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American Pressures to Take Part in Interrogations

For the third successive week massive arrest campaigns against Islamists are being launched in a number of governorates in relation to the USS Cole incident.

Reliable sources have revealed that American pressures had been put on Yemen to take part in interrogating the suspects. Local sources in Aden said that the Yemeni side was carefully studying possibilities of American participation in the interrogations as observers.

Yemen Airforce forbade a landing attempt of an American Helicopter in Aden last Wednesday for not having a permission. During the last two weeks more than 60 American helicopters landed in Aden. Following many threats to attack Aden Hotel, American Inspectors moved to Gold Mohur Hotel after a bomb was defused near the Aden Hotel. Pointing to a possibility of Israeli involvement in the incident, President Saleh told

people of Hadramout in an open meeting that investigation was smoothly going on by the Yemeni Authorities.

Five suspects had been arrested in Sayoun and Lahj including a member of the YSP, a teacher, a salesman and a member of Jihad called Abu Ammar. The Yemeni investigation team is said to have achieved a lot in contradiction with the American expectations.

No Islamic Terrorists in Yemen: Ahmar

Speaker of Parliament Sheikh Abdullah Ben Hussein Al-Ahmar, leader of the Yemeni Congregation for Reform (Islah) called upon Arab countries to meet in Doha to come out with strict and meaningful decisions that help restore Arab dignity. In a statement to the Yemen Times, Sheikh Al-Ahmar described outcomes of the Cairo Arab Summit as disappointing and letting down hopes of the Arab people. "The summit was supposed to adopt a decision severing relations with Israel and close its embassies and offices," he added. Qatar, the host of the meeting, came under severe criticism for not closing the Israeli office in Doha despite its latest good stance against Israel. Meantime, he praised Tunisia, Morocco and Oman for closing Israeli offices in their respective countries. The Speaker accused President Hosni Mubarak of being behind the summit's sea failure. He also held some Arab countries as

responsible for not performing their duty, speaking highly about Saudi Arabia's position and the proposal to establish a fund to support the Intifada. He considered providing financial support to 'Mojahideen' as a kind of sacred Jihad. "It is only through Jihad that the occupied land can be liberated, especially after the peace process has turned to be a big hoax," he said. In this context, he urged Yasser Arafat to give a go to Palestinians to face the enemy, saying that the Palestinian state should take Hizb Allah as an example. On the USS Cole blast incident, Sheikh Al-Ahmar refuted accusations against Yemen as being a shelter for terrorists. He added that the incident would not damage the relations with USA and that Yemeni government was providing the help needed to unravel the mystery. Denying an MPs request to summon the government to question about the American

heavy presence in Aden, he said that they had the right to do so if they wanted. On the other hand, he said that he would visit Saudi Arabia before Ramadhan at an invitation by Saudi chairman of Al-Shoura Council. During the visit relations between the two sisterly countries and means of enhancing parliamentary cooperation will be discussed. He said that the joint committee would hold its meeting this month, without specifying the date. Commenting on the constitutional amendments he said that the President had the right to ask for amendments. He said that the committee responsible for amendments had finished its work and it was expected to present people's opinions and suggestions to the parliament for discussions.



Hamas Calls Arab and Islamic Countries to Stand by Intifada

"Relations between HAMAS and Jordanian authority were not in good terms and the Jordanian government should listen to Jordanian people's voice in support of Intifada," said Khaled Mashaal, chairman of the political office of Islamic Movement (HAMAS) in a press conference held last Saturday in Sana'a. Khaled Mashaal urged Arab countries to meet in Doha on November 12 to break off ties with Israel, especially Egypt and Jordan. In response to the Yemen Times' question on

reimprisoning Hamas members who have been once freed by the Palestinian state he said that about 34 followers of Hamas were reimprisoned. However, he said that the movement would never confront with the Palestinian government indicating that the main enemies were the Zionists. Mr. Mashaal hailed the Syrian stance against the Israeli attempts to weaken it and hoped that the Palestinian state would adopt such a stance. Citing Egyptians as an example, he said that the

Arab people did not abide by decisions of their leaders. "Egyptians reject the Camp David even after 20 years since it was signed," he said. He said that Hamas would always work on the continuation of Intifada and supporting families of patriots and injured people. He added that Intifada was costly and it needed support from all Arab and Islamic countries. Mr. Mashaal Arrived in Yemen last Monday, as part of an Arab and Islamic countries tour to gear up support for Intifada. He has met with President Saleh, PM Dr. Al-Iryani, speaker Sheikh Al-Ahmar and other officials.



Capital Sewage System Authorities, Destroy Streets

Sewage system Authority in Sana'a has been digging again the main branch streets for the second time this year. Officials sources of the Authority say that these works are done because previous works have not been accurately implemented. Jordanian Engineer Nagi Isa working in

Ring Road Project said that the survey that had been made previously was seasonal and the drainage ditches were not all connected together. It was only a temporary surface connection that broke up when the celebration of May 22 was over. The Capital Secretariat has put out to tender reconstructing Sana'a main and branch streets that are carried out by Sufan Contracting Company. Many streets, like Ha'el Street that is full of sewage waters until now, are still ruined and not reconstructed yet. Yemen Times indicated to those reconstruction works at the time they were carried out last on 22 May and hoped that they were not seasonal. Economic sources estimated at millions of dollars the expenses the government was spending on such reconstruction works which overburdens the budget and the economy of

the state. The deficit for this year was more than 14 billion rials. A number of companies are competing for winning these reconstructions. Due to these reasons, the traffic was blocked and passenger buses drivers have changed into unpaved streets and this made them very angry.



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Words of Wisdom



"It is important that the regime gives the majority of Yemenis a stake in its fortunes. If people have nothing to fear for in the system, they will not be inclined to defend it against any onslaught. It is important that all Yemenis should feel that they have a stake in the system; otherwise they won't identify with it."

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

Our Opinion

Cole Incident: Serious Test to Yemeni-US Relations

The bombing attack on the USS Cole destroyer happened during her anchorage for refueling at Aden seaport on October 12, 2000 has been arousing many queries and speculations. Questions are also raised about timing of the incident, its location, the parties responsible for that and their motives and aims. Attacks or threats of attack on US targets and interests all over the world are not new, and the Americans themselves admit that. Such attacks have happened in many places and areas of the world at various times and occasions. They took place in Asia, Africa, Europe, the Mideast and even inside the states of the United States. But what concerns Yemen is that the latest incident was carried out in its territorial waters and thus finds itself morally obliged to have much concern and exert utmost efforts to find out the perpetrators and to bring them to account. To show serious the Yemeni authorities feel concerned with the incident, president Ali Abdullah Saleh has been overseeing the investigation campaign in person. Yemen and the United States have in recent years developed very good mutual friendly relations and multi-lateral cooperation based on mutual respect and common interests. For this reason Yemen sees the incident, as among other motives, is targeting Yemen itself and its good relations with the US. This is one of the goals behind choosing the Yemeni territorial waters to perpetrate the attack. The main aim is to undermine its developed relations and cooperation with the United States for various political and strategic reasons. Thus Yemen's immediate response to it was denunciation and condemnation of the attack on Cole.

The Cole blast was so a surprise event that Yemen's first response was that it may be an accident caused by some kind of technical failure took place inside the warship. But after things had become clear that it was a premeditated bomb attack, Yemen at once condemned it and vowed to pursue a thorough investigation to unveil its complications, identify those involved in it and their motives. Since then Yemen has been carrying out successful and tireless investigations to unravel the mystery of this act of sabotage. By nature, the Arab Moslem people of Yemen are peace-loving, peaceful and hospitable. They bear no grudge or hostile feelings towards others. They respect their friendships and relations with their friends. Simultaneously, the Yemenis and their state respect and are proud of their sovereignty and at the same time respect other countries' sovereignty out of their commitment to international laws. They would never accept their sovereignty to be violated by any power whatsoever. If America does really ask Yemeni authorities to grant its investigators the right to interrogate the suspects in Cole blast incident that took place in Yemen's territorial waters, this would mean an attempt to violate Yemen's internationally-recognized sovereignty. Such a move would also mean America's intention to violate the international law, which as a super power is supposed to be the most enthusiastic defender and protector of that law, otherwise it would be a serious precedence. Yemen has pledged to pursue very serious and exert great efforts to discover the facts about the attack and would offer utmost help and cooperation with the US in this respect. And that is what Yemen is now doing. It should be stressed here that Cole incident has represented on the one hand a serious test to the Yemeni-American friendly relations, but has also diagnosed the joint need and desire of the two friendly countries to further develop their relations in realization of their common interests. Yemen is very keen to work and cooperate in fighting terrorism and serve the security, stability and peace in the region and the world.

TEC Looks into 1756 Cases in Taiz

After a long procrastination, Abduljabar al-kharasani, a judge used to work in Taiz Eastern Court, has bowed to orders of the Justice Minister and handed 856 files of cases used to be kept at his home. His Majesty court chairman, Yahya al-Eryani asked Judge Amin Abdulhaq, a well-reputed judge, to settle all these cases. Judge Amin told YT "I first received about 856 cases and now there are more 900 cases. That is a heavy and tiring job that needs time. We are doing our best to settle these cases and we have released some of the prisoners. Some cases are not decided yet though they have been brought before court since 1997 and they do not need more than two weeks to decide them. However, no verdict was passed. Some people still come to court asking about their cases which means that there are still some cases in possession of judge Abduljabar al-Kharasani. On my part, I'll do my best to serve justice to the people despite the difficulties I face." Regarding the case of Aziz al-Jabali, who a month ago sent a memo to Human Rights Organizations, YT and many other Newspapers protesting the violations of the previous "judge" and his detaining for more than two years without proceeding any session on his trial and disclosing the wrong deeds of "judge" Abduljabar al-kharasani, Judge Amin said that he was looking into the case and it would be ended soon. He also said that the prosecution was ordered to bring by force another party involved in the case for he refused to appear before court.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Concludes Visit to Yemen

SANAA—Iraqi Foreign Minister Mohammad Said al-Sahaf left here on Saturday for Cairo after a two-day visit. During his stay, the Iraqi minister met with Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh and delivered a message to him from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein on bilateral relations and Arab and international issues of mutual concern, the official Yemen News Agency said. The message came in the framework of consultations and exchange of views between Yemen and Iraq regarding the upcoming summit of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) in Doha, Qatar, Sahaf told reporters before departure. He said the message was aimed at rallying support from Yemen for Iraq's appeal that the OIC summit slated for November 12-14 should be devoted to the Palestinian cause and extending support for the Palestinians. Iraq said last month that it would try to persuade the OIC members to devote the coming Islamic summit to the Palestinian cause only. Sahaf arrived in the Yemeni capital Friday evening on a multi-leg Arab tour, which started from Jordan on Tuesday. He is also expected to visit Libya and Qatar. (Xinhua)

\$100 million Dutch Grant for Water

Government of the Netherlands has granted \$100 million for supporting Water and Environment Center in Sana'a University and to qualify the national cadre. The objective is to raise and develop an active mechanism to organize making use of water resources and to face water pollution in water basins in different parts of Yemen. This comes after a workshop on water and environment was held Saturday in Sana'a University in cooperation with the International Water Center in Holland and supported by the Embassy of Netherlands in Yemen. Planning and Developing Minister Sufan, indicated the dangers posed to coming generations due to the severe shortage in water in Yemen. He pointed out that the individual's share of water does not exceed 80m3 against 7000m3 the individual's share in other countries. Japan is another donor country supporting water. Cooperation started in 1977 in terms of providing Yemen with easy loans amounting to ¥ 3,800 million to carry out some big water projects. Since 1981, Japan has started providing Yemen with grants reaching to 12 and costing ¥ 6,489 million to implement different water projects on 69 sites in Sana'a, Mareb, Hodeidah, Dhamar, Ibb, Taiz, Hajah, Mahweet, Abyan and Hadramout. The last two projects in al-Sadarah and Northern al-Raydah in Hadramout are expected to be opened this year costing approximately ¥1 billion for the benefit of 35,000 citizens residing in 31 villages.

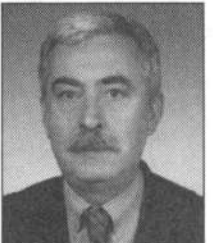
Interior Minister: Technical Committee to Meet Lufthansa Representatives

Interior Minister Mohammed Hussain Arab Thursday told 26 September newspaper, mouthpiece of Yemeni Defence Ministry that borders technical committee on carrying out Jeddah border treaty would this month meet representatives from the German Lufthansa company which would carry out fixing border marks between Yemen and Saudi Arabia. He declared that the agreement of the project will be signed in a meeting to be held in the mid of next January, indicating that the implementation would take 3 to 4 years time. He said that the committee in charge of defining border crossings would be headed by the two countries' deputy Interior Ministers on 10 November. It would also pay a visit to the four official crossings so as to fix the sites where the public institutions were to be built, he said.

Sheraton Hotel Celebrates

Sheraton hotel in Sana'a gave a lunch party to celebrate the elapse of 20 years since it started working in Yemen and signing a new contract for other 20 years. The hotel is distinguished for its valuable services. The hotel brand essence is "Who's Taking Care of You." The party was attended by ambassadors, businessmen and some social dignitaries and media people. The party was inaugurated by some snapshots of Sheraton group of hotels in all over the world. After that a speech was delivered by the GM of the hotel stressing the commitment of the hotel to provide the best services to its valuable guests. Then, the attendants were asked to have lunch.

New Turkish Ambassador Appointed
Mr. Ahmet Demirbag presented his credentials last Saturday as a new ambassador of Turkish to Yemen. Prior to this news appointment, Mr. Demirbag has held a number of political positions last of which was as Minister Plenipotentiary, Assistant General Director responsible for East Asia and Pacific



2 Killed, 5 Injured in Hand Grenade Explosion

Two persons were killed and 5 injured, one of whom seriously injured, in a grenade explosion Thursday afternoon in Sanaa downtown. Eye-witnesses said the incident took place in al-Melh Market, the most famous old market in Old Sana'a, during a dispute between an employee and his employer over wages. The employee hurled the grenade at his employer who managed to escape. The employee tried to catch it again. However, it went off on him and on another person working in the municipality killing them at once. Five persons were also injured in the explosion. A similar incident took place in August last year resulting in 5 deaths and injuring other ten. Security said at the time that it was the result of a dispute between some people. However, the perpetrator is still in prison and no verdict has been passed on him yet.

Islah & PGC Win Teaching Syndicate

PGC won elections of the third general conference of the Syndicate Administration Authority at Sana'a University with five seats, Islah got three and al-Ba'ath "opposition" one. Strong competition between the PGC and Islah was witnessed in these elections, specially when the former coordinated with the opposition parties while Islah stayed alone. In these elections, 19 candidates belonging to different political movements competed for nine seats. Islah party refused to coordinate with the PGC as some disapproved names were suggested in the list of the PGC, according to a source in Islah. Dr. Khalid Tumaaim, Abdulrahman Ghailan "PGC" and Abdulghani Kassem "Islah" were the first three winners as each one got 97 votes out of 197. The administrative authority held its first meeting last Tuesday to choose chairman to the syndicate who turned out to be Dr. Khalid Tumaaim.

109 Death Cases

Health Minister announced Tuesday that 109 people were reported to have died of the Rift Valley Fever. He said that the epidemic was subsiding in Wadi Moor and Al-Zahra - Hodeidah and in Aslam Al-Malaheedh in Sa'da and Al-Mahweet. The YT source said that 2742 animals died because of the epidemic and miscarriage cases among animals were 11,000. On Wednesday, The Joint Operation Room for fighting the Rift Valley Fever virus started carrying out two field surveys in Tehama, Mareb and Taiz to estimate the spread range of the disease. An informed source at the Ministry of Agriculture said that a team of veterinarians had started moving to Wadi Moor in Tehama to assess outcomes that resulted from both ministries' efforts in fighting the epidemic. The source has said that information indicates that the disease is diminishing noticeably in the valley. The source has also mentioned that the second field survey regarding the animal sector would include areas in Tehama, Taiz and Ibb as a preventive measure as there is no infected case reported until now. The Yemeni government called for the necessity for coordination and cooperation between both Ministries of Health and Agriculture in Yemen and Saudi Arabia to fight the epidemic, Malaria and other diseases that spread largely during this year in areas nearby Yemeni-Saudi borders.

Enormous Increases in Parliament Budget

Local economic sources estimated the Parliament budget for 2001 at YR 1,525 million. The financial committee in the parliament prepared a report of an increase by YR 119,050 thousand than 2000. That is by 9% increase including salaries, MPs' bonuses, attending international and regional conferences, fuel and treatment expenses, etc. The budget draft prepared by the financial committee Monday allocated YR 200 million to prepare designs for the new parliament building project. Fuel expenses are defined at YR 231 thousand on a daily basis. That is, YR 84,300,000 with YR 7,220,000 increase than year 2000. Every MP is granted \$4000 for treatment. Sums allocated to attend international and regional conferences have also been doubled from YR 60 million in year 2000 to YR 120 million in year 2001. Increase in salaries and fares is estimated at 14% mounting to YR 586,800,000 of which YR 54,980,000 is the primary salaries with 25% increase, "10,898,000", than year 2000. YR 50,070,000 is defined as bonuses. However, there has not been any increase in MPs bodyguards' allowances. Their salaries remained as they were in 2000, YR 70,800,000. Travel allowances have been increased from YR 75,280,000 to YR 93,340,000 and residence allowances from YR 73,280,000 to YR 109,400,000. Despite the government announced attitude to cut spending and apply the comprehensive economic reforms policy, these enormous increases saw light.

Free Internet Cafe' Inauguration

In its office in Old Sana'a Friedrich Ebert Corporation and the Yemen's Student Union inaugurated today an Internet Cafe'. This cafe' aims at helping University students and higher studies students communicate with the world and benefiting from information sources. Dr. Paul Dasch, the Corporation Regional Representative, said that, beside this cafe', they are trying to add beauties to the Old Sana'a.

Heike Thiele, the Cultural Attaché at the German Embassy, said that this the first initiative for corporation in Yemen and this cafe' represents the infrastructure for students to make the best use of information. She wished the students make use of this available service. The Manager of the Corporation in Sana'a said that the Corporation that was established in 1925 by the first elected chairman democratically in Germany in 1919 and that the Corporation existed in Yemen two and a half years ago. The Corporation's most important activity is supporting and consolidating the democratic orientation in Yemen in cooperation with the non-governmental organizations.

IN BRIEF

Thousands of Tourists in Aden for Christmas

About 25 thousands tourists available now in Djibouti will arrive in Aden by the new year to spend Christmas, said Mr. Abdulrahman Mahyoub, chairman of the General Authority of Tourism. Discounting any consequences on tourists' flow to Yemen following the explosion of USS Cole, Mr. Abdulrahman told the Yemen Times that about 100 thousand tourists would arrive in Yemen by the turn of 2000 adding that the number of American tourists will reach 7 thousand by the same time.

Women Studies Center Drama Over

Reliable sources told YT that the Dutch Embassy in Sana'a had informed Sana'a University that it was no longer supporting Women Studies Center. The center has already faced problems as it aroused the issue of gender in an international conference that it organized. The center, used to be called "The Empirical Research and Women Studies," was closed and a new center with a new name was opened. Now lots of question marks are arisen about the fate of students studying in the center. 105 students are preparing for their master's degree, other 5 for Ph.D, let alone diploma students who have not get authorized certificates yet.

New Drug for Obesity from Roche

Hoffmann La-Roche held a ceremony that was attended by a number of Yemeni and Foreign doctors working in the health sector in the capital Sana'a. This ceremony was to celebrate the launch of its new drug used in obesity Management "Xenical". A lecture by Prof. Dr. Abdullah Gunaid pointed to obesity and its associated health risk factors. Dr. Haythem Hadeib, the country supervisor briefed the audience on the new drug "Xenical" and its efficacy in reducing weight and prevention of weight regain.

Second Round of 5th Campaign Polio Eradication Inaugurated

The second round of the 5th Campaign for Eradication Polio was inaugurated on 5/11/2000. The campaign targeted vaccination of 4,281,711 children and giving them Vitamin 'A' that strengthens immunity. The campaign had been inaugurated last month and targeted 4,625 children.

Holy Month Exhibition Inaugurated

Sheik Mohammed Abdul-Malek Al-Hayagem, Taiz Deputy Governor, inaugurated the Holy Month Exhibition in Al-Saeed Exhibition Hall in Osaifera. The exhibition, organized by Mass Advertising Agency, is held before Ramadhan every year. The exhibition contains products of Ha'el Saeed Anam Group of Companies and other local factories products.



