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Arab Summit, Sheer Disappointment

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Arab leaders concluded Sunday their emergency Summit conference in Cairo by adopting a closing communique. The communique pledged support for the Palestinians and condemned Israel's bloody crackdown on protesting Palestinians. A final resolution by the summit approved setting up 1 billion US dollars to help Palestinians and called for the United Nations to set up an international tribunal to try Israeli war criminals and establish an international force to ensure protection of the Palestinians.

During the 2-day summit's opinions differed about decisions to be taken against Israel. Such opinions can be classified as strong such as those of Yemen, Sudan and Syria and moderate such as those of countries that already have relations, contacts and cooperation with Israel like Egypt, Jordan and Morocco. Libya's representative Abdulmonam Al-Honi walked out of the summit meetings.

In his speech during the opening ceremony, President Saleh asserted his country's commitment to support the Palestinians to defend themselves and their land. He called for establishing a fund to support them and to establish international forces to protect defenseless Palestinians against the Zionist atrocities. He also called for more Arab solidarity and joint action to lift the unjust sanctions on Iraq.

During a closed-door session participants were briefed on results of Sharm Al-Sheikh summit and listened to the final report prepared by the Arab foreign ministers. On the other hand more than one million demonstrators took to the streets in Sana'a and gathered in a massive rally at Al-Sabaen square on Saturday in protest against Israel's



More than 1,000,000 Demonstrators calling for Jihad

crimes against the Palestinians in the occupied territories and as a message to the Arab leaders holding their summit. The demonstrations included more than 50 thousand women and many tribal leaders who flew to Sana'a with their weapons chanting anti-Israel and anti-America slogans protesting the massacre against Palestinians, calling to open doors for Jihad. Among demonstrators were also a number of ministers and political leaders. Demonstrators marched through Sana'a

streets holding banners condemning Israel and the American stance. A number of speeches were also delivered in the solidarity festival in Al-Sabaen Square which all called for Jihad, supporting Palestinians with money and boycotting Israel. At the end of the festival a number of letters were sent to the Arab summit, Islamic Conference and other organizations. Similar demonstrations were organized in other Yemeni governorates like Taiz and Hodeidah, as well.

"We have not run into dead ends," Bodine Says

Reliable sources have told Yemen Times that suspects arrested in the USS Cole destroyer explosion incident on Sunday had been 60 persons; eight of whom are from the civil registry office in Lahj governorate. These eight were arrested after registration forms of some of the suspects were missing. Witnesses, reported to be Yemenis, were also arrested by the Yemeni security for interrogation.

In her Saturday press conference held in Aden Hotel, US Ambassador Bodine thanked the Yemeni side for being quite helpful in the rescue and investigations. "They are continuing to find investigatory sites. They are still developing new leads.", Ambassador Bodine told reporters. As regards the final investigations, she said "We have not run into dead ends. It is still a long expanding investigations." Last Friday there was a solemn military cer-



emonial day as US ambassador Bodine and Admiral Fitzgerald, deputy commander of the Special Task Force (55) stationed in Bahrain, a group of US marines and some high-ranking Yemeni officials formed an honor guard for the last US sailor body from the USS Cole. He was taken back home aboard a military aircraft leaving for Germany and then to US for formal identification. Twelve of the bodies were already sent last week to US.

US President Clinton and Defense Secretary had threatened of a military strike on those who were behind the attack after investigations were over. Yemeni and American investigators are still going with the investigations to uncover all the threads of the incident. Outcome of final investigations are expected to be declared during this week. Reports also indicate that the ship will be carried from Aden back home at the end of this month.

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Worldwide Campaign against Torture

The Coordination Council of Yemeni Groups of Amnesty International in cooperation with United Nations Information Center launched last Wednesday the international campaign against torture.

The coordination council visited al-Rade'a prison which used to be a torturing center during the Imamate reign. The council also visited the Civil Society Forum located in Haddah street as it is a center for defending human rights. After that organizers invited personalities and media men to attend a round table session in the Research and Studies Center where speeches and papers were presented. Mrs. Elham Abdulwahab, Yemeni Committee coordinator, delivered a speech welcoming the participants and reviewed the role of the groups in developing awareness of human rights and anti-torture legislations among the people.

Then, Mr. Mohammed Yahya al-Sabri, member of the One Hundred Committee on Combating Torture, pointed out the different forms of torture, its strategies for combating torture program which contains 12 points. This program was highly stressed upon by the Amnesty International which calls upon all individuals, groups and organizations to publicize and put into circulation this program.

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Words of Wisdom



“Yemen is at crossroads. We could fail and fall back into confusion and internal strife, or we could rise up to the occasion and build up something spectacular which we could be proud of. The difference between these two scenarios is how responsible our leadership is.”

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

Our Opinion

I have a dream!

Day in and day out we are still struggling to find a place for ourselves and say “here we are.” What the Arab leaders tried to do in the Arab summit was a part of that. Whether they succeeded or not is a different question. The idea here is that the more time we take to decide and take action, the more loss there is. It’s enough to point out that, while the Arabs were preparing for the “urgent” summit, the Europeans met twice. Meantime, more than 20 Palestinians were killed. And tens were injured.

Some of the voices heard were ironically saying: “why do the Palestinian mothers push their children in front of the Israeli soldiers knowing that they would get killed?”. The answer is that those people dying everyday have something most of us, people and especially leaders, lack, that is, courage. They have faith in the independence of their country and the right to live peacefully. Talk and more talk. Even these words written here are talk. The leaders were trying to make up their minds, we here are trying to help them make up their minds.

They were trying to find out a shortcut to get away with the least amount of trouble and hard work. Nobody wants to struggle for others’ issue. We Arabs forget that a fire starts because of a matchstick.

Like they went inside, like they came out. For the nth time the Arab leaders could not take action and for the nth time the Arab leaders have let us down. They didn’t feel shame when they were there speaking on behalf of their people, who were out in the streets in thousands protesting the Israeli aggression and hoping their voices would be heard. They couldn’t translate our screams into decisions and actions. Firm ones that would stop the every second misery in Al-Quds.

However, as long as there is life, there is hope. The stands Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Oman, and Yemen have taken are worth a note of thankfulness. At least even if we couldn’t stop the killing, we would support the Palestinians with money to defend themselves. The Al-Quds-fund was a good decision. Also our President Ali Abdullah Saleh urged the Yemeni people to give away one day’s earning for the fund, and that is a good start. Tunisia, Oman, closed down the Israeli offices in their countries as a sign of their solidarity with the Palestinian people.

Martin Luther King had a dream. And because of good will and dedication from all the people, his dream came true. We also have a dream. We all dream of a free land with no fighting or killing. We have had enough of reports and photographs, of talks and meetings. On behalf of every peace craving soul, this is a message to those who can make a change; “We have a dream, a dream of peace and happiness, let our dream come true.”



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Popular Anger Continues Al-Ahmar, Al-Zindani and Ahmed Saif Call for Jihad

Speaker Sheik Abdullah Bin Hussein Al-Ahmar, Sheik Abdul Majeed Al-Zindani, chairman of Al-Shoura council and Sheik Omar Ahmed Saif, the councilor of the congress party called for Jihad and opening military training camps as the first stage to liberate Palestine.

In an interview with Al Jazeera space channel, President Ali Abdullah Saleh called people to donate for the “Intifada” and to support it with money and weapons.

The call for Jihad by Al-Ahmar, Al-Zindani and Omar Ahmed Saif took place in the university of Sana’a last week where about ten thousand people gathered. Protests against Israeli acts in the occupied territories continue in many governorates of Yemen. Taiz witnessed last week a rally in which all parties representatives took part.

Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hussein Al-Ahmar has donated part of his property to the people in Palestine. Al-Mahra, Mareb and Al-Hodeida witnessed similar rallies.

All Yemeni political parties and organizations have condemned Israeli atrocities in the occupied territories and called on all Arab leaders to take courageous decisions.

Activation of Women’s Role in Union Work

The General Federation of Trade Unions in Yemen in coordination with World Labor Organization organized on Saturday at the Federation headquarters a discussion meeting titled “activation of woman’s role in union work.” The discussion was attended by more than 60 participants representing governmental and non-governmental organizations.

At the opening ceremony, participants like Dr. Arena Awad vice-chairman of World Labor Organization, Mrs. Khawla, head of information department at the organization and others addressed the gathering. All have stressed the importance of women’s role in social and mass work.

Mr. Yehya Al-Kohlani, chairman of the General Federation of Trade Unions in Yemen told the Yemen Times that the role of Yemeni women was of great importance in all walks of life. Women’s participation in presidential and parliamentary elections was a pertinent example. He added that the federation had always supported Yemeni women’s issues and would do always, so that they could have a bigger role in the union work.

USS Destroyer Explosion, A Terrorist Attack

The Yemeni side has achieved a remarkable progress in investigations about explosion in the USS Cole destroyer at Aden port on October 12, 2000. The Yemeni side briefed the American side on outcomes of preliminary investigations. A high level security source told YT that some bomb-making materials and tools, thought to be used to carry out the attack, were found in a small house located in al-Sha’ab city, 15 km away from Aden. Reports mention that it was a suicidal attack conducted by two persons. This was confirmed by President Saleh who in an interview with al-Jazira space channel indicated that the attackers had used a small explosive-laden boat. An official source revealed that some documents were found in the house confirming that the house was used for preparing for the attack. A will, made by the attackers, was also found indicating that they sacrificed their lives for al-Aqsa mosque and its martyrs. They also indicated that they would keep on these operations against whoever supported Israel.

President Saleh has received FBI director Louis Freeh and informed him on investigation results so far achieved. On his part, Mr. Louis expressed his as well as the US government appreciation for all cooperation offered by the Yemeni security during the rescue and investigation phases. He also expressed US’ readiness represented by the FBI to provide technical help to detect all threads of the attack and the sources behind it, asserting the strong Yemeni-American relations and cooperation for the benefit of the people of the two countries.

There has been so far an American strong black-out on the size of destruction to the Cole which is said to have high-tech ability. This proves that the operation was carefully planned and that the point where the explosion took place was very crucial one. This is the first ever attack to target American warships in the sea in the Middle

Vocational Education Meetings Continue

Meetings of the Arab union for vocational education continue today in Sana’a with participation of 12 Arab countries. These meetings started last Saturday and will continue for several days.

The participants have discussed issues of vocational education, the experience some Arab countries have acquired and international challenges in this field, in addition to means of coordination among the Arab countries.

Yemen has recently adopted a strategy for vocational education to encourage this kind of education among students.

Speeches were delivered at the opening session by the minister of labor and vocational training and the chief of vocational and technical training institute. All stressed the importance of this kind of education which a developing country like Yemen needs.

Continued from page 1
Worldwide Campaign Against Torture

Another paper was presented pertaining to the role of NGOs in combating torture. The paper reviewed some misbehavior by some security men against political activists, journalists and ordinary people in pending criminal investigation. It praised the YT’s role in following up cases of torture, ill-treatment of some sources, reporting them to the public. It also called party organ newspapers and independent newspapers to allocate some space in their newspapers to cases of torture which people are often exposed to. It also called upon the NGOs to define a specific program to combat torture so as to have an active role in this regard.

Some of the participants expressed their opinions reviewing the success that can be achieved through coordination and cooperation between these organizations.

Mr. Abdullatif al-Duraini presented an interposition reviewing the roles played by the National

IN BRIEF

Justice Ministry Employees Start Open Strike
The ministry of justice employees started on Wednesday an open strike, protesting against non-implementation of a cabinet decision to give them a pay rise three months ago.

A finance ministry source admitted the ministry’s receipt of the decision, justifying the delay by saying that there were other commitments that caused the delay in disbursing the sums as they were used to buy cars for the judges.

The employees of the ministry of justice expressed their grief towards this unfair treatment and wondered why a judge receives an amount of 250 thousand Riyals while an administrative employee receives only 10 thousand Riyals and both have the same responsibilities towards their families.

Foundation Stone of Hussein Al-Mehdar Museum
Mr. Abdul Jabbar Hail Saeed, member board of directors, Al-Saeed Establishment for Science and culture, Mr. Saleh Abad Al-Kholani, governor of Hadramout and Mr. Faisal Saeed Fari, general director of the establishment had Sunday laid the foundation stone of Hussein Al-Mehdar museum in Al-Shahr city.

Mr. Ali Mohammed Saeed, board of directors chief of the establishment announced the determination of the establishment to build a museum named after the late Hussein Al-Mohdar.

Yemeni Children Participate in Shanker International Competition
Yemen’s pavilion at Shanker International Competition was opened last Friday in the Indian capital New Delhi. The Administration of Child’s Culture at the Ministry of Culture participated with 55 children’s paintings.

Mrs. Najeba Al-Haddad, director of the Administration of Child’s Culture at the Ministry of Culture told the Yemen Times that it was

the 14th time Yemen participated in that competition since it started 33 years ago.

She added “a number of Yemeni children won gold, silver and bronze medals in previous competitions. In this competition we will do our best to win.”

College of Commerce & Economy Holds Conference
Under the theme “Yemen’s Future Within The Local, Regional And International Changes” the College of Commerce and Economy organizes the Fifth Scientific Conference today. The conference aims at discussing about 40 researches. Dr. Mansour

evaluated efforts of the Yemeni security to disclose mystery of the incident. He said that that was a complicated, critical case where very complicated material and high-tech detonation devices were used, therefore, it is very difficult now to accuse any party. He described the United states as a “junior partner” in a joint effort being led by Yemen.

American-Yemeni investigators headed Thursday towards Hadramout for further investigations. The Navy said Thursday that it had recovered the final four bodies trapped in the wreckage of the destroyer and that they would be sent back home.

Seven navy warships including aircraft carrier reached the region and anchored offshore Yemeni coasts carrying more than 2200 US sol-

Visions of Yemen Inaugurated Today
The British-Yemeni Society is bringing to Britain a collection of paintings by leading Yemeni artists for exhibition in London, Cardiff and Birmingham. The purpose of this exhibition is to introduce their work to a wider British public. In London, the exhibition - the first of its kind to be held in Britain - will also include works by British artists who have visited and painted in Yemen, bringing into focus differing perspectives of a uniquely beautiful country. The exhibition will end on November 2.

Bomb Defused in Taiz
The Criminal Investigation of Taiz defused a bomb planted in a building near the Arab bank last Thursday. No information has been revealed about reasons for the explosion attempt and its target. The building is located near the Yemen Oil Company and Yemeni Teachers Syndicate.

diers. US Vice-President and Defense Secretary said that following investigations and identifying those who stood behind, US will conduct a military attack on them. These statements have offended the Yemeni government, which headed by the President Saleh, had condemned the attack on USS destroyer while refueling, and described it as an act of terrorism.

He said “It is not the result of 24 hours. Rather it was prepared long ago. Besides, it has the objective of undermining the Yemeni-American relations.”

President Saleh has also condemned this terror act in an interview with the CNN. He also condemned all forms of terrorism asserting that the Yemeni security would track down all those behind it.

JOB VACANCY

The United States Humanitarian Demining Team announces for a vacant position within its organization for a Translator reports directly to the American chief of the Demining Officer.

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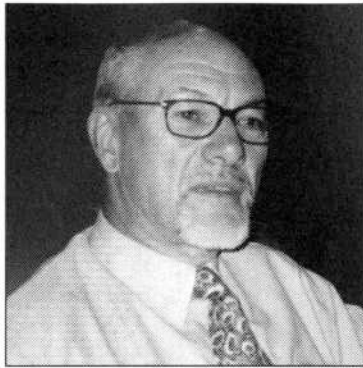
How and who may Apply:

All interested Yemeni National applicants should collect application form (OF 612) and submit it with a C.V. and qualification certificate related to the above-announced job. Application will not be accepted after October 31, 2000.

Mr. Victor A. Butler (UNDP Consultant) to the Yemen Times:

“There is a democratic process of work here. The constitution provides that if you want to make changes this is the way to do and that process is being followed”

Mr. Victor A. Butler is an expert at International Public Service Sector Management, Training and Election Consultant, UN. Yemen Times interviewed him during his recent UNDP/UNEAD mission in Yemen, and filed the following:



Q: Could you tell us a bit about yourself?

