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USS Cole suspected bombers to be tried soon

BY MOHAMMED AL-QADHI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A Yemeni official source said Saturday that the USS Cole bombing suspects will be brought before court soon. He said the Yemeni-US officials agreed to present the detained suspects to court in the coming few days, without giving a date and the number of the detainees. He pointed out that all arrestees and those who have been proved to be involved in the USS Cole bombing in Aden, 12 October, 2000 will be tried. But, for those who are still on the run, they will be hunted down and presented for tribunal. They will not be tried in absentia.

PSO sources told the parliament fact-finding committee on the terrorism detainees situation that they are 104 detainees and that 15 of them are in jail on charges of USS Cole bombing.

The Yemeni official source said they will be tried at a Yemeni court in Aden, according to

Yemeni laws and Constitution. The tribunal sessions will not be public.

Yemeni and US authorities are still hunting down for someone called Abdulraheem al-Nashery, whose other neck names are also al-Harazi and al-Saafani. He is suspected of being the mastermind of the USS Cole operation that killed 17 and wounded 39 others of US marines. Al-Harazi has been reported to have escaped from Yemen to Pakistan one month earlier to the incident after making sure of the success of the operation.

Yemeni authorities carried out a massive arrest campaign after the incident, detaining around 80 suspects from different governorates, mainly Aden, Shabwah, and Abyan. Tens of them were released later on as they have been proved innocent. Only fifteen remained in jail as they were proved guilty.

The US officials repeatedly requested the Yemeni authorities to postpone the trial for col-

lecting more information on the incident, mainly from the al-Qaeda detainees in Guantanamo. The US officials are believed to have obtained more information from these detainees about the one who masterminded the operation.

Yemeni official sources said earlier this month that a US team of investigators will arrive in Yemen to discuss with the Yemeni side closing down the Cole file and present the detainees to court. The US ambassador, Edmund Hull said September 11, 2002 that US investigators worked together with their Yemeni counterparts on last bombing that killed two al-Qaeda elements in Sana'a early August. The two killed elements were preparing for a terrorist operation. A number of explosives were found in their flat.

The Yemeni authorities arrested over 70 persons living in the same neighborhood. Later, 50 were released and around 20 are still in jail.

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President reiterates opposition to a strike against Iraq

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

President Saleh said on Thursday that Yemen strongly opposes any attack against Iraq, especially that Iraq had agreed to allowing UN weapons inspectors back with no conditions. In a strong statement against US policies, the President said during the youth parade held on Thursday on the occasion of the 26 September revolution anniversary that if UN resolutions are to be enforced, then they should be enforced on all nations with no exceptions.

"We have condemned September 11 terror attacks and terrorists are still being hunted, but meanwhile, not even one UN resolution has been enforced against the 50-year-old terrorism in Palestine... We want to see the UN resolutions touching on the Palestinian cause to be

implemented at least once in the history". Implicitly criticizing the US double standard policy, President Saleh added, "The world is making a big fuss for it guesses that Iraq has biological and chemical weapons arsenal and is downplaying, meanwhile, the bitter fact Israel's biological and chemical weapons arsenal considered the biggest in the region and poses a threat to the whole world, why is this?" he asked.

Among the other issues raised by the President were the conflict in Somalia, the Palestinian issue, and other regional and International issues. The focus of the speech however was on the achievements during the last 40 years since the 26 September revolution erupted in 1962.



MPs stage sit-in

BY MOHAMMED BIN SALLAM
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

More than 60 MPs staged a sit-in at the parliament in protest against the Vice Speaker who had physically attacked Sakhr al-Wajeeh, a member of the fact-finding committee on Tuesday's session, September 24.

In a letter dispatched to the parliament speaker, MPs have strongly denounced the attack describing it as an "empty-headed conduct and stupid behavior". Such an attack is considered to be detrimental to parliament and MPs. "It is a hostile and terrorist act and an insult to all MPs and to the people of Yemen," the letter said.

"It is a flagrant violation of the constitution, law and to parliamentary immunity," the letter added.

The letter has recalled other previous attacks by the Vice Speaker on a number of MPs particularly the attempted attack on MP Sultan al-Attwani and the use of abusive remarks against Sa'ad Addeen Taleb and Yahya Mansour Abu Asba' or ordering the bodyguards to force the MPs to leave the hall, such as, Najeeb Qahtan Ashabi.

The MPs have strongly criticized the Vice Speaker of the parliament of bad-mouthing the MPs.