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Tender announcement

GTZ (German Technical Cooperation) is inviting interested bidders to supply computer hardware and software for one of its projects in Yemen. Interested bidders are invited to contact the GTZ Office to collect the bidding documents until 20 November 2000 at the following address:

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Absent Role of Yemeni Opposition

The talk about the Yemeni opposition is not a pleasant thing since it will not get us to satisfactory results so that we can tell the good and the bad sides of that opposition. I think that Yemeni political parties are rather tribal groups that are not identical to their counterparts in other countries. Yemeni opposition differs widely from that in other countries in literature, people and goals. The Yemeni opposition doesn't have the culture of

- protest,
- peaceful transfer of power,
- criticism and accepting others' opinions,
- being related to the people.

In addition to the above,

- Heads of opposition are employees of head of the state.
- Heads of opposition do not change.
- Yemeni opposition doesn't believe in real and effective democracy.
- Yemeni opposition doesn't have a clear vision nor programs different from those of the government.
- Yemeni opposition doesn't adopt any of the issues that are of interest to the Yemeni citizen.



Mr. Ahmed Ali Kalaz Mr. A. Al-Khaiwani Mr. Sultan Al-Atwani Dr. Faris Al-Saqqaf

changes in order to see a new Yemen being built up. A seminar was held at the center of future studies on Sunday the 29th of October to highlight the present and future situation of Yemeni opposition. The seminar was attended by representatives from all the political parties. Almost all expressed their pessimism towards the future of the opposition in Yemen, affirming its incapability of rebuilding and reshaping itself. Member of parliament and the speaker of Nasserite People's Unionist party Mr. Sultan Al-Atwani said "the present situation of the opposition is not satisfactory since the opposition hasn't been able to have one clear attitude towards urgent and fateful issues nor been able to be integrated to face the mistakes of the government. The Yemeni opposition doesn't have a program to play a constructive role in the miserable situation in the country." He

also added "the Yemeni parties haven't been able to overcome their internal crises to be able to deal with other problems of the country." Mr. Sultan expressed his optimism in improving the situation of the opposition provided that its role be re-evaluated properly." He said "if the opposition could join its efforts, specify its aims and the issues to struggle for and give up being attached to the ruling authority, it would be more capable of serving the country." He concluded "it's time for the opposition to reschedule its priorities, review all the mistakes of the past and change its media address which suffers from an actual crisis. Parties' formulae have become worn out and need to be changed." Dr. Faris Al-Saqqaf evaluated the present role of the opposition by saying "they live a real crisis which is the crisis of the whole country in general", he added. "There is a crisis in all

establishments of the civil society and the opposition is no different." He urged upon appropriate changes and alternatives, otherwise Yemen will never be able to survive." Dr. Al-Saqqaf summed up the opposition crisis as follows:

- Lack of democracy within those parties.
- Lack of priorities.
- Lack of specified programs.
- Being attached to the ruling authority.
- Not having initiatives.

believes that the solution to this crisis is having alternatives for the present ruling system. Mr. Ahmed Ali Kalaz, representative of the Yemeni unionist congregation party opined that the problem is actually in the wrong structure of the parties. He said that those parties were no different in thinking and actions than the government and had many illnesses, like regionalist groupings and bloc-oriented attitudes. In other words people of other regions, groups or attitudes are not allowed to join a particular party. He also said that those illnesses are inherited from the primitive people of tribal mentality. According to them those illnesses would continue unless we understand the roots of the problem and try to replace old leaderships, "the present leaderships are clinging strongly to their posts."

We need to reassess the role of opposition and try to make effective

Islamic Tradition in Turkish Architecture: Lecture

The Islamic tradition in Turkish architecture was the theme of a lecture by Professor Zeynep Ahunbay in which she brought into light similarities in Islamic traditional architecture in Arab and Islamic countries, especially Turkey, Syria and Yemen. The lecture was given at the National Museum Wednesday. Professor Ahunbay visited Yemen within the framework of Turkish participation in the renovation project of

the old Ottoman Military Hospital. This was the initial step of a broader cooperation between the two countries. Turkey will as well contribute financially to the Museum project. During the visit, she also visited the Military barracks Complex and met with PM. Dr. Al-Iryani to discuss the details of the renovation projects. Apart from the National Museum project Professor Ahunbay toured other Turkish buildings and houses in Sana'a. "I came to look at the work of the

restoration in the national museum and other Turkish building," she told the Yemen Times. "I am an expert in conservation and in Ottoman architecture and here they are restoring some Ottoman buildings so they wanted me to comment on what is going to be done and how I can help with my knowledge. You are restoring a monument you have to have all the expertise and knowledge in order not to make mistakes. To collaborate in conservation is internationally common," she added.



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Reasons of Juvenile Delinquency



Ismael Al-Ghabri,
Yemen times

Delinquency is a socially harmful behavior runs against interests of the state and people. This is the simplest definition of delinquency. Education professors confirm that the

educational process can not fulfill its goals within the frame of school or of the house alone, but by integrated interaction among the home, school and outer community. It is of no doubt that the first lessons in education a baby could have are from the home, and the child gets affected by the parents, brothers and sisters and the relatives. Then the child starts school, which participates greatly in the child's education and prevents a great deal of deviation. Although the school is a social estab-

lishment, responsible of teaching and educating the child, there has to be a level of cooperation between the school and the parents to make the process of education prosper and the child becomes an active member in the society.

We see some parents give up their responsibilities towards their children and leave it all to the school. This is a terrible mistake, because the school will never be able to replace the parents in the child's heart and mind who will become the victim of this negli-

gence especially for younger children whom the early stages of their lives represent the corner stone in their education.

Teachers, psychologists and thinkers are all busy analyzing factors leading to juvenile delinquency, and they all call to bring up children in decent ways to prepare people who will serve the community. At the early ages of the their lives, juniors start discovering the contradictions of life that will eventually affect their behavior and ways of thinking for the rest of their lives.

The family

Members of the family are the first teachers and the house is the first school for the child.

A child starts imitating his parents' words and actions then those words and actions become deeply rooted in him then he starts using them. That is why the parents should be extremely cautious of what to say and do in front of their children.

Children start learning what's right and what's wrong at early stages of their lives, that's why they should be rewarded for the good things they do and punished for the bad things. Children lost one or two of their parents without having someone who can teach them and take care of them will grow without having the sense of responsibility. Even those who have parents, but one or both of parents have to stay away for long times will grow without that sense of responsibility.

School

This is the second stage of the child's life. The child at this stage is affected by different behavior patterns, from the teachers and other students. The child picks what suit behavior habits he learnt before from his parents. He may also pick up other patterns of behavior that he finds appealing.

The newly acquired patterns stay with the child for a long time, and no doubt some of the most important patterns are those he receives from the teachers like respect, discipline and obedience. The teacher's role at this stage is to guide, encourage and help the child to move in the right direction. The parents at this stage should keep monitoring the child and encourage him to move in the right direction too.

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Political Participation by Women

On 31st Oct. 2000, a seminar was held at the Women's National Committee titled "Women's Political Participation". Many intellectuals and politicians, representatives of women sectors in the political participated including the parties, chairwoman and vice-chairwoman of the committee Mrs. Rasheda Alhamadani and Mrs. Houriyah Mashhor.

All participants stressed the necessity that the political parties should activate women's role in political life. Despite the fact that Yemeni women won two seats in the parliaments of 1993 and 1997, they are still unable to make others see where she stands and that she represents half of the society which gives her rights, man doesn't usually acknowledge. The woman is still unable to engage and participate effectively in political life in Yemen. That could be due to many obstacles hindering her having a greater role. Apart from the traditional stand towards woman and her role as an effective member in the society, the problem of woman lies in the following:

- The absence of woman in the middle leadership in the society. She is either at senior positions close to the political regime or at the bottom of the ladder.

- Non-governmental organizations concerned with woman's issues haven't played the required role to improve the image of woman and to raise her education level.

- Active women are connected with the ruling party, which makes those women only seek personal interests without giving much concern to the real problems of women, especially of those living in rural areas who always pay for the expensive bill of suffering resulting from practices of those women at the top.

Rana Ahmed Ghanim, member of the

central committee of the Nasserite People's Unionist Organization told Yemen Times "Outwardly it seems that there is much attention given to woman's political participation but reality reflects the opposite. The society itself doesn't believe that Yemeni woman has good potential to work and to affect the whole society positively. In addition to that women cannot attend men's 'Qat sessions' where political discussions are made either among government or opposition members."

She adds "the Yemeni woman is still living in a society that refuses working women. This society will definitely refuse any political participation by woman. Even if we assume the otherwise, a woman participating in a political party will not be allowed to achieve what she wants because there have always excuses like social obstacles and lack of facilities."

She continues "the present situation of woman's political participation is reasonable, but the problem is how to activate it and the fear that the woman could assume a leading position. This is the product of the social education and non-confidence in women's capabilities and some fear from her being more capable than her male partners, a matter man does not digest even as an idea."

About government negligence towards woman's political participation, she said "this negligence is a reflection of the central planning of the state which doesn't give the country all it needs in terms of services, not like cities where decisions are made. The law of local elections should seek eliminating that unfortunate situation and support woman's participation through the 'relative list' in elections."

Mrs. Wahiba Sabra, member of the central committee of the Yemeni socialist party said in her paper that the Yemeni socialist party believes

that the struggle to restore all the rights of the Yemeni woman and to cancel discrimination against her is part of the struggle for democracy. Yemeni woman should be given all her rights as a human being and as an effective member in the family and the whole society. She should be allowed to hold high ranking positions if she proves to be well qualified for them and the principle of equality between man and woman should stand to enable the woman to reach the centers of decision-making.

Mrs. Sabra also overviewed the long march of Yemeni women in achieving independence of the Republic.

Dr. Mohammed Abdulmalik Almutawakil stressed that in order for the woman to have a political role she should know what she wants.

Mr. Ali Saif Hassan, assistant secretary general of the Nasserite People's Unionist Organization referred to activating woman's role in political participation. He added that the real participation is done by identifying the goals and setting aside loyalty without deep understanding of what's going on.

Mrs. Amatsalam Raja'a, head of women's sector in the Yemeni Reform Congregation party referred in her paper titled "suggestions to activate the woman's role in society" to the obstacles that draw women back. She underscored the first steps in the direction of development. She also referred to other economic obstacles that make woman's participation very limited. The other obstacles related to personal factors like the lack of self-confidence and frustration when compared to accomplishments made by man in different fields.

To conclude, participation of women in political parties and elections needs a more realistic and understanding look from all political parties, from the government and the society as a whole.

Symposium on Constitutional Amendments

Bassam Gamil Al-Saqqaf
Yemen Times

The Constitutional Amendments and Their Effect on the Political Future in Yemen" was the theme of a symposium held lately at headquarters of the Students' Union of the Yemeni Congregation for Reform (Islah). Gar Allah Omer, Assistant Secretary General of the YSP, Dr. Mohammed Abdul-Malek Al-Mutawakil, Politics Professor at the Faculty of Commerce and Economy - Sana'a University, Mohammed Qahtan, Chairman of the Political Office of the Islah Party, attended the conference.

Dr. Abu Bakr Alqerbi, Chairman of the People's General Congress Party (PGC) and Abdul-Malek Al-Mekhlafi, Secretary General of the Nasserite People's Unionist Party, sent representatives Younis Hazza, Vice-chairman of the Political Office of the PGC and Ali Saif Hasan, Vice-Chairman of the NPUP to attend the symposium.

The strongest opinion put forward by some participants was that such amendments would be like an 'earthquake' shocking the political action, or a 'bloodless coup d'état' on democracy, a retrogression and detour from the political course according to which the Parliament be converted into a council for preaching and counseling. The PGC representative Mr Younis Hazza's opinion was quite different as he considers the constitutional amendments as necessary after ten years since ratification of the Constitution. He says that the amendments are necessary so that the Constitution could keep pace with the political developments and that they would enhance democracy.



Gar Allah Omer of the YSP considered that the main points of the amendments were three. The first was the extension of parliament term from four to



six years. The second was the extension of the presidency tenure from five to seven years. The third was the issue of Local Authority that would appoint the governors instead of electing them. He considered any other amendments as marginal and that if amendments were to be made without making a referendum this would make the Constitution similar to any other law and it would be amended in any parliamentary session and would emptied of its legal spirit.



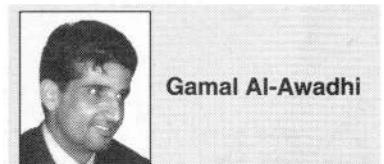
Mr. Ali Saif Hasan from the Nasserite party warned against political parties' silence versus this matter and failure in performing their national duty. He said that those parties would then have no reason to exist if they made no move concerning the constitutional amendments. He also pointed to the Article of trade liberalization in the constitutional amendments, saying it was so dangerous an article that would allow the government to have the sway on trade and any call for even boycotting Israeli goods in the future would be considered as violation of the constitution. He also indicated that the law of duties levying imposed by institutions would be a corrupt way of collecting money. He pointed out that giving the president the authority to dissolve the parliament by calling for early elections would cause chaos in case the president could not gain majority of votes and could not form

the government. On the Local Authority, Mr. Hasan expressed his surprise by saying, "How can the citizen be prevented from electing the governor under pretext that he is illiterate, fanatic and tribal but he is wise, civilized and intelligent when he elects the president?!" He also said that the MPs, elected for four years by the people, have no right to extend the period without a referendum. He also indicated that delaying elections for two years creates despair in making a change and creates differences between parties, considering that the culture of practicing elections is still new for the Yemeni people.



Mr. Younis Hazza has also criticized the YSP. He said that it was good that the YSP started taking interest in the constitution and he disapproved what Gar Allah Omer said about the non-discussion of the amendments in the Congress institutions. He was surprised at the opposition parties discussions. He said that they seemed to be discussing other amendments. Furthermore, he praised the amendments and said that they were a forward step and consolidation of the democratic process. However, he did not respond to what the participants said and did not answer their questions. He concluded his speech without discussing the constitutional amendments and their importance objectively... *continued on page 12*

Developing Awareness of Human Rights in Yemen



Gamal Al-Awadhi

It is an axiom to presume that Human Rights constitute the essence of a democratic governance. However, democracy in this general sense will not succeed in a society unless there is awareness and understanding of its necessity. This requires education in democracy and human rights at both individual and collective levels, and awareness to make it part of thought and culture. Yemen will not be a modern state unless it applies knowledge, democracy and human rights as practical and cognitive mechanisms to achieve that goal. Legitimacy of the ruling political regime depends on the amount of its achievement of society's goals of democracy and progress. Human rights culture in general needs multi mechanisms to be spread, for it is inevitable to create a new political culture covering all developments of democracy and sound political practices. This would entail discarding violence in society and deepening national integration among the people. The situation now is prepared to some extent for spreading the human rights culture. In Yemen, particularly since 1990, i.e. when unity was declared and was associated with introducing the democratic experiment, democracy has become the most significant mechanism to re-rectify the relationship between the state and the society. This success of democracy in Yemen is linked to a number of basic requirements. The most important of which is the creation of a political culture expressing all political, social and economic changes whose impact is reflected on the Yemeni society. So, developing awareness of human rights culture is a large-scale process that needs development of all fields of life. The most important mechanisms contributing to developing awareness of human rights can be summed up as follows:

The Role of Governmental Sectors:

- 1- The State's approach to develop the society in all economic, social, political and cultural aspects as the human rights include all those aspects.
- 2- The State's approach to build up seriously and firmly the state of law and institutions so that these institutions organize the relationships of individuals inside the society and they regulate relations between the State and society.
- 3- The state's approach towards legal equality of all members of the people, meaning the necessity of canceling all attempts of outflanking the laws, ending favoritism.
- 4- The necessity of judicature independence from the Executive Authority that influences it, respecting its decisions and verdicts as well as modernizing of the Judiciary Authority structurally and individually.
- 5- Raising the level of political and legal awareness among the security, police and judicature to realize and react to the changes that take place in the society so that there is no contradiction between the laws and the practices as it is happening now.
- 6- The State must activate the Permanent Supervision Committees to supervise the official practices in different governmental institutions whether in the Judicature, Public Prosecution, Police in the civil posts and disclose their violations of human rights.
- 7- The State must modernize the syllabus of different academic stages for teaching the human rights culture to the individuals.
- 8- The State's approach to all the above mentioned as well as the lawful and legal redress represents a real response to the political changes that is associated with the declaration of the Unified Yemen. It also represents a response to the international conventions that Yemen declared to abide by as in article No. 6 of the Constitution and as in the Revolution's 6th objective. The State, thereby, shows the transparency that is the most important mechanism for manifestation which rectifies any corruption in the governmental institutions and brings

back trust to the regime.

Non-governmental mechanisms:

- 1- All the political parties, specially the Opposition, must activate their activity in the society and must consciously and responsibly realize that the success of democracy depends on creating basics, among which is spreading of the human rights culture through the media, conferences, symposiums and books.
- 2- These organizations play an active role in spreading human rights culture among the people as they are small and close to individuals and have no administrative complications.
- 3- All civil society organizations, political parties and social figures must form a bloc dubbed "The Bloc of Modernization, Democracy and Human Rights Forces". This bloc must exercise pressures on the government to improve its role in human rights and to renew the educational program by adding academic syllabus on human rights culture at home and in all education institutions.
- 4- Unofficial and official press should play a role in spreading human rights knowledge about these rights and how to deal with them and any violations of them.
- 5- The mosque, too, has an important role in spreading the human rights culture and its relation to the religious reference, the Holy Koran, that highly appreciates the value of humans.
- 6- Non-governmental civil organizations must form one organization aiming at monitoring cases of human rights violations in the society by adopting transparency and manifestation concept pursuant to texts of the Constitution and democratic practices. As the State's political address has recently become open to the concepts of human rights and civil society, it has become tangible that his development is still in need of bridging the wide gap, or narrowing it, between the renewable political address, the legal text and the actual practice. The narrower the gap is, the best evidence it would be on evaluating democracy practice and crystallization of human rights in the state and the society.

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Yemen's Great Reserves of Fish Offers Excellent Profitable Investment Opportunities

Mahyoub Al-Kamaly

Yemen possesses diverse and rich marine wealth including sponge, coral reefs and large reserves of mollusca and malacostraca that allow fishing of about 1.6 million tons of fish and marine lives in a year.

To what extent this wealth is utilized and to what extent the government encourages investment in this sector? What kind of difficulties are imposed on investors in this field? That is what we will try to touch on in this article. Yemen controls long coasts outstretching to more than 2500 kms. Along such a distance are spread more than 90 fishing villages.

Continental Shelf Area

According to studies conducted by the Ministry of Fish Wealth in cooperation with foreign experts, the fisheries in Yemeni continental shelf is spread over 4,463 knots from Aden Gulf to Socotra Island and 4,780 knots from Bab Al-Mandab eastward until Omani



borders. Such areas can help increase fish exports to foreign markets to get more revenues to back up national economy.

Size of Investment Projects

An investment law has been passed granting local and foreign investors

many facilities. Since 1990 5,730,000,000 rials was the total cost of investment projects until last year. The projects being worked on in this year have so far been estimated at 1,867,850,000.

Seventeen local and foreign companies have signed agreements with the

Ministry of Fish Wealth to invest in the marine life. However, more chances are still there for more investors. The Ministry has already published a book on shrimp and prawn culturing and has outlined plans for a number of investment projects.

Requirements of Investment in Marine Sector

Despite the encouragement of the government to investors in this important sector, some investors complain about some difficulties in their work such as lack of enough freezers to keep fish and smooth transportation to local and international markets.

The best kinds of fish are exported to international markets to ensure lucra-

The banks give loans to provide engines, boats, nets and other equipment. The bank also helps provide means to keep fish, transport it to local market, establish fishing companies to market and transport it, etc.

Increase in Shrimps Fished

The General Authority for Coastal Fishing in Aden has distributed 200 fishermen in Hadhramaut, Al-Maharah and Aden Gulf to fish shrimps as part of a plan for current fishing season which began last October and will last till May 2001.

The increase in shrimps fishing and exportation to foreign markets achieved an increase of USD 30 million last season.

