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## For the first time, a foreign hostage released by force unharmed Security Forces Succeed!

Security forces were able to storm into the hideout of the kidnapers of the German engineer Karl Lienert and obtain his freedom on Saturday at 12:30 December 8.

The rescue came after the forces surrounded the hideout in Wadi Dhana (Dhana Valley), located 70 km south of Mareb, and arrested one of the kidnapers named Ahmed Nasser Al-Zaidi. However, his three other associ-

ates Hassan Ahmed Al-Zaidi, Mohammed Nasser Al-Zaidi, and Saleh Naji Tu'aيمان were able to escape.

Violent confrontations occurred on the evening of last Friday between security forces and the kidnapers, who by that time were negotiating the possibility of releasing the kidnapped with Assistant Security Commander of the area Abdullah Mohammed Al-Zaidi. After the

forces attacked the kidnapers hideout during negotiations, the tribal figures negotiating the hostage's release protested with their withdrawal. The kidnapers tried to escape from their earlier hideout at Al-Mahjizahto region to another hideout at Wadi Dhana, but the forces were able to track them down and put them under siege.

Continued on page 2

## Yemenis Stage Anti-Israeli Demonstrations

Thousands of Yemenis staged demonstrations following Friday prayers in protest of the fresh Zionist aggressions on the Palestinian people. During the demonstrations, people shouted anti-Israeli slogans and called on all Arabs to stand by the Palestinians in their war against the Israeli occupying forces. The demonstrators also submitted a petition to the United Nations office in Sana'a, denouncing the war atrocities perpetrated by the war criminal Ariel Sharon. The petition further called on the U.N. to intervene to put an end to Israeli terrorism and warned against the lenien-



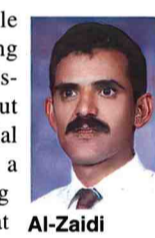
cy and silence over the atrocities carried out by the Zionist state.

## Yemen Times Exposes Violations at Prisons

The Political Security Police (PSP) have just released Hassan al-Zaidi, a journalist for the *Yemen Times*, after being taken Monday of last week from his house. This is indeed the fourth time al-Zaidi has been detained by the PSP. During his detention, al-Zaidi came across some extrajudicial practices rampant at the security departments, which he summarizes as follows:

Detainees at the Political Security Police and the Criminal Investigation Police (CIP) in Sana'a live a miserable life inside the detention rooms of these two organizations. Many

of these people had served long terms of imprisonment without even having a trial or an access to a lawyer. During my detention at the Political Security Police headquarters in the Hadda district, I saw many detainees who had spent months without trial. They are held incommunicado for months and simply do not know what will be their destiny. Indeed, all the detainees there are hopeful that the President of the Republic will intervene to end their suf-



Al-Zaidi

fering, particularly during the current month of Ramadan. Similarly, the detainees at the Criminal Investigation's prisons in Sana'a live in very bad conditions, as the people in charge of prisons do not even provide them with food, as in the case of the PSP, which allocates a daily ration of four pieces of bread, some tea and rice for each detainee. Further, I found during my detention on December 12, 2001, 40 detainees held in a very small room who have not even been referred to justice. Similarly, I met five detainees who had not undergone any trial or given amnesty, because they had been imprisoned by an influential sheikh and thus only this sheikh can give orders to release them.

Continued on page 14

## U.S. Concerned about Security in Yemen

The U.S. Ambassador to Yemen, Edmund Hull, said that President Saleh's visit to Washington succeeded in strengthening cooperation between Yemen and the United States to fight terrorism. He said in an interview with the 26 September newspaper, the cooperation will focus on different political, economic, military and intelligence fields, adding that the U.S. is looking forward to solidifying the results of this partnership. He pointed out that the U.S. has not requested any

military facilities from Yemen, and that the two countries didn't sign the memorandum of understanding because they were focusing on the political steps of their cooperation.

The Ambassador stressed that the United States can play a role in different aspects, particularly in cracking down terrorism. He highlighted the importance of security for economic growth, investment and international aid to prosper. He added that security will serve economic development, particularly in remote areas, to which the U.S. government is giving full attention. He also stressed the need for law and order, as well as expressing the U.S. administration's eagerness to boost U.S. companies' investment in Yemen; however, these companies are concerned about the security situation here.

He also praised Saleh's policy in fighting terrorism.

## 2 Killed and 3 Injured in a Booby-trapped Car Incident in Sana'a

Two persons were killed and three others injured in a bomb car accident in al-Hassaba area to the north of the capital on Saturday night. The accident occurred in a Toyota car while it was passing near the Veterinary School in al-Hassaba district at six o'clock Sana'a local time, according to an eyewitness. The eyewitness added that the explosion resulted in the death of two and injury of three others who were in the car. The explosion was so powerful to be heard in nearby areas, as police forces rushed to the area for investigation.

A source at the Criminal Investigation Police said that the bomb might have been previously planted in the car with the view of bombing a certain target; however, it blew up the car and the people inside. The source further added that facts related to the incident are still unclear and that investigations currently conducted may unveil other facts.

Yemen has witnessed a series of explosions that have targeted several areas nationwide such as Aden, Lahaj, Hadramaut and Sana'a, but no casualties had been reported during these incidents.

## UK Lifts Embargo on Travel to Yemen



The Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the British Government announced last Friday, December 7th, that it has lifted the embargo on travel to the Yemen for both business and tourism purposes, subject only to minor cautions.

The embargo was imposed on British nationals following the Abyan fiasco in 1999. According to Alan D'Arcy of the British Yemen Society, the removal of the travel warning followed "the objection made by the British Embassy in Sana'a to the pointing of the finger of blame towards the Yemen."

However, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) still stresses the need to take precautionary measures for travelers to Yemen. According to the travel advisory of the FCO, "The present situation makes it inadvisable for those unfamiliar with Yemen, and without contacts such as family or friends in the country, to pay first-time visits. British citizens considering travel to Yemen should be aware that there have been violent incidents involving foreigners in the past, including kidnappings."

This positive development also comes after intensifying efforts by Yemen to promote its image abroad and to work hard on eliminating the sources of concern for tourists and businessmen visiting the country.

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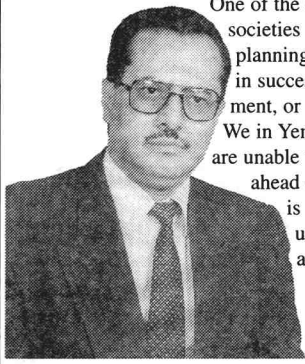
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**Words of Wisdom**



One of the major problems of underdeveloped societies is their inability to look ahead. Good planning is probably the most crucial factor in success - whether in business, in government, or even in life itself. We in Yemen suffer enormously because we are unable to look ahead. The ability to look ahead comes with training and education; it is not an inherent part of the individual. It is something people can acquire.

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

**Our Opinion**

**Facing the Same Fate of the Taliban**

Terrorism, according to the Webster Dictionary is "1) the use of violence and threats to intimidate or coerce, esp. for political purposes. 2) government or resistance to government by means of terror." However, the meaning, as can be seen, is vague and ambiguous. The reality is that there is no definition of terrorism that could satisfy all nations of the world. Israel and the USA for example see Hamas and Islamic Jihad as two terrorist organizations, while Arabs and Muslims see them as pioneering freedom movements to liberate occupied land. It is undeniable that self-defense is a human right that should not be confused with terrorism. At the same time, violent assault can logically be understood as terrorism. Let us take the case from the Muslim and Arab perspective: Arabs see Israel as an occupying power that has taken over the land of others. Hence, there is justification for any violent action against the occupier, including suicide attacks. But from the Western perspective, Israel won a battle and a war against the Arabs, and hence, deserve the land it is currently holding onto. This is somewhat similar to the British occupation of the lands of the Native Americans on the continent of North America. Native Americans see this occupation as unjust, especially since Native Americans were slaughtered during that time. Don't those Native Americans have the right to believe that this occupation is a terrorist act? The same applies for the Pakistani-Indian dispute over Kashmir. Each country understands terrorism its way. Pakistan believes that those fighters are fighting for freedom, while India thinks they are no more than rebellion terrorists. Today, the Arabs who supported the war against terrorism are shocked to find out that the war they supported is possibly also against the groups that are defending Arab land. The dilemma is evident everywhere in the Arab world. After the closure of a number of accounts in Islamic banks in the Middle East, other Islamic banks and institutions are wondering whether they will also be targeted. In short, the war against terror seems to have finished the Taliban and is now seeking another prey. Unless a definite and precise definition of terrorism is established, and unless we exert pressure to reach this definition and approve it internationally, we as Muslims supporting the Palestinian struggle for freedom may face the same fate of the Taliban.

**Chess Championship Prizes to be Distributed Tomorrow**

The late Yahya al-Youni Chess Championship is concluded tomorrow at the Yemeni Club in Sana'a. The championship was kicked off on November 20. More than 24 chess-players are participating in the event. The event has been sponsored by the National Tobacco & Matches Company, chaired by Mr. Tawfiq Saleh Abdullah Saleh. Prizes allocated for this championship will be distributed tomorrow, December 11.



**Yemen to Crack Down on al-Qaida Cells**

The Yemeni police are trying to hunt two or three important tribal sheikhs in Marib accused of having links with Usama bin Laden's al-Qaida network. Sources here said the USA requested the arrest of these sheikhs during President Saleh's visit to the US last month. The President said last Sunday in his meeting with Supreme Defense Council members that he had agreed with President Bush to trace and arrest those people. Sources said the sheikhs, believed to run a cell of al-Qaida in Marib, were to be interrogated by Yemeni police and that the US FBI investigators could present their inquiries to them through Yemeni policemen. But reliable sources told the YT that the gov-

ernment feels embarrassed for finding it difficult to arrest the tribal sheikhs who enjoy strong influence on their fellow men. The sources added that there was much attention on Marib, which was believed to be a hideout for Islamic Jihad members; most of whom have fought in Afghanistan. These people are supporters of Usama bin Laden and al-Qaida. The Yemeni police are expected to start an arrest campaign against suspects in tribal areas, mainly Marib and al-Jawaf, in the near future. The campaign is meant to cleanse these areas of Islamic extremists. A number of Arab Afghans have been arrested in Yemen since the 11 September attacks on the World Trade Center.

**HRITC & ASF Celebrate 10th Anniversary of Human Rights Declaration**

The Human Rights Information Training Center (HRITC) and the Arab Sister Forum (ASF), in cooperation with the National Committee for Human Rights, are celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Human Rights Declaration tomorrow in Sana'a. The United Nations High Commission for Refugees, (UNHCR), the International Office of the Red Cross (IIRC) and the state Minister of Human Rights, are also taking part in the event. Films about armed conflicts among women in Somalia will be screened during the celebration.

**(SPAHC) Condemns Kidnapping Incidents**

The Social Peace and Arbitration House Committee (SPAHC) strongly condemned in a press release acts of kidnappings, considering them to be against Yemeni customs and a distortion of the reputation of the Yemeni people. The press release issued by the House Committee described these unfavorable acts as also being against the Islamic religion and as exotic to our country. It called upon all the social sects to fight kidnapping incidents. This came after a group of five tribesmen abducted Karl Lienert in Baghdad Street.

Continued from Page 1

**Security Forces Succeed!**

Security forces initially launched an offensive with various weapons against the village of Serwah, thinking that the kidnappers were hiding in the village. Two soldiers were killed during the violence in the region after their vehicle crashed in the mountainous roads of the rural area of Mareb, but there were no casualties due to the military offensive, as families of the village had left before the attack of the forces. This is the first such security rescue operation that resulted in the safe release of a foreign hostage and the capturing of at least one of the kidnappers. A tribal source said that lack of cooperation of the tribesmen of Jahm with the kidnappers facilitated the mission of the forces in surrounding then storming the kidnappers' hideout. The same source denied that the kidnappers were Arab Afghans, as they have no connection to those Islamic groups unlike the previous kidnapping incident of the German Commercial Attaché, who was kidnapped by Arab Afghans belonging to the same tribe a few months ago. There were no clear indications of the true demands of the kidnappers. However, sources close to Jahm tribe said that the kidnappers were demanding 21 million Yemeni riyals for the release of the German hostage. More than 70 members of Al-Zaidi family were arrested following the incident. Among the arrested men who were later released was Hassan Al-Zaidi, a journalist working for Yemen Times. This is seen by observers as a turning point in the way security forces will start handling kidnapping incidents, but do not hide their worry that this method may lead to casualties in the future and may not be as successful. "There will be no tolerance whatsoever of any kidnapping attempts. We have supreme orders to launch aggressive attacks against kidnappers to have them arrested and taken to trial," said one of the security officials dealing with this incident. This signals more determination by the security forces to be extremely fierce and strict when dealing with kidnappings and kidnappers. There was also significant cooperation with security forces of several key tribal figures belonging to the tribe of the kidnappers who were condoned for their actions. "We will cooperate with the security forces in future incidents if they ever happen. But in return, we want them to pay more attention to our region, which lacks the basics of developmental projects," said a prominent sheikh from the Al-Zaidi family.

**Official Apology to Dr. Abdulsalam and Dr. Abdulkareem**

President Ali Abdullah Saleh instructed the Prime Minister, Abdul Kader Bajammal and the Yemeni Ambassador to the UK, Dr. Motahar Al-Sadi to convey his best wishes to Dr. Abdulsalam Nouraddin and Ahmed Abdulkareem Saif who visited Yemen last October at an invitation by the Sana'a University to conduct a scientific study on the Yemeni coasts. The instructions also include expressing the President's apology for the harassment the two professors encountered on the hands of the Political Security Office (PSO) while carrying on their job. Dr. Abdulsalam and Ahmed Abdulkareem Saif work for the Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies at the University of Exeter.

**Sheraton Sanaa Hosts Iftar**

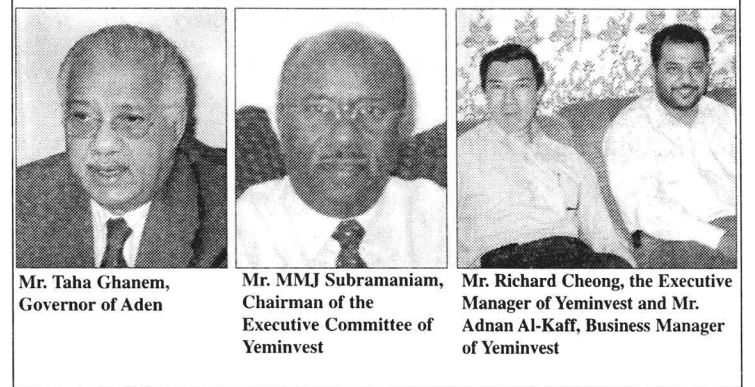
The Sheraton Sana'a Hotel hosted an iftar on Tuesday, December 4, to thank its loyal clients for the last year of business. Among the invitees were dignitaries from the government; ambassadors of various nations; representatives of the United Nations, World Bank and IMF; and directors or representatives of the major international companies that are active in Yemen. The management of the hotel welcomed the invitees at the hotel lobby and escorted them to the Al-Kawkaban Ballroom. After the sign for breaking the fast, all followed to the prayer room. Afterwards there was a lush buffet by Oriental Chef Sarhan Hanna.



(Left) Mr. Mahmoud Al-Akkawi, Egyptian Defense Attache, (Middle) Mr. Rene Shillings, Food and Beverage Manager of Sheraton Sanaa Hotel, and (Right) Mr. Abdulhadi H. Al-Hamdani, Vice Director of the Presidential Office, all enjoying the Iftar hosted by Sheraton Sanaa.

**Governor of Aden Visits YEMINVEST**

The Governor of Aden, Mr. Taha Ahmed Ghanem, paid a visit last week to the Yemen Investment and Development International Ltd. Company (YEMINVEST) to assess the ongoing functions at the Aden Container Terminal and get an overall idea of the so far progress. During his visit, the Governor met with the administration of the company and expressed his satisfaction with the pace of development at the terminal. The delegation accompanying the Governor expressed its appreciation and gratitude to the leadership of the country, and thanked President Ali Abdullah Saleh, for the continued support and facilities he has been providing for the company to continue carrying on its job smoothly, especially after the September 11 incidents. During his visit to the site of the company, the Governor met with the Chairman of the Executive Committee Project Mr. MMJ Subramaniam, Executive Manager Mr. Richard Cheong, Board Member Gerold McDussee, along with YEMINVEST's Business Manager, Mr. Adnan Al-Kaff.



Mr. Taha Ghanem, Governor of Aden, Mr. MMJ Subramaniam, Chairman of the Executive Committee of Yeminvest, Mr. Richard Cheong, the Executive Manager of Yeminvest and Mr. Adnan Al-Kaff, Business Manager of Yeminvest

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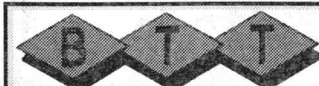


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**'Dark Angel' to YT:**

**"Yemen taught me how to walk and talk with respect and to show the Brits in England that we are people that work hard and believe in what we do."**

**N**ot many people know that there is a rising British star of Yemeni origin currently gaining more fame and popularity as days pass by. He is a Yemeni singer that has attracted widespread attention to his talent of performing magical melodies and lyrics. He is known in the UK by the 'Dark Angel.'

Yemen Times learned about Dark Angel (Alawi Abdullah Abu Bakir) from one of his admirers who sent an email asking, "Do you know that there is a growing star in the UK of Yemeni origin. You must be proud of him!"

Despite being an emerging star in the UK, he is yet a humble and gentle Yemeni, who's proud of being a Yemeni.

To know more about this young talented man, Yemen Times interviewed him in an attempt to reveal his true story to the Yemeni people, who would see him as an example of what a Yemeni could do, alone, in other countries of the world. The goals of the interview are also to show how hard work, motivation, and faith could make an ordinary Yemeni coming from Aden a star in the UK.

**Excerpts:**

**Q: Who is "Dark Angel"? From where and from what family in Yemen is he?**

can't. Someday they will find out, but I have been lucky because the press and TV channels have always made me mysterious because I told them that I'll never sign that paper to come to their show unless they blur my face or darken the lights. That's why you have photos where you can hardly see my face. My country affected me a great deal. I remember much of it when I was there in Aden. They were hard times, but they were times filled with love, culture, color, laughter, music and glorious food. I feel that I am Yemeni, the son of Yemen, and I have with me the history of Solomon and Queen Sheba. I



couldn't concentrate for many years, even comprehensive school and college studies were shambles. I was in too many fights. I wasn't a happy child for many years. I was somewhere far. I had a dream, and I just didn't know where to go or whom to ask. I wanted to sing and not learn anything. I wanted to write songs and music, not math. I wanted it so badly, I would go in the fields of England, on the hills where no one could see or hear me, and every day and night I would sing. Wherever I was, I would sing. I would sing until my mouth was dry, until my lungs hurt. I worked hard for years, secretly, on perfecting my voice. But no, I didn't listen or copy any great singer, and that's why when you hear my songs or voice, it is new, original and all me.

Fame is just an illusion, no more, no less. I didn't do what I did for fame, but fame came my way. I am known in the UK as a singer. I can go on stage with any prominent musical group and they can play anything I would have the

**"My family thinks I just hang about at nights with friends. If only they know the double life I am living! Well, they're going to know now aren't they? Well, it was about time I suppose."**

A: I will say my true name because I don't think it will be known in England. My real name is Alawi Abdullah Abu Bakir. I come from Lahaj in the south of Yemen. I left when I was just a young boy. My father, Abdullah Abu Bakir, is in Yemen at the moment. I doubt that he will know that it's me who is being interviewed. I will explain why later, but I suppose with those photos he's going to know. I know that Alawi is a common name in Yemen.

have with me the greatest religion (Islam), a way of life, and I have the faces of those children who were good friends of mine. Yemen affected me in a way that I had to live with honor, with respect, and not for money or power. I mean Yemen taught me how to walk and talk with respect and to show the Brits in England that we are people that work hard and believe in what we do. If I make one fatal step of arrogance then it wouldn't just affect me alone; it affects the Yemeni people there in Yemen as well. That is what other Yemenis that came to England

**"My ambition is not about being a pop star... I just want to make it so I can go back to Yemen and open a school and fill it with computers."**

**Q: Did you ever imagine that you would reach this level of fame and produce albums?**

A: Yes. I am not trying to be arrogant



**Q: Did your family approve of your decision to become a singer? How did your country's traditions affect you?**

A: My family (Dark Angel smiles and laughs). This is not going to be an easy question but here goes; My family doesn't know I am a singer. No one knows who the Dark Angel is, not even the closest of my friends and family. Only the musicians and producers I work with know. I made that decision a long time ago because I knew they would not understand me and I love them too much to burden them with my dreams. My father and mother had sacrificed too much in coming to England for me to blurt out that I am going to be a singer. My family thinks I am lazy and doing nothing in the UK. My family thinks I just hang out at nights with friends. If only they know the double life I am living! Well, they're going to know now aren't they? Well, it was about time I suppose.

must adhere to and understand! It went far as to how I treat non-Muslims, who saw nobility not in me only but in the whole of Yemen. It went on to the level of singing on stage and thanking not just the audience, but the workers behind the scenes. Just because I am in England does not mean I am free to act like a fool. No, when I left Yemen, I took with it all its nobility within me. That's how it affected me.

but if you do not believe in yourself 100% then your dream dies. I knew I would make it but I knew that ahead of me was going to be such a battle that I needed to believe, no matter how hard it got. It got hard. It got so hard that I would not eat much, but like an artist who paints a canvas, use his money for food and even rent to pay for his songs to come to life. I had obstacles, on my left, right and center. Those obstacles ranged from difficulties in keeping it a

**"It took 17 years to get to where I am because it took 17 years of planning, and then I executed it and did it hard and fast... That is why many bands see me as someone strong, fierce and head strong, and who never compromises; and why should I?"**

**Q: How was your beginning in the UK?**

A: It was hard. I couldn't adjust at first. Actually I couldn't for many years because of the language barrier. I missed Yemen, its simple life and the real things of aunts and uncles, but my parents were thinking the best for us. I had it hard through school years. I

secret from non-Yemenis to the hardship of my singing in studios and youth centers. It was a battle all the way through. People, it seems, do not like winners, and that is why many famous people who do make it remember the lack of support they had and sometimes they never help anyone when they get to the top. Remember that people; and that's a message to Prince Naseem too!