They further demanded for an immediate deterrence to unacceptable behavior including forming a special committee to interrogate the Vice Speaker and suspend him from his post. The MPs have demanded civil society organizations, political parties, and human rights organizations to denounce this uncivilized conduct against the MPs. *Continued on P 5*

Trouble ahead for Yemenis in USA

According to news reports in the USA, two Yemenis based in Oakland, California are accused by the US federal prosecutor of possible connection to drug trafficking and money laundering in the US.

According to report of an Oakland-based newspaper, 28-year-old liquor store owner Mohammed Amin Ahmed and 22-year-old Laney, College student Mohsin Musid Sharif, were part of an international ring that smuggled

over-the-counter cold remedy pills from Canada through Detroit to nine California meth labs.

It is believed that Oakland's liquor stores have become a source of concern for the authorities because of their links to dealers all over the US. Seventy percent of Oakland's 375 liquor stores are run by Yemenis.

This comes in a time news of scrutinizing Yemeni immigrants in the USA were reported.

Continued on P 5

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Electoral committees suspended in Mareb

The electoral registration committees in Mareb have been prevented of practicing their activities by a group of Mareb tribesmen. Tribal sources said tribesmen protested the changes of the voting centers. Some balloting centers were moved to remote areas. The registration committees are still trying to settle the matter and resume their activities.

Parliament approves agreements

In its session presided over by its speaker Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hussein AL-Ahmar, the parliament has approved an agreement among eastern Arab countries to give Yemen more facilities in exchanging tourism and commercial activities with neighboring Arab countries.

The parliament has also approved the agreement of the Arab great free zone area and its execution program to enhance trade between Arab countries. Members of the parliament have also approved the final draft of the Child Rights Law.

The parliament also ratified the loan agreement for the engineering services project for roads which was signed between the government of Yemen and the Saudi Fund for Development valued at 22.5 million Saudi rials. The parliament discussed the loan agreement in the light of a report by the joint houses committees.

The parliament approved a number of other agreements including the development loan agreement to finance the water and sanitation project for urban centers valued at one USD 130 million. The parliament has discussed the objectives of the two agreements and heard the government's arguments.

Tourist Exhibition in Taiz concludes

TAIZ-Taiz governor, Mr. Ahmed Abdullah Al Hajri, inaugurated Friday Sept. 27 the First Tourist Festival on the occasion of the Tourism World Day. The exhibition which winds up today, includes photography show for tourist attractions in Yemen, tourist and hotel services, handicrafts and silver antiques and typical agriculture nursery.

Sadiq Salah, Taiz Tourist office chairman told the Yemen Times this exhibition is being held within a num-

Human Rights for journalists workshop winds up

By FARUOK AL-KAMALI
TAIZ BURE, TAIZ

TAIZ-Organized by the Human Rights Information and Training Center (HRITC) and in cooperation with the Canada Fund Program for Local Initiatives, the second 2-day Training workshop for Journalists on Human Rights was concluded last Tuesday.

The 45 participants representing different Yemeni newspapers, and reporters of foreign media received lectures on human rights, press freedom, legal bars of journalist's job and practical training on how to defend themselves. A human rights guide was issued for journalists to provide them with knowledge on human rights issues in the Yemeni legislation and constitution. The workshop trainers were delivered by Dr. Abdullah Khaleel, Majdi Helmi, and Dr. Mohammed Al Mekhlafi.

Mr. Mahboob Ali, the chairman of the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate, confirmed that there is a tied link between human rights, and press and the workshop represents an important message for all governmental and non-governmental organizations to help promoting and qualifying Yemeni journalists.



Mr. Ezdeen Al Asbahi, chairman of (HRITC), told Yemen Times that the workshop is within the (HRITC) program to qualify specific groups of the society like teachers, lawyers, judges and pressmen and raising the human rights awareness among Yemenis. "Legal education is very important for journalists to convey these principles to others as well as defend themselves in publication issues", Al Asbahi stated.

In his speech, the Canadian ambassador to Yemen highlighted the significance of NGOs in the changes that have taken place in Yemen. "They are a powerful tool to sensitize communities to certain problems and to induce social change," he said.

He pointed out that Canada highly

values the work of NGOs and is proud to support their efforts through the Canada Fund.

Canada's partnership with NGOs reflects our mutual commitment to making the world a safer place to live in.... the increase in our contribution in Yemen through the Canada Fund, from \$150000 in 1999 to \$300000 in 2000-01 and to \$400000 last year and this year, lies within the scope of this logic," he stressed. He said that in partnership with various NGOs, a lot has been accomplished in terms of democratic development, human rights and living conditions. He added that the Canada Fund supported 13 projects last year, covering health services, education for children and access to drinking water.