Towards Restoration of Confidence in The Tourist Industry

Undoubtedly, tourism industry has been greatly damaged after the explosion in the USS Cole on Oct. 12, adding another strong barrier against tourists' flow to Yemen. Following the incident, an American warning was issued against travel to Yemen which will result in sharp fall in tourism's revenues by 50% in comparison with the past year. The official plans to welcome 250 thousand tourists thus seem impossible to achieve with the continuous, and even more strict ban against travel to Yemen. Despite the disappearance of kidnapping incidents, the USS Cole event made America accuse Yemen of being a "fertile" land for terrorists.

Restoring confidence in our tourism seems to be in dire need of an international campaign to again win confidence of tourists' exporting markets and to persuade western countries to lift the ban on travel to Yemen.

The good number of foreign excavation expeditions working in Yemen



did not help improve Yemen's image outside. Despite the historical discoveries dating back to different periods announced, hotel owners still complain about weak flow of tourists. Continuation of deterioration of tourism industry poses threat to future of the immense of manpower who work in this respective sphere.

Tourism industry requires confidence of international tourist exporting mar-

kets which can not be achieved through announcing new discoveries in Belqis Mahram or the likes. There must be publicity in western countries that Yemen has become more strict about foreigners' protection and has imposed heavy penalties on anyone trying to create disorder.

Yemen's participation in Expo 2000 in Germany was a success in the sense that it restored Yemen's reputation as a tourist site. However, it was supposed to be coinciding with a media and diplomatic campaign in the foreign tourist exporting markets.

Reviving tourism is not a difficult task in Yemen which possesses rich tourist potentials making it a wide-open museum. In 1998 tourist revenues came second to that of oil with an increase of 20% in comparison with 1995.

Participation in international tourist exhibitions is not enough to restore what has been lost. This should be accompanied by wide-scale media and diplomatic campaign to convince countries running a ban against travel to Yemen of present stability.



tive profits. Marine studies indicate availability of 350 different kinds of fish and marine life in Yemeni waters and that excellent opportunities are still there for more investors. Fish export comes third after oil and cotton which shows the importance of investment in this field.

Loans to Promote Investment

The Agricultural Credit Bank has been established with other cooperative banks to offer loans to fishermen and encourage increase in marine products.

Total Exportation Size

Seven million tons of different kinds of fish were exported last year. Tuna exportation reached 936,000 cans while 370 tons of shrimps and 524932 tons of prawn were also exported during the same year.

Investment in the marine sector remains a treasure for all potential investors. However, there must be a serious movement to facilitate investment procedures in this important field.

ECONOMY NEWS

Water Individual's Share, Less than 80 m3

Yemeni individual's share of water has decreased to less than 80 m3 annually, less than 2% of their counterparts in other countries. Studies estimate the annual consumption of water from water basins at 2400 million m3. Growing Qat consumes 83% of this ground water. Shortage in water has increased from 400 million m3 in 1993 to 900 million m3 in 1998.

ITI Issues Before a Seminar

For three days, a seminar on International Trade and Investment issues is going to be organized to discuss requirements for Yemen's membership in WTO. The seminar is to help Yemen develop its international trade. Saeed Kahria, regional advisor of the UNTD, is participating in the seminar.

Yemeni-Iraqi Joint Committee Accomplishes Their Objectives

Following the deliberation of the Yemeni-Iraqi Joint Committee in Baghdad, the two sides agreed upon developing the economic, commercial, scientific, cultural and technical future prospects between the two countries. Of the 12 sessions of the Joint Committee, a committee was formed to follow up implementation of mechanisms to enhance economic and commercial cooperation and another committee to enhance the scientific, cultural and artistic cooperation between the two countries.

ACC Inaugurated Today

The eleventh Arab Chemical Conference is being organized today by the Yemeni Chemical Society and the Industrial and Commercial Chamber in Aden. Over the next three days, participants including businessmen and some industrial establishments members will be discussing alternatives to the chemical substances dangerous to environment and industrial obstacles. Some seminars on information technology will also be held during the conference.

REQUIRED SALES MANAGER FOR A TRAVEL AGENCY

[THE POSITION IS FOR YEMENI NATIONALS ONLY]

A leading Trading House is looking for a suitable professional to take care of the Sales and marketing of their Travel Agency Division in Sana'a.

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The incumbent will be in-charge for the entire sales and marketing of the Division. Salary and other perquisites is not a constraint for the right candidate. He should be able to join in a short time.

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Invitation

Under the auspicious of H.E. the Minister of Health, *Philips Medical Systems and Natco - Al-Razi Co. Ltd.* have pleasure in inviting the students and professors of the Faculty of Medicine to attend a lecture on:

"The Clinical and Application aspects of Magnetic Resonance Imaging"

Prof. Wahid Hussein Tantawy, Professor in Radiodiagnosis, Ain Shams University, Cairo will deliver a lecture in Arabic on the clinical aspects of MRI

Followed by:

A lecture by Assistant Professor Dr. Abdul Karim Zabedi (Sana'a University, Head of Radiology Department in the Military Hospital, Sana'a).

And a lecture by the Application Specialist from Philips Medical Systems.

The lectures will be held on 9th November, 2000, Thursday at 10 A.M

at the Medical Syndicate Lecture Hall, Hadda, Sana'a (414896/7)

for any enquiry please call 272889/284950 Ext.No.107

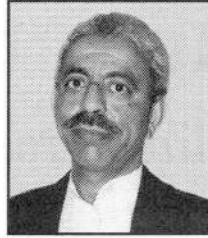
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COMMON SENSE

By: Hassan Al-Haifi

The Short End of the Stick



Perhaps no geographical area has occupied the space of newspapers and the time on the wireless media channels than the Middle East, particularly Palestine. To find a short and simple explanation for this concentration of world attention is perhaps one of the most challenging feats of any writer or correspondent. This is due to the simple fact, which is, that the Palestine problem is a very complex intertwining problem that involves many issues and certainly many parties, directly or indirectly. Thus, to any uninformed observer, the present unusual inequitable confrontation would seem somewhat confusing and incomprehensible. Even to many of the people, with passionate attachment to the problem on both sides of the direct confrontation, the various intricacies that make up the problem are far from being fully comprehensible. Quite often, their passionate and emotional attachment is the driving force that governs their inclinations with this side or the other.

Common Sense has continuously covered various parts of the history of the problem, in one context or the other, but even such coverage, as in-depth as it may have seemed to some, has still not presented a thorough understanding to the reader of the issues involved that would underscore the various forces at play and the positions of the antagonists that are directly involved in the crisis. Nevertheless, it would seem clear by now that, indeed, the problem of Palestine involves more than just the taking of a piece of real estate that lies at the heart of the Middle East, revered by a considerable portion of the population of the world as holy - certainly the symbolic spiri-

tual direction to which the monotheistic religions of the world turn to, in order to come closer to reaching the Divine.

The problem has its historical and spiritual roots and for sure, one cannot forsake the historical significance of the problem. However, it must be borne in mind that as a living manifestation of a long entrenched cultural and spiritual divide among men, the Palestine problem basically surfaced in the last Century and should really be viewed as the working of external designs, with the last to be involved being the people of the area themselves! On the other hand, the problem should not be viewed in terms of economic and political significance, in as much as the other factors seem to prevail in significance beyond what political and economic considerations might be taken into account. In fact the economic and political significance seem to have greater significance when looking at the various tools and devices that help to shape events in the area, rather than as an end into themselves.

The Palestine problem is a human tragedy that continues to unfold and defy solution, even to this day, as efforts are pursued to seek a "peaceful end" to the problem. Even the road to this seemingly noble attempt is not free from the tragic consequences that normally accompany conflicts of emotional and spiritual attachments - often exploited by the very instigators and "leaders" that find such animosities helpful in their quest for mundane objectives and egotistical satisfaction. The Palestine problem is also a record of failures and miscalculations by many of those who engineered and diligently pursued to achieve these objectives, as well as by those who sought to achieve justice and the "cor-

rection of a wrong". Again, the difficulty of explaining the "whys" of the problem are obvious to the observer, when seeking to understand the justifications of each of the protagonists, in light of the facts on the ground, because the facts on the ground simply do not fall into any modeler pattern or easily comprehensible historical and cultural trends.

The Palestine problem is a pressure cooker, with frustration not only accumulating, day by day, among its victims, but also among those who have become the movers, in dictating the course of events in the region, yet failing to respond to the overriding issues really involved - the right to be free of occupation and oppression, and the right to some kind of retribution for all the misery and suffering that one of the antagonists has had to go through, just so a mythical dream can be visualized, even if that dream is attributed to the implementation of God's will on Earth. God forbid that His will shall be undertaken by oppression or transgression on the rights of others, but the Zionist idealists see themselves as having a license to implement God's will by actually defying it! It is one of the most perplexing theological and philosophical misinterpretations that mankind has ever seen since the Almighty has empowered man to rule the Earth. Such dangerous play on words is but a token sample of the perplexing issues that come to be apparent, when analyzing the Palestine problem. Surely, mankind, as a whole, is bound to be accountable for letting such nonsense dictate the tragic plight of human beings, for the sake of allowing arrogance and contempt for Divine Justice (it must be borne in mind that Justice is one of the names of the Lord

Al-Mighty and Oppression is one transgression that He has prohibited upon Himself).

When viewed in the universal context, then, the Palestine problem clearly underscores the importance of having a universal coherent moral reference source of guidance, to which all men must succumb to and all men must benefit from accordingly. There cannot and there will never any spiritual designs that cater to the arrogance of the adherents of any creed, for the arrogance within these adherents has removed them from any hope of ever satisfying the will of the Divine. Surely, the designs of the proponents of the Zionist dream have, in a sense, defied God's own designs for humanity and the universe, and sought to convince all of mankind that their misrepresentation of God's Will is moral and just. Has all of mankind then failed to understand the essence of justice and equity as part and parcel of the composition of God's Will? These are important questions that must come to the minds of all those who wish to take part in this most difficult issue, and without such considerations there can be no fulfillment of God's will on Earth and no achievement of an equitable final peace settlement.

In retrospect, the tragedy in Palestine brings to rise many "ifs", in the minds of many well informed observers, simply because the problem, in itself, was never guided by clear dogmatic principles, on the part of the important players in the problem. Moreover, ignorance cannot be ignored as having been helpful to allowing the tragedy to continue, as even the major players seem to have only a minimal understanding of the true implications involved in the problem. This ignorance was strongly encouraged by the

proponents of the Zionist Dream, either by barring the truth from reaching some of the players, or by twisting the truth to present the Zionist proponents as sponsoring an inevitable cultural and spiritual leap for mankind! Nothing can be further than the truth. Thanks to a much smaller world we live in today, the truth cannot be so easily hidden from anyone and efforts to twist the facts on the ground are almost fruitless or impossible, thanks to the rapid strides in communications and in the development of professional journalism.

Last week, the world became truly aware of the obvious disregard for the proper "use of force" to control civil disruptions used by the Israeli "Defense Forces". Of all people, even a correspondent of the CNN Television Network, Ben Wederman, fell victim to the Israeli thirst for blood, as an inexcusable wobble of fire, almost deliberately aimed at a group of correspondents covering the carnage, which Israel is unleashing in the Middle East, resulted in injuring the brave correspondent, who is also the CNN Bureau Chief in Cairo. We thank God that he survived the inexcusable assault and wish him a speedy recovery. It is not clear, if Israeli troops deliberately aimed the bullet at our comrade at the mike, in view of CNN's attempt to project a wider of the confrontation, although this should not be ruled out, if anyone has any idea of the mentality that governs Israeli military and intelligence strategists (the "ends justify the means"). However, for sure, it can be interpreted to illustrate that the members of the press should not get too close to the "crossfire", coming from one side, thus indicating an apparent curtailment of accurate press coverage of the tragedy in its truest manifestations.

For sure, the Israelis are obviously disturbed that the world will come to realize that, indeed, the Palestinians have gotten the shorter end of the stick - having paid the heaviest price in blood and in dignity - throughout the last eighty years.

Yemeni Opposition



Imad Al-Saqqaf
Taiz Bureau Chief
Yemen Times

It is essential for the political opposition to exist in the democratic countries. The opposition is the other side of the authority and it shows the ruler his mistakes and defects. It also provides a clear vision about how to correct corrupted situations. In Yemen the opposition first emerged in 95. Therefore, it is still in its beginning and has no plans or programs or a clear vision of taking part in the political life and how to cope with the people's little understanding of the democratic process and plurality.

Until now we did not find an opposition that strives for fair causes for people and there are no parties close to or respecting the ordinary public. The parties' opinions and visions have become just those of the their leaders neglecting the parties bases and opinions. There is little in the role of the opposition having no way of communication with the people except newspapers that the ordinary man does not read.

The opposition parties call for democracy but do not practice it in their parties. The members of the opposition criticize the government but when they reach the chairs of ministries their strife ends and they start getting rich through illegal means.

Today, the ordinary citizen pins no hope with the opposition that would relieve him of poverty and worries because it did not offer anything to its members either. Therefore, the relationship between the opposition and the people is fragile and lacking trust. However, the relationship between the opposition and the government is based on political disputes and wrangles and exchanging accusations. This relationship will not develop except with development of the democratic practice and the citizen's awareness.

What is needed now is establishing relationships of trust and mutual respect between the political parties and the opposition on one side and between the opposition and the people on the other. These relationships will not be established except with shared hard work for the interest of the country. In addition, the opposition must possess a clear vision and a specific program and must take part effectively in solving the economic and political problems the country is passing through.

Qat, drugs...)

-Their families can be described as lost (kids at the age of 14, 15, 20 years can not pronounce the word "Yemen.")
-A lot of Yemeni kids are fascinated by the American way of life and they are not proud of being Yemenis.

-The image of Yemen is being distorted by the frequent scary happenings of Kidnapping, killing and corruption in the country.

-I do not see any considerable contribution from the Yemeni government, especially, the so-called "ministry of Immigrants" regarding the educational, ethical, and spiritual enhancement of the Yemeni immigrants.

-All those in charge are responsible to Allah in this regard. Yemeni Embassy, Ministry of immigrant, Ministry of Preaching and endowment.

-The most tragic and sorrowful fact is that most of the children of the Yemenis here in the States do not pursue their studies. They just quit after the high school.

-I am very afraid of the fact that those Yemeni kids neither pursue their education nor preserve the Islamic morals and good behavior. When they come back to Yemen, they will be a source of danger, and more corruption.

-I wish the government paid more attention to the issue of educating our immigrants and their kids.

This is just a drop in the ocean of the Yemenis' suffering abroad.

Ahmad Alabbasi
alabbasi3@hotmail.com

Letters to the Editor

DEAR EDITOR,

I have read your covering of the Canadian medical team to Taiz. I have to clarify two points:

1 - This mission could not have become a reality without the very enthusiastic care of Dr. Robinson and the backing of the Hayel Saeed Group.
2- My name is not Mustafa Aman but Mustafa NOMAN!!

On this occasion I want to bring back my friendship with Dr. AbdulAziz Al-Sakaaf with whom I had worked closely on different issues. I wish Waleed and the entire group of Yemen Times the success and courage to carry on the message that his father had brought on his shoulders.

MUSTAFA NOMAN
AMBASSADOR OF YEMEN TO CANADA

DEAR EDITOR,

I know the Yemen Times is always there to support the voice of reality, that's why I come to you with this letter. I have read the many responses sent by Americans to your news paper regarding the USS Cole bombing. I would like to express my utter respect to those who felt that this incident shouldn't and doesn't have to force our relations at a "personal" level to be distorted by any way, mean, or matter. However, it is commonly known and understood amongst us, immigrants, that whenever something of such magnitudes takes place in Yemen, we as a community suffer the consequences. The average American might not notice, but at the government level things are a lot different. A good example would be a person like myself attempting to obtain a visitor visa to the US. Everyone knows there is NO way in hell will I be able to obtain that following the recent developments in the middle east and specially the USS Cole bombing. Take that example and magnify it to a general policy and you'll have what is defined as "Racial Discrimination." That is, normal citizens being judged and treated depending on where they come from or what race they belong to. The United States is likely to consider all Yemeni (or Arab) citizens to be a potential danger unless proven otherwise. This happens everytime

something slightly tragic occurs to an American citizen on our land. Most people who experienced such treatment at US embassies all over the world know what I'm talking about. On the other hand, I know of a few Yemenis who were murdered on American soil during America's everyday live-or-die scenario. Why is it that Yemen hardly ever mentions these separate incidents and tries blow it up and form stereotypes out of the American public? Is it because we're too afraid to go head to head with the "Great" American nation and all its resources? Or is it simply because of the ancient, ever-lasting Yemenite wisdom and sense of forgiveness that has marked our people and leaders likewise? I leave you with the question hoping that I've shone a little bit of light on what truly happens behind the iron curtain.

Issmat A. Al-Akhali
i_akhali@stmarys.ca

DEAR EDITOR,

I submit my perspective on the new Intifada, for publication, and hope that you are able to do so.

The end of a war is peace. Either the peace of victory over vanquished or the peace of attrition such as - Hizbollah's permitting Israel a retreat without fire. Abductions: Didn't Israel conduct extra territorial snatches including one of its own - Vananu - who still rots in solitary, and many, many Lebanese and Palestinians who are still hostages a decade later? And weren't Israelis recently caught using biological weapons to assassinate a Jordanian Arab, with the use of stolen Canadian passports? And which other state made use of torture legal - if it applied to Arabs? Uprising: Is it the duty of the occupied and oppressed to kill the occupier and oppressor? If not, should not the occupied and oppressed accept and deserve the peace of the vanquished? Should or can oppressed cockroaches in a bottle? [Rafael Eitan's gleeful description?] Should Arabs and Muslims love Israelis and Jews who finance and cheer Israel, and still fulfill the duty of oppressed and occupied people? Consider the Americans gave many of their young sons lives for their freedom. Shoot

Down Stone Throwers: When even educated Jews in Canada, the US and elsewhere say that Jews are justified in slaughtering stone throwers, are they 'just' Jews, or just Arab hating Jews? Arab Refugees: So, a Jew from Manitoba or Manhattan can reside in Palestine but a Palestinian cannot return to the country that seized his land? Israel supported Apartheid in South Africa, as you know. The whites of that land want what Israel wants for Palestinians - blacks to remain segregated and denied their land. So do whites of Zimbabwe who live on land stolen from blacks.

