates. "The inspection visits have raised the level of government services and the momentum of implementation of projects, if only to please the President," said an Aden-based diplomat.

The President's tours have included, first and foremost, different parts of Aden. Then he trekked into Abyan, Lahej, Dhale' and Shabwah. In all cases, he held the local officials accountable. "But this kind of system - being accountable to only one man, cannot of course, succeed," lamented the diplomat.

Yemen & the EU: Expanding Future Cooperation

The European Union and the Republic of Yemen are poised to expand the scope of their cooperation. Yemen has made significant advances on the agreement signed last year. But it is excluded from many possibilities given that it is not included in the various forums for assistance. Now the two sides are working to change some of that.

On December 4th, a series of meetings will take place in Brussels between a Yemeni delegation to be headed by Planning and Development Minister Ahmed Soufan, and the European Commission. While the immediate focus of the talks is on the 1999/2000 program, the two sides will also address widening the scope for Yemen to dip into EU assistance.

77% of Our Immigrants Will Not Come Back!

In a Yemen Times worldwide poll last week, 77% of Yemeni immigrants said they do not plan to return to the country, if present conditions persist. 119 persons answered the question, which was on-line for a week.

The question was: "If present conditions remain, will you as a Yemeni living abroad, come back (to Yemen)?" The question allowed a simple yes or no answer. Most people decided they don't want to come back.

Yemen Times runs a weekly question, on-line, which is answered primarily by Yemenis living abroad, mostly in the USA. The poll question can be accessed at the YT homepage www.yementimes.com.

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OUR VIEWPOINT

Ramadhan Is Coming ARE YOU READY?

Our holy month of Ramadhan is fast approaching, with just over a month to go before it dawns on us. Ramadhan to Muslims a very important month as it is the time of the first revelations of Islam. It is also an occasion to stop from our at race and take stock of our moral and religious standing. That is why people become more pious and self-conscious. The best part I like about Ramadhan is really how it manages to stop smokers from blowing in our faces.

Unfortunately, this month also brings what is close to an upheaval in our lives. It requires many special arrangements to meet the new needs, given that it affects our living style in such a profound way.

Let me discuss some of the changes.

1. More economic burdens:

One of the troublesome aspects of Ramadhan is the additional expense it brings with it. Families need new food supplies because of the unique dishes of the Ramadhan cuisine. This is burdensome because of the overall low living standards of our population. The economic difficulties facing our people at this time are quite visible.

This situation is further complicated by the traditional hike in prices around this time. As consumers rush to the markets, they inevitably put an upward pressure on prices. Exploitative retailers and traders add fuel to this phenomenon.

Therefore, is it possible for the official media, especially the television programs, to start educating the public how to cut corners in terms of food purchases and preparations?

2. New work hours:

During Ramadhan, the nights become more lively and the days more quiet. Actually, official work hours start at 11:00 am, and the total number of working hours per day is about three hours. To make things worse, actual work hours are fewer, and the employees often grouchy and edgy. As one observer put it, "Don't push a hungry man!"

For foreign companies, this is an ideal time for vacation, since very little work can be achieved during this month. The government uses this month to give its employees long deserved annual or other holidays.

In addition, embassies, companies and other bodies are advised not to invite delegations and guests during this time.

3. Charity:

One of the splendors of Ramadhan is that it motivates well-to-do people to be more generous than usual. Individuals, societies, foundations and charities are exceptionally active during Ramadhan. This is partly based on the Muslim teachings for compassion among fellow human beings, especially during this month.

Thus, companies and individuals are not surprised by requests for donations and contributions. While it is constructive to interact with such requests, it is also imperative to make sure the money goes where it should. There are, needless to say, many free riders and parasites.

For non-Muslims living among us, they are forced to adjust their lives. Some even try to fast, if at least as a form of a new regime. Many simply choose to leave town until after Ramadhan. Whatever you do, you have to plan for Ramadhan. Are you ready?

The Publisher


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44th Anniversary of Algerian Revolution

On the occasion of the 44th anniversary of the Algerian Revolution, The Yemeni Algerian Fraternity Society organized a photographic exhibition in collaboration with the Algerian Embassy. School girls sang the national anthem of Yemen and Algeria. The visitors had a rare glimpse at photos, books and letters of the freedom fighters.

Japanese Government Welcomed Peaceful Solution

The Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs greatly welcomed the acceptance by Yemen and Eritrea of the ruling by the arbitration court in London on the conflict over the Hunash Islands, and commends their efforts for a peaceful solution.

Arab Geographers at Sanaa University

Hosted by the Yemeni Geographers Society, a conference of Arab geographers was convened on November 14. Nearly a hundred scientific and academic associations were represented from all over the region.

The Role of Education in Society

Organized by the Arab Center for Strategic Studies, a seminar on the Role of Education in Serving Society will be held during 28-29 November at the Center for Yemeni Studies and Research. A group of teachers, professors, and experts in the field of education will participate in the seminar.

Yemen & UNDP Support

An agreement of support was signed between Yemen and UNDP on November 12th. This aims at promoting the government's involvement in cases of exceptional conditions and in supporting institution-building in Yemen. It put forward strategies for the government, civil institutions and the private sector in dealing with such issues.

The project will be implemented in cooperation with the Consultative Council, the Ministry of Planning and Development and the UN representative.

National Strategy of Water

Organized by the General Authority for Water Sources and the World Bank, a workshop on the National Strategy for Water will be held on November 17-18. About 100 people from government and the private sector will participate in the workshop. Directing and planning more appropriate water extraction and use will be the main topic of the workshop.

2nd Phase for Eradicating Polio

In preparation for the launch of the second phase of the National Campaign for Eradicating Polio, a meeting was held at the National Center of Health Education & Information (NCHEI) on November 14. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Abdullah Abdulwali Nashir, the Minister of Health. In attendance were Yaqoub Yousof Al-Mazro', Health Deputy Minister of the Saudi Arabia, Dr. Mosa'ad Al-Shami, head of the NCHEI and other officials.

"The success that we gained during the first phase of the campaign gives us hope and high aims for the second phase" Dr. Nashir, said.

The second phase of the campaign will take place during November 22-24.

Yemen-Net in Aden

Dr. Abdulaziz Abdulghani, head of the Consultative Council, and Taha Ghanim, Aden's Governor, launched an internet server for commercial information in Aden on November 11th. Yemen-Net will mainly help the Chamber of Commerce in Aden.

Would the State Show More Tolerance to Calls of Accountability

Last week, Yemen Times published a front-page article about the external funds that were available to Yemen. The barrage of harassment included over-running the Yemen Times car and pushing it off the road, almost hitting an orange-vendor's cart, a number of visitors, telephonic threats, and of course, insults in the government media. But the 26th September newspaper response was the most intriguing.

Here is its translation:

Dr. Al-Saqqaf: Deceptive Language of Numbers Refuted By Facts On The Ground

By: The Political Editor

You can fool some people some time, but you can't fool all people all the time. It is unfortunate that Yemen Times - and its Chief Editor, Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf - are wallowing in deception. The aims and goals are peculiar to that person, who tries hard with all possible means and methods to surround himself with a halo and false glitter. He does this at the expense of many moral standards, most important of which is commitment to truth and veracity, and the need to take into consideration the country's supreme interests.

In his last issue of Yemen Times, Dr. Al-Saqqaf, unfortunately, launched one of his lies. This time he resorted to the language of fabricated numbers. He wove the story out of an imagination full of destructive falsehoods, personal hatred, and maliciousness. What Al-Saqqaf said about the foreign money given to Yemen by way of grants and aid as well as oil revenue is totally false. We can refute it all with facts on the ground, but why bother. This is simply a manifestation of his lowly motive. Such a fabricated and empty story was cooked up in well-known (foreign) media "kitchens," well before it is published by Yemen Times.

Dr. Al-Saqqaf, who claims to be a professor of economy and an expert in the language of numbers, has forgotten that loans and grants provided by countries and international organizations do not go to the pockets of a particular person, whoever he is. Those countries and organizations monitor and follow-up the implementation of projects in all fields. Such projects can now be seen towering in all parts of Yemen.

The way oil revenue is spent can also be clearly shown. The Doctor probably knows, more than any one else, that Yemen's share of oil revenue is divided between local consumption and exports. Oil revenue is primarily used to subsidize foodstuffs, mostly wheat and flour.

ساقوا للساقف:
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In addition, the state budget relies in covering its expenditures on oil revenue. Almost 75% of the revenue is used to pay public salaries and on investment program. We ask Dr. Al-Saqqaf: How could Yemen cover its budgets to implement huge projects in service and development? These are projects in roads, education, health, electricity, communications, water, dams, etc. How could Yemen have built its armed forces and security apparatus to become a modern state, *responsible* for its citizens? Is it possible that hatred and maliciousness be so blinding as to make a person believe that he can hide the truth with a pile of dust, falsehoods and meaningless noise?

If the objective behind what Dr. Al-Saqqaf had published is to harm Yemen's interests by influencing donor countries and organizations, he should realize that the latter are well aware of his declared and ulterior motives. They also know the personal goals behind what he publishes and what he says to embassies or visiting foreign delegations....

To Al-Saqqaf we have this honest advice: For God's sake, do not let your selfishness and incessant hunger for fame and cheap gains make you lose your balance in a sad and pathetic way. You will have to know that right will triumph in the end.

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Dr. Abdullah Al-Hamedi:

“Social values impede the recruitment of female nurses.”

Al-Jumhuri Teaching Hospital is one of a few public health establishments in Sanaa. First opened in 1925, Al-Jumhuri is also one of the oldest hospitals in Yemen.

A new general manager has recently been appointed to Al-Jumhuri Hospital. Dr. 44, is a pediatrician who started his career at the Dhul' Hospital in 1985. He assumed his current post on February 15, 1998.

To know more about Al-Jumhuri Hospital and the level of health services it provides, Mohammed Bin Sallam of Yemen Times talked to Dr. Al-Hamedi, and filed the following interview.

Q: Could you tell us briefly about Al-Jumhuri Hospital when you first assumed your managerial post?

A: I found conditions at the hospital quite bad, I'm sorry to say. I'm not really saying that the people before me didn't work, but that is how I found the place.

Only 80 beds were used in a hospital with a 600-bed capacity. Out of the 7 floors constituting the hospital, only three were used. Broken equipment and scrap metal were stored on the 7th floor. Unbelievably, the 2nd floor housed water and septic tanks. The 1st floor was closed all but for two rooms - lacking in essential conditions for humans. They were used for burns victims.

All in all, only about 25% of the hospital's capacity was used. So we started implementing plans to improve the place. Differences in statistics between January and June or July, say, attest to the success of our reform program.

Q: Are there any obstacles impeding your proposed reform?

A: The major hindrance is lack of funds. People are invited to donate. This has helped us carry out extensive renovation and refurbishment work. Closed floors are now open, and the scrap-metal floor is now a private clinic. We decided to allocate 10% of Al-Jumhuri for private medical practice. Evening surgery hours will start soon, to be devoted to private-sector employees with health insurance. We strongly aim to provide top health services.

Doing renovation work is easy. But staff changes are a different matter altogether. Regional, tribal and partisan affiliation influences are at work in the hospital. However, we were successful in bringing people together through weekly departmental meetings. A friendly atmosphere prevailed in a relatively short time, successfully overcoming sectarian and tribal sensitivities. Only this way can we provide an advanced and humane service at the hospital. However, there is a lot more to be done, whether regarding facilities and equipment or staff relations. We are determinedly on our way to achieving a full team spirit among hospital employees.

Q: To what level have services been increased and improved?

A: I can proudly say that work standards have risen by a minimum of 200% in some departments. Other departments have witnessed huge improvements in services. For example, when I took over management, there were only two patients in the maternity department, which has a 50-bed capacity. Now 40 patients are receiving medical care there.

Q: Could you tell us more about the hospital's staff?

A: There are 183 Yemeni doctors with different specialities. Only two Chinese doctors work at Al-Jumhuri; a neuro-surgeon and

an ENT specialist.

As for nursing, there are many social obstacles preventing Yemeni females from working as nurses. A female Yemeni nurse cannot possibly stay at work after 6pm. So we have to rely on foreign cadres. There are only 20 Indian nurses. At least 250 are needed. I'd like to use this opportunity to call on the Ministry of Health to suspend its decision banning the employment of foreign staff.

Q: How many Yemeni nurses are employed at the hospital?

A: There are about 100 female nurses, but they only work the morning shift. Also, they are not very well trained. Only 45 male nurses work here. Receiving only YR 5,000 a month is just not conducive for nurses to work in the public sector. Many of them work in private hospitals in the afternoon.

Q: Haven't you considered employing more male nurses to work afternoons and evenings?