Training Course on planning environment

The General Authority for Environment Protection organized a training course on planning environmental projects for 32 non-government organizations from Sept. 14 -19 in cooperation with the embassy of the

Netherlands in Sana'a.

The course aimed at training organizations on how to plan projects, set budgets, integrating official and public efforts to raise environment awareness, and enhancing cooperation between

NGOs and authorities.

The trainees represented 32 different non-government organizations from the capital secretariat, Hadramout, Aden, Dhamar, Taiz, Hodieda and Sana'a.

Meeting on women's participation in elections

Sisters Arab Forum for Human Rights (SAF) held on Wednesday 25 September a national meeting under a motto "Women Participation in Parliamentary Elections: Means or goal?"

The meeting concentrated on the importance of women's participation in the upcoming parliamentary elections. Ms Amal al-Basha, the Head of the SAF, emphasized in her speech that women should draw and feature the future by effective participation in elections as a voter and candidate.

"There is no real democracy without engaging women in the political field" she said.

Al-Basha warned of playing with women's votes through exploiting the high percentage of illiteracy among women, especially in rural areas.

"Today we blame all, the parliament, the Supreme Election Committee and all the political parties that hasn't included the female element in their agendas to represent them in any of the electoral committees. This comes against the constitution's principles that give equal opportunities to both men and women in the decision making. Democracy implies the representation of the nation but... aren't women part of this nation?" she asked.

She finally placed great stress on that women's participation in the upcoming elections shouldn't be used as a means for political purposes.

Ms. Radhia Shamsheer concluded the meeting by explaining her personal experience, as the first woman who has become a member in one of the presidential election committees.

Free Medical Camps wraps up

TAIZ- General People Congress (GPC) held on Thursday in Taiz an honoring ceremony to conclude the activities of the free medical camps that GPC had conducted through the last few months.

During the ceremony, Sheikh Gaber Abdullallah Ghaleb gave a speech in which he highly thanked all the sponsors, participants and workers in the medical camps that aim to render free medical services and lessen suffering of poor patients as well as improve citizens' health conditions.

He stressed that the GPC cherishes to continuously establish such camps

in future.

Governor, Ahmed Abdullallah al-Hagri invited in his speech all the political parties to compete in establishing such granted projects and medical camps, exalting the GPC's role in establishing free medical camps.

It is worthy to mention that GPC founded three free medical camps to cure patients, in Qadas, al-Barh and the central prison in Taiz respectively in which (14287) cases were healed and more than 4,010 operations conducted.

The overall cost of running those camps is YR30 millions.

Yemen without Qat

TAIZ-Three Yemeni travelers, namely, Abdulqawi Shua'alan, Abdulrahman Nawass, Mohammed A. Abdulwakeel of the Qat Hazards Control Society-Taiz (QHCS), have conducted a 7-day walk trip (270 km) from Taiz to Sana'a. The trip which was organized under the slogan of "No Qat", aimed at raising awareness of Qat hazards and conveying a message to the authorities in the capital, Sana'a to adopt a political decree on banning Qat. The travelers have distributed posters and publications on Qat hazards in some cities like Dhamar and Ibb on their way from Taiz to Sana'a.



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Supplement on the 40th Anniversary of the 26 September Revolution