J. ISHMAEL
JONISHCO@YAHOO.COM

DEAR SIR,

THE suspected suicide bombing of a U.S. Navy destroyer, the USS Cole, in a Yemeni port early Thursday Oct. 12 ignited number of questions on the perpetrators of the attack and their motives and means. But pull back to a global view and a much more strategic question surfaces: What is the United States doing in Yemen? The Navy only recently began using Aden Port as a refueling station, but Yemen is much more than a regional point of convenience. Indeed, America's interest and involvement in Yemen appear to run much deeper than merely refueling military vessels. Yemen is a strategic 'pawn' in a game with other major powers. And a small island 550 miles east of Yemen is a valuable military asset. Isolated, torn by tribalism and desperately poor - Yemen is one of the poorest nations in the Middle East. But these facts obscure an important reality: Yemen is the center of a vigorous competition between some of the world's major powers. Nations such as China, Russia and the United States are all competing for influence over the chokepoints of the world's waterways. Aden is one of these and one of the most important. Its port is one of the deepest natural ports in the world, capable of serving large vessels with comparatively little improvement. In recent months, both Russian and American military officials have jockeyed for position in Aden. Russian officials, for example, have raised military cooperation with

the Yemeni government. U.S. Navy SEALs have also helped clear the wreckage of sunken vessels from the port at Aden. Why has so much global attention focused on this tiny country? More than its harbor, Yemen also provides an important military base from which naval forces can quickly reach the Red Sea, the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean. The island of Socotra, with a population of 70,000, is perfectly placed for monitoring shipping routes in all three seas. The U.S. Navy is supposed to ensure the flow of goods to and from the United States via shipping routes. Competition for major trade routes is stiff and Washington has recently lost key points of control to countries like China; in the Suez Canal, for instance, a Chinese company with ties to the People's Liberation Army (PLA) has won important rights to facilities there. Near Socotra, much of the world's oil floats by on tankers. There is evidence as well to suggest that island, belonging to Yemen, is a potentially invaluable source for intelligence collection in the Indian Ocean, a basin with increased naval activity. The Indian navy, for example, has reportedly focused on expanding its capabilities and modernizing its technology. Socotra could be a valuable source of Signals Intelligence (SIGINT). In March 1999, the Village Voice reported Socotra as a site upon which the United States planned to build a SIGINT system. Over the past two years, reports have surfaced every few months in Yemeni opposition media claiming that Yemen's administration had agreed to allow the U.S. military access to both a port and an airport on Socotra. Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh has consistently denied a deal with the U.S. military and his government has punished journalists who persist in reporting it. The last instance of this to make it to the Western press occurred nearly one year ago, in October 1999, when the owner of the opposition daily Al-Haq was fined and the paper was banned for a month. The administration charged the paper with publishing material that threatened national security. The previous March, the same paper met similar consequences for running a story saying a new civilian airport built on Socotra to promote tourism had conveniently been constructed in accordance with U.S. mili-

tary specifications. The paper has ties to an umbrella group of Islamist politicians and activists, including the Islah Party. And there is clearly a backlash in Yemen against the global competition for use of its facilities. The attack on USS Cole was a simple, yet effective message: the ambitious goals of the U.S. military are not welcome. Now, wouldn't you think some ignorant people or should I say emotionally inclined have to be enlightened to the fact that we are no more the stick dolls in our own realm. This is a real tragedy, a crime we helped in committing upon our ourselves. Long Live Freedom of Speech.
Yemeni Nationalist.
yemkiller@aol.com

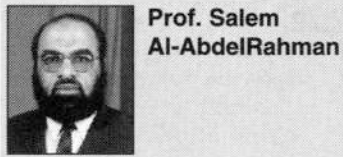
DEAR EDITOR,

THE Media is always talking about the positive impact of the Yemeni immigration on the economy and development which is true. But it is very important to mention some of the harmful consequences of immigration on the immigrants themselves and their homeland-Yemen. I believe that Immigrants are not to be regarded as a financial potential (or resource) for enhancing the economy and improving their own lives. In fact, if the Yemeni immigrants understand what immigration means (as a challenge) and if the government also realizes the importance of immigration and its consequences, they will all rethink it (migration) and put strict measures and regulation so that it can be fruitful and beneficial. Immigration means representing the homeland, protecting one's identity, protecting one's family from the devastation of immoral culture of the West. And most importantly, protecting one's religion and morals. We do not want money as such from the immigrants to enhance the economy, but we want from them to encourage their children to study and acquire knowledge and at the same time we want them to keep an eye on their children to be brainwashed against being corrupted by the western culture. Here are some facts about the Yemeni immigrants in the USA: It is very sad to mention the following scary facts about the Yemeni community in the US: -Most of them are involved in illegal business that has distorted the good reputation of Yemenis (selling alcohol,

DNA Computing:

A Possible Efficiency Boost for Specialized Problems

(PART 2 OF 2)

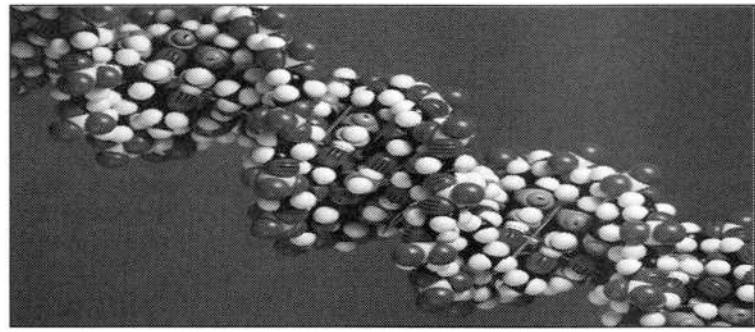


Prof. Salem
Al-AbdelRahman

Other related problems that are amenable to DNA computing are optimal shop scheduling and the longest path in a graph. Additionally, other good candidates for DNA computing are cryptography, problems from computer-aided design (CAD) such as checking out the correctness of circuits or protocols, and factoring.

R. J. Lipton (Professor of computer science at Princeton University - USA) has developed an approach to solving the 'Satisfaction Problem' with DNA, thus demonstrating how DNA computers work as powerful search machines. The satisfaction problem is central to computing and complexity theory. It attempts to answer whether, for a given Boolean expression A, values can be assigned to the variables in A such that A is true. For a satisfaction problem with n variables, an electronic computer must test 2^n variables one by one, and if n is large, this takes a long time. However, the DNA approach checks all the variables simultaneously, solving the problem much more efficiently than the traditional approach.

Working with his students Dan Boneh and Christopher Dunworth, R. J. Lipton has also come up with a method for using DNA to break the data-encryption standard known as DES, developed by the National Security Agency. DES makes use of a single key, among 2^{56} keys, to scramble messages. To break the code, a would-be codebreaker must test each of the 2^{56} key one by one, which would take impossible long on a conventional computer. However, in the DNA approach, all the keys can be searched simultaneously for the correct one. The key are encoded in strands of DNA and processed in a series of steps involving extractions, replications, and other biological operations. Breaking the first key would take months; however, subsequent keys can be cracked in a matter of minutes. DNA's computational potential relies on properties such as its massive parallelism, its capacity for information storage, and energy efficiency. DNA-based computers use about one trillionth of the space that conventional computer do to store data.



Other possible applications, such as using DNA in the manufacture of drugs, have also been proposed. Some of these applications are closer than others to practical ways of implementation. In the view of many DNA-computer scientists, once a "killer app"-an important application for which DNA computing is better suited than any other method- is found, the field will leap forward to the next stage in its development. Additional resources will then be forthcoming, together with industrial support and hundreds more practitioners. Even at the present stage, however, a researcher can locate more than 100 technical papers on DNA computing.

Several Specialized Uses

Like other fledgling technologies, DNA computing has its doubters who contend that the method claims more than it can ultimately deliver. However, to evaluate the merits of a DNA-based computer objectively, critics must take into account that it is not a general-purpose computer, but a rather a machine geared toward specialized uses. DNA computing seems best adapted to search problems and to problems that required vast amounts of memory (note that 10^{12} strand of DNA, each 1000 units long, are equal to 1000 Tbytes of memory).

Consequently, the technology should be judged on its abilities primarily in these two arenas, and not as a panacea for computing problems in general. In the first arena, DNA appears to be best suited to searching for up to 60- or 70 bit patterns, in situations in which the pattern in question is relatively easy to describe. (Ad traveling - sales - man problem fits in this category.) A general rule of thumb for search problems on computers is that, for a n-bit pattern, the solution will not take fewer than 2^n searching steps, although in practice, programmers can usually find heuristic algorithms that are much more efficient than this. For other cases, however in which there is no clever, heuristic "fix", DNA com-

puting maybe the optimum method for solving the problem. One example is the aforementioned DES code. The DES has a key or pattern size of 56, and so DNA can solve for the key in approximately 1000 steps, each step representing an operation done on the DNA. More recent codes, however, in which the key size is 80 or 128, maybe beyond the capacity of DNA to solve. DNA may also prove more efficient than the traditional computer with algorithms that require immense amounts of memory to solve, that is, more than 1000 Tbytes. The DES problem fits this category. Richard J. Lipton has considered another prospective example, that of "three-coloring" a graph, that exploits DNA's large memory capacity. Three-coloring is a kind of search problem, and with DNA computing it can be solved by an inductive algorithm that reduces the time required from 3^n to 1.5^n , where n is the number of vertices. A conventional computer would be unable to store the huge number of coloring involved in solving this algorithm. Hence, DNA may be the method of choice.

One difficulty that must be overcome involves correcting the errors that result from handling a DNA computer. The error rates that are observed when extracting DNA with a specified pattern from a test tube are typically about 1 part in 10^6 . Moreover, DNA decays with time; this problem particularly affects computation that takes months to complete. However, work is currently being done to demonstrate that error-prone computation can be "re arranged" so as to make them virtually free of errors.

Perhaps it will come to pass one day that a rack of test tubes replaces the microprocessor-based computer for the solution of specialized tasks... and perhaps not. In any event, those working in the burgeoning field of DNA computing believe that the continued close collaboration between biologists and computer scientists will yield new insights that cannot yet be imagined.

Friends of Hadhramaut: People helping People

By Karen Dabrowska

Hadhramaut. Death has come. Yemen's largest governorate which extends from the coast of the Arabian sea to the southern deserts of ar-Ruba' al-Khali, has an ominous sounding name. It's not a region where foreigners were always made welcome. Despite his total command of Arabic it took Leo Hirsch more than six months to soothe the mistrust of the Bedouin and pursue the rulers of the coastal region to let him into Wadi Hadhramaut, where he stayed for 38 days during the winter of 1892 using the town of Shibam as his base for exploring the interior.

He was followed by Hans Helfritz, whose visits to the Arabian peninsula in 1932-33 had a scholarly purpose. He recorded folk music and was also a talented travel writer able to turn his daring journeys into exciting books with titles such as Chicago of the Desert and Land without Shade.

Today it is a fascinating place for tourists attracted by Seiyun one of the most remarkable historical towns of Wadi Hadhramaut, the sultan's palace and the mosque of Umar in Mukalla the capital of the governorate, the abundance of archaeological sites dating back to the 9th century BC and Al-Hajarayn, a remarkable stone village atop a rocky slope of Wadi Daw'an.

But for Friends of Hadhramaut, a trust registered with the Charity Commission of England and Wales the region has provided an ideal opportunity to promote community-based projects and self-help developments using local resources and indigenous materials as far as possible.

The charity was set up in 1996, following a visit to the area by Sultana Al-Qu'aiti and Brian Fyfield-Shayler, as part of an expedition organized by the British Yemeni Society.

Sultana Al-Qu'aiti is the wife of HH the Sultan Ghalib Al-Qu'aiti. He became ruler of the Qu'aiti State in Hadhramaut when he was 18 years old on the death of his father in 1966. A year later he attended a UN conference in Geneva to discuss the future of the area after Britain's impending withdrawal from Aden and the protectorates, but on his return was prevented from landing by revolutionary forces. Since then he has lived largely in the UK (where he gained degrees from both Oxford and Cambridge universities) and in Saudi Arabia, becoming a great authority on aspects of Arabian history. In 1996, after discussions with the Yemen gov-

ernment, he travelled to Mukalla and to wadi Hadhramaut where he was given a rapturous welcome by the inhabitants. Sultan Ghalib and Sultana Al-Qu'aiti's son Saleh serves as Chairman of Friends of Hadhramaut: he completed his officer training at the Royal Military Academy in Sandhurst and is now studying law at Buckingham University.

Brian Fyfield-Shayler, who was teaching English in Saudi Arabia when he first met Sultan Ghalib in 1967, has had a long association with the Middle East. He returned to the UK in 1977. Now retired he lives in Tavistock, Devon, and devotes most of his time to the work of the Trust.

The trustees first met in January in 1997 in London. The charity's 33 initial supporters have now grown to nearly 400. The first patron was the late Doreen Ingrams, whose friendship with the region goes back to 1934 when she accompanied her husband, Harold Ingrams, the first British Resident Adviser. They were the first Europeans to make their home in Hadhramaut.

Doreen played an important part in all aspects of her husband's work by joining discussions with the men as well as visiting the harems and learning about the lives and conditions of women, many of whom were wanting medical help and education for themselves and their children. She was actively involved in starting a school for girls in Mukalla and a society where women could meet, sew or discuss hygiene and health problems. It was Sultan Saleh, grandfather of Sultan Ghalib, who encouraged and facilitated Doreen Ingrams' work.

Doreen Ingrams played a key role in starting the first bedouin girls schools in 1943 along with a famine hospital and convalescent home. With her husband she helped organize a Children's Village for the children of bedouin agricultural laborers who had been orphaned or made homeless because of famine. She was also involved in the establishment of the Al-Noor Institute for the Blind in Mukalla.

Friends of Hadhramaut started its work by providing support for this institute, which trains about 50 people. In the past the centre was famous throughout Yemen for its cane products and had a distributor in the market in Aden, the most important sea port and economic capital of the country. The Friends are hoping to revive this trade and provide the trainees with a much needed income. The center's thriving book-binding, well known during the 1960s and 70s, could also be revived with the help of sponsors

as could its music instruction. Blind students used to play at weddings and social functions and the Friends are keen to help musically-gifted students polish their skills.

Dr Nizar Ghanem, a distinguished musician and oud-player, who runs the Health & Culture Centre, a charity clinic and arts school in Sana'a has offered to assist.

Assisting the Al-Noor Institute has been one of the charity's most important activities. The construction of three dormitory rooms and two bathrooms, which will allow the centre to accept 21 new blind trainees as boarders, is the latest project to modernize the institute. A donation from Jehan Rejab of the New English School in Hawalli, Kuwait has paid for the building of a cafeteria.

A family from Al-Adaan in Wadi Hadhramaut is being given some financial assistance on a monthly basis, while the possibility of sending three blind sisters, Sabah, Safiyya and Lubnan Ba-amer overseas for corneal transplants is being investigated.

Other activities include assisting forty women to embroider and sew using electric machines. The women are at present using a room in the Al-Noor Institute but are in urgent need of furniture. Their thriving cottage industry produces garments which are sold in the local market but they are in need of their own workshop which could be constructed on a small piece of land en route to Riyan airport outside Mukalla. A visit to hospitals in Al-Qatn, Seiyun, Shibam and Mukalla by the Friends

local co-ordinator revealed little equipment and inadequate regular supplies. Through the charity's efforts, redundant but still serviceable equipment has been obtained for Hadhramaut from the Churchill Clinic, the Chelsea & Westminster Hospital and the South Kent Hospitals Trust.

Support for the charity has come from a variety of diverse organizations. Donations have been made by the Seven Pillars of Wisdom Trust and by Archive Editions Ltd of Farnham Common, publishers of historical documents on the Middle East, including the 16-volume Records of Yemen 1798-1960 co-edited by Doreen Ingrams and her daughter Leila. A recent donation from the Canning Trust enabled the purchase of

American-made Braille equipment including five Perkins Braille typewriters.

Sir Andrew Green, the British ambassador in Saudi Arabia and his wife Lady Jane Green, hosted a reception at their residence in Riyadh for around 90 invited guests, diplomats, expatriates and friends to hear an illustrated talk about a visit to Hadhramaut given by the charity's trustee and treasurer, Sultana Al-Qu'aiti.

Support from artists has been forthcoming, notably from Caroline Lees of Shropshire, who has made several painting trips to Hadhramaut and exhibited her work in the royal Academy (Summer Exhibition), the Mathaf Gallery and other prestigious venues. Julium Mein IV, president of the prestigious Austrian coffee and tea importers, known for the King Hadhramaut brand roasted by their company, has shipped two consignments of this top quality brand to London to aid the charity's fund-raising efforts.

Fund raising activities included car boot sales, coffee mornings and raffles with prizes such as a water colour of the green-domed tomb of Shaikha Sultana (1378 - 1443) and a wooden model of a Hadhrami castle by art students at Al-Qatn Secondary School. In 1977 the charity organized a small display at the World Bank's Micro-Credit Summit in Washington.

More recently, Brian Fyfield-Shayler has set up an entirely separate Al-Afar fund, to help the families and dependents of the now deceased Sultans of Qishn and Socotra, who formerly ruled Al-Mahra, the least populated governorate with only 110,000 inhabitants most of whom are bedouins and Socotra Yemen's largest island, 350km off southern coast of the Arabian Peninsula, almost 100- km from Aden.

The generosity of the Friends' supporters has exceeded all expectations. The initial list of projects is now on the way to be accomplished.

'We are now preparing a much more extensive list', Mr Fyfield-Shayler said. In Hadhramaut there is virtually unlimited scope to help people to help themselves. I have never met more industrious, enterprising individuals and their response to what we are trying to do is most gratifying.'

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Foreign Health NGOs, Well Done !

A good number of non-governmental health organizations, local and foreign, are working in many areas in Yemen. Foreign health organizations have been able in a short time to attract large sectors of people for the good quality and low prices for the services they offer.

However, such activities of those organizations have been sometimes questioned. Why do they burden themselves with such troubles and difficulties? Why in Yemen? Are they really humanitarian?

Dr. Fawzia Ja'afar, representative of Mary Stops Organization in Yemen highlighted the background of the organization as a non-profit making, non-governmental, political or religious organization.

Including Yemen, Mary stops operates in more than 30 countries offering services to more than 2 million people. It concentrates on more needy countries such as Arab and African countries. In Yemen it works in coordination with ministries of Health and Planning and its activities are confined to childhood, marital and family planning. The organization is provided with a drug store, laboratory and all the staff are women.

"We began in Sana'a in 1998 and in 1999 we opened an office in Sayon. We are planning to expand our activities to include Aden and Taiz," said Fawzia.

Mary Stops' services are under British supervision. The organization is supported by the Mother Organization in Britain, the British Council here and donations through the EU in addition to reasonable fees requested for some services. Support for projects is lifted when the organization feels that those projects are no longer in need of support.

Among the priorities of Mary Stops is raising people's awareness about health protection. "Yemenis visit hospitals when they are sick unaware of the fact that prevention is better than cure," Fawzia added.

Amnah -Adela is another organization working in Yemen in the health sector. It was established in 1997. In the same year a group of 12 children were sent

through the organization to Italy for treatment.

The organization offers services related to cardiac and leukemia diseases. So far 164 cases have been transferred to Italy through the organization.

"We have also started receiving other cases related to kidneys, medulla transplantation and prostate," said Dr. Mohammed Raweh, director. Recently Amnah - Adela signed contracts with Swiss hospitals in Geneva and some cases have been sent there. Presently, a group of 20 children is ready to travel while another group of 32 children is awaiting a final decision. All sick children to travel must provide a medical report from the Supreme Committee for Medical Decisions.

Despite the valuable services the organization provides, still it faces a number of problems mainly with the Ministry of Health. So far there has been no budget for the organization although regular reports are presented to the Ministry. "There have been clear orders from the Minister of Health to issue travel fees for companions of children but no response by the finance department has been noticed. Oddly enough, the minister's orders are refused by the director of his office or the director of finance. Such irresponsible behavior puts us in embarrassing situations. The host hospital was annoyed and threatened stopping receiving children when the latest group of children to travel to Italy was delayed waiting for the Ministry decision," said Dr. Raweh.

"The Italian Embassy which used to facilitate many things for us has changed all that with a complicated routine. If a sick child is late for obtaining his/her due visa it is canceled and new fees are imposed to obtain another visa even if the delay was caused by the Ministry, not the patient," he added.

Oxfam is one of the old organizations working in Yemen. It was established in the 1980s with many social and health activities. Director of the organization talked to us and said: "Oxfam is a British charity with its headquarters in Oxford, UK. Oxfam (GB) started its operations in Yemen in 1983 soon after the earthquake in Dhamar. Oxfam's mandate is to work with oth-

ers to overcome poverty and suffering. The reason it chooses to work in Yemen is that this country is one of the least developed in the world with high poverty levels, which are on the rise. Yemen is different from the rest of the middle east countries in which Oxfam has been operating. The health program Oxfam aims at ensuring equitable and quality health care provisions especially for poor women and men. The program adopts different approaches which include research, capacity building, lobbying and advocacy, technical and development support at national and local levels.

The program on women's development is to promote women's participation and empowerment in social and economic process, especially for the most vulnerable and marginalized groups of poor women.

Oxfam's partners are the Ministry of Public Health, local NGOs and CBOs, women Associations, Academic and research organizations.

Oxfam has good relations with ministry of planning which is the nodal ministry through which we operate. Projects supported by Oxfam require the approval of the ministry.

Oxfam has close working relations with the Ministry of Public Health, especially in relation to the health sector reform. It attempts to work within the health system rather than take a project approach.

Oxfam is working on policy issues related to cost sharing and public finance of health care to cover the poor and vulnerable groups.

Oxfam is responsible for monitoring the program it supports. Greater attention is being paid to issues of maximizing impact and sustainability.

Oxfam works within its policy and strategy framework. Beyond that it is flexible and responsive in its approach to meet the local needs.

Oxfam has started up a lot of new initiatives that need to be consolidated in areas mentioned above. Special attention is being paid to issues of quality and impact of the programs we support on the lives of poor and vulnerable groups.

Capacity is an issue that needs enhancement both in the NGO sector

as well as within the government for implementation of programs.

Main funding sources of Oxfam are the British Public, and donor institutions.

Yemen offers unique opportunities as well as challenges-the most compelling challenge being for different institutions to work together to alleviate Yemen's poverty."

It was urgently needed to head for the Ministry of Public Health, particularly the International Relations Department to know more. Unfortunately, the general manager was abroad. However, we met one of the staff who said that such organizations worked in Yemen according to bilateral agreements signed between our country and other friendly countries.