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soul and ears of music to follow them. That was not taught to me; it is a gift because in just a second those musicians change that melody and if you don't follow it you will be out of key, in front of hundreds, sometimes thousands. I never, ever got out of key because I have music within me. Yes I produce Albums but do not think of the level I am at now my friend. Think of how hard it was to get to where I am. Fame? No! It doesn't go to my head and I don't think about it. It isn't something big for me. It would be when I am in Yemen or any Arab country because it would be so real. It would be so great singing to my people but the problem is that I sing in English, so maybe my work wouldn't be appreciated as much. Who knows?

years of planning, and then I executed it, and did it hard and fast. Success and failure has one thing in common, planning. That is why many bands see me as someone strong, fierce and head strong, and who never compromises; and why should I? I haven't come this far to compromise my music, my beliefs and the core of my dream; to help my fellow man and woman. The song that people love most is "Falling." It is a song about a boy who tells his father how he was lost in the dark. He found love in strangers because his father was too busy working. He found friendship with drug dealers because he

of people cry when I finish singing one song, and this song is one of them. England doesn't have great singers with powerful, meaningful lyrics, and maybe that is also why I am now making headway. I am real and not a fake singer that has been touched and fashioned by the music industry in England. This country and everywhere else needs something real, something that is from the heart instead of just lip service to sell records or CDs.

Continued on Page 15

Lyric of one of the songs of "Dark Angel":  
**JUNCTION TO HEAVEN**

If only, it was so, so real  
They would feel; that same way that I feel  
Anything, yes anything is possible  
Nothing, nothing is ever unreachable

But what is it that stops them reaching?  
Tell me what is it that stops them flying so high?  
Tell me what is it; that stops them embracing  
The freedom, which I feel?

They'll see rainbows within the darkest hours of their day  
Sunshine breaking through and making its way  
Stepping stones to the seventh level of heaven  
They'd see Angels feathers floating, if they just bothered lookin'

They'll see miracles happening  
Wherever their eyes are looking  
Shining stepping stones within every season  
Yes I know, people love sleep walking

Some say; they believe  
But they only deceive...themselves  
And the book gathers dust upon their shelves  
Just pages of history; but not for me

So many drifting on the road to complain'  
But my Lord, will only change their condition  
If they change, that which is within them  
Oh lost souls! They are still searchin'

They'll see rainbows within the darkest hours of their day  
Sunshine breaking through and making its way  
Stepping stones to the seventh level of heaven  
They'd see Angels feathers floating, if they just bothered lookin'

They'll see miracles happening  
Wherever their eyes are looking  
Shining stepping stones in every season  
Yes I know; people are sleep walking

**"..my name became known from two years and how? By sheer hard work and by singing with other bands across the country and with DJ's to get my name known."**

**Q: How many albums and songs have you made so far?**

**Which of them have gained highest publicity and greatest admiration?**

A: I have made six secret ones, and they will never be released until I want to. I have released four albums and four LPs. An LP has six songs, which is not a lot. Yes, my name became known from two years and how? By sheer hard work and by singing with other bands across the country and with DJ's to get my name known before I even went on stage on my own with my own band. I have no manager. I manage myself. I design my own publicity, my own designs for CDs. I write my own songs. I write the melody, I organize the band, I pay for the rehearsals, I get the gigs and that's how I did it. It took 17 years to get to where I am because it took 17

couldn't find friendship with his father who was too busy with the world. It is a song that's very emotional, deep, and it even makes a lot of people switch it off sometimes because of guilt, because its real, truth, and truth sometimes hurts. I had a lot of people tell me that. Imagine songs that do that to you. That's why I have to be careful with my songs and write from the heart, and you reach the hearts of the people. I have seen quite a lot

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# Kidnapping Terror: Time to Crack Down!



**Mohammed Hatem Al-Qadhi**  
mhalqadhi@hotmail.com

**A**nother German engineer is being held against his will. It is awful nonsense. The government should show its muscle with tribesmen kidnapers this time and stop this ungodly practice. Stiff measures should now be taken to put these people under control.

Kidnapping is a terrorist act that threatens people's lives and affects the economy very seriously. President Saleh once said it was terrorism and its perpetrators should be brought to justice. They have made a business out of this infamy of blackmailing the government, whose leniency has been encouraging them to continue.

These people claim to practice kidnapping in order to press the government to provide them with development projects. It is a nonsensical argument. There are, of course, many areas in the country that lack such basic projects. However, their people do not practice kidnapping to attract the government's attention to their deprived areas. Well, these tribesmen have found it a prosperous business for them and for their fellow men. Some of them kidnap foreigners, while others blackmail not only the government, but also the press, to get some money for providing them with news about the incident. Sometimes they are paid in dollars. This is very clear in the sense that over seven of the 13 cases of kidnapping this year have been conducted by tribesmen from Jahm in Marib. How do you spell this out?

Of course, they make use of the government's inefficiency and incompetence to put things under control even in the capital. Another point is that these tribesmen are protected by their tribes, which still cling to a fossilized thinking that their tribal norms entail their protection to their fellow tribesmen. The law has nothing to do with them. The Parliament passed a law banning this act, but it has never seen the light of day, except for only one time when the kidnapers were not tribesmen and did not have any tribal stronghold to back them up. Otherwise, tribal kidnapers have never been tried at all.

The association of the political regime with tribal background has provided some sort of protection to kidnapers, some of who are military guys. Once the kidnapping is over and the hostage is released, kidnapers are not brought to court. Rather, their demands are fulfilled; they are either paid or given high ranking posts in the military or civil service. The government never tries to deal with these people directly. Tribal sheikhs work as mediators between the government and its citizens. This is sheer irresponsibility and chaos. Of course, all these factors have boosted the sense of lawlessness among tribesmen, and hence the business of kidnapping. In fact, the power of authority is completely absent in such tribal areas.

The official media sometimes try to belittle these incidents, showing that hostages are impressed by the hospitality of tribesmen and that kidnapping is a happy experience. It is nonsense! What is rather incongruous is that government officials never stop calling for investment, claiming that security is OK. What about kidnappings?! Are they a good experience so that

investors, too, should try to discover the Arabian Felix? How can investors flow into a country embroiled in such a security mess?!

Of course, such organized crime does not only halt the flow of foreign investment. It has rather encouraged local investors to go abroad in their search for a more secure place to invest their money.

To drive the point home, I wonder if the President will put his speech of considering kidnapping a terrorist act into practice and start a wide scale campaign against this act to show his regime's ability to crack down on this and on other sorts of terrorism.

The government must invent a new policy by which it can deal with tribesmen. But, the political regime should first relinquish its tribal way of thinking and initiate an institutionalized administration that is able to enforce law in the society and, accordingly, deal with the international community. It is no longer acceptable to tell the world that kidnapping in Yemen is a nice experience. Kidnapping is kidnapping; it is a terrorist act that should be faced with no leniency. Criminals and outlaws, mainly kidnapers, should be punished harshly regardless of their tribal backgrounds. The government should wake up and think seriously of the devastating impact of this infamy on the country.

In short, the latest kidnapping incident of the German engineer, Lenhnerd Carl, put our regime's ability to fight terrorism to a test. Once it is able to tame tribesmen kidnapers, it will be able, of course, to put other perpetrators of terrorism under control. This is the current challenge our political regime should face now. Do you think so? I do.

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# Economic Reform: What Remains?!



Mahyoub Al-Kamali

The World Bank is still supervising the economic, financial and administrative reforms in Yemen. The majority of people wonder what the last five years of the reform program has accomplished so far. On this topic, Mr. Mahmoud Ayoub Al-Moshref, the Regional Manager of the World Bank and the Supervisor of the Economic, Financial and Administrative Reforms Program, said five important issues were still in need of being tackled. "Water shortages, population growth, environment and economy, illiteracy, and education are the most pressing issues that urgently require solutions," he said. He said the shortage of water would be a real challenge during the next twenty years. Many plans to address this problem have been developed. Yemen's population growth exceeded three percent. The Regional Manager greatly stressed the problem of maintaining the current rate of population growth without an increase in economic growth. He also discussed problems of meeting the needs of the increasing population, including providing employment opportunities and encouraging the private sector to take part in the process of development. The third issue that Ayoub addressed is improving the environmental and economic conditions in the country, including the participation of the private sector. This issue constitutes one of the most significant challenges to the Yemeni government. The government cannot achieve the economic reforms without reviewing current administrative rules to eliminate obstacles to investment by the private sector. The Regional Manager of the World Bank has proposed new strategies involving the financial sector assisting the private sector in order to create an

atmosphere of economic trust and to increase economic performance. This, of course, will lead to a comprehensive development process.

## Education Reform

The fourth issue, which is vital to the success of the other economic reforms, is addressing the deteriorating situation of education. This includes urging each citizen to participate in the economy resulting from the policies of globalism. The World Bank sees that Yemen must pay great attention to the issue of women's education and eradicating the high levels of illiteracy among Yemeni women. The World Bank has urged Yemen to implement technical and educational programs, as well as offer rehabilitation and training to women to enable them to become active members of Yemeni society, according to their vocational specializations.

## Diversification of Income

Perhaps the most significant issue of the economic reforms is the need to diversify the sources of national income, rather than depending on oil revenues. The diversification of income will ensure adequate revenue for the national general budget. Consequently, the government has to perform the following:

1. Encourage an increase in the production of local products in order to raise exports, including agricultural and economic products.
2. Increase the funds from the budget allocated to farmers, fishermen, market research and advertising programs.
3. Impose a sales tax in order to increase the national income.

## The Problems and Challenges of Economic Reform

It is noticeable that implementation of what remains of the economic reform policies in Yemen will of course lead to other economic problems. The most significant challenge is the difficulty of decreasing population growth while eliminating birth control, which is considered disagreeable to Islam. In this

case, the government has to take administrative measures and issue labor legislation in order to provide job opportunities for unemployed people, urging the private sector to participate in the developmental process. In addition, imposing a sales tax will lead to the augmentation of prices and will negatively affect low-paid employees, which will in turn entail an increase in funds to social programs to ensure the well-being of thousands of poor families.

Concerning the diversification of income through non-oil resources, the government must conduct studies regarding the possibilities of exporting agricultural and economic products and replacing the cultivation of qat with useful products such as fruits and vegetables, which can be canned and exported. However, the problem lies in the fact that the government has to find immediate alternatives in order to ensure incomes for qat growers. This, of course, will cost a large amount of money.

Accordingly, the economic reform programs in Yemen require a long tentative study, and implementing what remains of this reform will entail additional expenses in order to account for the chronic deficiency in the budget.

## World Bank Finances New Projects at Cost of US \$200 Million

The government sources expected that the World Bank will finance new projects during the next two years amounting to US \$200 million as part of a plan to support economic reforms. Recently, the World Bank has implemented 22 projects in the area of general social services, including a strategy to eliminate poverty in Yemen and to address the problem of income distribution in Yemeni society.

The International Bank has offered simple loans at a rate of 25% for ten years. The projects financed by these loans will focus on basic education, health, drainage in the rural areas, improving irrigation and supporting women in all aspects of life.

## Negative Aspects of the Privatization Law

Privatization is one of the techniques included in the economic, social, financial, and administrative reform program which many countries have embarked upon due to many foreign debt problems and chaos in their economic and development structures. These problems are associated with permanent deficit in the budget of the state; deteriorating the level of performance in public establishments; increasing the level of unemployment; inflation, which is associated with a remarkable increase in population; deficit in the trade balance, etc. Yemen is one of these countries suffering such problems and has started implementing this program. As part of the Five Year Plan (2001-2005), the government has directed its focus towards expanding the privatization program using new techniques, including selling productive economic institutions such as the Land Transportation Corporation, cement plants and telecommunication centers. The privatization program has still been unproductive; the government, according to the opposition parties, has entered a new phase of misapplication of a profitable tax policy. In this respect, the government has placed great significance on diversification of exports, activating the role of agricultural and economic production, reforming means of transportation and improving means of marketing and research. The opposition parties have criticized the privatization law for not including effective mechanisms to ensure development with the aim of increasing production. Businessmen and the general privatized projects are secondary and do not encourage the investment of foreign

capital in Yemen. Aspects of the privatization law have been changed to have negative consequences, particularly to those who are interested in investing their capital in sectors such as economy and agriculture, as the government has increased their taxes as compared to the exemptions granted for investors. The absence of the stock exchange has resulted in the financial mediators saving, ensuring its arrival to investors in all productive sectors through free exchange. The government has insisted that implementing the privatization law will double the volume of its reserves. The opposition has said that unemployment, the decrease in local production growth and the conditions of thousands of poor families is the result of implementing the privatization law.

The government intends to sell the assets of some banks or to purchase factory shares such as the Textile and Weaving and Fish Canning factories. The major problem is that the privatization law ignores low-paid employees. They are greatly affected by the policies of privatizing because they can't find job opportunities or social insurance for their families.

The private sector in Yemen has participated in the process of privatization and is beginning to show fears of losing its capital. The private sector wants to invest its capital with concern to improving the imported goods to the adjacent countries.

Generally speaking, the privatization program is more than an economic process. It includes economic, social and political dimensions and should be based on transparency, objectivity, publicity and careful analysis of the social and economic realities of the society.

## European Commission Allocates YR 385,619,000 to Five Food Security Projects

According to Rainer J. Schierhorst, Head of the European Commission Office in Sana'a, the European Commission allocated this week an additional amount of YR 385,619,000 to five projects under the government's Food Security Program, implemented under the guidance of the Ministry of Planning and Development. Within this framework, the EC has provided the Republic of Yemen with direct financial assistance since 1996. For the last three budget years, the government of Yemen has received an average of some 11 million euro per year in the form of budget support. The equivalent in local currency has been earmarked for rural and social projects which are included in the public

investment program. These projects must be relevant to food security, and have so far included small dams, spate irrigation infrastructure (weir and diversion canals), water supply projects, and more recently rural feeder roads and infrastructure for family centers.

The following are benefiting from the current transfer: Small Dams Project, Fourth Fisheries Development Project, Fifth Tihama Development Project, the Eastern Development Authority in Marib and the Rural Development Authority in Shabwa.

"As these investments are included in the government's budget and are implemented through existing structures, it is expected to realize a high degree of ownership," concluded Mr. Schierhorst.

## Nabil Ali Al-Azrek to Yemen Times

### "SEDU aims to financing the purchase of fixed assets (machinery and equipment) for small businesses, either newly set-up or expanding small enterprises"

The Small Enterprise Development Unit (SEDU) is the first financial institution in Yemen that has been providing credits and technical assistance on a national scale to small entrepreneurs with relation to trade manufacturing. SEDU has been contributing too much in the field of domestic production, providing local job opportunities and has been also seeking for poverty alleviation. Ismael Ali Al-Ghaberi of YT has met with Mr. Nabil Ali Al-Azrek, the General Director of SEDU and filled the following interview.

**Q: When was the Small Enterprise Development Unit (SEDU) established?**

**A:** It was established in 1990 and initiated its tasks in 1991.

**Q: What are the main activities performed the SEDU?**

**A:** The SEDU offers loans to small entrepreneurs in all different economic sectors. It is also gives technical advisement to borrowers and conducting several studies aiming at recognizing the future financial flows with regard to their activities and enterprises.

**Q: What is the volume of loans**

**offered by the SEDU?**

**A:** The volume of loans offered by the SEDU has been amounting to YR 207,880,000 which is increaseable at the percent of 70 percent in comparison with the last year 2000.

**Q: What are the main conditions provided by the SEDU in order to get a financing project? What is the duration of the repayment?**

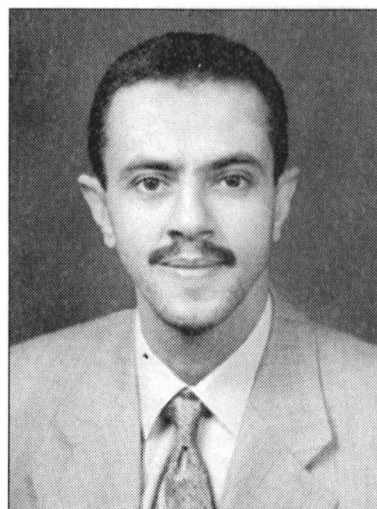
**A:** The first condition is that he should one of the members of the SEDU and has the interest to improve his work. The project has been assessed by specialized experts in the SEDU before giving him loan in order to guarantee the properness of repayment.

**Q: Does the SEDU administratively and financially independent? From where the Unit receives the financial support?**

**A:** The SEDU is administratively and financially independent and depends on its loan activities and has not received any financial support. Since the end of 1996 it has been granted some technical support from the Dutch Government.

**Q: How many branches in the governorates does the SEDU have? Do you have any future plans to inaugurate new branches?**

**A:** Actually, there are four branches in



the main cities of the republic, Sana'a, Taiz, Aden, and Hodeidah. There is also intention to inaugurate a new branch in Hadramout at the beginning of the year 2002.

**Q: What are main activities performed by the Yemeni woman in the SEDU?**

**A:** The SEDU support women's enterprises by giving them loans. Several women training courses have been held to train female borrowers with the aim of supporting the technical assis-

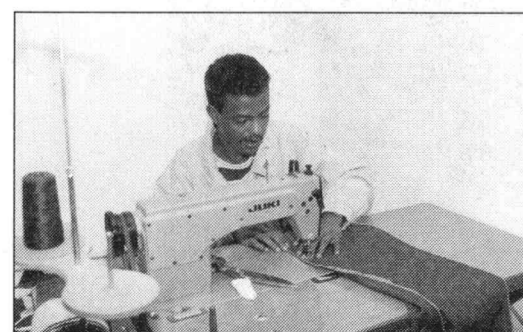
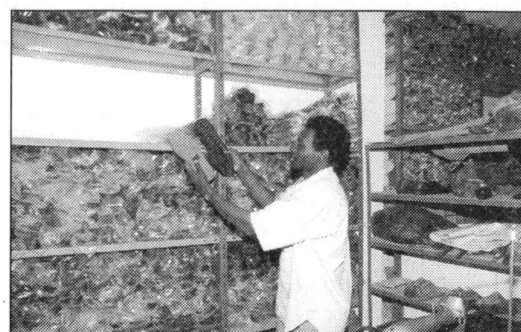
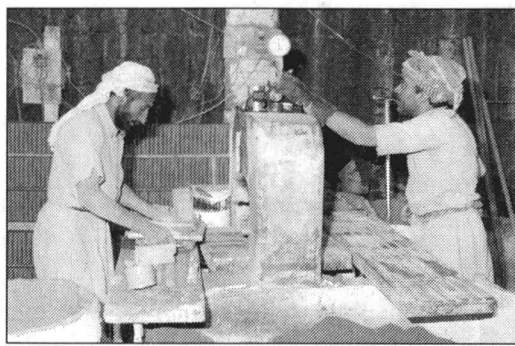
tance

**Q: Have you ever offered a draft law to the Cabinet in order to transfer the SEDU to a financing fund?**

**A:** Yes, the Cabinet has transferred the SEDU to a financing fund to finance the small projects and local institutions and what remain are the constitutional procedures to be issued.