A: I started working initially for the British Local Government for about 20 years, not continuously, in England and other countries.

My first contact with elections was in 1965, at base level in Britain. As time went by I progressed in my career and I took more responsible work and I was involved in preparation for polling and making sure the legal procedures were complied with and all other aspects of the electoral process essentially. And I have worked in elections when the whole system was done manually, and also now when everything is computerized. So I know exactly what happens in the election process.

I've got into international work since 1971, when I took leave of absence from my work to do my masters. At the end of which I worked on this process with a number of students from various countries, and got interested in the idea of working in other countries, not in term of elections but in terms of training the local government staff. I worked in Zambia, Papua New Guinea, that time was the nearest I got to the election process. Then I moved on to Malawi in the late 80s and early 90s. At that time I didn't want to go back to work in the British local government and one of the developing topics at that time was election related work. In 1993 I went to Cambodia, and again to Pakistan. In 1994 I was there in South Africa when the elections were taking place. And then I went again to Malawi because the system had changed, and they had their first elections under that system. And again in 1995 I went to South Africa again and so on.

Q: Is this your first encounter in an Arabian Country?

A: It is in that sense. But it's my third visit to Yemen. I was here last year with IFES for a period of time when we were doing a report on the management structure and issues for the organization of the SEC (Supreme Election Committee.) And then I came back in August this year with the team UNDP and the election assistance group that the UN posted in New York, had put together. And we produced an assessment for the April 2000 elections which got postponed.

And here I am again to look at the new situation and see what the UNDP can do in that situation to assist the process and to ensure that there is support for the SEC.

Q: What is your task basically in mission?

A: My job is to look at the nature of the referendum. In particular the nature of the question, how it is proposed, how the voters of Yemen have been asked to vote on the constitutional amendments. In some countries each member would require a separate vote by the citizens. That is extremely complicated to explain to the people here that they are asked to make a number of choices on the separate constitutional members. And I think I get a sense in my discussions that there will be one question on the whole package on the amendments. I am not sure that that will be the best way to handle it because after all these amendments cover a range of different issues, some environmental, some of them economic, some of them political and perhaps some compromise should be considered to divide it to a number of separate areas before the vote.

Some of those opinions are negative about the changes proposed.

The danger is that if some feel strongly against some aspects of the constitutional changes, the only way which they could register that is to reject everything, rather than being able to make a reasonable judgment. On the other hand that maybe expecting too much in a country where the level of understanding the constitution is still low. And lets face it. People's main concern on daily basis is to put food in the mouths of their families and themselves. It is a luxury to consider matters of politics and take it in the abstract.

Q: How did you conduct your mission?

A: I have been here only for 12 days,

in which I managed to speak with a number of the donors of the international community here like the British, the German, the Dutch, a fair section of the international community. I held talks with representatives of Islah, GPC and YSP. I spoke with Uniformed Constitution Defense Committee. I talked, of course, with a few UN colloquies. I have been to discuss issues on two occasions now at the SEC with government and senior members of the election committee.

And I have talked to representatives of NDI (National Democratic Institute), IFES (International Foundation for Election System) and ERIS (Election Reform International Services). I have sounded a wide range of opinions in this limited time.

Q: What have you concluded?

A: Some of those opinions are negative about the changes proposed. There are concerns among the donor community in some of the specialist organizations which support the election process, also by some civil societies and the parties about the nature of the changes. Concern is expressed about the idea that the duration of the parliament should extend to 6 years instead of four years, and like wise the president's term will be extended. People are uncomfortable with this, they see it is a step back in the democratic process. The argument presented on the other side is that the election process is expensive, which I accept and I also accept that the SEC at the moment is not well equipped and well organized as it would like to be, and deliver the elections against a very tight line of time. Also they are planning to have both the local and the house representatives' elections in a parallel manner and that would be a very complicated task. Whether that in the end is what happens remains to be seen, but putting those two processes of elections together would be quite complicated.

Q: There are many murmurs that the process is democratic only in the surface level not in the core. What do you say?

A: I think that is not entirely accurate. There is a democratic process of work here. The constitution provides that if you want to make changes this is the way to do and that process is being followed. In other countries if the leadership wants to make changes they simply pass the decree and nobody has any option other than to accept it. So I think that is a positive thing here. And not only the representatives of the parliament are asked to participate but intellectuals from different sectors are asked to. like education, law, health, media, NGOs and others.

In other countries if the leadership wants to make changes they simply pass the decree and nobody has any option other than to accept it.

Q: How could the media participate in this process?

A: The media certainly has a significant role to play, in educating the people to understand what they are being asked to consider, what the chances for them, what the implications are for the nation. Equally I think it is encouraging to see, like we saw in the two days, the discussion was held in the forum which the speakers committee conveyed to enable people who are not representatives of the parliament to take part. Both the parties and the civil societies are interested in the process to voice their views and opinions on the proposed changes before the parliament decides so that the parliament gets a chance to hear them and take their opinions into account I think that is very healthy.

Q: What are the implications of these changes for the rest of the world?

A: That is a difficult question. That comes back to the concerns of the

the donors' community may lose confidence in Yemen as a partner for their support, in terms of the government, and support for the electoral process.

donors that Yemen is stepping back from the democratic commitment in these changes. And if this perception, is maintained, then of course the donors' community may lose confidence in Yemen as a partner for their support, in terms of the government, and support for the electoral process, or in terms of the other support that they are prepared to put forward to assist Yemen in its development issues.

Also international investors may feel less comfortable. And this is the message that the donors send back to their home countries, that unfortunately the track that Yemen was following is not being continued.

Continued on next page

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Continued

Mr. Victor Butler to the Yemen Times

Q: What about the report that you are presenting to the UN?

A: The report that I am presenting will essentially say that the UN is not on the same footing as the other donors. It is a global organization to which Yemen belongs. Therefore an agency of the UN such as the UNDP is not quite the same position as a donor. When the government of Yemen and the SEC make an approach for assistance, UN has to view this in a slightly different line, and to look at whether it is legitimate for the UNDP to assist Yemen in its electoral process. My recommendations will essentially be that this should persist in the period after the referendum, that experts should be placed in the SEC in order to provide advice, support, guidance, to the chairman of the SEC in taking forward the work of the SEC for the referendum, both in terms of technical issues and in terms of developing the mandate of the SEC to inform the people. That is a part of the role of the SEC; to ensure that the people know the whole process and how they make their choices and clearly what the issue is, that they are going to decide. So, it's something, which I feel worked on balance. The UNDP should be in support of the SEC.

could tell. But I get the sense referring to the people in the government that they perhaps had not got their message across to the donor community clearly. Would they have done more public relations at the time when the constitutional amendments were tabled then they might have not got such a negative reaction as happening at the present time from some of the donor community. If the results come out positively, surely perceptions would change. And that is again something the UNDP has a role in because if we had people working in the SEC then we are in a position to say to the donor community that this is a legitimate process. If not then we wouldn't be in a position to note the shortcomings in that process. But we are working hard to ensure that it works satisfactorily, and as best as possible.

Q: What do you think the next plan should be in terms of elections for the government, people and SEC?

A: I think one of the things I heard that bothers me is that elections are expensive. It is not a process without substantial cost. But as I said to a senior person in the GPC, the alternative ways of changing your government can be much more expensive than elections. And that has to be borne in mind as well. I am sure I don't really need to tell that to people here.

Q: Do you think there is any inclinations for other alternatives?

A: That is what the election process is all about even if the same party or the same side maintains itself in power over many years. It is doing so with the assent of the people because they have returned it to power over many years. So it does not govern by right. It governs by popular will. If it steers down to a path that the majority of people do not like, then they could change it through the democratic process, and then that in essence is the democratic process at work. But that does not mean every time there are elections there is a change of government, but every time there are elections there is a potential for change in the government.

Q: What are your expectations in the next two months from now?

senior person in the GPC, the alternative ways of changing your government can much more expensive than elections. And that has to be borne in mind as well

A: Well I would hope if we decide to put technical expertise into the SEC, that we would get someone there within the next month. I think we need people in place as quickly as possible. And that would be my target. And this is what I am telling New York, that they must act as quickly as possible. Whether I came back again or not at some later date further and view things, remains to be seen, but it's a possibility. But we need some solid support for the SEC on a day to day basis. So that there is somebody there with a depth of knowledge and experience to be able to give the advice that the chairman needs, based on what has happened elsewhere and the things tackled, so that the chairman feels that there is a possibility of an outside experience, so that more satisfactory outputs are resulted. If you got knowledge and experience of how things were conducted in a satisfactory way in some part of the world, then that transfers across. Because even if the details differ, the base remains the same, it's all about enabling people to make choices in a free and frequent fashion, and to ensure that the process is not only fair and satisfactorily conducted but that people recognize that as well. Because there have been elections but people could not accept the result because of things which happened by mischance, not deliberate. Make people understand that they are using their rights.

Q: What is your next step?

A: My next step is to ensure that my report is on the desk of the UNDP and the SEC representative tomorrow, and a copy goes to New York. Then I am going on a holiday to Ireland. And then when I come back we'll see how things have moved on.

I hope Yemen's lose because of the changes is a short term lose. Only time could tell. But I get the sense referring to the people in the government that they perhaps had not got their message across to the donor community clearly

Q: Do you think that Yemen's loss in terms of the donors is a short term loss or a long term loss?

A: I hope Yemen's lose because of the changes is a short term loss. Only time

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Will Constitutional Amendments Be Approved?



Mohammed Hatem Al-Qadhi
Managing Editor,
Yemen Times

The speaker of Parliament Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hussain al-Ahmar Tuesday inaugurated two-day parliamentary deliberations on the proposed constitutional amendments. A good number of representatives of political parties, unions, syndicates, and people interested in this issue took part in those discussions.

In his opening address the parliament Speaker said the meeting was an aspect of democracy the people had been struggling hard to achieve. "As the constitution is a pivotal social contract, all should participate in formulating it and as the government is very much determined to make democracy take roots, this meeting was invited," the Speaker added.

He also pointed out that after the Parliament received a memo from President Ali Abdullah Saleh on 19.8.2000 calling for amending 14 articles, the Parliament called for comments on those amendments, adding that the Parliament had received a lot of comments through the special Constitutional Amendments Committee. This meeting had the objective of achieving stable constitutional articles, he said adding that the President had called on political parties a day after sending his proposals to the Parliament to have wide discussions of his proposals. Sheikh al-Ahmar asserted that that was a good step by the President to widen the participation base.

For the last 55 days, a strong controversy was taking place in the social as well political arena over these amendments; opposition parties stood against them while the government supported them. Majority of supporters are from

the ruling party who look at them as a healthy and promising phenomenon that has the objective of strengthening the democratic orientation and enhancing the social participation base. However, the second party, including opposition parties and independent MPs, are of the opinion that the proposed amendments targeted at the core of the constitution which ensures many of people's rights. They view that this is a hazardous phenomenon in the history of the parliament that aimed at dismantling the whole constitution in as much as these amendments completely contradict other articles of the constitution and the effective laws. Therefore, it will lead to a new constitution to be drawn up. Many consider the President's memo to be in total contradiction with the articles to be amended. An illustration in point is when some expressed their fear about amending article No (10) of the constitution which stipulates that the government has to protect trade freedom, local as well as foreign investment and to encourage competition. They believe that amending that article will only serve interests of the WB, IMF and WTO and it aims at destroying small enterprises which can never stand competition in an open free market policy.

Others take the view that in course of time many rights are guaranteed to the people in their constitutions while our case seems to be a different matter, for the constitution amendments seem to gradually strip the people of their rights.

Another section assumed that it was important to add a new article pertaining to the issue of cleanliness as it posed an increased hazard to environment. However, others felt that cleanliness did not deserve to have priority over other issues such as health, education, etc, in order to be fixed as an article in the constitution.

Others favored the view of not to be cautious vis-a-vis those amendment, presuming that the constitution has to

serve the people, they were opposed to any attempt of manipulating the constitution. They added that that there are some countries without constitutions, however, their governments respect the rights of their people. They also presume that it is difficult for Yemen to stand still in a dramatic changing world in the face of globalization, international trade and cultural invasion unless we apply science.

Others focused their remarks on the issue of extending the Parliamentary tenure to six years, depriving the people of the right to vote on any constitutional amendments and giving legislative authorities to the appointed Shoura Council. They see that there is no single warrant to extend the Parliament term as other countries are tending to shorten the term to two years.

Majority are opposed to the idea of incorporating the Shoura council with the Parliament on the issue of voting on decisions and endorsing agreements, considering this as a violation of the MPs' rights since MPs are elected by the people, this tantamount to a violation of the peoples' rights.

Others see that the point is not a matter of constitutional amendments. Rather it is a matter of responsibility and commitment to implementing constitutional articles and a matter of moral obligation of rulers for the benefit of the people. They demonstrate that democracy is futile in a society suffering from poverty, illiteracy and spread of diseases. They say that it is better for Yemenis to spend these millions, allotted to elections process, on development which is a top priority for the time being.

After these discussions are over, they will be presented to the Parliament for ratification and then they will be put for public referendum. It is believed that would be the last time for the Yemeni people to practice their right in referendum. The question now is "Will constitutional amendments be approved"? We shall wait and see!

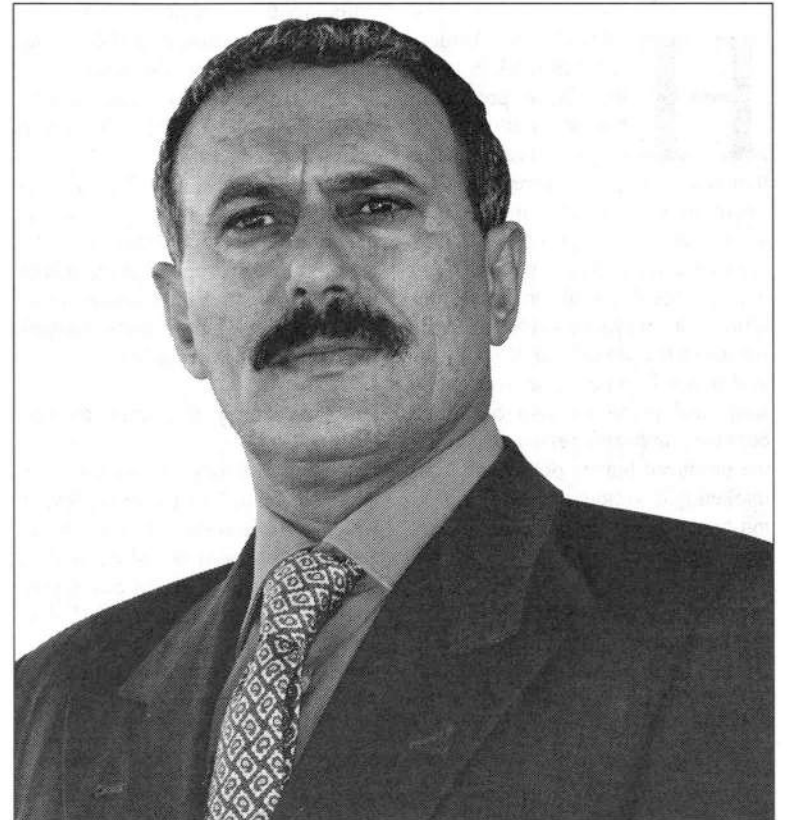
Snapshots from President Interview with Al-Jazeera Space Channel

President Ali Abdullah Saleh called for closing down the Arab League if it does not come out with resolutions, not merely statements, serving the Arab interests. Interviewed by Qatar-based Al-Jazeera Satellite television Wednesday night, president Saleh said "There must be historic decisions this time, not mere statements as usual."

The Yemeni president reiterated his controversial call following the outbreak of the Palestinian intifada three weeks ago in which he demanded supplying the Palestinian people with money and weapons and that he was ready to send armed Yemenis to defend Islamic sanctities being desecrated by the Zionist enemy. In this regard he highly welcomed and praised the initiative of King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and Prince Abdullah for donating money to the Palestinians, criticizing president Al-Qadhafi of Libya that he (Al-Qadhafi) was supposed to do the same instead of delivering empty words.