Others came to Yemen through the Ministries of Health and Planning. "We have agreements with those organizations identifying their activities and our commitments towards them. Organizations that send the sick abroad for treatment have direct relation with the Minister," he added.

In our visit to the Ministry office we found that the companion of sick people to Italian hospitals was the Minister's secretary who said she would travel in the coming days with a new group after she received travel allowance. At the same time we met a number of parents whose children were about to travel. They were complaining about the routine of the ministry. One of the fathers who requested anonymity told us that he spent a long time to make his sick child travel although he had finalized all needed procedures. "I have paid YRs 80,000 to facilitate my child's travel (he showed a receipt of 80,000. The receipt was unofficial and not sealed.)"

The rest of parents complained about the same routine and delay of their children's travel. Others said they had been blackmailed by some members in Amnah and Adela Organization under pretext of facilitating travel procedures. Such information made us again go back to the minister's office to make sure of credibility of such claims. Again we met the secretary who confirmed credibility of what



Health News

Study: Most Arctic Dioxins Come From U.S.

OTTAWA—U.S. sources are the biggest contributor to the cancer-causing dioxins found in the eastern Arctic of Canada, according to a joint scientific study made available here recently. In all, up to 62 percent of dioxins traveling to Nunavut test sites came from U.S. sources, while Mexico and Canada contributed 30 percent and 8 percent respectively, the study illustrates. Nine of the top 10 contributors to dioxin deposited in Nunavut were from the United States, including three municipal waste plants in Minnesota, Iowa and Pennsylvania; three cement kilns in Michigan, Missouri and Nebraska; two iron plants in Indiana; and a copper smelter in Illinois. The finding was cited to account for elevated levels of dioxin in the breast milk of local Inuit mothers. "Although there are no significant sources of dioxin in Nunavut, or within 500 kilometers of its boundaries, dioxin concentration in Inuit mothers' milk is twice the level observed in southern Quebec," says the study. The air-borne agents enter the food chain through animals such as caribou, marine mammals and fish, which are the chief food supply of Inuit people. Under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the Commission for Environmental Cooperation conducted the study from July 1, 1996, to June 30, 1997, covering 44,091 dioxin sources, of which 16,729 were in Canada, 22,439 in the United States and 4,923 in Mexico. The extremely detailed study, which used a new pollution-tracking method, made it possible to track a one-gram "puff" of dioxin wherever it went, the NAFTA environmental agency said. —(Xinhua)

Deadly Disease Threatens Africa

JOHANNESBURG—Africa is under the threat of a deadly tropical disease, Kala-Azar, which has returned to Calcutta, India's most populous city, British Airways Travel Clinics (BATC) said on Monday. "The deterioration of the situation in India should sound an alarm in Africa. Kala-Azar occurs in Africa, where HIV has been facilitating the spread of this disease. We have seen this happening in East Africa," BATC medical director Dr. Andrew Jamieson said in a statement issued here. The parasitic disease, spread by sand flies, kills by destroying liver, spleen and bone marrow, Jamieson said. He said this was the first outbreak of the disease since 1961, when it was thought the sand fly hosts were eradicated by insecticides used in an anti-malaria campaign. Jamieson said Kala-Azar was both difficult and expensive to treat, therapy often taking months to achieve cure. In the case of people who were HIV-positive, available treatments were unable to cure the disease. In such patients, the lifelong suppressive treatment required was unaffordable for most governments. Jamieson added that control of Kala-Azar was made difficult by the fact that the disease could hide in a number of animal "reservoirs," including domestic dogs and rodents. Kala-Azar, also known as Leishmaniasis, was spreading at the rate of 500,000 new cases annually and 350 million people throughout the world were at risk of infection. No vaccine was available and Jamieson advised travelers to affected countries to adopt personal protection measures against insect bites, such as the use of effective insect repellents. —(Xinhua)

parents had said. "One of the staff there exploited absence of the director of the organization and asked patients for a lot of money to help them travel," she said. "Now he is in the central prison," she added. Those who try save people's lives and draw a smile on the lips of the sick

deserve all appreciation and thanks. It could have been better if the Ministry of Health facilitates work of such organizations since it is unable to carry out its duty as treatment institution, let alone its failure in supervising medical institutions which to blackmail people.

Water and Environment Seminar

Yasser M. Ahmed
Yemen Times

Water and Environment Center in Sana'a University on October 28-29

organized the first seminar on Water and Environment in Yemen under the theme "The Need for Capacity Building". The seminar discussed several important working papers presented by Yemeni and foreign specialists working in this field in Yemen. Due to shortages of water and serious environmental problems, locally and internationally, and because Yemen is one of the countries that faces problems in these two sectors specially in the water, the Yemeni government has inaugurated an institutional reform program. The government has adopted new policies and strategies aimed at improving the performance of the sector institutions and overcoming water crisis. One of these important policies is Building Capacities. In this respect, the government cooperated with donors in establishing Water and Environment Center at Sana'a University to build up the capacity of these two sectors.

For helping the government, donors and decision-makers working in these fields, the Center held this seminar that aimed at:

- giving an idea of the center's role in building capacities
- looking into water and environment issues in Yemen
- understanding opinions of the government and the donors.

Among the working papers presented at the seminar was one presented by Hans Van D. Hoven a water specialist in the Dutch Embassy. The paper centered on roles of the Dutch govern-

ment, the UNDP and the Yemeni government in financing the Sustainable Water Resources Program. The paper included the role of the public participation in planning, executing and managing of water projects and the role of countries receiving donations in the complete conformity with the policies. The paper also included the necessity of maintaining aids offered by donating countries and that emphasizing they must be consolidated and organized. The paper included the 5th stage of supporting the Water and Sanitation Project in Rural Areas. The paper called on the Water & Environment Center, the Yemeni officials and the concerned people to take action corresponding to such an important issue.

Ms Elham Basahi, from the Water & Environment Association, presented a working paper titled "The Need for Capacity Building of Stockholders for Sustainable Water and Sanitation Projects". The paper diagnosed challenges facing the Water and Sanitation Sector in Yemen. Among these challenges are:

- Limited and degrading water resources.
- Lack of involvement of stockholders, especially females in project's designs.
- Limited appropriate technology options.
- Unsustainable rural water projects.
- Low coverage of sanitation resources.
- Lack of the rural decentralization model.

The paper underscored the need for building the capacities of non-governmental associations in Yemen and indicated that:

- Long term partnerships with implementing agencies based on mutual confidence, respect for independence,

accountability and transparency.

- Long term partnership should include joint implementation and exchanged capacity building opportunities.

The working paper presented by Dr. Mohammed Al-Hamdi "Incentive System for Ground water Use in The Sana'a Plain" indicated that the ground water stored in Sana'a Plain is decreasing by 2 to 6 meters every year. The paper also indicated that agriculture, the main activity in the rural areas in Sana'a Plain, has become non profitable and the farmers grow profitable crops that represent 40% Qat, 25% grapes and 35% vegetables and others. It also discussed the financial and economic aspects of ground water used for agricultural irrigation including:

- 1) Costs
 - 2) Income (Sales)
 - 3) Profits
 - 4) Land & Water Profitability.
- The paper dwelt upon the legal aspects concerning ownership and rights to using water.

The working paper titled "Tackling Rural-Urban Water Transfers Issue" was presented by Mr. Khalid Riaz, Mr. A. Al-Shami and Mr. Abdullah S. Saif. In the paper they discussed: Water Situation in Taiz and Rural-Urban Water Transfers Framework.

The paper presented by Fuad Ali Abdullah, titled "Capacity Development for Environmental Management in Yemen" discussed Status of Environment, Priority Environmental Areas among which were Water Depletion, Pollution, Land Degradation, Habitat Degradation, Waste Management, Institutional Setup, Environmental Strategies and Policies, Environmental Legislation,

Environmental Management Obstacles and Capacity Development.

Mr. Mattias Kiesler, Deputy Head of Mission, German Embassy, presented a working paper titled "Capacity Building in the Water and Environment Sector 'The German Government Perspective'". The paper defined the Capacity Building as a part of a bundle of measures to reach a specific objective, a development goal or an increase in the efficiency and effectiveness of an organization. It explained that the Capacity Building improves existing capabilities and uses them effectively and efficiently in order to achieve sustainable development. It includes Human resources Development HRD, Organization Development and Institutional and Legal Framework Development.

The paper also discussed the Yemeni-German Development Cooperation in "Capacity Building and Water" and the Government Negotiations in April 2000, in which the following were agreed upon:

- * Water Supply, Sanitation and Waste Management
- * Health and Family Planning
- * Human Development and Institutional Capacity Building.

In his working paper, Mr. Kiesler mentioned that the Yemeni German cooperation should contribute to change at three levels:

- * A capacity-building amongst the broad mass of people.
- * Enhancing the professionalism of governmental and non-governmental organizations, thus enabling them to



provide the services required by the population in a more useful way.

- * Strengthening state institutions so that they may provide more effective support to the first two processes of changes mentioned. The paper also indicated the Experience of German Contribution to the Development of the Water Sector in Yemen until the mid 90's as well as the Water Sector Reform, its different steps and measures as for the German government's approach of capacity building, Some Elements of its process are Preparation and Implementation of the reforms. He also pointed to the conclusions of Germany's participation in the process of water sector reform.

Mr. Jean Francois Barres, World Bank Sana'a, in his paper titled "Capacity Building in World Bank Financed Projects" discussed: the Capacity Building in World Bank - Supported Projects in Yemen, Capacity Building being the Core of the Development Process, Spate Irrigation and Watershed Management, Ground

water Irrigation, Rural Water Supply, Urban Water Supply, Water Resources Management and Environments and Key Issues facing Capacity Building.

In his working paper titled "Capacity Building in Yemen: From Theory to Practice", Mr. Jan Luijendijk, IHE, Delft, discussed

- 1- The need for Capacity Building in the water Sector
- 2- The growing awareness for Capacity Building
- 3- Capacity Building for IWRM in practice
- 4- Capacity Building practices through SUS projects.

Mr. Luijendijk also discussed Development in the Water Sector in Indonesia, New law on Regional Autonomy; decentralization, Water Resources Sector Reformation Program objectives, Huge Capacity Building and investment agenda, Need for Capacity Building in China, Growing awareness for capacity building and Problems with Capacity Building in developing countries.

Mareb Dam Civilization

Yemen Times
Taiz office

Yemeni Association for History and Heritage Protection, in coordination with Al-Saeed Corporation for Sciences and Culture recently held a symposium on ancient history of Yemen. The Association has been established in Taiz a few months ago. The symposium's theme was "the Mareb Dam" which began with a lecture by Al-Saeed Corporation General Manager Faisal Saeed Fare'. He said, "History is the vessel of the human experience. It is a science that has its basics. It must have documents because its goal is to make man know about himself. He indicated that the study of the Near East history as suffering from the small number of specialists and scarcity of writings on the history of the people of our country." Most historical traces in our country were discovered by non-Yemeni scientists and researchers. All the old historical traces proved that the old Yemeni people were clever in many aspects of life. This made their products as expensive as oil now which is for the nations of the Mediterranean.

About Mareb Dam
This dam is called (Al-Arem Dam) and is the biggest in the south of Arab

Peninsula. It is located near Mareb, south-west of the city. In the ruins of Mareb Dam, engraved writings in Musnad Script were found. The dam underwent repairs in the reign of King Sherhabeel Bin Ya'for in A.D. 449 and 450 as well as repairs in the Abraha reign during the Ethiopian invasion of Yemen in A.D. 525 and 571.

Mr. Al-Ezi Musleh, Antiquities Office General Manager in Taiz, delivered a speech in the symposium. He said, "Mareb Dam has offered a lot to the Yemeni people. It used to store large quantities of water, irrigate a vast area of land for securing food. This dam was mentioned in the Holy Quran, in the Arabic Literature and in historical ruins. There were various myths about the destruction of the dam. Abu Alhasan Al-Hamdani visited it a thousand years ago and saw its outlets and channels extending over areas of about 500 km and found traces of Al-Gannatain Land, (Land of the two Paradises)."

The dam was established on both northern and southern outlets of Al-Baraq Mountains. The people's use of its rocks in building houses made its destruction faster. When it was built again, the outlets of Al-Gannatain Land were ruined. It is a draining dam, not a transfer dam. A Swiss team that carried out a study on the dam, its outlets and measurements, concluded that it used to store

55 million cubic meters. The cascades of the dam extend over 10,000 km almost from the outskirts of Sana'a, Dhamar, and then Rada'. The water force per second was 950 cubic meters. Fifty cubic meters of water per second were distributed from its canals.

When Did The Dam Appear?

An American delegation from Chicago University has made studies of the prehistoric archeological sites and found that man immigrated from Africa, crossed Bab Almandab towards the coastal line, mountains, Hadhramout and went westward to Mareb. They also found fossils dating back to 1.25 million years. That means dwelling in Mareb started a million years ago. Mareb basin was forming many swamps. A swamp was discovered north Al-Ebre, another in Al-Hamra Area. Floods were flowing into a river extending from Al-Gauf to Al-Maseela. This was discovered by means of satellites. Population condensed and spread out in Al-Gedran Area in Mareb. There are also about four thousand graves. This reveals that people spread in this area, depended on hunting and later on farming. However, Mareel Wise explained that there were decades of drought started in Mareb basin and perhaps in all Yemen and continued for 40,000 years, then after 33,000. Drought happened again for 21,000

years and it also happened between 8000 and 5000. Swamps remained in this area because the expedition found, in Sada basin, fossils for beast animals that used to live on land and return to water. Dr. Madiha Rashad has made a study near Al-Maqrood Mountain. The results showed that the drought dates back to 7000 BC. Furthermore, the results of the study made in Al-Hamra Area by the Italian team, the finding of bones of pigs, confirm the spread of population in Sada. Els Bruno says that the drought really started in Mareb since 4000 BC. Thus, man started immigrating gradually into the valleys' outlets. In other words, man had ascended from these areas to higher ones.

What do studies say?

Studies say that people had lived in those areas before that time. The red signs on the maps we have got indicate locations of the old stone ages dating back to 4000 BC. Likewise, studies confirmed that the stone graves, above ground level, in the Green Mountain in Oman date back to 4000 years BC. In addition, the findings of drawings for fighting people and prey animals during the Stone Ages inside the dam are other confirmations that man lived in those areas earlier than 4000 years BC.

How did it begin?

Building Mareb Dam:

The geological structure of the region is rocky and admitting no farming because it is an oil soil there. Besides, the ground water there contains sulfuric acid. This does not make it suitable for farming. The scientist Marfolondo thinks that Mareb basin had formed between 500 and 400 million years during the missionary movements. Moreover, Serwah Volcano, the most famous volcano in Yemen extending from Serwah to four-lava in Rada, made it difficult for any kind of cultivation.

However, the first man made Mareb an agricultural region by making small dams and reservoirs. Of course, when water precipitated, much precipitation remained and consequently the region became agriculturally formed. Mareb Dam was the first transfer dam draining water directly over Al-Gannatain Land. On the other hand, the continuous precipitation made the level of the agricultural land higher until it became at the same level as the dam's outlets and this hindered the dam completely. After that, man ascended to a higher region and another two-channel-transfer dam appeared and continued working for a long time. This dam was built in the same way as the previous ones. It was built with horizontal arches and a pyramid structure behind. The rocks behind the dam were two meters long but what appeared above the ground were 50 meters. Thus, the structure was raised to withstand the water shocks and impacts.

Elli Bri says that the water force comes to 5060 cubic meters. This is

enough to sweep away and destroy the dam completely. However, when the horizontal arches were built, the water bumped into them and the approaching force of water is distributed across the ground center and branched out through the channels. Studies agree that the history of Yemen dates back to the 8th century BC. Some books have acknowledged this, too. New findings say that the beginning of writing was in the eleventh century, since 1200 BC. By referring to the letter from the prophet Sulieaman to Queen of Sheba, we find that the Queen could read and write.

Mareb Dam: architecturally:

The dam was built with stone material and the arch is 700 meters long. Besides there is a main channel that distributes water. The extension of the dam is natural.

What the dam underwent and what is grown there:

The dam has undergone precipitation and water was passing from the top of the arch. Sesame, lentil, barley, wheat, sorghum, pomegranate, grapes and palm trees were grown there as mentioned in the sculptures.

The Collapse of the Dam:

Because of the high level of the arch, it formed a big pressure on the rocks of the dam. Scientifically, the sedimentary layers were the main factors of ruining the dam during the reign of Sharhabeel Yafor. Historians say the collapse of the dam occurred between the 5th and the 6th century BC.

Islamic Medication for all Diseases

Mohammed Alhakimi
Yemen Times
Taiz



The issue in our hands is neither sorcery nor magic, it is an issue people always argued about for it depends on psychic and sometimes primitive methods in medical treatment.

It goes beyond modern science to the theoretical and the spiritual. Sheik Ahmed Abdulrahman Alsharabi, one those who is used to treat the sick by using the holy Qura'an, was born in 1962 in Saudi Arabia, and came back to Yemen in 1990. He practiced this kind of treatment in Saudi Arabia. He received this knowledge from sheik Saleh Alzahrani in Saudi Arabia and read books discussing this kind of medication. Now he can distinguish whether the case he is treating is a kind of Satanic possession, psychological or an organic problem.

Places teaching this medicine

There aren't any identified centers in Yemen, but there are some sheiks who teach. This type of medicine appeared and was practiced first in Saudi Arabia where you can find many sheiks teach it, like sheik Alqamri, sheik Alsaniuni, both in Almadina and sheik Alzahrani in Jeddah. I attended their lessons. But here in Yemen, there is no place for this kind of education.

What has it got to do with hypnosis

This type of treatment does not depend on hypnosis, it depends on God's words from the holy Qura'an and inspiration. It is close to psychotherapy.

Causing pain treatment

The hand is put on the nerve at the side



of the neck causing some pain to the patient. Doctors use needles causing severe pain to the patient. But beating and putting pressure on the veins are all false procedures.

90% of the cases are psychological

Almost 90% of the cases we receive are psychological, those patients are either advised to see a psychiatrist or given some medical herbs, which worked in many cases.



The psychological situation is known by having a discussion with the patient. If the patient doesn't want to go to a doctor, he is given some herbs and is made to consult a doctor. Herbs usually contain mustard seeds and aniseed, honey is also widely used.

The aim is to call God

Sheik Ahmed Abdulrahman Alsharabi said that they are accused of misleading people and holding Moslems

back. Then he wondered why those who made such accusations don't accuse sorcerers in the same way. We use holy Qura'an in treating those cases and many doctors recognize our work.

Electric shocks (slika)

Sheik Ahmed Abdulrahman Alsharabi said that they use a small device to generate small amounts of electricity in the range of 6 volts used to awaken distracted patients and make them respond to treatment.

Proper medicine could also be used

The sheik used proper medicines sometimes to cure diseases and he advised his patients to take those medicines, because what he always shot for is the cure.

Physiotherapy

The sheik also used physiotherapy in cases of arthrosclerosis. It could be treated by massaging. This method was passed to him from famous sheiks.

Jinn

According to the sheik, demons are present and this is a fact nobody can deny. Even the Islamic Shareia stressed on that. Those who do not admit this fact, do not believe in the holy Qura'an. Most non-Moslems deny this fact.

The jinn are of two types: good and bad, and they live in deserted places, trash yards and filthy places as prophet Mohammed said. Jinn hurt people who don't mention God and get involved in pleasures.

What is magic?

It is an illusion in the mind, whoever practices magic is an atheist and it could only affect those who are not strong believers.

Arabic medication

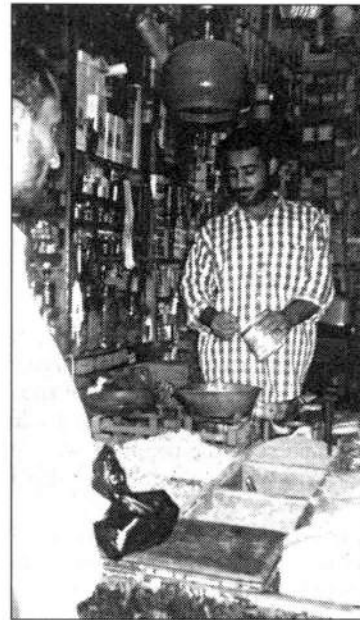
Natural seeds, plants and herbs God created for the good of people. Those can not be used to cure all diseases nowadays.

Worked in this field

The most famous who worked in this field are Avicenna, "Al Razi", "Al Modafar" and "Al Antaki"

Al attareen

Those who sell herbs and seeds as medications. They are widely spread in Yemen.