**Q: What are the main difficulties do face?**

**A:** The SEDU face many problems and among these are the delay of decision belonging to the unit, insufficient supply of the financial resources. Despite of SEDU expansions in different sectors, in addition to inaugurating new branches in the republic, Loan demands have been augmented too much and the result is that the unit is unable to encounter these demands.



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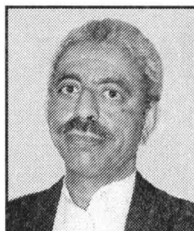
## إعلان تأجير عقار

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# COMMON SENSE

By: Hassan Al-Haifi



## Don't Count on US for Justice

Just a year ago today, this observer recalls how many friends were frightened at the thought of having Al-Gore, with his Jewish running mate for Vice President take the helm in the United States. Despite my insistence to them that it really should not matter to the Arabs who wins, Gore or Bush, the Arabs will always get the short end of the stick, anyway. Chances are that had Al Gore been President, we might have had clearer indications of just where American foreign policy was really heading, then all the mushy business that is at hand today. For sure, it seems Mr. Bush would like to see America make the most of its power and to use that power in whatever ways to achieve its aims, whatever those aims are. For those who are interested in defining those aims, the truth of the matter is that they are not exactly definable, because they seem to have fallen under the principle of wherever your might takes you, that is what you should aim for. For all intents and pur-

poses, in this world now there is only America and it is Americans who shall be the safest, healthiest, richest people on earth, and it doesn't matter who has to pay the price for it. If America wants oil, it will get it and at the price it is willing to pay. If America wants peace in the Middle East, the American Jews shall dictate how that peace is to be written and who shall be designated the villain and the victim. The rest of the world can go to hell for all that the Americans care, whether in the Middle East or anywhere else for that matter. The Americans have a new culprit they are chasing, and they are going to make the most of this chase to step on everybody that stands in their way. We and they do not know when this chase shall end, but by the time it is over, one can be sure the world's worst terrorist of all times is going to complete the liquidation of the Palestinian people with the blessings of Mr. George Bush and Mr. Colin Powell, and the stamp of General Zinni. Give us a break, you wanted us to join you against the terrorists. We

said fine and dandy, nobody likes terrorists, even if they wear a turban that can be used to make two tents. Then you said, don't destabilize the world with high oil prices, so you started to scare some of our regimes, either you keep prices low, or you will be charged with aiding and abetting the terrorists, or something to that order. We are not naive, we know the bully game that Uncle Sam plays and why he is playing mean especially against this part of the world. It is not the cross that really matters to George Bush, although it is not really conspicuous, when it comes to some of the proclamations and media campaigns that are being unleashed against the "terrorist Moslems", which somehow remind one of Pope Urban's call for a Crusade to free the world from the "heathen Moslems", who are dominating the Christian Holy Places in Jerusalem and the Holy Land, which were sounded a thousand years ago. The Zionist lobby in America has been working for years to instill in the American mind the ugliness of Moslems and their eminent danger to the "West". God only knows that it was not for the Moslems, the "West" would still be living under the feudal system and the dark spiritual domination of the Vatican. So, what danger could we pose for the West, when history has proven us to be the most merciful and tolerant conquerors? But to Uncle Sam, a terrorist like Ariel Sharon is an angel, who believes that "might makes right" and who adheres to this guiding principle that Mr. George Bush Jr. wants to guide America into the Third Millennium. So, to make it clear to most Arabs, you were suckered again. You really believed that Colin Powell finally saw it your way and that when he told you that there would be a Palestinian state, the entire issue is solved and over with. How gullible can you be? You have forgotten that your enemy was created, sponsored and raised by the American dollars and arms that your oil is financing, thanks to the cheap price you are getting for it. You have forgotten that

the American dream and the Zionist dream can never part ways, because most of the Arabs have not gotten their acts together yet and most Arab regimes have yet to make peace with their people, even though they are ready and willing to make peace with the enemy of their peoples! We just might as well sit this one out, and watch as the CNN shows us the extermination of the Palestinian people live and in color, because Sharon is doing "just like Bush" and the American Congress is applauding and praising the fight against terrorism which Israel is carrying out. What happened to Mr. Powell's speech? Forget it you guys, that is for the birds. As far as the Americans are concerned, we are all terrorists now and no one will escape the military tribunals that can bring any "terrorist", who stands in the way of Israel, first, and America second. It is that holy alliance that depends on might and money, which can turn the most ideal cause into a bloodbath for its followers, if that cause does not fit within the guidelines set out in the Bush Doctrine, "if you are not with us, in anyway shape or form, you are a terrorist". That kind of Doctrine does not understand that you may be suffering from an injustice, that your land, your identity, your dignity

has been all robbed from you. That doctrine sees people seeking justice as terrorists. That doctrine sees the people fighting for the liberation of their land, who are playing by the rules and fighting as honorably as anyone can fight as terrorists, because the Zionist lobby has defined them so. That doctrine views the hundreds of Palestinian, Lebanese and other Arab civilians, who have been slaughtered by Ariel Sharon and his demagogic gangs as terrorists. What a great doctrine that is: If you are not with us, you are against us. Mr. Arafat, you must do more to ensure that the Bush Doctrine is applied on all the Palestinian people. They say that Arafat must apprehend the terrorists. The whole population of the West Bank and Gaza are imprisoned and encircled in tens of pockets that are surrounded by the mighty arsenal supplied to the Zionist gangs of Sharon, and they want the terrorists arrested? Oh yeah, you can have your own Palestinian State, but that can happen when all the West Bank, Gaza and the entire Arab World has been freed from all those indigenous ugly terrorists that live there. That is the Bush Doctrine. ...And we all thought that Dalfour was mean! God Bless America, for showing us what being mean is really all about!

## Are We Any Better?



Haitham Al-Kibsi\*  
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I can't help but wonder about what's going to happen in the days to come. On one side, we have America that has declared war on all terrorism existing in the world. On the other hand, we have Afghanistan, fighting back with jihad. America will not tolerate an attack on its "freedom." The Taliban will die before giving up bin Laden. America says that the rest of the world has two choices - support the terrorists, or support us. Afghanistan is still rejoicing in Goliath's fall. I could go on, but for the sake of saving time let me get to the point - what's wrong with this whole picture?

It's one thing to go to war against terrorists, but it's a whole new ball game when you try to drag the rest of the world into the ditch. Bush, as you all know, has been busy meeting the world's leaders, asking them to support America. He's going to stop these evildoers and "smoke them out of their holes." Fair enough. He declares that either the world is with America or it is with the terrorists. Come again? That's what's wrong with the picture.

For those of you who haven't been to the Third World, let me paint a pretty picture for you. Poverty takes on a new meaning - poverty is NOT living in a trailer and being able to subscribe to only the basic movie channels, or having to drive around in a run-down Cavalier from dumpster to dumpster. In the third world, that would be called a good life. Countries like Yemen are still fighting to feed the population, reduce mass illiteracy and curb the ridiculous levels of corruption in the system. Terrorism is way down there on the list of problems, even though they get to see their fair share of it. But if we don't support America, we are harboring the terrorists, of course.

Let me divert from the topic a bit. Someone brought up an interesting question today. It went something like, "So, you're saying we should just take these attacks and not react?" That's the first time I stopped to think about another alternative. This far all I have been fixated on is that war is not the end solution to this problem. I never once stopped to think what could be a better solution. So, what could a better decision be?

I think this whole charade would come to an end if American troops were taken out from the Middle East. Isn't that one of the Republican campaign promises - increased security at home and decreased foreign intervention? I guess it's not as important as playing the game of politics, right? And of course, that totally messes up the busi-

ness of war. But really, the news channels have been chanting that the Middle East hates America for invading their countries with troops. Don't you think it would do us good to bring them back home?

If you're wondering why I never beat down on the terrorists, it's because they don't know any better. Take an illiterate person, give him purpose, means to carry it out, and what you get is a kamikaze. I won't tolerate hate comments about religion, because Islam has nothing to do with this. Don't even get me started on organized religion. That's a completely different story and I don't care to bore you with my philosophy of spirituality. Let's just stop at the fact that this whole episode has nothing to do with religion. I keep seeing these TV show hosts talking loosely about Muslims and religious tension and it makes me want to wash their mouths out with soap. Whenever I talked about something that I had no idea about, I was spanked by someone. It worked. I don't rant extempore make-believes.

The only bright thing I have seen yet is the anti-war student rallies on campus. It's true that an eye for an eye just leaves everyone blind. I don't want to get into the same old yadda of how America's freedom has been attacked, or how we shouldn't be tolerating this kind of terrorism. If you want to hear that kind of stuff, I suggest you switch on CBS because Dan Rather does a great job of dramatizing this situation. I would, however, like to mention how this useless loss of life hurts me. I am the sort of person who hates violence, despises militaries, and sneers upon anything political. So this episode, if nothing else, has strengthened my belief that the root cause of violence such as the attack on the WTC towers, is politics.

For the past few days, I have been watching and trying to keep up with what's going on and what might happen next. I watched Bush's speech from the lawns of the White House. It was anything but motivating. I am not one to extend my support to any particular political party in America, but the past few months have left me wondering whether the current administration is capable. Some of you are probably disgusted with where my thoughts are going already. Don't be. It's simply my opinion and I don't intend on imposing it on anyone. I don't even claim to be a political guru or master of current world affairs.

Right now, I am quite confused about America's decision to wage war on bin Laden. I really can't decide whether it is the apt action to take or not. The current missing count is 5097 (maybe more) people, all innocent people. The fact that I have relatives who were in immediate danger enrages me too. I really wonder whether "an eye for an

eye" is really what America should pursue. The fact remains that a lot of this animosity has risen from the fact that American troops are in territories that they shouldn't be in. What the world and America needs to understand is that the Middle-Eastern countries still function under staunch religious modes and very outdated ideas. It is a known fact that many people around the world are pissed off about America's involvement in the Middle East. It would be unfair to treat this whole event as something surprising, because frankly, who didn't see this coming in some form or another?

Today, according to Time magazine, 71% of the people who were questioned about this issue replied that they wanted war, and didn't care if civilians in the enemy territories died. What makes America any different from any other country then? Where are all those people who preach compassion and forgiveness now? I don't mean to sound harsh, but I was always brought up to believe that this country was indeed the land where dreams came true. And today, I believe that with conviction. I attribute this country's greatness to its fairness (granted this doesn't hold true in every avenue). And in all fairness, what action is being planned in return for these acts doesn't portray America's greatness.

It's sad that innocent civilians have to bear the brunt of something that started due to politics. Lives have already been lost, and I for one don't want to see a war. I don't even want to see America dispatch troops to chase the "evildoers" out of their caves. All this can do is aggravate the situation. I'd rather see the administration take some time to catch their breaths, and pray for compassion. This is definitely one situation where we can avoid striking while the iron is hot. It's so true that haste makes waste.

Right now, every second person I meet is furious and wants war. It's unnerving to see the society wandering with this thirst for revenge. One of my friends is a Marine officer trainee, and he too favors a more peaceful reaction. Lives have already been lost, and a war against terrorism will simply result in more lost life. I have seen terrorism up close in Yemen, and it is not a myth that terrorists are fanatics. They readily die for their cause. And that is the simple reason that will definitely claim the lives of many more Americans - the Americans who will fight this war. What occurred on the eleventh arose from the illiterate and uneducated actions of the terrorists. I don't know if this is any better than an educated and literate response of violence.

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## Misunderstanding of Islam and Terrorism

Abdulrahman Ahmad Abduh

In a short period of time and little by little, the Taliban was able to usurp power in Afghanistan and take over its lands. Since then, the Taliban have imposed strict measures on their people and have made the people more self-contained in the face of these global changes. In this respect, for a long time the Taliban have remained in a land isolated from the external world in all aspects of life, and the world has regarded this country as a country that harbors terrorists. Undoubtedly, the Afghan people have responded positively to the Taliban movement, and in 1996 they seized the opportunity to usurp power in Afghanistan. The main reason behind this eagerness to support the Taliban is the longing for peace and stability after the ups and downs of many years of battle.

The Taliban still adhere to some undesirable social measures, such as the prohibition of listening to music and taking photographs, under the pretense that it is legally forbidden. The most tangible problem lies in the fact that the Taliban do not allow a woman to work outside her home; her job is to stay home. The Taliban movement orders the people to grow beards. As if this is not enough, it also

specifies the length of the beard, and in addition, it orders students to wear emamah, a man's headdress (turban) worn chiefly by Muslims when they go to school.

Contradictions that are imposed by the Taliban upon the Afghan people seem strange, for at the same time that listening to music and taking photographs are forbidden, the opium trade is allowed to go on, or at least is not forbidden by the Taliban. Furthermore, the country has not been reconstructed after several years of devastating wars and extreme poverty.

Returning to bygone times under the control of an ambiguous person, willingly or unwillingly they obey their leader and his orders to implement the orders of Islam according to what he says. This, of course, has led to a false, fabricated and distorted picture of Islam and its principles in front of the entire world, from which the US and the Western countries have gained a false impression of Islam and have linked it to terrorism.

The Taliban have gotten a taste of establishing a country. It is not important to mention its supporters; the main thing is that the movement is Afghan and the people belong to Islam, and now it is itself a victim under the pretext of harboring terrorism.

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# Who Will Solve Problems of Workers?

Abdulkhaleq Hashim  
Awatef al-Shargabi

Haraj is the local name for markets where second-hand products are sold; however, there is a new kind of Haraj where workers stand in certain streets in the major cities looking for work on a daily basis. Mostly, contractors come to these places and pick up some of these laborers to work for them with payment on a daily basis. One of the most distinct characteristics of these markets is that it begins in early morning and closes at the time of sunset; however, some of these markets stay open until late hours. In this current survey, we tried to spotlight these markets from different perspectives:

Mr. Mohammed Ahmed Nassir, 27, said

that he is married and has six children living in his hometown. Mohammed added that he goes to work, which takes most of his time, from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mohammed told us that he is a plumber who returned from Saudi Arabia in the wake of the Gulf crisis. The daily wage of a plumber like Mohammed is YR 700 per day, and he only sends YR 1000 a month to his family. "We live a desperate life, to the extent that my friend resorts to garbage cans to feed himself, as for most times he has not a penny, particularly amid this enduring recession of the labor market," Mohammed added. Hanni Mansur, 13, said that he dropped out from school at the request of his mother due to the difficult living conditions of his family. He said, "Actually, I hope to go back to school, but where can one provide for his living expenses."

Abdula Saleh from Beida said that he works for a daily wage, but currently there is no sufficient work, as he can barely earn YR 1000 every five days. Actually, I have applied to many construction companies, but to no avail. I always stay at 'lukanda' pension, and if I don't get money I sleep on the pavement. Amid crowds we could see a young man who approached us and said that he is a university graduate who had applied for many jobs but was always rejected, while the expatriate Somali and Ethiopian applicants in most cases were accepted. He said, "Despite my higher education I couldn't find a job, thus my brother instructed me to be a stone-layer." Broadly, many reports state that unemployment has taken a turn for the worse since the beginning of the 1990s, as the number of unemployed people accounted for 9% of the total labor force in 1994. According to World Bank statistics, 30% to 40% of the labor force are graduates of higher education, including 69% in the rural areas.

Yahya Ahmed from the City of Dhamar, who is married and has one child, said that he had finished high school but couldn't join university due to financial reasons. Yahya complains of the scarcity of works nowadays, as he hardly works one or two days a week if he is lucky. Moreover, he has applied to many companies but is always rejected because these companies prefer foreigners who have higher education. Finally, Mohammed Ahmed al-Humaiqani, who returned from Saudi Arabia after the Gulf crisis, said that he has seven children and cannot even provide them with food. Al-

Humaiqani expressed his wish to go back to Saudi Arabia, but unfortunately could not afford the expense of a work visa, which costs US \$3,000.

It is evident that the reasons behind this phenomenon are shocking figures forcing people to sell their efforts cheaply in such a humiliating manner, as statistics show that the rate of poverty in Yemen soared from 19.1% in 1992 to 51.2% in 1997. In other words, the number of poor people rose from roughly 3.2 million to 9 million. Furthermore, the number of extremely poor people has risen from 1.5 million to 4 million, as the Human Development Report confirms that Yemen has no clear strategy for fighting poverty. The Social Care Program allocated YR 1 billion in 1997. While part of this money was disbursed to improve the quality of life of those under poverty line, the real budget required for this program is YR 50 billion. Eventually, the current situation needs serious tackling on the part of all concerned authorities in ways that help the development of this country. Yet, the figures stated above are a herald of more suffering.



# Tribal Society in Yemen: A Continuing Conflict

Hasan Al-Zaidi  
Yemen Times

Careful reading for the structure of tribes in Yemen would show that Hashed and Bakil are the largest in Yemen. Sub-clans also constitute tribal groupings that merely unite when facing a common danger. Thus, relations of opposing tribes are

taken advantage of this situation, since these wars diverted the attention of tribes from thinking of power. Similarly, the government has not paid attention to the tribal fanaticism that has bred conflicts and divisions among the different tribes, as it is tribal and not national affiliation that shapes the political orientation in the end.

For the most part, the concept of tribal fanaticism has been encouraged by the

studied and solved efficiently by the government.

Tribal groupings have become a new vogue, especially in the post-unification period. Several tribal groupings have actually been formed, such as the Yemeni Tribe Conference, the Mareb-Jawf Coalition, etc. Interestingly, these groupings and coalitions have not survived for a considerable period of time, since they have failed to exercise pressure on the government to achieve political gains. In fact, part of the failure of these coalitions is ascribable to sheikhs who used these coalitions as a means to personal gain instead of serving the common interests of tribes. The government has also succeeded in attracting those sheikhs to its line. Consequently, these coalitions simply have not achieved any political, economic or social gains for their tribes. This has also desperately forced some tribes to rebel against the state and the tribal system as well. The continued confrontations between some tribes and security forces is just a case in point.

Concerning the source of military hardware possessed by tribes, one has to consider the different wars in which these tribes have taken part. The war between the Royalist and Republican forces, the uprising which took place in the middlelands, and eventually the 1994 civil war all provided tribes with a good arsenal. The continued conflicts between tribes have undoubtedly incurred heavy losses on these warring tribes. Tribal blood feuds, a direct consequence of these conflicts, have become a nightmare for each tribesman regardless of his age or rank. Similarly, the state of insecurity prevalent in the tribal areas has drastically destabilized the country as a whole. Major cities have openly become places to settle scores among these tribes. Yemen adopted the system of pluralism following the unification of the country

in 1990; therefore, the different political parties have tried hard to win the loyalty of tribes. Tribes have remained so far a merely military power and have no political orientation.



Photo of the first national conference for the middle region tribes (Mareb, Jauf and Shabwah)

merely governed by the concept of the political equilibrium of each tribe. Nearly every tribe in Yemen has undergone several conflicts, particularly as these tribes have taken part in many conflicts, such as the war between the Royalist and the Republican forces. Interestingly, the government itself had

government itself through allotting senior government posts, service projects and political participation on the basis of tribal affiliation. Furthermore, the government has so far failed to deal properly with tribes from the viewpoint that these tribes are actually state institutions and they should be tackled from this perspective. The concept of national and not tribal affiliation should be reinforced as well. Accordingly, the unacceptable policies and practices of tribes should be



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# Usable Medications During Fasting: Learning the Qur'an

Prepared by: Ismael al-Ghaberi  
Yemen Times

At the beginning of the month of Ramadan, certain questions are always asked. This is a good sign, because people want to be sure of what they can or cannot do while fasting. They want their worship to be complete and acceptable to God. At the same time, there is an element of being too particular when the same person keeps asking the same question year after year. Yet, I can appreciate the eagerness to make sure that what one is doing is right. People who are entitled to use a concession is acceptable. Even someone with a chronic illness who must not fast because fasting is likely to aggravate his condition, wants to be certain every year that using the concession of feeding a poor person for every day of Ramadan is equivalent to fasting. Yet, such a person reads the Quranic statement which makes that absolutely clear.

What we must understand is that in case of illness, a patient should use the concession granted to him by God. He does not need to fast until he has recovered. He compensates later by fasting one day for each day of Ramadan he did not fast. If his illness is incurable and he cannot fast at all, then he feeds a poor person for every day of Ramadan, giving that poor person twice as much as the average meal he eats at home.

Now, there are medical conditions which require medication that may be taken during the day, but they do not prevent a person from fasting or doing his work in the normal way. They are controllable by the use of certain medications, which may be given in forms that do not need to be swallowed. The clearest example is asthma, which is an allergy that causes difficulty in breath-

ing. The difficulty may be very serious. However, the condition is easily controlled with the use of inhalers that give instant relief. The question arises whether the use of a mouth inhaler breaks the fast or not.