A: This actually what is happening. But male nurses cannot possibly work in maternity and gynecology wards. Our Indian staff are overworked.

Q: What are the main departments at Al-Jumhuri?

A: We have all general medical departments: pediatrics, gynecology, general surgery, neurosurgery, etc. Al-Jumhuri is the first hospital to open a department for dermatology. Other hospitals in Yemen only have small clinics for skin ailments. There are three types of emergency wards, orthopedics and intensive care.

A special department for cancer and radiotherapy will be opened soon.

Q: What departments are overcrowded?

A: The pediatrics ward and intensive care unit are particularly overcrowded. The bed turnover is gradually increasing with the public gaining more confidence in the services provided by Al-Jumhuri.

The out-patient department has the capacity for receiving 400 patients a day. It now receives 800 to 1,000 patients. The whole ground floor has now been turned into three emergency wards.

Q: Do you have an emergency department for car accidents and other injuries?

A: This actually requires huge funds - about \$500,000 - and specialists in chest and blood-vessel surgery. We are actually discussing this matter with the bodies concerned.

Q: Is equipment purchased through the Ministry of Health?

A: This is a somewhat thorny issue. We sometimes have to purchase essential and much needed equipment direct, because going through the usual bureaucratic procedures is time-consuming. We know that this is



not strictly going by the book, but it has to be done to avoid jeopardizing patients' lives.

Q: What are the hospital's urgent needs?

A: These are many and varied. For example, we don't have a proper morgue to keep dead bodies. The laundry machines are old and always failing. It is crucial that we have enough funds to be able to run the hospital properly.

Q: Do you receive any aid from international organizations?

A: Some international NGOs do provide assistance. Medical teams such as Doctors for Peace visit the hospital every now and then to perform surgeries and train doctors. Italian, Canadian and German organization have expressed their readiness to help.

The German team that took part in the recent medical conference has visited the hospital, and a cooperation agreement was signed. But we still need more facilities such as accommodation and funds to pay airplane tickets to be able to receive these doctors.

It is hoped that the World Bank will also chip in. Their representatives were quite impressed with what we have achieved.

Q: Are you supported by the official health authorities?

A: Yes, we receive a great deal of moral support and help from the Minister of Health. But the Ministry itself is often short of funds. Only about 3.8% of the state's annual budget is allocated to health care.

Thanks to the great efforts made by Minister Abdullah Nasher, many international donor organization have resumed their cooperation, which was stopped due to the Ministry's previous bad policies.

The first good step taken by the Ministry was to allocate a standard-bed budget. But still there are some discrepancies. Al-Jumhuri's annual budget is only YR 60 million; while, some other hospitals with less bed capacities are getting more funds. Sixty million riyals is a very small amount for a big hospital like Al-Jumhuri. It barely covers one aspect of expenditure.

Q: Much has been said about how Yemeni doctors are poorly paid. What can be done in this regard?

A: This is quite a painful and disconcerting issue. It is one of

the major factors causing the marked deterioration in Yemen's health services. How can a poorly paid doctor with financial difficulties take care of his or her patients?

In the 1980s I used to get the equivalent of \$1,000 a month; now, I only get the equivalent of \$90! I mean if you take seniority and inflation into account, I should be paid more than \$2,000 a month. Low salaries are also a major factor in spreading corruption. A complete restructuring of public salaries is in order.

Q: How much more does your hospital need?

A: A lot more. At the Saudi hospital in Hajja, for example, the budget is around \$200,000 a year. This is quite normal if proper medical care, food and

comfort are to be provided for patients.

A standard hospital bed at Al-Jumhuri costs around YR 90 a day. So we are really talking about \$290,000 a year for the whole hospital.

Q: What are the most common diseases and epidemics in Yemen?

A: Almost all common epidemics are known in this country. Malaria, for instance, has now spread to Sanaa where it was rather rare before. We are now receiving many malaria cases.

Other increasing diseases include malnutrition, chest infections, bowel ailments. We need a lot of funds to deal with the rise in

numbers of patients.

Q: What are your future plans of Al-Jumhuri Hospital?

A: My ambitions know no bounds. Al-Jumhuri must become the top medical establishment in Yemen.

One of my pet projects, for which funds are sought, is to establish a national cancer and radiotherapy center. Proposed designs for this establishment are already being studied by the International Atomic Energy Agency. Philanthropist businessman, Mr. Ahmed Fahem has already adopted this project, which is now twinned with a cancer hospital in China.

Another project, which have already started, is to connect Al-Jumhuri Hospital with international hospitals via the Tele-

medicine and Internet computer networks.

A health insurance system for the hospital's employees and their families has recently been put into action.

Evening working hours for private practice will start early next year. Bids by private catering companies have been invited so as to provide good quality food and accommodation.

Q: What about the poor, how will they cope with rising health-care expenses?

A: Al-Jumhuri Hospital is for disadvantaged people. Token fees are charged, which represent only about 5% of the actual cost of services. However, medicines are not readily available. Frankly speaking, we don't receive our full quota of medicines.

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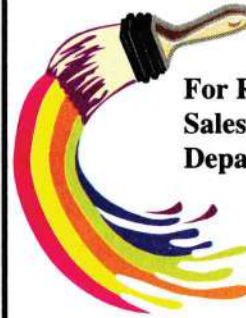
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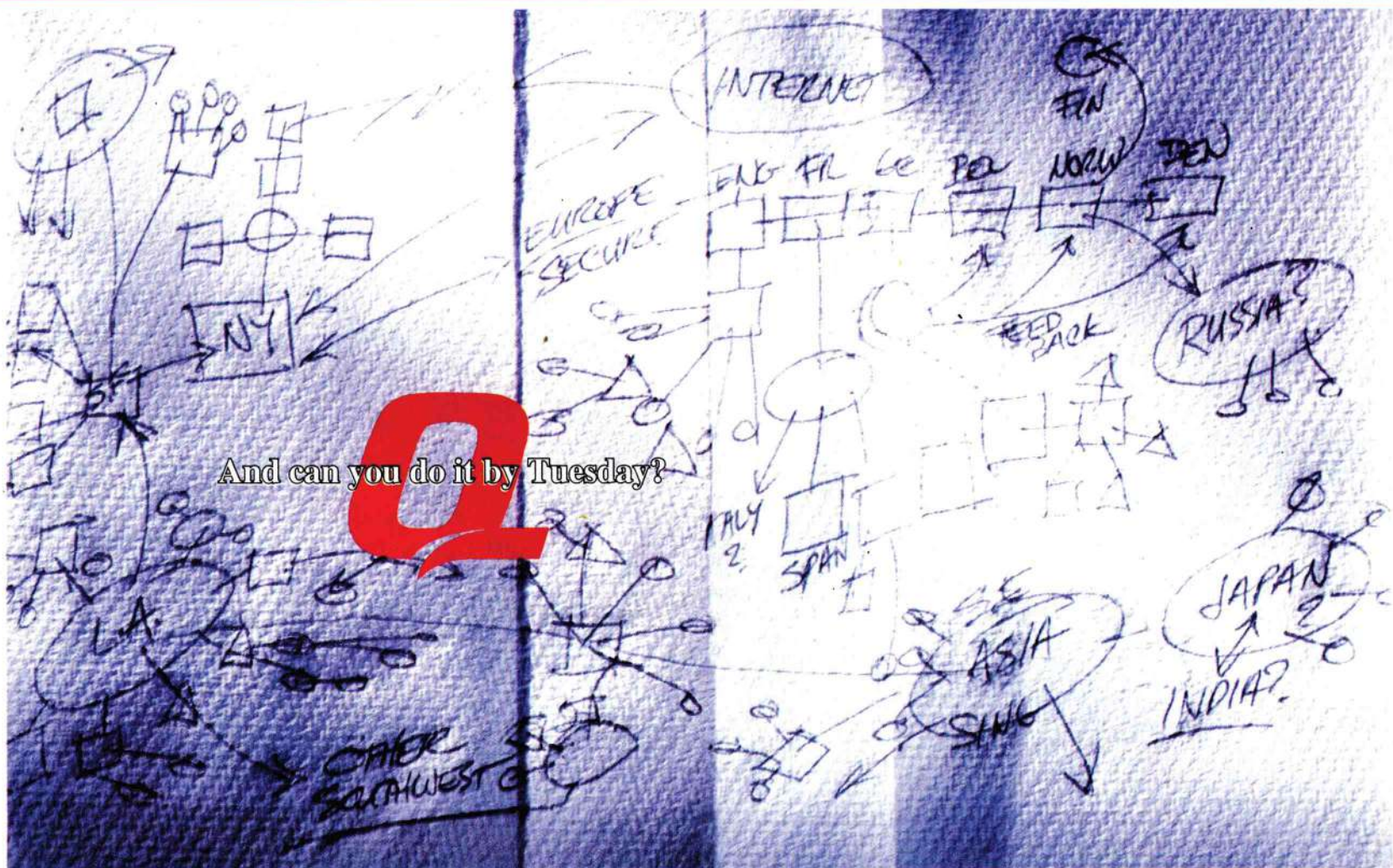
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Pushing Yemeni-Polish Commercial Ties

On the occasion of Poland's 80 independence anniversary and the 41st anniversary of initiating ties with Yemen, Mr. Krzysztof Suprowicz, Ambassador of Poland to Yemen, talked to Mohammed Bin Sallam of Yemen Times.

The Polish ambassador to Yemen, Ethiopia, Eritrea and Djibouti, Suprowicz, 45, also worked for international companies operating in various parts of the Middle East. His academic degree in Arabic Philology has helped him immensely in his work.

Q: What is your impression about Yemen after over two years of working in this country, and what are your expectations with respect to the Polish mission here?

A: I came to Yemen in late September, 1996. This was my first visit to Yemen and my first mission as an ambassador. One cannot stay indifferent when confronted with the unique beauty of this country and therefore few weeks later I really fell in love with Yemen, its people, the old culture and remarkable architecture.

I have very high expectations



with respect to this country's future, especially regarding Polish-Yemeni friendly relations for which I predict a speedy growth in the nearest future. There is a great deal of reciprocal interest which soon should result in an enhanced economic, cultural and scientific cooperation.

Q: When did relations between Poland and Yemen start?

A: The Polish-Yemeni diplomatic relations were first established on December 12, 1957. But the first strong and authentic impulse for their development came after the September 1962 Revolution. At the beginning it was in the field of educational cooperation.

The Polish government offered wide possibilities to Yemeni students. Many scholarships were given by Polish universities in medicine, engineering and

economy. This particular field of cooperation has greatly contributed to establishing deeply rooted friendly relations between our two nations.

The Polish Embassy in Yemen was established after the May 22, 1990 re-unification of the country. Our embassy in Sanaa was opened in July 1991, becoming an important and indispensable element of enhancement of bilateral ties in all fields

of cooperation.

Q: Where there any other, more recent impulses boosting the relations between Yemen and Poland?

A: An important event in the 40-year-old history of our bilateral relations was the February 1996 official visit to Warsaw by Dr. Abdulkarim Al-Iryani, the then Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs. On this occasion a new agreement on scholarships between the Ministries of Education was signed as well as an agreement on cooperation between our Ministries of Foreign Affairs.

Many other subjects were discussed at the governmental level, including possibilities of Polish investments in Yemen, with a special interest for the Aden Free Zone.

Q: So what are the major spheres of interest of the Polish companies in Yemen?

A: Basically everything is potentially of interest to Polish companies, since Yemen is genuinely in need of reliable partners in all fields of the economy.

In agriculture, for the past few years Poland has been successfully exporting its tractors and other agricultural equipment to Yemeni farmers. We hope that this sphere of cooperation will steadily grow in the future.

In the oil sector, the regulations in force in Yemen do encourage foreign investments in this field. A group of major Polish companies are looking forward to be directly involved in the Yemeni oil sector, both in the field of exploration and drilling services. The initial feasibility study has

proven the expectations of the Polish side. In the nearest future we are expecting some serious negotiations to be conducted here in Sanaa.

In the food-processing industry, Polish companies have a lot of experience and possess the necessary know-how to offer to their potential partners in Yemen. At present one of our companies is being considered as a prospective partner in cold storage facility construction. Another firm has successfully executed an ice-in-block factory in Harat. There are plans to build another facility of this sort.

In the energy and power-supply sector, there is a lot of mutual interest to pursue a broader cooperation. Soon we shall witness some very positive developments in this respect. Several of our specialized companies are looking forward to be of assistance in the field of power supply, transmission lines or the overhaul and upgrading of the existing power-generating facilities.

As far as the Port of Aden and Aden Free Zone are concerned, Polish companies have confirmed interests in dockyard facilities, which need to be upgraded and brought back to order, shipping services, transit of containerized goods and all other sorts of port services.