Advantages of Arabic medicine

Unlike modern medicine Arabic medicine has no side effects and even if it doesn't cure, it won't harm the patient.

People's opinions

1. Yahya Alasadi : " I had severe dryness, medicine couldn't do anything for me so I started Arabic medicine and now I'm better "
2. Sheik Ali Kassem Abda: " I had stones in one of my kidneys and after having the treatment I got rid of it "
3. Ahmed Mohammed Ghanim (sells herbs): " some doctors advise people to come to us "

Treatment by the holy Qura'an

To save obsessed people by reading the holy Qura'an.

Physiotherapy

This has become a major medical field taught in America, England and China.

Herb medication

It depends on herbs, plants and seeds to prepare medicines for some ailments.

Sorcerers

Those who use jinn and demons. Many people nowadays get deceived by sorcerers.

Ali Hizam Alazazi heals illnesses by Arabic medicine. An author of a book who has his own clinic where he treats people said " weak belief in the hearts of people and the negligence of the government made this kind of sorcery widely spread in Yemen"

We attended some of the cases Sheik Ahmed Abdulrahman Alsharabi was treating. He held the patients head and started reading some verses from the holy Qura'an. If the patient responded then the sheik started talking with him and if not the sheik sent him to the hospital.

Different cases

Ghazala Sultan had difficulties in breathing and cried almost all the time. The sheik said that she wasn't obsessed.

Ali Saeed Ali Hashem had a daughter who got married but she ran away from her husband and didn't want to see him anymore. He said that he was sure that his daughter had a spell.

Taeba Sulaiman Alezi had a coma for

five days and when he read Qura'an she woke up and started talking.

Nadia Naji Mohammed Saleh: had infection in her stomach and a headache. The sheik prescribed her some herbs.

Amirah Abda Ali suffered from severe anemia. He read verses of the holy Qura'an. Then she slept and started snoring. Then her husband explained that she's had two shocks in one month.

Vacancy

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Improve Your English



Dr. Ramakanta Sahu
Associate Professor
College of Education, Mahweel

I. What to Say

On Foreign Language learning

Nasser: Good morning, doctor.
Dr. Ali: Good morning, Nasser. How are things with you?
Nasser: Everything is fine. Thanks. Shall I ask you a rather silly question, doctor?
Dr. Ali: No question is silly, Nasser. Go ahead.
Nasser: How I wish to be able to speak English as fluently as you. But alas! I can't.
Dr. Ali: Who told you that? You speak English reasonably well. What you may be lacking is self confidence.
Nasser: But I seem to be always translating from Arabic, my mother tongue. Why can't ideas come to me in English as they come in Arabic?
Dr. Ali: Well. Please don't forget that English is a foreign language to you, but Arabic is your mother tongue. In order to gain fluency in any language, you've got to use it in a number of contexts as often as you can. Then, you will see, you begin to think in that language easily and naturally. The same is true of English, as well.
Nasser: But to be able to speak, one needs to know a number of words in English. I'm afraid, I have a very limited vocabulary. What should I do?
Dr. Ali: You have to slowly but steadily acquire some common words in English which you need for everyday use in a number of situations. And use them in different contexts, not merely memorize them. Then those words will be your own and you can't forget them. Another way to increase your word power is to listen to English news in the radio and TV regularly as well as to read easy books in English. If you do a lot of reading and listening, your word power will increase gradually.
Nasser: I'll do that from today. In fact, I love English language.
Dr. Ali: That's the right way. If you love something sincerely, you'd surely achieve it. I wish you good luck. Keep up your love for English.

Answers to last week's questions:
1. Call me anything else **but** a fool.
2. He behaved in a **cowardly manner** before the Dean.
3. **Kindly** help me in my work. OR **please** help me in my work.
Note: 'kindly' and 'please' cannot be used together
'kindly' is used when we talk to our seniors or superiors.
'please' is used for equals.
4. She ran **very fast**
5. I **do not** care a straw for you.

III How to express it in one word:
1. Adapted for both land and water
2. Lack of enough blood.
3. Substance that produces the state of being unable to feel pain.
4. Absence of government or control.
5. Science that studies the structure of animal bodies.

Answers to last week's questions:
1. Closed motor van for carrying patients to hospital: **ambulance**
2. Soldiers lying in wait to make a surprise attack: **ambush**
3. General pardon for offenses against the state: **amnesty**
4. Loss of memory: **amnesia**
5. Having no definite shape or form: **amorphous**

IV Choose the word opposite in meaning to the given word
1. mundane (a) superb (b) excellent (c) heavenly (d) extraordinary
2. accomplice (a) accessory (b) opponent (c) escort (d) friend
3. laconic (a) bucolic (b) prolific (c) profligate (d) prolix
4. agony (a) bliss (b) fear (c) ecstasy (d) pleasure

Answers to last week's question
1. 'See you next week!' — parting
2. 'Would you like to come to tea?' — invitation
3. 'Can I give you a hand with the dishes?' — offer
4. 'Do you mind if I use your phone?' — asking permission
5. 'No, don't bother, I can do it myself' - refusing an offer

V Words of wisdom
'Be slow to promise and quick to perform'

II. How to say it correctly

Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences:

- I am only free in the morning
- Bakil is a very wise man, certainly.
- We entirely draw our intellectual and cultural heritage from our ancestors.
- I never remember having met him before.
- Of course, you will succeed in you mission.

The Story of the Cave

Once there were some young Romans who believed in the true God. Their king whose name was Decius, heard about these young men and ordered them to come to his palace. When the young Romans arrived, the king asked them about the true God. Although the young men told him about the true God very patiently, the king became very angry. He ordered his young subjects to forget their true God and to worship the pagan Roman Gods. The young men had to escape from their king because they refused to obey his command. They escaped to al-Rakim Mountain where they hid in a large cave. Here God made them sleep for a very long time. While the young believers were sleeping, God protected them in a number of ways. He made them deaf, so no noise could wake them. He made the door of their cave from side to side while they were sleeping so they would not be uncomfortable. God made their dog sleep outside the cave, so His angels could enter the cave and watch over young men. In these ways God protected his young servants.

The young men slept in the cave for 309 years. Then God woke them up. When they woke up, they did not know how long they had slept. One of the young men said "I think we have been asleep for a day". Another said, "No, only part of the day". Only God knew the truth. Then one of the young men went to the town to buy some food because they were all very hungry. He paid for the food with a coin. The shopkeeper looked at the coin carefully. He was very surprised because the coin had the head of king Decius on it and king Decius had been dead for hundreds of years. Soon the news about the coin spread around the market and a crowd gathered round the young man. The young man told the people his story. The king whose name was Theodosius, went with the young man to the cave. After he had seen the cave and listened to the story, he believed in the true God, All his people believed in the true God as well.

Translated from Holy Qura'an
by Abdou Mohammed Talib

YOUTH FORUM

TOWARD A NEW EDUCATION FOR A NEW CENTURY

Reports to the Nation: Report #1: Education for Independence

Dr. Abdulmageed Ghaleb Almikhlaflafi
Lecturer,
Sana'a University

Colonialism and Education

Colonialism (old and new) plays a very important role in perpetuating retardation and delaying transformation of the Arab nation. Through various cultural and educational means, imperialism dominated the minds of the Arab peoples and thereby subjugated and retarded their personality. Education was used as an effective instrument of economic and cultural imperialism. The colonialists organized their own system of education to meet the needs of trained people who could carry out the functions allocated to them by the colonialists. After World War II the industrial scene witnessed the phenomenon of decolonization of production by the multinationals; and national executives were now needed to support such decolonization and to provide, as well, the nucleus of the administrators for the newly independent Arab countries. At the level of knowledge also, the same phenomenon of decolonization could be noted: The orientation and contents of the syllabuses were heavily foreign and so were the teaching staff. Added to these factors was the impact of higher education of Arab students in western Europe and the USA, since 1960, in socialist countries, brought in its wake the problem of brain drain, which the Arab countries had not been able to overcome. Even after the independence of Arab countries, the situation hardly altered. The Arab university, which continued to be the major center for training the cadres, also continued to be largely a copy of the western university and it became a basic problem to develop an independent culture under these conditions. The psychological impact of western imperialism and colonialization, particularly on the younger generation, was profound and incalculable in its effects. By controlling language, education, and culture colonialism tried to influence the intellectual and political orientation of the younger generation. On a more gener-

al level, western domination gave rise to a feeling of inferiority and frustration which expressed itself in nihilism and despair. Western colonialism, supported by the tacit or active collaboration of the older generation, served further to widen the gap between the generations and to create a humiliated and alienated youth.

Independence and Education

The construction of one's own history is a necessary condition of emancipation. It is also a necessary condition for the possibility of contributing toward the gradual formation of world history. The need for independence, which is also a necessary condition for the construction of transformative culture, becomes particularly relevant when the forces that are to emancipate the Arab nation are themselves uncultured, uneducated and retarded. They have been systematically socialized to remain ignorant of their own history. They have been barred from freeing themselves from privileges, and idolatries. They do not exercise all the efforts to free themselves from the false ideologies that they have absorbed and unreflectively made their own. How can they emancipate themselves if they are not independent intellectually, ideologically, and politically? How can they contribute to the emancipation of people if their own nation is not independent. The emancipation of others, challenges one to emancipate oneself from privileges, prejudices and idolatries. One has first to delink oneself from the spell of the dominant retardation and engage in the self-imposed task of participating in emancipation by transcending and transforming the actualities of the unexamined retarded life.

The Arab nation has been inserted by the industrialized capitalist nations in a world system whose rational was shaped of values, norms, and principles called ideology. This ideological package directed thinking, as well as determined the whole course of events in the Arab nation, in favor of the already advanced segment of the world. Thus education in the Arab nation must contribute to the building of cultural, political, and more importantly, ideological independence by creating new sets of values, norms, and principles, a new ideology, a coherent system of emancipatory ideas and political thought. Before and after independence, the Arab s were and still are fighting themselves in the defense of one or another part of the colonialist society. They fight ideological, cold, and hot wars which they do not have to fight in the first place. Now the Arabs must move to cleanse the Arab movement of foreign control. For, if they copy today the foreign ways of politics, tomorrow they will copy the foreign ways to govern. The Arabs must, therefore, stop repeating foreign ideas, cease to consider the foreign society as the only manifestation of human civilization or as the model for other societies. Once the ideological independence is achieved, the current fragmentation among the Arabs would come to an end, and this would allow them to get organized around their social and historical demands. The right place to fight the foreign sources of retardation, is to fight the retarded elements in the Arabs.

The concept of ideological independence, then, essentially illuminates what the emancipatory ideas are, and how these ideas are channeled through TVs, radios, newspapers, political party platforms, journals, mosques and church meetings, social clubs, schools, universities, army, etc. People's private and public spheres should be permeated by emancipatory ideas, which give meanings to their

lives and enable them to emancipate themselves and enhance their own independent world outlooks. There is a close interconnection between ideological independence and development and a close link between the ideas of individuals, class and society and socio-economic interests, ideals, norms, and beliefs which influence decisions, among others, about the choice of development programs, on distribution of benefits, as well as what political and cultural institutions ought to be doing. The transformation of the Arab nation has to be conceived within an ideological context that would define in an explicit and comprehensive way the desired emancipatory state of affairs and the best possible means of its realization. Through various cultural, educational, and ideological means, imperialism dominated the minds of the Arab peoples and thereby subjugated and retarded their personality. Ideological independence, therefore, is a protection against theories of domination which sought to explain the retardation of the Arab nation in racial and mythical terms. A new understanding must be established, and arising from this new understanding, a sense of purpose would obtain; and this would orient the whole Arab nation towards new goals and aspirations. Only an independent Arab ideology could be a vital instrument for mobilization and unity in most of the Arab world, where cleavages and conflicts extended along class, economic, tribal, and religious lines. It is a must that such a transformative and independent ideology has its basis in the social classes that are at grips with the actual struggle against domination and retardation. For an ideology to bear any legitimacy and win the participation of the masses in its implementation, it has to take account of the legacy, symbols and enlightened traditions of the laboring and oppressed masses. It has to have the drive to bring about new transformation of the entire social, economic, cultural, educational, and political structure, in order to bring about new emancipatory relations. Education, thus, must foster independent thinking, free from any political bias or bigotry. Education must contribute to the self-confidence of the masses within their culture. Education, culture, and the organized dissemination of knowledge constitute the independence of the masses from the corruption of the dependent and ivory tower intellectuals. Education could be an effective instrumental condition of cultural and ideological independence only if it enables the Arab nations to view its historical reality and its transformation in terms of its own critical interpretation of history. Arab education in general and socio-political education in particular, must assess and evaluate liberal and Marxist conceptions of the world history and human civilization. It must identify the justified and the unjustifiable prescriptions of liberalism and Marxism. In the process of doing so, Arab education must demonstrate that both liberalism and Marxism have their own eurocentricity and their own points of strength and weakness. Arab education must contribute to the establishment of an independent, emancipatory, and democratic conception of the world. Such a conception may take the enlightened Arab-Islamic traditions (not ignorant traditionalism) as its starting points of departure but must assimilate and surpass the achievements of liberalism and Marxism so as to contribute to the whole human intellectual production. The Arab choice is not right or left but forward or back, up or down, emancipation or retardation.



Teashop

استمتعوا بطعم الجودة



The Qissa, the Qat, and the Qadi

By: Sabine Albus

Once upon a time it might have happened or it might not have happened.

It might have happened yesterday or it may happen today or any other day.

An old woman lived in Sana'a the capital of Yemen. She had a husband and a son and they lived modestly, but they were content and happy.

Then the husband died and the son who had just turned sixteen and who was a handsome young man, changed his character from the good to the bad, as he started to chew qat everyday and night!

To chew qat used to be and probably still is a social and popular custom in Yemen.

Before chewing qat you have to have a very good lunch, normally Salta, a very common Yemeni dish and before the evening prayer you stop chewing qat, and return home in order to eat something later and to stay with your family. Men and women chew in separate rooms, while the men's rooms are the most beautiful. Often they are spacious and they sometimes have a splendid view over the surroundings, which might be a city or a mountain region. The women's rooms are often smaller and not as splendid in their view.

This handsome young man became really addicted to qat and he broke the common and wise rules of the tradition and even started to chew in the evenings and at night, which is quite unusual even in Yemen. In consequence the old woman soon didn't have any more money for meat or chicken, later she didn't even have money for the electricity or vegetables. So she depended completely on her kind neighbors' help. But she felt ashamed and depressed in waiting for her neighbors' donations, as she knew they weren't that well off either.

She tried to influence her son, and discussed the situation with him, and the neighbors did the same. But none of them could do anything about the son's new and strange behavior. The son just loved the qat more than he loved his mother and he wasted all their money at the qatmarkets.

This was a great disgrace, because according to the country's tradition he was now the head of his family and therefore responsible for the well being of his mother, who had brought him into life and who had raised him all those years. His behavior was neither honorable nor acceptable but he didn't care at all.

One morning after the poor old woman had been crying once again all night long in great despair only having tea and some bread at home, she went with the courage born of desperation to the new part of Sana'a, where the traffic is roaring, where the cars are streaming in broad lanes and the taxis and minibuses are waiting for new passengers. She went on foot. The traffic and the new and strange surrounding made her feel nervous and insecure. Busily, unknown people passed her by; sometimes beggars were trying to draw her attention. She knew nobody anymore. What a strange world, so close to her old city street and yet so different. She felt like

being in another universe. Here the richer people lived in new houses. She went quickly in order to overcome her fear.

Having asked some people for the way, she finally arrived at the Qadi's home.

This Qadi was famous throughout Yemen, in the North as well as in the South. Most people appreciated him for his wisdom, his generosity and his opinion in legal affairs.

The heart of the old woman was beating loudly, because she was standing in front of a huge building, more a mansion than a house. There were even soldiers in front guarding it.

More than anything else she would have liked to return home immediately, but then to her surprise she heard a voice, the voice of her own heart speaking to her in the dialect of the desert inhabitants, who she hadn't seen or heard from for such a long time.

The voice said: "Yah, Fatma, this Qadi is only a human being but aren't we all God's creatures? Don't be overwhelmed by his richness and his soldiers. Who is more important for you, your son or this building and the soldiers in front of it?"

Fatma answered: "Yes, voice of my heart, you are right, my son is the most important for me, more than anything else in the world."

But still she didn't have the courage to knock on the door. She was so shy that she felt somehow paralyzed. She couldn't even approach the building and was standing there opposite at a safe distance.

Then she did what all believers in a situation like this do. She took refuge in God and said:

"Huwa rabbi, la ilaha illa huwa, 'alaih tawakkaltu wa ilaihi matabi." (The holy Koran, Surah:13, Ayah30) ("He is my Lord! There is no God but He! On Him is my trust, And to Him do I turn!" The Meaning of the Glorious Qur'an. Abdullah Yusuf Ali)

She had been taught this sentence by her father, because she as a woman and illiterate as most women of her age and origin had of course not been able to read the holy Qur'an. Most of these old traditional women of course had never seen any school from the inside. Now of course it is very different for many Yemeni women but not yet for all.

This sentence of the holy book, one of the few she knew except Al Fatiha, (All Muslims know Al Fatiha the opening Sura of the Qur'an.) lent her wings and after she had repeated it 99 times, she had the strength to knock at the Qadi's door.

She heard footsteps behind the new wooden door. A deep and loud man's voice asked

"Min?" as it is the habit in Yemen.

"An old, poor woman from the old city of Sana'a," she answered.

"What do you want?"

"I want to talk to the Qadi because there are problems in my house."

The guard went to the seventh floor and knocked at the door of the Qadi's mafradsch. (The mafradsch usually is on the top floor of a Yemeni house, and is often used for chewing qat.)

"What's the matter?" asked the Qadi "Yah hadrat, yah Qadi. A poor and old woman from the old city of Sana'a desires to talk to you. Shall I send her away?" responded the guard of the house politely.

"But no. She is a human being, just like you and I, and we are all God's creatures,"

said the Qadi in a friendly way. So the guard went downstairs again and opened the door and he escorted the cautious old lady to the Qadi's office, where the latter had taken his seat behind a desk, as he always used to do when people came for official meetings.

As the woman entered the room she was puzzled. She had never seen a room like this before.

She looked at the huge desk and the noble chairs and for a little while the whole setting left her speechless. And again she mumbled the holy words of the Qur'an and found new strength and started to say:

"As-Salamu 'alaykum." She greeted him respectfully.

"Wa 'alykum as-Salam." He answered in a caring way

May Allah bless you with a long and happy life and may Allah increase your wisdom and your justice that is well known throughout Yemen. Hayyak Allah" She added

"Hayyak Allah, dear woman from the old city of Sana'a. "How are you and how is your state of health?" The Qadi asked friendly.

The old woman overcame her timidity as she heard these warmly spoken words. Her eyes had swiftly grasped the man's character, as she perceived in a split second a hardly noticeable gleam of light around his figure, which is rarely to be seen in Yemen and in other parts of the world and which can't be noticed but only by a few people.

She remembered that in the days of her youth when she was living in the desert, she had sometimes perceived a similar but weaker gleam of light, around a few of the travelers who had been traveling for a long time and who were able to relate many stories to the tribal people. But in the city where she had been living since her marriage, and where she had rarely left her quarter, she had never been able to see this bright light anymore. Now perceiving it at the Qadi's house she knew that this man was the right person to solve her problem in whatever way he would do it.

After they had exchanged all the various welcoming phrases common in Arabia, she finally told him her story and all the problems she had with her son, who didn't look after her according to customs and traditions but who ruined himself and his mother instead. In great details she told him in her own simple language, that she was living in candlelight, because there was no money anymore for paying the electricity bill. She told him about her shyness to depend on her neighbors' assistance any longer, about her tears she shed day and night and about the despair that has overcome her since her husband Allah yarhamu (may he rest in peace) had passed away.

"Only you can help me," was her last comment

"In scha 'a Allah"(God willing) replied the Qadi

"You are a man, but me, I am just a poor old woman, my son surely will listen to you."

"I will try," said the Qadi. Now please send your son to me in a month's time, then I will see what I can do about him."

With a kind "Ma'as-salama" he let the woman go. She returned home with

uncertain feelings, but with lots of hope. She was faced with another long month in her miserable situation, without electricity, meat, chicken or vegetables and in complete dependence of Her neighbors' help who grew more and more weary of her.