Following similar statements to the same space channel a number of Arab newspapers pictured president Saleh in caricatures to distort his calls to face Israel. In his reaction President Saleh seemed not to feel offended but rather to welcome such behaviors saying that he shall be proud to be pictured as an enemy to Israel. He further deplored the deployment of Arab armies which had been proven useless, acknowledging that Arab armies, including Yemen's, were no more than tools used in parades on national occasions and to suppress people.

Revealing the latest developments related to the explosion in the USS destroyer Cole, President Saleh abandoned his previous affirmation about the cause of the explosion describing the incident as an organized terrorist act. "The great explosion power and the high-tech capability of the destroyer to face attacks made us think that the explosion resulted from a technical



fault inside" he said. He disclosed that the operation was carried out by two people who came from Hadhramaut according to their IDs although other documents showed that they came from Lahj. He added that the boat used in the operation was made in Hodeidah while the engine was from Aden.

He raised the possibility of Israeli involvement in the operation pointing out that such explosive powder was in possession of only America and Israel plus two Islamic and Arab countries. Refuting reports about American occupation of Aden he said that American presence in Aden was officially allowed by him and that Americans had apologized for early statements on lack of stability and security in Yemen. "Yemen is not Panama or Nairobi to be occupied by America. Yemenis have struggled a lot against colonizers," he said, adding

that all moves of Americans in Aden took place after permissions from Yemen navy and that interrogations with Yemen nationals were forbidden unless there was a directive from him. A press conference is expected to be held soon in case new information and results appeared.

The person who was carrying out fuel supply to the warship has said he had seen a fibre-glass boat was approaching the destroyer. President Saleh added that the car, carrying the boat, belonged to a Yemeni national. The car was bought from a Somali lady who until now could not be traced. On the other hand, President Saleh revealed that the explosion in the British Embassy was carried out by a Yemeni national who belonged to Al-Jihad group. He added that the culprit had been arrested and was under interrogation.

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Natural Honey Production: Investment Chances

Mahyub Al-Kamali

Hundreds of Yemeni families work in keeping bees producing natural honey. And many private sector merchants help in increasing this important food product, marketing it to consumers or exporting it to foreign markets. This yields them encouraging financial profits to continue their investments with no loss. Although the production of good natural honey happens in seasons when fruits and plants flourish on which bees feed, investors persist on storing the produced honey, preserving and marketing it without cheating by mixing honey with sugar or feeding bees on inappropriate herbs.

Marketing and Profits

In a field survey on the natural honey production in Yemen, its volume and the benefit of marketing it, honey wringer or squeezer owners say that marketing honey and selling it to local consumers or exporting it get merchants good profits to the tune of

25% of the invested capital in a year. Although these profits are not stable in the local consumer market during the whole year, Ali Qifan, a merchant, says "Investors cover their profits from other sales mixed with natural honey and used for different medical purposes." He also said "Estimations indicate that, in Yemen, commercial quantities of about 150 tons of honey are produced every year. Hundreds of families look after their own hives of bees and they employ some workers to help them in waxing."

Daw'ani Honey Exported to The Gulf

The natural honey production ranges on many Yemeni Areas first of which is Hadhramout which produces about 35 tons a year and exports a big ratio of it to the Gulf States specially the so-called Daw'ani Honey. This is the best honey produced in November when a tree called Al-Sedre, Christ's thorn, grows buds on which the bees feed.

Merchants say that Shabwa Governorate comes next in producing about 29 tons of natural honey. Al-

Mahweet produces 15 tons, Hajjah 8 tons, Tehamah 13 tons, Osaimat 5 tons, Ibb 4 tons, Taiz 4 tons while other areas produce about 35 tons that are locally consumed.

From the field survey, we realized that working in beekeeping is a hard job for beekeepers for they keep on moving their hives from one place to another to ensure pasture land for them and the continuation of honey production. Beekeepers divide the available pasture lands into six types. Honey is named after the pasture land on which bees feed.

Investment Chances

Mohammed Al-Ga'afari, a merchant, says that there are big chances for investment in the field of increasing the production of honey, its manufacturing, and marketing it abroad. So far, the government has encouraged those who work in this field and has held seminars to instruct producers how to preserve the hives they own. However, this matter requires more investment.

Al-Ga'afari adds that the prices of Yemeni honey are very high for the

local consumer, a kilogram of good honey costs more than 150 dollars. Therefore, the merchants go to the capital city to sell honey to tourists, government officials and businessmen.

A Medicament better than Viagra

Honey commercial shops confirm that the natural honey sales increase in case it is prepared as a medicament for impotent patients. Specialists in honey wringers say that preparing the bridegroom's mixture which consists of honey paste and 45 herbs from the bees pasture lands is more useful than the Viagra pills and it is of no danger to the bridegroom. Despite the fact that the government encourages the private sector investment, honey trading center complain of progressive taxation starting with tax payment of 50 dollars at establishing the center and then adding 10% is paid every year for permit to pursue business.

Increasing of production and exportation

The increase of natural honey pro-



duction will help develop the foreign exports specially that the markets to which this product is exported are confined to the Gulf markets and to Germany. Obviously, the various bee pastures in Yemen owing to the change of climate and rain seasons provide chances for investors to establish farms and special factories to increase the production of good honey and its volume of export bringing valuable revenues to the country.

ECONOMY NEWS

New Oil Wells

Eng. Nabeel Saleh Al-Qawsi, chairman of Oil Exploration and Production at the Ministry of Oil stated that a number of oil wells had been discovered in Hadhramaut and Shabwa. Early production of a well in Hadhramaut reached 5000 barrels a day, he said. In Shabwa the first well produces 1400 barrels of crude oil and 70 million cubic feet of gas, while another one produces 100 barrels a day, he added. About 120 wells will be dug in 2001.

IMF Delegate Concludes Visit to Yemen

Director of Mideast and North Africa Office at the IMF concluded a short visit to Yemen. During the visit he discussed with a number of Yemeni officials the financial reforms and evaluation of the general policy included in the development and poverty eradication plan prepared by the government in cooperation with the WB and IMF.

Yemen Offers More Investment Opportunities in Oil

Yemen has offered three projects for sale and invited companies in the Emirates to invest in its oil sector.

A report by the Abu Dhabi Oil Exhibition and Conference stated that the Yemeni Oil Company would sell a project to study the sedimentary reservoirs in Yemen next month. The report added that the first phase of sea survey of south Mukalla up to Socotra island had been finished and that the area would be divided to be offered for companies interested in digging for oil.

Marine Wealth Investment Boosts

During the past decade investment projects in the field of marine wealth have amounted to YR 5 billion and 760 million plus 1,867,850,000 rials during this year. The Fourth Fish Project is considered one of the most important investment projects with a capital of US\$ 39,800,000 funded by the Yemeni government, International Development Organization, IMF and the EU.

Activating Private Sector

Within the process of heading for free market economy, activation of the private sector's role in funding investment projects and supporting the national economy seems to be an urgent need. This activation requires overcoming obstacles, increasing production and finalizing relevant legislation.

Developing private sector is made by having the private sector to be more involved in sick government projects.

Statistics show that private sector spends 40% of the capital in service, 30% in industry, 18.6% in tourism, 7% in agriculture and about 5% in fishing.

These numbers show how low investments in productive sectors are, which are expected to be higher and more effective.

Businessmen regard that to be done to the absence of utility studies and what makes them invest in the educational and health sectors in addition to the fast revenue of those investments. That's why we see many private schools and hospitals nowadays. Some of those investors are complaining of the low profits, even some of them are close to bankruptcy.

No doubt, bad planning will delay investments in some vital sectors like mining where excavated materials represent 3.7% of the local production for the industry.

According to geological data, there are chances of investment for the private sector. Yemen has about 300 million cubic meters of glass, 316 million cubic meters of granite and 58 million cubic meters of basalt. Yemen also has about 116 million cubic meters of minerals, 160 million cubic meters of gypsum, 10 billion cubic meters of lime stone and 35 million cubic meters of pumice which is used in tooth paste production.

Private sector could invest in the field of excavation and that could cover the demand of the local market for those materials. The surplus could be exported which will pay back in hard currency.

To conclude, the private sector should be activated by giving permissions, low rates of customs and taxes and security which is a very important factor in investment.

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Commercial Counterfeiting in Yemen

Yasser M. Ahmed
Yemen Times

The commercial competition has been tough because of the adoption of free market economy and the progressing commercial globalization in many countries all over the world. This competition works in favor of the industrial countries.

Wherever markets are open and amounts of products are huge, commercial counterfeiting becomes common in those markets especially when the control system is ineffective.

As a third world country, Yemen tried in the nineties to have a different economic policy and be open to the rest of the world by encouraging foreign investors to invest in Yemen and letting private sector have a bigger role in the country's economy.

This has been enhanced by the government's administrative, financial and economic reform program since the beginning of 1995. The main features of this enhancement were the lifting of restrictions imposed on foreign trade, canceling all administrative formalities and the change towards free market economy. In the meantime the control system is still ineffective, the mechanism and tools of which are still unable to catch up with the changes. All that led to the increasing of the commercial counterfeiting phenomenon.

In the conference held in Sana'a from the 16th -19th of Sept. 2000, many papers about commercial counterfeiting were discussed and all stressed on the bad effects it could have on the country's economy.

One of the papers summarized the different factors that led to counterfeiting in food and medical supplies. Those factors are:

- Long coast line and land border. The long coast line of more than 2000 km

and the long land border of about 150 km shows the ease of smuggling goods into the country.

- Consumer's unawareness of the bad effects those smuggled goods could have on the consumer's health and other bad effects on national economy.
- The declination of the individual income in Yemen. Researches have shown that more than 31.5% of the population live in poverty. So counterfeiting revenues become an encouraging factor to improve their living conditions to a great extent.

The paper presented by the customs office revealed some external factors like the huge amounts of expired products present in the neighboring countries which need to be disposed.

Some factories in India, Pakistan and south east Asia producing low quality imitated products need to be disposed and the Yemeni market looks like the place for those goods. The paper revealed the total number of smuggling cases from 1st Feb. 1999 to 31st Jun. 2000 to be 72.

The paper presented by the Yemen Drug Company stated that the needs for medicine in Yemen can be identified through:

- 1) Locally produced medicines that can cover some of the market's needs. There are three local factories producing medicines to cover part of the local market needs. The Yemen Drug Company itself covers about 30% of the market's needs by producing 66 different types of medicines.

- 2) Medicines being imported from Arabic and other foreign companies. The local medicine market deals with about 293 such companies, see the table below

Companies	Gross sent to the Yemeni market in Dollars
Egyptian companies	15,287,298
Swiss companies	9,096,848
British companies	8,740,518

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- Cranes 70-30 tons - Rough Terrain, Truck, Crawler
- Komatsu D155-2/D155-1 Bulldozers 1991/80
- Gefco 1500 Water Drill 470 metres, 303 hours

CONTACT
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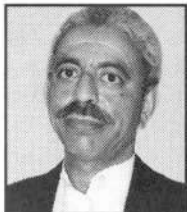
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COMMON SENSE

By: Hassan Al-Haifi



The Carnage Continues: Is Arab Blood So Cheap?

Just to show that Israel is not concerned about what was agreed upon in Sharm El-Sheikh or had any worries about what the Arab Emergency Summit being held in Cairo would produce, on the eve of the latter the Israelis emphasized their thirst for Palestinian blood by killing 10 Palestinians and injuring over one hundred, many of whom were youngsters below 18 years of age. It is this kind of homicidal mentality that gets the Arab masses so infuriated and it is this kind of genocide that has characterized Israel since its inception. To underscore the contempt which Israel has for even its sponsor the United States, and in particular to Mr. William Clinton, Mr. Ehud Barak went on the air on Friday night to tell the world that for all intents and purposes the "peace process" is put on "hold" until the Israeli ammunition is close to running out. This kind of theatrics is really unbelievable in the wake of the United Nations Security Council condemning Israel for its "excessive use of force", but not for murder or genocide, which is the only way that one can describe what the whole world has been witnessing for three weeks now live and in color. A civil protest has turned into an all out war situation, with the use of just about every type of killing tool at the disposal of the Israeli "Defense" Forces. When asked about what the standing instructions for the Israeli security forces has changed to, after the Sharm El-Sheikh Summit, an Israeli Officer stated: "Our orders remain, to use restraint as much as possible, but when they come at you,

shoot to kill", or something to that order. He was not saying that with any feeling of embarrassment or shaken conscience, for the Israelis know that to have come to live in Israel, there is no room for soft consciences or moral indignation. In fact, the whole being of Israel rests on the invalidity of normal human values and rights accorded in a civilized world. As much as Israel seeks to project the image of its civilized behavior, one is inclined to believe that Israel continues to insist that what is good for the rest of the world is not good for Israel and what is bad for the rest of the world is good for Israel. It is this kind of logic that prevails in the mentality of Israeli leaders and it is this kind of mentality that the United States is being drawn into adopting, notwithstanding the serious handicap this poses to American foreign policy makers, who seemed to have forgotten the John Foster Dulles theory that what is good for Israel is not necessarily what is good for the United States. It goes without saying, that as evil as what Israel is doing in the streets of the West Bank and Gaza, and even in its Arab Israeli enclaves, would not be so ugly and unforgivable, let alone acceptable from a civilized society, if we can give some credence to the Israeli self acclaim, had it not been assured the cushioned support of the United States. Even some of Israel's old friends cannot find justification in what Israel is doing to the unarmed Palestinians, who have suffered so much under the hands of arrogant elements of a people who continuously claim to have a monopoly on suffering from persecution and oppression. But

the Israelis state that neither the United Nations nor the European Union are objective enough to organize a Committee of Inquiry to look into the mess that Israel - and Israel alone - is responsible for in the Levant this last month. Why? Because they already know what the verdict reached by such a Commission is bound to be, and because any Commission of Inquiry acting according to its conscience can only conclude that Israel - and Israel alone - can only be blamed for the murder and injury of so many innocent people, who have been victimized by the international community, as well as by Israel for four generations. It is really the conscience of the international community that is facing the test now. We have given up testing the conscience of the likes of Ariel Sharon and Ehud Barak since Deir Yassin. But, the international community is not expected to just watch and hope that perhaps somebody, somewhere out there in the land of McDonald Hamburgers and Boeing Aircraft will start to understand that the United States just cannot sit and watch while its spoiled brat wreaks havoc in the Holy Land - of all places, without so much as a stir from the Global Superpower. Even after the United States had grudgingly abstained from voting on the United Nations Security Council Resolution softly condemning Israel for its excesses, the Israelis still feel they have the Green Light from the United States to carry on as usual in Palestine, as though they are free from accountability. To add fuel to fire, the Israelis have the audacity to declare that they are not willing to accept a United

Nations Commission of Inquiry, because it is biased. Yet, the United Nations was not biased when it voted for the unjust partition of Israel in 1948? It was Israel's friends that sought the United Nations to take over the British mandate of Palestine in 1948, because the British lost hope in believing that the Zionists were going to be grateful to them for setting up the "national home" for the Jews at the expense of the indigenous Palestinians, and the British Officers and soldiers fell victim to the vary forces they trained to defend this national home - the Haganah, Stern and Irgun gangs. What makes the Americans think that the IDF or Israel's intelligence and clandestine organs will not also turn against the Americans, once they find that the Americans also have a soft conscience when it comes to seeing innocent blood unleashed. Ask CNN how much pressure they have met up with just for trying to be as objective as possible, without meeting a wobble of accusations of "negotiating for the Palestinians", as Ehud Barak told Christiane Amanpour, when she interviewed him and asked him "You say that you have given a lot to the Palestinians, just what is it that you have actually given them?" A question that neither Barak nor Dennis Ross would be able to answer to this day. Nevertheless, we can answer for them, because we see it now everyday. Rather than dropping food and candy from airlifts to ease the deprivation brought on by the ongoing siege of the Palestinians, Ehud Barak has given rockets fired from Apache Helicopters. Just imagine Apache Helicopters against rock throwing youth and old men; tanks against ambulances, rifles with telescopic scopes against randomly thrown pebbles that could hardly be considered as lethal weapons. The Israelis surely have given too much to the Palestinians! Too much hell that is! Yet, they want us to believe that they are right and they are moral! The irrelevance of Israeli logic never ceases to amaze the listener. However, watch out Israel! The Arab

leaders are holding their Extraordinary Summit. More tears than cheers are the result of leaders, who really have not gotten the gist of what their people are telling them. Their people are telling them, "We want you to do something, and now!" However, they do nothing, as usual. What a disgraceful nation have we become that 21 or so states, sitting atop the richest natural bounties, on which the entire western world depend upon, for its vitality and strength, cannot say to all those western powers, "Well we have power too and if you do not tame your baby, soon enough, we are going to keep our resources for our kids. We will live on the money you owe us now for all the oil you have taken without remembering that the dignity of its owners just cannot be forsaken so easily". It has worked before and it can work again! Yes, Arab leaders, peace is fine and we want you to seek peace. However, we do not want you to forsake the purity and dignity of Arab blood. Those are our children in Palestine also and they are entitled to all the love and care that any Arab children, who have yet to taste the bloodthirstiness of Ariel Sharon and his friends in the Israeli Defense Forces, are entitled to get. The Israelis say it is Ya Arafat who is responsible! Yassir Arafat is also a Palestinian and Yassir Arafat would be a traitor, not just to the Palestinian people, but to all the Arabs (Christians and Moslems), if he so much as told the Palestinians: "Just keep it inside, it will wear out in time". That is really like saying Arab blood is cheap. The Arab masses - from Mauritania, who sent the Israeli diplomatic corps packing home, without even waiting for an official break in relations, to Lebanon, where Hizbullah continues to lift our heads high, even in the most sorrowful of times, by keeping those Israeli myths, as nothing but myths that can easily be erased and stained, with the shame and humiliation that is rightly due to the Israelis - have told their leaders that they are tired of their impotence and that it is time they realize that Arab blood is not cheap, whether they are the ones who spill it or the Israelis who spill it!

