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Parliament Turns Down President's Suggestion on CA

Majority of the parliament turned down Saturday a decision by President Saleh to cancel a suggestion of extending presidency term to 7 years which was added to the amendments draft by MPs last September. MPs justify their stance by the current developments and circumstances the country is passing through.

The decision of MPs followed a heated discussion of a letter from the President last Saturday. The letter confirms the patriotic necessities for the constitutional amendments. President Saleh expressed his thanks for MPs who included a suggestion to extend presidency term to 7 years and said; "...for many considerations related to respect for the supreme interest of our country and enhancement of the democratic experience I insist on canceling this decision."

The president's request and the refusal of the majority of the parliament coincided with an

amounting heated debate between the People General Congress (PGC) and Yemeni Congregation for Reform (Islah) on the constitutional amendments, specially after the latter appeared as an opposer to the amendments. The PGC seems trying to attract supporters of its recent position against limiting authorities of the parliament.

Opposition parties including Islah and the Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP) had brought a letter before the president to postpone amendments. "This issue concerns all people of Yemen and the future of political system," reads the letter. "Hence it needs to be carefully discussed with the participation of political powers," the letter adds. In response to this stance the PGC looked upon it as an unjustified backsliding of Islah's earlier agreement with the PGC.

Mouthpieces of the ruling party accused the Islah and YSP of being two sides of the same

coin of opposition that lacks any clear vision towards people's interests.

Political analysts considered the President's latest step as a tactical move to change the suggestion into a debatable issue. It is worth mentioning that extension of the presidency term was included by Islah and was announced in the parliament by head of the Islah bloc Mr. Ahmad Sharafaddin.

The constitutional amendments were presented by President Saleh on September 23 following the blasphemy campaign Sheikh Zindani head of al-Shoura Council of Islah led against minister of Information and a number of official newspapers particularly al-Thaqafiah. This portended a political crisis between Islah and PGC before a reconciliation meeting was sponsored by the Vice President and included minister of information and Sheikh Zindani.

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Ninth Islamic Summit Opens

DOHA_ The ninth summit of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) opened here Sunday to discuss a host of issues with an aim to promote Islamic peace and development.

Iranian President Mohammad Khatami, the chairman of the eighth Islamic summit, first addressed the opening session before handing over the chairmanship to Qatari Emir Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani.

The three-day summit will discuss and approve 81 resolutions prepared by the preparatory foreign ministerial meeting pertaining to Palestine and Arab-Israeli conflict, and other political, economic, military and cultural issues concerned by the 56 OIC member states.

In his opening address at the OIC summit Iranian President Mohammad Khatami proposed a package solution to the decades-old Mideast conflict and the restoration of peace in the region. President Khatami said the solution required the return of all Palestinian refugees to their own homeland in the occupied territories. He proposed a referendum be held by the Palestinians to determine their



Yemeni huge demonstrations on OIC Summit

own future. Khatami also called for the establishment of a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital and decision of such an independent state regarding current inhabitants of Palestine.

Khatami chaired the opening of the summit in his capacity of the presidency of the eighth OIC summit held in Tehran three years ago. The three-day summit will discuss, among other things, ways of supporting the Palestinians' uprising against Israeli suppression. Other political, economic, military and cultural issues concerned by the 56

OIC member states would also be discussed. Coinciding with OIC summit meetings, a huge female popular demonstration took to the streets in Sana'a city expressing solidarity with the Palestinians' intifada against the repressive measures and atrocities committed by Zionist entity soldiers against the defenseless Palestinians. Demonstrators have also demanded Moslem leaders to come out with decisive resolutions and recommendations backing up the Palestinians rights and putting an end to Israel's massacres. (Xinhua, Agencies)

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Security Intensifies Activities against Cole Blast Suspects

Yemeni security is still on the lookout for four persons thought to be involved in the blast of the USS destroyer while mooring for refueling and exploded, crippling the destroyer in Aden bay, killing 17 and wounding 38 on board.

On the other hand, a US ship reached Aden yesterday to carry the wreckage of USS destroyer and the car that carried the boat to

port. One of the suspects implicated in the incident confessed that the boat was bought from UAE.

Informed sources reported that a joint Yemeni-US investigation team re-conducted hearing to witnesses' and suspects' testimonies as investigators observed some contradictions between their testimonies in the first and the second investigation phases.

Current investigations are focused on interrogating 15 persons some of whom recounted crucial information about the blast of the USS destroyer. At the same time, security discovered a new house, a fourth one, thought to be used by the attackers.

Security extended activities to track down the extremists' groups in Aden, specially after obtaining some information maintaining that these groups had set up three underground organizations hostile to Western interests working in the guise of some commercial and investment projects in the region.

Media Block out on Finance & Civil Service Ministers

Mahboob Ali, Yemeni Journalists Syndicate president, criticized the government going back on its decision to set up journalists special cadre which the cabinet endorsed in the beginning of this year.

The cabinet decided not to include it in the budget of the state for the year 2001. In a press statement, Mr. Mahboob Ali told Yemen Times about forming a committee composing of all media establishments and under the supervision of the YJS. The committee had to contact concerned big shots in the government to re-consider that groundless decision, he added. He indicated that the committee would start following this issue up from today, Monday, calling all journalists to stick together to assert their legitimate rights that would help improve their living conditions.

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Words of Wisdom

"Today a new concept in democracy is taking over, and we can call it the integrity of the individual. What this means is that a nation is no longer free to treat its own citizens, or any other human being, as it wants. There are now rules to safeguard human rights. This development - and a new attitude in the way we collectively manage our affairs - reflects a certain level of maturity and growth on our part as human beings, countries of the world have a moral right to stop ruthless leaders when they suppress their own people."

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

Our Opinion

Article No. 6, of the Press and Publication Law for Yemen stipulates that:
"The law assures protection of journalists and authors, and provides legal guarantees necessary for them to practice their profession, to enjoy freedom of expression and immunity from interference, so long as they do not contravene the provisions of this law."

Article No. 13, of the same law stipulates that:
"A journalist may not be interrogated on opinions which he has expressed or published and which may not be used to inflict harm on him/her provided what he/she published is not contrary to the law."

Article No. 19 of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights indicates that:
"Every person has the right to expression and opinion, and this includes the freedom to adopt whatever opinions without any interference."

Decision No. 104 which was endorsed by UNESCO in its 25th meeting concentrated on "Enhancement of the freedom of thought exchange through word, photograph at both national and international levels..."

There are many other rules and regulations made to protect freedom of journalism and press, adding to it is the declaration adopting the 3rd of May as an international day for freedom of press.

However, after receiving several phone threats Mr. Imad Ahmad AlSaqqaf, chief of Taiz bureau of Yemen Times, was attacked last Sunday afternoon, by a bunch of soldiers in Taiz. He was beaten and dragged to their car when some citizens around rushed for rescue and got him released.

This phenomenon is not only in Yemen. In fact compared with many third world countries, we here in Yemen enjoy a little more freedom than others. These words being written now are an example of that. The idea is that it is not enough.

There must be a way safety is guaranteed for us. It is not easy to be a journalist, to gather news, strive to deliver a message and on top of that get beaten up!

This is not the first incident of its kind, many journalists have been beaten up and humiliated because of their profession. If the few rules and articles mentioned at the beginning and many more, can not provide security and safety for press then what would?

3000 Expired Flour Sacks Seized

About 3000 sacks of expired flour were seized by the supply prosecution in a merchant's store in Demnat Khadir, Taiz. The said merchant used to forge the trade mark of these sacks. He used the Horse Mark which is famous. Moreover, he used to grind the expired flour and spray insecticides on them and then sell these sacks to the people.

Storekeeper has admitted that after being arrested by the supply prosecution. The merchant is expected to be tried in the coming two weeks.

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First English Newspaper in Yemen founded in 1991
by Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

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WB Vice President Visits Sana'a

Mr. Jean-Louis Sarbib, World Bank's Vice President for Middle East and North Africa will start a 4-day visit to Yemen on Tuesday, November 14. Sources at the WB told the Yemen Times that during his visit to get on hand information about what is going on in Yemen, Mr. Sarbib would meet the President Ali Abdullah Saleh, Prime Minister, Speaker of Parliament, Minister of Planning and Development, parliamentarians, NGOs and press people. Mr. Sarbib is also likely to visit some projects like the Social Fund, Water Secretariat, Sana'a University Sewage project, Akhdam society and other donor countries representatives and see the areas they are working in. It is the first visit for Mr. Sarbib to Yemen but the second

CSND Launched

The Post- Beijing Follow-up operations, Phase II and in coordination and collaboration with the Women National Committee held a primary meeting with some of the civil society organizations, on Wednesday 8 Nov. 2000. This meeting is the third meeting with these organizations, aiming at making them get along to establish a network for coordination between them. The meeting resulted in the creation of an active network which consists of members of WNC, NGOs, Political Parties and Media.

This network was named CSND (Civil Society Network for Development). More than 29 members gathered for the meeting which started with a briefing by Mrs. Huria Mashoor deputy of the WNC, in which she mentioned the aims and the efforts

Thousands of Visitors Flock to Hud Shrines

Visitor who chance to see the annual gathering of Muslims visiting the Shrine of Hud, the prophet, in Hadhramaut will be amazed at the big number of visitors which reached 160,000 this year. The Shrine is located in a very simple and poor village that after the visitors leave looks half-deserted. Muslims from different countries call on Hud shrine every 8, 9 and 10 of Sha'aban.

Despite the different rituals, procedures are the same in the beginning. All visitors perform the ablution in the small river, then go to pray at the mosque. Next they head for Al-Tosloom Well to say prayers for the souls of prophets. After that they go to Hud's grave and al-Naqah Rock and prey for the soul of Hud.

During the three-day gathering, Islamic scholars deliver speeches, lectures and sermons.

Continued from page 1

Media Block out.

He said: "If all journalists including those working in government media and in independent and opposition newspapers have one firm stand, the syndicate is ready to escalate the issue and exercise pressure on the government to bow to our legitimate calls. Even if we have to stage demonstrations, all-out strikes leading to close down all daily government newspapers and TVs broadcasting stations.

In a courageous step of its kind, tens of journalists working in pro-governmental media establishments decided to impose sanctions on the activities of Finance and Civil Service Ministers. They emphasized that there would never be any coverage of any activities held in the two ministries or in any establishment affiliated with them. Nor would there be any news item for them, they confirmed. They also agreed that if a new item was to be published, they would put the two ministers' pictures upside down on all the newspapers.

On the other hand, tens of Yemeni journalists staged a demonstration last Tuesday in front of the Cabinet's building calling for executing the journalists' cadre which required setting up an outstanding order for their employment improving their living conditions. They also submitted a letter to Dr. Abdulkarim al-Eryani, PM, urging him to endorse the journalist cadre and to carry out this from year 2001.

Journalists threatened that in case of no positive response, they would continue their demonstrations in front of the cabinet. If that did not work, they would stage an all-out strike.

Security Intensifies Activities.

On the other hand, security had released twenty persons already detained for questioning in the USS Cole blast.

First MRI symposium in Yemen by Philips Medical Systems

The first MRI symposium was held under the patronage of Dr. Abdulla Abdul Wali Nasher, the Minister of Health. Organized by Philips Medical Systems and NATCO RAZI Company, the MRI symposium attendees included doctors from several Yemeni hospitals. The theme of the event was "MRI TODAY" and featured lectures by two prominent Radiologists, Ass. Prof. Abdul Karim Al Zabedi (Medical University and Military Hosp., Sana'a) and Prof. Wahid Tantawi (Ain Shams University and Misr Radiology Center, Cairo).

As a gesture of good will, a second lecture was organized in support of the Medical Syndicate for the medical students of Sana'a. Lectures by Ass. Prof. Al Zabedi and Prof. Tantawi covered topics such as the "Basic Principles of MRI" and "The current uses of MRI imaging today".

"We currently have the best MRI system in the world. Not because we say so, but because our customers prefer our MRI system." said Mohamed Parham, Account Manager for Yemen, Philips Medical System. "The aim of this MRI symposium was to show the increasing role of MRI in field of Cardiology, Orthopaedics, Neurology, and Cancer Diagnosis. Some of these applications were even pioneered by Philips clinical scientists. We are very proud that the first MRI in Yemen is a Philips MRI. As a result, Philips has invested back into the Yemen market. Our specialized service force in Yemen includes dedicated CT, MRI, and Cathlab trained Philips engineers. We firmly believe that to succeed, we should not only supply the best and latest diagnostic medical equipment in the market but to also follow it with qualitative maintenance services. Another factor that contributes to Philips' growth in Yemen is that we have a great team here and we strive for success."

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for WB vice president for the MENA region for Kamal Darwish paid a visit to the country two years back. Mr. Sarbib will hold a press conference on Wednesday, November 15 at the Taj Sheba Hotel.

Yemen has been conducting an economic reform package program since 1995 which has agitated the anger of opposition parties which always question such partnership between Yemen and WB.

took place on the 3/8/99 and the second on the 28/11/99 to implement the network in order to accomplish the aimed tasks. The group was gathering into three groups, first was to decide the communication and organization mechanism, second was to set the aims of the network and the third was to provide an annually action plan which is to be implemented by the network during the next 8 months. The Network is to meet again soon, to start working on the action plan. And the project will continue to coordinate between the members until the end of its period.

A Complaint Against Al-Shomu' Newspaper

On Wed. 8. 11, 2000, Yemeni Ministry of Information lodged two separate complaints against Al-Shomu' independent weekly - Sana'a to the Press and Publication Prosecution. The first complaint related to an insult against Egyptian President Mohammed Hosni Mubarak in an article the newspaper published and the second related to the insult against officials in the State.

Saif Al-Hadheri, Chief Editor of Al-Shomu', told YT that he was surprised at the Ministry's attitude. He said the Ministry had to hold those ministers responsible for corruption cases the newspaper had published.

IN BRIEF

"No Pressure Exercised on Yemen to Join WTO", Ricupero says

Rubens Ricupero, Secretary General of the UNCTAD denied any kind of pressures exercised on Yemen to join the WTO. In a press conference at the winding up of a seminar on "Trade and Investment" held in Sana'a during (6-8) November 2000, he said that Yemen had the option to join the organization in accordance to evaluating its trade, investment, customs, and export conditions. He promised to grant Yemen the technical assistance, like any other developing country, so as to develop its administrative and negotiating abilities in the coming period pertaining to Yemen's joining the WTO.

More information on page 6

Aden 2nd Ex.Com Exhibition

The Computer Center at Aden University organizes on November 20-24, 2000 Aden 2nd Ex.Com Exhibition. Dr. Nawal Abdulla Salem, head of the Center said that the exhibition is part of the University interest in including computers in university teaching and demonstrating importance of computers in accessing information, etc. She added that the Aden University was planning to make of the exhibition an annual tradition.

Baidani Files Case Against 26 September Weekly

The West Capital Secretariat Court held on Sunday the first hearing sitting on a case filed by Dr. Abdurahman al-Baidani, the PM after 26 revolution in 1962. The hearing was attended by plaintiff al-Baidani and lawyers of defendants from the 26 September Weekly newspaper.

The case was filed against Abdulkarim Kasem Saed, journalist and Ahmad Mohammed al-Jabali, Managing editor of 26 September newspaper, who charged him of being an illegitimate son. The Press and Publication Prosecution has referred the case to the court after finishing investigation with Brigadier General Ali Hassan al-Shater, chief editor, Managing Editor and the journalist.

At the end of the hearing session Dr. al-Baidani presented to the jury of the court documents that prove his being a legitimate son of his father.

Polish Community & Embassy Celebrate 82nd Anniversary of Independence

The Polish Community and Embassy celebrate the 82nd anniversary of Independence. In a statement to Yemen Times, Mr. Kazimierz Romansky, the Polish Embassy advisor, said that the Yemeni-Polish relations were developing steadily in all aspects and that Polish companies and institutions were looking for Yemeni partners to work together specially in trade exchange in food manufacturing, farming equipment, electric appliances, medicines, vehicles, boats, marble, gas, petroleum and petroleum products and other fields. He concluded that the Yemeni-Polish relations were historical and were established more than 43 years in 1957 and that Poland strongly supported the Yemeni political and economic reforms and would continue doing so.

Al-Haidary Trading Company Inaugurates Digital Showrooms in Sana'a

Al-Haidary Trading Co., distributors of Sony Products in Yemen, on Nov. 11, 2000, announced the inauguration of its digital showrooms in Sana'a. The new showroom is exceptionally unique for it includes special sections dedicated to the display, demonstration and sales of the latest digital products by Sony. These sections were created to help Sony customers realize how the latest digital products can improve their life-style. The showroom is located in Gamal St. and the company has special sale in its all showrooms.

New Omani Ambassador to Yemen

President Saleh received credentials of Mr. Abdullah Ben Hamad Al-Badi as the new Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to Yemen last week. The newly appointed ambassador is graduated with an MA in Business management and Diploma in Diplomatic studies from UK. He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1986 and has participated in a number of regional and international conferences.

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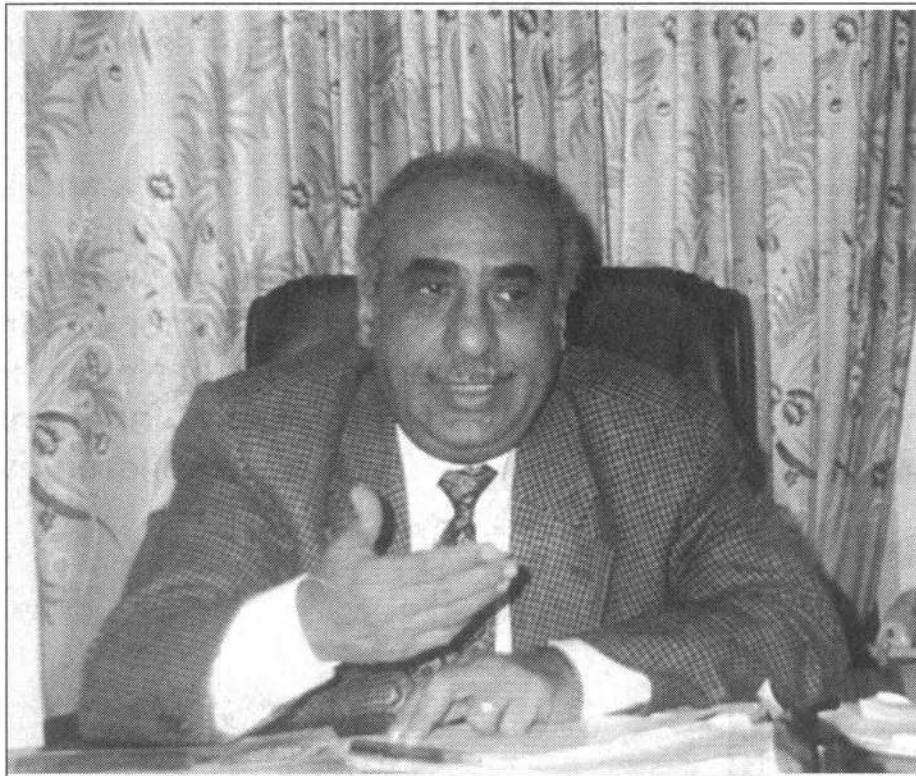
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Mr. Mahyoub to the YT:

“About 25 thousand tourists expected to spend Christmas in Aden”

Many countries hold tourism industry as a main source for national economy. In Yemen which possesses many beauties and tourist attractions tourism industry has gone through ups and downs causing a sharp fall in the number of tourists from 87,627 in 1998 to 58,370 in 1999 according to statistics of the General Authority of Tourism. Losses resulted from this fall has been estimated at US\$ 600 million. Ironically, whenever authorities concerned are within an ace of abating consequences of a certain terrorist act or any act of sabotage that would globally tarnish Yemen's image, another act takes place. The last of such acts has been targeting the USS Cole mooring in Aden for fuel. To what extent such incidents have been harmful to tourism in Yemen? For more in this prospectus the Yemen Times interviewed chairman of the General Authority of Tourism and came out with the following dialogue:



Q: Most tourist attractions are in remote areas, what kind of services are provided for tourists there?

A: The size of services available in tourist locations is little. We are doing our best to encourage and motivate the private sector to invest in this sphere. We will facilitate investment wither by investors or by inhabitants of those places. Unless this happens we will propagate for that on the Arab and foreign investors' level.

Q: Do you think that the condition of historical places is satisfactory? How do you assess contribution of available antiquities to attracting visitors?