In the fishing industry, closer ties in this sector should be beneficial to both sides. Poland has a big fishing potential, with hundreds of fishing boats, trawlers and fish-processing "mother" vessels that could be used by both countries. At the same time, while possibilities to fish in Northern Seas and in the Far East are

rapidly shrinking, Yemeni territorial waters are abundant in all sorts of fish, which cannot be absorbed by domestic demand. So it is a matter of time only. Sooner rather than later, Polish companies will find reliable partner on this side.

All this make me believe that my optimism and the joint efforts of our two embassies, in Warsaw and in Sanaa, will not be futile.

Q: What is your last comment on Polish-Yemeni relations?

A: There is a natural and vivid interest on both sides to enhance these relations in all fields, based on a long lasting tradition of friendship, mutual respect and trust. I am confident that such assets won't be wasted. After all our governments and our people do share similar values and are ready to use the existing potential.

It is the role of an embassy though to inspire and create proper climate for this to happen. That is precisely what we are doing here.

But let us not forget that it is someone else to implement it. Therefore I would like to express my profound gratitude to all those Yemeni citizens who do see their personal chance as well as immediate and more distant benefits to their own country resulting from closer Polish-Yemeni relations. For these are the true ambassadors of bilateral friendship and mutually profitable cooperation. Let us see more of them, let them be more active and let's give them more support. These are words of encouragement, but also of a straight forward commitment - we shall give you all due support.

Euro MP Sakellario:

"We are searching ways to involve Yemen in various EU assistance."

The European Union is definitely an important aid partner for Yemen. It provides the country with an annual allocation, on average, of some EU 24 million. This is nearly equivalent to US\$ 30 million.

That is why European officials from the Commission and Members of Parliament visit the country, from time to time.

Last week, Mr. Jannis Sakellario visited Sanaa. Jannis has been a member of the European Parliament (EP) since 1984. A member of the Community of Foreign Affairs, Security and Defence policy, Sakellario is also a member of the EP Delegation for "Al-Mashreq and Gulf states (MGS). The group includes Yemen, Qatar, Oman, UAE, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

He is also a representative of the Federal Republic of Germany in the EP and a member of the Social Democratic Party in Germany.

Yemen Times Managing Editor, Dr. Salah Haddash, met Mr. Jannis Sakellario, and filed this interview.



Q: What is the purpose of your visit to Yemen?

A: I am here to report on the Euro-Mediterranean Policy. I have presented two reports that have been adopted by the European Parliament. Now, I am preparing the third which will add flexibility to the Euro-Mediterranean Policy. We must participate with all states in the Arabian Peninsula as they have very many interests with the north Mediterranean-coast countries.

Yemen is interested in joining this community. Hence, I came here to have some exchange of opinions with officials in the country.

Q: Whom have you met?

A: I have already met the Prime Minister, the Vice President of the Consultative Council, the Speaker of Parliament and other senior officials and people active in the political and cultural life of Yemen.

Q: What are the interests of the EU in Yemen?

A: At this moment, Yemen is one of the most advanced Arab countries in the development of a democratic multi-party system. This is a very important issue for us. We are prepared to support and endorse the great efforts your country is putting into this democratic process.

Yemen now has many friends and supporters in the EU. Something very precious for the EU is the way you have begun to resolve the problems you have had in the past. Yemen has found good, long-lasting solutions for the problems with Oman and Eritrea, for example.

Q: How can the EU help Yemen in its border dispute with Saudi Arabia?

A: The least thing the EU can do is to try to mediate. As as long as we have excellent relations with Yemen and Saudi Arabia, we should try.

There is a need for the EU to help resolve such cases. But if both sides want to solve it directly, than the EP can stay away.

The EU can support, encourage and motivate Yemen to go ahead with the same peaceful way. The EU needs to keep this part of the Arabian Peninsula peaceful, safe and stable - far away from international terrorism which occurs daily in places nearby.

I have very much hope for the way Yemen is unraveling its conflicts with other states in the region. Yemen is an ideal example for any peace-making country which wants to avoid and prohibit organized international terrorism and armed conflicts with its neighbors. This ought to be an example for all other countries.

Q: What are your hopes and ambitions for Yemen?

A: I have expressed the EP wishes to the representatives of the Yemeni Parliament. We have already established extraordinary relations with the Yemeni Parliament, which is considered by now to be within the EP standard system.

Many of my Yemeni colleagues in the Parliament visited Brussels and Antwerp before the last election. My European colleagues in the EP also visited Yemen one and a half years ago.

Q: What joint projects are planned for the future?

A: There are many possibilities for Yemeni MPs to have further and advanced practical stages in the EP in Brussels and Antwerp. I have to speak to the President of the EP and the head of my group to see how we can make the ties with the Yemen Parliament better and stronger.

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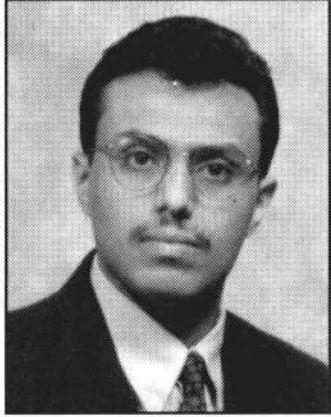


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This is an **OPINION** page.
Every week, a different intellectual writes a **FOCUS** on a pertinent issue!

NYIA and the Ministry of Immigrants



By: Shaker Al-Ashwal,
Vice President, Yemeni American League

and to strengthen their bond with their homeland; there were political aims that seems to have dominated the goals set for the organization. The constitution of the organization was a simple one, and didn't anticipate or address the complex realities, which rose later. The organization failed to modify or change its direction to cope and respond to the changes that were taking place in the Yemeni communities abroad. It also failed to address the corruption and mismanagement that were prevalent in many of its branches.

The formation of the Ministry of Immigrants came as an abolishment of the Old National Yemeni Immigrant Association (NYIA). The latter succeeded only for a few years after its establishment and then became a failure. The NYIA failed to respond to the needs of the growing Yemeni communities abroad. Their services became limited to answering immigrants' mails, and relaying their complaints to the authorities.

The centralized organization failed to address the issues of concern to the Yemeni immigrants and lacked a clear direction. The end result of that failure is the presence of representative branches, which, due to lack of supervision, became classical examples of corruption and mismanagement.

The NYIA's failure is, in my opinion, a direct result of the lack of vision, and clear direction for that organization. While there might have been a sincere desire to serve the Yemeni immigrants

The elections of those branches were a joke when they were held. The NYIA failed to encourage immigrants' investments in Yemen. Simply put, the NYIA failed miserably in representing the Yemeni immigrants in Yemen, it also failed in serving the Yemeni communities abroad. Moreover, it created branches, which have left the Yemeni communities deeply, divided along regional and political lines because of the deep-rooted corruption and mismanagement that have gone unchecked and uncorrected.

The NYIA branches are defunct, dysfunctional where they exist. The duties of their officers have become ceremonial. An annual celebration is the only mean through which these organizations remind people of their exist-

tence. The New York branch has become the classical example of the failure of the National Yemeni Immigrant Association. It clearly highlights the inability of a centralized agency to supervise, control and direct organizations thousands of miles away. The failure of these branches has cost the community a great deal. They have made it difficult for other organizations to exist to serve the community and have wasted the human and financial resources of the community. Members of the community go to great pain in distancing themselves from those branches because of what they have come to symbolize; namely, corruption, and ignorance.

As a result, these organizations failed to attract the educated and professionals and failed to foster an environment in which the former can contribute. In addition to repelling community members, the administration of these branches (NYIA) has mismanaged financial resources and properties of the community. In New York City, for example, NYIA lost the community's four story building, because of penalties and unpaid taxes.

What has the Ministry of Immigrants been doing? Has it been successful? Will it succeed? Unfortunately, the Ministry of Immigrants has not done anything to signal a change in

their policies. One wonders about what the change of name was supposed to do for that establishment. Until now, the only change that immigrants have noticed is the name. The ministry has not shown much to reflect a change of the status quo.

Immigrant communities, especially in the U.S., have changed a lot in the past seven years. Increasingly, Yemenis are bringing their families to the U.S. to live. Such a change in the composition of the community should be seen as another motive to create strong organization that will address the issues of our immigrants.

The organizations that are not affiliated with the Ministry of Immigrants do not have the financial backing and authority given to the NYIA branches. More than ever our communities abroad need the guidance and direction to live successfully in their host societies, and to be instrumental in the development of Yemen. We have a great wealth of people and financial resources and we need to direct our resources to develop our communities and our homeland. Our Yemeni immigrants' children do not pursue higher education, and those who have money, freeze it in building houses and villas they do not need.

The Ministry of Immigrants will have to redefine its relationship with the Yemeni communities abroad. It will have to develop, adopt and implement a clear program in response to the growing needs of the Yemeni communities abroad.

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Taj Sheba, Sana'a.

Concerts

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21st of November 1998

Evening 8 p.m

Palestine Hall, Aden.

23rd and 24th of November 1998

Evening 7:30 p.m

Yemeni Cultural Centre, Sana'a.

Cinema

British Council Aden will be showing three British films at the University of Aden.

22nd of November 1998

"Sense and Sensibility"

Evening 6 p.m

Aden University.

23rd of November 1998

"Betrayal"

Evening 6 p.m

Aden University.

24th of November 1998

"Tess"

Evening 6 p.m

Aden University.

British Food Festival

British Chef Colin Pressdee of the BBC will be preparing British Specialities, together with British beverages and the entertainment of "The Beatels" it will be a night that can't be missed. Tickets must be purchased for all British Food Festival nights, this can be done by contacting the hotel at which the night will be held.

19th and 20th of November 1998

Evening 8 p.m

Elephants Bay Resort, Aden

25th of November 1998

English Night

Evening 7:30 p.m

Taj Sheba Hotel, Sana'a

26th of November 1998

Scottish Night

Evening 7:30 p.m

Taj Sheba Hotel, Sana'a

27th of November 1998

Welsh Night

Evening 7:30 p.m.

Taj Sheba Hotel, Sana'a

28th of November 1998

Irish Night

Evening 7:30 p.m.

Taj Sheba Hotel, Sana'a



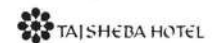
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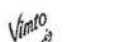
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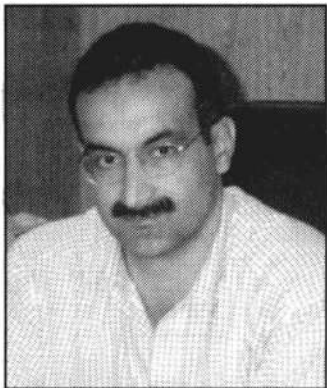


The British Embassy



BRITISH AIRWAYS





Sigma Gas General Manager:

“Investors should not be surprised with new demands after coming in.”

Many Yemeni, Arab and international investors are coming to Aden to gauge its potential - both as a world port and a free-trade zone. Is the place ready for huge investments? What do visiting businessmen think about Aden?

Ridhwan Al-Saqqaf, Yemen Times Aden Bureau Chief, interviewed Mr. Aref Shamas, General Manager of Sigma Gas - a Lebanese investor group which recently started operating in Aden.

Q: Could you tell us a little about your investment activity in Yemen?

A: Yemen has quite a big potential for investment. It is still a virgin market, a fact that encouraged us to come here. We signed a contract with the Ministry of Industry and obtained a license from the General Investment Authority to establish and operate the Sigma Gas Factory in Aden. Sigma Gas manufactures gas cylinders of different sizes.

As an investment group, Sigma Gas has several commercial interests in America, East Africa and Europe. We came here after hearing of the facilities provided for investors in this country.

Q: What is the factory's capital investment? And how many people work there?

A: The actual operational capital is \$4 million. We have 150 employees - all Yemeni.

Q: What is the factory's annual

manufacturing capacity?

A: Production started on July 1st of this year with a capacity of 300,000 gas cylinders a year.

Q: What stages has your project gone through?

A: The initial agreement with the Ministry of Industry was to renovate the infrastructure of, and re-equip, the old Al-Thawra gas factory in Aden. With an annual lease of \$130,000, the factory was officially opened on May 22, 1998 by the Prime Minister, Dr. Abdulkarim Al-Iryani.

Q: How do you see making other investments in Yemen?

A: There are some obstacles that face foreign investors in this country that should be outlined and explained before an investor starts implementing a particular project.

Q: What sort of obstacles are these?

A: For instance, after the commencement of production, you are surprised by extra demands from the state. Customs taxes imposed on raw material range from 10 to 25%. While ready-made imported goods are taxed at 10% only. This is the biggest problem.

There are also income, production, consumption and other taxes. How can there be any investment in this country when all these extras are not made known to would-be investors beforehand?