Dream and Demon

Mahammad Al-hakimi

When they struggled to release their country people from the many-faceted era of inequity and murkiness, insurgents had envisaged a glorious future that would bring about real development and would never let Yemen be re-cast into the vortex of tyranny and backwardness. Today none can ignore the fact that Yemen's witnessed many improvements. It has been able to achieve glorious enterprises and services and encourage people to share the world progress and try to probe the scientific revolutions and technological experiments being made around the world today. One such civilized projects Yemen has witnessed are democracy and re-unification. However, it has of late been cast into the vortex of corruption and blunder to a great extent. It's true that Yemen has proved to be amiable and peace-loving; yet its people are confronted with instability which is the soul of life and its future prospects have begun to decline. Now corruption is covering almost every official sector. It has influenced king-pins; people in positions of responsibility; and the low from the common laity. And those tragic pictures of the present-day occurrences at ministries, official offices, hospitals, schools, markets, streets, universities, judiciary and those of the deterioration of the budget, hiking of prices, and the increasing number of unemployment, and the absence of accountability are all considerable evidence of the forfeiture of the revolution's goals. What we should not lose sight of is the fact that our president Ali Abdullah Saleh has done miracles to improve Yemen. In fact, those miracles have been recorded with letters of gold by history. Yet many people holding positions of responsibility around him are distorting his achievements and the face of Yemen in general.

I hope what will follow will add towards mounting a vehement revolution against those corrupt people who are gnawing their country's entity making selfish use of their power and political affiliation along with those who are lying in wait for the extermination of Yemen. Let's act, in closing, in tandem along with our president to really re-fulfill what Yemen and revolutions have aspired for the verse in the Holy Quran "O those who believe, fear Allah and be with the honest", is a tested one.

sands of Somali refugees live in dire need in Yemen where they became the main applicants of us lottery so that to gain possibility to work and learn in us of America. But, unfortunately, not all the winners of such a lottery are confident to achieve their aim though they fulfill all the requirements of the lottery in terms of documents, because of the process that the consulate general of us Embassy in Sana'a use in granting the visa. In addition, what is more surprising in the process is that those who fail to get their visas are also denied the right to claim the refund of the visas expenses which is, usually, paid in advance. Obviously, this way of dealing with the problem of the lottery will probably change the essence of the lottery. What does lottery mean then?

On the other hand, the desire of Somali refugees to apply for the US lottery is based on the assumption that the US authorities sympathize with the unhappy circumstances in which they actually live. But the facts speak of the opposite. Any way, we hope that the consulate will make the interview easy for those winners who are about to face it, and in the meantime, we hope also that our request for refunding all the visas expenses for those whose visas have been canceled, will be considered.

The Somali Community in Yemen

Letters to the Editor

You are kindly requested to address your correspondence and press contributions directly on the name of the Chief Editor

EDITOR,
IN regard to an article which was published in your newspaper Yemen times, (Monday, 4/9/2000, issue no. 36, page no.3, Arab/world news) under (Israeli officer resigns over operation mishap), as a Palestinian I deeply deplored to read in your newspaper an article in which you described the Palestinian movement Hamas and its men as terrorists. Frankly speaking, I was astonished, while reading Yemen Times which was on my friend's table. I'm not a regular reader of your newspaper rather I knew about it that day when I visited my Yemeni friend. After finishing reading the mentioned article, I could not believe that paper was issued in an Arab country, but with deep deplore it was. I have never seen in any newspaper issued abroad any description, or phrase same as the one you used. But I can tell you that your newspaper is almost not far from the Israeli media. all are working against one nation. I'm sorry to say that but this is the truth. **TERRORISTS** is a great word that should be used in a proper place, not to describe us. What I want to tell you that we as Palestinians, don't deserve to be treated by this way. I hope it was an error, not proudly done. I'm waiting for your reply.

Hani Alzraier.

DEAR HANI,
THE news item was taken from a foreign news agency. The word terrorist which in no way can be used to describe great Palestinians should have been written between inverted

commas which were mistakenly dropped. We apologize to all Palestinians.

TO WHOM DOES THE ELOQUENT SCREAM?

WITHOUT doubt, education constitutes the fundamental pillar for development in any country, just as water is important for life. For there to be development, there must be a wholesome educational system in order to bring out a new generation armed with knowledge, culture and high morals. However, it is painful to hear that in Yemen educational system and its planners are totally indulged in the marsh of corruption. Nowadays, educational system in our country became a market where bribery is the most prevailing merchandise and where examination papers and certificates are being sold at the cheapest prices. In fact, this is a great problem that may cause a disaster. Though many people wrote, spoke and warned of the consequences that might befall on our country because of the abasement of educational system, but the authorities concerned turn a deaf ear embodying the famous Yemeni proverb "To whom does the eloquent scream." Our government must realize that only by education we can push a head the wheel of development through the factual and scientific vision.

Yahia Abdullah Sa'adah Faculty

EDITOR,
CONSIDERING the prolonged political crisis in their country following the disastrous civil war in 1991, thou-



It's Halloween!

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MASTER CHEF JEAN PIERRE NEU

ALSO WE HAVE GREAT ENTERTAINMENT FROM OUR RUSSIAN ENTERTAINERS AND BODY AND SOUL BAND.



BODY AND SOUL BAND



RUSSIAN BALLET ENTERTAINERS



Who's taking care of you?

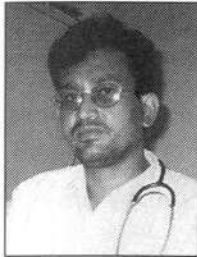
فندق شيراتون صنعاء
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HOTEL

For reservations, please contact Food and Beverage Department Tel. No. 234500 extn. 8135

Hodeidah Kidney Dialysis Centre, Poor Abilities & Negligence

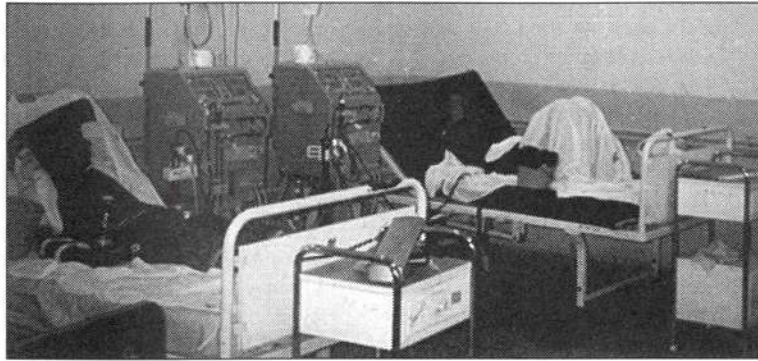
Farouq Al-Kamali
Yemen Times
Hodeidah

Of the most Yemeni cities afflicted with diseases, Hodeidah occupies top of the list. The number of people afflicted with Malaria and bilharzia exceeds tens of thousands every year. Renal dialysis amounts to 25% of total cases here out of which 70% exists in remote areas such as Wadi More; an area which suffers lack of health services. Many



patients pin hope on the only Dialysis Center which provides consultations, free of charge drugs and supervises bloody ascites.

The center is located on the second floor of the Health Cooperation Center. Occupying a small place, tens of patients sleep in front of its gate awaiting death. The only two doctors here



respond to patients complaints about insufficiency of services by explaining the condition of the center, which owing to lack of equipment can not do more than what it is doing. The dirty waiting room made us meet and ask director of the center who said that there was no budget for cleanliness and nutrition. The image might suggest miseries, but none can deny the great help it offers to patients of renal dialysis, he said. He added that it was lack of facilities that prevent better services. Despite the increasing number of patients, the center has been closed down for more than once. "The center was established in 1993 with efforts of the Local Council in cooperation with Renal Dialysis Patients' Friends Society, the Yemeni-Austrian Society and the Ministry of Health, though with a modest share, explained the director Dr. Maher Ismael. "The annu-

al YR6 million budget is not enough to cover services for three months. We depend on donations of traders for the rest of the year, especially after the decline of the health Cooperative Center's Revenues. As for substances used in dialysis, 80% are provided by traders and the Health Ministry provides only 20%. So, it was lack of financial support to maintain equipment and purchase of needed appliances, and that caused the center's closure," he added. During the closure of the center, patients had to travel either to Taiz or Sana'a for treatment. Eight patients from Hodeidah died last year in Sana'a for not receiving enough time for dialysis.

After 6 years of interrupted services, the center was adopted by the Health Ministry. The beginning was promising when it received 11 medical equipment. However, they don't work. Dr. Maher said that the center had received some equipment from the Ministry of Health but there were no technicians to operate. He deplored the tall promises from the Ministry to include the center within its responsibility which so far had been mere promises. Lack of maintained devices, he said, pushed us sometimes to decrease period of bloody ascites from 4 to 2 hours in order to serve all patients. Others can not get such operations, he added.

The deplorable condition of the above mentioned center needs immediate attention from authorities concerned. A qualified cadre should be made available to work on devices. There should also be an inpatient wards to receive patients.



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OPHTHALMIC EDUCATION (14)

AMBLYOPIA

What is a Lazy eye (amblyopia)?

It happens when vision in one eye becomes less than the other without any obvious eye disease. It happens when one eye of the child is long-sighted or short-sighted more than the other. It also happens in certain cases of squints.

Why does the eye become lazy?

When one eye sends clear pictures to the brain compared to the other eye, the brain ignores the blurred image and the child stops using that eye involuntarily. This leads to a lazy eye leading to poor vision forever even if the eye appears healthy.

Is there any treatment for lazy eyes?

If the lazy eye is diagnosed early in childhood it can be treated. The earlier the diagnosis is made the better the eye responds to treatment and regains some of the vision lost. Treatment is very simple and comprises one of the following:

1. Patching the good eye so that the brain can use it again and analyze the pictures sent from it. This is the most effective way of treatment.
2. Using dilating drops or ointments.
3. Encouraging the child to wear his or her glasses.

The above treatment needs a plan and close follow-up by the treating eye doctor.

What leads to failure of treatment?

- If diagnosis is made after the age of six or seven years there is no hope till now to regain any vision lost. Treatment of lazy eyes after the age of seven is unsuccessful.
- Children will refuse to put the patch because some of them will see very little with the lazy eye. The parents should encourage their child with different methods especially during the first few weeks.

What happens if the lazy eye is also squinting?

Treating the lazy eye has to be the first step in managing these children. The squinting eye can be treated surgically at a later stage.

REMEMBER:

- The patch or cover should be put while the child is awake.
- The patch or cover shouldn't allow any light to go into the covered eye.
- Avoid putting the patch on the glasses.
- Try not to respond to the desires of your child to remove the cover but try to encourage them using all methods available.
- If your doctor asked you to cover the good eye for a certain period of time, you shouldn't decrease or increase that period by yourself.
- Lazy eye cannot be treated after the age of seven years and it is permanent. Visit your eye doctor for a routine check-up even your child's eye looks healthy.

Routine eye exam by an eye specialist is very important. It is your sight and your eyes need every care they deserve.

Reference: PAACO educational leaflets, Cairo

Mahfouth A Bamashmus FRCSEd, FRCOphth
Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon
Ibn-Al-Haiham Clinic
University of Science & Technology, Sana'a



ANNOUNCEMENT

The Yemen Free Zone Public Authority Aden Free Zone

announces its wish to have a design for a road linking Aden container Terminal to Air Cargo Village at Aden International Airport. The design shall include a design for an over-head bridge passing over the marine road also a No. of bridges and barrages on sea coast.

Qualified technical offices are required to refer to the Engineering Sector in the Authority to get the full information and data necessary.

Judicature: Problems & Solutions



Hassan Al-Zaiedy, Yemen Times

Throughout the century in all countries the authority of the state is reflected by the authority of the judicature, the citizen's faith in it and the execution of its decisions and verdicts. Since the officials in charge of the judicial offices confess that there is corruption and intervention in the judicature, why do they not try to eradicate it and put an end to such corruption and problems?!

The corruption in our country has led the people to distrust it. The State has announced that there is a scheme for judicial reforms. Propagating that plan on the media means, it is not fulfilled in reality. The courts are congested with people following their cases that have not been resolved for more than ten years and everybody is complaining. Therefore, who is responsible? What is the solution? Why do people distrust the Yemeni Judicature? Why are the judges always attacked? Is it because the judges themselves are corrupted or is it because of the corruption in the judicial offices? How can the Judicature be re-established? What are the forms of violations of the judicature's independence? Why are the laws defining the autonomy of judicature not applied? What are the interventions that hinder the execution of judicial laws and acts? Where do these interventions come from? Where can the people, following their cases and spending all their money on false promises made by judges for years, go? If all this happens in the most impor-

tant authority from which the people expect to get their rights easily without resorting to violence, kidnapping or robbing, what is the solution and until when will the people wait for the reform?

We put this issue and others forward to the Chairman of the Judicial Inquisition Authority Judge Aidaarous Mohsen Atroosh and we came out with the following:

Second Episode

The phenomenon of attacking judges is due to our lack of correct judicial traditions and to the non-understanding of the idea of the Judicature autonomy. This idea is important to all, particularly to the judicial offices themselves by which it should be protected. That is to say, judicature autonomy must be protected by the judicature itself in the present time. The autonomy of Judicature depends on many factors some of which were afforded and some were not. These factors are:

- * The State institutions, officials, citizens, judges, and the people concerned about judicature and the execution of its laws and acts should have a clear understanding of the idea of the Judicature autonomy judicially, administratively, and financially. We hope that this understanding exists theoretically and practically.

- * There are general, absolute and obligatory clauses on which the judge depends in resolving cases, and gives his verdicts. By those clauses he can ensure equality between disputing parties whose status and conditions are the same according to conjoined criterion. The autonomy of judicature becomes eminent by these clauses that were available by issuing substantive and adjective laws that judges apply abiding by the Islamic rules and laws.
- * The self-protection of the autonomy

of the Judicature by the character of the judge himself, to that is, the judge should meet the conditions and standards to uphold his profession.

- * Our constitution includes such constitutional clauses for protecting the autonomy of Judicature. These clauses and guarantees ensure this autonomy.

- * The constitution has included clauses of penal protection to prevent and punish all forms of violations, interventions and influences. A great deal of this protection has been fulfilled by prohibiting intervention in cases of any judicial affairs and preventing the non suiting by prescription.

- * The people should recognize and feel that the autonomy of the Judicature should be protected. This can be fulfilled by developing an informative and cultural policy, Jurassic awareness in the public. The people should also stand up against any corrupted person who uses his post in abusing the judicature for his own interests. People should choose honest ones.