A: Yemen as a whole can be considered as buried treasures of antiquities. History tells about many buried ancient cities in Al-Jawf, Shabwa and others. We hear about discovering mummies from time to time. This issue should be taken seriously for it proves existence of a great ancient civilization parallel to that of pharaoh's.

Q: Why Don't excavations take place in all Yemeni historical cities?

A: Excavations are expensive and need a lot of efforts beginning from researching, excavating and how to preserve the discoveries. Antiquities available constitutes only 5% of what Yemen possesses. We feel worry about those discoveries

for they sometimes mishandled or sold. We have recently heard about a very valuable piece of antique being sold in Al-Jawf. I think it is better to leave them in the womb of earth if we are not able to preserve them. But we are in need to show the world our civilization.

Q: Is there an enough cadre in the tourism sector?

A: There are about 450 employees in different positions. We are very concerned about qualifying our cadre. So we continuously organize training courses for them. Last month there was a training course for directors of the authority's branches. Many other courses are to follow.

Q: How much have the security disturbance effected tourism? What kind of measures taken to avoid such disturbances?

A: Damage to tourism and national economy has taken many forms. The biggest damage resulted from the murder of some tourists in December 1998 in Abyan. This incident and others helped slow development of tourism in our country. Despite all different incidents some tourists encountered during 1990-1997, there was a gradual rise in the number of tourists. It was that incident of December 1998 that greatly affected tourism and investment. Various steps have been taken to pro-

tect tourists and you can see that since 1999 no tourist has been kidnapped. Those kidnapped in this period live or work in Yemen. You can see the volume of damage to tourism through the number of tourists arriving here in this year and compare it with our expectations. We were expecting about 200 thousand tourists to arrive from Europe. Only 90 thousand have come. We hope that this number will increase to 180-200 thousand in the coming year.

Q: The American as well as the British governments warned their citizens against traveling to Yemen after the explosions in the USS Cole and the British Embassy. Can you foresee the damage to tourism these incidents will cause?

A: We are sad for these two incidents. However, I hope they will not affect tourism. We usually receive up to 100 thousand tourists in winter. So far I have not been informed by any travel agency about canceling any reservation. It is expected that about 25 thousand French living in Djibouti would arrive in Aden to spend Christmas. Contacts are still going on with them

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in this regard. There are reservations for 10 thousand tourists who are expected to arrive in Yemen by the end of December 2000.

Q: Who are the most comers to Yemen?

A: German, Italian, French, Netherlands, Belgium, Spain, USA, UK and the Scandinavian countries. There are other tourists from Japan, Korea and Poland.

Q: How many American and British tourists arrive here?

A: Many British tourists visit Yemen. But we have a problem with American and Canadian tourists who require 4-5 star hotels. Those hotels are not yet available in remote countries. Generally we receive about 7 thousand tourists every year. Hopefully we have plans to build 7 5-star hotels in such areas.

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Qat: Catha Edulis As Anti-Microbial Activity

Dr. Fareed Mohammed Saeed,
Ph. D. ENT Specialist
Sana'a General Police Hospital

Catha edulis is widely cultivated in the south of the Arabian Peninsula and south-eastern Africa (Korr, 1983). It plays an important role in the life of Yemeni society. People use it to cure such diseases as bronchial asthma, diarrhea, etc.

Quite many works have been devoted to studies on pharmacological properties of catha edulis. Most of them concentrated on the alkaloids present in this plant, and on the psychological effects of its application. However, there is evidence that the influence of catha edulis on the organism is not restricted by only amphetamine-like, CNS-stimulating effect. For example, the investigations by E. Jorgensen and T. Kaimany (1990) have shown catha edulis to have pronounced anti-inflammatory effect. Kaimany and Jorgensen have proved through experiments, that qat has a sterilizing effect inside the mouth. The study by Tariq, Parmar et al (1984) has demonstrated the anti-ulcerous action of this plant. For the above reasons, we studied the microbial effects of two of the most widespread organisms, which cause ENT and other diseases.

Staphylococcus aureus

These organisms are spread in the air, dust, clothes, and bedding. They are transmitted to these places by infected people. They may also be founded as commensals in the nasal mucosa and throats of about 50% of healthy adults. They are also found in the adenoids of 20% and the skins of 10% of the people. These organisms generate rapidly especially in the nose and on the perineal skin. This type of organisms colonize the nasal cavities of about 9% of the newly born within the first two weeks after birth.

So these organisms infect the skin and its appendages such as the pustules, furuncles, boils, impetigo, styes, and also infect most wounds caused by surgeries or accidents. Pus in subcutaneous abscesses and connective tissues is also usually caused by these organisms. Other diseases caused by them also include generalized septicemia, intestinal disorders, staphylo-

coccal food poisoning, and enteritis. The latter can be caused in rare cases by derangement of the intestinal flora due to treatment with some antibiotics. In some abnormal conditions, staphylococcus can cause severe inflammation in the intestines. Then it will have to be treated with an antibiotic to which the offending strain is sensitive.

In Vitro

The antimicrobial activity to extract from catha edulis leaves was evaluated by its action on the cultures of staphylococcus aureus, streptococcus hemolyticus (two cultures). All microorganisms were obtained from patients with diseases of the upper respiratory tracts. They showed signs of increased pathogenic activity. The



Streptococcus pyogenes (beta-haemolytic streptococci)

A healthy person may carry in his throat or nose several strains of streptococcus pyogenes. Acute sore throat is commonly caused by such organisms. Cervical lymphadenitis is also caused by these organisms. The infection can spread to the middle ear, the mastoids, and even to the meninges. Scarlet fever results from the infection of the throat with streptococcus pyogenes, which produces a toxin causing erythrogenic. If the patient has no immunity against this toxin, the skin rash which characterizes the scarlet fever appears. Other diseases caused by streptococcus pyogenes include impetigo, erysipelas, and post natal uterus infections such as puerperal sepsis. Their spread in the lymphatic system causes lymphangitis, lymphadenitis. They cause septicemia when they go into the blood stream. Streptococcus pyogenes are also responsible for acute rheumatism and glomerulonephritis. Such diseases are preceded by a 2 or 3 week infection of the throat.

Evaluation of the Antimicrobial Activity

antimicrobial activity of catha edulis extract was studied for the dilutions of 1:10, 1:100, 1:300, 1:1000, and 1:3000. After 4 hours of cultivation, the concentration of staphylococcus activity in dilutions 91:10 - 1:1000 has reduced 4 times, on the average. In a day, the extract from catha edulis in all these dilutions was sterile. The dilution of 1:3000 did not cause complete bacterial effect. Streptococcus turned out to be more sensitive to the action of catha edulis extract suppressing action of the extract in 1:100 and 1:300 dilutions, on the streptococcus culture was noted right upon adding the microorganisms suspension. In 4 hours of cultivation, the extract in these dilutions, as well as in the 1:1000 one was practically sterile. In all the check experiments when physiological salt solution of NaCl was used instead of catha edulis extract (7 tests), 4.47 time increase in microorganisms concentration of staphylococcus and streptococcus was recorded in 4 hours. In a day, the growth of microorganisms was observed to be beyond all calculations.

In Vivo

The experimentally revealed pharmacological properties of the preparation from catha edulis leaves make it possible to attribute it to the class of adaptogens-immune-modulators. It possesses antimicrobial and antiviral activity. The preparation is considered to be a promising one for the in clinical practice.

All in all, 50 patients with vasomotor rhinitis were treated. The essence of treating was in lavage of rhinopharynx and nasal cavity with the extract from catha edulis leaves in the concentration (1:300). Treatment lasts from 10 to 14 days. Efficiency of treatment was determined by observing the direct clinical effect (complete removal of the disease symptoms). Bacterial sensitization has noticeably decreased after treating patients with the extract from catha edulis. The number of patients with sensitization to streptococcus and staphylococcus allergens has reduced more than 4 times as compared to the number before the treatment ($p < 0.01$).

The clinical and laboratory investigations have shown catha edulis extracts to manifest antimicrobial action not only in vitro but also in vivo. Thus, a considerable reduction of general bacterial dissemination has been noted after the treatment. If compared to the index prior to the treatment, the number of patients with an increased bacterial dissemination has reduced 5 times after the therapy ($p < 0.01$). The above changes in the nasal aut-offloral of patients with vasomotor rhinitis after the treatment with the extract from catha edulis leaves testifies to the antimicrobial action of this preparation in vivo.



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Chemistry Conference Concludes



Radwan Al-Saqqaf
Aden Bureau Chief

On Wednesday 8 November 2000 the eleventh 3-day conference of Arab chemists was concluded in Aden. The conference was organized by the society of Yemeni chemists in coordination with the union of Arab chemists. Fifty researchers taking part in the conference presented more than 50 scientific papers in fields of education, scientific researches, chemical and petrochemical industries and mineral, agricultural resources and industry of medicines.



Dr. Raad Mahjoob Al-Musleh, secretary general of the union of the Arab chemists said "the conference

has achieved its goals and we in the union hold conferences on regular basis. The eleventh conference was hosted by the society of Yemeni chemists succeeded in exchanging experience among Arab

chemists. Suggestions and recommendations will help using chemistry on a wider scale in every day life of us all and as chemists we have a big responsibility towards our communities especially in the fields of environmental pollution with chemicals."

He added "we, in the union try to educate the Arab citizen chemically that he could use."



Chemist Saleh Al-Fahili, member of the board of directors of the Syrian society said "it is a good opportunity to visit

Yemen, to meet other Arab chemists and to exchange experience in this field. We presented a lecture about corrosion in the lines and structures of the Syrian company for oil transportation. The lecture was given by the chairman of the Syrian society of chemists, chemist Nazar Shamali."



Yemen Times also met Dr. Abdul-Ghaffar Abdul-Salam, faculty of education- university of Ain Shams and

asked him about his evaluation of the conference, he said "this is the first time for me to attend these conferences, I noticed that the theoretical part was more than the practical and the practical researches presented by the chemists to the conference were not more than 10% of the overall number of researches, the rest were theoretical studies that had nothing to do with the main purpose of the conference. Egypt is considered one of the developed countries in the field of chemical researches although we lack some of the advanced devices."

The final statement made by the participants called to support the uprising of the Palestinian people and the lift of the sanctions imposed on Iraq, Libya and Sudan. All participants stressed on the importance of spreading chemical education to increase the awareness of the people of the hazards of misusing chemicals. They also urged all unions and societies of chemists to make common researches.

Engineer Waheed Ali Rasheed deputy of Aden province gave a speech in the final session of the conference called for more effective role of the Arab chemists in the development of the Arabic countries.

Final session was attended by Dr. Saleh Basura, dean of the university of Aden, representatives of scientific research establishments and representatives of the private sector.



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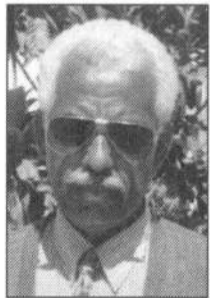
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المعزوق:

حسن الحيفي، وجميع آل الحيفي

Who Controls Police Stations?

Many people complain of being insecure, particularly when they realize that those who are entrusted with providing security in the country and those in charge of implementing the law, are themselves who commit violations. People also complain of maltreatment by some security and police apparatus and they are subject in many cases to suppression, blackmail and intimidation at the hands of some people supposed to be representatives of law. This is a very serious problem and needs to be tackled seriously. Because such a topic needs great attention and care, Mohammed Ben Sallam of the YT interviewed a number of lawyers and men of law to sound out their opinion on the issue and solutions they propose to solve it.



Advocate Abdulrazzaq Al-Hakeemi said: "All heavenly laws, and Islam in the first place, and all positive laws and international agreements have

highly honored man. The Universal Declaration of human rights can be cited as an example in point. It is not only police that blackmail and humiliate people. There are other government institutions and authorities that do similarly such illegal acts though they are part of work or specialty, such as imprisoning, illegally fining peddlers, shops etc. Those authorities include Supply, Housing and Electricity offices. Oddly enough,

people do not try to reject such irresponsible and illegal practices for many reasons some of which are:
 1- those practicing such acts are lacking of religious and moral values,
 2- wrong ideas embedded in people's awareness along years making them to blindly obey,
 3- civil society organizations are either absent or marginalized,
 4- People are not aware that rejecting such wrong practices is part of their rights. They rather help violators as if the matter does not concern them.

The constitution has guarantees people's intellectual, political economic...etc., rights as well as freedom of expression.

According to article 84 of procedural law, both police and security are considered tools of judiciary control. They also come under the control and supervision of the attorney general who has the right to sue violators and instruct authorities concerned to look into any violation in duty. Article 91 of the law of criminal procedure identifies responsibilities of judiciary control bodies: investigate into crimes, trace criminals, study reports and complains, gather information and evidence for the general prosecution. Other practices by police or other government authorities must be rejected. People must not keep silent and must resort to justice when such practices are committed. Keeping silent helps such irresponsible and illegal practices take root and encourage wrong doers to violate the constitution.

To sum it up people must not leave their rights go by, media should raise legal awareness of people, a public's committee is to be established to undertake responsibility of resisting injustice and appointing attorney generals in police stations to closely

supervise police' work."

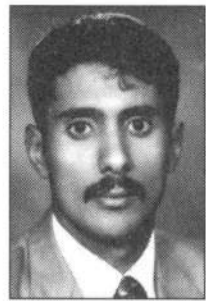


Advocate Shaief Al-Yosoufi responded to the same issue by saying: "Article 4 of the criminal law of procedure for 1994 dictates that people are

presumed innocent until proved guilty. Suspicion is interpreted in the defendant's favor. Article 7 of the same law identifies the job of police as to look into crimes, causes and surrounding circumstances. However, we find that people are being deliberately dragged to police stations for interrogation. They might even be detained for some days. When we, lawyers, are requested to defend such people, we are rejected by police stations' directors saying that police stations are not for lawyers. This is an ignoring of the law. It will be better if the Ministry of Interior organizes special courses for such control tools to make them know and recognize people's rights. They should understand that they have been placed in such positions to protect people's rights not to violate and disrespect them.

The Ministry of Interior should continuously supervise police stations and appoint supervisors with good knowledge of law to help set everything right.

In case of any violation committed by police people have the right to: reject all procedures, complain to the Ministry of Interior, report to the attorney general, file a suit against the false report and reporter. They also keep the right to ask for compensation."



Advocate Tariq Al-Hammadi said: "Owing to misunderstanding laws and lack of law awareness, some police and security elements go beyond their

assigned jobs to the extent that they make themselves judges and violate people's rights. To put an end for such violations and practices there must be a strict supervision on police stations and security offices and implementation of laws that forbid such practices. In addition, organizations and societies concerned with human rights must be given a chance to play their role in defending people's rights.

There are many reasons for violations and illegal practices by police stations. Some of these reasons are:

- Some police stations and security offices do not abide by their jobs' instructions but go beyond that to perform jobs of judiciary and general prosecution. It is common to find police stations and criminal investigation offices dealing with civil and commercial issues that are not of their jobs. Some plaintiffs intentionally go to those offices to put pressure on defendants. If people in charge of such offices are confined to their jobs they will refer them to judicial offices concerned.

- Criminal investigation offices sometimes do the work of prosecution. They interrogate and torture suspects to force out their confession.

- Absence of supervision on those offices and their work.

- No penalties are imposed on violators and official wrong-doers.

- Insufficient role of NGOs and civil society organizations. Those organizations can disclose such practices to the public.

The government should also pay more attention to the situation of people working in the police apparatus and improve their living standards."

US-Yemeni Relations After Cole Incident



Hamoud Munsar

After 29 days, USS destroyer finally left Aden airport on board. However, lots of baffling question marks are still hanging in the air. Questions about the kind of cooperation in investigations between the Yemeni-US; about the attackers who were successful in making a good and destructive beat to the US since the second gulf war or even say since the Second World War; about attackers real objectives; and about the source supporting them; about the Aden as a free zone and a strategic port located on the international trade. All these questions including other ones have popped up and so far, mystery shrouds over the whole atmosphere.

The blast incident of USS Cole destroyer at Aden seaport has raised many questions about the operation itself and future of the Yemeni-US relations that are witnessing remarkable development. Aden entertains a strategic location for international navigation and trade. Its position represents a meeting point of three strategic areas full of US vital interests, namely, Asia, Africa and the Arab region, the strategic oil reservoir.

Most of the questions are awaiting results of the under way investigations into complications of the incident. Future of Yemeni-US relations will inevitably depend upon the nature of the results produced by investigations. However, At all events Yemen is the first place the targeted side. It is, as president Ali Abdullah Saleh has confirmed, aimed at harming the Yemeni-US relations and Yemen's economy, especially that Aden is a promising Free Zone representing a future foreign investment attraction area.

No doubt Yemen is well aware of this damage, therefore it is clear and justifi-

able that the Yemeni side is very cooperative and helpful in these investigations out of its keenness on fighting terrorism, defending its security and sovereignty and protecting its vital interests, including the relations with the US, which are an essential factor for Yemen's openness policy to the world. US relations with Yemen have in the recent years been given much interest out of the strategic location of Yemen, its population weight in the Arab peninsula, and for its remarkable political and economic change.

The strategic location of Yemen provides multi-dimensional logistic support for the American strategy based on decreasing elements of danger on the US presence and movement in the region. Besides, there is the importance of getting supply facilities provided in Aden port which saves the US big expenses. Therefore, it is certain that whatever the results of investigations are, the two sides will try to enhance and strengthen relations, specially in economy, military and security. As a great old port, free zone and the nearest meeting point to international navigation routes, Aden is the focus of Yemeni-US future cooperation.

However, both sides should understand that Aden today is different from Aden in 1839 when the British colonizers claimed that the people plundered their ship and then took that an excuse to launched a military invasion of Aden. Aden today is the economic and commercial capital of 18 million people. Moreover, the national, regional and international reality, makes Aden the outstanding symbol of national sovereignty and independence. Aden is the gate of Yemen to the outside world in the third millennium. It hosts and welcomes all guests. There is no harm if it becomes the interest of investors and foreigners. It is no harm for Aden to be a station for exchanging interests. However, the point that should be emphasized is that it is the heart of Yemen and its window on the outside world.

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Yemen's Joining WTO, heated debates

Mahyoob al-Kamali

Can least developed countries, including Yemen, overcome negative consequences of globalization? What are the conditions and requirements countries should meet to join the WTO?

These queries were put before participants in the "Symposium on International Trade and Investment Issues. WTO Accession Brainstorming Meeting of Least Developed Countries, 6-8 November 2000-Sana'a." Sponsored by the Yemeni government and UNCTAD, the symposium included a deliberation meeting of least developed Arab countries. A number of experts from WTO, UNCTAD, ESCWA, Arab League and Yemen participated in the meeting. YT followed up the issues discussed in the symposium and filed the following report:

World Trade Trends and Globalization

UNCTAD expert Murray Gibbs, presented a paper on international trade system and trends towards globalization which in economic terms means internationalization of the process of goods and services production, and investment and distribution. More than one country are involved in the production of one or part of certain commodity. However, there are no geographical boundaries hindering investment and no specific place for influx of capitals except for tempting profits and stable environment for investors. Therefore, international

trade orientation requests are made from least developed countries to adopt practical policies and measures enabling them to catch up with WTO. Among those measures are recommendations of the WB and IMF in terms of heading for free-market economy and working in accordance with its mechanisms based on supply & demand, removal of price imbalances, liberalizing goods and services prices from government intervention, liberalizing foreign trade, interest prices, privatizing public establishments and tackling problems caused by debts.

WTO, its activities mechanism:

WTO was established in 1995 which has 139 member states and trade organizations. A paper presented by Cato Adrian, expert in the WTO, has indicated that the organization works according to rules based on "GATT", Uruguay Round of 1994.

According to experts WTO is considered to be the most outstanding mechanism embodying globalization as it clearly aims at fully freeing foreign trade, working for stability of trade systems and committed to the principle of most favorable state and using tariff as the only good means for any external trade policy and preventing any kind of unfair external competition giving attention to national dealing with foreign goods flowing across borders of various countries. The other face of globalization and its negative outcomes on developing countries comes through expanding activities of multi-national companies. There are about 550 companies controlling the economies of many countries. They affect investment, produc-



tion and trade trends among many countries in the world. These companies do also monopolize selling basic commodities and services in different markets in addition to trading with information technology.

Prospects of Yemen's Joining WTO

On Yemen's joining the WTO, Najib Hamim, Communication and Coordination with WTO chairman, talked about the current negotiations. He indicated that Yemen was labeled as a least developed country, therefore this requires WTO help to increase volume of foreign capitals investment in available sectors. Besides, it needs to be offered technical assistance to increase its industrial and agricultural exports.