YEMEN TIMES

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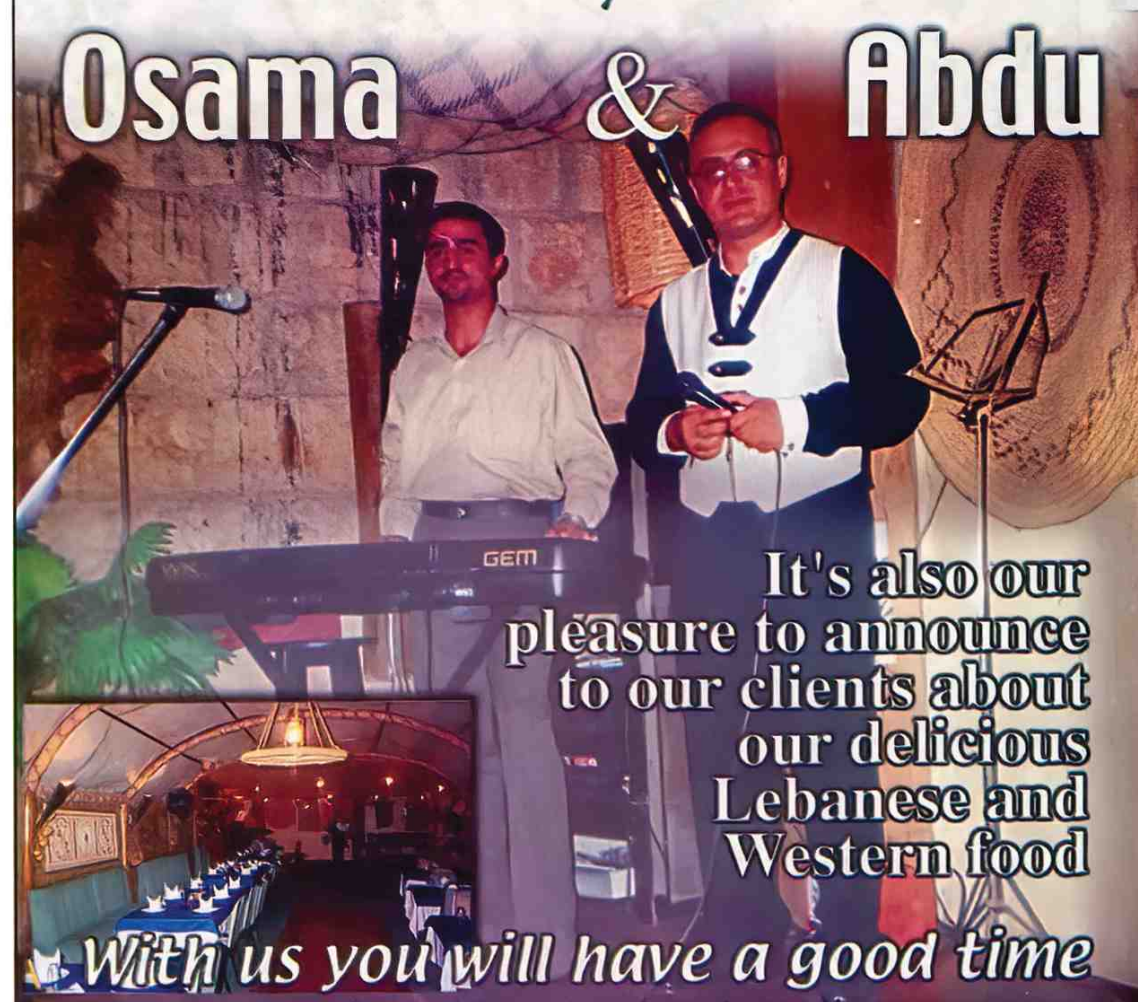
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Sulh: settling dispute over natural resources in Soqotra (PART 1/2)

SERGE D. ELIE*

Shortly before the Maghreb prayer, we arrived at the village of Zamhum, which is part of the Abere region located in the central part of the island called Manteqa Wusta. This is an area situated above the Noked plains in the South and behind the Haggeher mountains in the north. This position makes it an ideal agropastoralist area, as its wadi, Schaheb di eAlf, is kept active by the waters flowing down the surrounding mountains whose peaks serve as rain collectors. Nearly every compound has an enclosed garden with papaya, banana among other fruit trees and of course date palm trees, which is not only a pervasive fixture on the landscape but also emblematic of the way of life here. The cultivation of palm trees is the pillar of the subsistence economy, and its fruit, the date, seems central to the sustenance of life here. The village of Zamhum has an ideal location, as it is not far from the water source of the wadi, and thus water is available during the dry as well as the wet season but in varying quantity.

I had left Hadiboh three hours earlier as part of a delegation that was on its way to this village on a peace-making mission. It had been invited by the community to assist in resolving a water-related problem, and I was going along as an invited observer. This delegation was in fact a committee made up of five members representing governmental and traditional institutions in the persons of the chiefs of police and traffic police, the director of criminal investigation, the local council representative for the southern region of the island, and a sheikh from elsewhere. The challenge of the committee was to solve the problem through the traditional Soqotri way, namely Sulh, which means to settle a conflict, to reach an agreement through compromise, or finding a solution through means of persuasion, as such it is a form of problem resolution at the community level, without the involvement of "modern" institutions such as the court, and it is based entirely on a public debate mediated by a committee of impartial persons in which persuasion and reason are the sole means deployed in a process of discussion aimed at the gradual rapprochement and ultimate agreement between the parties. It is a tradition dating back from the time of the Sultanate of Mahra, of which Soqotra was a dependency. While Sulh may have been practiced on the mainland, and perhaps still is in some places, in the Soqotra context it has its own particularities. Today of course the practice of Sulh is partly modified by the inclusion of governmental institutions that are of more recent origin, such as the local council system, without necessarily undermining its effectiveness. The main concern of all the parties involved in this process is to avoid having to resort to the court, which would be seen as a failure of community solidarity. Moreover, it was felt that the delay and cost incurred by resorting to the modern legal system would be inimical to the community's social cohesion.