Despite providing the constitutional and penal protection to ensure the Judicature independence, the forms of violations on it are so many. This is because of the missing of self-protection and the public protection of the judicature. The violations can be either those happening while trying or looking into the case or those happening after pronouncing the verdict or act. They can also be those violations related to the legal and constitutional guarantees of appointing, transferring, pensioning off, dismissing, and punishing the judges. For we often see that many officials and even judges mediate and interfere to get orders, instructions and contacts for appointing some people as judges or for promoting, transferring them to get legal

and illegal privileges. The judge must feel that he does not owe to anybody or any particular authority the position he is in or the rights he gets. He must rather feel that he achieves that by his own efforts, diligence, competence and by acts and laws.

What is more serious and shameful than violation of the judicature is the aggression on the judges and threatening them by those who follow cases or by some officials in the Judicial Police. This phenomenon has increased in the last period because the people do not respect judges. Perhaps it is also because the people do not respect the verdicts and acts given by them. Another reason can be the behaviors of those in the main judicial system that offend the autonomy of the judicature and the contradictions that arouse sarcasm of the judicature and consequently mistrust whatever verdicts are given. Besides, the government does not punish those offenders and deals with the offense as if it were a personal problem that concerns the judge as a citizen although there is a big difference between the two. To solve this problem the following should be done.

- * The complete abiding by the measures and clauses that ensure respect or impartiality of the judges in case they are accused of incompetence, preventing them from continuing in the case, and taking stern action when they cause any harm to one of the disputed parties due to their mistake. In addition, the terms related to measures and clauses should be applied of the judge's partiality is proved and measures be taken to penalize him, or prevent the judge from arbitration.

- * There must be, enough guard for the judges to ensure their safety against any assaults or threats. This is very necessary because of the present situ-

ations in the country.

- * Dealing with the aggressions on judges firmly and seriously and considering them as crimes against the State and the security of the whole society and as one of the public opinion issues.

- * Drawing the attention of the State, through media, to any assaults or offensives against judges to provide the required public protection for the autonomy of the judicature and alerting the society to chase the offenders and take them to courts.

- * All authorities must be alert not to accept any requests or intercessions relating to appointing people as judges or appointing them in certain places permanently, transferring them or deputizing them. These requests must be strongly rejected. This should be done to consolidate the true principles of building the State of order and law and to guarantee the autonomy of the judicature. The violators must be sued before the Supreme Judicial Council.

- * Abolishing the forms of the subordination of the judicature to the Executive Authority in the governorates. For judges should not be members of committees that are formed in governorates and should not be members in executive councils in it or department. Furthermore, the courts should be independent in its administrative, and financial affairs from being subordinate to the governorate or Division.

The judge is the cornerstone in the judicial reform process and autonomy of the judicature and in justice. There are scarcely cultured, competent and good ones. There is a bad distribution of judges among the different kinds of courts. To carry out the judicial reform process in our country, the following must be done:

- * Those who would be appointed as

judges must be well-chosen.

- * Their legal, judicial and cultural knowledge must be of a high level.

- * Jurisprudence, legislation and interpretative judgment resources must be available.

- * Judicial stability must be achieved through appointment judges, transferring, and promoting them during prescribed periods. This must happen according to the results of the Judicial Investigation and evaluation of judges' competence and behavior. The settlement of the judge's family affairs must be considered while making the judicial reform movement.

- * The salaries and allowances of the judges must be risen to the level to ensure that they do not suffer financially and consequently ally the possibility of being corrupted.

Surely, the judicature has an effective role in abolishing corruption in the society but this requires great efforts.

The problems facing execution of the judicial acts and laws and prolonging the cases in courts for years are so many. Some of them are: the court does not abide by the terms of execution procedures and the ways of appeal. Some courts make it easy for the litigant to appeal cases in which appeal is not permissible. Another problem is the difficulty to arrive at the locations of execution. The non-existence of judicial police is also a problem. There is no draft of laws that controls the relationship between the police and the judicature. The intervention of some influential authorities and their hindering the execution is a problem that deprives the people who won the case from benefiting from the verdict. One of the fruits of the verdicts is the execution of verdicts. Prolonging of procedures is another problem.

Wahi Lukman, Symbol of Strong will and Determination

Ridhwan Al-Saqqaf Aden Bureau Chief

Dr. Wahi Farooq Lukman, a teaching staff member at King Abdul.Aziz University-Faculty of Administration and Economics, in Jeddah, is a model person who struggled to make her dreams come true. She is the first person to get a doctorate after the late Taha Hussain. Dr. Wahi lost her sight at the end of intermediate school. She continued her study and finished high school, then university until she got her doctorate

to be the first Arabic woman to get a university degree of the highest level. "I found the years passing by and my sight was declining. I woke up for the fact that I was threatened of losing one of the many blessings of God". These were the words of Dr. Wahi as we started the interview with her. At the beginning of the interview she told the Yemen Times that she started searching for another way of life as a compensation for her lost sight and that she knew she will face many difficulties, but she was determined to challenge and overcome them. She also said that the real test was to defeat her disability and turn it into success. Dr. Wahi's sight started declining at

the age of 12 and she lost it completely at the age of 18.

Q: Could you tell us how your school life was?

A: I studied in ordinary schools until high school where I got the prize of the model student. Then I joined the university of Sana'a - the faculty of law. I graduated with honors Despite the advice of many people I decided not to stop and continue my study. So I traveled for Amman in the Hashemite kingdom of Jordan. After two years I stood to defend my dissertation for the master's degree in 1991. The university of Cairo was my next stop where I defended my dissertation

for the doctorate in 1998. The dean of the university attended the discussion and he congratulated me as the first blind to get a Ph.D. in the law of trade.

Q: How did you manage to read?

A: I depend on other people to read for me and listen to recorded tapes. I read daily and feel rather lost if the day passes without reading. The worst moment is when I don't find someone to read for me.

Q: Why did you choose to teach?

A: Many reasons made me choose teaching as a profession. The main reason is being fond of research and the university is one of the few places

that provides us with such facility. The other reason is my wish to pass knowledge to others, this makes me feel how helpful I could be to others. Another reason is the happiness I feel to see the gift God has given me of being able to teach without needing papers to read.

Q: Have you ever considered practicing law?

A: No, I haven't. Because, the degree I hold enables me to teach at the university which was the dream of my life and I don't tend to work in courts of law, but I don't mind being consulted.

Q: How do you find your relationship with your students.

A: Our relationship is based on mutual respect. They all show me high appreciation and cooperation which reflect their decent manners. They also made feel as if I weren't new to them.

Q: What are your ambitions?

A: I'm about to start new researches to be a professor. I also want to have a consultation office, if I find the chance.

Q: Have you ever had difficult or embarrassing situations.

A: In fact, I've never had an embarrassing situation before, but I've always had to explain my situation to the students because it doesn't show on me and they've always reacted positively. I would like to extend my thanks to my dear companion Rahima who always has helped me to behave with full trust and confidence.

Q: How do you prepare notes and exam papers? And who helps you in this?

A: Before I give the lecture at the university, I prepare it at home where I have someone to read for me. I also listen to video recorded lectures of



those teachers who have vast experience and have their lectures recorded on video cassettes. I've also asked some people to record some important books on tapes for me which I listen to whenever I need.

I mark exam papers after someone like Rahima reads them for me as they are even with the spelling mistakes then I give the mark for each paper.

Q: How do you spend your day in the university?

A: I teach for 18 hours a week. I spend some time in my office to meet students and answer their questions and in my free time I meet my colleagues in the same college or in other colleges. I do all that with the help of Rahima who checks the attendance for me and does my paper work.

Q: How do you spend your time outside the university?

A: I stay in the university until three in the afternoon. Then I resume my work in my study at home at five. Then I ask somebody to read the newspapers for me. I prepare my notes for the next day until nine. Then I sit with my family, and then I go to bed. At the weekends I visit relatives and friends and do some sports.



Press Scanner

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr

Yemeni press this week has locally focused on three main topics; the proposed constitutional amendments, the statements of president Ali Abdulla Saleh at Al-Jazeera Satellite TV. interview on Wednesday 18 October 2000 and development of investigations carried out to reach accurate conclusions regarding the explosion recently took place in the USS Cole destroyer at Aden seaport. There are also many other domestic questions given prominence by the press and been front-paged in the newspapers. As for Arab news, the Palestinian intifada, the Israeli crimes perpetrated against the defenseless Palestinians in the occupied territories, the Sharm El-Sheikh Egypt-US- brokered regional summit and its lukewarm decisions and statement and Arab foreign ministers meeting in Cairo, Egypt for preparing for the Arab summit scheduled on 21-22 October 2000.

Review of the main headlines published on front pages of Yemeni newspapers this week.

- President Saleh: We Want the Arab Summit to Adopt Resolutions not Final Statement. We Called for Stopping Normalization with Israel, Summon Ambassadors, Opening Borders, not War Blockade against Iraq Must not Continue Infinitely
- President Saleh Leads Yemen's Delegation to Arab Summit
- Interior Minister: Important Findings in Investigations into British Embassy Explosion Incident
- Security Apparatus: Cole Blast a Put-Up Criminal Act
- US Ambassador: Explosion Would not Affect Good Relations With Yemen
- Gulf Development Program Donates US \$ 130,000 For Woman Society in Aden
- Opposition Renews its Rejection of Constitutional Amendments
- French Warplane in Socotra
- Popular Committee in Support of Aqsa Intifada
- America Threatens to Retaliate

- RVF Sweeps New Areas
- Egyptian Military Expert Accuses Israel of Explosion in Cole Destroyer
- Teachers Demonstrations Demand their Legal Rights
- Failure of Sharm El-Sheikh Summit
- YSP Rejects Constitutional Amendments, Calls on People to Oppose them.

Excerpts from articles selected from some of the Yemeni newspapers on various domestic and Arab issues.

ATTARIQ
الطريق
weekly,
October 17

In one of its articles the newspaper has tackled the question of administrative and financial reform in the country. The article says for years we have been hearing of the administrative and financial reform, administrative revolution, destroying the routine and confronting with deviations in many of government institutions. Unfortunately we have not seen any reform that we have expected to take place. The administrative octopus is the main cause in the failure of many projects. Non-clarity of criteria and specializations is another factor of negative aspects, especially when appointments in leading positions is not based on qualification and public interest.

The reform could not be realized but through serious application and decisiveness in accountability at all levels of jobs and putting the proper man in the proper place.

AS-SAHWA
المصفاة
weekly,
October 19, 2000

An article of the weekly says the Palestinian intifada has confirmed liveliness of this nation and warned against many great issues. It has tipped all the balances and disclosed the West's racism and hatred towards the Arabs and Moslems. Continuation of the intifada has embarrassed the Arab and Islamic regimes and would force them to take

positive stands in favor of the Palestinian cause. The Aqsa intifada is a lesson and a successful experience the Arab and Islamic states and peoples should learn. The hope is that the Arab leaders grouped in their summit would not lag behind their peoples however heavy the chains they are chained with.

AL-BALAGH
البلغ
weekly,
October 17

The weekly editorial has said that the US president Clinton arrived at Sharm el-Sheikh summit carrying with him three points.

The first point is stopping the Palestinian and Israeli sides mutual violence. This of course means dealing the blows to the Palestinian Intifada and silencing the demonstrators. Clinton has dared not to say stopping the Zionists from killing the defenseless Palestinians.

The second point is the return to the Palestinian-Israeli security cooperation. And this means that the Palestinian authority arrests and intimidates anyone daring to stand against the Zionist occupation and the Palestinian authority should be responsible for protecting the Zionists security.

The third point is the agreement on reviving the peace process. And this means the return to the negotiating table in an attempt to force Arafat to offer more concessions till in the course of time it comes to abandon the holy Quds and other Palestinian territories.

ATH-THAWRA
الثورة
daily of October 19

Ath-Thawra says in its editorial that the Arab leaders are called to practically offer an indication of their determination to transfer the official stand to a positive point towards the peaceful negotiations process. Objectively and out of a sense of responsibility the Arabs would not get any profit from their emergency sum-

mit if it is dominated with the same atmospheres and negative wills that chained the Arab joint action for the past ten years. In the light of the Israeli war of annihilation against the Palestinian people and the Arab masses wrath, the Arab emergency summit has to raise to the level of the power of the Arab and Islamic right expressed by the masses. Their summit should be of decisions not merely of statements and denunciations.

AL-IHYA'A
الإحياء
AL-ARABI
weekly,
October 16, 2000.

The weekly's editorial says the Arab masses revolution against the brutal massacres committed against the Palestinian people is still raging. The masses revolution has acted hard against the defeatists among the Arab officials calling for the settlement pursuit and made them and made them jumbled in their stances and statements. It made them looking for safety at the hands of the American sponsor to rescue them from their dilemma.

The Sharm el-Sheikh summit has originally been an American call since the beginning of events in Palestine and since the call for holding an Arab emergency summit. The said summit came to force Yasser Arafat to accept the American solution proposed in Camp David-2 and undermine the popular uprising in occupied Palestine and finally to empty the Arab summit from any positive position towards liberation of the usurped Arab land. Hosni Mubarak has been keen to be extremely honest towards his strategic relationships with the United States and has literally complied with the US demands. For this end he has mustered all of Egypt's negotiating abilities and mobilized all his Arab and European relations to delay convening of the Arab summit to be preceded by Sharm el Sheik one.

RAY
الراي
weekly
October 17, 2000

Ray has devoted its editorial to tackle the question of the constitutional amendments. At the beginning of its editorial the weekly praised as positive the meeting held Tuesday between the Parliamentary committee

on the constitutional amendments and representatives of Yemeni parties. The editorial says that despite the positive move by the committee it could not be alternative of the ideal mechanism for producing amendments receiving national unanimity. That mechanism was that proposed by RAY (Sons of Yemen League) party for calling to a national meeting, particularly the political parties, to discuss all visions and proposals with open hearts putting in minds prospects of the future.

AL-WAHDA
الوحدة
weekly
October 18, 2000

The weekly editorial is focusing this week on the 37th anniversary of the October 14 revolution in Yemen. It has said that perhaps one of the great and beautiful meanings of celebrating the outbreak of October 14 revolution 1963 against the British colonization and achieving the full independence on November 30, 1967 is that they coincide with uprising of the Palestinian people against the Israeli enemy.

The editorial maintains that peoples will is unconquerable whatever weapons and means of destruction the enemies have possessed. October revolution and all revolutions in the world against usurpers and colonialists have proved the latter's defeat.

The land of Palestine is the last stronghold of usurpers in the world and the Israeli enemy would face the heaviest defeat at the hand of the Palestinian people.

AL-UMMA
الامة
weekly
October 19

Al-Umma has also devoted its editorial to mark the anniversary of October 14 revolution. It says we the Yemenis have the right to be proud of this revolution and have to at this historic circumstance observe its anniversary to derive the power in facing the dangers encountering the homeland and the nation. It is also to deal with the Zionist and imperialistic forces attempts, represented by the United States, as they try to impose on us a settlement which would only achieve the Zionist control on the Arab citizen and his sanctities and riches. Celebrating the revolution's anniversary this year came void of any festivities phenomena due to the tragic events in Palestine. But it has rather brought back to our minds the anniversary of liberation from the British colonization and the memories of Yemeni sacrifices and martyrs against the occupation that participated in creating the Zionist entity and sowed the seed of divide and rule through drawing the political map of many of our Arab countries.

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As a leading Mobile (GSM) telecom operators in Yemen, we seek qualified candidates for a variety of positions.