Dr. Abdulkarim al-Eryani, PM, in his address delivered at the symposium, said "Yemen initiated procedures to join the WTO since 1998. A national committee was formed to prepare procedures and to negotiate Yemen's becoming a member of the organization. The committee had also to prepare the plans, policies, programs and researches needed to enhance and help Yemen's joining the organization."

He pointed out that Yemen and some other Arab countries were trying to join the organization. He revealed that the Ministries of Planning and Supply and Trade were authorized to prepare a national paper to participate in the third conference of the UN for the least developed countries scheduled in Brussels during May 2001 where 48 least developed countries were going to participate.

Rubens Ricupero, Secretary General of UNCTAD, stressed the importance of helping least developed countries by the developed ones so as to achieve the positive effects of freeing world trade. He emphasized that international treaties pertaining to improving investment atmosphere should be

Investment, Financial Matters, Foreign Debts

Under this theme, UNCTAD expert, Nazha Abbas presented a paper highlighting the need of data base and visibility for investment in order to attract foreign capitals.

TRIMS bans all investment procedures that do not agree with commitments stipulated in GATT. As for foreign debts the UNCTAD presented a program DEMFAS for debt management and analysis to demonstrate to least developed countries how to get rid of their debts.

In Yemen Debt issues have been connected with the authorities concerned such as ministries of Planning and Finance and COCA to study loans burdens. The UNCTAD helps gather data and offers technical help. Dr. Mohammed Saeed Al-Attar, Yemen's representative in Geneva discussed the traders' delay in paying back debts which burden the national economy. Results of discussions show the necessity of paying more attention to loans servicing and revealing debts' interests to volume of imports and local products and their impact on development projects. The IMF identifies loans servicing in least developing countries as 20-21% of imports.

Technical Aspects of Accession to WTO

In this premise, the Yemeni National Committee explained the preparatory phase for trade policies memo. This memo will be distributed to all members of the organization. The technical aspects include training the negotiators and a project presented by the UNCTAD, WTO and the Intentional Trade Center to help Yemen negotiate with the organization.

A participant said to the Yemen times that Yemen would get three advantages by joining the WTO; Yemen's development and trade policies will be outlined towards an international market, it will deal with more free environment of commercial exchange and it will participate in dialogues and discussions that will serve its trade interests.

However, discussions also warned against a hurry in joining the WTO pointing out the fact that local agricultural products will be greatly affected by the flow of foreign cheap products. Discussions centered on the need to reconsider strategies of agricultural development, make studies and researches on production, marketing and import, improve the agricultural infrastructure, looking for new markets for export, etc.

ECONOMY NEWS

6% Increase in Agricultural Sector

The general budget of the state for 2001 expected to achieve 6% development in the agricultural sector due to the facilities assured in terms of exporting agricultural and fish products to neighboring countries. A 3% to 5% increase is anticipated in the customs and taxes revenues.

Opposition parties criticize the evaluation of unemployment rate in the budget. It was estimated at 20.2%. However, opposition parties indicated that the rate was much higher and that it exceeded 40%. They requested re-considering this number so as to create new job opportunities.

DLCP Set up 33 projects

During the past four years, Developing Local Community Program has made use of YR 44 millions to establish 33 projects for the benefit of about 9000 poor families. Projects were established in Taiz, Mahweet, Baida'a, Aden, Hadramout in terms of trade projects, handicrafts, agricultural, fish and animal production.

Food Supplies Prices Hike Up

Food supplies prices have shot up in Yemeni markets at a rate ranging between 7%-15%. It is expected that the increase will further go up as it is the case every year before the month of Ramadhan when Muslims fast to feel for those poor and miserable section of the society.

YR 21 Billion for Repairing Roads & Bridges

Maintaining Roads and Bridges Fund defined YR 21 billion to re-qualify and repair roads between governorates and maintaining the roads net improving towns approaches. Besides, establishing two underground: one in Sana'a-Taiz way in Yassleh at 3,57km length and the second on the same road in Sumarah at 13,9 km length. These two underground ways are included in the five-year-plan that will be carried out from 2001-2005.

More than 350 thousand Working Children in Yemen

A seminar was organized last Thursday on working children in Sana'a. Studies and researches presented indicated that the number of working children less than 14 of age in Yemen exceeds 350 thousand children. They indicated that 30% to 40% of these children are not in schools while there are more than 400 children are being pushed to schools every year without finding rooms for them in these schools.

Strategic Vision of Yemen

Yasser M. Ahmed
Yemen Times

Yemen is considered one of the twenty poorest countries that have low levels of growth and gross national product (GNP) despite the passing of three decades since it started its economic reform.

In 1999, the gross national product was 6.144 million dollars while population was 17.7 million which means an annual income of 347 dollars per capita (less than one dollar for each person per day which represents the international poverty line) and also representing 6.7% of the international average of 5.130 dollars.

With this brief introduction "the strategic view of Yemen 2025" seminar started in the consultative council in cooperation with the ministry of planning and growth. Many specialists and university teachers took part in this seminar in which they presented papers diagnosing problems facing Yemenis in addition to the challenges for development like the high birth rate and the vast immigration of people from the country to large cities suffering from unemployment, poverty and water shortage. Level of education in Yemen has declined drastically where ignorant people represent 56% of the population of which 76% are females and 37% are males. Students graduating or leaving schools before graduation are almost ignorant or, most cases, half educated. Even those graduating from universities cannot practice what they were taught.

Health service doesn't cover more than 40% of the population and those who are mostly affected by poor health services are women and children.

The biggest challenge is the water shortage. Yemen is considered one of the poorest in water resources where the individual share is not more than 146 cubic meters per year while water poverty line is 1555 cubic meters for irrigation and 155 cubic meter for other uses. Those who benefit from water network are about 82% in the cities and this percentage go as low as 12% in rural areas.

All suggestions made to adjust economic and social development aimed at raising the income of the individual

within the next 25 years to 1800 - 2200 dollars. This goal is associated with varying resources of the gross domestic product (GDP) instead of relying almost totally on producing oil and gas which represent about 31% of the gross domestic product. This economical growth is strongly associated with developing social, intellectual and political structure.

Here, the needs for strategic vision become obvious in:

- demographic sector,
- social sector,
- health sector, which requires increasing the numbers of doctors and nurses from 3800 and 7306 respectively to 35000 and 105000 in the year 2025,
- teaching and training fields: it is expected to have 8400 schools built within the next 25 years with a total approximate cost of 840 million American dollars (100 thousand dollars for a nine classroom school),
- manpower and labor market,

- sector of culture: Yemen has a big and varied cultural heritage deeply rooted in the history like the civilizations of Saba'a, Maean and Himiar. All papers stressed maintaining the Yemeni historic and cultural heritage, consolidating the Yemeni identity of the next generations and eliminating the wide spread habit of revenge among people,

- political sector: Yemeni unity has always been an essential target and worked for by all Yemenis until the dream came true in May 1990. The last witnessed great political accomplishments like allowing all political parties to work freely for peaceful transfer of power. The presidential elections in 1999 were a good example of the new political trend in Yemen. Revival of Yemen requires all efforts to enhance accomplishments made and to go ahead with the political democracy into more advanced stages reaching a mature and democratic society.

To achieve those targets, strategic vision should focus on:

- enhancing democratic political practice,
- human rights,
- domestic authority,
- civil community,
- traditions of political practice and
- foreign policy.

مكروننة الضيافة ...

أحلى المكرونات

COMMON SENSE

By: Hassan Al-Haifi

Them and Us

Judging from the attention that Arab Satellite Channels are directing towards the American Presidential race, it would seem to many an observer that the Arab Satellite Channels are trying to tell the Arab constituencies from Mauritania to the Persian Gulf that what we are seeing is really what we should also be enjoying. It is not clear to the observer if that is what most people perceived, but, as far as our Arab leaders are concerned, they are always the last to perceive anything, let alone something that is in advancement of their people's welfare and political progress. For sure, the American people are having the roughest time in determining who their next President will be because for them the choice was not easily decisive. Both candidates did not seem to really present anything substantial, as far as outdoing the situation that Mr. Clinton will leave behind – the best all around domestic situation that has ever been enjoyed by the American people. Thus, it was hard to see which of the candidates could really present a platform that can in fact improve on an already wonderful situation. Mr. Clinton is perhaps the one who really should be proud of himself from the election results, for the results categorically reflect that not one of the candidates presented that magic appeal brought on by the Clinton Presidency – despite its scandalous sidetracking, and despite the difficulties of getting Israel to understand that the United States wants a real end to the Palestinian issue to climax the legacy of the Clinton Presidency by bringing to a finale the most difficult problem in American foreign relations. Yet amidst all this who won the election tic-for-tat in the United States, we must try to understand what is the situation in the Arab World in terms of the political progress that has been achieved by the Arab states, despite so many coups and revolts, and what are the prospects for advancement of the

political process in the Arab countries? We first must look at exactly where do we really stand politically? Actually, most Arab countries have yet to develop peaceful transitional politics, where the will of the people is the first and foremost determinant of the political courses their countries should take. On the other hand, most Arab constituencies would rather do away with all these different Arab states altogether and have them take on some form of federalized regional amalgamation. When speaking to any Arab, one will easily find that he/she does not agree that there should be 22 independent sovereign state with all the components of a sovereign state. One would almost believe that the Arab nation has all the necessary elements for unified sovereign status, in which the positive aspects of one state can make up for the negative aspects of the other and the rich can help counteract the difficulties faced by the poor. However, these are ideals that are readily found in the Arab "Street", but realistically are remote in the minds of those Arab leaders who insist that Arab political will is only what these leaders dictate it to be. Perhaps the only thing that Arab leaders can find in common with what is going on in the United States, is that former President has his son competing for the office of the Presidency of the country. In the Arab world, however the same thing is happening but we must remember that it is not being borne out of competition for the popular or electoral votes – It is a fact of life. Our Arab leaders in all their different formats – kings, presidents, dictators, emirs, sheiks, etc. – all know quite well that the Arab World has a long way to go politically, before ever coming anywhere near the United States, Britain, France or even Iran, in terms of placing the determinant of the political future of their countries with their people, as it should be accordingly. In fact they are the least interested in ever reaching such level of democracy or for that matter any level of democratic

rule! In fact, most Arab leaders care very little about insuring that the people should have the last say in determining any course in the country, let alone the political course. For this reason, one will always find that the "Arab Street" speaks one language and the leaderships are speaking in another, with respect to all the issues faced by the Arab nation whether domestically or regionally. On the other hand, there is a lot of talk about how much of a mandate the next President of the United States will have when considering the relatively narrow margin of victory, if it can be called that, which the next President will enjoy, especially when considering the almost equal division of both Chambers of Congress between the two leading political parties in the United States. Yet most of the Arab leaders have yet to even seek, let alone obtain, a mandate from their relative constituencies and there is certainly little worry about any divisions of the Parliaments – where they exist – since the Arab "parliaments" are seated by handpicked members "elected" by the leaders themselves. So, how can we expect that there will be agreement between the aspirations of the Arab constituencies and their leaders, when the latter care the least bit about what their constituencies aspire for and who should be responsible for the realization of these aspirations? What is really frustrating is that despite the knowledge of both the Arab leaders and the Arab constituencies about how modern governments are evolving and responding more and more to their people's wishes and desires, there is still very little progress to be seen in the political processes for transition in most of the Arab states. There is also very little progress in the awareness of most of the Arab populations as to the proper relationships between the government and the governed. A number of excuses are given for this, going from "cultural" to "religious" to social, but all of these excuses are false if they rely on believing that the cultural or religious or even social justifications for dictatorship or absolute monarchy or totalitarian rule go hand in hand with these authoritarian regimes. In fact, we fully understand Islam to be a fully democratic religion and, in fact came to this world to end all forms of tyranny. We also understand Arab social orders to encourage communal deci-

sion-making and participatory government, even in its medieval tribal format. So it is clear that these justifications are merely an exploitation of the ignorance of the general mass population, which these leaders often work hard to maintain, just so the people will never ever opt for greater empowerment and civil liberties. In looking at the Arab World, its vast resources and long engrained cultural heritage, one would think that the Arab leaders would see sufficient logic in letting their people have a say in how to channel the resources of the land to work towards advancing their people's welfare. On the contrary, Arab leaders continue to insist that only they who know what is best for their people and any claims to participatory or access rights endanger the stability and welfare of their constituencies. Moreover, when looking at the different forms of authoritarian rule in the Middle East, particularly in the Arab World, it is amazing to find that the so called advanced states – republics, etc. have not at all shown that they are really responding to their constituent's will or aspirations. In fact, the monarchies or traditional states seemed to show greater concern for their people's welfare than those that claim to take on more advanced forms of government. On the other hand, those states that claim to have adopted parliamentary or pluralistic orders have yet to display any proof that they are indeed based on popular will or detriment. Most states, as such, tend to use such cliches as mere decorative designs to look glamorous on the international arena, whereas a look inside such countries will show that there is a long way to go before these governments are efficient, free of corruption and truly responsive to the people's aspirations. On the other hand the resources of these countries still lie under the control of the leaders, thus preventing any hope for their constituencies to achieve economic and social progress on their own efforts, because access to such resources is completely forbidden, except to the elements that stand by the regime, as long as the regime continues to breast-feed them out of their people's resources. So where are they and where are we? Only our Arab Satellite Channels know for sure.

USA Elections 2000

That is What True Democracy is all about

Walid Abdulaziz Al Saqqaf
California, USA



"Now I understand that my vote counts" is a phrase that was heard again and again on several US and international TV channels after the college vote count was announced in the state of Florida. I dedicate this article to this magnificent historical event, which we should learn from as we witness this unprecedented US presidency race. The points I would like to point at can be summarized as follows:

First: Even though most Americans wanted Bill Clinton to serve for a third term (based on a survey), yet the US constitution was strictly followed. This means that even if there were no other candidates fit for the presidency except Clinton, he could not run for office because this violates the US constitution. The idea of not enabling any president to serve more than two terms was first introduced by the first American president George Washington to prevent the monopolizing of power. I hope that Arab leaders (forming a democratic system in their countries) understand how important this is for true democracy.

Second: Presidential nominees should not be favored by any means and in any way by the state. Interestingly, this falls in total contrast with the conditions in Arab countries, in which the government supports its candidates financially and morally, directly and indirectly. What happened in the USA was astonishing, not for Americans, but for the rest of the world, especially the third world countries. Actually, George W. Bush seemed to have had an upper hand in the advertisement campaign, despite the fact that the opponent was the vice president.

Third: A close race is actually a good indication of a democratic system. Unlike what some people think, a premature democracy is usually the one that

widens the gaps between qualified candidates. In contrast to that, a close race indicates that people are free in their choice and that there was no pressure whatsoever on any of them neither by the state, nor by powerful institutions.

Fourth: Proof that in any election every vote counts. This fact has been quite clear in the last few days as the closeness of the race caused all people involved to understand that each single vote can indeed make a difference. This was enough to make millions of young Americans to be more attracted to politics.

Some people may say that I am talking as if I am a USA ally, or leaning towards the US. But this is what we see on the ground, and if it would have happened anywhere else in the world, I would have done the same thing. It is wise to admit that a system with such strong democracy should be hailed, and taken as an example. This election should particularly be of interest for an emerging democracy like Yemen. It is true that the USA didn't reach this level of democracy overnight, but after hundreds of year of evolution. But this still doesn't prevent us from learning from it, and trying to understand its positive and negative sides. A change to a truly democratic system can never be achieved by lip service only. It needs a commitment and sometimes a painful sacrifice by the leader of the country. In our case, I am proud to state that our president has indeed announced his will to sacrifice in not running for a third term in office. This not only adds to his credit as the democratic transformer of the country, but also as the humble president who wishes to demonstrate how serious he is about forming a truly democratic system based on the peaceful transfer of power. I believe that he is a man who could prove to be different from other Arab leaders, and who could let Yemen be a model country in the region. In my heart I do believe that there is hope for Yemen to be even more democratic than the US if the leadership and the people wanted to. It only requires commitment and effort by our leadership and people. The first we do have, but the latter (effort) is still to be made. Will we make it? Let's wait and see.

Just An Opinion



Mohammed Khidhr
Yemen Times

The Organization of Islamic Conference OIC on Sunday inaugurated its 9th 3-day summit conference in Doha, Qatar's capital. The summit is attended by Islamic heads of state and government and their representatives. The conference is convened amidst extremely tense and explosive atmospheres in occupied Palestine, going on since the provocative step taken by the well-known terrorist Sharon when he purposefully entered Al Aqsa mosque area almost two months ago. That outrageous violation of Islamic holy places in occupied Jerusalem had triggered massive Palestinian protests that developed into daily clashes between Palestinian stone-throwers and Israeli soldiers who have been using live ammunition, rockets, tank canons shelling and helicopter gunships against these Palestinian stone-throwers. The Palestinians are facing an increasing war of annihilation at the hands of Israeli occupation forces merely because they are defending the Islamic holy landmarks, especially Al Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem they are fighting with bare breasts on behalf of the entire Moslem nation, armed only with stones. The Zionist crimes perpetrated against the Palestinian Intifada have exceeded the most brutal crimes in human history, even those committed by the Nazis. These unprecedented savage crimes committed with using the Zionist war machine against the defenseless Palestinians, and the serious violations and acts of desecrating Islamic sanctities in occupied Palestine, place the Islamic nation leaders versus a historic and great responsibility. The

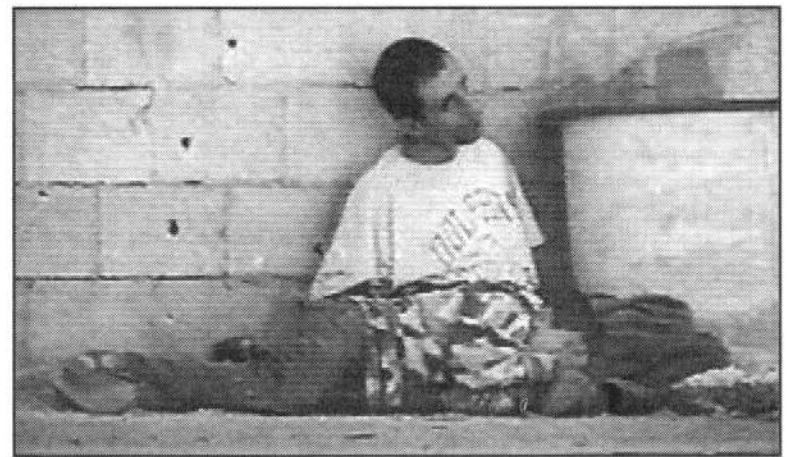
entire Moslem nation attaches hopes that their leaders summit in Doha comes out with resolutions and practical steps rectifying the abnormal situation and putting a deterrent end to the Zionists' daily massacres against the Palestinian people. Leaders of the Islamic nation are required to translate their summit meeting into Islamic confrontation on the ground with Zionism to stop its crimes against the entire Moslem nation, not only the Palestinian people who are now taking the brunt of them. The Islamic summit is demanded to come out with effective resolutions guarantee offering active political, material and moral support for Al Aqsa intifada, protection of Islamic sanctities and support for the Palestinian people's legitimate holy war to restore their legitimate rights. The Islamic summit should be keen to meet the Moslem masses demand, hopes and aspirations. Arab Moslem masses have got disappointed and frustrated with results of the latest Cairo Arab summit that came short of their least aspirations. The Arab summit results have encouraged Israel to further step up its repressive acts and aggression on the Palestinians, using all its military power to abort the intifada, in a flagrant challenge to both Arab and Islamic nations and international law and norms. All Moslems eyes are cast upon you, waiting for how you are going to face this historic challenge. To fail in meeting the nation's hopes would mean the loss of confidence in her leaderships. The Doha summit has to fulfill its commitment to rescue Al Quds, restore the spirit of joint Islamic action and activate role of the Organization of Islamic Conference. The summit must send a message affirming strength of the nation and her competence in defending Islamic sanctities, issues and interests, particularly against threats of the Zionist entity.