The conflict originated from an attempt by members of all the villages adjoining the wadi to put pipes into the wadi to draw water for their palm trees as well as fruit and vegetable gardens. A written complaint was made to the Chief of Police about these pipes and the need to remove them because of the negative impact on the water level. A police officer was sent to remove the pipes. All of the Muqaddam represent-



ing the villages concerned accepted the decision with the exception of the one from the village of Kedina located a mile down from the wadi's main water source. He argued that he had just planted about ninety new palm trees and the removal of his pipes would entail the death of his trees. He consequently requested the formal visit of the committee from Hadiboh. In the meanwhile the representatives of the other villages removed his pipes anyway, arguing that the available water was already insufficient for the local residents and that his pipe would further decrease the water level and accelerate the depletion of the water available on the wadi's surface. Was the claim about the water being insufficient true or an exaggeration? Were the palm trees of the villager from Kedina dying or was there some other need for the water? Could a middle course between these two claims be found that would lead to a mutually satisfactory solution? The latter was the aim of the Sulh committee. However, problem-solving the traditional way has its own ritual and timetable that must be strictly observed in order not to compromise the eventuality of a successful outcome. These have to do with the etiquette of hospitality by ensuring the comfort of special guests as well as the members of the village responsible for the conflict; the propriety of debate where no personal insult is allowed; and sufficiency of time for intensive discussions and negotiations both in plenary sessions and in small groups to allow passion to cool down and reason to prevail.

After the Maghreb prayer the people began to arrive in small groups from neighboring villages as guests, parties to the conflict or curious onlookers. Some former residents of the village who had moved to Hadiboh had come back to participate in the deliberations. Such an event was considered important not only by those who were directly implicated in the conflict but by others as well, because the decision reached could later serve as a precedent to apply in resolving similar conflict elsewhere. An outdoor place in the center of the village of Zamhum was specially arranged for the evening, as it was covered with carpet and pillows. The sitting arrangement was on a first come first serve basis, as no particular distinction was made between people

of different status. However, status distinctions were observed in the performance of the particular repertoire of Soqotri forms of greeting, further enriched by both Islamic and mainland forms. At least four types were observed and they seemed related to a person age, community standing, familiarity and some other categories. And everyone had to greet individually everyone else present in the assembly. In this context all showed maximum respect and courtesy as everyone stood up to acknowledge and greet the incoming party. As people took their seat, tea was served and continuously so until the end of the deliberations late in the night. That moment was reserved for small talk, a kind of ice-breaking time, and to exchange news between people who had come from different places. I happened to sit next to the village traditional "doctor" named Muallim Nini who is perhaps in his late sixties or early seventies. His specialty is either stopping the pain from a palm tree needle or remove the needle from the body part where it entered by reading some special surahs from the Quran. This particular feat is usually accomplished within a few minutes, I was told. While talking to him one who had benefited from his care had come to express his gratitude for his healed finger. This kind of small talk was to last until dinner was served, the standard sheep or goat meat and rice. The end of dinner was the signal for the start of the official deliberations of the case.

The discussions were opened by an introductory speech by the sheikh of the region who first sought to establish his legitimacy by reminding the assembly that he was unanimously chosen by all of the Muqaddam of the area. Second, he assured people of his impartiality, as he was now a resident of Hadiboh without any property in this village, and thus was not predisposed to taking the side of any party in this conflict. Third, he stressed the need for wisdom on the part of the villagers, as they will have to bear the consequences of whatever decision they take, and invited them to heed his counsel if they so choose. Finally, he announced that he brought responsible people from Hadiboh to deal with the water problem, and that they were Soqotri brothers who could be trusted and that any other problem could be