When asked, a few scholars will still give the opinion that it is better for an asthmatic person who needs to use his inhaler not to fast. However, the question is more important than that, because there are many conditions that can be treated with medication that does not need to be swallowed. Hence, it is important to know which medication is acceptable to use during the day of fasting. For this reason we need to remember that God has forbidden us to eat, drink and to have conjugal relations while we are fasting.

What does not fall into the category of any of these is not forbidden and does not invalidate fasting. In this light, medication such as an inhaler, whether oral or nasal, does not invalidate fasting. It may be used as and when required during fasting without any effect on the quality or validity of fasting. Similarly, nasal, ear or eye drops may be used when required without invalidating the fast. All injections, whether intramuscular or intravenous, and intravenous dripping, may also be used in the day of fasting without having to break the fast.

A suppository or enema is similarly usable during fasting. None of these forms of medications or treatment breaks the fast, should they be needed by a fasting person. A whole range of medical treatment may be resorted to during the day without difficulty. The help that this gives to people who suffer from different conditions is vital, and they can carry on with their fasting if they are able to fast. In the case of asthma, which has been rapidly increasing in all parts of the world, millions of people can continue to fast,

because once they have controlled their breathing difficulty, they are able to fast and do their work normally. But that does not mean that a person who is ill should fast if such treatment is available. The concession for those who are ill remains valid and may be exercised when needed.

What we are saying is that conditions that are not made worse by fasting and can be treated or controlled by any of the above types of medication should not stop a person from fasting.

The scholars who continue to argue that such medications break the fast rely on what scholars of past generations say. Those scholars state that whatever enters the inner cavity in the body invalidates fasting. They consider the eye, ear, and the anal passage as openings that lead to the inner cavity. That was that those scholars knew about the human anatomy, and they made their verdict accordingly. Now we have a totally different knowledge. There may be certain cavities in different parts of the body.

If we take the stomach as the part of the body they may mean, then we realize that nasal drops are hardly likely to reach the stomach, and if that happens, then only in infinitesimal amount. An ear or eye drop will not reach there, nor certainly would a suppository or enema. As for inhalers, they only discharge a spray that goes directly to the lungs, and the passage to the lungs is different from the one leading to the stomach. Hence, to maintain this old position is not justified. These scholars should look at this question in the light of the knowledge available today.

It is often stressed that responsibility is individual, and so is reward. On the day of judgment, we stand before God, each on his or her own. No one can avail another person anything. That is certainly true, but human relations being what they are, we have an influence on one another, none more so than parents on children. Hence, when a child grows up as a God-fearing person, his or her upbringing may well be an important factor in this.

Much reward is kept in store for a person who learns the Qur'an by heart, recites it very often and acts on its instructions. Such a person normally memorizes the Qur'an when young, with much encouragement by his parents, and he does so after their death. His supplication is one of the ways his parents receive reward after his death. Therefore, such an upbringing and such great learning and equipment is bound to have bearing on the destiny, not only of the son or daughter who learns the Qur'an, but also on the destiny of their parents who benefit a great deal by their children's achievement and actions.

However, it is not true that if the child learns the Qur'an by heart, he ensures that his parents or seven members of his family are admitted to heaven on account of his own actions. That does not fit with the principle of individual responsibility.

The same reader asks a question about the advice given by the Prophet to young men who feel the sexual urge very strongly, yet they cannot get married. The Prophet recommends that they fast. He cites the case of a disabled person, or one on medication who cannot fast, and asks about an alternative to fasting.

Fasting is recommended by the Prophet as a way to reduce the intensity of the natural urge, particularly for young, vigorous men who are unable to get married. Fasting has the double benefit of moderating all physical desires because of the air of serenity which it extends as a result of a whole day, and drawing a person from food and drink for a whole day, and drawing a person closer to God as he feels that he fasts to earn God's pleasure. The case cited by my reader could not have the same intensity, particularly if the young man in question is ill, or severely handicapped as he says. If he cannot fast, then he should try other methods of worship which are bound to heighten his physical desire.

The reader also asks about the practice of a person who buys his own burial wraps in preparation for his death. That is a good practice, because the person concerned keeps himself aware of the approach of his death, which is one of the best ways to avoid sin. It also ensures that when he dies, no one would have to pay the expenses of his burial. He is no burden to anyone.

## World AIDS Day Observed

### 40 MILLION WITH HIV

Since the first clinical evidence of AIDS was reported two decades ago, HIV/AIDS has spread to every corner of the world. Still rapidly growing, the epidemic is reversing developmental gains, robbing millions of their lives, widening the gap between rich and poor, and undermining social and economic security.

As of the end of 2001, an estimated 40 million people worldwide - 37.2 million adults and 2.7 million children younger than 15 years - were living with HIV/AIDS. More than 70 percent of these people (28.1 million) live in Sub-Saharan Africa; another 15 percent (6.1 million) live in South and Southeast Asia.

Worldwide, approximately one in every 100 adults aged 15 to 49 is HIV-infected. In Sub-Saharan Africa, about 8.4 percent of all adults in this age group are HIV-infected. In 16 African countries, the prevalence of HIV infection among adults aged 15 to 49 exceeds 10 percent.

Approximately 48 percent of adults living with HIV/AIDS worldwide are women.

An estimated 5 million new HIV infections occurred worldwide during 2001; that is, about 14,000 infections each day. More than 95 percent of these new infections occurred in developing countries.

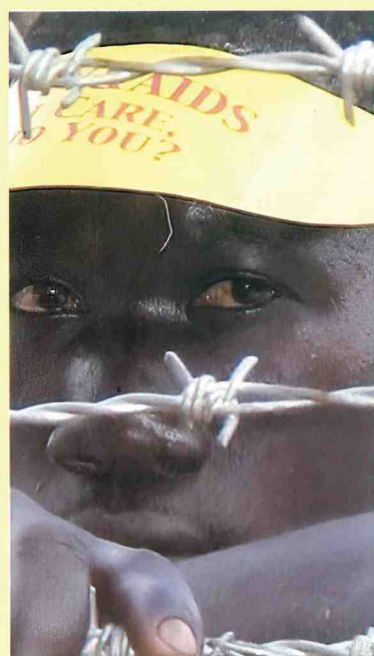
In 2001, approximately 6,000 young people aged 15 to 24 became infected with HIV every day - that is, about five every minutes.

In 2001 alone, HIV/AIDS-associated illnesses caused the deaths of approximately 3 million people worldwide, including an estimated 580,000 children younger than 15 years.

Worldwide, more than 80 percent of all adult HIV infections have resulted from heterosexual intercourse.

#### HIV/AIDS in the United States

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that 800,000 to 900,000 U.S. residents are living with HIV infection, one-third of whom are unaware of their infection. Approximately 40,000 new HIV infections occur each year in the United States, about 70 percent among men and 30 percent among women. Of these newly infected people, half are younger than 25 years of



age. Of new infections among men in the United States, CDC estimates that approximately 60 percent of men were infected through homosexual sex, 25 percent through injection drug use, and 15 percent through heterosexual sex. Of newly infected men, approximately 50 percent are black, 30 percent are white, 20 percent are Hispanic, and a small percentage are members of other racial/ethnic groups. Of new infections among women in the United States, CDC estimates that approximately 75 percent of women were infected through heterosexual sex and 25 percent through injection drug use. Of newly infected women, approximately 64 percent are black, 18 percent are white, 18 percent are Hispanic, and a small percentage are members of other racial/ethnic groups. In the United States, 774,467 cases of AIDS had been reported to the CDC through December 31, 2000. The estimated number of new adult/adolescent AIDS cases diagnosed in the United States was 49,691 in 1997, 42,955 in 1998, and 41,680 in 1999. In 2000, 41,960 new cases of AIDS in adults/adolescents were reported in the United States. In the same year, 196 new pediatric.

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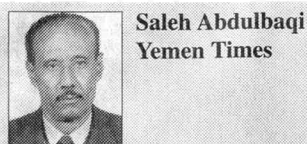
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# SADAH

## Where History & Nature Meet



Saleh Abdulbaqi  
Yemen Times

The rich history of Yemen is not a mere script reported by historians. The history of this country is still alive wherever one turns his head. One of the great historic faces of Yemen is the city of Sadah, which is an example of how civilized and great Yemenis have been.

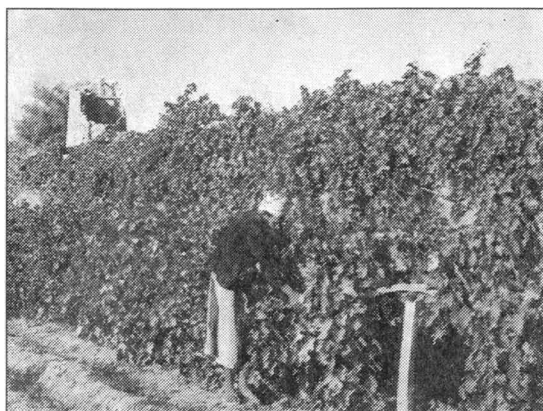
A good number of the city's mosques and fortresses go back hundreds of years. The city includes 15 districts. Each one of these places is distinguished by its own historic and natural touches.

It is from these places that history began to be reported on rocks. Drawings of different animals, Yemeni caravans, wars, etc. are also there. There are reported to be 120 well-known historic monuments in the city,

including 24 which are registered as tourist destinations. All scripts found reflect the real life of past Yemenis. Drawings of the tools of war, for example, show how much they were involved in fighting. Other scripts record the victories of the old kingdoms. Such scripts also show how the Hymiri writing developed throughout

history. One of the important scripts in the city is that found in the Aum Laila district, 65 kilometers to the north of the city. This district has many places where one can enjoy visiting and sight-seeing. There one can see old temples, water catchments, Islamic monuments, scripts, drawings, etc.

Besides the historic treasures of the city, it has been gifted with a fascinating natural beauty manifested in a series of irrigation terraces and vine-



yards. There are also other farms of oranges and pomegranates.

"Sadah is one of those many Yemeni historic cities that truly reflect different stages of Yemen's history," said governor Yahia Ali al-Amodi.

Something that is always repeated when talking about Yemen's history is that such places are in a dire need of being carefully attended. These destinations can generate good revenue if more attention is paid to them.



## Old & New Traditions in Hadramaut

Ramadan has a special flavor, represented by the different activities conducted during all of its 30 days. One of the peculiarities of Hadramaut is "musaharati," which is the name given to a person who walks in residential areas to wake people up and to take them their food before morning prayers. Moreover, the reuniting of families is rampant during this month, as people love to visit their friends and relatives. Hadramaut has a long history of "musaharati." In fact, the city of Mukala has been able to retain old traditions, among which is musaharati,

who would walk and beat the drum to notify the residents that it is time to eat sahoor (a meal eaten before the beginning of the fast). Famous musaharati names have long remained in the memories of the people of Hadramaut. The first musaharati known in Hadramaut is probably Juma'an Awadh Musaya'an. Juma'an used to go through all the districts of Mukala and call their residents by name. Juma'an was accompanied by two other people who help him in beating the drums and would sing with him some verses which were composed by famous Yemeni poets for this occasion. Mukala also used to have other musaharati, such as the poet Mohammed

Faraj Banabua'a. Banabua'a used to stand in front of each house in Mukala and call its residents by name. Interestingly, it is part of the tradition of musaharati in Mukala to start his round from the house of the imam and then walk to nearly every house in the city.

The cannon used to mark the end of the day of fasting is still one of the most distinguished characteristics of the month of Ramadan in Hadramaut. Families sit together awaiting the sound of the cannon and reciting verses from the Holy Quran. The use of cannons for marking the end of the day of fasting most probably dates back to the Kassadid Dynasty, established in Mukala in 1876. When children in Hadramaut see the muezzin mounting the mosque, mihrab children would start chanting a famous long lyric. The meals of the month of Ramadan in Hodeidah are diversified to satisfy all tastes. Hadramauti kitchens combine both old and modern utensils. A dome-like protrusion on the upper floor of the Hadramauti house is always the location of the kitchen. In most Hadramauti homes, one would find that fish and rice are the most preferred meals for the people of Hadramaut, perhaps served at all meals of the day. Undoubtedly, many foreign foods have entered Hadramaut, particularly as Mukala hosts many foreign communities that have their own special foods. The people of Hadramaut are so kind and lovable. One can feel this amicability during a short visit to Hadramaut. Houses are built in a very distinguished way, as houses are attached to each other deliberately to maintain the utmost contact with each other. Moreover, during the holy month of Ramadan families care much more for their neighbors.

### Cultural News

#### Sana'a Authors Union Discusses New Year's Program

The Authors Union in Sana'a has recently kicked off discussions on its new program of activities for 2002. The administration of the Union seems to be more concerned with producing a good and acceptable program containing different aspects of activities during the year.

#### Library of Egypt Publishes Bakathir's Works

Sheikh Hamid Assahar of Egypt announced that the Library of Egypt would be publishing all works of the late Yemeni author Ahmad Bakathir, who lived and studied in Egypt. The works are being prepared for publication by the well-known Egyptian researcher Mohammed Abu Bakr Hamid. The Library has been publishing Bakathir's works since 1993.

#### Cultural Activities in Ramadhan

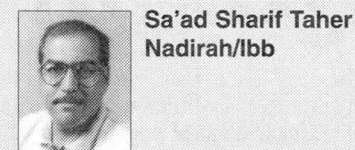
The al-Hajri Cultural Forum organized last week a poetry recital activity in Dar Sad. The event took place at the headquarters of the Yemeni Authors Union in the city. All poems recited and read spoke highly of the virtues of the great Yemeni poet Saleh Ali Hajri.

#### New Novel Published

Two new novels by the Former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Ahmad Kaid Barakat, have recently been published. These are a continuation of the novel Manazel al-Qamar, which is based mostly on real encounters of the first group of Yemeni students to study abroad in the 1940s.



# Ramadan in Yemen



Sa'ad Sharif Taher  
Nadirah/Ibb

Every year, all over the world Muslims celebrate the holy month of Ramadan in which they feel they are one family because they perform the same religious instructions at the same time. They fast from dawn to dusk all days of this month. It is the month of "spiritual purification," as Muslims should not only refrain from eating, drinking and lust, but also keep their eyes, ears, tongues and hearts clean, otherwise they may spoil their fasting. Besides all these spiritual practices, Ramadan is loved because it changes the daily routine of others lives.

In Yemen as in other Muslim countries, Ramadan has special taste in cities and villages. In Sana'a and the surrounding cities, the day that precedes Ramadan is called "ya nefis ma tishtahi" (one is free to buy or eat whatever he likes). All over Yemen it is called "yawm il shewa'ah" (welcoming day). Children climb onto the roofs of the houses in the afternoon holding dishes of rings of pie sweets called "bent il sehen" shouting loudly, "welcome, welcome, Ramadan, shawa'ah shawa'ah, my ring is spread on earth." They do so to express their rejoicing for this month. They add, "I have got my ring in hand, my mother has done everything."

They eat those sweets and get down after half an hour. This means it is the last day in which eating is allowed from morning until night.

After dinner people burn balls of ash mixed with kerosene on the edges of their houses to make a vase, as they are seen from faraway. Men go to chew qat until midnight or after, and women prepare the sohoor "before-dawn meal."

After dawn prayer they start their first day of fasting and sleep until noon.

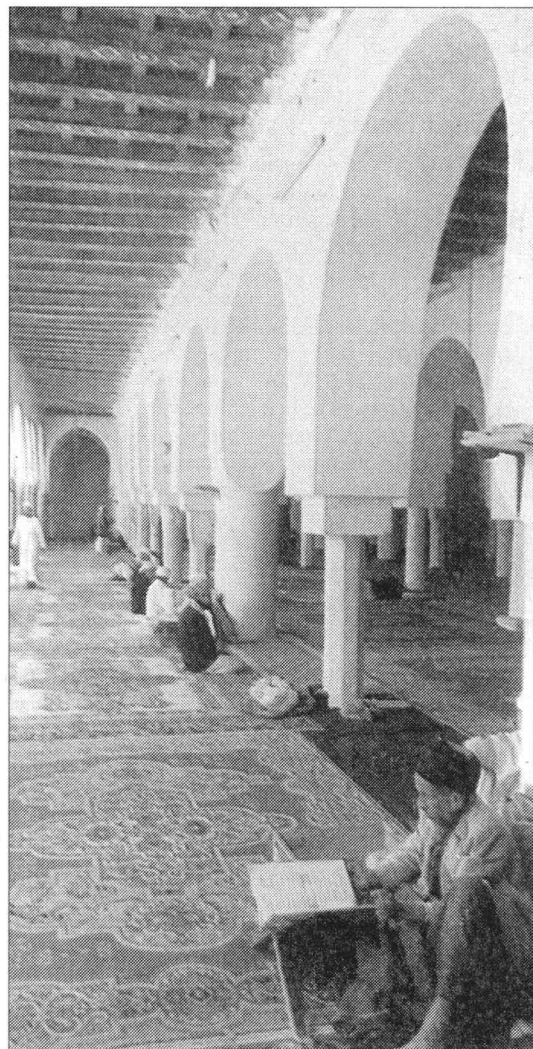
In the afternoon, men go to mosques to recite the Quran. Women are busy with preparing al-fotoor (evening breakfast) and dinner. In mosques fasters have dates and coffee after evening azaan.

In villages at night men gather in houses to chew qat until dawn, while women form groups, making town teams to take turns performing the "belbela," which are popular songs and poems concerning women in a certain place in moonlight. Children go out to play their games for a long time, then women and children go back home to get ready for sohoor. These traditions continue until the end of the month.

In big cities, after fotoor, people go to markets to shop. Others stay at home to enjoy TV. Families and relatives visit each other until midnight. It is a good chance to strengthen social ties.

In the last ten days of the month, most men stay at mosques to worship, which is called "al-itikaf." Taraweeh prayers are performed every night of the month after isha prayers. During such days parents are busy buying their kids new clothes and shoes for Eid.

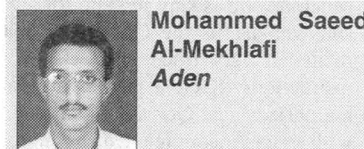
On the last day of Ramadan, people praise God in mosques, loudly saying goodbye to Ramadan and congratulating each other on completing and



obeying God's orders. They depart to get ready for Eid prayers in the early morning. In villages they light fires on mountains as a sign of rejoicing.

It is sure that older people have nice memories about past Ramadhans, which were completely different from the modern one, which some people consider to be a chance to have sweets and chew qat rather than for prayers and worship. Some people find it to be a good chance to give up qat, which I think is the best.

## Features of Ramadhan in Aden



Mohammed Saeed  
Al-Mekhlafi  
Aden

This great city, Aden, has come again and haunted our memories; it is embossed with its specialties. Smile is clearly marked on its lips, standing vigorously and stretching its hands in order to clutch Shamsan Mountain, which seems at first sight as if it were a guard protecting it. This city, together with its humble people, celebrates the approach of the holy month in which Holy Qur'an was descended upon the Prophet Mohammed (peace be upon him). It is said that the doors of paradise are open during this month; Satan is chained and hell's doors are closed. The first ten days of this month are for

mercy, its middle days are forgiveness and the last ten days are of hell.

Here in Aden the people chant and sing in praise of God during the approach of the holy month. We see children, on the other hand, playing with firecrackers, which signifies their great joy. People of different classes, the rich and poor alike, prepare themselves spiritually, religiously and materially and go shopping to buy their needs for this honorable guest.

In this city, food is variegated. During the dusk prayer, the time when fasting ends, people have special food to eat, such as dates, coffee, and some fried foods. After the dusk prayer, people have different kinds of food, such as shafoot (soaked bread with yogurt), marjoram, mashed soup and different kinds of drinks, such as mango juice and lemonade. Then they rest until the night prayer and taraweeh prayers, after which they have their supper.

Supper in itself is rich in its nourishing value. Then they have some sweets and pancakes.

At the same time we find the mosques swarming with people to perform the five prayers and praising God by day and night seeking His forgiveness without monotony. We find them together at one dining table, at which poor and rich people are equals receiving a new day and bidding farewell to another day.