She rarely saw her son. At least early in the morning, he sometimes returned home in order to catch up his lost sleep. He had grown sullen and inconsiderate. His mind was merely busy with thinking about where and how to get a new portion of qat.

Finally he stole the ancient silver pocket watch, which was the only part of her mahr, (the items she had received at her wedding also in order to have something if the family is in need), she was left with.

The day came and the month of waiting was over. She woke her son up.

"Get up, because today is a special day. You are invited today to chew qat at the Qadi's house in the new city of Sana'a. He wants to see you, you ungrateful young man and he will chew the best qat from Hudeidah with you. I don't know how you deserved this. But go in the name of God. He might offer you a job." Those were the words of the old woman.

The son gave his mother a morose look, but the expression qat from Hudeidah which is the best of Yemen's qat fascinated him so much, that he ignored his arising feelings of mistrust. He went eagerly to the Qadi's house. He was absolutely certain that he would only show this Qadi respect as long as he would provide him with the delicious qat from Hudeidah.

When he returned from the qat session in the evening he had changed completely.

From this day on he never chewed qat again and he looked after his mother as it was expected from a son. Of course the first months without qat was very difficult for his brain and his body but he overcame the feelings of his addiction. He found a job and became a reliable person. Now could they afford meat or chicken and all the

other delicious dishes that are only to be found in the households of Yemen's capital Sana'a every day.

Whenever possible they invited their neighbors and in the beginning they gave them presents to show them their appreciation for their assistance in the past and difficult months.

Soon they would have enough money so that they could think about the son's marriage and the bride's mahr. There was joy in their hearts and in their simple house in the old city of Sana'a.

Their hearts began to fill with gratitude, they thanked Allah the compassionate and merciful in the mornings and in the evenings and soon the old woman went again to the Qadi's house in order to thank him personally.

This time she went more confidently through the busy and crowded streets of Sana'a and she didn't hesitate in front of the Qadi's house. The soldiers in front of the Qadi's door didn't frighten her anymore and she had the feeling of visiting an old and good friend.

Again she was escorted to his office and they greeted each other with the various beautiful greetings according to the old Arabic custom.

"As-Salamu 'aleikum. Hayyak Allah" "Wa alaykum as Salam. Hayyaki Allah"

"Kayf haluk ya sayyada al Qadi."

"Kayfa haluki Yah Hagga?."

"Bi - hayr al-hamdu li-llah"

Thousands of times she thanked the Qadi and praised him for his wisdom and his success. She praised him with grand and numerous formulas of speech that only exist in the Arabic language.

The Qadi was sitting opposite her behind his strange table and smiled mildly.

Finally she asked straight forward."

But I do have another question."

"So ask," he replied

"Why yah Qadi, did you let me wait for another month in my house, in my poverty and in my despair? Why didn't you just talk to my son after one or

two days? I don't want to be ungrateful, but I have to tell you, that this month was one of my hardest, why did you hesitate for such a long time?"

"Look yah Fatma, when you came here for the first time, I also enjoyed the pleasure of chewing qat, and I frequently hosted the rich and the noble of our city. After lunch we passed our time chewing qat with great pleasure while smoking the Misbach (a Yemeni waterpipe that is often smoked in qat sessions) and discussing endlessly the new or old political developments of our country.

In contrast to your son my friends and I always ended our qat sessions before the evening prayer and we didn't chew at night. What a strange thing to do. Al hamdu li-llah I always had enough money for my family and for our household.

I must admit that I really enjoyed having the guests at our house and chewing qat with them. I loved these afternoons with my guests as much as your son loved his days and nights of chewing qat. But before I could talk in the right way to your son about his qat addiction I myself had to stop chewing qat.

Only after I myself had already gone through a month without chewing qat only offering fruit juices and coffee to my puzzled guests I found the right words to persuade your son to give up his bad habit."

The idea to this story was taken from a hadith about eating dates and then has been transferred to the Yemeni culture. The Qadi in this story is an ordinary person just a bit wiser. I herewith declare that he is not identical with The Prophet Mohammad of the hadith. It was written and related to the public on the occasion of the first Arabic culture festival at the Tübinger Volkshochschule in Germany in 1997 by Sabine Albus.

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POSITION VACANCY

Public Affairs Specialist at the US Embassy: Under the supervision of the Public Affairs Officer (PAO), this position assists in developing and implementing cultural and educational exchange programs and monitoring program logistics and implementation.

Major Duties and Responsibilities:

Provides substantive program direction recommendations to PAO for use in program development. Coordinates the tasks of office staff for the implementation of cultural and educational programs, monitors implementation and assures logistical support. Recommends supportive media programs to be undertaken, printed and audiovisual material to be produced and personal contacts to be developed.

Qualifications:

Language: Advanced ability in English and Arabic, including the ability to translate from each to the other. Applicant will be tested.

Education: University degree in political science, social science, international affairs, American studies, or liberal arts is required. Other fields may be considered with significant work experience in any of the above fields.

Prior Work Experience: Four to six years of progressively responsible experience in cultural or informational media activities, public relations, relevant university teaching or related fields is required. Experience in program development and administration is desired, as well as word processing in English and Arabic.

Knowledge: Thorough knowledge of Yemeni media, economic, social, political and educational institutions.

How to apply:

Interested applicants should complete the OF-612 (Application Form for Employing Foreign Nationals) available at the Embassy's gate, with a current C.V. attached, with certificates and recommendation letter, addressed to the Personnel Office, American Embassy, Dhahr Himyar Street, Sanaa. Tel 238-842. No later than November 10, 2000. **Salary:** The annual Salary is YR1,250,028 (one third payable in US dollars).

Continued from Page 5

Symposium on Constitutional Amendments

Mr. Mohammed Qahtan defended the Islah Party position against the accusations of being the second largest party masterminded the plan for the amendments and shared the 'deal' with the PGC. He said that they, in the Islah, did not find those amendments valuable or useful at all. After all, he appealed to the Congress, the Government and the President to back off from amendments project and not to subject them to political and party wrangles. He said, "This is a national issue that concerns every-

body." He also discussed the Consultative Council, prolonging election periods, duties and trade issues.



Mr. Mohammed Abdul-Malek Al-Mutawakel, independent, concluded the symposium by saying, "The authority has always been trying to adjust or amend its attitude to be in harmony with the constitution but failed to do so, therefore it decided to amend the constitution instead." He said that the extension of

the two-year period for the MPs was only made to let those amendments pass through them. He urged the parties to stand strongly against those amendments and not to subjugate this issue to for politics and tactics because it was a national duty and one of the national constants. He added that unless the Islah and other parties take a serious move against these amendments, they would lose their credibility at all levels. There were some comments on points mentioned in the addresses and some questions asked by attendants, were answered by the participants.



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How to go: By Yemenia. It goes from Sana'a to Paris twice a week; Monday and Friday. The excursion fair for 3 months is just YR87,652 only.

FRANCE



Shams Tabrez
Director Marketing
United Travels, Sana'a
GSA of
Continental Airlines



France has a surface area of 555,000 km, which makes it the largest country in western Europe, bigger than Spain, Germany and Sweden. It lies on the western edge of the continent of Europe and shares borders with six neighboring countries; Belgium and Luxembourg to the north; Germany and Switzerland to the east, Italy to the south-east, and Spain to the south-west. This geographical position gives France two salient advantages. On the one hand, partly, due to its excellent communications network it is sort of crossroads at the heart of the European Union, linked to the east with the vat industrial and urban area stretching from the mouth of the Rhine to the plains of the Po River; to the north-west, it is within easy reach of the industrial centers of the United Kingdom and to the south it forms an integral part of the Mediterranean arc running from Catalonia to central Italy. The French coastline provides access by sea to Northern Europe, America and Africa via the North sea, the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean, which are amongst the world's busiest waters. Mainland France is compact and forms a hexagon of which no side is longer than 1000 km. Within these boundaries, France has exceptionally varied scenery; this, together with its rich cultural heritage, helps make it popular with tourists world over.

sified by the heat, shores memorable of their shellfish infinite sunshine bursting forth its profusion of light.

Paris
Paris of course, with its monuments, its fashion and its nights of celebration Versailles, the Cote d'Azur for its precious sunshine, its wines and its delicious food, as well as numerous sites just as famous as fragrance of rose.

Just 2,000 years ago it was called Lutecia. In 508 Clovis made it the capital-city of his kingdom, then there came a succession of sovereigns whose reigns left their mark of splendor. As for prestige the city also owes this to the people of Paris; its symbolic sites will stand out as landmarks of your holiday. The Ile de France, in all its beauty, persists in its creation of modernity. The North, where English, Dutch, Flemish and Spanish influences have left their mark on its architectures, its windmills, and even its folklore.



Lets go to France. Behind these words lies the desire to embark on a true voyage, a desire to explore a fabulous land of imagery and history. France offers you to share the Frenchman's innermost secrets, to taste the most exquisite cuisine, to discover stones in artistic configurations, granite carved so as to preserve great legends, cathedrals on volcanic peaks, the fragrance of lavender inten-

sion of writers Jules verne in the north and, in the south, Alexandtie Dumas, Racine and La Fontaine whose fables are recited by children all over the world, and its north wind in the light of the Baie de la Somme blowing towards the English channel thousands of rare birds.

now-a-day extends over some 18 hectares. This is the largest museum in the world with its 400,000 works including fabulous paintings. The glass pyramid which stands in the Napoleon square provides a truly astonishing entry into the world of art.

Arc de Triomphe and Champs Elysees

Catherine de Medicis has this avenue planted with tree, hence the birth of the Champs Elysees. On leaving the Place de la Concorde you will visit the Petit and the Grand Palais. At the other end, Napoleon had the Arc de Triomphe erected. Next come the colossal sculptures. Nowadays the recently renovated avenue is one of the finest in the world and under the Arch, the tomb of the unknown soldier pays homage to those who died during the First World War. Situated close by the Grande Arche de la Defense, a symbol of modernity and an exceptional architectural success, shelters the Arche de la Fraternite, dedicated to the Right of Man.

The Eiffel Tower

Thanks to the Republic that the wide avenues were created by Haussmann and of course that Eiffel Tower was built with its 7000 tones of iron it stands 300 meters tall. On the second floor its restaurants and shops offer superb panoramic views. At its feet flows the serne, both are the very essence of Paris. Cross the bridge of Iena and one will find the Trocadero with its gardens and the Palais de Chaillot.

Boutiques of Paris

Some of the most delicious moments of your stay might be centered around



Notre-Dame: It is a masterpiece of gothic architecture, situated in the heart of Paris; completed in the 13th century, it inspired the greatest writers inducting of course, Victor Hugo; Paul Claudel discovered his faith here one Christmas night. Its enormous name extends over three floors and the walls are bathed in the light which enters through its large rose windows.

The sublime Perspective: The Citadel of the Louvre which Francois I enriched with a Renaissance wing,

a typically Parisian activity-window shopping! Take time to enjoy the superb haute couture of the 8th arrondissement and to visit the perfumers around the magnificent Opera-Garnier. The antique shop in the splendid arcades of the Palais Royal surround Buren's 252 columns which define space in black and white. And then, as you continue your promenade, you will encounter numerous bookshops, the districts with the most exclusive fashions and the great coiffeurs the jewellers the chocolate-makers... so much to take in that you will



not be able to stop walking.

Paris Nights are Made for Entertainment

No doubt that the Palais Garnier and the Opera Bastille are bursting with quality and talent, as of course are all the theatres, the Theatre de la Villa, de Chatelet de la Comedie Francaise and so many more, not forgetting hundreds of cinemas. Enjoy gastronomy typical Parisian restaurants, fashionable restaurants, the restaurants, the restaurants of great chefs, the choice is yours and then you have the whole night ahead of you to enjoy the festivities, the lively cabarets, Paris by night lives up to its reputation.

Enjoy the Fresh Air in Paris

Take the bateau mouch-one of the most picturesque ways of exploring Paris. Also visit the gardens, the jardins du Luxembourg, the jaidin des Plantes with the Grande Glaerie totally redesigned, the very latest Parc Andre Citroen, a gigantic multi-

faceted garden. Between the garden and your moments of contemplation take time to visit the cemetery of Pere Lachaise, where Victor Hugo, Proust, Sartie, Chopin, Callas, Oscar Wilde and Jim Morrison were all laid to rest.

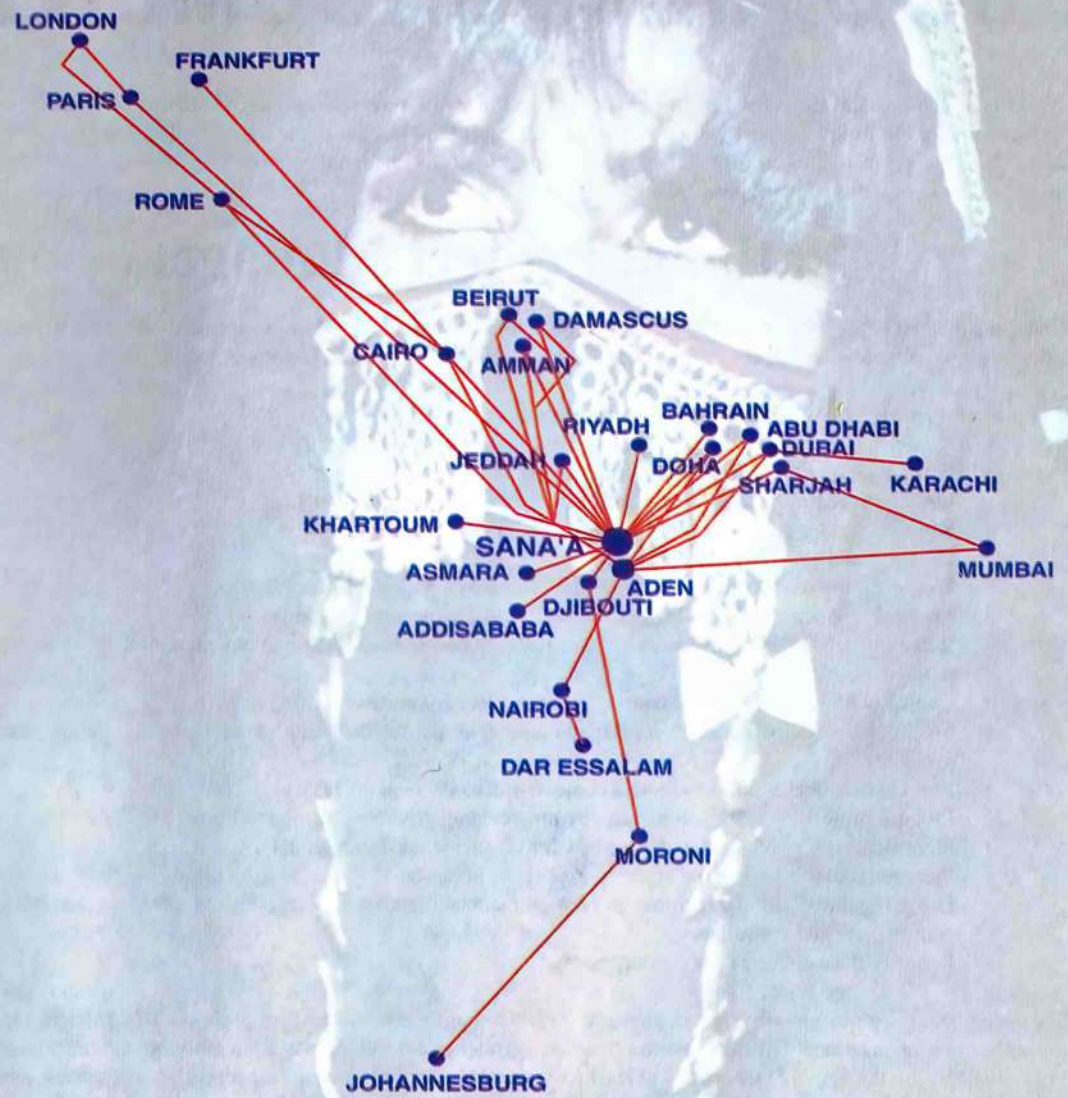
Don't forget to see The Paris of Tomorrow

Discover the new district of Bercy, to the east of Paris. Here you will find the Palais Omnisports, the new ministry of Finance, the National Library of France which will offer both the general public and researcher's an extraordinary wealth of literary heritage. In the former abattoirs of la Villette, you will find the great Halls of Science and Industry and nearby the new National Academy of Music a lively district with astonishing architecture.

If any one of you wants to go to France contact your travel agent now and if any one of you are looking for package deal or tailor-made holidays then choices is Emirates Holidays.



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A model of "Notre dam de Paris" made of milk chocolate is shown at the 6th International Chocolate Exhibition held in Paris Sunday, October 29, 2000. The exhibition was held from October 28th through January 1st. Chocolate is one of the most favorite foods of Europeans. (Xinhua Photo by Li Genxing) (why)

NEXT WEEK
Indonesia



Press Scanner

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr

Latest developments of USS Cole destroyer, constitutional amendments developments on the Palestinian arena are the main topics stressed in this week's Yemeni press in addition to a number of other domestic issues. As for articles and comments published by Yemeni press they mainly concentrated on local matters plus the Palestinian cause, the Palestinian intifada and the Arab League stand in its last month's summit.

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

- In a Meeting with Social Dignitaries in Hadramaut, President Saleh:
- Cole Incident, An Act of Terrorism, A Conspiracy against Yemen's Interests
- President Saleh Receives Iraq's Foreign Minister, A Message from President Saddam Hussein
- Parliament Discusses Next Year Budget Project
- Assistance to Somalia Included No Weapons
- Good Results in Investigations On Cole Incident
- Cole Leaves Yemen
- Parliament Discusses Constitutional Amendments
- HAMAS Continues Confrontation with Zionist Arrogance
- State Budget: Deficit Amounts to Billions of YR
- Aden, Hadramaut Tourism Prospers
- Drafting Committee Set Up to Prepare Yemeni Paper to Arab Tourism Ministers Meeting
- German Firm to Demarcate Yemeni-Saudi Borders
- Large-Scale Arrest Campaign Against Islamists
- Medical Faculty Morgue Crime: Verdict on 20 November
- US Congress Condemned, Call for more Solidarity with Palestinian People
- German Tourist Ship "Berlin" Arrives Aden

- Second Round of 5th Polio Campaign Begins Sunday
- Nine Thousand Killed or Wounded Since Beginning of Aqsa Intifada

Excerpts from articles and commentaries published in some Yemeni newspapers of this week.

26 SEPTEMBER weekly, November 2, 2000

26 September devoted its editorial to the Palestinian Intifada. It has said that despite all attempts and oppressive acts to force the Palestinian people to give up their struggle and stop their intifada, the uprising has continued and will continue to get their legitimate rights. The editorial called for taking seriously the call for supplying the Palestinians with money and arms to defend themselves against the Zionists atrocities and crimes. The editorial maintains that we in Yemen, as is the case with other Arab countries, are not calling for war but defending and supporting the Palestinians struggle and steadfastness and protecting Islamic sanctities. This call represents the natural logic and legitimate right to self-defence that a defenseless people should get while being exposed to annihilation and destruction at the hands of an aggressive force possessing the most sophisticated arsenal of mass destruction weapons.

AL-WAHDAWI weekly organ of the NPU Organization October 31

In its editorial the newspaper says that whoever follow up arguments and dialogues of the American presidential elections candidates would discover a difference in viewpoints of the candidates on all issues pertaining economic and social issues except one, i.e. the complete bias towards Israel against the Arabs. Each candidate is keen to

offer the biggest amount of visions that he thinks that Israel is in need of. All that is attributed to the power of the Zionist lobby in using the economic and financial card the candidate needs to win the presidency seat.

Al-Wahdawi editorial says the Arabs and Moslems can effect stronger outcomes if they have utilized their potentials and their human forces of pressure. The number of Arab and Moslem immigrants in the US added to them the American black Moslems could form a huge element of human pressure. The economic card that can be played by Arab and Islamic countries can also serve this political vision, for instance through implementing economic boycott against countries cooperating with Israel.

AL-WAHDA weekly, November 1, 2000

Al-Wahda says in its editorial that Yemen has always proved to be with Arab Islamic just causes. The Yemeni recent and continuous stands towards the Palestinian intifada give the live evidence on originality of the Yemeni people. Undoubtedly, the peace process slaughtered by the Israeli entity and continuation of the "stone uprising" versus the Israeli oppression confirm that there is no option restoring the land and protecting the sanctities but that of resistance and jihad. Many of our Arab peoples in the modern age have succeeded in wringing out their freedom and independence from the colonialist powers by resistance and the jihad in application of the principle that what has been taken by force should be regained by force.