A Bubble in The Air

Ali Yousef Sharif
Sana'a - Rep. Of Yemen

The Intifada is still on high gear in spite of the Sharm Al-Sheikh meeting, which proved a bubble in the air in spite of the pivotal role played by President of Egypt, United States of America and United Nations Secretary General in an attempt to contain a heart breaking crisis in the Palestinian territories. The leader's truce reached could not stop the Israelis from brutal killing of Palestine children. The Egyptian government's influence in Israel which is bound with Camp David agreement could not change the trend of the bloody critical situation. No doubt a lot of time and efforts were put to seek partial solution, apparently focusing on Intifada which is scaring the Israelis. All words of sympathy and concern echoed in the meeting hall of the peace brokers over and again, fed ears with hopes of peace, which is crying for the moon. Indeed nothing on the ground has changed so far. In another event Arab leaders expressed their grave concern over the crisis in the Emergency Arab League Meeting which was held recently in Cairo. However, it seems that the understanding or agreement reached could not stop the mass killings of the innocent Palestinians children. However, some progress was made in the areas of humanitarian assistance. But unfortunately what could not be stopped immediately is the continuous barbar-

ic crime committed by both the Israeli security units and the armed settlers who are acting in a cowardly manner under the nose of mercilese cohorts of Prime Minister Ehud Barak which indeed increasing at an alarming level. The meeting did not change the situation. I must not emphasize the position of Israel to halt inhuman crime nor that the occupier never honored the truce reached in Sharm al Sheikh. The Israeli leaders maintain macho man attitude in any political settlement approach. I wonder how a state of Israel can qualify to be a state while its government is an evil doer. As a matter of fact, use of weapon concept against the people whose land is being forcefully occupied and sieged is totally unacceptable by any existing international convention. Consequently, the Intifada has legitimate rights to expel all monkeys on their 'shamba' in there given most horrifying and unbearable situation. The magnitude and excessive use of prohibited deadly advanced weapons on demonstrators is a clear evidence of gross violation of human rights. The Israelites authorities have the tendency of ignoring or neglecting the Security Council Resolutions passed on various issues including the one pertaining to legal rights of the Palestinians. Painfully the Palestinians had earlier suffered in the hands of the British colonial power while the Palestinian resistance movement could not achieve their patriotic objective to free their mother land as the British presence on the ground was remarkably superior to anything anyone could imagine. The British later



conspired and had the Zionist movement take over in an orderly manner, initially as a part of the Palestinian territory under a pretext, I believe, best known by the British masters. Likewise the British had shown its wisdom by giving white minority an independence while the majority the black indigenous citizens were ignored and that led to the emergence of a national resistance movement. Eventually, through bloody struggle the black indigenous citizens took the power and had their honor restored in their country. Today, Zimbabwe is an independent country. However, it should be stated that at the time the state of Israel was forcibly created on the soil of Palestinian the Israelites were not satisfied with what they had grabbed, snatched, seized, raped, kidnapped, killed, forged, perpetrated acts of explosion and so on. The Israeli strategy and long term objectives were set on both programs land expansion and explosion campaign to further marginalize Palestinian populace. Nevertheless, we observed the shift of the British role to a certain extent in support of the State of Israel while,

interestingly, the United States of America godfathered the newly born state. It should be said that the Palestinian resistance to the occupying force could have never succeeded due to lack of substantial military and financial support to enable it challenge the aggressors. Since then, the so-called state of Israel remained firm on the soil of Palestine while maintaining a xenophobia platform, a big temptation for more Arab land in the region which cannot rule out an economic exploitation for more Arab land in the region and an economic exploitation of Arab countries in the near future which is being master minded by the agents of Israel. I am really disturbed, simply cannot conceive of nor comprehend how other Arab leaders can stomach Israeli relation today, despite the threat it poses to the security of the Arab region. Leaders! Don't the pictures of murdered children disturb your conscience enough to cut diplomatic ties or whatsoever links maintained with Israel? How many more funerals the leaders of the world wish to seeing their naked eyes to act right-fully??

Child Labor, Staggering Facts

The Juvenile Care Center, a civic democratic initiative support foundation, held a symposium on child labor from 6th to 7th, November 2000. A number of people interested in this subject such as Child Research Center, journalists and academic researchers attended the symposium. Many important working papers were discussed, some of which were summarized. Among those is a working paper, Working Child Conditions in Yemen, prepared by Sua'd Al-Iryani from Radda Barnen, the Swedish Organization for Child Care. The paper focused on social and economic conditions that led children to work. The economic deterioration in Yemen, and that resulting from the Gulf War, have made the living conditions more difficult and increased poverty. According to the 1997 census, about 30% of the population are under the poverty line and unemployment rate increased among males providing for families and the children and females are forced to work to support their families.

Ms. Sua'd Al-Iryani reviewed the reasons for child labor. Among these are: the economic crisis, the high rate of poverty, unemployment, children's immigration from villages to towns either for study or for work. Those children are obliged to work to sustain themselves and the girls help their mothers by working in houses.

She also explored the legal, social and economic aspects of child labor and solutions to mitigate the phenomenon of children involvement in labor. Some of those solutions are: securing social security for poor families, activating programs for eliminating poverty and targeting the most afflicted groups, securing educational serv-

ices. In addition, the interested organizations can be involved in handling this phenomenon.

Researcher Mona Ali Salem, Child Labor Unit Director in the Labor and Vocational Training Ministry, presented a working paper to the symposium. She pointed out that studies indicated that 89% of children work in agriculture in the countryside, while 29, 6% - 17, 6% of the total number of children work in selling and in other simple jobs in towns. Generally, children work in auxiliary jobs like helping smiths, helping mechanics and painting cars, washing cars, serving at hotels, shops and groceries, selling things on sidewalks, selling newspapers and magazines, working in buffets and restaurants.

Ms. Fekra Mahmoud, Head of the Women's Committee in the Yemeni Family Care Society - Taiz, presented a working paper in which she discussed the working child conditions in the society, the reasons for work, the local laws and the international conventions related to protection of the working child's rights. She also discussed the role of the national organizations and governmental societies in finding a practical mechanism for helping working children and protecting their rights. She indicated to an appendix of the approximate statistics for the number of working children in our country.

In her working paper, Ms. Nabihah Abdul-Hamid, General Manager of the Studies and Researches in the Supreme Council for Mother and Child, discussed the definition of the working child's age. She indicated that specifying the working child's age varies according to different laws. The Child's Rights Convention speci-

fied that the working child's age ceiling must be 18, whereas, the World Labor Organization defined in law No. 138 this ceiling at 15. However, the Yemeni laws and legislations defined that 18 years of age is a transitory period for a child to become an adult to undertake all responsibilities and duties in life. She also pointed to the features of child labor.

Ms. Nora Mohammed Ahmed Al-Taheri, from the Mother and Child Office in the Social Green Party, indicated, in her working paper, to the basic motives for the child labor. For poverty is the first motive that compels children to seek jobs because their families cannot afford them the basic needs as they have simple, unavailing jobs or they have no jobs at all. She pointed to the social problems the societies suffer from, divorce is one of them. She mentioned that among the problems leading to child labor are: the non-awareness of the importance of education in the society, truancy from schools to seek work, the spread of illiteracy and the absence of social awareness. The media must undertake the responsibility of spreading social awareness in society.

Ms. Al-Taheri suggested some solutions to this phenomenon. The most important ones are: applying the laws of the World Child Convention, treating the truancy problem, organizing a nationwide campaign to eliminate illiteracy by opening educational centers for adults, encouraging creativity in all life aspects, supervising children when they mix with adults at work, giving children jobs suiting their abilities mentally and physically, eliminating poverty, spreading the social solidarity, notifying employers not to hire very young children.

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Aden Hotel Leads the Hospitality Industry in Yemen to the new Millennium

The most famous worldwide news agencies and International Correspondents, evaluating the Hospitality and the service standard of Aden Hotel

Aden Hotel was able to gain full admiration and satisfaction of its high level guests and its lodgers. The recognized credentials of hard work and services were presented. Assistance, facilities and help were provided to the American guests and media agencies, who came to Aden for news coverage. **Aden Hotel** had a major part by providing all services and meals that exceeded the expectations of normal high occupancy. The standard and the speed to maintain consistency and the five star reputation of the hotel, with accuracy of the management and staff were beyond imagination. What also inspires everyone is the full cooperation of the hotel management with the local authorities of Yemen. They work together unitedly to overcome obstacles and provide peaceful and secured environment. Achieving such a task could not be possible without the highly professional coordination that was offered by hotel owners representative Mr. Mohamed Al Muflehi, the General Manager of Arabian Investment.



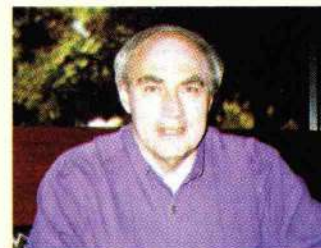
All services and assistance presented by **Aden Hotel** is worth appreciation. Maximum satisfaction, great services and values are a reflection on the reputation of tourism in the magic city of Aden and our beloved Yemen in general. This high appreciation was also expressed by some of **Aden Hotel** guests during their stay.

Thus, **Aden Hotel** was highly appreciated by the American ambassador in Yemen, Mrs. Barbara Bodin in a Press Conference held in **Aden Hotel** on Saturday 21st October, 2000. The ambassador expressed her thanks to the hotel management for good manners and assistance provided to the American guests. She pointed to the kind cooperation, which is reflected the kindest manifestation of Yemeni hospitality.

The hotel General Manager Mr. Fadel Hilali commented on that by saying 'We are Yemeni, very proud and deeply privileged to have such an enterprise like our **Aden Hotel** to introduce world class service and to be the flag bearers in the hospitality industry nationwide and internationally'.

Yemen Times had the chance to gather some correspondents and worldwide agencies impression and opinions in terms of tourism and level of hotel services, presented by only the Aden Hotel.

Interview with Mr. Walter Rogers CNN NEWS
(Chief International Correspondent)



Mr. Rogers, expressed his admiration for **Aden Hotel** by adding 'This hotel operation has many facilities that exceed five star hotels any where in the world. What counts is the management which is the driving force of **Aden Hotel**. They truly justify the definition of management in every aspect of the hotel, as we felt in every front of the house departments.

Q: Based on your stay in Aden Hotel, how do you evaluate the service standard, the quality of the Food & Beverage and the Rooms and its amenities in meeting the tourism expectation in Yemen?

A: Yemen is a great country, rich in culture and heritage. The people are warm, kind, educated and generous, and an operation such **Aden Hotel** adds a brighter touch to the tourism industry in Aden and Yemen in general.

Q: We normally see you on CNN TV screen and you travel so much around the world and here you are in our beautiful city of Aden for business purposes. Could you tell us about the future of tourism in our beloved country, Yemen?

A: Well, Yemen is a wonderful place to visit that has many things to offer. I had the chance to visit the Presidential Palace in Sana'a and I

saw some magnificent portraits of beaches and I wished I went swimming. Added to that is the prestigious operation of **Aden Hotel**. If every operation in Yemen takes **Aden Hotel** as an example of high standard, that will contribute significantly in the development of the hospitality industry in Yemen.

Q: How do you rate the Aden Hotel?
A: Ten Stars.

Interview with Mr. Pat Dawson NBC NEWS
(Chief Editor International Correspondent)



We at Yemen Times had the good luck to meet with Mr. Pat Dawson, who expressed his good impression of his experience at **Aden Hotel**. Appreciation and maximum satisfaction were the hallmarks of the overall comments about the operation of the hotel. Mr. Radwan Alsaqqaf (from Yemen Times met with Mr. Pat Dawson and filed the following interview.

Q: It is our pleasure to have you in our country, Yemen, and a guest of Aden Hotel. Firstly, could you tell us about your impression of Yemen's current and future tourism in terms of your experience during your visit to the city of Aden and the standard of Aden Hotel?

A: Thanks. Well we have just come into this beautiful **Aden Hotel** and if there are hotels like this hotel in the future, that will encourage people to come to Aden and Yemen in general, especially those tourists who come on vacation or holiday. I am sure they will be very happy because Yemen's tourist environments seems to be a great place to visit.

Q: Is this your first time in Yemen?

A: Yes, I have been all over the world and this is the first time I have the pleasure to visit this wonderful country.

Q: Do you have plans to visit Yemen again for pleasure?

A: Yes, I would certainly come back with my family as long as there is an **Aden Hotel** to enjoy. I did imagine Aden, before I came, as a beautiful place and I found the cities and places are much closer and people are friendly, helpful and generous. I hope to return back and enjoy this great atmosphere and the luxury of **Aden Hotel** as it is situated in a good place in Aden and the services it presents are a perfect image about the entire country.

Mr. Morten Dean from ABC NEWS
(Chief International Correspondent)

The hotel is excellent with Total Quality Service. The General Manager, Mr. Fadel Hilali and the Rooms Division Manager, Mr. Fadel Saaid have manifested the hotel operation on a high level of professionalism. They both lead the staff to exceed the necessary expectations for the satisfaction of their guests. Every one is pleased with the services, staff manners and especially the food and beverage.

Let's not forget the **Italian Restaurant, La Veranda at Aden Hotel**, which presents world-class service in every aspect. The hotel rooms are spotless, luxurious and comfortable. The Front Office Staffs are very informative, knowledgeable and pleasant.

Over all, **Aden Hotel** is the place to be for tourists and familie. It is a place for business, people. After a long day of work, you really need **Aden Hotel** to enjoy the best service, food and relaxation.

One more thing, the information technology at **Aden Hotel** is up to date and we were pleased to know that each room at the hotel has Internet access that made our work environment so easy. Indeed, the hotel is exceeding the trend of the hospitality industry according to the world standard. Thank you **Aden Hotel** for your dedication, hard work and the absolute prestigious service.



Progress Towards Polio Eradication in Yemen

Mohammed Ali Kolaise
National EPI Manager
Ministry of Public Health

In 1988 the World Health Assembly resolved to eradicate poliomyelitis globally by the end of 2000. In 1996 The Government of Yemen committed to eradicate polio along with other countries.

The eradication activities began in 1996 with conducted National Immunization Days (NIDs) followed by two rounds of NIDs per year over a short period, targeted all children below 5 years in which two doses of oral polio vaccine administered regardless of previous vaccination status with an interval of 4 weeks between doses.

The (NIDs) for polio eradication conducted as strategy to interrupt transmission of wild poliovirus - during a low transmission session in particular winter session.

Yemen has so far implemented 5 campaigns of very successful nationwide NIDs the first NIDs conducted to immunize 2.6 million children under the age of five with Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV) during November and December 1996. Despite numerous difficulties, the coverage result of the NIDs surpassed all expectations. During the first round of the NIDs 3.1 million children received a dose of OPV, while 3.5 million children were immunized during the second round.

In 1997, 1998, 1999 the better successes continued annually. The NIDS 2000 conducted the first round on 8-10 Oct and the second round conducted on 5-7 Nov 2000, were 4,320,203 children immunized during second round and 471,303 children at age 6-11 months received concentrated dose Vit A capsule 100,000 IU, 3,383,359 children age group 12-59 months received concentrated dose of Vit A capsule 200,000 IU, it was a very good opportunity that both round launched by H.E president Ali Abdullah Saleh.

H.E. the only president worldwide who launched 5 NIDs were the last

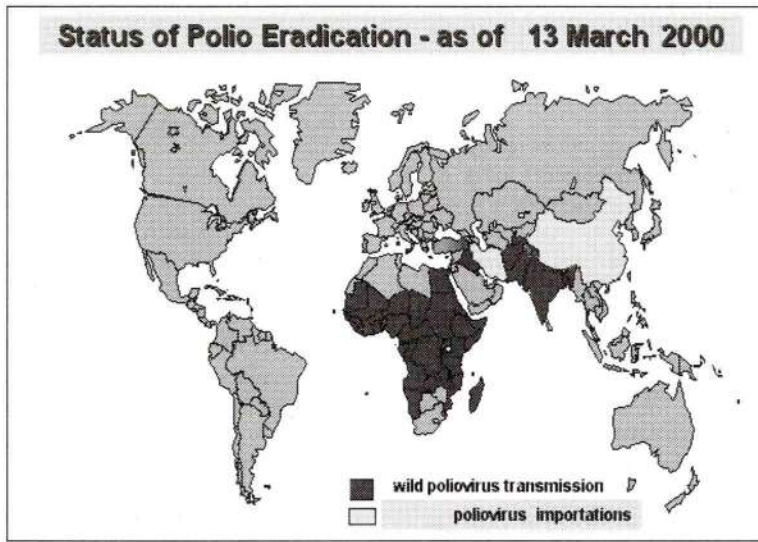
NIDs launched both rounds, the president received a letter of thanks and appreciation from the regional director of the world health organization for his efforts and support committed to eradicate polio from Yemen.

The polio eradication activities in Yemen, achieved a tremendous achievements towards eradicate poliomyelitis, in march 2000 the world's health organization excluded Yemen from the map of endemic countries due to the good indicators presented as outcome of successful activities and efforts achieved in the country.

The main reasons for the success include:

- Very high political commitment
- Cooperation of different government sectors
- Effective social mobilization
- Strong community participation
- Dedicated health care workers and volunteers
- Good Support from international partners mainly (WHO, UNICEF, Japan, CDC)
- High demand of immunization among the public
- Detailed and accurate planning

In addition to achieving a high coverage of OPV, the success of the NIDs



had major impact in the effort of revitalizing the immunization program. Some of these impacts include:

Future Goals

Now, the objective is to utilize the success of the NIDs, and the momentum to strengthen the EPI and the primary health care system as a whole. Activities that need to be implemented immediately include:

- 1- Revitalizing the EPI program to achieve sustainable high routine immunization coverage
- 2- Continue implementing polio erad-

ication strategies until the eradication goal is achieved.

3- Conducting yearly NIDs and Sub-NIDs until cessation of wild polio transmission is proven, and strong surveillance system, capable of identifying any case of suspected polio, is established

4- Strengthening Developing surveillance system to identify any suspected case of polio - Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) surveillance, and other diseases

5- Increasing and maintain high level of routine immunization coverage at least 90% of children less than one year with OPV 3.

| The Fifth National Campaign to Eradicate Polio (Second Phase) Primary Results of Vaccination | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|-----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Governor ate | Targeted children (below 5 year) | Vaccin- ation Centers | First Day | | | Second Day | | | Third Day | | | TOTAL | | |
| | | | Below 5 years | Over 5 years | Coverage % below 5 years | Below 5 years | Over 5 years | Coverage % below 5 years | Below 5 years | Over 5 years | Coverage % below 5 years | Below 5 years | Over 5 years | Coverage % below 5 years |
| | | | Capital | 287,111 | 191 | 110,830 | 7,904 | 39 | 105,694 | 7,440 | 37 | 77,349 | 5,666 | 27 |
| Aden | 117,440 | 117 | 48,383 | 487 | 41 | 45,718 | 79 | 39 | 25,055 | 644 | 21 | 119,156 | 1,210 | 101 |
| Taiz | 516,052 | 557 | 192,752 | 5,734 | 37 | 191,078 | 7,278 | 37 | 151,369 | 5,195 | 29 | 535,199 | 18,207 | 104 |
| Ibb | 521,285 | 549 | 223,649 | 10,850 | 43 | 184,324 | 9,295 | 35 | 107,967 | 6,212 | 21 | 515,940 | 26,357 | 99 |
| Sanaa | 283,510 | 366 | 107,845 | 3,212 | 38 | 96,471 | 3,120 | 34 | 74,253 | 2,618 | 26 | 278,569 | 8,950 | 98 |
| Amran | 193,125 | 245 | 82,904 | 5,126 | 43 | 67,792 | 3,902 | 35 | 44,136 | 2,633 | 23 | 184,832 | 11,671 | 101 |
| Al-Balida | 152,536 | 228 | 58,361 | 3,492 | 38 | 59,100 | 3,604 | 39 | 39,627 | 2,129 | 26 | 157,088 | 9,225 | 103 |
| Mareb | 47,648 | 106 | 22,388 | 2,337 | 47 | 16,014 | 1,306 | 34 | 7,456 | 433 | 16 | 45,868 | 4,076 | 96 |
| Hodeidah | 548,587 | 557 | 210,476 | 9,492 | 38 | 184,042 | 9,370 | 34 | 149,226 | 3,179 | 27 | 543,744 | 22,041 | 99 |
| Lahj | 130,350 | 188 | 59,141 | 1,807 | 45 | 47,874 | 1,313 | 37 | 26,479 | 774 | 20 | 133,494 | 3,894 | 102 |
| Saada | 139,930 | 219 | 70,763 | 2,987 | 51 | 52,844 | 2,283 | 38 | 24,844 | 1,527 | 18 | 148,451 | 5,887 | 106 |
| Abyan | 105,927 | 232 | 42,931 | 1,556 | 41 | 38,197 | 1,219 | 36 | 23,467 | 653 | 22 | 104,595 | 3,428 | 99 |
| Hajja | 343,303 | 415 | 183,550 | 4,780 | 53 | 117,628 | 1,601 | 34 | 60,563 | 1,108 | 18 | 361,741 | 7,489 | 105 |
| Mukalla | 77,999 | 233 | 31,329 | 654 | 40 | 29,400 | 651 | 38 | 18,454 | 473 | 24 | 79,183 | 1,778 | 102 |
| Sayun | 63,828 | 156 | 26,762 | 548 | 42 | 23,274 | 391 | 36 | 14,157 | 189 | 22 | 64,193 | 1,128 | 100 |
| Jawf | 102,974 | 214 | 35,806 | 401 | 35 | 36,471 | 330 | 35 | 30,666 | 323 | 30 | 102,945 | 1,054 | 100 |
| Shabwah | 116,475 | 288 | 52,497 | 4,225 | 45 | 42,308 | 3,418 | 36 | 26,091 | 1,399 | 22 | 120,896 | 9,042 | 104 |
| Dhamar | 299,975 | 386 | 135,527 | 7,402 | 45 | 117,861 | 5,849 | 39 | 56,019 | 4,164 | 19 | 309,407 | 17,415 | 103 |
| Mahweet | 113,507 | 143 | 48,567 | 6,038 | 43 | 37,500 | 5,011 | 33 | 18,211 | 2,772 | 16 | 104,278 | 13,821 | 92 |
| Daleh | 98,133 | 128 | 45,301 | 1,790 | 46 | 34,458 | 1,646 | 35 | 15,965 | 317 | 16 | 95,724 | 3,753 | 97 |
| Maharah | 10,791 | 69 | 4,742 | 286 | 44 | 3,756 | 286 | 35 | 2,539 | 180 | 24 | 11,037 | 762 | 102 |
| Total | 4,271,786 | 5,585 | 1,794,504 | 80,208 | 42 | 1,531,804 | 69,372 | 36 | 993,895 | 42,588 | 23 | 4,320,203 | 192,168 | 101 |



Health News

S. Africa to Implement Vaccination Program to Contain Animal Disease

JOHANNESBURG—South Africa will immediately implement a vaccination program to combat the spread of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) in the northeastern KwaZulu-Natal midlands, the country's national disease control center said on Thursday. The decision was made during a meeting of the FMD control team Wednesday night with concurrence of Agricultural Minister Thoko Didiza and KwaZulu-Natal agriculture official Narend Singh.