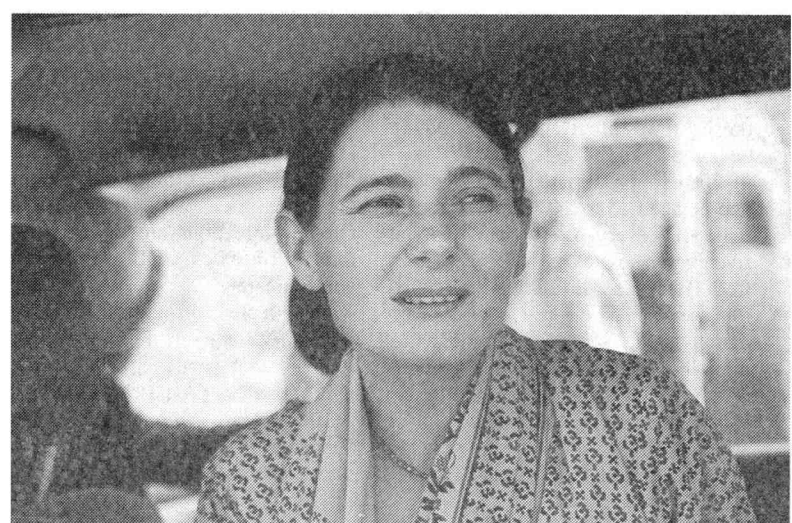
In conclusion, this month is not the month of allocating different kinds of delicious meals, nor is it customary for the majority of people to sleep and watch satellite television for long hours. It is the month of worship and gaining God's favor. It is the month in which there is a day which is better and of greater significance than one thousand months, it is called Al-Kadr Night. May God respond to our fasting! Amen! Amen!

### Marian Bush:

## "I was astonished to see Old Sana'a"

Ali Salem Al-Mabaki

After a memorable sojourn in Yemen, Marian Bush is deeply affected by the beauty and fascination of Yemen. The French woman, Marian Bush, left Sana'a after she prepared a language study in Yemen. She carried out her study on the different dialects of some Sana'ani women. She focused her study on the vernacular language of Sana'a. In her study, Maria has indicated that social and economic distinctions play an important role in forming a language or a dialect. She stressed in her study that social status, educational level, gender and age also play an important role in forming a language. Her research in this aspect is very accurate, as Marian Bush has firmly established her relationships with the women with whom she wanted to carry out her study. She was at first astonished to see the impressive architecture of the Sana'ani houses, particularly the old houses of Old Sana'a. She expressed her empathy for



the hard life of women. She noticed that there have been gradual improvements in the Sana'ani dialects. Also, she promised to come to Yemen again this summer. According to Bush, dialects can be modified due to several factors. Among these factors are both internal and external factors, such as words and the expressions of TV. She said that the vocational factor

is the main factor in forming a language and discussed a language strategy that could cope with the modern language. When an individual discards his society, he partially discards specific terms and expressions. She, in her study, accentuated that women can be more highly developed than men, in spite of the isolation and repression they endure.

# Improve Your English



**Dr. Ramakanta Sahu**  
Associate Professor  
College of Education, Mahweet  
ramakantasahu@yahoo.com



## I. What to Say

### 'Handsome is that handsome does'

**Khalid:** Hi, Anwar  
**Anwar:** Hi Khalid  
**Khalid:** Nice meeting you after ages. you have become a trifle plump, I suppose. Yet you look lively and in high spirits. What's the matter? You must be in love, I guess.  
**Anwar:** (laughing) What makes you think so? I'm sure, you yourself are in love too. Often we see our projection in others. It's said 'beauty does not lie in the object, but in the eyes of the beholder'.  
**Khalid:** No my dear. I'm a dull, prosaic person. Who'll love me? Look at you. A sprightly young man, beaming with life, bubbling with vitality and energy. Any one would fall for you.  
**Anwar:** You're what you're. Incurable.  
**Khalid:** Catch me if I'm wrong. You're handsome. But today you look ravishing. Tell me frankly who you're in love with.  
**Anwar:** Frankly speaking, I'm in love with ... guess who or what.  
**Khalid:** That's what I'm interested to get from you.  
**Anwar:** There you're. I'm in love with life.  
**Khalid:** Oh, come on Anwar. Be frank. A handsome person should not lie.  
**Anwar:** Honestly, I'm not telling a lie. I love life with all its diversity and richness. And I believe in a broader definition of handsomeness. 'Handsome is that handsome does.'  
**Khalid:** Please don't philosophize. Be simple. Don't bury me in your rhetoric and jargon.  
**Anwar:** It may appear as rhetoric, but it hides a simple but profound truth. Would you agree with me there?  
**Khalid:** I can't disagree. All maxims contain profound truths. What does this one mean in simple words?  
**Anwar:** It conveys an important message that we should not be too much carried away by external beauty. Appearance is not reality. A person may have a deceptively beautiful exterior, but may have a rotten interior. He may have a dagger in his heart. I ask you, would you call such a person 'handsome' in the truest sense of the word?  
**Khalid:** Of course, not.  
**Anwar:** That's what the maxim wants to convey: A truly handsome person is he whose outward beauty is matched by his inner beauty or qualities of mind. A truly virtuous person who obeys the commandments of Allah and follows the essence of Islam in both letter and spirit is handsome in reality.  
**Khalid:** Yes. There can be no second opinion about that.  
**Anwar:** And about your compliment to me. I'm not sure whether I possess any physical beauty. But I can humbly say that I'm modestly trying to refine myself and enrich my mind with pearls of Islamic wisdom. If I succeed to some extent, in being a cultured and good human being dedicated to the service of mankind, I might be somewhat equal to your compliment.  
**Khalid:** Inshallah.

## II. How to say it correctly

**Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences**

- One man is able to destroy the whole world.
- I am always delighted when I receive a letter from you. About the party on December 26th, I shall be very pleased to attend.
- He likes reading, above all, novels.
- I would be grateful if you send it to the address above mentioned.
- I cannot give you the accurate date of my arrival yet.

## Answers to last week's questions

- The company will not **agree** to buy new machines. We **accept** someone's advice, opinion, or suggestion, but **agree** to do something.
- Computers give us easy **access** to information. **Access** is an uncountable noun.
- His car was involved in a **serious** accident.
- In my opinion**, we should spend more money on education.
- We also have to take into account **the fact that schools** are over crowded.

## III. How to express it in one word

- General notion or idea underlying a class of things.
- Agreement between persons or things.
- Overlook or forgive an offense.
- Person who collects fares on a bus.
- Person who is trusted with private affairs or secrets.

## Answers to last week's questions

- Uneasiness of conscience: **Compunction**
- An outline or surface curved inward like the inside of a circle: **Concave**
- Bring or come together at one point: **Concentrate**
- Circles having a common center: **Concentric**
- Musical entertainment given in a public hall by players or singers: **Concert**

## IV. Do as directed

- Five young soldiers came to our village last week.** (Underline the subject and circle the head noun)
- (a) I want to go to a place. (b) In the place I can see the zoo.** (Combine the two sentences using the word 'where')
- History is as important as philosophy.** (Express the same idea using 'no less ... than')
- I must visit you tomorrow.** (Replace the italicized word with an appropriate phrasal verb)
- Come back --- and hour's time.** (Fill in the blank with an appropriate preposition)

## Answers to last week's questions

- The girl fell down on the floor and lay there **unconscious** till she was given first aid.
- He asked whether he **should write** with a pen.
- We have been waiting here **for two days**.
- There is not **any** water in the glass. (or) There is **no** water in the glass.
- Ramzi is an **honest** person.

## V. Words of Wisdom

**"Fortune sides with him who dares"**  
—Virgil

# Address by H.E. M.S Suman ,Ambassador of India in Yemen on the Occasion of International Students Day (28/11/2001)

(Readout by Mr. O .P. Bajaj, Counselor, Indian Embassy)

It gives me a great pleasure to welcome you here on the occasion of International Students Day. International Students Day has been specifically earmarked by the government of India for a meeting of alumni from various Indian universities, colleges and other educational institutions. It is a happy reunion of those who have studied in India in different educational institutions at different times. Equally important, it is also an occasion for renewal of our friendship with the alumni and Yemeni academics. International Students Day, as you may be aware, has been established by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, that is, ICCR. It is generally celebrated on the 11th of November, which happens to be the birthday of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, an educator who was India's First Education Minister and under whose chairmanship various programs of cultural and educational cooperation with other countries were formulated. The Indian Council for Cultural Relations was formally set up in 1950 with the primary objective of establishing, reviving and strengthening cultural relations and mutual understanding between India and other countries. Administration of scholarships offered by the Government of India is one of the most important activities of the ICCR. ICCR administers over 1900 scholarships at any given time under its

various scholarship projects for pursuing graduate, post-graduate and doctoral studies. India, from time immemorial, has been a center of learning. Thousands of years ago, great scholars used to teach subjects like philosophy, medicine, literature, drama, arts, astrology, mathematics, sociology, etc. Masterpieces on these subjects have been written. The ancient University of Nalanda flourished from 5th to 13th Century BC and had at one time about 10,000 resident students and teachers on its roll, which included Chinese, Sri Lankans, Koreans and scholars of other nationalities. After the British came, Western education was slowly introduced in India. At present, with 248 Universities and thousands of affiliate colleges, about 600 engineering colleges and technological institutes, about 500 medical institutions, scores of agricultural institutes and many other specialized centers of learning and research in every subject and discipline, India can claim its position as one of the leading countries providing high quality education to its people, as well as to students and scholars from countries all over the world. Yemen and India are bound by historical ties. Presently, both Yemen and India are members of the Non-Aligned Movement and the Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Cooperation and have common views and perspectives on major world issues. Both are



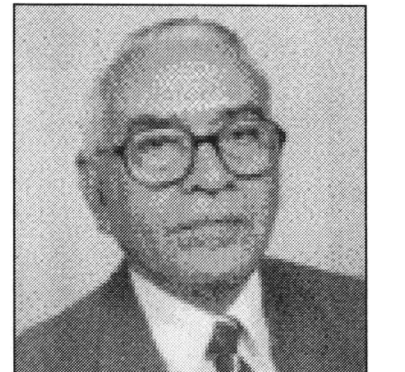
**H. E. M. S. Suman**  
Ambassador of India

partners in development, believing in the need for South-South cooperation. India, with its present position in the field of higher education, is in a good position to help. The government of India presently grants 30 ICCR scholarships to Yemeni students each year under the Cultural Exchange Program and the General Cultural Scholarship Scheme, which are well-utilized. Also, many more Yemeni students join various Indian universities and colleges as self-financed students. We attach great value to the mutual friendship and cooperation existing between the two countries. We are trying to increase the number of scholarships offered to Yemen, and further talks may be held during the next session of the Indo-Yemen Joint Committee meeting to be held in New Delhi.

# Address by Prof. Dr Damodar Thakur

After the Ambassador and the Consul had addressed the gathering, Professor Thakur, who has been teaching in Sana'a University for about 21 years and has been the Chairman of the Department of English, Faculty of Arts, for a long time, welcomed everyone to the occasion and started his speech by quoting a Chinese proverb which says, "If you want to plan for a year, plan for a good harvest; if you want to plan for more than ten years, plant a fruit tree; but if you want to plan for eternity, plant well the education of your country." So, one of the best things that a country can do for another county is to help the citizens of that country obtain a good quality education. He said that India has had a commercial and cultural link with Yemen for more than 1,000 years. Both India and Yemen have at times passed through similar corridors of history and now both India and Yemen are on an ever-increasing march to progress

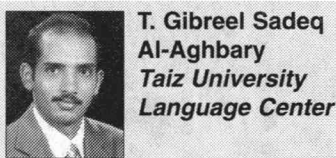
and prosperity, justifiably restless to find their well-deserved place of dignity and respectability in the international community. Both Yemen and India can augment each other's march towards progress in an atmosphere of friendliness and mutual support. He said, "As an Indian I feel proud of the fact that the government of India provides about 40 scholarships to Yemeni students for their postgraduate education and research in India every year." Addressing those who had received their education in India, he said, "I know you are all grateful to India for the support you were given for your higher studies, but the best way in which you can genuinely express your gratitude to India would be to give an excellent account of yourselves as professionals wherever you are." Referring to ancient classical music, Dr.Thakur said that when melodies acquire a great height of refinement, sophistication, and coherence in compatibility with a certain aesthetic mood, it is called a *raga*. There are Indian classical music ragas with five notes, six notes and so on. The only raga in which all of the seven pure notes of Indian classical music are used is called *Yemen*. That was the greatest respect that the great elders in India could pay to any nation. He added, "People often ask me whether this raga was really formulated by way of paying tribute to Yemen, and I tell them that even if it is not true, it deserves to be true."



**Dr Damodar Thakur**  
Professor & Chairman,  
Department of English,  
Faculty of Arts, University of Sana'a

al support. Dr Thakur said that a relationship of friendliness and brotherhood was like a living and ever-growing plant, and not like a lifeless mountain. He said, "If a mountain is there at a particular place, in normal conditions, it will in all probability continue to be there for ever. But a plant needs the continual input of fertilizer and water for its growth and survival. If we want a plant to be in a state of luxuriant growth, we have to continue adding fertilizer to its roots." The scholarships that India gives to Yemeni students for higher studies and research every year and the gatherings in Sana'a which are organized by the Indian embassy every year on the occasion of Maulana Azad's birthday and which are attended by Indian and Yemeni educators and distinguished citizens of the two countries are welcome positive steps, adding further to the friendship and the historical links between the two countries for thousands of years. Dr Thakur quoted a verse from an ancient philosophical poem called *Gita*, which says that just as fire is often covered with a screen of smoke, a mirror often covered with dust, and the fetus in a mother's womb covered with a jelly-like substance, reality is often covered with a misty veil of ignorance. We need to remove the apparent veil of ignorance to realize the deep historical, cultural and emotive link between the two countries. Dr Thakur ended his speech by saying, "God bless Yemen, God bless India, God bless the Indo-Yemeni relationship and God bless the efforts made by the Indian embassy to augment the relationship of friendliness between the two countries."

# May I Borrow a Word, Please?



**T. Gibreel Sadeq Al-Aghbary**  
Taiz University  
Language Center

Out of need, people borrow. So do languages. English is one such language; Arabic is another. Examples of borrowing are indicative of flexibility, not deficiency. Arabic has borrowed from English, French, Italian, Latin, Greek, Spanish, Turkish, German, etc. A considerable number of these borrowed terms have been Arabized and are so often used in our daily conversations that most of us are almost

unaware of their being borrowed. Consider the following example:

عند عودتي من استاد كرتة القدم صعدت إلى الباس وذهبت إلى الاستوديو لشراء فيلم وأخذت بعض الأوراق من الأرشيف ، وبعدما انتظرت أبي عند بوابة البرلمان، وذهبتا للبنك لسحب بعض النقود لشراء تلفون وراديو وأريال للتلفزيون، ثم ذهبتا للسينما. وعند عودتنا للفضلا مررتنا بكتفيريديا السلامة واشترينا أربعة سندويشات لحم مع الصلصة ومن ثم مررتنا بكوافير "الجميلة" على الكورنيش واستأجرنا باروكة شعر ورج...

This utterance contains about twenty borrowed terms. They have become so much a part of our daily conversation that their foreign identity might pass by unnoticed. Of these terms, seven are French: bus, archives, parliament, bank, television, coiffeur and rouge; four English: aerial, sandwich, cinema and cornish; three Italian: studio, par-

ruca and salsa; three Latin: villa, radio, and telephone; one Greek: stadium; one Spanish: cafeteria; and one German: film. Other Arabized terms also exist. Consider the following example:

الهاجورة - التيكيت - اوتيل - باراشوت - بروتوكول - بوفيه - جرسون - دش - شميز - صالة - باكو - بنطلون - صالون - كيبالة - كمنترول - مكياج - مدام - استوديو - بالطو - ميديلية - جوانتي

English, the lingua franca of the world, has also borrowed from over a dozen languages: German (house), Italian (balcony), Hindi (khaki), Sanskrit (ginger), Chinese (tea), Spanish (tomato), Persian (pajama), Hebrew (jubilee), Malay (ketchup), etc. The additions to English from Greek and Latin are too many to enumerate. Arabic gave English over a hundred words. 'Algebra' الجبر symbolizes the debt of English to Arabic. 'Admiral' comes ultimately from the Arabic 'amir' أمير which entered into various titles followed by the particle "of" (amir-al-bahr أمير البحر, amir al-muminin أمير المؤمنين). Before it reached English in the 15th century, the Romans adopted this term and attached to it their own Latin prefix "ad," producing "admiral." "Magazine," in a like manner, is of Arabic origin, "makhazin" مخازن meaning "storehouse" in the 17th cen-

<sup>1</sup>Who talks funny by Brenda S.COX 1995.

## YOUTH FORUM

**Al-Qamar (The Moon)**  
When I was gloomy, alone (even in crowd)  
Suddenly, there was light.  
What was it??  
I can't explain.  
I know that, I'm not so clever or so beautiful  
But, at the end, I'm a human being  
I have a heart

I can feel, but  
The difficulty is to explain that.  
Hana'a means: Happy  
al-Qamar means the moon.  
That is the most beautiful thing at night but,  
It's far away from me  
**Hanan Al-Qamar, (the moon)**  
Sana'a University

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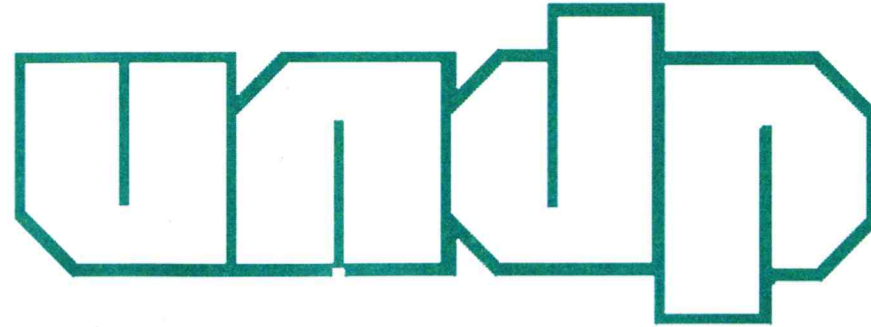
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United Nations Development Programme برنامج الأمم المتحدة الإنمائي

# VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) invites Yemeni Nationals to apply for the following positions with its Sana'a office:

## 1) Assistant Resident Representative (Operations)

### Responsibilities include:

- Contribute to the preparation of Country Office strategic orientations pertaining to human resources management, delivery of client-oriented services, re-engineering of business processes, resources management and cost reduction measures.
- Supervise the human resource, finance, procurement and general services units; develop, implement and monitor the translation of the Operations strategic orientations into concrete work plans for the units under his/her supervision; accountable for the application of UNDP rules and regulations and corporate policies relevant to the units under direct supervision.
- Ensure the coordinated, cost effective and client oriented delivery of services by the units under direct supervision; responsible for organizing effective coordination working mechanisms to ensure synergies and team work between the different units.
- Be responsible for the effective re-engineering of business processes including implementation of automated business processes.
- Act as the Learning Manager for the Country Office; establish, enhance and monitor implementation of internal systems for training and learning in the office.
- Contribute to and implement office strategic resource management including planning of available resources, tracking/utilization of financial resources, maintaining strategic reserve, proposing cost savings and administrative resource mobilization strategies including cost recovery initiative.
- Update National Execution (NEX) manual, and ensure training for staff and partners on NEX administrative and financial procedures.

### Qualifications and skills required:

- Advanced University Degree in Business Administration or related field
- 5-10 years of practical experience in operational management, public administration including financial, human resources and physical resources management.
- Proficient in the use of computers and office software packages.
- Excellent command of English and Arabic (written and verbal).

## 2) Information & Communication Technology (ICT) Analyst

### Responsibilities include:

- Develop, implement and monitor the country office information and communication technology (ICT) strategies and plans.
- Ensure compliance with corporate Information Manager (IM) standards, guidelines, and procedures for the office technology environment. Identify and implement IM practices that enhance the CO's effectiveness and ensure optimum use of information technology communications systems.
- Propose tools and methods for improving effectiveness. Collaborate with Regional Information Managers, Information Systems and Technology staff in the installation of commercial and in-house developed software and related upgrades.
- Manage construction of CO web page and intranet. Ensure that the information contained in the web page and intranet remains current.
- Arrange briefings and demonstrations of corporate systems and coordinate external training sessions. Keep abreast of current technology through self-study, trade publications, and professional activities.
- Represent the Country Office in IT relevant community meetings and discussions. Liaise with Information Systems and Technology staff for resolution of problems/questions that cannot be resolved by the local or regional technical-support teams.
- Provide technical advice on programme formulation and implementation to programme staff on IT related projects; Serve as a member of the office Information Management Task Force
- Formulate the in-house information guidelines and policies in collaboration with the IT Network, addressing important network and desktop security issues and office technology policies and carrying out necessary user training.
- Identify staff training needs and prepare an annual schedule of staff training on application & information topics.
- Supervise the roll-out, installation, configuration of emerging corporate softwares and formulate user training plan.

### Qualifications and skills required:

- Advanced University Degree in Computer Sciences, IT or equivalent.
- Minimum of five years experience of progressively responsible work in the IT area.
- Excellent command of English & Arabic (written and verbal).