RAY weekly, organ of SYL party, October 31, 2000

The weekly editorial this week is devoted to tackling the relationship between opposition and authority. The editorial says that the majority of those affiliate to authority and the ruling

party have wrongly understood the term of opposition means contradiction to patriotism and synonym of devastation. Against this the majority of the other party has been misled by their leaderships so that to think that authority is Satan and usurper of power. They have been deceived to think that having any convergence between an opposition party and authority deserves the same above accusation.

RAY editorial maintains that it is not strange that two political sides agree on certain opinions or visions and differ on other points, on the contrary it is a healthy sign.

Authority is the other wing of the political process, and very important one, as is the case with the opposition. To barricade ourselves behind mistaken concepts and awareness and reject whatever comes from authority in an absolute way is a sick perception poisoning the political action.



AS-SAHWA weekly November 2, 2000

One of the newspaper's articles has tackled the issue of constitutional amendments, mentioning that this topic has occupied a large space of dialogue and discussions in symposiums and meetings and on press pages. Politicians, men of law and intellectuals have also held deliberations on the issue.

Author of the article argues that it is illogical to assume that the amendments have been necessary, representing a civilized transfer, development of democratic practice and giving more freedoms and rights to the citizen. He insists that the amendments have come to be contrary to all that mentioned by proponents of amendments. The author wonders how to construe certain texts in the amendments if not being contrary to the democratic understanding. The texts he mentions to confirm his stance are:

- Cancelling the people's right to referendum on amending some articles of the constitution,
- Cancelling the people's right to referendum on dissolving the parliament,
- Appointing a Shoura Council sharing with the most important authorities of the elected parliament,
- Abolishing the parliament right to approving the general plan for economic and social development,
- Abolishing the parliament right to issuing directives to the government and to restrict that to only issuing unbinding recommendations,
- Cancelling the parliament right to approving defence treaties and agreements or alliance or reconciliation or peace and to engage the Shoura in all that,
- Appointing heads of administrative units instead of electing them by the people.

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THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR WOMEN UNIFEM JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

The United Nations Development Fund For Women (UNIFEM) in Yemen is inviting interested individuals to submit applications for the following post within the project implementation of the Post Beijing Follow Up Operation Project Phase II. This project aims at strengthening the capacity of the national women's machinery to follow up the implementation of national work plans developed under Phase I.

National Project Manager

Under the general supervision of the Regional Project Director, the national project manager will provide professional work in close collaboration and under the supervision of UNIFEM Regional Program Director.

The project manager will undertake the following responsibilities:

- Formulate the project's overall workplan and financial plan.
- Initiate the recruitment of national project staff and local consultants.
- Supervise and monitor the work of national consultants.
- Organize and coordinate the project activities.
- Follow up the day to day operation of the project at a national level.
- Establish contact with local experts, ministries and project counterparts.
- Represent UNIFEM in all the meetings related to coordination and implementation of the activities of the project.
- Consult with counterparts for convening of steering committee meetings.
- Ensure the participation and coordination among all parties including the civil society, line ministries, UN agencies.
- Provide technical support to project counterparts as deemed necessary.
- Propose project ideas for formulation by project counterparts according to needs.
- Identify need for technical expertise and communicate need to regional director.
- Prepare regular progress and financial reports as necessary.
- Liaise regularly with the regional director on matters related to project planning, progress, and relation with counterparts and consultants.
- Perform other duties as deemed necessary.

The incumbent must have a university degree and relevant qualifications as well as professional experience in project management, organizational development, training, and gender and development. Preferably, she/he must have a post-graduate degree in the Social Sciences and at least five years experience in various aspects of project management in the field of gender and development. She/he should have general familiarity with the UN and with other donor institutions in addition to very good computer, communication and inter-personal skills as well as possessing excellent English and Arabic (both written and spoken).

Note:

All applicants should specify the position applied for. The applications should be received in the UNDP office, Personnel Unit, PO Box 551, Sana'a no later than the 12th of November 2000, in an envelope marked "Post Beijing Phase II Project". Short-listed candidates will be expected to appear before an interview panel.

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Taiz:	5726	04-242401/8/9	04-242386	Shbni50@y.net.ye
Mukalla:	50261	05-308107	05-308108	To Aden branch

Arab League Calls for Follow-up Meeting to Cairo Summit

CAIRO—The Cairo-based Arab League Council Wednesday called for an emergency meeting of the follow-up committee set up at last month's Arab summit in Cairo, to discuss the ongoing Palestinian-Israeli conflict. The council of the 22-member pan-Arab forum held Wednesday a special meeting at the request of the Palestinians on the deteriorating situation in the Palestinian territories, the official MENA news agency reported. More than 150 people, the vast majority Palestinians, have been killed and thousands wounded in more than a

month of violent clashes between Palestinians and the Israeli security forces. The Cairo Arab summit, held on October 21-22, set up a follow-up committee comprising Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Tunisia, Morocco, Saudi Arabia and the Palestinian National Authority. In its statement after Wednesday's meeting, the council also called for a meeting of the Arab finance ministers to discuss implementing the resolutions adopted by the summit which promised to set up two funds worth 1

billion U.S. dollars in financial aid to the Palestinian. The council also decided to invite the Arab information ministers for an emergency meeting to formulate an Arab strategy to counter Israeli propaganda. The council said Arab countries should coordinate their stances in the United Nations Security Council and the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), which will hold its summit in Doha, capital of Qatar this month. (Xinhua)

Arafat Expected to Meet Clinton in Washington

WASHINGTON—Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat has accepted an invitation to meet U.S. President Bill Clinton here for talks on the Middle East peace process, Palestinian chief negotiator Saeb Erekat said on Friday. "President Arafat accepted the invitation to come to Washington but we are trying to work out the precise dates because the schedules are very tight nowadays," Erekat told reporters after meeting U.S. National Security Adviser Sandy Berger. Clinton proposed separate meetings with Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak last week but did not

receive immediate response from the two sides. Before his meeting with Berger, Erekat first held talks with U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and U.S. special envoy Dennis Ross on Friday. Describing his talks with Albright and Ross as "candid and lengthy," Erekat said they discussed plans to set up an international commission to find out the facts about the violence, which erupted after Israeli right-wing leader Ariel Sharon paid a provocative visit to a holy site in Jerusalem on September 28.

"We want to see the United States exert every possible effort in order to ensure that the peace process go on toward achieving the objective which was agreed in the terms of reference of the whole peace process," he said. The Palestinian negotiator said he also proposed international protection for Palestinians in West Bank and the Gaza Strip but Albright was cool to the idea. "We really think that international protection for the Palestinian people is something that has to be taken seriously by the United States," Erekat said. (Xinhua)

Egypt to Sign Trade Pacts with Iran, Iraq

CAIRO—Egypt will send trade delegations to Iran and Iraq later this month to sign economic and trade cooperation agreements with the two countries, the official Middle East News Agency reported on Wednesday. One delegation will visit Iran on November 17 while the other will leave for Baghdad later in the month, the agency quoted Khaled Abu Ismail, chairman of the Egyptian Chambers of Commerce Union, assaying. But it did not elaborate on the accords.

Ties between Cairo and Tehran soured in 1980 after Egypt granted asylum to the last Iranian shah who was deposed in the Islamic revolution. But the relations revived in recent years, which are now at the level of charges d'affaires. Egypt is also making efforts to develop economic relations with Iraq. Early Wednesday, Mukhtar Khatab, the Egyptian minister of public enterprises, led a delegation to attend an international fair in Baghdad, in which 75

Egyptian companies participated. The two countries have improved trade ties since the implementation of a memorandum of understanding on trade in 1996. Their trade volume has amounted to around 1.5 billion U.S. dollars. Cairo and Baghdad cut off diplomatic relations in 1991, when Egypt joined the United States-led alliance forces to end Iraq's seven-month occupation of Kuwait in the Gulf War. (Xinhua)

Philippine President Rejects Resignation Call

MANILA—Philippine President Joseph Estrada said Saturday that despite the rallies organized by the opposition, he would not resign. According to the official Philippines News Agency, the president also renewed his call for his political opponents to work with him in solving the country's problems while distributing relief goods for the victims of Typhoon Seniang in Rizal province. "There is no need to rally. No amount of rally or demonstration can make me resign," he said. Commenting about the prayer-rally held in Manila led by Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin, the president said it is a part of democracy where people can assemble and express their views. Saturday's rally was also attended by Vice President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, former Presidents Corason Aquino and Fidel Ramos. Tens of thousands of participants crowded Edsa Shrine to call for the resignation of President Estrada who was accused of receiving more than 11

million U.S. dollars in bribes in the last two years. But Estrada said for his part, he would just concentrate on serving the people, especially the poor and those affected by the recent calamities. "I will not do anything except to help the poor," the president said, adding that rallies and protest marches would not compel him to abandon his sworn duty to serve until the end of his term in 2004. The president also called on his detractors to just wait for the outcome of the impeachment case filed against him at the House of Representatives, adding that the constitutional process should be followed. Estrada said that he is confident that in the end, he will be vindicated and that he will be able to prove his innocence. The opposition already has enough members in the House of Representatives to send the impeachment case to the Senate, but Estrada's allies still dominate the upper house which has the power to remove him from office. (Xinhua)

U.N. Agencies Seek Stronger Environmental Protection for Oceans

NAIROBI—Experts from some two dozen United Nations bodies and other inter-governmental organizations are expected to meet from November 6 to 11 in Monaco to decide how to fortify international efforts to protect and sustainably use the world's oceans and coasts. Since presumed to be infinitely large and invulnerable to human activities, the sea is now in crisis in many regions around the globe, U.N. Environment Program executive director Klaus Toepfer warned on the eve of the meeting. "Responsibility for helping governments to manage the oceans natural resources, reduce pollution, and protect endangered species and ecosystems is shared among many global and regional treaties, action plans, and organizations. We must improve collaboration among these regimes and accelerate global action to return the sea to health," he said. The meeting is being organized under the framework of UNEP's Regional Seas Program and is to be hosted by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)'s Marine Environment Laboratory. A key issue on the agenda is improving the assessment and monitoring of the ocean environment. Participants will hear presentations from the Global International Waters Assessment, the Global Oceans Observing System of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural

Organization, the IAEA Marine Environment Laboratory, UNEP's World Conservation Monitoring Center, and the International Coral Reef Action Network. Participants will also review progress being made under UNEP's Global Program of Action (GPA) for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities. Established by governments in 1995, the GPA aims to strengthen regional and national efforts to reduce the flow of chemicals, human wastes, and other materials into the sea via air, rivers, and coastal activities. The GPA was conceived as providing a global perspective on issues being addressed through the various Regional Seas conventions and action plans. Today, seven out of ten people around the globe live within 80 km of the shoreline, and almost half of the world's cities with a population of over one million are sited near tide-washed river mouths. As much as eight percent of all marine pollution originates from municipal, industrial and agricultural wastes and run-off, with the rest coming from ships and oil drilling. Many species of fish, whales, seals, dolphins, birds and turtles are threatened, and rising sea levels caused by humanity's greenhouse gas emissions threaten to displace both human settlements and natural ecosystems, according to the UNEP. (Xinhua)

Syrian Vice President Visits Turkey

ANKARA—Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit on Friday expressed satisfaction over the steady development of relations between Syria and Turkey, reported the Anatolia News Agency. Ecevit made the statement when he met visiting Syrian Vice President Abdul Halim Khaddam. He stressed that the agreement on security cooperation between the two neighbors signed in Adana, south Turkey, in October 1998 had been implemented well. Under the agreement, Syria pledged to stop supporting activities of Turkish outlawed separatist Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) in its territory. Khaddam, who arrived in Ankara Thursday for an official visit, held talks with Turkish Deputy Prime Minister Develet Bahceli shortly after his arrival. On Friday, President Ahmet Necdet Sezer and Parliament Speaker Omer Izgi separately met Khaddam, who

delivered a message from Syrian President Bashar al-Assad to Sezer on ways to promote bilateral cooperation and on the recent developments in the Middle East. During their talks, Ecevit and Khaddam focused on bilateral and regional issues, especially the raging Israeli-Palestinian clashes. Khaddam criticized Israel for not abiding by the relevant U.N. resolutions, saying that Israel was enlarge settlements although the Security Council Resolution 242 envisages Israel's withdrawal from the territories it occupied in the 1967 Mideast war. Both Ecevit and Khaddam expressed their concerns about the spread of fundamentalist movements in the Islamic world. Khaddam conveyed a visit invitation to Ecevit from Syrian President Assad. Turkey and Syria have made a big headway in advancing bilateral contacts since the Adana agreement. (Xinhua)

U.N. Environment Agency Maps Global Water Ecosystems

NAIROBI—The United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) has announced that an Internet web site will be launched on November 6 for the global water assessment and information on aquatic ecosystems of both fresh water and oceans, according to a news release issued here on Friday. The web page of www.giwa.net will come into operation at the Third Global Meeting of the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plan to be held in Monaco during November 6-10, the UNEP said in the news release. The project, known as the Global

International Waters Assessment, represents the cooperative efforts of the UNEP, the Global Environment Facility, the University of Kalmar in Sweden and the Swedish government and more than 100 water quality centers around the world. It will look at the pressure caused by human activities upon ecosystems, and the possible target areas and activities needed to protect them. The web site will supply informative maps to allow people to access data and information about the earth's major water systems. (Xinhua)

Afghan Conflict Parties Agree to U.N.-Brokered Dialogue

UNITED NATIONS—The warring parties of the Afghan conflict have agreed to enter into a process of dialogue under U.N. auspices to bring about an end to the armed conflict in Afghanistan through political means, a high-ranking U.N. official said Friday. (Xinhua)

Heavy Gun Battle Occurs Between Palestinians, Israeli Troops

GAZA—A heavy gun fight took place Friday between the Palestinians and Israeli forces at the crossing point between Bethlehem and Sahour in the West Bank, Palestinian source said. The fighting was still going on, the source said. But he did not disclose the casualties on both sides. The clashes between Israeli forces and Palestinians have reached the fifth week and killed over 160 Palestinians. International mediation and ceasefire understandings arrived at by leaders of both sides have failed to calm down the situation. (Xinhua)

Forty-four Killed in Jammu, Kashmir

NEW DELHI—At least 44 people, including 25 militants and eight security men were killed and 45 others injured in militancy-related incidents in Jammu and Kashmir since Friday evening, an official spokesman said Saturday. Two security personnel, two militants and two girls were killed during an encounter between security forces and militants at Wathoor area in central Kashmir, he said. In two other fierce encounters, 13 militants were killed at Sangnad-Khram in south Kashmir, according to the Press Trust of India. Meanwhile, four policemen were killed and 23 others were injured when a powerful bomb ripped apart a police barrack at the police training center at Sheeri in Baramulla district Friday evening. (Xinhua)

Nippon Airways Plane Grounded in New Delhi Airport

NEW DELHI—A Tokyo-bound All Nippon Airways flight was grounded at the Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) here after four of its six tyres deflated due to excessive heat just before take-off, airport sources said Saturday. The pilot of the Boeing 777, which had 223 passengers on board, located the snag when it was taxiing for take-off Friday night and brought the aircraft back to a bay adjacent to the runway, the sources said. The engineers of the Airport Authority of India and the airlines changed one of the deflated tyres and moved the plane to a separate bay. The aircraft was at the airport till Saturday evening, the sources said. (Xinhua)

COCAS Parliament Speakers to Establish Regional Forum

LUANDA—Parliament speakers from central Africa countries met on Friday in Luanda to analyze documents about the setting up of a regional Parliament Forum and its internal regulation. The decision to create this institution was made by heads of states and governments of the Economic Community of the Central Africa States (ECCAS) at a conference in Malabo, capital of Equatorial Guinea in June 1999. According to sources at the meeting, the accord will be ratified in next parliamentary meeting of the ECCAS. Angola, Cameroon, central Africa Republic, Sao Tom and Principe, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Chad, Burundi, Congo Brazzaville and Democratic Republic of Congo are the countries that make up the regional organization. (Xinhua)

More Than 5,000 Somali Refugees Repatriated

ADDIS ABABA—The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) office in eastern Ethiopia repatriated 5,780 Somali refugees to their homeland last week, local Walta Information Center reported Tuesday. Tsegaye Mehretu, head of the government partner for UNHCR, was quoted as saying that the repatriated refugees were each given a nine-month food ration and 330 birr (about 40 U.S. dollars). They were also given various type of non-food items, such as plastic sheets and blankets. More than 47,000 Somali refugees have so far been repatriated from eight camps in eastern Ethiopia this year. However, some 124,000 refugees remain in these camps. Ethiopia has for the last 10 years provided safe-haven to hundreds of thousands of refugees from Somalia who fled the civil war in that country. (Xinhua)

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Canadian Artist Raises Money for Better Health Care in Yemen

"It is a curious fact that we know more about the masters than they knew about themselves. We know obvious things, such as how much they produced and their places in history."
—Robert Jalford

Professor Rudolf Bickers is a creative talent of global stature. He has gained an international reputation. Born in 1943, in Hilversum, Holland, he emigrated to Canada in 1968. One year later he became a drawing instructor at H. B. Beal High School, London, then the head of print-making department at Fanshawe College in London. In 1975, he established Master Print Workshop "Editions Canada". He taught print-making at many colleges and universities for 25 years. Currently he teaches printmaking at the Ontario College of Art & Design (OCAD) in Toronto, Canada.

Over the years his appreciation and understanding of the exquisite music has gone to the point that Rudolf decided to visit it in a visual way! Bickers's imagery deals with the microcosm and the universe. He has a great interest in classical, contemporary and folk music. His imagery is often inspired by that music and tends toward abstraction. He is also a cellist.

His works are in major collections in Canada, the USA and Europe.

Bickers is never interested in political satire. Neither Arab nor international political affairs have an effect on him.

He has organized many international projects with graphics. These portfolios are vehicles for fundraising for humanity and all kinds of humanitarian issues.

Regarding his involvement with Yemen, this is the first time he has been involved with a humanitarian issue in Yemen. Currently, he is organizing an international portfolio of prints with artists from Canada, USA, and Yemen.

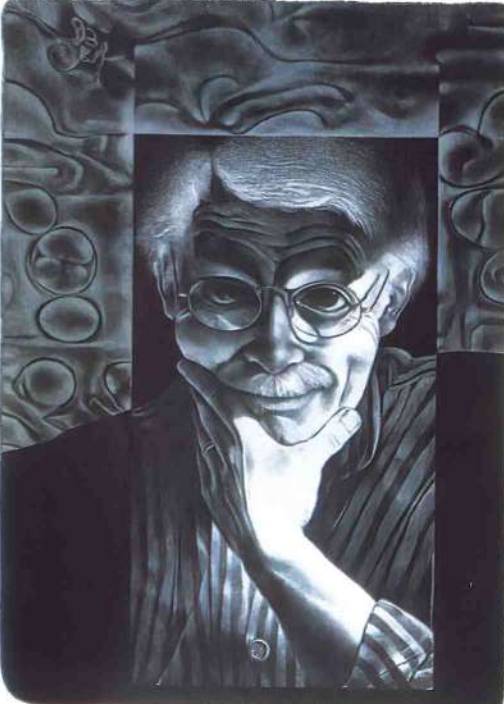


Al-Ashrafiah mosque, Taiz
Media: Water Color painting Date: October 2000

The subject matter for this portfolio is: "Mother/Child". This portfolio will sell internationally and has the potential to raise \$500,000 for perinatal care in Yemen.

He is in Taiz and Sana'a presently at the request of Mr. Faisal Saeed Fare from Al-Saeed Foundation for Science and Culture to explore opportunities for cultural exchange between Canada and Yemen. He is connected with the Canadian Medical Delegation that has recently visited Yemen to address the issues of mothers and babies' health for the sake of reducing death rate.

Bickers has been decorated with the following awards:
1973 graphex 1 purchase award
1974 purchase award 34th annual western



Self Portrait.
Media:Lithograph Date: 2000

Ontario
1976 Honorable mention, Edition 1
1978 Ontario Arts Council Award
1990 A. J. Casson award

Projects:
2000 "Children Affected with HIV - South Africa" (Million Dollar Fund Raising Portfolio)
1999 "The Levee" portfolio international.
1998 "Boston International Print Portfolio"
1995 "Portfolio Apartheid" South Africa.



Mixed Media Bach Portfolio
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