Q: What sort of guarantees does a foreign investor need in Yemen?

A: We are really looking more for facilities than for guarantees. There is enough peace and security in this country to encourage people to come. However, there must be more transparency in dealing with new or potential investors. A businessman must know his/her rights and responsibilities, right at the outset.

Q: Are there many shortcomings in the Yemeni investment system?

A: Investors come here to make a profit, and if things continue as they are people will refrain from bringing in their money. I call on the authorities to better facilitate investors' work. Sigma, as an international investment group, has a lot of experience in other countries. So we should know what investors look for in a

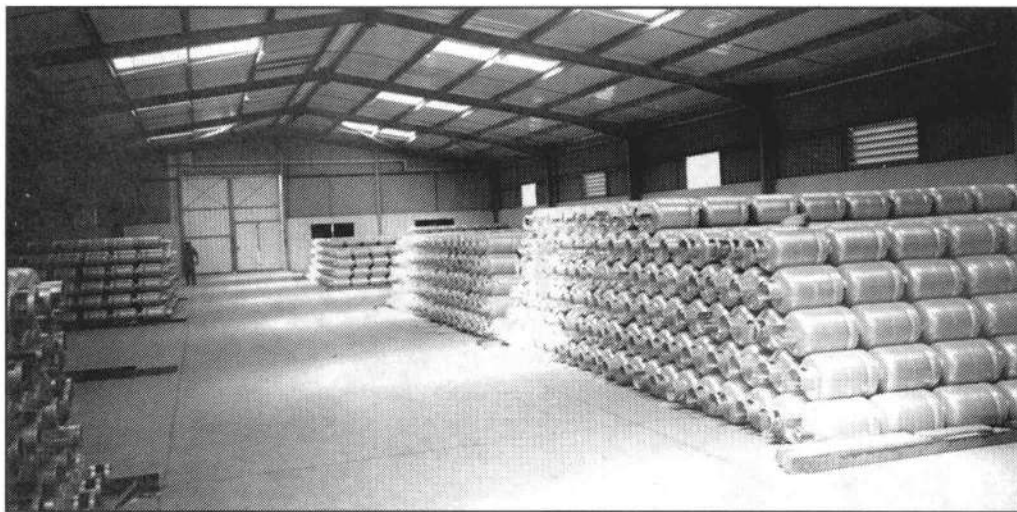
country. There must be more facilities and freedom.

Q: What else does an investor look for, in addition to financial facilitation?

A: Other needs include entertainment facilities such as recreation centers, etc.. We are not here only to make money, though that is important. But, somehow, we also want to enjoy living while we are here.

Q: What future plans do you have?

A: We have many plans. They include increasing the number of production lines for various types of gas for industrial uses. This requires a new injection of capital and employing more staff. Our other plans include attempts at marketing out our products to neighboring countries. We are ambitious, and we have it takes to succeed, but the work environment must be helpful.



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By: Abdulkhaleq A. Ahmed Al-Qusaily (MSc, Germany)

This study shows one way how to integrate remote sensing with the Geographic Information System (GIS) in the low cost technology level as a planning instrument to deliver reliable and accurate basic information for decision makers evaluating development strategy. This, in our country (Yemen), will help us attain greater autonomy in the planning process and in resource management.

The Republic of Yemen is located in the semi-arid and arid zone of southwestern Arabia and dominated by a rugged mountainous terrain.

This study shows several ways to integrate remote sensing data with GIS (Geographic Information System). However, the data preprocessing and the classification algorithm must be improved before operational application is feasible.

Banding effects and forward/reverse scanning differences should be corrected.

The purpose of this thesis is to survey the land-cover change in Radaa Region using digital satellite imagery.

Two Landsat. MSS scenes (From

Application of Low Cost GIS and Remote Sensing for the Analysis and Evaluation of Regional Processes of Landscape Change in the Republic of Yemen

EROS Data Center in the U.S.A), recorded from 1973 to 1985, were evaluated by means of sophisticated digital image processing techniques.

In addition to the multispectral data, ancillary data such as topographical and geological maps were introduced into the classification process to improve the accuracy of the results.

Interpretations of landsat imagery using standardized criteria led to a quantitative determination of land-cover use change.

The integration of geological and topographic maps into a GIS and the subsequent interdisciplinary interpretation gives better insight into the inter-relationship of an ecosystem. This provides the basic knowledge which is necessary to simulate different scenarios depicting possible development in mountain ecosystems.

What is GIS?

GIS is an organized collection of computer hardware, software, geographic data and personnel designed to efficiently capture, store, update, manipulate, analyze and display all forms of geographically referenced information.

Certain complex spatial operations are possible with a GIS that would otherwise be difficult, time consuming, or impracticable to perform.

GISs are particularly important to government agencies and other private and public concerns

dealing with land-related information. Through GIS, geographical information from paper maps, satellites, aerial photographs and land-related descriptive records are converted to digital form and fed into computers as overlays representing property parcels, political and man-made boundaries, utility distribution and transportation networks, land use patterns and an endless list of additional information describing the infrastructure and natural resources that support us.

Methods of Approach

The methodological approach of monitoring seasonal and annual land-cover changes on landsat imagery by using low-cost technology was tested in a region of approx. 1,600 sq.km. located in and around Radaa.

After a description of the landsat system and the low-cost GIS IDRISI, the geometric and radiometric preprocessing of the landsat imagery is outlined. In a preprocessing step each landsat-MSS scene was geometrically corrected to correspond to the map projection used in the topographic maps (Survey Authority, Sanaa).

The multispectral data set of each scene was classified using unsupervised and post-classification techniques. The classification approach led to 26 classes subsequently merged into six final land-use and land-cover cat-

egories.

These show the spatial distribution and the change analysis for irrigated agricultural land, rain-fed land, cropland, wadi soils (alluvial sediments, sand, clay ... etc.), sandstone and granite areas.

In the study area, the expansion of pump-irrigated lands mainly along the wadis and plains is easily understandable considering the availability of local ground water. Radaa plain, which is covered by alluvial deposits underlain by sandstones is the most important ground water reservoir in the region.

The agricultural setting of the study area is changing rapidly. The processes are mainly induced by ongoing development projects, governmental development policy and the opening up of the area with a dense network of roads. The main consequences are as follows:

- Increasing importation of cheap foreign grain puts the market prices of local products under pressure, making local grain production not feasible. This prevents market-oriented agricultural production and leads to enforced migration and partly to field abandonment.
- Along the roads (main asphalt road) the amount of pump-irrigated land is increasing.
- Good traffic connections between a city and its hinterland promote urbanization, reaching rural society and causing severe

social changes in the ways of living, the variety and amount of commodities consumed and the rate of emigration, etc.

Most of the economic as well as the social developments in the rural areas are related to land-use and land-cover changes and have repercussions on the ecological system. These changes can be monitored regularly by the use of remote sensing and GIS techniques.

Application of an appropriate technology:

Remote sensing is the most efficient and economical method to take inventory of land-cover features and to monitor their changes in a short time by the use of multitemporal imagery. But remote sensing techniques have to be evaluated carefully with regard to their appropriateness to local conditions especially when implemented in a developing country.

Remote sensing methodology and its related technology have a modular characteristic that allows gradual development, starting if necessary at a low technological level with comparatively low costs, flexible and unsophisticated equipment and a small staff of trained personnel. Generally three levels can be distinguished with increasing technological complexity:

1) Low technological level with simple photographic processing

and visual-interpretation methods.

2) Intermediate technological level with mainly analogue interpretation methods but with more complex data handling and processing systems.

3) High technological level with automatic classification using digital and hybrid processing systems.

The three levels correspond directly with progressively increasing investments for equipment and needs for trained staff to operate and maintain it.

* This article is the summary of an MSc thesis submitted to Dresden University, Germany.

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المهنؤون
محمد علي قصيلة، محمد الحداد،
عبد الله علي قصيلة، د/ أحمد الذيفاني،
د أحمد القواشي، منصور عمر الموفق،
سروان الشيباني،
عبد الله أحمد الزبيري

تهانينا الحارة
أجمل آيات التهاني والتبريكات
للوالد محمد عبده القطيلي
بمناسبة المولودة الجديدة
التي أسماها
«منى»
فالف مبروك
وجعلها الله قرة أعين والديها
المهنؤون
سيدة وصباح ومحمد عبده القطيلي



The Nature Shop :

'As much nature as possible, as little chemicals as necessary.'



A branch of the Nature Shop, one of the world's leading manufacturers of natural beauty and healthcare products will officially open its doors for the first time in Yemen on Thursday November 19th at the Sanaa Trade Center, also known as the Libyan Shopping Complex, in Algeria Street.

A special VIP ladies-only promotional event was hosted by The Nature Shop last month at the Taj Sheba Hotel. The event was one of the largest of its kind in Yemen, and was attended by nearly 400 Yemeni and expatriate women. Mr. Ali Haidary, the General

first of its type in Yemen," Mr. Haidary added. "A concept store is one in which an international brand retails the same products, at relatively similar prices, within an inter-

Mr. Ali Haidary and Miss. May El-Attar



nationally consistent atmosphere. Therefore, the customer's retail experience will be nearly the same, whether they are in New York, London, Paris, Dubai or even Sanaa."

"In addition to the Nature Shop, we're bringing some other fantastic names including Baskin Robbins, the world's best ice cream, Bally of Switzerland, fine leather goods and accessories, Ecco, the world's biggest shoe retailer, and Syed Junaid Alam, one of the most famous Eastern perfumery

Manager of Al-Ahmar Trading and Investment Company (ATICO), and Miss May El-Attar, The Nature Shop Retail Manager for the Middle East, introduced the Nature Shop's total concept of well-being through its unique product range.



The Nature Shop "concept" offers an environmentally friendly, competent and complete beauty care line," said Miss El-Attar. "It comprises natural cosmetic products for hair, skin and body in combination with selected aromatherapy and massage products, as well as accessories for the home and bath," she added.

About the event, Barbara Demetrienko, Chairperson of the International Women's Association in Sanaa, said: "I have been in Yemen for 12 years. It's really nice to see something like this coming here. Normally, I have had to bring all the things that I use from other areas



houses," said Mr. Haidary. "I think that it's about time that the Yemeni consumer has high quality international retail brands to choose from. Why should they travel to all corners of the world to do their shopping, when they can buy world-class

wooden fruits and flowers, Les Provencales of France for customized household fragrances, Guam of Italy for cellulite reduction mud treatments, Rosanna Zanetta, Italy's leading natural cosmetics brand, and Heathcote & Ivory, the famous and exquisite bottled bath oils from Harrods of London.

Ms. El-Attar explained that the Nature Shop's products are prepared by using vegetable and non-fat oils. In addition, only environmentally

friendly materials are used for packing the products. None of the final Nature Shop products have been tested on animals. As a motto, The Nature Shop has been developed under the guideline "as much nature as possible, as little chemicals as necessary."

Nadwa Al-Dawsari, Yemen Times

GRAND OPENING 19/11/98

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المركز الليبي - شارع الجزائر
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in the world." Mrs. Fikat Topcuoglu, the wife of the Turkish Ambassador said: "I have been using the Nature Shop products for the last few years. I'm satisfied with the quality of the products and the results. We are happy that they are now available here in Yemen." Mrs. Haifa'a, the wife of the Jordanian Ambassador, expressed her joy at the arrival of the Nature Shop in Yemen. "I'm happy to know that they will open a special Nature Shop treatment and beauty parlor in the near future." In view of the Nature Shop, Mr. Haidary explained: "At ATICO, we are bringing some of the world's most famous retailing names to Yemen. We have gone with the very best "concept brands", and that is why we chose the Nature Shop." "The Nature Shop "concept" store will be the

products, at internationally competitive prices here in Yemen. This way, they help keep their money within the country, and carry much less weight on the journey back home!" The Nature Shop concept includes: Alvi Olor of Spain for fragranced

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#1 in Tires

Era of Universal Globalism Dawning

By: Kim Dae-Jung
President of the Republic of Korea

The World is witnessing the dawning of an era of "universal globalism" in the 21st century as we move away from the self-centered period of nationalism, which has dominated the world for the past 200 years. Since the Industrial Revolution, the fever of nationalism has gripped the minds of all nations across the globe. Before the Industrial Revolution, there were nation-states but there was no nationalism. It was after the Industrial Revolution that nationalism emerged as an idea and a political ideology, which functioned as the bulwark of economic interests.

Through the Industrial Revolution, all nation-states in the world sought to preserve national destiny by pursuing their own economies, with the nation-state as the fundamental basis. It was so-called Western imperialism that sought the self-centered and selfish path to ensure the survival of Western nations, even at the risk of sacrificing other states.