## 3) Programme Analyst (2 positions)

### 1 position related to environment and the other position in the area of poverty alleviation

### Responsibilities include:

- Analyze and monitor the country's socio-economic conditions and trends, maintain relevant information and data, assess their impact on UNDP's work and identify opportunities and potential entry points for UNDP's support.
- In light of UNDP's mandate and programme focus areas, lead the programme/sub-programme development process in conformity with national and UN development frameworks and propose appropriate management arrangements based on thorough capacity assessments.
- Set realistic and monitorable targets for the team and lead monitoring and evaluation processes.
- Promote awareness and understanding of UNDP mandate and corporate policies, advise management on key emerging needs, policy and strategic issues that merit their attention and contribute to policy dialogue.
- Oversee the substantive management of the team's portfolio; provide the necessary guidance to ensure synergies with other teams and the incorporation of crosscutting issues and propose alternative course of action to address emerging problems and bottlenecks.
- Document lessons learned and best practices, access global practices, share them with the other local and international stakeholders and ensure their incorporation into the programme design system.
- Set and monitor financial targets for the Unit's portfolio.
- Promote strategic partnerships with donors, UN Agencies, private sector NGOs and INGOs and identify opportunities for resource mobilization, including the preparation of programme/project outlines.
- Promote and maintain a suitable environment for teamwork within the team, set performance parameters and learning objectives and assess competency performance.

### Qualifications and skills required:

- Master degree in social, political science, international relations or development studies.
- At least 5-7 years experience in the field related tasks with a national or international organization, knowledge about the UN and UNDP would be an advantage.
- Extended experience in public relations, resource mobilization and development related work at the national or international level.
- Excellent knowledge of computer and internet use including mastery of word processing.
- Excellent drafting and communication skills.
- Excellent command of English and Arabic (written and verbal)

## 4) Human Resource Associate

### Responsibilities include:

- Advise office management on Human Resource (HR) related issues and contribute to the development, implementation and monitoring of the office HR Strategy.
- Advise and monitor the appropriate use of various types of contracts. Determine and process the benefits and entitlements of UNDP staff and project personnel. Verify and certify the accuracy of all data.
- Propose new or revised procedures and practice., Interpret and assesses the impact of changes and make recommendation for follow up. Keep abreast of changes in administrative rules, regulations, and procedures, providing interpretation.
- Draft correspondence of a complex or sensitive nature. Write special reports, evaluations and justifications as required.
- Provide necessary support to the Office Learning Manager by determining staff training needs and proposing monitoring of individual and office training initiatives.
- Implement and monitor office compliance with corporate HR Policies.
- Provide training and guidance to NEX staff on UNDP recruitment procedures and Human Resource management.
- Maintain HR Reporting data and system and prepare aspects of office budget applicable to staff costs and training budget.

### Qualifications and skills required:

- Minimum University Degree in Business Administration, Human Resources Management or equivalent.
- Minimum of seven years of progressively responsible work in administration/HR field.
- Excellent computer skills.
- Excellent command of English and Arabic (written and verbal).

## 5) Public Information Associate

### Responsibilities include:

- Administer key elements of, and operationalize UNDP's communication and advocacy strategies, utilizing multimedia including internet, electronic and print media.
- Propose and implement activities, initiatives and programmes to promote public awareness of, and access to UNDP information and publicity materials. Effectively liaise with the Government, donors, local media, NGO's, civil society and other partners to this end.
- Provide technical advice to all units in the organization of advocacy and communication activities for the country programme; compile, monitor and implement agreed areas of communication and advocacy work plan.
- Plan, arrange and facilitate briefings and promotional opportunities, utilizing the national and international news media; identify appropriate projects and arrange field visits to UNDP activities in liaison with the programme units, accompany media teams, donors and other special interest groups, write related articles, coordinate and contribute to arrangements for special events.
- Compile and summarize background information, communication and other promotional and advocacy materials for use by the national media. Draft, edit articles, press releases and other information materials and reports.
- Produce periodic publications on UNDP in-country activities for distribution to partners.
- Contribute to the elaboration of the resource mobilization and advocacy strategies.

### Qualifications and skills required:

- University Degree in Journalism and Communication/Public Relation, International Relations or equivalent.
- 7 years extended experience in public relations and advocacy in particular related to development issues at the national or international level.
- Excellent command of English and Arabic (written and verbal).

## 6) Administrative Assistant (Procurement/Travel)

### Responsibilities include:

- Plan and organize procurement of goods and services for UNDP and other UN Agencies/Government(NEX) as required. Ensure and verify UNDP regulations and procedures are applied in procuring goods or services.
- Provide training and support to NEX partners on UNDP procurement procedures and contribute to the development and updating of NEX manual in the area of travel and procurement.
- Develop and prepare purchase orders, contracts and agreements with suppliers, and follow-up with suppliers and expeditors to ensure timely delivery.
- Responsible for the creation of a suppliers' database. Conduct market research in order to evaluate potential new suppliers for inclusion in database. Coordinate and maintain appropriate business relation with suppliers.
- Maintain the corporate automated system for procurement. Supervise, upgrade, integrate and ensure smooth application of this system.
- Oversee travel services provided by travel agent to UNDP, UN Agencies and Government (NEX). Ensure and verify UNDP regulations and procedures are applied in determining travel entitlements.
- Obtain and maintain up-dated policies and regulations of UNDP and Government on procurement including travel services. Prepare the annual office procurement activities report.
- Responsible for and oversees prompt clearance and timely delivery of UN consignments, and shipments ensuring UNDP regulations and procedures are applied.

### Qualifications and skills required:

- University degree in business administration.
- Minimum of 5 years progressively responsible work in administration/procurement field.
- Excellent computer skills.
- Excellent command of English and Arabic (written and verbal).

Candidates who have the necessary qualifications and background for any of the above positions may submit their curriculum vitae with a brief letter indicating the position(s) to which they are applying to the following address:

**Human Resources Unit, UNDP, P.O.Box 551, Sana'a Republic of Yemen**  
**The deadline for receiving applications is 28th December 2001.**

**UNDP is an equal opportunity employer and encourages women candidates to apply**

## 7) Programme Associate (3 positions)

### 1 position related to environment, 2 positions in the area of poverty alleviation field

### Responsibilities include:

- Keep abreast of sectoral socio-economic conditions and changes, assess their impact on the programme portfolio; Collect and maintain relevant data and identify opportunities.
- Draft appropriate sections of project documents, maintain a pipeline of proposals, arrange for appraisal processes and ensure linkages with other country and regional initiatives.
- Secure, review and update work plans for the portfolio in accordance with programme objectives.
- Maintain close relationships with programme/project personnel and counterparts and monitor progress and highlight need for corrective actions and policy implications.
- Undertake periodic programme monitoring visits, secure the preparation required substantive reports and arrange for standard monitoring and evaluation exercises.
- Synthesize programme progress and lessons and keep abreast of global best practices and ensure their dissemination.
- Provide training to national counterpart project staff to facilitate and support project execution and ensure effective follow-up of financial reporting and audit recommendations, as appropriate.
- Process budgetary revision, verify data from various sources, and maintain records for the monitoring of project implementation.
- Prepare financial forecasts and reflect them in budgets.

### Qualifications and skills required:

- University degree in international relations/development, communication and social science or secondary education with equivalent experience in areas directly related to poverty programmes.
- 3 -5 years extended experience in programme/project management related to poverty reduction and development issues at the national or international level.
- Excellent computer skills.
- Excellent command of English and Arabic (written and verbal).

## 8) Policy Analyst

### Responsibilities include:

- Analyze the country's development assistance picture, including donor priorities, policies and programmes, closely follow national and global trends in development assistance.
- Develop, design and plan a resource mobilization and advocacy strategy for UNDP based on the substantive and strategic orientation identified by the Programme teams and be responsible for its implementation.
- Gather and disseminate information pertinent to the UNDP mandate as well as global best practices and ensure their incorporation into the country office strategy.
- Formulate a framework for close working relationships with UNDP/HQ thematic networks, as well as international and national research institutes, NGOs and private sector and proposes partnership arrangement with them with respect to the UNDP activities.
- Establish and consolidate donor profiles guidelines and provide advice on negotiations of programme/project funded by donors or other cost sharing arrangements and establishes and consolidate donor profiles/guidelines.
- Manage the process of Human Development Reports preparation and launching, facilitate discussions and debates and document lessons learned.
- Participate in the elaboration and appraisal of UNDP and UN programme and project documents.
- Research and prepare draft strategic policy papers and thematic documents relevant to UNDP corporate mandate, facilitate discussions.
- Identify catalytic areas for UNDP intervention and provide support and advice to programme staff accordingly.
- Assess and interpret the impact of changes in programming tools, regulations and practices.

### Qualifications and skills required:

- Advanced University degree (Master's level) in international relations/development or communication and social sciences.
- Extended experience of 5-7 years in public relations, resource mobilization and development related work at the national or international level.
- Excellent command of English and Arabic (written and verbal).

## 9) Programme Assistant (Programme Finance Monitoring Unit -PFMU)

### Responsibilities include:

- Maintain expenditure ledgers; updated approval levels by source of funds; process mandatory and other budget revisions; reconcile headquarters PFMS (Programme Finance Monitoring Unit) data with various programme finance ledgers.
- Verify, analyze and reconcile various programme expenditure reports from the country office headquarters and Government using a computerized financial information system.
- Monitor the Management Plan created by Programme Assistants and maintain a consolidated data reporting and follow up format on management actions.
- Process financial transactions, conduct and participate in the implementation of training plans.
- Draft correspondence relating to programme, clarify, follow up and respond to requests for information.
- Follow up and process the closure of financially completed projects.
- Maintain and update the automated filing folder for the Unit's documentation in the CO automated filing/documentation system.
- Draft presentations and other statistical charts for advocacy purposes.
- Participate in programme/project field visits to get physically acquainted with the nature of the projects' activities and their implementation processes.

### Qualifications and skills required:

- Completion of secondary school with supplemental training in accounting and finance.
- 5 years extended specialized experience in financial information management, Programme Resource and Management.
- Excellent command of English & Arabic (written and verbal).



Continued from Page 3

**'Dark Angel' to Yemen Times:**

**"I came from a poor background. I came from Yemen and I walked the same streets as you do. I am you, so I know what it is like to be a Yemeni."**

**Q: Do you have great fans in the UK?**  
**A:** Yes, I have fans all over UK. I have been singing for quite a few years with different bands and musicians, but also producing my own work, and I have my own newsletter, which gets my name around. I am also a writer on music and moral issues about what music should do. You must not only be a singer but also a leader, a businessman to make it happen in any industry. But yes, I have fans in nearly every city in England.

**Q: What are your ambitions? Where do you think is your limit?**  
**A:** I am running out of time. It took 17 years to get to where I am and so much to do. My ambition is not about being a pop star. Pop stars, as everyone calls them, earn you respect one day and then people get fed up with you and you are forgotten. Nor do I want to be a legend. I just want to make it so I can go back to Yemen and open a school and fill it with computers. I want to hire some teachers and even get England to help with accreditation so the qualifications of Yemeni graduates from this school are acceptable in England and anywhere in world. There is making money and anyone can do that, but making a difference is totally different. I want to make a difference. There is no limit. Limit is for those who

are selfish and do for their own desires. I do not do what I do just for myself but to help others. My fans know me, not because I am a singer, but because I want to help and I open doors for anyone, whatever religion, culture or color they come from. No, there is no limit. There is so much to do, especially for my country, and I am not going to wait for the government of Yemen to do it either. Don't ask what your government does for you, but ask what you can do for your country, and get it done no matter how many times you fail. Do it even if it is helping the needy or your neighbors, working together to build a well or school. Do it yourselves because no one else will!

**Q: Do your admirers know that you are of Yemeni-origin? Was your career affected so far by the fact you are an Arab, especially after Sep. 11?**  
**A:** No, and yes. Some do know me, but when I am on stage it is too good to be true for English people to think I am an Arab. In the streets, it's different, and yes, I have been in many fistfights in Sheffield. That's the name of the city I live in. I am patient, but I am not going to stand while someone thinks he can punch me. I fight back and I give what I get. It has affected me a little, but it affected my mother the most. She wears hijab, so

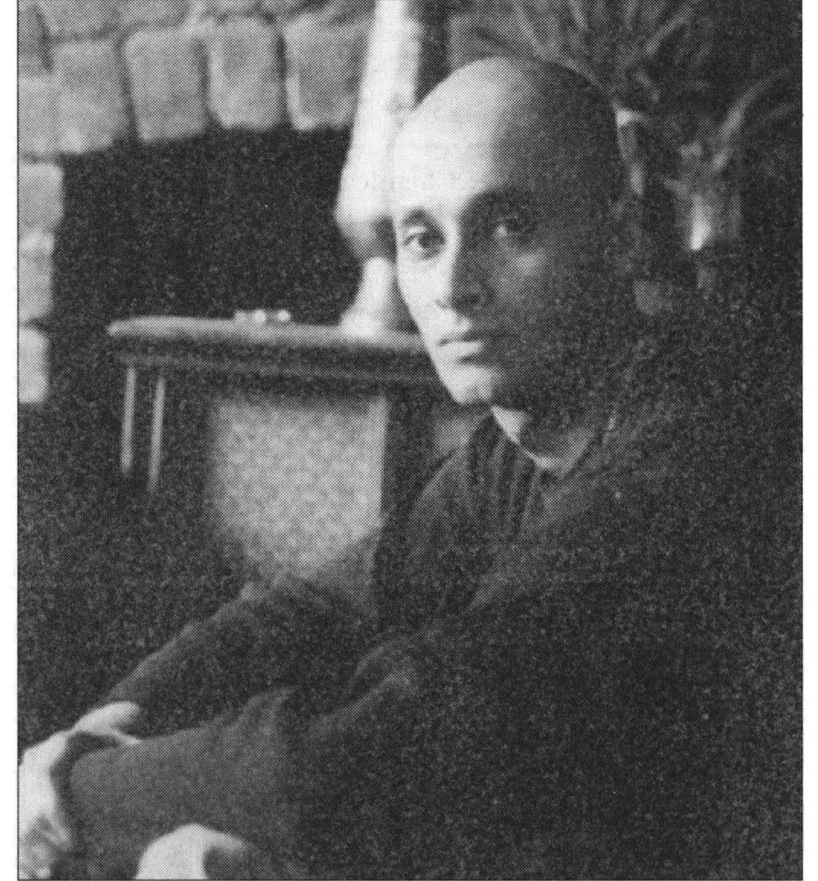
obviously, they can see she is Muslim, and she had her hair pulled, but they messed with the wrong woman. My mum is headstrong, and she doesn't take trouble from anyone. The Yemenis here in England are not soft. We all have been through a lot before September 11th. For example, we faced racism, verbal abuse and even racist police actions. So we had our share before the attacks against the USA, but we are not going to let that be an excuse for anyone if they think we are some soft community. We are loving people, but we are also very strong and big in England. We don't believe anything that comes on TV or newspapers here in the UK. We know exactly what that is all about!

**Q: Have you ever thought of mixing Arabic language into your songs (as some Arab musicians have mixed Arabic with French in their Rai songs)?**  
**A:** I am nearly finishing an EP, which means five or six songs. I have mixed Abdul Halim Hafiz in one of the songs and will also be mixing Umm Kalthum, and Farid El-Atrache, and I will keep doing so. I am not much into Faisal Alawi. The elders are into him but not me. But yes, I am going to also mix Arabic style of strings in many of my songs soon. I am trying to hit Arabia too. I am not that bothered about pop charts in England, because a lot of it is rubbish anyway, and it's not about music or songs but about artificial looks. For them, it is about product and packaging, but for me, I love lyrics, writing powerful songs with meaning and music that is powerful. If Yemeni people could send me tapes of noise in Yemen, like crowds of people, people talking in cafes, themselves singing, having fun, market noise and cars, etc., then I can sample them in my next album! Think of it as all of you becoming part of a dream, and I want you to become part of that dream.

**Q: Thousands of young Yemenis are now reading your words in this inter-**

**view. What message do you want to deliver to them?**

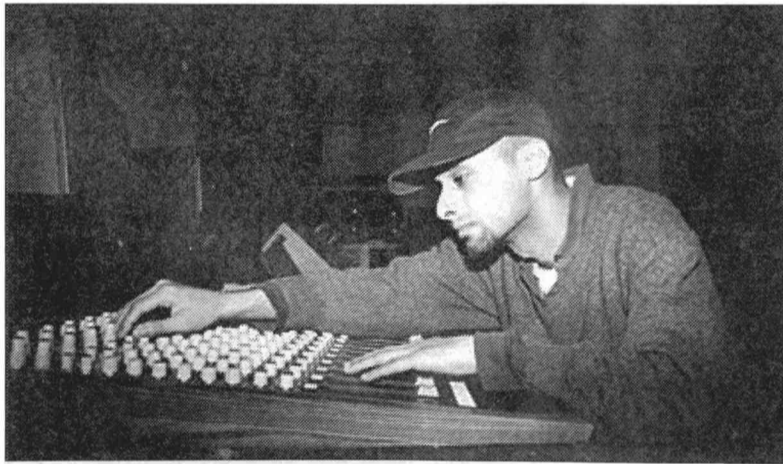
**A:** I came from a poor background. I came from Yemen and I walked the same streets as you do. I am you, so I know what it is like to be a Yemeni. I tell you now; hold on to five things in your life and hold onto them as tight as you can:  
 1. Never forget who you are. You have rich history! You are Yemenis and Muslims. Whenever you come to England, do not be foolish enough to want to be like Brits, but be yourself. Stay true to your beliefs and be proud of who you are.  
 2. Love and respect your mothers and fathers, no matter what! Love and cherish them, even if they are pain at times. Believe me, they can be, but be loving to them and what is yours is also theirs, even if you haven't seen them for half of your life. You only have one father and one mother. Life is short for disputes, so short!  
 3. You are the country, not the government. Only you can make it better, not them. If you want wells, come together and build them. If you want schools, then come together as one and build them. If you want equality, then treat your own woman first with the same respect as you would like to be treated, and God will be merciful to you. Women, they are our mothers, our sisters, our companions, our wives; and most of all, they are the backbone of any nation.  
 4. Do unto your fellow man what you want done to you. Whatever you do in this life, I promise you, it will come around to you. It may not happen in a year, in five years, but it will hit you when you are in desperation and it will hit you hard, so hard that you will grieve for a lifetime. Those who walk into your kingdom, let them walk in to see peace on your face, with love and with nobility within your hearts. Let them come back home saying 'the people of Yemen are indeed of noble descendants and truly loving.'  
 5. Anything is possible in life. Nothing is ever impossible or unreachable. If you fail



then try again, again, and again. What is life but a struggle for the soul, and struggle builds character and faith. When you reach to wherever you want to go and you climb that great wall, then remember to throw a rope back because there will be many walls bigger than the first that you climbed, and you are going to need help. When money comes your way, do not hold tight to it and do not throw it away either. Be wise and help your fellow brothers. For what you take with you in the grave is nothing, but your deeds. And may your brothers and sisters of Yemen be sweet and prosperous, as mine have now become Insha-Allah (God willing).

**Q: Any other comments you may have?**  
**A:** If you wish to remember anyone, if

you wish to praise someone great, then look up, raise your hands towards your chest, and raise your palms upwards to Allah the Most High and say 'Thank you Lord for keeping me alive, for the food I have, for the food that you give, for the air I breathe and for the religion that gives me peace of mind.' Remember the One God, so that He remembers you. As for me, I am not worthy of remembering, so remember Him. It would be better, richer and more rewarding for you to do so in every way. And He loves those to ask of Him as many times as you want. I finally would like to send my love to Uncle Ahmad and the rest of my relatives in Aden and Sana'a. God bless Yemen and all of you.



# Ramadhan: Joy of the Countryside

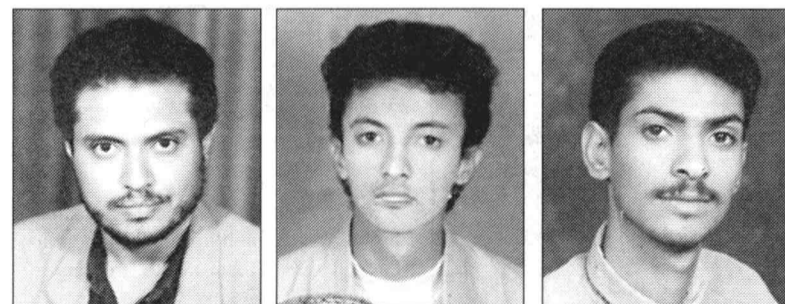
Yasin al-Zikri

**C**ities bid goodbye to many of their citizens in the Holy month of Ramadhan, and in the remote parts of the country, villages receive new returnees everyday.