"The FMD control team is presently meeting to consolidate the immediate implementation of the vaccination plan," the control center said, adding that "a coordinated vaccination strategy will be initiated as a measure of protection to cloven-hoofed animals and to prevent the spread of the disease."

A vaccination program would help change the country's status of export of cloven hoofed animals and products. South Africa's current status as a foot and mouth disease-free country was obtained without vaccination. FMD broke out on a piggery at Camperdown in the northeastern province of KwaZulu-Natal two months ago. New infections were discovered in the surrounding communal areas three weeks ago, which necessitated the extension of a 10-kilometer-radius quarantine zone to 15 kilometers. An additional 9,000 animals have been identified for culling within this extended zone. So far almost 7,000 animals have been put down since the disease broke out and at least 17 countries have imposed partial or complete bans on the export of cloven hoofed animals or products from South Africa. More than 1000 people are working 12-hour shifts around the clock in a bid to prevent the spread of the disease, with a large amount of money having been spent. (Xinhua)

U.N. Population Agency Gets Money to Avert Condom Shortage

UNITED NATIONS—The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) on Friday welcomed the news that the Netherlands and Britain will contribute a total of 76 million U.S. dollars to avert a reduction in contraceptive supply to developing countries. The money will be used to purchase male and female condoms, other methods of contraception, obstetric and gynecological equipment, and drugs for the treatment of sexually transmitted diseases in the poorest countries, the U.N. agency said.

The money, comprising 39 million dollars from the Netherlands and nearly 37 million dollars from Britain, comes after UNFPA reported a marked shortage of contraceptives during 1999 and 2000. UNFPA, the world's leading supplier of contraceptives to developing countries, has had to reduce its support in this area due to lack of funding, despite increasing demand for effective contraception in countries most affected by HIV/AIDS.

About six in 10 couples in developing countries now use family planning, compared with one in 10 in the 1960s, U.N. figures show. Demand for contraceptives is projected to grow by 40 percent between now and 2015 as a result of growth in population and in the proportion of contraceptive users.

UNFPA estimates the current contraceptive shortfall at between 75 million and 85 million dollars. A one million dollar shortfall may result in some 360,000 unwanted pregnancies, 150,000 abortions, and a number of maternal and infant deaths.

UNFPA said the Netherlands recently became its biggest donor, with a pledge of 51 million dollars for 2000, accounting for some 21 percent of its general funding.

(Xinhua)

بعيد الطاقة إلى حياتك

يعزز طاقة الجسم
بالحيوية والانتعاش
ويمنح الجسم قوة إضافية
ويحسن مستوى التركيز الذهني
ويزيد من قدرة الجسم على التحمل
ومصنوع طبقاً لأحكام الشريعة الإسلامية

الاستيراد والتوزيع بواسطة : شركة الشرق الاوسط للتجارة
ص.ب. ٥٩٢٧ تعز الجمهورية اليمنية ت : ٦ - ٢١٣٤٥٥ فاكس : ٢١٩٨٦٩

شارك مشروب الطاقة

Developing Community and Productive Families in Yemen



Ismail Al-Ghabery
Yemen Times

Community and productive families centers supervised by the national program for developing community and productive families are part of social development programs aiming at helping families living in poverty. These centers give women the priority in getting integrated in development through training and giving them necessary technical skills to use in establishing projects to increase their income. Undoubtedly graduates from 41 centers spread all over the country will need proper mechanisms to be able to participate effectively in families, unions and workshops.

Targets of those centers

The national program for developing community and productive families was first founded in 1998. The program aimed at preparing, planning and implementing programs to help those living under poverty line depending on lists made by social security and field surveys that identified poverty pockets and be productive in the community.

Present sectors

Recently, the following sectors are present.

1. handicrafts,
2. ornamentation and sculpture,
3. sewing,
4. manual and mechanical stitching,
5. food making and preservation,
6. knitting,

7. hairdressing,
8. leather handicrafts
9. home maid,
10. typing and computing.

Intended sectors

There is an intention to introduce the following sectors:
carpeting, pottery, carpentry, ceramic, accessories, porcelain, breeding poultry and bees.

Projects and programs financing those centers

The woman affiliation program was financed by United Nations Population Fund UNFPA which aimed at developing six centers in Sana'a, Al.Mahweet, Aden, Taiz, Haifan and Lahj through expanding training programs and including new professions like computing, knitting, textiles making, modern secretarial work, sculpture on wood, family health, running small projects and eliminating illiteracy.

The program was implemented in the years 97,98 and 99. All the six centers were supplied with needed tools, machines and cars, skills and efficiency of trainees was improved. The estimated cost was at 1.2 million Dollars paid by the UNFPA in addition to four million Riyals paid by the Yemeni government.

New projects

• Poverty elimination project

This project which is financed by the United Nations Population Fund UNDP and other financing parties includes many elements, among which is financing productive family centers with an amount of 621860 US Dollars to develop the work of centers in Sana'a, Al.Mokalla, Al.Hodaida,

Al.sheik Othman and Hajja and give loans to graduated women to start their own projects.

• Developing technicians project

The social development fund is implementing a project of preparing productive training women teachers in sewing and stitching in some of productive families centers with a cost of 48 thousand Dollars to increase training effectiveness for those joining the centers.

• Woman affiliation program keeps supporting community and productive families centers

By 1998 the project of woman affiliation came to an end then it was agreed with the UNFPA to start again in 2000 aiming at improving methods of work, supporting graduates and starting new centers in new regions.

• Small loans project

The ministry of social security approved in June 1998 the project of small loans. The project aims at giving loans to private organizations to start small projects. The ministry has supported recently the starting of private societies for centers' graduates, and indeed the first society has been established in Sana'a. Preparations are being made to start similar societies in other governorates. The project is supported by the United Nations Development Program with a gross cost of 1.6 million US Dollars.

• Building new centers

To overcome the problem of high rents and having to move from one place to another, the ministry have started building projects to provide those centers with permanent places. Some have been finished and the other are

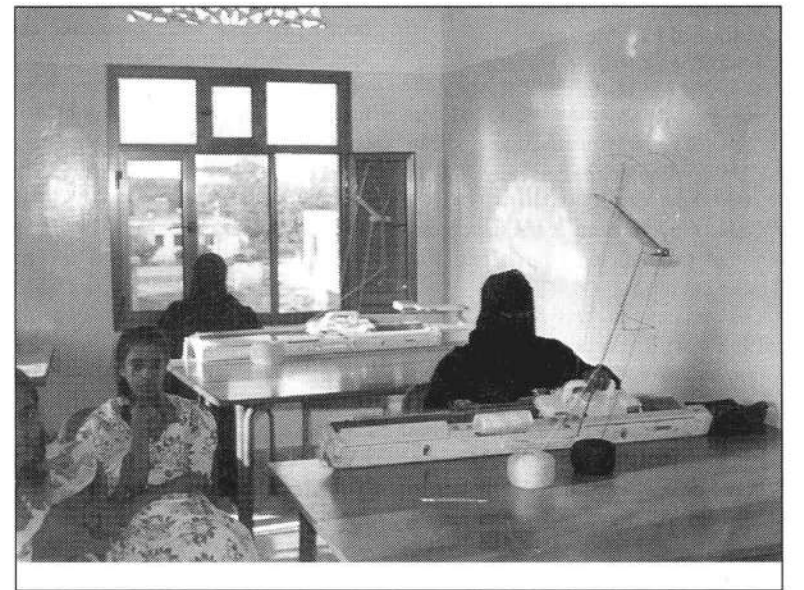
under construction. the ministry has built 7 centers in Sana'a, Abian, Al.Hodaida, Hajja and Al.Jof, yet there are 4 centers under construction in Al.Mokalla, Saioon, Al.Dalea and Amran. The ministry received a building in Al.Sheik Othman from one of the social figures there to use it as a center which will be funded by the United Nations Development Program UNDP.

Despite of the services presented by the program and the good results of its actions but it should always be given new elements to ensure its continuity and complete what it misses. In another word the program must have a specific vision to get along with the new situations. This vision is represented by starting a bank for destitute people to reduce the gap between training and production which we hope will support the following:

1. starting economic utility units,
2. loans giving units,
3. starting productive units in the centers.

All the above will create chances for the program towards:

1. The utmost use of raw materials of



the environment based on families' members abilities in making simple handicrafts.

2. Engaging the community in such social projects by giving administration to the centers and the execution to private societies according to legal regulations.
3. Getting rid of all bureaucratic administrative restrictions and making

use of the flexibility of execution. On the other side, the government will be given the right to call off the self supervision of those centers in case of ignoring the regulations. The ministry should have an integrated plan to apply these trends. Ministries of planning and finance should also take part in planning and implementing of these trends.

Media Marriage Kicks Off 'Internet Century'



Prof. Salem
Al-AbdelRahman

The massive merger between America Online (AOL), the leading Internet company, and Time Warner, the world's largest media and entertainment conglomerate, will transform the Internet. But a question mark remains over whose interest the merger serves—a question with serious implications for developing countries.

The deal, valued at \$350 billion, marks the coming of the age of the Internet as the next stage of communications, bringing together television, film, radio, publishing and computing into one medium. It is already being described as heralding the dawn of "the Internet Century."

In this marriage of the old and the new media, AOL will provide its Internet subscriber service via Time Warner's huge cable network, while Time Warner will use AOL's customer base to gain new consumers for its various media products. By sharing their resources, the two companies can dominate the cyberworld and encroach on the market share of rivals in media, entertainment and the Internet provision business.

The fear is, however, that the merger will reduce choice. United States media historian Robert McChesney is among those who challenge the idea that the so called "information society" is giving consumers any degree of choice in the first place.

In his new book, Rich Media, Poor Democracy - Communication Politics in Dubious Times, McChesney says that the major beneficiaries of the Internet age will be the investors, advertisers and a handful of mainly US-based media, computer and telecommunications corporations. Such a concentration of power among unselected corporations could undermine democracy. Mega mergers are seen as further consolidating this trend.

Concerns about the increased power of the media conglomerates is widespread. Describing the newly-announced deal as 'Online Leviathan,' an editorial in The Times of India predicted that a few big companies will shape the information and entertainment choices of millions of people all over the globe.

Now some fear that the gateways to the Web, opening up the information highway for all to use, will instead be controlled by the big players. As the smaller Internet service providers (ISPs) are swallowed up, this new medium, which has been used by a myriad of alternative media and political groups and non governmental organizations, is in danger of being corporatised.

AOL is already the largest Internet service provider in the US. It owns the well-known ISP. CompuServe, as well as Netscape, the most widely used browser among 'Netizens' worldwide. Its informal style helped to make AOL famous. It promoted on-line 'chat rooms' and gave the world the message 'You've got mail!', latter the title of a successful Hollywood film about love in virtual space. Not surprisingly, the Warner Bros. Film was extensively promoted by AOL among its 20 million subscribers.

Time Warner's extensive fibre-optic cable networks in the US mean that AOL can offer a service 100 times faster than traditional phone lines, cutting the time needed to download movies, music and 3-d graphics.

AOL-Time Warner can draw from the huge library of more than 5,700 Warner Bros. feature films, or thousands of records labels produced by Warner Music, one of the world's biggest music companies.

For children it offers cartoon network and for sports fans the leading magazine Sports Illustrated.

In news and current affairs, the group boasts such global brands as Cable News Network (CNN), the international 24-hour news channel, Time magazine, the world's oldest and one of the most influential news weeklies, and Fortune, the magazine for the global corporate elite.

A further question mark hangs over exactly who will have access to the new technology.

According to the United Nations Development Program, there were 120 million Internet users in 1998. Industry analysts expect this figure to

grow manifold in the coming years. It is no wonder then that the major media and communication companies are scrambling to get online.

There is little doubt that the Internet has emerged as the fastest growing tool of modern global communication. At the same time, the US alone has more computers than the rest of the world put together. With less than five per cent of the planet's population, it accounts for more than 26 per cent of global Internet use. In contrast, South Asia, home to nearly a quarter of humanity, has less than one per cent of the world's Internet users, according to the UNDP.

Overall, less than three per cent of the world's population - generally male, middle-class and fluent in English - is part of this cyberculture. English is used in almost 80 percent of website, although fewer than one in 10 people worldwide speak the language.

The deal has also sparked off speculation about similar moves by other Internet and media companies.

Already, global players such as Microsoft, the world's biggest corporations in terms of market value, has taken stakes in the telecom operators and is allied with AT & T, America's biggest telecommunication corporation. Speculation is rife whether Yahoo! will buy Disney or CBS Viacom.

According to some commentators, the Internet is still in its Stone Age and the scope for colonizing cyberspace is virtually limitless. AOL chairman Steve Case admitted as much: "We're still scratching the surface" of the Internet's potential, he told journalists after the deal.

Towards Unrestricted Tourism Services Trade

The ministry of Culture and Tourism hosted lately a seminar on ways of eliminating restrictions on tourism services. The seminar discussed various working papers on the subject. One of the papers was presented by Mr Fadhil Faisal from the ministry of trade and supplies, member of trade and services committee in which he had given an overview of the goals of the general agreement on services trade, such as work on expanding services trade and gradual lift of restrictions as a means of enhancing economic growth. He cited the law of investment no.22 of 1991 and how consistent it was with the general agreement on services trade. It showed the positive effects of lifting restrictions on

tourism services to help flourish tourism industry in Yemen, like archaeological, desert, beach and diving aspects of tourism,...etc. Foreign investors should be encouraged to invest in this sector. Some other positive effects will also be witnessed like allowing tourist companies and agencies to be established, building hotels and starting transportation companies. All of that will eventually increase the efficiency of tourism services which will definitely attract larger numbers of tourists and create new job opportunities. Foreign companies investing in this field will use domestic labor for being cheaper, meaning that domestic labor will acquire the experience of those foreign companies.

The paper reviewed all tourist projects licensed since March 1992 till

September 2000. The paper discussed financial facilities awarded to all those projects, exemption from taxes on profits for seven years starting from the date of production or practicing the particular activity and exemption from taxes on profits for three years starting at the end of the first seven years of exemption if no profits were made.

The paper presented by Abduljabbar Alsulwi, general manager of tourism growth and investment pointed at the present situation of services in tourism industry in Yemen, the consequences of lifting all restrictions imposed on tourism services, lifting all restrictions on tourism services within the frame of Arab free trade zone and the strategic means to achieve an appropriate position in this field.

The paper presented by Mohammed Mohammed Muthahar, vice-chairman of the state organization for tourism, stressed the main economic principle followed by the whole world at the beginning of the third millennium, i.e. the unrestricted trade and free market. The paper presented by the ministry of transportation discussed the effects of the "GATT" on activities of transportation, like international competition, technology transfer and training, encouraging Arab bilateral and regional cooperation.

The paper also discussed recommendations for developing sea and air transport.

The paper, presented by Yahya Mohammed Abdullah Saleh, chief of the Yemeni society for tourism and travel agencies, tackled means of importing services according to the "GATT" and the effects of applying that agreement. The paper showed the advantages of removing restrictions on this industry as stipulated in the "GATT".

The advantages are:

- making use of the experience that foreign companies and agencies have,
 - improving services quality of local agencies,
 - making use of advanced supplies brought by those foreign companies.
- Many other papers were also presented by Yemenia, the general union of trade and industry chambers and others.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE INSTRUCTORS NEEDED AT YEMEN AMERICA LANGUAGE INSTITUTE

(YALI)

QUALIFICATIONS:

B.A. in TEFL or English or the equivalent of an RSA Diploma plus educational experience in an English-speaking country.

2 years of experience teaching English in a school using the communicative approach
Near Native speaking ability required
Native speakers of American English highly desirable.

Candidates must pick up a solicitation package at YALI. ALL completed packages must be returned to the American Embassy, attention Procurement Office by NOON on Wednesday, November 15, 2000.

Only qualified candidates need apply.



TESOL 2000

Yemen National TESOL Conference

The Conference Organization Committee Regrets to Announce that the TESOL 2000 Conference originally scheduled for Aden, November 13-15, has been Canceled Until Further Notice

Conference Sponsors



(إنا لله وإنا إليه راجعون)

بقلوب مؤمنة بقضاء الله وقدره، تلتصنا نبا وفاة المفطور له بإذن الله

الوالد / محمد الجبوري

وبهذا المصاب الجلل تتقدم جمعية موظفي الأمم المتحدة - صنعاء

الى الأخ / فوزي الجبوري وأسرته

بأحر التعازي والمواساة..

تعمد الله الفقيده بواسع رحمته وألهم أهله وذويه الصبر والسلوان..

Improve Your English



Dr. Ramakanta Sahu
Associate Professor
College of Education, Mahweet

I. What to say

About the College
Abduljabbar: Excuse me. Is this classroom for level 4 Education?
Ramzi: Yes, it is. Are you new to this college?
Abduljabbar: Yes, I took a transfer from the college of Arts and Education, Khawlan. Today is my first day in this college.
Ramzi: You are welcome. I'm a student of this class. I'm your classmate. My name is Ramzi Mohammed.
Abduljabbar: Hello Ramzi. Nice meeting you. My name is Abduljabbar al-Zukairi. I'm from Khawlan. Do you belong to Mahweet?
Ramzi: Yes. I'm an inhabitant of Mahweet.
Abduljabbar: I have fallen in love with Mahweet and the college at first sight. Mahweet is a nice city and the college is located in a picturesque environment.
Ramzi: Pleased to hear that.
Abduljabbar: Have you been a student of this college tight from level 1?
Ramzi: Yes. This is my fourth and final year in the college.
Abduljabbar: How many departments are there in the college and what is the total students strength of the college?
Ramzi: Well. There are six departments and more than 1500 students read in this college.
Abduljabbar: English department would, obviously be the single largest department, I suppose.
Ramzi: That's correct. Unfortunately, there are not enough rooms in the college to open more departments.
Abduljabbar: That's a pity. Considering the student enrollment, we need to have more space. I'm sure the university authorities will take some steps in this regard.
Ramzi: Yes, our dynamic Dean of the college is making all possible effort to have another building built soon. I think it's time to enter the classroom and take our seats. More about the college after the lecture.
Abduljabbar: Thanks a lot for the information. Let's get in.