These imperialists conquered, exploited and trampled upon weak nations mercilessly while the weak countries struggled desperately against their oppressors in order to safeguard their own interests and rights.

The past two hundred years have been the history of a life-or-death struggle between two opposing forces, namely ruling nationalism and resisting nationalism.

Nationalism emerged at the very time when it was most effective for a country to run its economy as a national unit in tandem with the development of transportation and communication.

But the world is now changing. We can no longer adapt ourselves to the fast-changing global economy by running the national economy as a unit. Over the past several decades, tremendous changes have

taken place in transportation and communications.

The most decisive change has been the coming of the era of informatization. An enormous quantity of information can be transmitted worldwide in a matter of seconds. Wherever you may live, you can have immediate access to virtually any kind of information on any of the nations of the world. Indeed, the world has become a single unit, replacing the nation-state.

Amid such rapid changes, no single nation, wherever it is in the world, can develop and run its own economy without being inextricably linked with the rest of the countries. It is today's reality that led to the creation of the World Trade Organization System (WTO).

In a few years, the world will become borderless economically. Even the smallest Korean rural village will have to compete with farmers across the globe. A small factory in a back alley in Korea will have to engage in competition with the same types of plants in every corner of the world.

We will advance into the world and the world will move into our country. Both competition and cooperation will take place simultaneously. It is a path we cannot avoid. Only when each nation embraces and puts into practice methods, which acknowledge this reality positively and aggressively, will it be able to avoid falling behind other nations while protecting and developing its right to live.

The world has now become one market, integrating each of the nation-state economies. It has become essential for all countries to devote themselves to producing and selling the best and most economical goods and services to the world.

Korea must introduce the world's finest and most competitively priced products and services and sell them to domestic consumers. In this connection, it is not necessarily patriotic for Koreans

to use only products, which were made in Korea. Domestic products that are not competitive in the world market must be weeded out.

With this principle in mind, cultural information has been exchanged worldwide. The 21st century has been dubbed the century of culture.

Culture is no longer a medium that simply enriches the quality of life of a nation and its people. The culture industry is spreading throughout the world as one of the most fundamental industries. The culture industry, which encompasses movies, databases and computer games, has a huge market, which now dominates the globe.

The 21st century will be an era of information, knowledge and culture. In the 21st century, no nation will be able to solve its pressing problems as long as it maintains a selfish attitude by seeking to be well-off alone. In the new millennium, the nations of the world will have to strive to achieve and maintain both cooperation and competition with one another.

Nationalism is now in a difficult situation as it has been widely recognized as a symbol of exclusionism and selfishness. It has become imperative for each nation to accommodate and pursue universal globalism simply to protect and promote its national interests.

Recent revolutionary changes in world civilization dictate that mankind move even more rapidly toward universal globalism, embracing the Earth as one community. But the world is still in the throes of strife and conflict for nationalistic, religious, economic or ideological reasons.

In a nutshell, now is the time to debate universal values, which will work as the supports and pillars of "Universal Globalism." When there emerges a broad consensus and understanding of universal values, they will

serve as forces that will contain confrontation, tension, and schism.

In my view, freedom, human rights, justice, peace and efficiency are universal values that mankind must accommodate and strive for under the principle of "universal globalism." It may not be an exaggeration to say that human history is the history of struggles to protect and promote freedom and human rights. Even in the 21st century, under the banner of democracy, mankind has not abandoned its struggle for freedom and human rights.

Until the 1970s, there were only a few dozen countries in the world that practiced democracy. Today, we know very well that waves of democracy are sweeping across Eastern Europe, Latin America, East Asia and Africa.

Significant strides have been made in the worldwide promotion of freedom and human rights.

New light must be shed on the concept of efficiency from the perspective of universal values. This does not simply mean economic efficiency. The values of efficiency must be given new weight based on the notion that mankind must now strive for a better quality of life with limited resources and space.

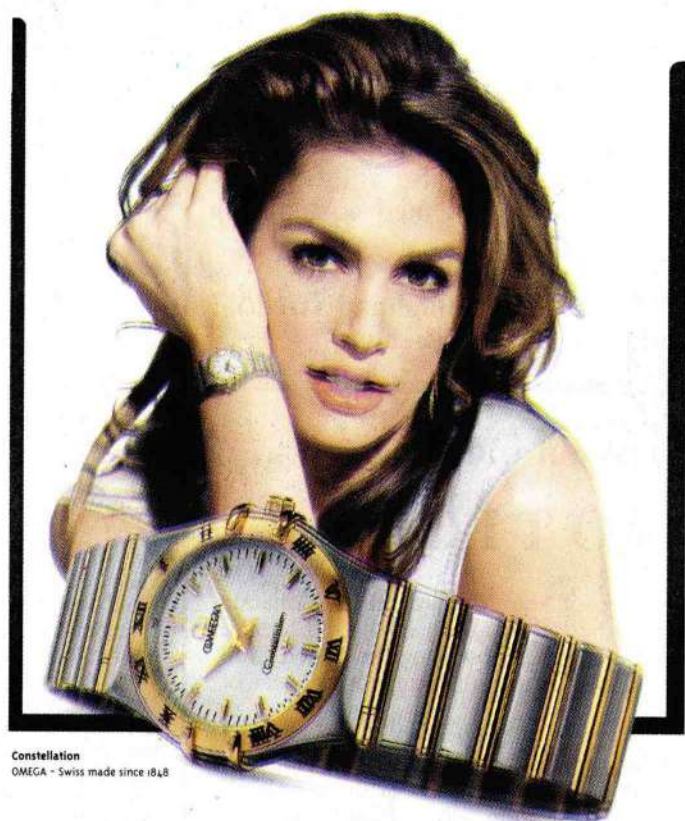
The values of justice and peace cannot be emphasized enough as a guiding principle in our efforts to usher in



an era of co-existence and co-prosperity in the 21st century. We, who are living in an era of limitless competition, must embrace justice as the basis of freedom and human rights and peace as the basis for peaceful co-existence, in order to avoid making the history of the 21st century a 'period of struggle between men and men.' Only when these universal values take root as the norm in the competition that keeps the global economy functioning, and as the standard in 'co-existence' that binds global society together, will, "universal globalism" become the guiding principle that moves the world in the truest sense of the word.

Finally, I would like to point out that the East and the West have the cultural and traditional foundations to absorb and develop universal values that are the backbone of "universal globalism." We can find doctrines consistent with "universal globalism" in the teachings of all religions, the universal love of the Lord in Christianity, benevolence to all things in the universe in Buddhism and teachings of peace in universe in Oriental Philosophy. I believe that spirit and moral norm of humanity and benevolence of the Confucianism and Buddhism developed in Asia will give us the impetus and vitality to deepen the freedom and human rights that have made big strides under democracy. The teachings of the great teachers of mankind can throw the light anew on our thinking as we resolve to live by pursuing "universal globalism."

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The Hadhrami DAN

Discussing the "Dan," a style of Hadhrami folk song, which is still under study and research will need a lot of time. There are many styles of Dan singing, writing and composing. Here I'm trying to highlight the main artistic parts of it. It is a very important part of Hadhramaut cultural and social activity. It is a cultural bridge connecting generations. Dan is a unique kind of folklore song, a specialty of the people of

Wadi Hadhramaut or what is known as Interior Hadhramaut. It was adopted by people in the coastal and other parts of Hadhramaut as well. This kind of local folklore represents Hadhrami society, expressing people's emotion, thoughts and feelings in a wonderful way. Dan has its own poets and composers, who have different styles in presenting. Because of their different artistic talents, their natural ability to write and

compose, Dan sounds different from the rest of performed arts in Hadhramaut. The most famous composers of Dan songs are from the interior parts of Hadhramaut such as Shibam, Al-Hotah, Tarim and Seion. These areas are known for this type of folk song. Haddad is a very famous Dan poet in Tarim, his real name is Omar Hussain Al-Kaff. Other known composers are Salem Abdul-Qader Al-Aidarous, Khamis

Kindi and others.

Ashour Aman of Tarim is considered to be one of the most distinguished singers. His name was mentioned in one of Haddad Al-Kaff's poems, which was sung by the late Mohammed Jom'a Khan. Ashour Aman was passionately fond of Dan songs and poetry, always keeping in close contact with composers and poets. His closest companion was Haddad Al-Kaff who tremendously contributed to his success. Al-Kaff wrote many love poems and folklore songs. On the other hand Ashour is also a very good musician and a proficient Oud (lute) player.

Dan gatherings are a good way for writers and composers to get together. In these gatherings they write and compose at the same time, where a special tea known as "Bahari" is served. A Dan gathering starts with a poet reciting a verse of his own on a particular topic of discussion, thus initiating a poetry contest.

Poetic Contest

Poets select a subject where everybody can express his opinion freely and defend it poetically. When a poet finishes, the contending poet answers in the same manner, scale and rhyme. The outcome of the gathering is a beautiful musical tune with lovely words to go with it. One more Jewel is added to our folklore. However, some Dan poets like to work alone.

Themes of Dan Poems

Dan poetry has various themes such as love, eulogy, pride, etc. It is an expression of the emotions the poet is undergoing at the time. It also covers political and social topics which deal with tribal conflicts and disputes or with the government and other public issues.

Yemeni Singer Balfaqeh and the Dan

Since Dan is a specialty of Hadh-

ramaut and is different from other Hadhrami songs such as the musical poem.

Abu Bakr Balfaqeh, a well known singer, performed many Dan songs. Coming from Hadhramaut has a great effect on Balfaqeh, making him the star performer of this kind of folk song. He has developed and modernized Dan songs by singing them with modern musical instruments.

Some of his songs became popular not only in Yemen, but

also in the rest of the region. These include "Hayee Layaly Jamilah" (welcome beautiful nights) and "Tabb Alsamer qul dan" (recite Dan in this happy evening), both the songs were written by Haddad Bin Hussien Al-Kaff.

So we can say Dan songs are a very important ingredients of our folklore in Hadhramaut in particular and in Yemen in general.

Saleh Abdulbaqi,
Arts Editor, Yemen Times.

Naji Honored

By Ahlam Al-Mutawakil,
Yemen Times

Mohammed Murshid Naji is a colossal figure on the Yemeni cultural scene. As a singer, Naji, 69, has not not contributed to art, but also to Yemen's patriotic struggle. Starting his singing and musical career in the early 1950s, he played a significant role in preserving the country's artistic heritage.

In addition to being a popular performer, Naji is also a researcher and chronicler of Yemeni folklore. "Famous Yemeni Singers," published in 1995, is regarded as a definitive reference by students of Yemeni folklore. He also intends to publish his memoirs on art and politics in two parts soon.

On November 10, Al-Afif Cultural Foundation held a special event to pay a tribute to Mohammed Murshid Naji. He talked to Yemen Times about his



life and art.

"Yemeni singing in the early 1950, especially in Aden, was going through a phase of modernization," he said. "It was never isolated from political movements and trends in the Aden of that period. The style of patriotic songs was mainly influenced by the political movement which

adopted it."

He went on to indicate that Yemeni songs flourished through strong competition between singers such as himself and the late Ahmed Qassem. "It was a fair competition to win the hearts of Yemeni audiences," explains Naji, "with the public left to be the final judge."

"In the days before TV, public concerts and performances were very important for the launch and popularity of a singer. It is still necessary for the Ministry of Culture, say, to occasionally organize public concerts to give more opportunity to budding artists, who haven't the chance to perform on radio or TV."

Naji often praises Yemeni singers for their abilities, vocal and musical. "Unfortunately Yemeni talents are not fully recognized due to our country's lack of good musical ensembles and a proper recording studio," he declared. "We need musicians who play by reading musical notes, not just replaying what they hear. This is quite important for preserving our musical folklore," Naji advised. "Since there is little academic information on Yemeni songs, more research and documentation are needed."

He also called for more official support for young artists "so as to be able to replace the old singers who pass away."

He calls for the Yemeni song to be present in Arab and international musical events and festivals. "Only in this way can our rich musical heritage become well known in the rest of the world."

Ali Ahmed Al-Khidhr, a well-known singer and diplomat, said about Naji: "He has made a great contribution to Yemeni song and music. Performing Sanaani songs in unique styles is his trade mark. He is an accomplished singer, a talented composer, a fine poet, an outspoken intellectual and a successful politician. Naji and other artists were the lifeline connecting the south and north."

"Naji was the first to publish a book on folk poetry in 1959. His poems, set to music, were performed by several Yemeni singers."

The artist and researcher, Jabir Ali Ahmed said: "Naji is a pioneer of the Yemeni song. He put a special methodology for modernizing it. Thus he was able to produce unique artistic creations, guided by his overwhelming sense of patriotism."

POSITION VACANCIES

USAID-funded project seeks qualified candidates for the positions of program officer and program assistant.