**Ramadhan in the Countryside**

In the morning children go to school. Workers leave for their 'rocky' work. An hour later, roads are half-deserted, except for a few travelers to or from the city. Classes seem hard for children in this month; many drop out. Doors and windows are shut. Harvest is over. There are vast areas for children to play and run freely. But they should be aware not to disturb the sleeping people. At noon, many of those who left homes in the early hours return. Voices and sounds start to mingle and rise; knocking at doors, loud calls and yells, doors

and windows open, children's cries of hunger, etc. As noon approaches, car engines gear up. All cars move in one direction; the market. The number of cars coming and going from the market increases during the last quarter of the day and reaches its highest level as the night draws near. People return from the market. Children run towards them. "There should be some chocolates in one of those full plastic bags," think Ahmad and Hanin. At the time, housewives are busy preparing the iftar. Some dates, water, juice, coffee and soup will do. Children help their fathers or elder brothers carry what is brought to the kitchen and leave quickly to the house yards, impatiently waiting to hear the *Adhan*. In the mosque, a man sits quietly reading the Quran and from time to time will look at the clock on the wall. When the right time comes, he has some dates and rises up to rise the



*adhan*, announcing breaking of the day-long fasting. Children cheer up and rush inside their houses. A few minutes later, family members go to pray, while children carry some dates and water and stand in front of their houses to present iftar to passer-bys. Some people pray in the mosque, others on roofs of their houses. When they finish, they stand for a while talking with others and agreeing on the place of the *maqial* (a get-together to chew qat.) Inside, enjoying watching TV or listening to the radio, they have another light meal.

On the way to the *isha* and *attaraweeh* prayers, all interesting events of the day are narrated. Inside the mosque, they greet and shake hands with one another, especially with those who have returned from the city. Some religious anthems in praise of the holy month are repeated after the prayers. Then, approximately at 9:00 p.m., they return home for supper, which is similar to dinner on ordinary days, added to it some kinds of sweets. While chewing qat many topics are discussed, social, political, sports, etc. Saber al-Qu'aishi is a shopkeeper, and for him

hearing the iftar cannon, which is followed by the call for al-maghreb prayer. Plenty of accidents take place at this time, as everybody rushes home at a crazy speed. People run here and there to the mosque, homes, or restaurants. After a few minutes, streets look empty until life comes again about an hour later. People go to the mosque. Others go the market, especially the qat markets. Workers go to their work.

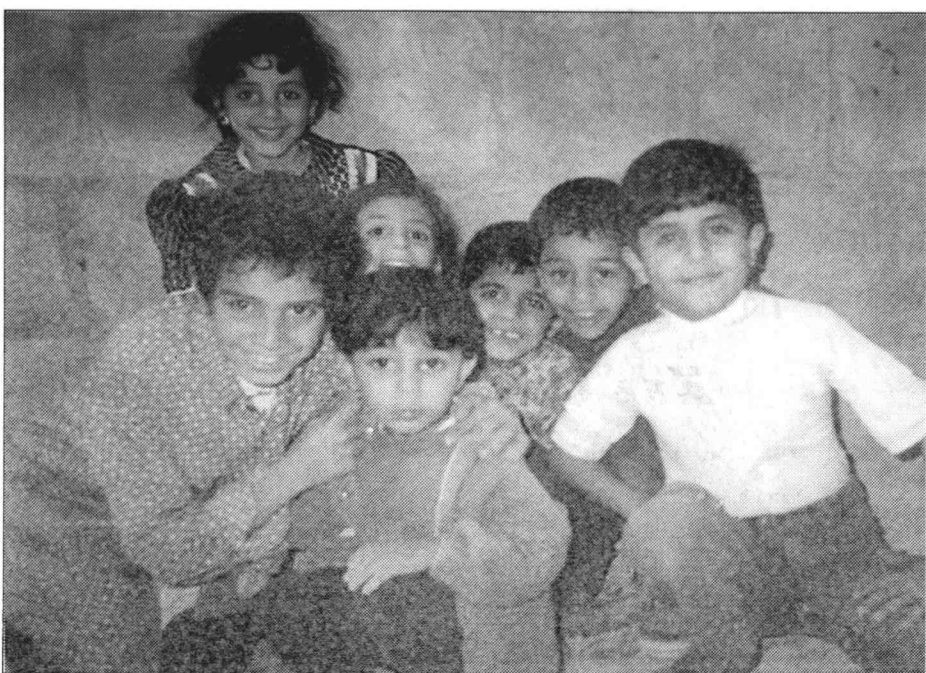
After dinner, men meet in groups to chew qat. A good number of people work for the private sector in society. These go to work. Students meet to study, and some of them go to language and computer institutes. Women go to the market, and many meet with other women to chew qat, sing and dance.

The cold weather in Ramadhan is not always suitable for many people to go for a walk. "It is very chilly outside. TV live programs are expensive, so we just stay at our homes watching TV," said Wahib Seif. The cold weather affects not only people, but even the price of qat, which is more expensive during Ramadhan than it is in other months. Numan, a qat seller, said the cold weather of winter decreases production of qat trees, and this helps raise the prices sharply because the demands are more than what is offered in the market.

Midnight is the time for many people to go back home, whether to sleep or to watch TV until 3:00 a.m. The time between 3:00 to 4:00 a.m. is the time for having the *sahur* meal, which some have at home and others in restaurants. After that, they prepare for their needs for the day. All refrain from eating and drinking after the *adhan* of the dawn prayer has risen. At 9:00 a.m., schools open for stu-



So do universities. Mostly stand-outs are noticed in the street between 8:00 to 9:00 a.m. "We have to walk a long distance to reach the university," said Marwan Abdu. "Not many buses work at this time," he added. Not many students attend lectures during Ramadhan, especially during the second half of the month. At 10:00 a.m., work commences at government offices and institutions, but most of their general managers do not come. All important papers are sent home for them. There, they study them more carefully and sign them. Some shops also start opening and buses start to appear. Starting from 5:00 p.m. onwards, many streets become crowded. Some people are nervous at this time. People reserve tables in restaurants in advance. Others carry some food to the mosque, and others go home with a lot of sweets. The iftar meal in the city often contains dates, juice, soup, *sambusa* and some sweets.



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## Promoting Yemeni Food & Music

Every country has its own specialties of food. The popular of some kinds of food has gone beyond their countries of origin to find even greater welcome



in many other countries. Yemeni food is of good variety of delicious kinds, but none are known outside the borders of the country. This

could be attributed to lack of promotion or less demand of this kind of food by non-Yemenis.

It is overwhelming to find some non-government and even non-Yemeni-managed institutions have been shouldering the task of presenting Yemeni food to a variety of non-Yemeni people in Sana'a. The Taj Sheba Hotel, in the heart of Sana'a, is one of very few places that puts great emphasis on local foods and sweets, which it tries to develop in order to suit guests' tastes. At the same time, it has also been promoting Yemeni music, especially at its Bilquis Tent, operating since the first day of Ramadhan. A Yemeni band plays Yemeni, Gulf and other Arabic hits of the 1990s.

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The majority of Yemenis chew qat in groups, especially at the Ramadhan nights. It is a habit of many of them to chew leaves of khat, while listening to popular Yemeni and Gulf songs. To provide more home-like maqials for such people, smaller tents have been set around the Bilquis Tent with typical Yemeni decoration and furniture to suit the taste of khat chewers. Every smaller tent is equipped with a multi-channels TV. All smaller tents can be curtained if families do not want to be disturbed.

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**Yusuf Islam (Former Pop Star Cat Stevens):**

**“This is Why I Converted to Islam...”**

This week is the last week of Ramadan, the holiest month of the Islamic Calendar. Hence we take this occasion to publish a true story of the conversion of Cat Stevens, former famous singer, from Christianity to Islam! The story is a said by his own words and provides a reasonable answer to the common question asked by Westerners “Why is Islam the fastest growing religion in the world?” Yusuf Islam did not only contribute to the Islamic world’s image abroad. But he also helped introduce Islam to the West, making thousands of the young generation ask and inquire about this religion.

**MY MESSAGE**

All I have to say is all what you know already, to confirm what you already know, the message of the Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) as given by God - the Religion of Truth. As human beings we are given a consciousness and a duty that has placed us at the top of creation. Man is created to be God’s deputy on earth, and it is important to realize the obligation to rid ourselves of all illusions and to make our lives a preparation for the next life. Anybody who misses this chance is not likely to be given another, to be brought back again and again, because it says in Qur’an Majeed that when man is brought to account, he will say, {O Lord, send us back and give us another chance} The Lord will say, {If I send you back you will do the same}

**EARLY RELIGIOUS UPRINGING**

I was brought up in the modern world of all the luxury and the high life of show business. I was born in a Christian home, but we know that every child is born in his original nature - it is only his parents that turn him to this or that religion. I was given this religion (Christianity) and thought this way. I was taught that God exists, but there was no direct contact with God, so we had to make contact with Him through Jesus - he was in fact the door to God. This was more or less accepted by me, but I did not swallow it all.

I looked at some of the statues of Jesus; they were just stones with no life. And when they said that God is three, I was puzzled even more but could not argue. I more or less believed it, because I had to have respect for the faith of my parents.

**POP STAR**

Gradually I became alienated from this religious upbringing. I started making music. I wanted to be a big star. All those things I saw in the films and on the media took hold of me, and perhaps I thought this was my God, the goal of making money. I had an uncle who had a beautiful car. “Well,” I said, “he has it made. He has a lot of money.” The people around me influenced me to think that this was it; this world was their God. I decided then that this was the life for me; to make a lot of money, have a ‘great life.’ Now my examples were the pop stars. I started making songs, but deep down I had a feeling for humanity, a feeling that if I became rich I would help the needy. (It says in the Qur’an, we make a promise, but when we make something, we want to hold onto it and become greedy.)

So what happened was that I became very famous. I was still a teenager, my name and photo were splashed in all the media. They made me larger than life, so I wanted to live larger than life and the only way to do that was to be intoxicated (with liquor and drugs).

**IN HOSPITAL**

After a year of financial success and ‘high’ living, I became very ill, contracted TB and had to be hospitalized. It was then that I started to think: What was to happen to me? Was I just a body, and my goal in life was merely to satisfy this body? I realized now that this calamity was a blessing given to me by Allah, a chance to open my eyes - “Why am I here?”

Why am I in bed?” - and I started looking for some of the answers. At that time there was great interest in the Eastern mysticism. I began reading, and the first thing I began to become aware of was death, and that the soul moves on; it does not stop. I felt I was taking the road to bliss and high accomplishment. I started

meditating and even became a vegetarian. I now believed in ‘peace and flower power,’ and this was the general trend. But what I did believe in particular was that I was not just a body. This awareness came to me at the hospital.

One day when I was walking and I was caught in the rain, I began running to the shelter and then I realized, “Wait a minute, my body is getting wet, my body is telling me I am getting wet.” This made me think of a saying that the body is like a donkey, and it has to be trained where it has to go. Otherwise, the donkey will lead you where it wants to go.

Then I realized I had a will, a God-given gift: follow the will of God. I was fascinated by the new terminology I was learning in the Eastern religion. By now I was fed up with Christianity. I started making music again and this time I started reflecting my own thoughts. I remember the lyric of one of my songs. It goes like this: “I wish I knew, I wish I knew what makes the Heaven, what makes the Hell. Do I get to know You in my bed or some dusty cell while others reach the big hotel?” and I knew I was on the Path. I also wrote another song, “The Way to Find God Out.” I became even more famous in the world of music. I really had a difficult time because I was getting rich and famous, and at the same time, I was sincerely searching for the Truth. Then I came to a stage where I decided that Buddhism is all right and noble, but I was not ready to leave the world. I was too attached to the world and was not prepared to become a monk and to isolate myself from society.

I tried Zen and Ching, numerology, tarot cards and astrology. I tried to look back



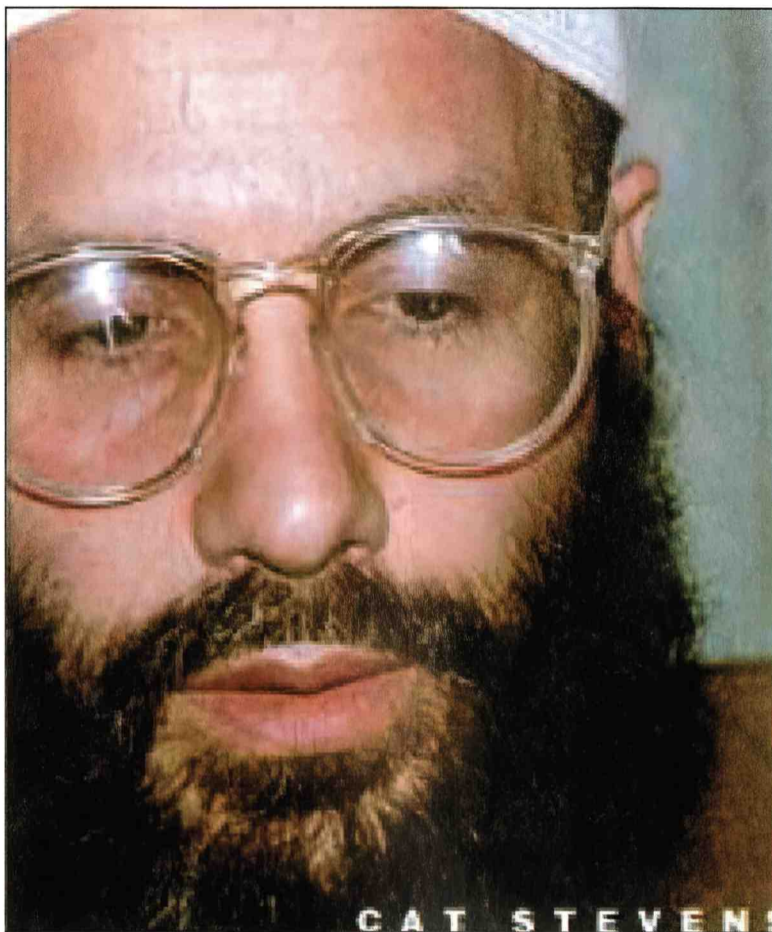
into the Bible and could not find anything. At this time I did not know anything about Islam, and then, what I regarded as a miracle occurred. My brother had visited the mosque in Jerusalem and was greatly impressed that while on the one hand it throbbed with life (unlike the churches and synagogues which were empty), on the other hand, an atmosphere of peace and tranquility prevailed.

**THE QUR’AN**

When he came to London he brought back a translation of the Qur’an, which he gave to me. He did not become a Muslim, but he felt something in this religion, and thought I might find something in it also.

And when I received the book, a guidance that would explain everything to me - who I was; what was the purpose of life; what was the reality and what would be the reality; and where I came from - I realized that this was the true religion; religion not in the sense the West understands it, not the type for only your old age. In the West, whoever wishes to embrace a religion and make it his only way of life is deemed a fanatic. I was not a fanatic, I was at first confused between the body and the soul. Then I realized that the body and soul are not apart and you don’t have to go to the mountain to be religious. We must follow the will of God. Then we can rise higher than the angels. The first thing I wanted to do now was to be a Muslim.

I realized that everything belongs to God, that slumber does not overtake Him. He created everything. At this point I began to lose the pride in me, because hereto I had thought the reason I was here was because of my own greatness. But I realized that I did not create myself, and the whole purpose of my being here was to submit to the teaching that has been perfected by the religion we know as Al-Islam. At this point I started discovering my faith. I felt I was a Muslim. On reading the Qur’an, I now realized that all the Prophets sent by God



brought the same message. Why then were the Jews and Christians different? I know now how the Jews did not accept Jesus as the Messiah and that they had changed His Word. Even the Christians misunderstand God’s Word and called Jesus the son of God.

Everything made so much sense. This is the beauty of the Qur’an; it asks you to reflect and reason, and not to worship the sun or moon but the One Who has created everything. The Qur’an asks man to reflect upon the sun and moon and God’s creation in general. Do you realize how different the sun is from the moon? They are at varying distances from the earth, yet appear the same size to us; at times one seems to overlap the other.

Even when many of the astronauts go to space, they see the insignificant size of the earth and vastness of space. They become very religious, because they have seen the Signs of Allah.

When I read the Qur’an further, it talked about prayer, kindness and charity. I was not a Muslim yet, but I felt that the only answer for me was the Qur’an, and God had sent it to me, and I kept it a secret. But the Qur’an also speaks on different I began to understand it on another level, where the Qur’an says, (Those who believe do not take disbelievers for friends and the believers are brothers) Thus at this point I wished to meet my Muslim brothers.

**CONVERSION**

Then I decided to journey to Jerusalem (as my brother had done). At Jerusalem, I went to the mosque and sat down. A man asked me what I wanted. I told him I was a Muslim. He asked what was my name. I told him, “Stevens.”

He was confused. I then joined the prayer, though not so successfully. Back in London, I met a sister called Nafisa. I told her I wanted to embrace Islam and she directed me to the New Regent Mosque. This was in 1977, about one and a half years after I received the Qur’an.

Now I realized that I must get rid of my pride, get rid of Iblis, and face one direction. So on a Friday, after Jumma’ I went to the Imam and declared my faith (the Kalima) at his hands. You have before you someone who had achieved fame and fortune. But guidance was something that eluded me, no matter how hard I tried, until I was shown the Qur’an. Now I realize I can get in direct contact with God, unlike Christianity or any other religion. As one Hindu lady told me, “You don’t understand the Hindus. We believe in one God; we use these objects (idols) to merely concentrate.” What she was saying was that in order to reach God, one has to create associates, that are idols for the purpose. But Islam removes all these barriers. The only thing that moves the believers from the disbelievers is the ‘salat’ (Islam’s

**DHARMA WANITA PERSATUAN (INDONESIAN WOMEN ASSOCIATION)**

Dharma Wanita persatuan (DWP- Indonesian Women Association) is a non profit organization of the wives of Indonesian Civil Servants. The organization does not only exist in the capital city of all Indonesian provinces, but also in all Indonesian missions abroad including in Sana’a. As an Integrated part of the Embassy, this organization has taken the role in supporting the Embassy’s task. In order to enhance its members capabilities, this organization has conducted many activities, most of which are dealing with social and culture. During this year, it has participated in the Indonesian Cultural Show and Food Festival which was held at Sana’a Cultural Centre and Sana’a Sheraton Hotel last March 2001, and join the International Cooking Program of Yemen TV which was Broadcasted on 16 November 2001. The DWP has also participated in any social events organized by some Yemeni social associations, Association of the Heads of Mission Spouses and International Women Association (IWA). Madame Evie Yulwis Yatim, spouse of the Indonesian Ambassador in Yemen, acts as an adviser to this organization.



**Apology**

In issue 48 of Yemen Times, the photo appeared in the article " Hodeidah, an Attractive Destination for Tourists and Investors" is for Mr. Abdulrahman Ali Al-Khazzan.

Our apology for Al-Khazzan and the readers.

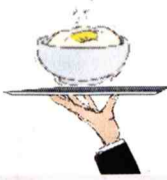
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**PRAWN VERACRUZ WITH MEXICAN GREEN RICE**  
Serves - 6 to 8

- Ingredients**
- Prawns - 500 Gms.
  - Vegetable Oil - 45 ml.
  - Garlic cloves - 3-4 Nos.
  - Onion - 1 No.
  - Green Pepper - 1 No.
  - Red Pepper - 1 No.
  - Green chilies - 4 Nos.
  - Taco Sauce - 250 ml.
  - Canned Tomatoes - 1 tin
  - Green olives - 15 Nos.
  - Capers - 2 Tsp
  - Cumin powder - 1 Tsp
  - Salt - to taste
  - Black pepper - to taste
  - Coriander sprigs - a few

**Method**

1. Heat oil in a large pan and add chopped garlic, sauté till it turns brown and add diced onion, peppers and prawns.
2. Add chilies, taco sauce, tomatoes, olives, capers and cumin powder
3. Bring to a boil and simmer till the prawns are tender.
4. Adjust seasoning and serve hot accompanied with green rice, garnished with coriander sprigs.
5. To make green rice blend parsley, coriander, spring onions, green tomatoes, garlic, lettuce, celery, capsicum, green chilies, cumin powder, and salt. Heat oil add this paste and cook till the raw smell disappears, add boiled rice and mix thoroughly.

**متصفح يمنع دخول الأطفال للمواقع المعطوبة نيوروك؟**

محبك: يخشى الآباء على أبنائهم أثناء إبحارهم على شبكة الإنترنت، من مخاطر المواقع المخلة بالأداب العامة، والأخرى التي تضر بنموهم النفسي والجسدي، وقد كثرت البرامج التي تحاول مطورها حجب المواد المضرة بالنشء والأطفال، واليوم طورت إحدى الشركات برنامجاً مجانياً جيداً أطلقت عليه اسم متصفح العائلة RESWRB YLIMAF وقد أعد خصيصاً للأطفال الذين يستخدمون شبكة الإنترنت.