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All qualified candidates should send their CV:
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by mail to P. O. Box: 18550 Sanaa, Yemen
by email to: georgesaab@yahoo.com

Sana'a Water and Sanitation Local Corporation Sewerage Networks Project Implementation Unit

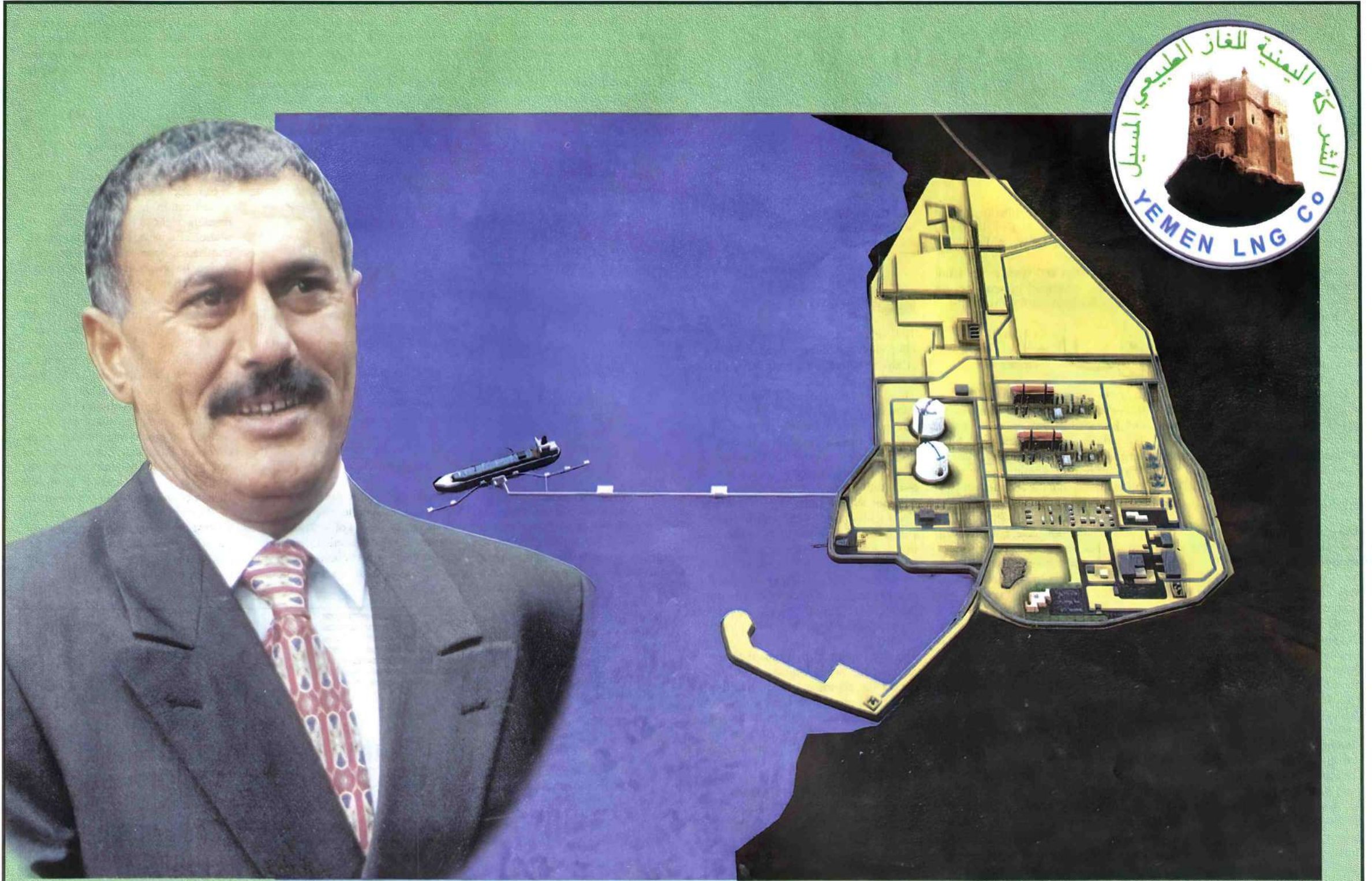
Invitation for the Pre-qualification of Bidders

For

Construction of Sana'a Wastewater Network PHASE 1

- The Government of Republic of Yemen (ROY) has a loan from the fund of Economic & Social Development (AFESD) and intends to utilize this loan towards financing the construction of Sana'a Wastewater Networks Phase (1).
- Sana'a Water & Sanitation Local Corporation (SWSLC), Republic of Yemen, now invites interested bidders to apply for pre-qualification for construction of this phase of the project which covers 3500 hector in Sana'a city and will be implemented in several packages, the first one comprises the construction of 55Km of sewers ranging in size from 200m to 700m diameter of uPVC and GRP pipes in the priority areas - Safya East, Sabeen and Sawad Hanash in Sana'a.
- It is expected that invitation to first bid will be made to the pre-qualified contractors during January 2001. Pre-qualification will be conducted through qualification procedures specified in the guideline procurement under (AFESD) and is open to local, Arab and international firms and voluntarily formed joint ventures and between two or more firms.
- Eligible Contractors of first class grade according to top classification in their countries of origin with sound experience in sewerage construction may obtain the pre-qualification documents from SWSLC, Republic of Yemen starting the date of publishing the notice at the address noted below.
- The request shall clearly state "Request for pre-qualification document for construction of Sana'a Wastewater Network Phase (1), priority areas".
- The documents will be available for a non-refundable fee of US Dollars two hundred only (US\$200) or its equivalent in Yemeni rials paid in cash or through a demand draft on a recognized commercial bank cashable at Sana'a to the Corporation SWSLC, Republic of Yemen.
- The SWSLC will promptly dispatch the document by registered airmail- after receiving airmail fees, but under no circumstances will be held responsible for late delivery or loss of the documents mailed.
- Applications for pre-qualification must be submitted in sealed envelopes which must be either delivered by hand or by registered mail to the address given below not later than 12.00 noon, 26 Nov. 2000.
- Applicants will be advised, in due course, of the results of their applications. Only firms and joint-ventures pre-qualified under this process will be invited to bid.

Eng. Abdulla Al-Muta'a
Project Manager
Project Management Unit (PMU)
P. O. Box 2659
Sana'a - Yemen
Tel/Fax 250163



Yemen LNG Company Ltd

Management and Staff

Extend their warmest congratulations to

H. E. Ali Abdullah Saleh

President of the Republic of Yemen
on the great occasion of

the 38th anniversary of September 26 glorious Revolution
and 37th anniversary of October 14 glorious Revolution.
We wish Yemen many more progress under his leadership



يسر إدارة وموظفي

الشركة اليمنية للغاز الطبيعي المسيل المحدودة

أن تتقدم بأحر التهاني القلبية إلى

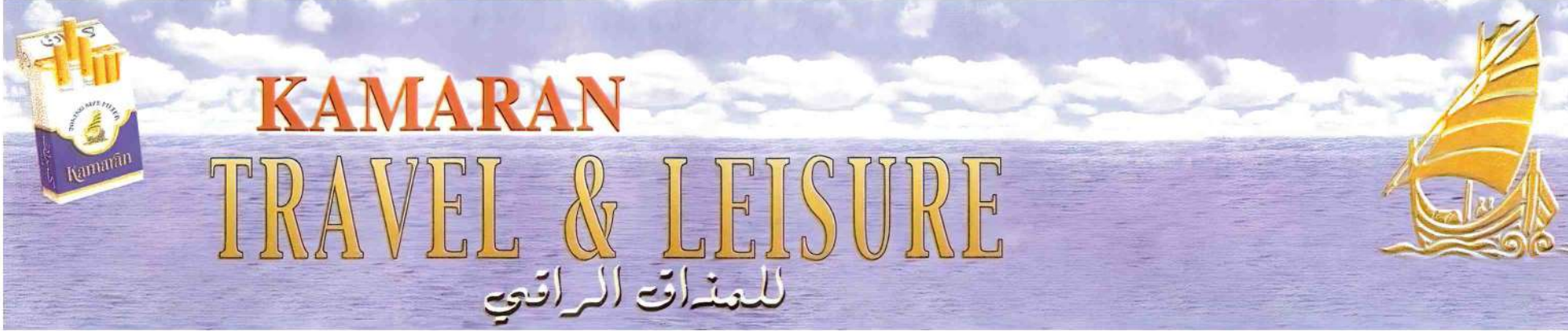
فخامة الأخ / علي عبدالله صالح رئيس الجمهورية اليمنية

وذلك بمناسبة العيد ٣٨ لثورة ٢٦ سبتمبر المجيدة

والعيد ٣٧ لثورة ١٤ أكتوبر المجيدة

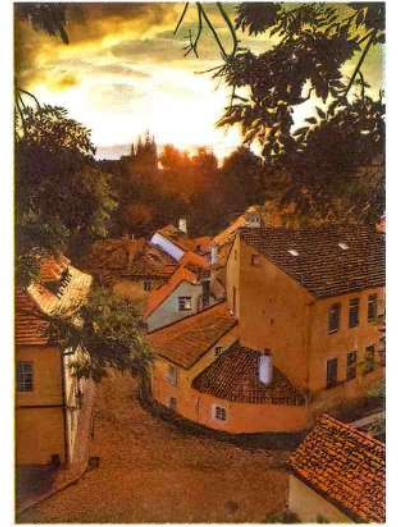
مع تمنياتنا لليمن بمزيد من التقدم والرخاء تحت قيادتكم الحكيمة

26 September 14 October



KAMARAN TRAVEL & LEISURE

للخدمات السياحية



Prague, Castle Complex

THE CZECH REPUBLIC: Country in the Heart of Europe



Kla'ra Janousova
Embassy of the Czech Republic

The Czech Republic situated in the heart of Europe is a typical Central European Country. It is geographically inaccurate to refer to the Czech Republic as an East European State, an illusion to its one-time membership of the former Soviet bloc. It also has to be said, that the Czech Republic was not involved in Balkan wars and has been enjoying peaceful development without wars for last 55 years. Throughout history the Czech lands always belonged to Central Europe, politically and culturally gravitating towards the Western rather than the Eastern half of continent.

Due to its position in Europe's temperate climatic zone the Czech Republic has relatively mild winters and not very hot summers with adequate rainfall. Naturally, the best time to come is in the spring and summer months and early autumn, while damp and cold November is usually the least pleasant season.

The Czech Republic nestles in a basin encircled with a wreath of border



The Capital Prague

Einstein, Tycho Brahe and Casanova are only a few of the numerous celebrities who were influenced by or in some way connected with the Czech lands.

The beautiful countryside is profoundly reflected in the soul of the nation. The people who live there are friendly, hospitable and endowed with a special sense of humour.

Whether you are looking for a place to relax, for sport or entertainment, if you want to become acquainted with history, art and the beauties of nature or need a suitable venue for congresses,

Nouveau structures, as well as unique examples of the Cubist Style. Whether you walk through its labyrinth of twisting little streets to the Old Town Square with its dominant features like the Old Town Hall tower featuring a unique astronomical clock, or take a stroll across the Charles Bridge, one of the oldest in central Europe, you are certain to enjoy the city's architecture at every step. The construction of the Charles Bridge was one of many provident deeds of the wise monarch Charles IV. Founded in the mid-1300s, at the turn of the 17th century the bridge was graced with an array of Baroque sculptures. Prague Castle, the millennium-old residence of the Kings of Bohemia and the seat of the President of the Republic, forms a panorama which has no rival anywhere. The castle complex contains walls which are more than a millennium old. The Castle's current appearance was created primarily under Empress Maria Theresa, the same Maria Theresa who you can see on silver coins found in Yemen - on so called Riyals Fransi. Petrín Hill, accessible by a funicular railway, provides a magnificent view of the city and has a lookout in the form of a reduced-size copy of the Eiffel Tower in Paris.

The rich cultural life of the city culminates every year in the international musical festival of the Prague Spring, which takes place in excellent concert halls and old Prague gardens. However, Prague is also a modern day metropolis and a hub of culture, education and trade, able to offer its visitors and those on business trips a range of top-class accommodation and catering services. And we should not to forget stress, that all of that for significantly less money than it would take in many other European cities.

Health from the Depth of Earth

The world-renowned Czech spa resorts, abounding in both hot and cold springs of mineral water, have been known for several centuries. The majority of them provide treatment under the supervision of specialists throughout the year to suit the particular problems of the patients. Their high quality hotels, stylish guest houses and spa colonnades nestling in pic-

turesque parks have placed host to a number of prominent personalities, including Goethe, Schiller, Chopin, Beethoven, Wagner, Chateaubriand and tsar Petr the Great of Russia. The spa town of Karlovy Vary was founded by Charles IV sometime in the mid-14th century on a site where hot springs were discovered at an earlier period. The town boasts as many as 12 mineral springs with temperatures ranging from 42 degrees C to 72 degrees C, the most famous of which is Vřídlo with a geyser of water reaching to a height of 10 to 15 metres. The local drinking cure has a favorable effect in the treatment of diseases of the alimentary tract and metabolic disease of glands with internal secretion. Mariánské Lázně has over 40 curative springs with a favorable effects in the treatment of diseases of the kidneys and urinary tract, the respiratory tract, nervous diseases and diseases of the motor organs. Frantiskovy Lázně are located in the westernmost corner of the Czech Republic and its architecture is Empire in style. Outstanding results have been achieved here in the treatment of cardiovascular disorders, gynecological diseases and diseases of the motor organs.

No less important are Teplice in the foothills of the Krusné Mountains and one of the oldest spas in the territory of the Czech Republic with his radioactive springs, Jáchymov, Janské Lázně on the southern slopes of the Krkonose Mountain with treatment of nervous diseases and Podbrade situated not far from Prague with its acidulous waters that form a base for the treatment of cardiovascular diseases. The spa of Trebon in southern Bohemia provides treatment using the curative properties of peatbog extracted from the extensive local marshland. These are, however, only a few examples. Altogether the Czech Republic boasts more than thirty spas, each of them specializing in the treatment of a specific range of illnesses, employing methods ranging from curative baths, packs and drinking cures to a host of other curative methods according to the recommendation of medical staff. A stay in the spa is also an opportunity for acquiring cultural experiences and establishing contact with people, since they offer an impressive range of social events, concerts, exhibitions

and theatre performances. Golf and tennis enthusiasts can make use of golf courses and tennis courts of international parameters.

Active Recreation on the Open Air

The Czech Republic enjoys a temperate climate which is attractive for visits all the year round. Whether you decide in favor of an active family holiday at a mountains farm, hiking, water tourism, agro-tourism, cycling, winter sports or paragliding, the diverse landscape of our country provides a range of interesting opportunities.

The Romantic World of Castles and Manor Houses

When travelling through the Czech Republic, you will come across numerous castles and manor houses, many of which are open to the public. Not far away from the capital city

General overview of the country

Governmental system: parliamentary republic
Area: 78,864 square kms
Population: 10,300,000
Capital city: Prague (1,2 million inhabitants)
Official language: Czech

- In terms of size, the Czech Republic ranks among Europe's medium- to small-size countries
- Czech Republic neighbors with Germany, Poland, Austria and Slovak Republic.
- On January 19th, 1993, the Czech Republic was admitted into the United Nations as its 179th member state. In the same year joined the Council of Europe and became an associate member of the European Union and in 1999 joined NATO.

Renaissance and Baroque manor houses, outstanding for their grandiose architecture and the flawless way in which they blend in with the surrounding countryside. One of the most frequently visited is the Konopiste manor house, located not far from Prague. It boasts splendidly furnished interiors and large hunting grounds abounding in game. The Neo-Gothic Hluboká nad Vltavou manor house in southern Bohemia can offer its visitors a large collection of tapestries, woodcarving, porcelain, paintings, furniture and weapons. The landmarks of the small spa and town of Velké Losiny in northern Moravia include an arcaded Renaissance manor house and a paper mill specializing in the production of hand made paper used for state and diplomatic purposes, the last plant of



SPA- Karlovy Vary

mountain ranges. In the past, the country was a crossroad of ancient trade routes running from the east, west, north and south along the narrow river valleys to meet deep inland. Over the centuries, the most important nations of Europe have met here and influenced each other's destinies. The Czech lands are virtually a showcase of architectural styles, as reflected in their historic towns, castles and manor houses, valuable relics of sacred and rural architecture, remarkable museums and gallery collections and unique examples of technical construction. The most important locations including the historic core of Prague have rightly been entered in the UNESCO List of World Cultural Heritage just as the magnificent Old Sanaa has been. The most eminent personalities of European and world science and art have left their indelible imprint on the country's history. Mozart, Goethe, Kafka, Beethoven,

scientific symposia, or commercial and training meetings, then the Czech Republic can certainly offer you a wide choice and favorable conditions.

Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic

Prague, the City of Hundred Spires, the Golden City, the Magic City - these are only few of the many attributes which have been invented for Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic, which has evolved near fords on the river Vltava, at a junction of major central European trade routes over millennia.

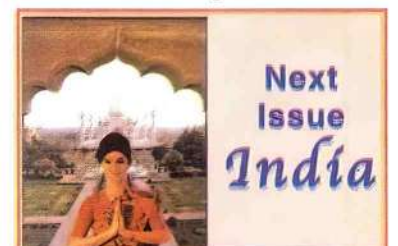
Prague is located on terraces and hills which overlook the wide flowing river Vltava. Thanks to its location in a mixture of terrain, the city affords a wealth of breath-taking panoramic views. Its numerous Romanesque, Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque and Rococo buildings are well complemented by a host of early 20th-century Art



Diverse Landscape

Prague stands Karlstejn, the most prominent of the Czech castles. Erected by Charles IV, King of Bohemia and Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire in the 14th century, it was to serve as his representative seat and treasury for the imperial coronation jewels and the remains of saints. To the west of Prague, Krivoklát castle nestles in deep forests near the river Berounka. Originally a hunting lodge for the princes and kings of Bohemia, it was mentioned in historical annals in as early as 1109. To the north-east of Prague, the grandiose Gothic Kost castle lies in the romantic landscape of Bohemian Paradise. The country abounds in remarkable

its kind in central Europe. During the summer season, many castles and manor houses organize concerts, theatre performances, reconstructions of both medieval and modern-day battles and fairs with displays of historical crafts. In addition, many of them have established medieval taverns within their grounds.



PRAGUE- Charles Bridge and Prague Castle



Frantiskovy Lázně



One of Numerous Czech Castles

Improve Your English



Dr. Ramakanta Sahu
Associate Professor
College of Education, Mahweet

I WHAT TO SAY

At the gift shop

- Mutee:** Good morning doctor
- Dr. Sharma:** Hello, Mutee. A very good morning to you. Glad to see you here. I needed your help.
- Mutee:** I'm ready. What can I do for you?
- Dr. Sharma:** Well I'm here to buy some typical Yemeni souvenirs which I want to carry back to India to be given as gifts to my friends and relatives. I need your help for selection of the gift articles.
- Mutee:** This is the best shop in town for buying small gift articles. Well. What sorts of things would you like to buy?
- Dr. Sharma:** Any thing that reflects the cultural wealth of Yemen, is easy to carry and not too expensive.
- Mutee:** Here there is a whole lot of souvenirs of various sizes and price-range. Let's go round the shop and first select a few things.
- Dr. Sharma:** Yes. That'll be a good idea. Let's start from this end. What are these?
- Mutee:** These are show pieces displaying jambia, a part of the traditional outfit of male adults. How do you like them?
- Dr. Sharma:** They are excellent. I think I'd like to take a few pieces from these. Look at the house models. They are very interesting, aren't they?
- Mutee:** Yes. They show the traditional Yemeni pattern of houses with decorated windows. But, doctor, there is one problem. They are not easy to carry and would take a lot of space in your baggage.
- Dr. Sharma:** You're right. I possibly can't take them with me to India. I may, however, have one for my drawing room here.
- Mutee:** How do you like these silver ware? They can be given to young girls.
- Dr. Sharma:** That's right. My daughters would like these, I'm sure. I must admit you have an excellent taste

II How to say it correctly

Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences:

- The woodcutter fell three trees
- The ship was drowned and its crew sank in the sea
- This institution was found by Late Mohammed Zubeiri
- Actions sometimes speak loudly than words
- I want to know also why he hit the dog

Answers to last week's questions

- Kindly grant me ten days' leave as I wish to go home
Note: 'intend' expresses a strong determination on the part of the speaker. So in polite requests, this word should be avoided.
- Omar has forgotten to bring his umbrella.
Note: 'fetch' is used when we want to express 'to go and come back with'. Whereas 'bring' means 'to come with'. The idea of 'going' is not conveyed.
- The river has overflowed its banks.
Note: the past participle form of the word 'flow' is 'flowed' and that of the verb 'fly' is 'flown'.
- I hope you will pass this year
Note: 'Hope' is used when we look forward to something happy, positive and good. We expect what is probable to happen - it may be good or bad. So 'hope' is used when we expect something with pleasure.
- I found the poor beggar shivering in the cold
Note: One trembles with fear, but shivers with cold.

III HOW TO EXPRESS IN ONE WORD

- Principle of unselfishly considering the wellbeing and happiness of others first.
- Boy or man who was a pupil or a student of a school,

college or university.

- Person who paints pictures, performs music, plays, etc. for the love of it, not as a profession.
- Minister representing the government of his country in a foreign country.
- Expression that can have more than one meaning.

Answers to last week's questions:

- Having all power; powerful beyond measure: **almighty**
- Money, clothes, food etc. given to the poor: **alms**
- The letters used in writing a language arranged in order: **alphabet**
- Raised place on which offerings are made to God: **altar**
- Height, especially above sea level: **altitude**

IV COMBINE THE IDEAS IN EACH PAIR OF SENTENCES GIVEN BELOW INTO ONE SENTENCE USING A SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTION

- He could not go to sleep. Mansour was tired.
- My mother makes rice pudding. It rains.
- It is so late. We cannot go to the market.
- We will not go for a picnic. It is a holiday tomorrow
- Tom sat on a barrel. Ben woked and sweated in the sun.

Answers to last week's questions:

- (i) Only Ali wanted to win the game.
None other than Ali wanted to win the game
- (ii) Ali wanted to only win the game.
Ali had the desire to win, not make it draw.
- (iii) Ali wanted to win the only game.
Ali wanted to win this particular game, not other games.

- (i) Only the mother fed her child.
No one else fed the child.
- (ii) The moth only fed her child.
She didn't do anything else.
- (iii) The mother fed her only child.
She had only one child.

- (i) Only the teacher praised the student.
No one else did.
- (ii) The teacher only praised the student.
He did nothing else.
- (iii) The teacher praised the only student.
Only one student received the teacher's praise.

- (i) Only I met him yesterday.
None except me met him.
- (ii) I only met him yesterday.
I did nothing except meeting him.
- (iii) I met him only yesterday.
I didn't meet him before yesterday.

- (i) Only last week I warned him to be careful.
I didn't want him to be careful before last week.
- (ii) Last week only I warned him to be careful.
None except me warned him to be careful.
- (iii) Last week I only warned him to be careful.
I did nothing except warning him to be careful.
- (iv) Last week I warned only him to be careful.
Only he was warned to be careful.
- (v) Last week I warned him to be only careful.
I warned him to exercise caution and do nothing else.

V WORD OF WISDOM

"Live today, forgetting the anxieties of the past"
-Epicurus.

Registration at University Problems.. Reasons



Nassry A. Al-Saqqaf
Yemen Times

Registration at the University has become a difficult matter. This year registration and tuition fees have suddenly shot-up from 2500 to 6000 rials. Yemeni Universities presidents failed in decreasing the fees following Yemeni Universities Council presided by Dr. Abdul-Karim Al-Iryani, the prime minister who insisted on that decision.

This year much has prevailed registration and admission procedures. Beside registration committees, there have been other partisan committees affiliate of the People's General Congress Party and the Yemeni Congregation for Reform, competing with each other.

Yemen Times investigated into these problems with a number of university officials, students and party committees and came out with the following report:

Abdul-Razzaq Al-Mahbashi, University General Registrar, says "There is a difference in registration regarding the choices of specialization. In the previous years there used to be three choices for students, but this year the process is different. There is only one choice for registration and admission. This procedure greatly facilitates the arrangements for registration, which lasted for a month last year. After that the registration lasted for another month. Now the whole process takes only one month. As for the fees, they are the same except for the fees imposed by the Ministry of Finance, which are 3500 rials for the theoretical colleges and 5000 rials for the scientific ones. It is a decision taken by the Council of Ministers or by the University Supreme Council last year but it was not carried out then."

On whether students demonstrations would lead to cancel the decision he said that he did not think so and that it was being under discussion in the Council of Ministers. However, we take into consideration the fact that there are some students who will not be able to pay these fees. The decision gives the University president a right to exempt about 5% of the total number of students from the fees. The decision was approved since last year to help students who have social and financial difficulties."

About whether those committees are formed by the Students' Affairs department, he said "No, it seems that they are assigned by parties which want to assert their role in front of students. We have not given any assignment for any committee.

While in the University we noticed that many committees from the GCP, YCR, the Yemeni Students General Union and the Scouts Group were distributed in all faculties. Yemen Times interviewed some of the committees to find out about the purpose for their presence in the University and to know if the students cooperate with them and if they do any good to students.

Alawi Al-Saqqaf, YCR, said that those committees were there to serve students and that students respond to them. He added that the committees' role is to

- explain the registration procedures to students.
- put in order the papers according to the University regulations.

He said "There is a discrimination between the members of the two parties regarding dealings. Members of the other parties take their papers to the Students Union as being representative of all students. The Students General Union represents the University students who in general belong to different parties.

Those committees are there to help facilitate procedures for Students. Besides, those committees can neither

register nor omit a student's name. The committees' presence might be a good phenomenon as it means helping students. Other parties were not obliged to remain away."

Mohammad Hamoud Al-Radhmi, from Yemeni Students General Union, says: "These committees are set up for the benefit of the students as they help them with the registration procedures and also reducing the fees from 5000 to 2500. There is interaction between the students and these committees.

There were only two committees for the GCP and YCR. This is, perhaps, because these two have large public bases. The discrimination was only between the two big parties. The Union is for all students. The students, who do not belong to either party, go directly to the Union."

Regarding the legitimacy of these committees, he said "There is a legitimate approval to form these committees. Finally, the University Rector approved the Union and now there are elections inside the University to nominate chairmen for societies and department representatives who are from the students themselves.

Ibrahim Al-Kibsi, GCP, said "The committees were available at the University so as to facilitate registration process for students. There is a positive cooperation between the students and the committees. There is no official approval of these committees. The University was built for teaching all, not for any political party."

Registration Difficulties Facing the Students This Year

Yemen Times interviewed some university students to closely find out about the problems they are facing in the registration procedures for this year.

Abdul-Fattah Ismail, Faculty of Arts, English Department, said "There are many obstacles and complicated routine in the registration process. Students have no information about the rules and regulations of registration. Information office is responsible for that, but it has no activity.

Today we were surprised by further extension of admission period without receiving any prior notification, unfortunately. I think the rise in fees was made by the government and the Prime Minister a year ago and many universities have applied it except Sana'a University. This is because the court had passed a decision in the students' favor. Surely, a lot of students will be affected by the oppressive law of raising the fees and will miss their chances of education. And I think the government is still raising the slogan of free education until now."

Lutf Dhabian, Faculty of Arts, says: "The biggest difficulty we're facing is the oppressive decision of raising fees taken by the Ministry of Finance. Students can not cope with that because all of them suffer from difficult financial problems. We urge the government to be co-operative and merciful with us and not to deprive us of our opportunity in education."

Dunia Alawi Al-Rabashi, Faculty of

Languages, says, "There are many difficulties among which the high registration fees is the most important. We are not rich enough to pay such fees and we hope the University Rector could decrease them. Concerning the committees, they are of a high value for us because they help us in the registration procedures and I urge all the students to co-operate with them."

Ashwaq Daud, Department of Psychology, says "The most important hindrance we're facing is the high fees, which are higher than they used to be in previous years. We demand the University Rector to lower these oppressive fees, which are about 6500 rials. Such an oppressive decision shocked many students. As for the committees, I think they are available here to serve the students in the registration process."

Saly Adnan Al-Adimi, Faculty of Languages, says "The most important difficulty for us is the high admission fees. We hope that the University Rector will lower them because we are still students not businessmen. I find the committees of great value for they cooperate with the students in the registration process."

Faris Abdu Mohammad Al-Hakami, Faculty of Archaeology, says "The fees are extremely high this year and this forms a big problem for the students and makes them depressed specially the unemployed ones. The committees are to help students with registration. These committees work for free and at the same time they gain publicity for their parties."

Husien Yahya Musleh, Faculty of Commerce, says, "The most important difficulty we're encountering at the University today is the extremely high registration fees. The fees began with 2500 rials and suddenly jumped to 6000 rials. This sudden jump caused a big shock to those students who came late for registration. We are still students and these fees are so high that the majority of us cannot afford them. We demand the University Rector to take this into consideration and lower the fees to what they used to be previously. The committees mean nothing to me, what I most care about is the registration fees.

Hani Abbas Al-Saqqaf, Taiz University, English Department, says, "This year, the government universities wanted to raise the fees but because students protested against the law, the law was abolished in some governorates. Most students cannot pay such fees owing to their bad financial conditions, specially students in Taiz University whose colleges were moved to outside the city. Every student will need from 80 to 120 rials per day for transportation, the matter that might lead students to quit the university. Moreover, a lot of corruption have prevailed in the University; bribery, favoritism and burdening student with invaluable handouts and books. Many professors, doctors and lecturers trade in education as they agree with photocopy shops owners on a certain ratio of profit."

The Czech Republic - Long Term Friend of Yemen Message of the Head of the Czech Embassy



Mr. Libor Janous
Head of the Czech Embassy

We, the citizens of the Czech Republic, are celebrating our National Day on October 28. Allow me to write a few words on this occasion.

We must look as deep to 20-th century as to year 1938 to discover the first act of signing of an agreement between Yemen and the predecessor of the Czech Republic, the Czechoslovakia. That Agreement on Cooperation started our long-term relationship.

Throughout the century our friendship was sealed by many other agreements and treaties. Our cooperation is continuing at present as well and I sincerely hope that with the help of our Yemeni friends, we can promote our relations even further.

Yemen has received considerable assistance from the former Czechoslovakia during its brave fight for the Republic which we have remembered just a few days ago. The Czech Republic is with support looking at the efforts of the government to achieve advances in the level of education in the Republic of Yemen. As we consider education an important cornerstone of prosperity and development, the Czech Republic is providing the Republic of Yemen annually with scholarships that enable the young generation of Yemen - that will shape the future of the country - to obtain education at best Czech universities.

Not only it is the rich history, culture and nice people of Yemen that makes it so special. Yemen is a beautiful country that treasures some unique ecosystems to be found nowhere else in the world but here and thus Yemen becomes a part of our global heritage, significant contributor to the beautiful diversity of our planet. The Czech

Republic provides Yemen with tangible developmental aid aimed at conserving these treasures and making the use of them sustainable.

The Czech Republic has been a trustworthy business partner of Yemen for long decades. Some of brand names as for example the shoes "BATA", glass products "BOHEMIA CRYSTALL" and more recently also cars "SKODA" have become a synonym for quality and trust. Many Czech doctors-specialists have been working around the country and their excellent reputation speaks for itself.

We are living now and here, in the world full of opportunities. The Czech Republic is looking forward to assist Yemen in many ways and we hope that in close cooperation with our Yemeni friends we can identify more and more fields of cooperation and prove that traditional, long term, friends have always new plans to talk about.

At the end of my message I have to stress that celebration of our National Day can unfortunately not be as joyful as it should be in the light of the surge of violence we have been recently witnessing between Israeli armed forces and Palestinians. I am in particular sad about those unfortunate developments because the Czech Republic is a traditional supporter of the Peace Process in the Middle East based on Resolutions 242 and 338 of the UN Security Council and the land-for-peace formula.

The Czech Republic is providing Palestinians with tangible financial aid. Our friendship has been as well demonstrated by inauguration of the Permanent Representative Office of the Czech Republic in the Palestinian Autonomous Territories in Ramallah this summer. Allow me therefore to express my hope that the parties concerned will find inner strength and determination to make bold decisions that will bring so much desired peace and thus prosperity and stability.

And prosperity and stability are qualities that I sincerely wish to all our friends.

يتقدم فؤاد قنبر وجميع آل قنبر وآل الشيباني بأحر

التنهاني والتبريكات مكللة بالورد والياسمين

للشباب الخلق /

وليد عبد العزيز عبد الغني

وأ أسرة فؤاد أبو بكر حيمد

وذلك بمناسبة زفاف الأخ وليد.