Applicants must have English language capabilities, extensive computer skills, an interest in working on development training projects in many sectors, and be fluent in Arabic.

Bachelor degree holders will receive preference for program officer position. Salaries are commensurate with experience.

No phone calls please.

Applicants will be required to submit resumes, and only short-listed applicants will be interviewed. Resumes will be accepted no later than November 20th, 1998, at

AMIDEAST,
P.O.Box 15508 (15 St., off Baghdad Street),
Sanaa, Republic of Yemen

Embassy of India, Sanaa

NOTICE

Fiftieth anniversary of the Martyrdom of Mahatma Gandhi. Father of the Indian nation fell on 30.1.1998. The Government of India is observing the period from 30.1.1998 to 30.1.1999 as the 50th Anniversary year of his martyrdom.

Mahatma Gandhi, apostle of peace and non-violence, occupies a unique place in the hearts of the people all over the world. People from all walks of life, viz. intellectuals, politicians, educationists and other intelligentsia in Yemen may also like to pay their homage to Mahatma Gandhi during the anniversary year. Accordingly, a register will be opened in the Embassy of India (No. 12, Djibouti Street) from 30.1.1999 to 6.2.1999 between 2:30 pm and 5:00 pm to enable such admirers of Mahatma Gandhi to pay their tributes in writing to this great personality.

All are cordially invited.



BRITISH EMBASSY CHEVENING SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

This scheme funds young dynamic professionals to undertake short-term training/study from three months to one year in the UK.

Candidates must be Yemeni citizens. The ideal candidate would:

- be aged 25-40 years.
- have a key job in one of the following areas:
 - politics,
 - government,
 - civil service,
 - economics/finance,
 - the media,
 - business
 - primary/community health,
 - primary education.
- have a good working knowledge of spoken and written English (the equivalent of IELTS Band 6.0 or TOFEL 580),
- have a University degree or equivalent, and
- have a clear and detailed idea of what sort of training or study he or she would do (and where) under this scholarship scheme.

Candidates should collect the application form from the British Council in Sana'a or Aden, and then deliver it in person (covering letter, application form, copies of qualification certificates, and two references) to the British Council by Tuesday 15 December. The addresses are:

Sana'a
As-Sabain Street No. 7
Tel: 01 244121/2; Fax: 01 244120

Aden
Ho Chi Minh Street, Khormaksar
Tel: 02 232027; Fax: 02 234868

For help in choosing a suitable study course please consult the British Council Library in Sana'a or Aden. For advice on filling the application form contact: in **Sana'a** Abdulla Al-Duraibi, Tel: 01 244121/2, in **Aden** Mr. Araf, Tel: 02 232027.



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No Site of Solution for Ethio-Eritrean Dispute

Four hundred Eritreans who used to reside in Addis Ababa arrived in Assab through the Burie front last week following their expulsion by the Ethiopian authorities. They included mostly children and elderly persons. The expelled reached Assab after having crossed two war trenches. The number of Eritreans and Ethiopians of Eritrean origin expelled from Ethiopia has so far surpassed 33,000.

Meanwhile, Ethiopia has accepted a peace plan drawn up by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) to resolve its border conflict with Eritrea. However, a senior Ethiopian official said Eritrea had rejected the plan, complaining that it concentrated too much on the disputed town of Badme, in the northwest of Ethiopia, which Eritrean troops occupied on May 6.

The proposal was drawn up by current OAU chairman and President of Burkina Faso, Blaise Compaore, with his counterparts from Zimbabwe, Robert Mugabe, and Djibouti, Hassan Gouled Aptidon. The OAU plan calls for:

- a retreat of Eritrean troops from the Badme region;
 - the re-establishment of the Ethiopian administration which had been in place in Badme before Eritrean troops occupied it;
 - the deployment of a peace-keeping force for six months along the 1,000-km (600 mile)-long border;
 - the demilitarization of the Badme zone, which would be controlled by the peace keepers;
 - a halt to the massive expulsions by each country of the other's nationals;
 - delineation of the border under UN supervision within six months.
- After failed shuttle diplomacy attempts involving US Assistant

Secretary of State for African Affairs Susan Rice and former National Security Advisor Anthony Lake, the United States retreated for fear of appearing to take sides.

The OAU conflict prevention mechanism ruled that Badme was indeed under Ethiopian administration before the May 6 invasion.

Turkey Urges Italy to Extradite Rebel Leader

Kurdish guerrilla leader Abdullah Ojalan, Turkey's most wanted man for nearly 20 years, is being held under tight security at an undisclosed location in Rome after his arrest at airport passport control on Thursday 12th November. Turkey, which holds Ojalan, head of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK), responsible for the deaths of thousands of people in a 14-year fight for Kurdish independence, immediately lodged a request with Italian authorities for his extradition.

A European spokeswoman for the PKK's political wing, the National Liberation Front of Kurdistan, said Ojalan had requested political asylum in Italy. But an Italian police spokesman said, "Ojalan was arrested with a false passport." Italy has not yet decided on its next move, given the Turkish request for his extradition, though Foreign Minister Lamberto Dini said it was Italy's duty to arrest Abdullah Ojalan.

Ojalan, born in 1947, had asked for political asylum in Russia earlier this month saying he had always wanted to travel to Moscow. But that was denied. Turkey says it has all but defeated the PKK militarily irredentism movement, and scored a number of successes against the guerrillas, capturing several PKK commanders in Iraq earlier this year. Turkish pressure on Syria forced this country which used to provide Ojalan a safe haven, to

sign a deal last month banishing the rebels and their leader from bases on Syrian soil.

Several Killed in Jakarta Clashes

Indonesian police fired teargas and beat protesters with batons to clear a mob of hundreds from Jakarta's main street last Friday, after a day of clashes which left at least nine people dead and scores wounded.

But some of the thousands of students camped inside Atma Jaya University, site of some of the fiercest clashes, vowed to take to the streets again to protest against the government's failure to meet their demands for political reform.

Four Killed in Boundary Clash

Four people were killed and three others injured in a clash in Muthara Division, of Meru North District, Kenya last week. The three young men and a pregnant woman were killed in a dispute between the residents of Akithi and the newly-created Buuri locations. The victims were attacked with arrows and guns when the rival groups fought over a disputed boundary. Reports said a district officer had taken the bodies to the Isiolo District Hospital mortuary about 10 km away.

Burundi Owns Up to Massacre

The Burundian government acknowledged on Thursday November 12th that its army killed around 30 innocent civilians during an operation against Hutu rebels south of the capital this month. It disputed media reports that more than 100 people died. Burundi is racked by the same entrenched Hutu-Tutsi conflict that spawned neighboring Rwanda's 1994 genocide and now

fuels rebellion and foreign intervention in the eastern Congo. Civil war has claimed around 150,000 lives in Burundi in five years.

UN Rebukes India & Pakistan

A General Assembly panel has approved a draft resolution rebuking India and Pakistan's May underground nuclear tests over the objections of both South Asian countries. The action by the assembly's Disarmament and International Security Committee, which includes all UN members, is tantamount to formal adoption by the assembly next month.

The resolution that "expresses grave concern over, and strongly deplores the recent nuclear tests conducted in South Asia" was adopted by a vote of 98 to 6 with 31 abstentions, all from non-aligned countries.

Without mentioning either country by name, the resolution's text notes that the "countries concerned" had declared moratoriums on further testing but said they needed to sign and ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT).

Israeli Zealots and Settlers Seen as Main Impediment Peace in the Middle East

According to recent local media reports, many Palestinian farmers in the occupied West Bank have been attacked by settlers in an effort to prevent them from cultivating their land, attacks which go back to the signing of the Oslo Accords in 1993.

"During the past four or five years, in every village in the Nablus region and in the entire West Bank, there have been stories of conflicts with settlers and attacks on people who go out to cultivate their land," wrote a Haaretz columnist.

Since the signing of the Oslo accords, thousands of olive trees have been uprooted to allow for expansions of settlements and bypass roads for Israelis. In the last five years, the Israeli expansions caused a 14% drop in olive oil production. According to the Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture estimates, 22,000 tons of olive oil will be produced this year compared to 25,560 tons in 1993.

The landscape of the cultivated areas of the West Bank is largely one that is covered by a deep green carpet of millions of olive trees, the mainstay of the Palestinian people. In 1994, olive trees represented 70% of all the trees of the West Bank and the Gaza strip. Olive oil constitutes

30% of all Palestinian agricultural exports, which in turn represent one quarter of the total Palestinian exports. This year, many West Bank farmers have reportedly asked Israel Defense Forces (IDF) and the Israeli police for protection during the olive harvest season.

Settlements in the West Bank have been growing steadily since the 70s. On a strategic level, settlement expansions and bypass roads around them allowed Israel to extend its eastern border, control water resources and ultimately to create a dismembered Palestinian entity that would absorb the Palestinian population and prevent a demographic imbalance in favor of the Palestinians.

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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT
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Sanaa.
Telephone: 416-975

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Watch two solid hours of 360° for a glimpse into Luther's exciting musical career.</p>	<p>R360.p. Cosmix</p> <p>19 November 1998 1700 Musabaga 1830 (a)convnwith./chainrtn3 1900 MEditerraneanEe</p> <p>20 November 1998 1100 Vital Soul 1200 Indimage 1300 American Chart Show</p> <p>21 November 1998 1500 In Motion 1700 Convwith./chainreaction#1 Fframe/chain Reaction #2 2100 Awtar</p> <p>22 November 1998 1100 Vital Soul 1200 Rock Raiq 1400 Indimage 1500 Cosmix</p> <p>Fun Channel</p> <p>16 November 1998 1300 Felix the Cat 1325 Richie Rich 1350 My Hometown</p> <p>17 November 1998 1415 Inspector Gadget's Field Trip 1440 Beetlejuice 1505 Roadrunner Show</p> <p>18 November 1998 1530 Cattanooga Cats 1620 Pinky & The Brain 1710 Superman Animated</p> <p>19 November 1998 0850 Merry Melodies 1030 Josie & the Pussycats 1325 Richie Rich</p> <p>20 November 1998 1900 The Big Movie Wind in the Willows 2100 Love Boat 2150 Doris Day</p> <p>21 November 1998 1620 Pinky & The Brain 1645 Fantastic Voyage of Sinbad 1710 Superman Animated</p> <p>22 November 1998 1915 The Mask 1940 Anti-Gravity Room 2005 Beast Wars</p>	<p>verhampton v Birmingham City Live 1800 ATP Magazine 1830 Sportcenter</p> <p>Orbit ESPN Sports</p> <p>16 November 1998 1130 Liga Live 1330 Beach Soccer 1400 College Football</p> <p>17 November 1998 1400 NFL's Greatest 1430 NFL Football: Denver Broncos at Kansas City Chiefs 1800 Latin Football Weekly</p> <p>18 November 1998 1200 NHL Power Week 1300 National Hockey Night: Philadelphia Flyers at Pittsburgh Penguins 1800 Racehorse Digest</p> <p>19 November 1998 1000 Sportcenter Live 1100 Euro 2000 Qualif. 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شركة النفط اليمنية

Yemen Petroleum Company

INVITATION TO TENDER UPGRADING OF OIL TERMINAL HODEIDAH PORT

1- DESCRIPTION OF WORKS

The Yemen Petroleum Company (YPC) invites tenders for upgrading the existing oil unloading facility at Hodeidah port owned by the Ports and Marine Affairs Corporation (PMAC), but operated by YPC. The unloading facility is connected by sub-sea and land pipeline to a tank farm on shore owned and operated by YPC.

The oil unloading facility comprises two jetties, designated the "OLD" and "NEW". Operations will be transferred to the "OLD" jetty whilst the "NEW" jetty is being rehabilitated and upgraded. The "NEW" jetty comprised 2 Dolphins (Reinforced Concrete Deck On Steel Tubular Piles), a central loading platform of similar construction, together with 2 buoyed anchors. Sub-sea pipelines connect the jetties to a shore manifold, whence buried lines lead to a tank farm on shore.

The works to be carried out under the contract shall include:

A Rehabilitation of the "NEW" jetty at the existing marine terminal including upgrading measures to accommodate tankers upto 35,000 DWT part loaded to 9M draft, VIZ.