وأشارت صحيفة الإتحاد أنه يمكن استدعاء البرنامج من الموقع WWW.RESWORBYLIMAFEHT.MOC وهو متصفح لشبكة الإنترنت يعمل في بيئة المتصفح اكسبلورر ه وما فوق، وفي بيئة ويندوز ٩٨،٩٥ وإم إي و ٢٠٠٠ واكس بي وبما أنه يعتمد على إعدادات اكسبلورر، فإن بمقدور الأطفال تصفح المواقع العربية أيضاً.

**يا خبر اليوم ببلاش بكرة بفلوس**

للمشتركين في خدمات (جي . اس . ام) وخدمة (واصل) وخدمة (تحدث بسهولة والمدفوعة مقدماً) اعتباراً من اليوم وتتيح هذه الخدمة للمشارك معرفة الأحداث والأخبار المحلية والعالمية فور ورودها أولاً بأول مما يجعل المشترك على اتصال دائم بمجريات الأمور وما يدور من حوله، ويمكن للمشاركة الاشتراك في خدمة الأخبار العاجلة العالمية والمحلية عن طريق خدمة الرسائل للنصية القصيرة SMS والتي تدعمها وتوفر محتوياتها شركة (انفو توسل) بالتعاون مع وكالة الأنباء الفرنسية سيكون مقابل مبلغ لا يتعدى ١٠ دراهم شهرياً بدون أي رسوم توصيل، ليتمكن من تلقي الرسائل النصية القصيرة ابتداءً من الساعة الثامنة صباحاً وحتى منتصف الليل، حيث اختارت

(اتصالات) هذا التوقيت المناسب حفاظاً على راحة المشتركين لإعلامهم بما يجري حولهم من مستجدات، علماً إن هذه الرسائل النصية ستكون باللغة الإنجليزية فقط. وأشارت اتصالات إلى إمكانية الوصول إلى محتويات الخدمة الجديدة بطريقتين، الأولى من خلال خدمة (جي، أس، أم) والتسجيل المباشر والاتصال بالرقم (١٢٥) وعندما يتم إضافة عشرة دراهم كرسوم تسجيل على الفاتورة الشهرية، أما المشتركون في خدمتي (واصل) و(تحدث بسهولة) فيمكنهم التسجيل مباشرة في هذه الخدمة من خلال الاتصال بالرقم (١٢٢) والتأكد قبل ذلك من وجود رصيد كاف في هواتفهم حيث يتقطع مبلغ (١٠) دراهم؛ رسم التسجيل مقدماً.

**رائد السقاف**  
raed260@yahoo.com



في ظل التطورات المتسارعة في تقنية الاتصالات وما ترتب عليها من شدة تنافس الشركات المقدمة لخدمات الاتصالات، أصبح ما تقدمه شركات الاتصالات من خدمات إضافية لمشاركتها هي المعيار لنجاح الشركات وعامل زيادة المشتركين، وقد تكون الخدمات المضافة لزيادة أرباح الشركة المقدمة لخدمة الاتصالات، وهذا ما قامت به مؤسسة الإمارات للاتصالات عندما أعلنت (اتصالات) عن توفير خدمة الأخبار العاجلة العالمية والمحلية عن طريق خدمة الرسائل للنصية القصيرة SMS

**ورق رقمي لإرسال رسائل الكترونية**

أو الرسم المحقق على الورق عبر التاشير على خانة معلمة مسبقاً في أسفل الصفحة، بالاستعانة بشريحة "بلوتوث" موجودة أيضاً في القلم.

وهذه الشرائح الإلكترونية التي تشكل إحدى الوسائل القياسية عالمياً لنقل المعلومات بدون سلك ستزود بها أيضاً الهواتف المحمولة أو الكمبيوترات المحمولة المتصلة التي يمكن أن تعالج النص على شكل وثيقة "ورد" أو "باور بوينت" أو إرساله كرسالة إلكترونية.



طرحت شركة إنتاج ورق فرنسية ما وصفته بأنه أول ورق رقمي في العالم يتيح إرسال رسائل الكترونية باستخدام قلم يحمل كاميرا، واعتبر مراقبون هذا الإنتاج بمثابة تحد لصانعي أجهزة الكمبيوتر الذين كانوا يبشرون بانتهاء عهد الورق.

وقالت شركة "هاملين" الفرنسية المنتجة للورق إنها ستبدأ بتسويق الورق الجديد في السويد اعتباراً من إبريل / نيسان وفي أوروبا نهاية ٢٠٠٢. وتطبع على الورق شبكة غير مرئية بالعين المجردة مؤلفة من نقاط صغيرة تبعد بينها مسافة ٠.٣ ملم، وتسيطر شركة هاملين التي تتخذ من مدينة كاين غربي فرنسا على ٣٥٪ من سوق بيع الكراسات في أوروبا.

ولكن لا تزال هناك حاجة إلى مزيد من العمل على القلم لتقليل سمكه كما يؤكد كريس جونسون المسؤول في أنوتو التي تأمل بيع ١٠٠ مليون قلم في السنوات الخمسة المقبلة. وإذا تحققت هذه التوقعات فإن أنوتو تتوقع أن تخفض سعر القلم؟ الكاميرا.

ويقول مبدأ الورق الذي كانت وراء اختراعه شركة "أنوتو" السويدية الناشئة، على قدرة القلم على نقل الكتابة والرسوم التي يحققها رأس القلم على صفحة الورق، وتقوم كاميرا صغيرة تعمل بالأشعة تحت الحمراء موجودة في رأس القلم بقراءة تحرك رأسه الحبري بمعدل مائة صورة في الثانية، ويرسل النص

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1	3	7	8	10
2	5	6	9	
4				

BY:- REDHA H.

1-uncountable. 2- long. 3- remember. 4-international. 5- jump. 6- similar letters. 7-now. 8-enough. 9- used for fishing. 10-hopeless.

Send the Correct answer to

**HALI inst.**

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Note:-  
Thursday is the last day for receiving the answers

Answers previous competition

1-estimable . 2- moat. 3-treatment  
4- incurable. 5- mate. 6- roof.  
7- mountains. 8-apartment. 9-tour.  
10-presedent.

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كلمة لا بد منها بمناسبة اليوم العالمي لحقوق الإنسان - حقوق الإنسان في اليمن :

## من الانتهاك الرسمي إلى متاجرة المجتمع المدني



وانتهاك الآخرين لتكون الحقوق بمثابة وعود جوفاء تطبقها ليس له مكان.

المتاجرون بحقوق المساواة دون تطبيقها مراوغات سياسية شروتها وعتاها قليل من الإنسانية والحياء كثير البطش وممالك العسس التي تتلقى الأوامر لقمع المعارضين. المتاجرون بحقوق الأبرياء من المجتمع المدني نذكرهم أن بيانات الشجب والتنديد لم تعد مجدية وأن الحقوق تنتزع ولا تمنح. أما وأن تكون شهادة زور، أما وأن متفيدة على حساب حقوقنا، وأما وأن تكون استثمار وعلاقة على الديمقراطية الغائبة فالأجدر منا بهذه المناسبة حماية هذه الحقوق التي وقعنا وبيدتها أمام العالم، والا فعلينا أن نرسل برسالة للأمم المتحدة لإخراجنا من الإغتراب لأننا لا نستطيع الالتزام بها..



أوراق قضيته لرئيس الجمهورية بعد أن تعرض ولازال للظلم والظلم من قبل ثلة تتبع القوات الجوية منذ حرب صيف 94 وصدرت الأوامر من وزارة الداخلية والبحث الجنائي ورئاسة الوزراء وأمين العاصمة وكل جهات الاختصاص لهمايته وإيقاف عبث المستهترين بأمنه وأسرته لأخذ منزله لكن كل شئ ظل معلقاً وظلت الأيدي المرتعشة تمتد عليه نهار مساء بالأسلحة والمدركات وهو في العاصمة وليس بعيداً سلطة الدولة المركزية.

العدل أساس لمعايير الالتزام بحقوق الإنسان وهو هنا غائب لتغيب معه روح بقية الحقوق. في المناسبة يكفي أن تنتصر الدولة ومنظمات المجتمع المدني لمقهور واحد تعلن أنها جادة في الالتزام وأن برامجها وأعمالها كذلك خالصة من أجل حقوق الإنسان. نعم يكفي قضية واحدة من آلاف القضايا المتناثرة هنا وهناك تضايقتنا في كل مشهد وتبث فينا عدم الإحساس بالأمان وفقدان هيبة دولة نعمل عليها ترفا حماية مواطنيها

ورغم ذلك فإن المراقبين يشيرون إلى تحديات كثيرة في هذا المجال تواجه هذه الوزارة الناشئة التي ترأسها الدكتورة وهيبه فارح منها الكم الهائل من القوانين التي فيها انتهاك صارخ للإنسانية ولا زال معمول بها في اليمن. هذا علاوة على الانتهاك اليومي لإصحاب النقوذ في الدولة لحقوق الإنسان ليكون موقف الوزارة صعباً في هذا الجانب. فالموقف الرسمي مثلاً لا يزال متمسكاً باللجنة الوطنية العليا لحقوق الإنسان - رغم وجود الوزارة الرسمية، أيضاً ولا زالت بياناتها تسبق الوزارة في التعبير عن المواقف والانتهاكات لتقدم التبريرات لتلك الانتهاكات.

الآلاف من القضايا المترامية في المحاكم والنيابات وفي أقسام الشرطة والمنازل وجميع أركان الحياة القاسية في اليمن لا تزال تنتظر الحل والإنصاف لكن سيف القانون نائم ومطرقة الحاجب توقفت عن القرع والقول «محكمة» وميزان العدل إختل وطفف في مكيا له للأغنياء على حساب الفقراء.

ولهذا لم يعد للمقهورين سوى تقديم المناشدات لرئيس الجمهورية وطلب المساعدة ومن حاله الحظ تلقى الرد والتوجيه وآخرين كثيرين ظلوا مبعثرين على الأرض يفترشون الأرض ويلتحضون السماء. أتذكر قضية مواطن بسيط في هذه المناسبة هو المواطن عبدالله محمد الأهدل الذي قدم

راحت أيضاً تكتم الأفواه وتفرض هيبه السلاح بدلاً عن القانون في كثير من الأحيان ورصدت ميزانية مضاعفة للأمن أدت إلى تخفيف مستحقات المواطن من حقه في التعليم والصحة والسكن وكل متطلبات العيش الآمن. وفي جانب آخر فإن ما تشير إليه الإحصائيات من الجانب المدني والمنظمات المهتمة بهذا الشأن تنذر بما جاعة، فالإحصائيات تقول أن ما يزيد على (4000) منظمة غير حكومية من منظمات المجتمع المدني موجودة في اليمن وجميعها في أحد بنودها تؤكد على ضرورة التزام اليمن بحقوق الإنسان وتأكيداً على العمل لتحقيق هذا المطلب.

غير أن الواقع ظل بعيداً عن هذه التأكيدات وراحت هذه الجمعيات ومنظمات المجتمع المدني تستثمر في هذا المجال وتبيع لحوم البشر بقليل من الأوراق الخضراء، لتضع حقوق الإنسان بين مخالب اثنين من وحوش الحقوق والحريات - السلطة الرسمية ومنظمات المجتمع المدني.

علاوة على ذلك فإن إنشاء وزارة لحقوق الإنسان ليكون الضارح الوحيد على بقية المناسبات السابقة التي مرت منذ العام 1948م توقيع الاتفاقية هو الجديد الذي يمكن الحديث عنه في اليمن.

تحتفل اليمن الاثنين العاشر من ديسمبر من هذا العام 2001م بالذكرى الثالثة والخمسين للتوقيع على اتفاقية حقوق الإنسان ومعها سائر بلدان العالم وسط أجواء محببة ومليدة بغيوم جدية في بلدنا رغم تأكيد اليمن بالالتزام بمواثيق حقوق الإنسان التي وقعتها.

ومن الذكرى الثالثة والخمسين لحقوق الإنسان يمكن إستشراف موقف اليمن والتزامها بهذه الاتفاقيات من جوانب متعددة منها ماهي مصادر خارجية كتقارير منظمة العفو الدولية والمنظمات المهتمة بحقوق الإنسان وحرية الرأي والصحافة ومنها ما هو داخل مرتبط بالانتهاكات التي يتعرض لها الإنسان اليمني الذي يعيش كل يوم قضايا انتهاك صارخة خالف قضبان السجون وعلى أرض الواقع.

لكن المسؤولية الأولى إزاء أي انتهاك يتعرض له المواطن اليمني المغلوب على أمره تقع في الدرجة الأولى على الحكومات المتعاقبة التي بدأت برنامجاً اقتصادياً للإصلاح ولكن بدلاً من أن يحسن من الظروف المعيشية، قضى على ما تبقى من أمل العيش المتواضع للمواطن المقهور وزاده جوعاً وهو بانتظار إصلاحات سريعة تقض على ما تبقى من أنفاس توحى بالحياة.

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## أشاد بالجهود التي بذلها الموزعون المعتمدون لـ "سابافون"

### حسان قباني: العمل المشترك حقق الكثير من أهداف الشركة



حسان قباني ومدير عام المبيعات فادي الخطيب وعدد من مدراء اقسام الشركة. وقد أشاد حسان قباني بإسم الشركة بالجهود الكبيرة التي بذلها الموزعون المعتمدون في مساعدة سبافون لنشر خدماتها في السوق اليمني منذ انطلاقتها، وما نتج عن ذلك من تحقيق نجاح كبير في الوصول إلى المشترك اليمني بشكل فعال وسريع، مضيفاً أن هذا الأمر يدعو إلى الفخر والإعتراف بمستوى شبكة التوزيع المتوفرة لدى سبافون والمتمثلة بالشركات الكبرى التي اتحدت بشراكة طويلة الأمد معها.

وأكد قباني على أن العمل المشترك بين سبافون وكافة الموزعين قد حقق الكثير من الأهداف التجارية للشركة وساعد على أن

يطل علينا شهر رمضان المبارك كل عام حاملاً معه الخير والبركات. وقد اتسم هذا الشهر دائماً بالكرم، كيف لا وهو يجمع العائلة والأصدقاء على موائد إفطار مشتركة، لتعزز بذلك روح الترابط والتعاضد فيما بينهم. من هنا أقامت الشركة اليمنية للهاتف النقال "سبافون" إفطار في فندق شيراتون- صنعاء، غروب الأربعاء الماضي، على شرف الموزعين المعتمدين لديها. وقد حضر الإفطار ممثلون عن شركات الموزعين التالية: عز للإتصالات، بن سيف، ماكسيمام للهواتف العمومية، مؤسسة مام العالمية، البكاري، الحظا للتجارة. وحضر عن سبافون المدير العام التنفيذي

تكون سبافون شركة الإتصالات الأولى في اليمن من حيث توفير الخدمات وسهولة تعاملها مع الجميع. هذا وقد تبادل الجميع طرح الأفكار والخطط المتعلقة بشؤون أداء المبيعات لبركات. وأخيراً شكر قباني مشاركة الحضور في هذا الإفطار وتمنى أن يعيد الله هذا الشهر الكريم على الجميع بالخير واليمن وا لبركات.











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التعليمات في الغلاف ملاحظة: يرجى الإجابة بإحدى اللغتين فقط... Instructions on the cover

- ضع إشارة بجانب الإجابات الصحيحة:**
- 1- أصدرت مشيخة الأزهر الشريف في الاسبوع المتصرم فتوى تحرم العمليات الاستشهادية في فلسطين.. فمن هو شيخ الأزهر؟  
الإعزاء ارسال كوبون واحد لليابان  
الشخصية مع كل أربع اجابات وذلك تسهيلا لفرز كوبونات المسابقة
  - 2- سبيستل، تقطعي حتى الان اكثر من:  
60 مدينة يقرية  
في اي محافظة يقع قطاع المسيلة رقم (14) والذي تقوم به شركة كنيديان تكسن بتروليم يمن بتشغيله؟  
محافظة المهرة  
متى أعلن بنك اليمن والخليج للجمهور الكريم عن ابتداء تقديم خدماته:  
2001/4/9  
في اي عام تأسست الشركة اليمنية لصناعة المنخفضات والصابون (إحدى مجموعة شركات الحثرة الصناعية)؟  
1978  
ماركة شهيرة للأجهزة المنزلية والكهربائية وكما لها في الجمهورية اليمنية محمد ابراهيم الوجيه،  
فيديوكون  
في يوم الإثنين من كل اسبوع تطير اليمنية إلى:  
باريس  
ما هو الحدث الجاري في شميلة هاري حاليا؟  
تطوير الاحتياجات المنزلية  
تميز الموديلات الحديثة في طبخات جليم غاز بالمواصفات التالية:  
1000x610x410  
دشنت شركة ألفا في الاسبوع الماضي مهرجانها السنوي.. بماذا يمتاز هذا المهرجان؟  
معرض منتجات جديدة  
التسجيل القادم لدرجة البكالوريوس في تقنية المعلومات (Bsc.I.T.) من جامعة سيكيم مايبال العالمية عن طريق مركز ابنتك لتعليم الكمبيوتر سوف يكون في:  
يناير 2002  
كم عدد الجوائز المقدمة في مهرجان سوني؟  
20 جائزة  
يقع المكتب الرئيسي للمتحدة للتأمين في إحدى المعالم التجارية في صنعاء فهل هو:  
مركز السعيد التجاري  
ما هي العلامة التجارية التي من إحدى منتجاتها زيت الطبخ؟  
صافي  
ما هي جنسية شركة بريمانا المتخصصة بملايس الاطفال؟  
بلجيكية  
مواصفات زيوت (ب.ب. فيسكو 2000):  
SJ SF SH  
متى بدأت مؤسسة محمد حسن الكبوس اولاده في تجارة البن والشاي؟  
1940

**Mark the Correct Answers:**

- 1- Al-Azhar Al-Sharif has issued an Islamic Fatwa that prohibits any martyr/suicidal attacks against non-combatants. Who is the current sheikh of Al-Azhar who issued this Fatwa?  
 Dr. Yousuf Al-Qaradawi  Sheikh Mohammad Sayed Tantawi  Sheikh Mustafa Makhluof
- 2- How many cities and villages that are covered by Spacetel Yemen:  
 50  60  30
- 3- In which governorates the Massyla block # 14 (operated by Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen) is located?  
 Mahra  Hadramaut  Shabwa
- 4- When did the Yemen-Gulf Bank start business?  
 9/6/2001  9/7 2001
- 5- When was the company for Detergents & Soap Industry (member of Al-Hathra Industrial Group of Companies) founded?  
 1982  1984  1976
- 6- Mohammed Ibrahim Al-Wajeh is an agent for a well-known electrical manufacturer. What is the name of that company?  
 Videocon  Sony  Panasonic
- 7- On every Monday, Yemenia flies to:  
 Paris  London  Rome
- 8- What's the event that Shumaila Hari has?  
 home fair  lucky draw  big sale
- 9- Modern Glem-Gas Cookers Models are distinguished by:  
 Being 100% Safe  Cooking and Grilling at once while oven is closed  Both feature prizes
- 10- What distinguishes ALFA Company in its annual festival:  
 New products  Big sales  More than 100 prizes
- 11- The forthcoming for the Bachelor of science degree in I. T. from international SIKKIM MANIPAL will be held in "APTECH" ON:  
 January 2002  March  May 2002
- 12- How many prizes does sony present?  
 20  50  More than 100
- 13- The headquarters of the United Insurance Company is located in:  
 Al-Saeed Trading  Center Sana'a Trade Center  International Marketing Center
- 14- What is the trade mark in which Al-Tabbakh Ghee is one of its products?  
 Pure  Abundant  clean
- 15- The country of origin of Premaman company for children garments is from:  
 Belgium  China  Thailand
- 16- The BP. Fisco characteristics 2000:  
 SJ  SF  SH
- 17- When did Mohammed Ahmed al-Kabous & his Sons Establishment started coffee and tea business?  
 1940  1980  1938

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سيتم نشر جميع إجابات الأسئلة بعد انتهاء المسابقة في فبراير 2002. كما سيتم السحب وتسليم الجوائز في نفس الشهر. لمزيد من الإستفسار عن المسابقة، يمكنك الإتصال بالأخ/ نصري أبو بكر، على هاتف الصحيفة في صنعا في أوقات الدوام الرسمي. x يجب أن تتعلق البيانات الشخصية مع البيانات في البطاقة الشخصية (أو جواز السفر لغير اليمنيين).

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