II. How to say it correctly
Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences:

- Mr. Abdullah is working very hardly on the project.
- Shakespeare was a much learned man.
- Lastnight my father returned lately.
- The old man lived miserly.
- Ibrahim is somewhat intelligent for his age.

Answers to last week's questions:

- I'm free only in the morning.
- Bakil is certainly a very wise man.
- We draw our intellectual and cultural heritage entirely from our ancestors.
- I do not remember having met him before.
- You will certainly succeed in your mission.

III. How to express it in one word:

- Anyone of those persons from whom one's father or mother is descended
- Heavy piece of iron used for keeping a ship fast to the sea bottom.
- Belonging to times long past.
- Short amusing story about some real person or event
- Space between two lines or surfaces that meet.

Answers to last week's questions:

- Adapted for both land and water: **amphibious**
- Lack of enough blood: **anemia**
- State of being unable to feel pain: **anesthesia**
- Absence of government or control: **anarchy**
- Science of the structures of animal bodies: **anatomy**

IV. Identify the kind of speech and circle the correct letter from the choices given below:

- Where do you live?**
a. asking for permission b. asking a question
c. answering a question d. asking a request
- That's nice of you, thanks.**
a. parting b. apology
c. suggestion d. accepting an offer
- That's not a very good idea.**
a. accepting an offer b. refusing Permission
c. apology d. refusing a suggestion
- Why don't you cut down on your cigarettes?**
a. apology b. apology
c. suggestion d. accepting an offer
- That's a good idea, but I'm too busy.**
a. apology b. offer
c. refusing an offer d. accepting an offer
- Good night.**
a. parting b. greeting
c. offer d. refusing an offer
- Oh Khalid, that was a wonderful dinner.**
a. refusing an offer b. compliment
c. suggestion d. question

Answers to last week's questions:

| Words | Antonyms |
|---------------|----------|
| 1) mundane | heavenly |
| 2) accomplice | opponent |
| 3) laconic | prolix |
| 4) agony | ecstasy |

V. Words of Wisdom
"You must know how to swallow your anger."

TOWARD A NEW EDUCATION FOR A NEW CENTURY

Reports to the Nation: Report #2: Education for Development

Dr. Abdulmageed Ghaleb
Almikhlafla
Lecturer,
Sana'a University

Underdevelopment and Education

Underdevelopment as a condition of retardation influences and in turn is being influenced by other conditions of retardation in ways that contribute to the preservation of conditions of retardation and to delaying the transformation of the Arab nation. The material world affects what human-beings attempt to become. It retards their efforts, when they become helpless or passive victims, it limits their possibilities when they ignorantly act for or against it. There has been a gradual realization over a period of time that the development efforts of the past decades have not enabled the Arab masses, either to raise their standard of living economically or to develop their own transformative potentials educationally. In these efforts the model of development was taken to be the western world, and Arabs, irrespective of their own cultural peculiarities and the historical experience they gained in the course of history, were expected to follow the very same path that the west had taken. The tendency was to equate economic growth (GNP) with improvement in the overall quality of human life.

Both assumptions have proved to be unfounded. The development efforts have not yielded the expected results; on the contrary, the exercise has tended to perpetuate the dependence of the Arab nation as an under-developed area in the developed world. Within the national formations of the Arab society, on the other hand, gains elsewhere have made the living conditions of the masses, the majority of whom live in the rural areas, stand out more dehumanizing than ever.

Development in the Arab countries, on affected the dependent bourgeoisie, while the rest remained underdeveloped. And the development of this dependent bourgeoisie in the Arab countries was, and still is, artificial in that it depended on consumerism, not on production. As a result, the value system got mixed up, the educational and cultural systems got disrupted,

and the gap widened between the haves and have-nots, the majority and the minority, the city and the countryside. While the dependent bourgeoisie consumed foreign products and used foreign modes, the people could not create their own modes and were thus left behind due to ignorance and retardation. This is the root of educational disparities and inequalities between town and countryside, between haves and have-nots, between men and women, and between physical and intellectual labor. Hence, the education of underdevelopment and the underdevelopment of education.

Development and Education:

One of the great mistakes by the governments in dealing with development has been to seek the advice of economists only. The economists persuaded them that development was simply a problem of investment and resources. They talked about industrial projects when they should have talked about culture and education for human development. Meanwhile, those who were entitled to speak about culture and education, confused culture with folklore and education with training. However, despite the importance of subjectivity and despite the fact that the key to development lies in the sphere of culture, the idea of a purely educative movement operating without regard to the level and character of socio-economic development is an anarchist fallacy. In other words, the development must encompass the subjective and the objective, the transforming structure (TS) as well as the forming structure (FS) of society.

The attempts at transforming the Arab countries after the regained independence, did not result in any meaningful transformation of the lives of the people. The new government adopted strategies to realize the virtuous consumer society. In economic terms, it meant increasing cash crop production and resource depletion for sale to the developed societies, while the industrial process was to start with import substitution industries and eventually, go for heavy industrialization. In political terms, the governments were to ensure stability and lay the basis for democratic society. This politico-economic strategy, regardless of whether it was right or wrong, was not

strengthened with socio-cultural programs, including the one for socialization through education. However, the notion of development in the Arab world became entirely characterized by that of alienation. Education has a role in reducing that alienation.

Development as a condition of emancipation reinforced by other emancipatory conditions, must be an aim of Arab education, on one condition that it is understood as a continuous social transformation toward a total human emancipation. Without the development of creative potentials and value systems which correspond with the needs and possibilities of the Arab nation, the criteria of development, the criteria of goal-setting can only be imported from developed countries. If values and goals of the Arab nation represent only replicas of those existing in the developed countries, then the structure of power, the mode of life, the production of new values, in one word, everything will be just a replica of the existing reality in the developed countries. Cross-fertilizing them with its own cultural experiences, can contrive its own emancipatory future. To develop creativity, however, a society has to develop its own human resources. Hence, the importance of education. Talking of development without the development of the human who will undertake the process of development, is the placing of the cart before the horse. Therefore, if Arab nation wishes to achieve not only economic, but also political and cultural independence and equality with developed countries, then development of endogenous creativity, of endogenous value, is a must. Development of an endogenous value system entails the development of an endogenous structure of power, of specific national integration factors such as cultural, educational, scientific, and technological factors. However, development as a condition of emancipation must be reinforced by the promotion of all other conditions of emancipation.

Cryptic

Dr. Amarendra Kumar
Professor of English
Dharmar University
Dharmar

In sleep I hear the rain
pour and patter rhythmically,
my dream of a wet evening
when I may tell a tale,
wild, weary, weird.

A tale that yawns like me
In metaphysical fatigue
and slurs into an inarticulate syllable
that I may tease, square and torment
yo the subtlest shade of a semantic
sweet.

Even a crushed bloodless flea,
that neither oozes nor flowers,
makes my forbidden rind
break and blow up
by its sighting pores.

In dire straits I dig a channel
to feel the few seeds
I have sown
drunk with drought and flood,
reeling.

Ravenous, unappeased,
unimpeachable,
the wind ascends a revolving stair
to the top of a trumpet blow.

Mobydick volcanic foundations
fly in a wild rush of debris
by the swingy rhythm
on an innovative camera eye
shedding lave tears,
convulsed with a sob.

In his broken, burnt format
and natural habitat
the hounded animal contemplates
the ultimate reform -
he could hardly ever guess
or know.

Water Shortage Force People to Desert Their Village

Researches have been made this year show that Sana'a is threatened with severe drought. Numbers given in those researches were horrific to the extent heralding the occurrence of a real catastrophe. May be the increasing water problem in Al-shurfa 90km to the east of Sana'a is a real warning that a water problem is about to happen.

A mere coincidence led me to know about water crisis in that area when I met one of my friends from Al-shurfa. And after a detailed discussion with him, I decided to go there to see with my own eyes what's the situation like over there.

On our way to Al-shurfa villages we noticed that all grape farms on both sides of the road to Al-shurfa were dry and trees were only good for fire wood.

Mr. Abdulla Saleh Al-rajami told us that 95 families migrated from their homes to work in Sana'a, Aljaof or Mareb because of water shortage which made them unable to irrigate their lands anymore, and there are about 700 other families intend to immigrate "what's the use of staying without water", one of the farmers said, who used to receive about 500 thousand Riyals for selling grapes each year in addition to grains and qat. Farmer Saleh Abu Saleh Wathab said "until 1996 there was no water problem, we had about 17 wells which all farmers shared. Water was found at a depth of 60 meters. In the next four years, rain has been very little and the wells became dry, water couldn't be



found even at depths of 200 meters and more which affected badly all farms."

He added "I have about 132000 square meters of land, 39600 of which were planted with grapes, I only managed to save one third of it. Some farmers raised money and bought one tank of water to irrigate their farms; others couldn't buy any water tanks so they left their lands to work somewhere else."

Farmer Saleh Ali said "I've spent 800 thousand Riyals on irrigating my grape trees this year from which I only received 320 thousand as a revenue of selling. I don't intend to do the same this year and if we are going to have no rain, I'll leave. We haven't noticed any cooperation from the government to help solving even part of the problem."

Mr. Hadi Ahmed Awanah said "the least amount of money spent on buying water is 9 thousand Riyals per family."

About their demands for drinking

water, Mr. Hadi Ahmed said "we did, in 1985 Mr. Ahmed Ali Almatari came from Sana'a accompanied by a group of people and laid the foundation stone for a drinking water project, a health unit and a school but nothing of these ever been made."

We met Mr. Mohammed Al-rijami who had two water pumps, he said "I sold water for 26 million Riyals this year."

A paper presented by the general corporation of water resources stressed that the stored amount of water in Sana'a basin will be consumed in the early years of this century and to provide 100 million cubic meters of water we will need about 692 million dollars as construction cost, 224 million dollars as working cost for 15 years and 100 million dollars as annual cost.

With the increasing number of people of Yemen the demand for water will increase in the next few years but Yemen is already suffering a great deal so how could Yemen meet the increasing demands for water. God knows.

Impressive Maiden Flight

Liu Xiangang,
ZPEB Yemen

On Monday 30 October 2000, Sana'a airport was in a warm bright sunshine that seemed distinctive. At 8:00, one white 2 propeller Canada-made aircraft DASH VI of Yemenia moved to the runway, and took off 6 minutes later, proclaiming a start of her maiden flight direct to well location at Block S2 onshore Yemen and of Preussag Energie Exploration therein. As one of the 9 passengers and drilling contractor representative successfully discovered Block 53 Sharyoof oilfield and brought Block 32 field on production, I felt so good to be lucky enough to take this special journey to undertake another mission, although I had flid smaller craft over north America, bigger one in south east Asia, helicopter in south Asia. It was marvelous to find out that what lay underneath was typically different. First of all, one could not find boundless picturesque farm land. Only a number of plots of green carpets from Sana'a. In 20 minutes, mysterious openness of mountains of years eroded cone-type Farda and Nagil Bin Gela later with flat caps due to weathering and gracefully displayed their vast geographical diversity of shapes without any make-up or decoration. Pure, simple, natural aged group in conjunction with a crisscross

net work of gullies at their feet after many years denudation and exhumation of a sudden, those sand current changed to south direction. I knew we were above Shabwa. A few black hills in the sahra appeared before our eyes. Gradually we saw newly built Block S2 site, water well rig, containers, trucks, jeeps, men, and a brand new runway. Amidst loud cheers our craft safely landed and ended this pretty impressive maiden flight. That was a declaration of another new field battle to bring forth black gold.

Canon

Imaging Across Networks



Canon Expo 2000 @ Paris



Canon opened its second in series of three global exhibitions showcasing its technologies and products during 30 Oct. to 1st Nov. in Paris.

The Canon Expo 2000 introduces the new business alliances, technologies and products that define the company's future vision and highlights innovations that are set to change the way we live and work in the 21st century.

Following the inaugural expo, which opened in New York City in September, the exhibition took place in Paris and will travel on to Tokyo in November this year.

Canon Expo 2000 shows how one of the world's leading companies is adapting its technologies, products and services to make optimum use of the powerful interconnectivity provided by the next generation of Internet.

"Under the broad theme *Canon over IP* (Internet Protocol) canon intends to become a leading network imaging company by developing all facets of our activities for the Internet environment", said Mr. Fujio Mitarai, President and CEO of Canon Inc. The Paris exhibition which was held in the striking Carrousel at the Muse'e du Louvre, was built around two main areas, which show developments in Working and Living. A third supporting area was dedicated to Technology and Environment. Together, the



three themes reflect anticipated changes in the way we will live and work in the new century.

The main aspects of the exhibition are brought to light briefly as follows:

Canon demonstrates lead in command and control speech recognition technology for voice-activated devices

At its technology exhibition in Paris, Canon demonstrated its latest voice-activated devices control technology. Developed by researchers at the company's UK research center, Canon's UCanTalk technology has already been incorporated into several home fax products in Japan.

Canon develops home image network

Canon revealed that researchers at its French research center are developing a unique system to share images, sounds and data in home environments. This new network system, called 'Switch Inside Home Audio/Video Network (shortly, SIHAV Network)' is the technology that will enable people to view audio-video contents from various sources to any monitor in a home, whatever the interface - analogue or digital.

Canon Develop world's first small object 3D scanner

At its technology exhibition in Paris, Canon demonstrated its world leading Small Object Modeller (SOM) software, which needs only a few minutes to automatically create high-quality 3D graphics models from a sequence of still images.

Canon develops watermark technology for digital images

Unique watermarking technology for digital images, were on show at Canon's Expo 2000 exhibition in Paris, has been developed by researchers from Canon's R&D center in Brittany, France. Techniques currently under development will enable the simple detection of changes to an original picture, or the addition of secret coding to images that may only be accessed with a password. Such encoded metadata could then be linked to a database so that access to a picture would be restricted to authorized users only.

Canon to improve the human-computer interface

Canon demonstrated how research from its UK R&D center will improve the way humans interact with computers through natural language searching technology and a sophisticated voice controlled interactive system for areas such as help function on a PC.



Quotes from Mr. Fujio Mitarai Keynote Address on 30th of October



Mr. Fujio Mitarai, President & CEO Canon Inc.

- Today, Canon products are distributed by about 180 sales companies in approximately 40 countries and used by customers all over the world. Looking back on the business development in the region, it all began in 1957 with the opening of Canon's sole European distributor in Geneva, Switzerland. With this remarkable business growth by each of our Canon group companies in Europe, I am very pleased to hold the Canon Expo 2000 in this millennium year. The Canon Group is presently composed of 300 companies. Canon has 90,000 employees worldwide.
- Looking at our sales by product group for the first half of 2000, the leading categories were printers and other computer peripherals, accounting for 37% of total net sales, followed by copying machines (30%)
- Canon has grown at an astonishing pace worldwide with two strategic development axes 'diversification' and 'globalization'.
- In terms of business field, Canon is shifting its main business domain to the IT field, which offers great potential as a growth industry. This represents the first step of our diversification toward Canon-style multimedia focusing on digital imaging.
- In terms of production space, our production system reformation efforts have freed-up 30% of effective production space, amounting to over 300,000 m2, which is equivalent to the floor space of 5 or 6 large factories.
- In the 21st century, we shall see the emergence of a new world in which wireless communications technologies such as Bluetooth are expected to progress alongside the Internet and digital technologies.
- We shall continue to expand our world-leading optical technologies to fully deliver the attractiveness of digital photography.
- We intend to create and provide a wide range of new services, such as e-maintenance, e-storage rooms, and other office document management services.
- Looking toward the coming era of higher-performance computing, we aim to become the pioneer in next generation 12-inch wafers as the first to achieve a line width of 0.1 micron,

- to establish our strong leadership in the market.
- Canon has already become number one, or close to it, in numerous product areas, including cameras, copying machines, laser-beam printers, and TV lenses.
- Under the new style of diversification, named 'Global diversification', Canon Group companies with sufficient size and functions will be able to commence independent development and manufacturing of products based on their own unique technologies.
- To keep up with the astonishing pace of change in today's business environment, we have already entered into alliances with excellent companies in the fields of display devices and network business development.
- In 1997, I had the great honor of being selected as the first recipient of the George August Zimm medal.
- Last year I was also made 'officer de la Legion D'honneur' in recognition of Canon's contributions to industrial and economic development in France.
- In addition to developing industry-leading products, we aim to work on a local level to realize a resource-circulating society with minimal impact on the environment.

Imaging and Networks

Information technologies are developing rapidly with many media that sustain human communication. Elements such as sound, images and motion pictures are becoming effectively linked, evolving into new contents. Images, in particular, facilitate clear and concise communications in the workplace, and bring fun, realistic

and eye-catching scenes and contents to homes and communities. Based on the themes of "working and living", Canon is applying its core competence in imaging and its strong brand awareness, adding network technologies, and offering a comprehensive lineup of products and services for the Internet age. First of all, Canon will change the

equipment and systems it provides, making cameras, video camcorders, scanners, copying machines, printers and other input/output equipment connectable via network. In addition to the PC/solution-centered environments that have been our focus thus far, we will also pay attention to providing non-PC/network products, opening up a world in which any user, in any location, can have easy access to imaging.

The way we are

IMAGES ARE AT THE CORE OF OUR BUSINESS

One of the catalysts for the changes we have seen in communication in our times has been the rise of visual and document imaging technologies. And, over the years, one of the companies responsible for delivering these technologies has been Canon. Canon has made it easier to capture and share images using cameras, copiers, camcorders, scanners, printers, and fax machines, all with superb capabilities and streamlined, ergonomic designs.

A TRADITION OF POWERFUL PRODUCTS

In the beginning there was optical excellence - a brilliant camera at a price the man in the street could afford. A Canon camera in every home, that was the aim. To secure sufficient economies of scale to fulfill this ambition, it was necessary to expand. Canon's production and marketing went global.

THE VALUE OF DIVERSITY

Innovation, entrepreneurial behavior, and diversity in cultures, interests and abilities are at the heart of Canon in Europe. These are the things that keep our company fit, alert and flexible.

THE PERFECT LOOP

With sixty years of optical and image-making experience, Canon is expert at combining technologies. When we diversified into business machines at the end of the 60s, this was the start of a series of dynamic developments that are set to make us one of the key suppliers to the digital office of the future.



The way we are going

A COMMUNICATIONS REVOLUTION

The constraints of time, place and format are vanishing. We have different schedules. We move around more. We handle all kinds of information - printed, spoken, digitized, illustrated, photographed and filmed.

MULTIMEDIA SOLUTIONS

Our minds work naturally in multimedia mode. We experience pictures, music, patterns, and even distant childhood memories at a smooth continuum. There are no format restrictions in our brains, so we are frustrated when we meet them in our attempts to communicate with others.

IMAGING ACROSS NETWORKS

Values are increasingly being created by intangible assets such as knowledge, creativity and innovation. Our future strategy is to expand beyond state-of-the-art products and technologies into areas such as pre-sales consulting, optimizing and managing total workflow, consulting, and IT services via the Internet.

KEEPING A HUMAN FOCUS

As digitalization makes it easier to exchange information across great distances, it is not surprising that the world seems to be getting smaller and more intimate. The size of components is shrinking, too, making it possible to add more processing power to individual pieces of equipment and more functionality to networks.

Canon - Yemen

Canon is a US \$25 billion company and recognized as a world leader in the new technology across a broad range of products, from business machines - including imaging systems and computer input/output devices- to cameras and optical products. With its European headquarters in the Amstelveen, The Netherlands, Canon posted sales of 6.1 billion Euros in Europe, Africa and the Middle East in 1999.

Canon's Sole Distributor in Yemen since 1958 is "Messrs. ABDULWAHED MOHAMMED NOMAN & SONS ESTABLISHMENT" well known commercially as THE POPULAR STORES. The Company's Director General Mr. Khaled AbdulWahed Noman, had attended the exhibition to implement and provide the Yemen market the latest technologies, products and services, that Canon demonstrated in the Exhibition.

He invited a few guests from Yemen to witness the advance technologies displayed in the exhibition.

The group included Mr. Ahmed Abdo Kassim from the Yemen Central Bank, Mr. Saleh Bathawab from the Cigarette Industries, Dr. Ahmed Bin Sanker from the National Bank of Yemen, Mr. Mustafa Noman the Sana'a's Branch Manager of "The Popular Stores" and Nadia Al Saqqaf from the Yemen Times. Representatives from Aden University, Ministry of Trade & Supply, Aden Refinery and others could not attend although they were invited to this event.