- Concrete repairs to existing Dolphins and loading platform using proprietary cementitious repair mortars and free flowing Micro-Concrete.
- Cathodic Protection to existing steel piles.
- Supply and installation of new fenders and jetty fittings.
- Supply and installation of new buoy moorings and anchors

B Detailed design supply and installation of oil pipework tankage and pumping facilities VIZ:

- Steel pipelines and fittings on jetties 14" gasoil 14" mogas 10" dual purpose kerosene 8" LPG liquid and 4" LPG vapour return lines
- Steel submarine pipelines - 14" mogas 14" gasoil 10" dual purpose kerosene, 8" LPG liquid and 4" LPG vapour return lines, each approximately 800M long.
- Steel pipelines buried on land, number and diameter as above, approximate length of each pipe size 340M.
- Above ground steel pipelines, number and diameter as above, approximate length of each pipe size 370M.
- 2 NR steel oil storage tanks of 15000M³ capacity each, one for mogas and one for gasoil, together with associated civil engineering work;
- Cathodic protection to pipelines and storage tanks;
- 4 NR transfer pumps, 400M³/h each.
- Electrical and mechanical plant in the transfer pump station and foam house.

C Removal of 5 NR redundant submarine and land (buried) pipelines, each about 1100M long (submarine plus land sections).

D Detailed design, supply and installation of part rehabilitation, and part new fire protection system to tank farm.

E Detailed design, supply and installation of area lighting to new tank compound.

F Construction of a transfer pump station and foam house.

G Associated and ancillary works, which will include preparation of the "OLD" jetty for operations transferred from the "NEW" jetty.

The work at the "NEW" jetty will be undertaken under traffic, as operations at the "OLD" jetty will continue during construction.

2- QUALIFICATIONS OF THE TENDERER

To be qualified for award of contract, the tenderer shall submit with his tender, evidence satisfactory to the employer of their capability and adequacy of resources to carry out the contract effectively, in accordance with the instructions to tenderers.

3- PURCHASE OF TENDER DOCUMENTS

Tenderers wishing to receive tender documents should apply to the following address between 5th November 1998 and 25th November 1998 submitting a payment of USD 500/- by wire transfer in favour of Yemen Petroleum Company (non refundable) and this doesn't include carrier cost for documents.

**Central Bank of Yemen
Head Office - Sana'a
ACC. No. 01-1001-18013
Yemen Petroleum Company
Head Office
Republic of Yemen**

4- SITE VISIT

YPC will arrange a mandatory official site visit for all tenderers, followed by a pre-bid meeting to be held on the same day.

Venue: Meet at YPC office, Hodeidah
Date: Tuesday 8th December 1998
Time: 0830 hours

5- SUBMISSION OF TENDERS

Tender documents should be submitted not later than 1200 hours on Saturday 10th January 1999.

6- OPENING OF TENDERS

Tenders will be opened in the presence of tenderer's representatives who choose to attend at 1300 hours local time on 10th January 1999.

**Office of the Executive Manager Director
Yemen Petroleum Company
Head Office
Sana'a
Zubairi Street
Republic of Yemen**

**Tel: - #967 1 202 321/19
Fax:- #967 1 209 598**



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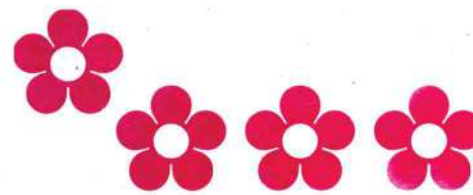
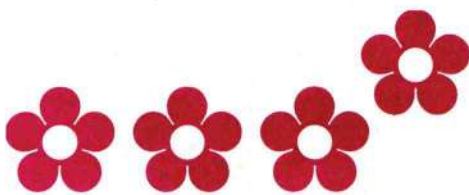
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Yemeni Press in a Week

by: Sameer Farawna

حق

AL HAQ
Sanaa, weekly 15/11/98
(Independent)

Main Headlines

- Yemeni, along with Jordanian and Sudanese flags, will be hoisted again soon in Kuwait, according to that country's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister.

- Director of a charity society in Hadhramaut has warned against a serious water problem in his governorate unless random wells are stopped.

- A young woman was killed by indiscriminate exchange of fire between two persons in Makhader, Ibb on Saturday, Oct. 31st. The 18-year-old woman, who was sitting in her house, got married only six months ago.

Malaria Epidemic Sweeping Various Governorates Amidst Official Silence

Article Summary

Malaria is alarmingly spreading in seven Yemeni governorates killing so far more than 320 persons, mostly children. The governorate of Dal'i tops the list of affected areas where 155 persons died from the epidemic. The governorates of Aden, Shabwa, Lahj, Taiz, Hodeidah and Ibb are also affected and request official help to cope with the deteriorating situation. Medical teams were dispatched to the stricken areas but were unable to treat all cases due to shortage in medicine. Shabwa alone has 8,000 cases of malaria. The strange thing is that the official authorities are being tight lipped over the epidemic that is daily spreading with no effective handling on the part of those concerned.

Taiz hospitals are receiving patients in hundreds on daily basis, out of whom many never leave the hospitals. While no official count was available in Aden and Lahj, the epidemic is reportedly invading the Capital along with Jauf, Mareb and Soqatra.



AL SHOURA
Sanaa, weekly 8/11/98
(Federation of Popular Forces)
Main Headlines

- A number of MiG warplanes flew at very low altitudes over the governorate of Abyan more than ten days ago, sources told AL SHOURA, noting that the planes, which flew over Lawder, Wadee, Mudiya and Mahfad for three times, were meant to terrorize the inhabitants following a court ruling against a number of tribesmen there.

- A powerful explosion rocked the center of Mukalla, Hadhramaut last week causing severe damages but no casualties.

- Minister of Health Dr. Abdulwali Nasher said that ten vehicles will tour malaria-stricken areas to spray insecticides and added that the government will soon allocate 80 million Yemeni riyals to combat that epidemic.

- Chinese fishing vessels exchanged gun fire with coast

guard boats before fleeing the Abyan shores where they were illegally fishing. Two of them were seized.

- A baby boy, receiving treatment at the Kuwait Hospital, was killed there ten days ago when a wall of the room he was staying in collapsed on him. The wall went down after the management ordered the digging of the ground near the wall.

- Economic sources warned against increasing government dependence on internal debt to meet the state budget deficit, noting that it is expected to reach 20 billion Yemeni riyals by the end of this year.

رياء

RAY
Sanaa, weekly 10/11/98
(League of Sons of Yemen)
Main Headlines

- Yemen is expected to play a mediatory role between Eritrea and its neighbors, namely Ethiopia and the Sudan.

- Yemeni-Saudi contacts intensified recently to try and find a breakthrough in the pending border talks between the two neighboring countries.

- Several media circles have denounced the press war between Yemeni and Saudi newspapers, saying that they hurt the fraternal relations between the two countries.

- Head of the Economy and Administration Department in Aden University, Dr. Omar Mohammed Ali has stressed that by the year 2005 the number of poor people in Yemen will reach 14 million.

- Security authorities arrested four persons on suspicion of involvement in the Mukalla blast last week which is the fourth in the city within the past few weeks.

- Inhabitants and visitors to the governorate of Marib notice that pollution of the environment there had reached a serious level as a result of oil production and accompanying operations.

الرياء العام

AL RAY AL AAM
Sanaa, weekly 10/11/98
(Independent)
Main Headlines

- The Permanent Bureau of the Arab Bar has suspended membership of the Yemeni Bar last month due to violations to the bylaws and recognized democratic processes in elections of the Aden branch.

- Yemeni students in American and European universities are complaining of the delay in sending them their financial allowances, and appealed to the President to intervene and solve their problem.

- Under the auspices of Parliament Speaker Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hussain Al-Ahmar, the Islamic Charitable Society for the Support of Al-Aqsa Mosque opens its annual festival on Sunday in Sanaa to commemorate the Intifada of the Palestinian people.

- Most government, partisan and popular organizations and bodies in Hadhramaut have condemned the wave of explosions in

Mukalla, capital of the governorate over the past few months.

التلافى

AL BALAGH
Sanaa, weekly 10/11/98
(Independent)
Main Headlines

- Yemen is planning to construct an airport and a harbor in the restored Island of Hunaish.

- Several social, tribal and religious personalities have expressed dismay at the continued arrest of Dr. Al-Murtadha Zeid Al-Mahtouri. He is in jail since last September 26 following a Friday Khutba (sermon), which, according to the security authorities, criticized the September Revolution.

- Parliament Speaker Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hussain Al-Ahmar, in a recent press interview in the UAE, affirmed that Yemen does not think of referring its border dispute with Saudi Arabia to international arbitration.

- Yemen took part in the first Arab Commercial Exhibition, along with 8 other Arab countries, that took place in Kazakhstan.

- The Islamic Center for Studies and Researches hosted a seminar, in cooperation with the Islamic Resistance Movement's office in Sanaa, on the Wye Plantation agreement between Israel and the Palestinian Authority.



26 SEPTEMBER
Sanaa, weekly 12/11/98
(Yemeni Armed Forces)
Cabinet Reshuffle denied
Article Summary

A responsible source described as baseless local press reports that a cabinet reshuffle was imminent in view of differences among the government members. He added that the reports circulated by a number of partisan newspapers were mere "wishful thinking".

The source told 26 September that the government led by premier Dr. Abdulkarim Al-Iryani was working in harmony and in the spirit of one team and is progressing with the program it tabled at the parliament.

The government will not give heed to lies voiced by those who wish to spread confusion among the people and mislead the public opinion, he concluded.

A similar report, however, was published by the latest issue of Al-Wahdawi, organ of the People's Nasserite Unionist Organization, which claimed that differences among government members along with the expected constitutional amendments will lead to a cabinet reshuffle.

الاسبوع

AL OSBO'
Sanaa, weekly 12/11/98
(Independent)
Main Headlines

- Reliable political sources told Al Osbo' that the Yemeni government was accusing certain Saudi royal family members of involvement in supporting Islamic fanatic groups charged with masterminding bomb explosions in a number of Yemeni governorates.

- Diplomatic sources said that Yemen had expressed dismay towards the measures adopted by Kenya and Tanzania against its nationals living in the two east African countries in the aftermath of the two powerful blasts which flattened U.S. embassies in those countries.

- Sheikh Mujahed Abu Shawareb's efforts to end the month long dispute between the seventh army brigade and Jaham tribe were a success after which the army troops lifted the siege imposed on the tribe's villages more than two weeks ago.

- The Yemeni Journalists Syndicate has denounced the Saudi press campaign against Yemeni opposition weeklies, saying that the campaign does not serve the interests of both countries.



AL THAWRI
Sanaa, weekly 12/11/98
(Yemeni Socialist Party)
Main Headlines

- Yemeni Prime Minister Dr. Abdulkarim Al-Iryani has asserted that he was not much concerned with loss of his popularity in his country in return for accomplishing the economic reforms program. He added in a press interview with Qatar and UAE dailies that Yemeni Jews are allowed to leave the country to Israel on condition they go there via a third country following an official agreement with the U.S. in this regard.

- Minister of Health, Dr. Abdulwali Nasher has declared that more than 15% of Yemen's population were carrying the hepatitis virus and that more than 10% were affected by malaria.

- The Supreme Coordination Council for the Opposition Parties is currently launching a large-scale campaign against the government tabled law banning demonstrations.

Socialists Fourth General Conference

An Article Summary

Preparations for the convening of the Yemeni Socialist Party's fourth general conference in the period 28-30 November were completed, according to Al Thawri newspaper, mouthpiece of the party.

It added, in a number of articles on the issue, that all papers to be presented at the conference were concluded by the Central Committee during its 5-7 November session along with lists of representatives and domestic and foreign guests who will be invited to attend the congress.

The YSP leadership intends to invite former South Yemeni President Ali Nasser Mohammed, who is currently visiting Aden. An invitation was further extended to the Russian Communist party, according to the paper.

It said that YSP members in the U.S. have cabled the party leadership, expressing satisfaction at the convening of the conference and saying that three of them will attend the meeting.

The weekly further noted that hundreds of people from Taiz villages have joined the YSP following intensified partisan and popular activities.



AL JAMAHEER
Sanaa, weekly 12/11/98
(Arab Ba'ath Socialist Party)
Main Headlines

- Yemeni political parties and

organizations have organized a mass rally to express solidarity with the Iraqi people against American threats last Thursday.

- Member parties of the National Opposition Council have issued a statement condemning the U.S. threats to strike Iraq and called on Arab and Islamic peoples to mobilize alongside that country.

- An official source at the Arab Ba'ath Socialist Party has said, in a commentary on the Palestinian-Israeli Wye Plantation agreement, that settling the Palestine cause is only feasible through a unified Arab stance away from unilateral solutions.

- Intensified Saudi-Yemeni contacts in the past few weeks aimed at reviving the stalemated bilateral negotiations over the border dispute, which reached a dead end due to Saudi hurdles.

التربية

AL URUBA
Sanaa, weekly 11/11/98
(Nasserite Democratic Party)
Main Headlines

- Press reports about the kidnap of a girl in Ibb was not accurate, according to Homicide Department Chief in the governorate, who told the paper that the girl had escaped from her family's house seeking a job.