brought to their attention. The sheikh opening remarks were followed by a somewhat muscular account of the problem by the village Katib, who was the designated speaker for all of the villages concerned. He clearly intended to convey the villages' strong opposition to the intruding act of the villager from Kedina. His oratory was eloquent but no less defiant about the communities' collective resolve to oppose an act that threatened to draw down the water to a dangerously low level only to satisfy the whimsical need of an outsider. The concern was that since it had not rained for over a year in the southern part of the island, and if this situation were to continue the likelihood of a generalized drought would be imminent. Thus conserving water was uppermost in their mind. Indeed members of the adjoining villages to Zamhum had discontinued the drawing of water from the wadi for their fruit gardens in order to save water. Moreover there was the perception that if the requester were granted permission to put his pipe into the wadi other requests from other villages would soon follow and that would spell catastrophe for the people of Zamhum and the adjoining villages. This was the context in which the request of the villager from Kedina was to be considered. He tried to argue his case but his intervention was not allowed, because the Committee's presence in the village was due to his formal request, and thus had already heard his position. More importantly perhaps, it was felt that this would prolong unnecessarily the deliberations, since the arguments were already known and the time to find a solution had arrived. From the perspective of the Committee, the main issue was to hear from the representatives of the other villages, as they constituted the overwhelming majority, about their proposal for a resolution to the conflict. The way this is done in the context of a Sulh is for them to retire into a caucus away from the assembly and to come up with a collective statement, in a written or oral form, to be presented to all of those present but especially the visiting Committee for its reaction. However, prior to their retiring from the assembly the Chief of Police sent them off with a reference to a Hadith, which said that people were partners in three things: Water (for drinking), fire (for cooking), and pasture (for grazing animals). Each one of these was essential to life and their sharing was critical to collective survival. He further stressed the brotherly bond between Soqotrans and their intrinsically peaceful nature, and the need to demonstrate this through a fraternal agreement between people who were members of the same tribe.

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Internet forum for girls

The Girls World Communication Center (GWCC) in cooperation with UNDP and Canada Fund Development Program for initiatives-Yemen, launched the first Internet forum for girls on Tuesday September 24.

The launching ceremony was attended by non-resident Canadian Ambassador to Yemen and the UNDP resident representative in Sanaa.

This project is part of the efforts of GWCC to provide education opportuni-

ties to females that were deprived of basic and higher education so as to develop their skills and overall abilities, boosting their chances of participating more effectively in the community.

The forum is the second project of its kind after the successful internet training course that was held and supported by UNIFEM for more than 100 females as well as for women working for a number of non-governmental organiza-

Continued from Page 1 MPs stage sit-in

On the other hand, the National Organization for Defending Rights and Freedoms, (NODRF) in a statement last Tuesday said that the MP, Sakhr al-Wajeeh, a member of the fact-finding committee, was physically attacked by the Vice Speaker, Yahya Arra'ee.

The set-to erupted over the fact-finding report on the detainees suspected of having links to USS Cole incident and the September 11 attacks in the US.

Sakhr al-Wajeeh, a member of the fact-finding committee when finished

reading the report, was attacked by the vice speaker of the parliament. The report had been previously published in newspapers along with photos of the detainees.

The statement issued by the NODRF mentioned that Sakhr al-Wajeeh had been previously unseated from the membership of the permanent committee of the GPC and was also prevented from attending meetings of the 6th General Conference of the ruling party.

Trouble ahead for Yemenis in USA

It was reported that U.S. Justice Department directed special agents to "selectively seek out and search all individuals of Yemeni origin including U.S. citizens" as "a necessary precaution to protect the nation from any possible terrorist attack." Millions of dollars in drug profits were laundered back to Yemen, federal investigators contend, and prosecutors allege that Sharif ran an illegal money wire service where he also doctored phony identification," the Oakland Tribune said.

Authorities in Oakland believe that there are links between the said Yemenis and Hezbollah of Lebanon. However, no solid evidence was provided so far.

Federal agents started focusing more on Yemeni immigrants after they arrested Ali Saleh Saad, 30, of Yemeni origin

in the Detroit suburb of Dearborn. It is suspected that Saad and his network is directly related to Mohamed Ahmed, but that remains to be proved.

It is worth noting that Yemenis in the US tend to send money to Yemen through many channels, some which may be illegal.

"The first generation in America, what are they here for? To make a better life. Once they do that they want to build a family," One of the Yemenis in Oakland told the paper. "They send money to their families. It has nothing to do with politics or terrorism or anything."

Hence, it is believed that following those new developments, the Yemeni community in the US may be exposed to further inspections and scrutinizes, which resembles possible trouble ahead.

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German Ambassador to Yemen, Mr. Werner Zimprich to YT:

“Yemen has been chosen by our government to stand as pilot country among the 70 developing countries that Germany is cooperating with.”