The Head Office of the Distributor is situated in the Economic & Commercial Capital of Yemen "Aden" at the Canon Trade Center at:

The Crescent Road, in Tawahi, Telephone: 02-202436, 02-201484/85/86 Fax: 02-202007 Mobile: 7929660

E-Mail: CANONADEN@Y.NET.YE

Mr. Abdulwahed Mohammed Noman, in Aden founded the Company in 1958. The business was promoted not only due to the efficiency of the products and the high quality of the devices that Canon provides to the Yemen market through its distributor in Yemen, but also through the good and competitive prices and excellent after sales services



Mr. Khaled A. Wahed (left) and Mr. Ahmed Abdo Kassim, at the exhibition.

and high standard of dealing with his customers, which gave him a splendid reputation all through the country. The company has branches in Sana'a and Taiz and has several dealers in most of the cities of Yemen. Its Sana'a Branch is located in al-Qiada Street, near Sam City Hotel, Tel: 01-270703, and 01-280056 Fax: 01-270735 Mobile: 7914217 E-Mail: CANONSANAA@Y.NET.YE Canon is one of the world most leading companies in the field of Image & Optical industries, and it developed through the sixty years of its age from the manufacturer of Canon Cameras to world leading company in a very wide range of Information Technology, Telecommunication and Optical Products. And now it is not only manufacturing Hardwares, but also it terms of a Digital solution provider Canon combined between Hardwares, softwares and advance technologies to become number one Image solution provider across the networks. All that can happen because Canon invested more than 6% of its turn over for Research & Development annually. "Canon has invested more than 10.5 Billion Dollars in Research & Development during the last three Years only. That is why we have been an intimate partner of Canon for the last 42 years, we hope to expand Canon's business in Yemen in the years to come". Mr. Khaled Noman replied when asked by the Yemen Times why he chose Canon and what next.



KAMARAN TRAVEL & LEISURE

للهدايا الرائجة



Indonesia

THE BIGGEST ARCHIPELAGO IN THE WORLD



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

According to an official information Indonesia is the largest archipelago in the world with the total number of 17,508 islands. The archipelago is on a cross roads between two oceans, the Pacific and the Indian ocean which bridges two continents Asia and Australia. This strategic position has always influenced the cultural, social political and economic life of the country.

Indonesia, the spice islands

The country offers an amazing variety of holiday opportunities. The breathtaking scenery ranges from smoldering volcanoes to vivid, emerald green rice paddies; tense tropical rain forests to open, meadowed farmland; thick mangrove swamps to cool hill country. And of course, Indonesia has some of the most beautiful beaches on the planet, where wide sands lead down to a transparent sea. With so many islands, there is an amazing variety of places to go and things to see. Beautiful Bali has become synonymous with all that is exotic. With its coral lagoons, spectacular temples, immensely friendly people and vibrant cultural life that expresses itself in dance music, painting, carving, puppetry and festivals. Despite its popularity with the rich and famous, Bali continues to be a land of surprises where real adventure and exotic rituals can be experienced.

The options in Bali are endless. You can relax and unwind on the beach, trek through the lush highlands or stop at the villages of Ubud or Mas to buy traditional Balinese art and cravings. For sports enthusiasts there is golf, tennis, windsurfing, snorkeling, river kayaking, white water rafting and mountain biking.

Jakarta

Jakarta is the capital of the Republic of Indonesia, a country composed of more than 17,508 island with a population of over 200 million. Composing more than 300 ethnic groups speaking 200 different languages, the Indonesia population exhibits marked diversity

in its linguistic culture and religious traditions.

Jakarta is the centre of the nation's industrial, political and cultural life. It is home to many of the country's finest research institutes, educational facilities, and cultural organizations. Jakarta is uniquely the seat of both the national as well as regional government. Strategically positioned the city is also the principal gateway to the rest of Indonesia. From the capital city, sophisticated land, air and sea transport is available to the rest of the country and beyond.



of the world's leading capital cities.

No doubt that Jakarta is one of the Indonesia's designated tourist areas. It is a gateway of other tourist destinations in Indonesia and is equipped with all the means of modern transportation by air, sea, rail or by land. It has the largest and the most modern airport in the country and the most important harbor in Indonesia. It is indeed well connected by rail of good roads to other destinations in Java, Sumatra and Bali.

The history of Jakarta began in the 14th century as a small harbor town. It is also the place where colonialism began and the entire of the spice trade took place in by-gone days. Spice trade are still there. The harbor still functions and fishing boats anchor at Sunta Klpa harbor to bring the daily catch from the sea, to be auctioned at the nearby fish market at four o'clock in the early morning.

In addition to many places following are the few places of interest in Jakarta:

Maritime Museum

It is situated at the Sunda Kelapa Harbor area and is housed in two former Dutch East Indian company warehouses. The museum exhibits Indonesia seafaring tradition. Here you will find displayed models of sea going vessels from all part of the archipelago. Nearby stand the old harbor master's tower.

Jakarta History Museum

This museum is situated at Fatahillah square, a restored part of old Batavia. It is former Batavia Town hall built 1627 and given addition between 1705 and, Prince Diponegoro who fought the Dutch in the Java War (1825 -1830) was held here after his capture and before he was punished to mando. The museum presents old Batavia's history through old maps, portraits of governors general, antiques, porcelain etc.

Fine Arts & Ceramic Museum

A former supreme court building, located on the east of Fatahillah square, houses a gallery and a museum displaying a representative collection of paintings and sculptures of the most important Indonesian's contemporary artists. Of special interest is the ceramic Museum in the south wing of the building with its collection of chinese and south east Asian ceramics.

National Museum

This is one of the finest museums in south east Asia. It was established in 1778 by JMC Rademakei under the auspices of the Batavia Association of Arts and Science. Its ethnographic, historical, pre-historical and archaeological sections are of Chinese and south-east Asian ceramics is among the most complete in this region and its Hindu Javanese art collections are

worth seeing. The treasure room with its priceless collection of exhibits is open only on Sunday morning.

Istiqlal Mosque

This stately national mosque, southeast Asia's largest mosque is situated on the northeast corner of Merdeka square. About 90% of the Indonesian people are muslims. Amplified chanting from the Istiqlal minaret, echoed by the hundred other smaller mosques



throughout the city calling Jakarta's Muslims to offer their prayer five times in a day.

Java Ancol Dreamland

This recreation area is the biggest of its kind in south east Asia. This dreamland is equipped with a resort hotel, a cottage style accommodation complex, an art market with gallery, a drive-in theater, night club, steam bath and massage parlors, a bowling alley,

a Mega Size swimming pool, a marina park and facilities for research into marine life.

Jakarta, over the last several decades has developed marvelously into one of Asian's most prominent metropolitan centers and it has become a truly 'meeting place' of representatives from throughout the archipelago. Jakarta has undergone dramatic growth.

Shopping

Jakarta offers from modern shopping centers to traditional open-air markets for bargain hunters, jakarta has them all. The city is offering a vast array of products, top fashion and quality consumer goods at reasonable price, have earned jakarta the reputation of a shopper's paradise in the region. Jakarta has everything from

international haute couture to traditional Batik, from electronics to local handicraft, all at competitive prices. Modern giant shopping malls such as Pasaraya and Toman Angrek Mall are located throughout the city offering one-stop shopping with a wide range of local and imported products. Specialist areas have also emerged over the years for particular products. We give you some tips. If you want to buy electronics and computers, visit

TIPS TO TRAVELLERS

Country: Indonesia
Location: Asia
Capital: Jakarta
Language: Bahasa Indonesia
Currency: Rupiah

Business & social hints:
Appointments should be made in advance. Punctuality is appreciated.

Climate: There are many local differences in climate within Indonesia mainly due to the island exposure to two main seasonal wind systems. The east monsoon from June to September brings dry weather while the west monsoon from December to March brings rain. Temperatures are high throughout the year with little change from month to month. Heaviest rainfalls are recorded in December to march. Humidity is between 60% and 95% and can often be oppressive.

Visa: Yemeni nationals do require entry visa which can be obtained from Indonesian Embassy in Sanaa. Tel: 414633, 418003



Mangga Dua in west Jakarta, for textiles go to colorful, traditional Pasar Tanah Abang and if you want to buy antiques try the hundreds of shops lining Jalan suprabaya of jalan Ciputat Raya in the south. For haute couture visit Plaza Indonesia and Plaza Smaan and for precious stones try the dazzling gem market at Jatmegara.

No doubt Indonesia is very popular among Yemeni nationals as approximately there are more than 7,000 Yemeni residing. From the tourism point of view it is indeed world best kept open secret.



Over the last several decades, Jakarta has proudly developed into one of Asia's most prominent metropolitan centers. With a current population of nearly nine million Jakarta has undergone drastic growth. Today Jakarta's skyline is covered with modern high-rises. The many state-of-the-art shopping plazas, recreating complexes and toll-roads have become hallmark of the city. The quality of life and the general welfare of its inhabitants have improved considerably with the city's fast pace of development. Jakarta's cultural richness and dynamic growth contribute significantly to its growing importance as one

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فرع التحرير جوار جسر الصداقة ٢٧٨٤٩٢



Press Scanner

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr

The Islamic summit in Doha, developments of the Palestinian intifada and the Zionist entity's repressive act against the Palestinian defenseless people, the constitutional amendments and progress of investigations in USS Cole incidence in addition to some other domestic affairs are the main topics capturing the Yemeni press headlines of this week.

A review of the main headlines published on front pages of this week's newspapers.

- President Saleh leads High-level Delegation To Doha Islamic Summit
- President Saleh Discusses Cooperation With UNCTAD
- Defense Ministry Source Denys Flights of US Jets Over Yemeni Territories
- More than 191 Containers Arrived in Aden During January-October
- Vice-President Inspects Progress of Fighting RVF
- President Ali Abdullah Saleh Asks Parliament Withdraw Amendment Proposal on Extending Presidency Term, Parliament Refuses
- Massive Demonstrations Coinciding with Islamic Summit
- Prince Sultan: Yemeni-Saudi Coordination Council Meetings Embody Historical Bases of Two Countries Relations
- 9TH Islamic Summit Begins in Doha Sunday
- Somali Government Forms Army
- Reports on Decomposed US Wheat in Yemeni Markets
- Washington Grants Yemen US\$ 4 Million to Help Pursue Cole Explosion Investigations
- Japan Supports Supplying 7 Hospitals in Yemen
- New Arrests in Dhale
- Journalists Stage Sit-in Against Government
- Sheikh Al-Ahmar: No Agreement with PGC On Constitutional Amendments

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

6 September weekly, organ of YAF November 9, 2000

The weekly's editorial is devoted to discussing the current Islamic summit held in Doha, Qatar. The editorial says leaders of the Islamic nations have to adopt a courageous decision in the

light of the hostile practices by the Zionist entity and its refusal of the peace process. They should decide to stop all forms of normalization or establish any forms of relation and dealing with the Zionist entity. They have to decide the expulsion of Israeli ambassadors and closure of Israeli trade offices from Islamic capitals. There are many tasks facing the Islamic summit that it must face with full sense of responsibility by coming out with decisive resolutions exceeding statements of denunciation and condemnation. Proceeding from the historic tasks before the summit, the challenge is to come out with consolidation of Islamic solidarity and cooperation and coordination between Islamic states in political, economic, cultural, scientific and social fields. Yemen shoulders the pan-Arab and Islamic responsibility and will play a distinguished role during the summit and cooperates with Islamic countries to adopt decisive and courageous resolutions in compatible with the goals the Organization of Islamic Conference has set up for itself.



Al Wahdawi weekly, organ of NPU Organization, November 7, 2000

On the proposed constitutional amendments, the weekly editorial says despite our realization of the existence of many cases violating or freezing some articles of the constitution, but that does not justify effecting amendments whenever a person or a group desires it. The editorial expresses the hope that proposals of amendments are to be withdrawn in expression of support of democracy and in respect of the people who quite understand that the actual aim behind amendments is not related to the people and their life. Even if this concept is wrong, the editorial maintains, backing off from amendments proposal would be a proof that they are not aimed at achieving a subjective interest.



As-Sahwa weekly, November 9, 2000

In an article on the Islamic conference the weekly says that in our battle with the Zionist enemy there are many and various effective weapons we are in possession. As Arabs and Moslems we have many weapons with which to face our enemies but we have discarded them at a time the military confrontation is no longer the only way of war. Political solidarity, economic coopera-

tion and media coordination are few examples of effective weapons we scarcely use. The Arab and Islamic huge funds deposited in Europe and America can be a pressuring weapon if we merely wave of transferring part of them to countries that are less hostile. Arms deals we strike could be a means of pressure for which we can demand stands in favor of our interests. Trade exchange can also be a lethal and effective weapon the Arabs and Moslems can benefit from using it. Even the US elections could be used as a means for re-drawing the American politics versus the issues of Arabs and Moslems. The Jews blackmail the American people and make them guardian for their interests and obedient servant of their arrogance. We have till now not used our very many peaceful weapons.



An-Nass weekly, Nov. 6, 2000

In an article the weekly strongly criticized the decision taken by the US congress on October 28 concerning the events and massacres in occupied Palestine, describing it as unprecedented. 390 congressmen have held the Palestinians the full responsibility for the massacres they have been exposed to at the hands of the Israeli soldiers. Many observers have criticized the resolution and described it as biased and iniquitous and was aimed at appeasing the Jewish lobby. The article affirms that the US congressmen held the Palestinians responsible because they have stayed in their country for if they had left it they would not have faced such a destiny. The second thing is that in consequence the Palestinians have themselves killed themselves and demolished their houses and farms. The article concludes that the congress was in fact not biased to Israel because basically it is inside the "Israeli circle".



Al-Jamaheer weekly of the ABS Party (Syrian Faction), November 8, 2000

In a political analysis on the Palestinian intifada the weekly says the intifada has come ahead of the extraordinary Arab summit but the latter could not catch up with the intifada and its resolutions came less than the minimum extent required. The intifada has emerged as a deep-rooted popular reaction that does not possess a weapon but depends on high courage

and accurate understanding of the occupation mentality and way of thinking. It is not an official act governed by orders from above but a people's movement expressing a people whose rights are usurped but their will is not. And that is the secret behind the intifada's strength and continuation.

The great support from the American administration for Barak's government while it goes further and further in its crimes against the Palestinians arouses the world surprise. It puts America at the same footing with the Zionist entity and considers it as a partner in the responsibility for aggravation of the situation in the Middle East. Because of the Zionist provocation and atrocities he region is being

on a barrel of powder ready to explode in all directions.



ATTARIQ weekly, Nov. 7, 2000

In one of its articles the weekly has discussed the relationship between the unofficial press and the government. The article says that the careless and negative way the government deals with most of the issues and concerns the press tackles and discusses, could no doubt be a sort of subtlety, if not a kind of evading from facing the facts. In its opinion the government sees that paying attention to and being interac-

tive with press role in exposing concerns and suffering of the majority of the people would force it to have encounters it does not want. So it pretends to be uninterested in discussions published by non-governmental press so that not to lose some of its sobriety and sagacity. The government is quite certain that it could not conceal the apparent facts. But with such stance it is uncovering itself before all. For when the press discloses the corruption in a number of government institutions and points at the corrupt, the government would react angrily. This proves how it cares about the role played by the press in raising the social awareness and in reflecting the reality as it actually appears.

REPUBLIC OF YEMEN MINISTRY OF EDUCATION PUBLIC ORGANIZATION FOR FURNITURE SCHOOL ACCESSORIES ADEN

The Public Organization for Furniture and School Accessories, Aden, announces extending period of receiving bids for importing some equipment and devices until Wednesday 12.00 at noon, December 20 /2000.

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الموافق 20. ديسمبر 2000م.

Letters to the Editor

Conspiracy against Islam: Muslims being cheated

ASSALAMUALAIKUM. I do not know whether this would be read by any Member of Parliament. I hope it is. I would like to draw your attention to an article that appeared in Jan 1999 in The Atlantic Monthly published from USA titled "What is the Koran" The article refers to the manuscripts of the Koran discovered in 1972 during the restoration of The Great Mosque in 1972. These manuscripts are now with The House of Manuscripts, Yemen. It is surprising that only two scholars till date (both non-Muslims and both Germans) have been allowed to look at these manuscripts. They have already taken 35,000 microfilms which they have taken to Germany. The whole aim is to prove that the Koran has not been retained in its original form. They have already published articles to this effect in several journals. I quote from the article:

(To date just two scholars have been granted extensive access to the Yemeni fragments: Puin and his colleague H.-C. Graf von Bothmer, an Islamic-art historian also based at Saarland University. Puin and Von Bothmer have published only a few tantalizingly brief articles in scholarly publications on what they have discovered in the Yemeni fragments. They have been reluctant to publish partly because

until recently they were more concerned with sorting and classifying the fragments than with systematically examining them, and partly because they felt that the Yemeni authorities, if they realized the possible implications of the discovery, might refuse them further access. Von Bothmer, however, in 1997 finished taking more than 35,000 microfilm pictures of the fragments, and has recently brought the pictures back to Germany. This means that soon Von Bothmer, Puin, and other scholars will finally have a chance to scrutinize the texts and to publish their findings freely — a prospect that thrills Puin. "So many Muslims have this belief that everything between the two covers of the Koran is just God's unaltered word," he says. "They like to quote the textual work that shows that the Bible has a history and did not fall straight out of the sky, but until now the Koran has been out of this discussion. The only way to break through this wall is to prove that the Koran has a history too. The Sana'a fragments will help us to do this.")

Please ensure that these scholars are not given further access to the documents. Also please rebury them or if they are not exact reproductions, please burn them.

Allah help us against our enemies

Abul Kasim
fbap0241@nus.edu.sg

Islamic Leaders to Urge Muslim Countries to Sever Ties with Israel

DOHA—Islamic leaders will call on all Muslim countries to boycott Israel and sever relations with the Jewish state, according to a draft declaration adopted on Friday by foreign ministers of Islamic states. The foreign ministers approved the draft during a two-day meeting and will submit it to the three-day summit of the Organization of the Islamic Organization (OIC), due to open on Sunday, to center on showing solidarity with the Palestinian uprising against Israeli suppression. A copy of the draft declaration was obtained by Xinhua. The draft urged Muslim countries which have relations with Israel and those considering such moves to sever ties, including economic relations, closing liaison offices, and suspending any form of normalization with the Jewish state until it fully complies with the relevant U.N. resolutions regarding the Arab-Israeli conflict. Four Arab countries - Morocco, Oman, Qatar and Tunisia - which had

low-level relations with Israel, have decided to break off their trade ties with the Jewish state. The draft declaration of the Islamic summit condemned the Israeli violation of human rights, particularly the killing of Palestinian civilians in the past six weeks. More than 190 Palestinians have been killed and thousands of others wounded by the Israeli security forces in the worst Palestinian-Israeli clashes since the two sides signed the Oslo accords in 1993. The draft denounced Israel's continued expansion of Jewish settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories, a move which hinders the Middle East peace process. It blasted Israel's failure to honor international resolutions and commitment to the peace process, and demanded a full Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories. The document expressed support for the resolutions adopted by the October

21-22 Cairo Arab summit, particularly the decision to set up two funds worth 1 billion U.S. dollars to safeguard the Arab and Islamic identity of Jerusalem, and aid the Palestinians injured in clashes with the Israeli forces and the families of those killed. OIC member states should speedily offer assistance to the Palestinian people, it stressed, calling for measures to help boost the Palestinian economy, such as exempting tariffs and lifting restriction on Palestinian goods. It called for an impartial investigation commission to inquire into the clashes between the Israeli forces and Palestinian demonstrators protesting against Israeli violation of Islamic holy sites in East Jerusalem. The Islamic leaders will reaffirm support for the Palestinian people's efforts to recover the occupied lands and establish an independent state on their own territories with East Jerusalem as its capital. (Xinhua)

Arafat Demands U.N. Protection Force

UNITED NATIONS—Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat demanded here a United Nations protection force to be deployed in the occupied Palestinian territories, a U.N. diplomat said on Friday. Arafat, who arrived here from Washington, addressed the Security Council for about 40 minutes on the latest situation in the Middle East, the diplomat said. Arafat wanted a U.N. force to be deployed between Israeli forces and Palestinians on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, putting an end to the recent violence between the two sides,

according to the diplomat. But the 15-member Security Council is divided on a U.N. protection force for the Palestinians, with strong opposition from the United States, one of the five permanent members of the Security Council and an ally of Israel, the diplomat said. The United States said there would be no U.N. protection force for Palestinians without the agreement of Israel, the diplomat added. Palestinians asked for a U.N. protection force late last month in a letter to the council which said Israel it has "become very clear that Israel is ...per-

sisting with its campaign of terror against the Palestinian people" in violation of the Fourth Convention on the protection of civilians in time of war. It also said that Israel was acting in blatant disregard of understanding reached at Sharm El-Sheikh Summit held in Egypt. The recent clashes between Israelis and Palestinians were prompted by a visit on September 28 of Israeli opposition leader Ariel Sharon to a Jerusalem holy shrine. At least 176 people, mostly Palestinians, have been killed in the last six weeks. (Xinhua)

Iraq Closes Largest International Fair in Decade

BAGHDAD—The 33rd Baghdad International Fair, the largest since 1990, concluded in the Iraqi capital on Friday. At the closing ceremony, Iraqi Trade Minister Mohammad Mehdi Salah expressed gratitude to the distinguished guests, including 13 ministers from Arab states and other countries, who have attended the fair. Baghdad appreciates the move of solidarity and the stand of the countries calling for the lifting of the decade-old United Nations economic sanctions on Iraq, Salah said, adding that Iraq is keen to strengthen relations, especially trade ties, with other countries.