- In a hit-and-run accident, three school girls were killed and two others seriously injured more than ten days ago in a village near Taiz. Information leaking from the village said that the driver was the son of a rich merchant.

- In a similar incident, a speedy car, driven by a son of a renowned personality, killed a man in Al-Siteen street a few days ago. The driver, apparently could not control the car due to high speed, went off the asphalt road twenty meters on the sidewalk to hit the man who was waiting near a shop.

- The Saudi press could not find anything worth mentioning on Yemeni misdemeanors except the photo of what they called a Yemeni beggar.

الوطنية



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November 16th, 1998

By: Jamal Al-Awadi

Financed by the Korean Embassy, Governorates' Taekwondo Championship Concluded

The 3rd Governorates' Taekwondo Championship was held during November 6-10. The final ceremony was attended by the Deputy Minister of Youth and Sports, Mr. Hamoud Obad; the Korean Ambassador to Sanaa, Mr. Pak Hi Joo; and the Chairman of the Yemeni Taekwondo Association, Mr. Mowaffaq Munasser. Enthralling taekwondo performances were presented.

Mr. Munasser told Yemen Times, "For the Korean Embassy to finance such a championship indicates that Yemeni-Korean relations are quite distinguished.

"I would like to thank the Arab Bank for supporting several sports events. It provided sportswear to the championship's organizing committee. The High Institute of Physical Education has cooperated by hosting the championship."

The Korean Ambassador congratulated the winners indicating that taekwondo - originally from Korea - is "bridging the cultures of the two countries."

The Deputy Minister of Youth and Sports appreciated the Korean Embassy's support for such championships. He also thanked the Yemeni Taekwondo Association for its efforts to promote this game in Yemen.

The winners were as follows:

A- 45kg:

- 1- Fahman Abdulwahab Sarhan - Aden (1st)
- 2- Mamdouh Abu Al-Ghaith - Hodeidah (2nd)
- 3- Mohammed Saeed Al-Dhibani - Hadhramaut (3rd)
- 4- Abdu Ahmed Al-Labni - Baidha (4th)

B- 58kg:

- 1- Abdulaziz Al-Hamadani - Sanaa (1st)
- 2- Sadeq Ali Majli - Taiz (2nd)
- 3- Mohammed Abdulsamad Khalaf - Aden (3rd)
- 4- Ahmed Saleh Al-Khanash - Sanaa (3rd twice)

C- 64kg:

- 1- Akram Qayid Ali - Taiz (1st)
- 2- Mohammed Hassan Al-Hamadani (2nd)
- 3- Fahmi Awadh Ahmed - Lahaj (3rd)

D- 67kg:

- 1- Adel Moqbil - Aden (1st)
- 2- Omar Ali Al-Baadani - Sanaa (2nd)
- 3- Alawi Saleh Al-Sharafi - Baidha (3rd)
- 4- Eid Marzouq - Hodeidah (3rd twice)

E- 72kg:

- 1- Ahmed Ali Al-Maghribi - Sanaa (1st)
- 2- Abdullah Mohammed Mansour - Aden (2nd)
- 3- Ahmed Abdu Moqbil - Hodeidah (3rd)
- 4- Ahmed Mohammed Al-Doba'i - Taiz (3rd twice)

The order of winning governorates stands as follows:

- 1- Sanaa (1st - 19 points)
- 2- Aden (1st twice - 19 points)
- 3- Taiz (2nd - 12 points)
- 4- Baidha (3rd - 11 points)

Sports Medicine Seminar Concluded



A seminar on sports medicine was concluded in Sanaa on Wednesday, 11 November, in cooperation with the Arab Sports Medicine Association. Twenty-five doctors from different governorates took part in the 4-day seminar.

Several topics were discussed, including the internationally banned anabolic steroids. Among the

common sports injuries discussed by the doctors was knee-cartilage injury which often afflicts footballers. Qat's harmful effects also featured prominently on the seminar's agenda.

At the opening session, the Minister of Youth and Sports, Dr. Abdulwahab Raweh outlined the importance of sports medicine. "The Yemeni Sports Medicine Association must work on catching up with the rapid progress made in this field, considering there are no specialized hospitals or clinics," he said. He called for more cooperation among Yemeni sports association in this field, expressing his ministry's readiness to provide all possible assistance.

The seminar was concluded with a number of recommendations. The participants called for a speedy implementation of an integrated sports medical center and the establishment of small first-aid clinics in sports stadiums. They also called for doctors to be trained abroad.

Ahli Training in Eritrea

The Ahli of Sanaa football team conducted its first test match in a training camp in Asmara, Eritrea on Thursday, November 12. As part of its preparations for the Excellent-Division Football Tournament, the Ahli was defeated by Al-Binaa of Eritrea 1-nil. Al-Binaa is considered one of the best teams in the Eritrea Football League. It won the cup winners' cup, and often represents Eritrea in African football clubs' championships.

The Ahli-Binaa test match was attended by the Eritrean Minister of Education and a big number of fans of both teams.

Organizing such a training camp is considered a sign of the re-establishment of good relations between Yemen and Eritrea, following the affirmation of Yemeni sovereignty over the Hunaish Island.

The Ahli of Sanaa is going to play in other test

matches with a number of Eritrean teams to be well prepared for the Excellent-Division matches back in Yemen.



Al-Qadhi in Arab Chess Championship

The Yemeni chess champion Hameed Al-Qadhi left for Morocco on Saturday, November 14 to take part in the 13th Arab Chess Championship. To be held in Agadir during November 15-25, the championship will see the participation of some of the Arab World's best chess players.

Hameed Al-Qadhi is an international chess master, who took part in many championships and won several gold medals.

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UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

UNDP ANNOUNCEMENT

United Nations Development Program (UNDP) is inviting applications for the following short-term consultancies in its office in Sanaa.

1- Duties and Responsibilities:

The successful candidate shall gather relevant historical information of all UN programs and specialized agencies (UNDP, FAO, UNICEF, WFP, WHO and UNFPA) that are represented in the Republic of Yemen.

The candidate shall review existing project files compiled and provided by the individual UN agencies. The historical review shall also cover information on past activities/projects of the UN system. The exercise shall entail interviews with UN employees. Furthermore, the historical review shall also include activities of UN agencies that are not represented in the Republic of Yemen. The candidate shall prepare a Project/Program evaluation report, which will demonstrate an overview of UN agencies' sector involvement. The report should also include a chapter on "lessons learned".

Duration of the study: 3 months

2- Duties and Responsibilities:

- 1) Focusing on global conferences in which Yemen participated, specifically on The World Conference on Education for All, The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, The World Summit for Social Development, The Fourth World Conference on Women, and The International Conference on Human Settlements.
- 2) The study should examine on how Yemen benefited from these conferences and how Yemen can take advantage of their conclusions and recommendations.
- 3) It should also be assessed, where Yemen stands regarding the implementation of conclusions and recommendations at this point.
- 4) Difficulties facing Yemen in implementing the recommendations of the above-mentioned conferences should be pointed out.
- 5) The study should include recommendations on how the United Nations System can support the national effort to execute Yemen's obligations towards the aims of these global conferences.

Duration of the study : 2 weeks

3- Duties and Responsibilities:

- 1) Focusing on the 1993 Vienna Conference on Human Rights that included the examination of the link between development, democracy and economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights.
- 2) The study should examine how Yemen benefited from this conference and how Yemen can take advantage of its conclusions and recommendations.
- 3) It should also be assessed where Yemen stands regarding implementation of conclusions and recommendations at this point.
- 4) Difficulties facing Yemen in implementing the recommendations of the above mentioned conference should be pointed out.
- 5) The study should include recommendations on how the United Nations System can support the national effort to execute Yemen's obligations towards the aims of this global conference.

Duration of the study: 6 weeks.

4- Duties and Responsibilities:

- 1) Conduct a Common Country Assessment (CCA) reflecting priorities & mandate of UN System Organization as well as internationally agreed goals set by the various world conferences.
- 2) Provide a holistic and analytical summary of the current level of national development.
- 3) Identify trends in the improvement or deterioration of the relevant indicators.
- 4) Identify areas requiring priority attention in development assistance.

Duration of the study: 6 weeks

5- Duties and Responsibilities:

- 1) Focusing on the World Food Summit (WFS).
- 2) The study should examine how Yemen benefited from this conference and how Yemen can take advantage of its conclusions and recommendations.
- 3) It should also be assessed where Yemen stands regarding the implementation of conclusions and recommendations at this point.
- 4) Difficulties facing Yemen in implementing the recommendations of the conference (WFS) should be pointed out.
- 5) The study should include recommendations on how the United Nations System can support the national effort to execute Yemen's obligations towards the aim of this global conference.

Duration of the study: 6 weeks

Remuneration:

Salary will be paid in accordance with the National Project Professional Personnel salary scale at the short term level.

Qualification/Experience/Skills Requirement:

- The successful candidate should possess an advanced degree (preferably at the PhD level) in social sciences/development studies or related fields.
- He/She should have 10 to 15 years work experience related to the said field.
- Fluency in both written and spoken English and Arabic is essential.

Interested candidates are requested to send their applications with detailed curriculum vitae to:

Operations Manager, UNDP, P.O.Box No. 551, Sanaa.

Applications should be received no later than 19th November 1998.

Applications received after this date will not be considered.

Only those candidates who strictly meet the requirements could apply and acknowledgement will only be sent to shortlisted applicants meeting the requirements of the post.

The Writing on the Wall

Advertising is one of the most important and effective devices of marketing goods and commodities. In fact, it has become a full science in itself, being taught in universities. In addition, industrial psychology is very much involved in this matter, studying the impact of advertisements on the constant change in taste, consumer demand, and the subsequent changes in sales.

Today, it is estimated that major companies spend a solid art of their expenditures on advertisements. In some cases, depending on the business, the share of advertising in the budget can go as high as a third.

In Yemen, it seems that businessmen don't spend much on advertising their goods. Some of them use TV, radio, magazines, newspapers and other means; some use stickers and posters, flex-face signs, cotton-sheet advertisements, etc.

And some are free-riders. They paint their advertisements on the walls. This is not your typical graffiti, which has no business base. We are talking here about efforts to sell something.

Advertising as a source of income:

It is commonly known that advertisements represent a very good source of income for TV channels, radio broad-

casting stations, newspapers, magazines. It represents the principal source of revenue for national and independent magazines and newspapers. Therefore, some of these publications can't work without advertisements.

Advertising Defaces Walls:

It is noticed that the private sector investment in the field of education and health has recently grown up and expanded very rapidly and in a rather visible way. One feels surprised to see such a good number of private schools, universities, hospitals, language and computer institutes and centers. The absence of the inspecting role of the Ministry of Education on these institutions is remarkably noticed. This has made their work marked with disorder and chaos.

It also seems that even in their way of advertising themselves they don't follow any order or discipline. Most of these institutions advertise themselves by painting their slogans and mottos on the walls of public as well as private establishments and houses. This is completely wrong by any standard. This is because they disfigure, instead of beautifying, our cities.

I wonder, isn't it enough that our streets are filthy, do our walls have to be defaced as



well? I am sure this chaotic way of advertising is not found in any other country. So, is it our desire to stream against the current and be always "exceptional" and "extraordinary."

Does it sell?

Another point is that advertising on walls is not of any marketing value to the advertiser. Painting advertisements on walls in such a way diverts the attention of the people and makes them unaware of what is actually written and receive the message it tries to convey. People in authority at these establishments should know the techniques of advertising and how and when it becomes effective. Advertisements should be eye-catching. But it seems that these people give some children tins of paint and templates telling them to go and paint their advertisements on any empty space on walls, even in allies. What fun?!

Where to advertise

Stickers and posters should be put in appropriately specified places. In other words, the people in charge of municipal offices should allocate particular places in each street in each city where stickers and posters are to be put. Erecting billboards is a good alternative. Walls

should not be left for every Tom, Dick and Harry to put his advertisements. This, without any shadow of doubt, will make advertising more organized and well as effective.

Not only businessmen!

Candidates in parliamentary elections also share in the blame of disfiguring our cities. During their electioneering campaigns, they had their stickers - carrying their slogans and promises of constructing another promised land on earth - placed on walls of houses, shops and other public institutions. I am not against this. But leaving stickers after the election is over is completely unacceptable. We don't exaggerate if we say that stickers of some candidates since the 1994 parliamentary election can still be seen today.

Conclusion

Therefore, municipality offices should work hard to make our cities clean. People advertising on walls should be held accountable for disfiguring our cities, and at least should be fined. Advertising should be done through acceptable channels and in orderly ways. People whose houses are disfigured should be compensated. Is there somebody listening to me?

By: Mohammed Al-Qadhi

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