In the 12 years since German unification political, economic and social life in the new eastern Lander (states) has changed fundamentally. Enormous progress has been made in 'Aufbau Ost', the recovery program for eastern Germany. At the same time there are still clear shortcomings in many sectors. The goal of establishing comparable living standards between eastern and western Germany has not yet been achieved. The greatest successes include the fundamental renewal of the eastern infrastructure, rehabilitation of the environment and the rescue of historical city centers. The building up of a new eastern German economy has made great progress, although the aim of a self-supporting upswing has not yet been attained. The most painful gap between eastern and western Germany is still the high unemployment in the new states, which is twice as great as that in the old ones.

The friendly relations between the Republic of Yemen and the Federal Republic of Germany are very distinguished and growing steadily. We consider the Day of the German Unity as a very special and joyful occasion for the friendly people of Germany and an historic event in their modern history. Yemen Times has seized this happy occasion to conduct an interview with His Excellency the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Yemen Mr. Werner Zimprich.

Following is text of the interview conducted by Mr Mohammed Khidhr from the Yemen Times with HE the German Ambassador who has answered some questions related to the occasion and the Yemeni-German relations.

Q: How do you assess the 12 years of German unity, politically, economically, and socially?

A: The political 'turning-point' or what we call in German 'Die Wende' and the following unification belong to the most impressive events of the last century. The partition of our country could be overcome by peaceful means and with the consent of all our neighbor countries.

The political unity was quickly achieved. But it took a long time to accomplish the 'internal unity', i.e. that the Germans grew together to one national community in human, social



Werner Zimprich

and economic terms. The income and living conditions got adjusted to West German standards, not entirely but almost.

Q: Both German and Yemeni unities have been achieved in the same year, could you hold a comparison of the two historic events?

A: The experiences made by the Federal Republic of Germany and the Republic of Yemen who both achieved their unity in 1990, were different. In Germany, the (former) German Democratic Republic joined the Federal Republic of Germany. In Yemen a merge that was settled by a treaty, led to a new state with a new name, a new flag and a new constitution. In addition to that, Yemen struggled with much more internal difficulties because of the civil war in 1994.

Q: What are your country's most recent aspects of cooperation with Yemen, any future cooperation plans?

A: Yemen-German cooperation has been outstanding in many fields. Since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries a continuous political dialogue has taken place. Numerous cultural activities have complemented the political intercourse. The Federal Republic of Germany is looking forward to continue the dialogue in order to further deepen the mutual understanding, trust and friendship between our two coun-

tries.

The Yemeni-German relationship is marked by its friendly cooperation in economic development. Last year, Yemen has been chosen by our government to stand as pilot country among the 70 developing countries that Germany is cooperating with.

This year, official bilateral development cooperation has been boosted by a significant increase of our annual contributions. Allocations in 2001 amounted to almost 25 Million US-Dollars. In 2002 we expect them to be around 37.5 Million US-Dollars.

We are cooperating in four sectors: health, water supply, basic education and promotion of economic development including vocational training. About 75% of our financial contributions are used for infrastructure in the water sector. Right now, we are planning for the water supply and sanitation among others in the towns of Saadah, Jiblah, ja'ar, Al-Shahr and Jinjibar. Recently we have also extended our program of advisory services to the governorates of Marib and Al-Jawf in order to contribute to the improvement of social services in the health sector and the education sector.

We are most willing to continue our cooperation within the framework of the Yemeni National Poverty Reduction Strategy that has been endorsed by the Yemeni government in summer 2002. The German government has pledged to contribute to alleviating poverty in Yemen during the

next decade. We will renew our commitment on the occasion of the meeting of the Consultative Group in October 2002 when all interested donors will be meeting at the World Bank Office in Paris to discuss the future development of Yemen.

Q: Germany, in person of Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, has stated a distinguished German stand concerning the US plan for a military action against Iraq with intention to change the regime. Why do you think he took this stance?

A: The United Nations demanded that the regime in Baghdad has to fulfill the UN-resolution without exception. That means above all, that the weapon inspectors must get the permission to enter the country again. But the question is whether, instead of this aim, another one inducing the change of the regime should be focused in the discussion. Wouldn't this interfere with the exclusive decisive power of the security council?

Q: Now following the winning of a second term as Chancellor would he retain this stance, and would he try to attract other European countries to follow suit?

A: There is a constant and intensive interchange of views about all the important questions with the European partners. Already two days after the chancellor won the elections, he met the British prime minister.

Beside that, it is natural that the German government is at its utmost to obtain good relations with the USA which are particularly important for our country.

Q: Any word on the 40th anniversary of the Yemeni 26 September Revolution or other issues?

A: The Yemeni 26 September revolution represented at the time a major step into the prospering future of the Republic of Yemen. The efforts in developing the country and its legal democratic system since then were impressive.