A total of 1,554 companies, including 12 from China, took part in the fair. The companies represented 45 Asian, European and African countries. The fair, covering an unprecedented floor space of 33,700 squaremeters, witnessed a 60 percent increase from the previous one, when some 960 companies from 36 countries were present. Iraq has been taking advantage of the fair to do business with its fellow Arab states and other countries to alleviate the negative impacts of the crippling sanctions, triggered by its invasion of Kuwait in 1990. Meanwhile, more and more countries

have been attracted to Iraq, trying to grab a slice of its lucrative reconstruction market, estimated at 200 billion U.S. dollars. It was the first time for countries like Armenia, Brazil, Britain, Finland, Hungary and Saudi Arabia to attend the fair. Iraq has said that it is ready to develop trade relations with all international companies and that those from the United States and Britain are no exception. Heavy industry equipment, oil equipment, cars, food and medicine were among the goods on display at the fair. (Xinhua)

Developing Countries Urged to Pace up Construction of Informatization

DHAKA—A Chinese vice minister Saturday called upon the developing countries to enjoy benefits of information revolution to the biggest extent possible through quickened development of information technology (IT) and e-commerce. Addressing a session here on the second day of the first Asia Conference of International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), Sun Zhenyu, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation of China, stressed that "the rapid progress of IT and information industry is the main driving force of social and economic development in today's world." Overall, the development of IT and e-commerce has changed people's traditional idea of time, space and business transaction and has advanced the free movement and optimized allocation of

production factors in the world context, he said, adding it helps to promote international cooperation and exchanges and is conducive to the prosperity and development of the world. The Chinese vice minister pointed out that some developed nations, however, are bringing into play their tremendous economics strength and edge-cutting IT advantages to forcefully develop e-commerce so as to take an advantageous position in the growth of "New Economy". He said that in consequence, the economies of the developed nations have achieved fairly rapid increase for a long period of time under comparably low inflation rate and unemployment rate. The vast number of developing countries, however, has been put into a dis-

advantageous situation in competition due to their backward information technology and they are exposed to bigger risks and challenges, he said, adding that some least developed countries are even confronted with the danger of being marginalized. Sun Zhenyu said that developing countries should base themselves on self-development and try to meet the requirement of informatization gradually through reform of their systems and other conditions. Over 220 participants from 23 countries of Asia and Europe were present at the two-day conference which concluded this evening. Six sessions were held Saturday on information technology, oil and gas, commercial dispute settlement, trade liberalization, Asian recovery and multi-modal transport. (Xinhua)

Arab League Chief Applauds United OIC Stance on Islamic Issues

DOHA—Secretary General of the Arab League (AL) Esmat Abdel-Meguid here Saturday praised the unanimous Islamic position on the Palestinian issue achieved ahead of Sunday's Islamic summit. "The united stance demonstrated at the Doha summit showed the Arab and Islamic determination to punish Israel for its war crimes against the Palestinian people, which can no longer be tolerated," Meguid told a news conference. Over 180 people have been killed in the bloody conflicts between angry Palestinian protestors and heavily-armed Israeli forces, which erupted after Israeli right-wing Likud Party leader Ariel Sharon visited a controversial holy shrine in East Jerusalem

on September 28. The Palestinian issue is to dominate the first day meeting of the leaders of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on Sunday. The AL chief lauded Qatar's generous initiative to cover the expenses of the formation of an international tribunal by the U.N. Human Rights Committee aimed to probe "Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people." Qatari Emir Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa al-Thani has promised to donate 850,000 U.S. dollars to help the U.N. to carry out its work and set up an investigation team. Abdel-Meguid said that this is the first time that Israel faces such a unified standpoint based on international legitimacy in support of the Arab

right. On the Kuwaiti-Iraqi relations, he conceded that to bring the two Arab foes closer is not on the agenda of the summit, yet "we hope that some good news about the success of good offices in serving the interests of both Kuwait and Iraq would be announced before the OIC summit winds up." Iraq has been under decade-old U.N. sanctions that caused enormous sufferings to the Iraqi people. Abdel-Meguid denied there is any misunderstanding between the Cairo-based AL and Iraq, stressing the need that Iraq should resume its role on the Arab and Islamic scene. The Arab League chief is here to attend the OIC meetings. (Xinhua)

Former Somalian Armymen Registered in Mogadishu

MOGADISHU—The new interim government of Somalia Saturday took its first step to register the former national army in the country in accordance with a call made by Defense Minister Abdullahi Muse Boqor six days ago. Over 11,000 men of all ages and of all ranks from the former national army gathered at the main soccer stadium in Mogadishu Saturday morning. Those who need to register should get their ID cards and anything testifying their roll numbers and ranks. The defense minister, together with generals and many other senior officials from the new administration, were present on the occasion. Hundreds of people from all walks of life in the capital poured into the stadium to witness the colorful event in the fierce sunshine. Delivering a speech, Abdullahi Muse

Boqor said that "today is a historic day for the rebirth of Somalia's national army after 10 years of destruction." He told the former army: "You are now making the difference" and "your reintegration is the restoration of Somalia's nationhood." "The government felt of your importance, you could make us a government," he added. Referring to the reconciliation, the defense minister said 13 attempts have been made to reconcile the Somalis and few warmongers and power-greedy figures have made it impossible. He mentioned that some faction leaders in Somalia want to divide the country into several powerless emirates, saying: "We are not provoking anybody, we know what is war, it is just destruction, the army is the backbone of the government, and our moral is high now." (Xinhua)

U.S. Opposes U.N. Protection Force for Palestinians

UNITED NATIONS—The United States said here Friday that it opposes the proposal for a U.N. protection force to be deployed in the occupied Palestinian territories. Speaking to the press after the United Nations Security Council was briefed Friday morning by Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and Israel's ambassador to the U.N. Yehuda Lancry on the latest situation in the Middle East, U.S. ambassador to the U.N. Richard Holbrooke said the United States cannot support something which is unilaterally proposed without discussion with the other side. The proposal for a U.N. protection force for the Palestinians was distributed to the Security Council by the Non aligned Movement and the people who made the proposal have never made it directly to the other party

mostly affected, Holbrooke said. Israelis have to be fully involved in something which involves their own future and the United States supports their right to be fully involved, the ambassador said. The United States wants the peace process in the Middle East to move forward and the Sharm El-Sheikh process should be accelerated, he added. Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat made a direct appeal for a U.N. protection force Friday morning at the council meeting, a move opposed by the United States and Israel. The United States, one of the five permanent members of the Security Council and a strong ally of Israel, has repeated that there would be no U.N. protection force for Palestinians without the agreement of Israel. (Xinhua)

Protocol for Pan African Parliament Adopted

PRETORIA—Some 200 lawmakers from 41 African countries on Friday adopted a draft treaty to establish a consultative Pan African Parliament (PAP) under a union of African states. The treaty will be submitted to the ministerial council of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) for approval, and then to the OAU summit to be held in Lusaka next July, according to OAU assistant secretary general Djinnit Said. Said told a press conference here that the treaty will come into effect following ratification by a simple majority of OAU member states, saying "I have no doubt it will create some dynamics and

maybe we could have the PAP moving to a legislative body or even crossing that line before five years." According to Said, each participating country will elect or nominate five of its own members of parliament to sit in the new body. The protocol to establish the African Union, which was first put forward by Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi, has been signed by 31 of the 53 OAU member states but ratified only by four, namely Mali, Libya, Senegal and Togo. The 200 parliamentarians have been meeting here since Tuesday, discussing the establishment of the Pan African Parliament. (Xinhua)

Turkey-Israel-U.S.

Naval Exercises Postponed

ANKARA—Joint Turkish-Israeli-U.S. naval maneuvers, originally planned to take place in December, have been postponed indefinitely, Turkey's Anatolia News Agency reported on Friday. The military exercises, code-named Reliant Mermaid, were conducted twice in the recent years with the aim of coordinating search and rescue operations in the Eastern Mediterranean. The decision to postpone the third exercises came amid mounting tensions between the Palestinians and Israelis as a result of the six-week bloody clashes, that have claimed the lives of more than 190 Palestinians. Israeli diplomatic sources in Ankara have confirmed that the military exercises have been postponed indefinitely because of what they called "technical

reasons," the news agency said. However, it is believed that the decision has been taken largely due to political consideration. Turkey, which has voiced concern over the escalation of tensions in the Middle East, would rather not leave an impression of Turko-Israeli collusion by going ahead with the exercises. To distance itself from Israel, Ankara has recently cancelled a previously-arranged visit to Turkey by Israeli Chief of General Staff Shaul Mofaz. The postponement was also made public one day before Turkish President Ahmet Necdet Sezer's departure for the summit of the 56-nation Organization of the Islamic Conference, which will open in the Qatari capital of Doha on Sunday and largely center on the situation in the Palestinian territories. (Xinhua)

Russian FM to Visit Egypt on Regional Tour

CAIRO—Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov will arrive here on Tuesday for a two-day visit to Egypt on the first stop of his eight-leg Middle East tour, a senior Egyptian official said on Saturday. Ivanov will hold talks with his Egyptian counterpart Amr Moussa on the latest developments in the Middle East, said Mahdi Fatahalla, Egypt's assistant foreign minister for European affairs, quoted by the official Middle East News Agency. The visit comes amid continuing Palestinian-Israeli bloody clashes, which have killed over 180 people, most of them Palestinians, in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in the past six weeks. Fatahalla said that the talks

between the two foreign ministers will be held "within the framework of efforts exerted by Egypt to stop the deteriorating situation in the Palestinian territories and bring the peace process back to normal." Observers here said that Russia is trying to play a more active role in the Middle East peace process by intensifying diplomatic contacts in the regional countries. It was reported that Russia is preparing for adopting a new vision, which takes into consideration the need for new political foundations and mechanisms, to push forward the stalled peace process. Ivanov will also visit Israel, the Palestinian territories, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Jordan and Kuwait. (Xinhua)

Over 3,600 Illegal Immigrants Arrested in Greece

ATHENS—The Greek Coast Guard have arrested more than 3,600 illegal immigrants since early this year. Nearly 140 immigrant traffickers were also arrested and 40 ships were confiscated, according to local press reports Friday. Police Friday uncovered a ring of immigrant traffickers, arresting two Greek men and five illegal immigrants from Asia. Earlier in the day, police also arrested 81 illegal immigrants hidden in two trucks. (Xinhua)

Russian Vessel Sinks in Caspian Sea, Crew Rescued

TEHRAN—A Russian cargo vessel sank on Friday near Iran's Caspian Sea port of Anzali, but all of its 14 crewmen were rescued, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported. The Russian vessel, "Elena," which was carrying 3,200 tons of goods and nine containers, sank after a container overturned and cut a hole in the ship's hull, IRNA quoted Hadi Haqshenas, shipping chief of Iran's Gilan province, as saying. "Elena" was manufactured in 1973 and began two months ago to ferry between Russian Caspian Sea ports and Iran's Anzali port, it said. (Xinhua)

Islamic Countries to Take Tough Actions Against Israel: Sources

DOHA—Islamic countries have agreed to take tough actions against Israel in support of the Palestinians, informed sources said on Friday. The Islamic countries took the decision during foreign ministers meetings preparing for the ninth summit of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) due here on November 12-14. The Islamic world, which has 56 countries, would boycott the Jewish state economically and suspend trade ties with it, said the sources close to the meetings.

Qatar, the host of the OIC summit, announced Thursday to shut down the Israeli trade office in Doha. But Egypt and Jordan, the only two Arab countries to sign peace treaties with Israel, have reportedly committed themselves to the accords. The OIC summit coincides with the ongoing clashes between the Palestinians and Israeli security forces, which have killed nearly 190 Palestinians and wounded thousands of others in the past six weeks. (Xinhua)

British PM to Visit Moscow in Late November

MOSCOW—British Prime Minister Tony Blair will pay a working visit to Moscow on November 20-21 at Russian President Vladimir Putin's invitation, Kremlin press secretary Alexei Gromov announced Friday. The two leaders will discuss "relevant international problems and key issues of Russian-British relations," Gromov said. Blair will also meet with Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Kasyanov during his visit. (Xinhua)

Cuban Press Highlights UN Approval of Resolution Against U.S. Blockade

HAVANA—Cuban media are highlighting Thursday the United Nations approval of the Cuban-drafted resolution which urged the United States to lift its 40-year long economic blockade against this Caribbean island nation. Cuban official gazette "Granma" called it an overwhelming victory, with the crushing support of 167 delegates voted in favor of the resolution on Wednesday at the United Nations General Assembly. It said that "Washington again was left almost alone before the international repulsion to its obstinate policy of attacking and embargoing Cuba." The "Rebel Youth" daily also affirmed that "the already failed American policy of blocking Cuba has received another hard blow and a greater discredit than ever, when the overwhelming majority of the world committee condemned this genocide practice". Both papers published the entire speech delivered by Cuba's Foreign Minister Felipe Perez Roque at the General Assembly plenary. The Cuba-initiated resolution passed with 167 votes in favor, the widest margin in nine consecutive years since 1992. Only the United States, Israel and the Marshall Island voted against it. Four countries abstained. (Xinhua)

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German Ud Player, Roman Bunka: "I Bought a Turkish Ud 28 Years Ago As a Souvenir"

Roman Bunka is a German Ud player that was first encountered with Ud in 1972 during a visit to Turkey. Its nice shape lured him to bring one back to Germany just as a souvenir. There it was kept untouched until he got more interested in Arab music after he chanced to listen to a musical masterpiece by Ryadh Al-Sombati, an Egyptian Composer, on the radio in 1978. Then he decided to encounter with Arab music and singers, particularly the most famous Arab singer, Um Kolthoum. "At that time nobody in Europe knew about Ud. There was no education, no schools, no teachers for this instrument. It was also difficult to get it in records. So I had to go to an Arab country to find more about Arab music, in general and about Ud in particular. I had a chance to go to Cairo in 1984 to play jazz with a guest group there. At the same time I was very fascinated by Arab music and I wanted to know more about it. I bought another Ud. I learnt how to tune it and I knew the strings but still I played a lot of guitar and recorded with some famous singers in Egypt who were looking for Western people who understand the oriental music. It happened that I played and recorded with singers like Mohammed Moneer as guitar player. I kept on studying the Ud. It was not easy to find a teacher because some people do it just for money and others if you



have good relations with them. But I found a very good teacher in 1990. He was actually a violinist. He also was one of the Ud school members. With him I found a strong cooperation although he did not speak English we always sat

together to practice every evening. " This is how Mr. Roman Bunka quenched his thirst of Arab music and Ud as narrated by him. Mr. Roman Bunka is currently visiting Yemen at an invitation by the German

Embassy in Yemen to take part in the activities organized by the Ministry of Culture. He said he was more interested in meeting with people familiar with Yemeni culture than visiting tourist places.

Visions of Yemen:

Differing Perspectives of a Uniquely Beautiful Country

Karen Dabrowska

The first exhibition of Yemeni art to tour Britain provides differing perspectives of a uniquely beautiful country. The 16 Yemeni and 11 British artists prove beyond doubt that Yemen continues to live up to its name of Arabia Felix, the happy country. Apart from the abstract red, dark blue and purple figures of Mazher Nizar, subtle light colors are used to convey the serenity of a land steeped in history. Yemen is a society which has left into the 21st century - bedouins communicate using mobile phones - but the artists are drawn to the scenery, landscape and self assured figures in traditional dress, proud of their heritage and culture. The background and experience of the artists is as varied as the scenes they portray: Mazher Nizar was born in India and studied at the Government College of Art & Craft in Calcutta. He set up the Hadda Art Gallery in Sana'a and was a founding member of Yemen's Modern Art Group. The work of Abdo Nagi, a Yemeni ceramist and potter who settled in Britain in 1967 is sought after by private collectors and is also in the public collections of the British Museum and the Caermerthen County Museum in

Wales. Ilham Al Arashi, the head of the Aden Branch of the Union of Yemeni Visual Artists studied at the Surikov Academy in Moscow. Yasin Ghaleb is the Director of the Bab Al Yemen Information Centre and Art Gallery. He refuses to put a label on his work. "I am not going to put myself in a box and then force myself to take the shape of that box". His unique mixed media creations come in many shades of brown. "Sana'a is brown, the Yemeni skin is brown, it is the colour of the land, the mother of human beings and we have to respect it", he insists. Among the British artists featured at the exhibition was Caroline Lees, Martin Yeoman, Anita Hill and Ken Howard. Born in Shropshire, Caroline Lees studied at The Corcoran Gallery School of Art in Washington DC and was selected for master classes in oils at The Slade School of Art, London. There have been several one-man shows and she has exhibited widely in the USA, the Middle East and the UK, including the Royal Academy Summer Exhibitions, the Mall Galleries, RSMA, and The Mathaf Gallery, London. She has also had one book published: "Caroline Lees' Watercolors of Shropshire", and her work has appeared as prints, cards and illustrations and can be found in many collections, including that of the

National Trust. One of the organizers of Visions of Yemen, she was commissioned to paint a watercolor for HRH Prince of Wales' visit to Oman. Martin Yeoman has exhibited at the Royal Academy and won several prestigious awards. His most recent works include illustrations for Tim Mackintosh-Smith's book Yemen: Travels in Dictionary Land. Anita Hill, is a fellow of the Royal Geographical Society with whom she had an exhibition of paintings of Yemen in 1997 and Ken Howard was twice appointed official artist for the Imperial War Museum in Northern Ireland. He went on to paint for the army in Germany, Cyprus, Hong Kong, Brunei, Nepal and Oman. Yemen's only art critic, Amnah Al Nassiri, travelled to London with the exhibition. She is foreign-educated but draws her inspiration from Yemen's rich artistic heritage. She was raised in Rada, a small conservative town near Sana'a and owes her success largely to a very open-minded family. Al Nassiri started painting at the age of six, her mother encouraged her and after completing her secondary education in Egypt she studied philosophy of art at Sana'a University's Faculty of art. She continued her studies at the Surkov Academy in Moscow and is now in the second year of studies for her PhD on the foundation of an Arab theory of art. "I try to look at simple forms from the perspective of the subconscious and I draw my inspiration from the decorative art of Yemen, buildings, doors etc, Al Nassiri explained. Her study of philosophy, especially Sufism, has assisted her work and she was the designer of a poster for the United Nations Women's conference held in China. She also produced an art newspaper, Tashkil. An increasing number of British artists have been visiting

Yemen but the work of contemporary Yemeni artists is little known outside the Arabian peninsula. One of the main aims of the exhibition was to introduce their work to the British public and present it alongside recent paintings of Yemen by British artists. The exhibition was organized by The British-Yemeni Society in conjunction with the Yemen International Cultural Circle (Al-Halaqa) in Sana'a. It was supported by the Yemeni Ambassador, the Al-Tajir World of Islam Trust, the Seven Pillars of Wisdom Trust, Nimir Petroleum Company Ltd, Longulf Trading (UK) Ltd, Thabet International Ltd, Yemenia and Visiting Arts. Al-Halaqa is a non-governmental organization established in 1996 to promote the visual arts in Yemen and bring the country's contemporary art movement to international attention. It was the brain child of Dutch-born Dr Jacques Veerman who has lived in Yemen for 16 years and emerged as a benevolent sponsor of the art movement. Veerman is trying to build a bridge between different cultures and expose Yemeni artists to the work of others. Halaqa serves as a melting pot for different art forms. The London venue of Visions of Yemen was the Kufa Gallery opened by Iraqi architect Mohammed Makiyya as a cultural forum for Middle Eastern events. In Cardiff the exhibition was shown at the Norwegian Church Gallery and in Birmingham at the Bordesley Centre.

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