متمنين له حياة زوجية سعيدة..

Israel/Occupied Territories: Findings of Amnesty International's Delegation

In a report released Thursday based on the findings of its delegation to Israel and the Occupied Territories, Amnesty International said "In policing the recent demonstrations, the Israeli security forces tended to use military methods rather than policing methods involving the protection of human lives." "The impunity for those who commit human rights violations and

the lack of investigations into so many deaths at the hands of security forces has led to a breakdown in the rule of law which has grave consequences for the region," Amnesty International report added. The delegation went to Israel and the Occupied Territories to investigate killings carried out by the Israeli security forces since 29 September.

"The report examines the unlawful use of potentiality lethal force, as well as the impeding of medical access to the wounded," Dr. Elizabeth Hodgkin, from the Middle East Program of Amnesty International and a member of the delegation, said. The human rights organization reiterates its call for a United Nations investigation into the Killing and other serious human rights abuses which have taken place in Israel and the Occupied Territories.

GCC Defence Ministers Meeting Ends

RIYADH—Military cooperation was highlighted at the defence ministers meeting of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) that ended late Wednesday, the official SPA news agency reported. The ministers discussed a number of issues, including the safe telecommunications project worth 70 million dollars to link the

military headquarters of the member countries, a 88 million dollars project to link the GCC's radar networks and early warning systems, SPA said. Their talks also touched upon the development of Al-Jazeera Shield Force, including joint maneuvers and training program. Chiefs of staff of the GCC, which groups Kuwait, Saudi

Arabia, Oman, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain, decided on September 13 to expand Peninsula Shield, the joint defense force, from 5,000 soldiers to 22,000. The force, created in 1986, is headquartered at Hafer Al-Baten, northeastern Saudi Arabia. IPU Conference Adopts Mideast Resolution. (Xinhua)

U.N. Oil-For-Food Deal Fails to Meet Basic Needs: Iraq

BAGHDAD—The United Nations oil-for-food program has failed to meet the basic humanitarian needs of the Iraqi people, Iraqi Trade Minister Mohammad Mehdi Saleh said here on Wednesday. Saleh made the remark while meeting a visiting Egyptian delegation, which arrived in Baghdad by plane on Tuesday afternoon. Saleh said that Iraq's oil exports have generated some 35 billion U.S. dollars since the beginning of the U.N. humanitarian deal in December 1996, yet only 8.3 billion dollars worth of goods arrived in Iraq, or an average of 2 billion dollars a year and seven dollars for every Iraqi citizen. In contrast, some 11.5 billion dollars have been spent to cover the expenses of U.N. activities and reparations stemming from the 1991 Gulf War, he said. Meanwhile, Saleh expressed Iraq's keenness to develop trade ties with Egypt, Iraq's fourth largest trading partner. Iraq has imported goods worth 1 billion dollars from Egypt since the oil-for-food deal was implemented. The U.N. humanitarian program, now in its eighth phase, allows Iraq to sell unlimited amount of oil to buy humanitarian supplies to ease the crippling impacts of sanctions imposed since 1990. Egypt has been one of the leading Arab countries calling for lifting the decade-old sanctions. The visiting Egyptian delegation came to Iraq by plane to show its solidarity with Iraq as well as its defiance of the air embargo, which Iraq claimed is unilaterally imposed by the United States and Britain. (Xinhua)

Non-Aligned Movement Deplores Israeli Excessive Use of Force

UNITED NATIONS—The 114-member Non-Aligned Movement deplores the use of excessive force by the Israeli army against the Palestinians and pledges to be fully involved until the legitimate aspirations of the Palestinians are achieved, the South African permanent representative to the United Nations said on Wednesday. The envoy, Dumisani S. Kumalo made the statement on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) at the 10th emergency special

session of the U.N. General Assembly on illegal Israeli actions in occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the occupied Palestinian territory. The NAM sees it the U.N.'s permanent responsibility to be fully engaged in the Palestinian question until it is effectively solved in all its aspects. He said the movement welcomes the agreement reached at the Sharm al-Sheikh Summit regarding Israeli troop withdrawal and lifting the blockade on the Palestinian territories, and urgently

calls on all sides to cease all hostilities, and renew their resolve for dialogue. Over 100 people, mostly Palestinians, have been killed in the recent violence between Israelis and Palestinians, which erupted after Israeli opposition leader Ariel Sharon visited a Jerusalem holy shrine on September 28. The question of Palestine "constitutes the core of the Middle East conflict" and the achievement of the inalienable right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and independence "is pivotal to the achievement of a sustained and comprehensive peace" in the region, Kumalo noted. (Xinhua)

U.N. Condemns Israel's Excessive Use of Force Against Palestinians

UNITED NATIONS—The emergency special session of the United Nations General Assembly on the Middle East on Friday night overwhelmingly adopted a resolution condemning the excessive use of force by the Israeli forces against Palestinian civilians. The resolution demanded the immediate cessation of violence and use of force and called upon the parties to act immediately to reverse all acts taken since September 28, 2000, leading to the present tense situation. The resolution reiterated that Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, are illegal and are an obstacle to the Middle East peace process. The resolution strongly supported the establishment of a mechanism of inquiry in the recent tragic events, with the aim of finding all precise facts and preventing the repetition of these events. It supported the efforts

towards the resumption of the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations within the Middle East peace process and called for the speedy conclusion of the final settlement agreement between the two sides. It supported the understanding reached at the summit convened early this week at Sharm El-Sheikh of Egypt and urged all parties concerned to put them into practice honestly and without delay. The emergency special session of the General Assembly, which opened on Wednesday and resumed on Friday, was convened at the request of the League of Arab Nations. This has been the fifth since the first one was held in April 1997 to discuss Israeli action in the occupied territories. The recent clashes between Israelis and Palestinians erupted after Israeli opposition leader Ariel Sharon visited a Jerusalem holy shrine on September 28. (Xinhua)

IPU Conference Adopts Mideast Resolution

JAKARTA—After three days of debate, the 104th Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) conference finally adopted here Thursday a crucial resolution on the Middle East conflict which was initially proposed by Indonesia, Algeria and Morocco as an emergency item of the conference. The resolution, "Bringing an end to the tension and violence in the Middle East, protecting civilians in accordance with the Fourth Geneva Convention, and action to save the peace process in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions", was approved. China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Russia stood among the big countries which fully supported the resolution that clearly denouncing atrocity of Israeli authority against Palestinians and the use of excessive military by Israeli authority against civilians in Palestine. The resolution which consists of nine points, also calls on parties concerned to continue their efforts through dialogue as part of bids to stop violence and prevent it from continuing and spreading, citing it welcomes the encouraging result of the Sharm el-Sheikh talks as an important step toward ending violence and resuming the political dialogue and calls on both sincerely to fulfill their commitments. The powerful countries-backed resolution is expected to be able to contribute bids to make the ongoing bloodshed in the Mideast come to an end. "We are happy as it shows that Palestinian people are not isolated, we are not alone. But there are a lot of people supported them (Palestinians), and getting back their rights and establishing an independent Palestinian State," Abdullah Abdullah, a member of Palestinian delegation told Xinhua in an

interview, minutes after the passage of the resolution. "I think this is a strong testimony that the IPU is a responsible institution, that is not the only time that it stands behind the Palestinian people, that is the real contribution of the IPU to achieve peace between Palestinians and Israeli," he said." The week-long IPU conference opened here Sunday by Indonesian President Abdurrahman Wahid. The first time conference hosted by Indonesia has been focused on two main agenda, namely preventing military and other coup against democratically elected government, and the financing of the development. (Xinhua)

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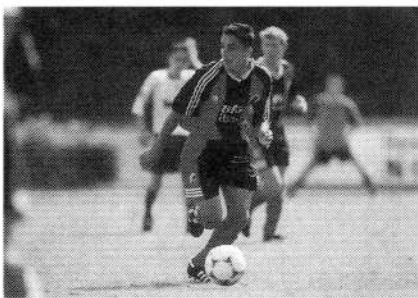
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German Football Team Plays in Yemen

A sport German delegation including a football team, media people and administrators is scheduled in Yemen for October 26. The visiting team will play against Ahli Sana'a on October 27 in Sana'a. The delegation will also made a number of tourist visits to Shibam, Kawkaban, Sana'a Al-Qadeemah, Ibb and finally Taiz where the team is planning to play against Assaqr in Al-Shohadaa Stadium. The matches coincide with the celebrations of the Yemeni and German peoples of their unity and national revolutions. The delegation will leave for home on November 2.



A Citizen Appeals to the President
Abdul-Rahman Nagi Ahmad, a Yemeni citizen, has arrived to Yemen Times with a complaint against Al-Hashidi Company that is presided by Husein Al-Hashidi. Yemen Times publishes the letter as it came:

Dear Marshal Ali Abdullah Saleh,
I write you my complaint against Al-Hashidi Company. I have worked for Al-Hashidi in Almsila oil fields in Hadramout for more than four years and seven months for temporary wages and in Yemeni currency without any salary rises. I have also worked for the Canadian Company, paid in dollars, for the interest of Husein Al-Hashidi who used to promise to employ me constantly and to pay me differences in wages for the past years. On 17/11/99 Husein Al-Hashidi came to the work site, Hadramout, and I asked him to fulfill what he had promised me but he dismissed me without even giving me transportation expenses. I to the Ministry of Labor in Sana'a and raised a case against Al-Hashidi Company. In the Ministry of Labor, they explained to me my rights and drafted me a law for that. Al-Hashidi asked me to go to his office to reach a compromise. I went to him but all I got was sarcastic replies. Now I have been in courts for more than ten years and have spent more than five hundred rials.
I ask you Mr. President: "Could you do me justice?" I hope you do not neglect my case.
Abdul-Rahman Nagi Ahemd

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If you are interested and you are less than 40 years of age please send your CV to:

Job Application, P.O.Box: 15265, Sana'a, Yemen
Or Fax: (01) 409914

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT



يونيسف

مَنْظَمَةُ الْأُمَمِ الْمُتَّحِدَةِ لِلطُّفُولَةِ

The United Nations Children's Fund invites all applicants to apply for the position of a Secretary for Health & Nutrition Section in Sana'a to undertake the following tasks:

- Provide secretarial support to Had of the Section and Asst. Health Officer and prepare drafts and type letters, reports and other project-related documents both in Arabic and English.
- Makes daily filing and improve/update when necessary and dispatching of Health Section documents.
- Arrange appointments/meetings and maintain supervisor's calendar, receives visitors and screens telephone calls.
- Transmit faxes and e-mails for Health Section.
- Translate letters/documents from Arabic to English and vice-versa and act as an interpreter when required.
- prepare Cash requisitions related to health section using the UNICEF Financial management system. Verify and set Cash Assistance to governments liquidation whenever requested.
- Perform any other duties assigned by the Supervisors.

Qualifications:

- Secondary Education is required with training and proved abilities in using computers software is also required.
- Five years secretarial experience preferably in large organization.
- Fluency in spoken and written English and Arabic is essential. The incumbent will be expected to speak, type and write both language to a high standard.

If you have the necessary qualifications and background for the above assignment, we would like you to submit your curriculum vitae with a brief letter expressing your interest in this post and should be sent to:

The Operations Officer
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AL-HAJJARA

Heavenly Beauty Bestowed on Earth

Many tourists come to Yemen to see the great and deep-rooted civilization that once was established in the country. They come full of hopes to enjoy themselves to the full, to see most of the historic places Yemen is distinguished for. Having the chance to see some of these historical places and monuments scattered all over Yemen, a tourist could not but be deeply impressed by the unique beauty manifested on earth. The Yemeni-British Friendship Association had a plan organized by Universal Travel and Tourism in Sana'a to visit Manakha, 125 km to the West of Sana'a, and many other places inside the country in a way to refresh the Yemeni-British relations which have been tense specially after incidents of 1998. Yemen Times represented by Tawfeek al-Shara'abi was invited to accompany them and make a report of this place. It was a lovely journey. However, some bad things were destined to happen and they always happen. Most of the tourists were disturbed and annoyed. However, it was out of our hand.

Difficulties Faced:

The time we reached al-Subahah check point at half past eight, we were held up despite the fact that we submitted an official permit. Officers at the check point were very uncooperative. They are ill-mannered under the pretext of waiting for a convoy. Mr. Mohammed Nasser al-Baidani, Universal Travel and Tourism Agency Public Relation Officer, was with us. We made calls to the Military operations Department, capital secretariat, Interior Ministry which all confirmed sending an escort car from Sana'a. However, it did not happen until ten o'clock. Tourists were quite disturbed and annoyed at this chaos and total negligence. Sa'eed, working in the Universal for almost 12 years, said "This is a perfect example of the security's sense of ignorance and negligence to tourism. We keep our part of the bargain by submitting a report in detail about tourists' number, nationalities, and places we plan to visit. Then, Military operations have to make things ready and on time. They should keep escort cars ready to accompany



tourists to places considered to be unsafe. However, they never do that and we are always held up for hours until an escort car comes." A tourist expressed his annoyance by saying "We are astonished that we are held up. We understand that we have to be in convoy. But if this is the case there should be a car supplied and available here on time. We should not be waiting here. This is a bit annoying. I came here to see the country and not to see the check point with police holding me up." Finally the escort car came after one and half hour's delay making some movements going in front of us and then at the back. We felt good. However, after, lets say, eight to ten kilometers we were surprised to see no car escorting us. The escort car disappeared. What stupid and loose security measures?!!

On the Way to Manakha:

On our way to Manakha we passed a magnificent village located on the top of high lofty mountains called Bait al-Madei. The time we stopped to take some pictures, a person called Hussain Muhssen Sanah, who speaks French, came with his bag full of traditional objects and silver jewelry and started tempting tourists to buy. Then, we reached al-Maghraba where there are two ways one straight to Bajel and then to Hudaidah while the other goes left leading to Manakha and then to al-Hajjarah. Along the way to al-Hajjarah there were many children who came showing their traditional artifacts.

al-Hajjara Dates Back to 2000 Years

When we reached al-Hajjara we had some pictures from the back side of the village. It was wonderful, magnificent, marvelous. All of us stood wondering at that beauty and lofty buildings. On the way to the village villagers stood in a long line welcoming us, presenting traditional objects they made in a marvelous way. al-Hajjara is said to date back to 2000 years. It is a historical city whose buildings are very tall and very closely related to each other. There is only one way to the old village and one gate. In a small village called al-Ba'aaah on the Eastern side of al-Hajjara there used to be some Jews in the past.

Manakha is as such known for its beautiful climate. Shebam is to the North and is 3000 m above the sea-level. In the west side of the village there is a mountain



which is called Maasa'a, 4000 m above the sea-level where Arwa bint Ahmad al-Sulaibi lived for 40 years.

While touring around in the village we came across a tall five-floor building. Haj. Ahmad Ali al-Bashri, a tourist guide, said it belonged to sheikh Abdullah Khalil. He

said that the first floor is for the animals, the second for coffee, the third for grains, the fourth for food, and the fifth is for chewing qat and wedding ceremonies. In al-Hajjara there is a very nice traditional hotel. It is always full of tourists. The Hotel is distinguished for its services and Yemeni meals that tourists enjoy very much. The services provided in this hotel are great. Clean food, nice treatment, Yemeni environment. What impresses every body is that after lunch all the hotel staff and some people from the village start dancing and singing Yemeni traditional songs. Tourists love this very much to the extent that some of them started dancing with Yemenis. One of them said "This is what I want to experience. I love this."

People's Career:



The traditional hotel of al-Hajjara

Manakha, in general, is very famous for planting coffee. This goes back to very long time in history. The people used to have very good revenue from coffee which made them able to build such tall buildings and palaces. Besides agriculture some of the people earn their living from trade and tourism.

Many tourists who come to the village stay in al-Hajjara and then they go to another village called al-Hutaib used to be for the Ismailin. It is one of the best natural places in Yemen for trekking. Tourists can walk for six hours on mountains.

To make a long story short, tourists love to come to our country and to visit historical places that scatter all over Yemen. However, good security measures, good treatment, good-mannered soldiers in check points have all to be ensured. Otherwise, no way to maintain tourists' interest to come to Yemen. The point is "Is any body listening to me?!"

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