The Federal Republic of Germany presents its congratulations on the occasion of this anniversary celebration and will support the Republic of Yemen in the development process by all possible means in the future.

Federal President Johannes Rau on the Day of German Unity

This year as in years past, the Day of German Unity is a day of joy, a day of gratitude and a day of confidence. We are joyful that our country is no longer torn in two by an inhuman border. We are grateful that so many friendly nations helped us along our way to unity and shared our happiness. We are confident that Germany will push its internal reconstruction ahead and continue to make positive contributions - alongside our friends and partners- to peace and stability in the world as a member of the

solidarity. My countrymen and I are thankful for the help and comfort we have received. We will not forget it.

In the wake of this disaster, the question is growing louder in Germany whether the natural disasters which are occurring with increasing frequency around the world are man-made and what we have to do together to preserve the environment. As a result of this disaster, climate protection and environmental have become even more important issues in the econom-



German President Johannes Rau (left) welcomes Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder at Schloss Bellevue, his official residence in Berlin

European Union, NATO and the United Nations.

During the past few weeks, Germany was ravaged by the worst flood disaster it has been in centuries. This flood cost lives and devastated many cities and vast sections of the countryside. This disaster, the struggle to hold waters back and joint help provided those affected by the disaster have brought people in our country closer together. We have learned how great the power of solidarity is.

Wealth of countries and countless people from around the world have also shown us this

ic and social situation in less developed countries is an indispensable prerequisite for environment for environmental protection to be effective. For this reason there is development policy and the conditions underlying economic cooperation in our ever smaller world.

National unity continues to be both a gift and an obligation for us Germans. Which is why the international community can continue to count on the Federal Republic of Germany to fulfill its role in the world in the future as well -as a good neighbor, as a reliable friend and partner.

Salwa Sharafi, Journalism Professor to the Yemen Times:

“I have been amazed to see young Yemeni journalists who have bold and daring ideas and writings”

Yemen Times in collaboration with Friedrich Ebert Stiftung organized a workshop titled "Press Coverage of Election" on September, 14, 18, 2002.

Yemen Times reporter, has met up with Dr. Salwa Sharafi, the workshop trainer and Journalism Professor, Press Institute, University of Tunis and filed the following interview.

YT: How do you assess the Yemeni press with regard to handling the national issues?

A: If we draw a comparison between the Yemeni press and the Arab press, we will find that the Yemeni press is distinguished among the Arab press in that of content and multi-opinion. There are actually several daring writings and articles I have never seen alike in countries like, Jordan, Morocco, and Egypt.

Yemen is the only country where the political plurality is widely practiced. As for the design and outline, the Yemeni press of course is in short of financial support.

YT: How do you personally appraise the Yemeni journalist and his awareness towards his issues?

A: I'm very deeply impressed by the freedom of press here in Yemen. I have been also amazed to see young Yemeni journalists who have bold and daring

ideas and writings. They are courageous and open-minded in their writings where they deal with heated subject matters.

YT: What is the leading role of the media towards the development issues?

A: As a journalist, one of the main reasons behind our backwardness is the role of the media. Undoubtedly, the media play a pivotal role in educating people in order to be tolerant and to respect other's opinions. Consequently, people will not go against each other. Media's role is indispensable. What can be said on the role of the media is that without stability, there will not be development.

YT: As a human rights activist, what have the human rights organizations achieved so far? Are these organizations independent?

A: Of course, most of these organizations are independent. I want to emphasize that the human rights organizations have fallen prey to harassment. As a human rights activist, you have to be credible in issuing reports. If this organization or that is honest in issuing the flagrant violations, which is of course a very difficult mission, it should be reported credibly.

But the question which poses itself is, is there a positive response on the part of the Arab leaders?



Dr. Salwa, a workshop trainer (right) in an interview with al-Masani

YT: How do you assess the Arab woman's participation along with man?

A female journalist, the career of journalism has left a special effect on me. I was entrusted with several missions in several war fronts. I have faced so many troubles and harsh experiences with a view of conveying the message to the readers. This is the best thing that a woman can do. The Arab woman can do other things where a man is not able to do.

Man has engrossed in arms types and military strategies. Women on the other hand, have fallen prey to the social catastrophes as a result of wars.

The man has remained the only person who controls every thing. What is

needed is that a woman should be respected considering her as a main factor in building the society.

YT: What is your impression during your visit to Yemen?

A: My visit to Yemen is very too short. I've been deeply fascinated by the Old City of Sana'a which is parallel to One Thousands Night and One. When I first had started standing before Gate of al-Yemen, (Bab al-Yemen), I thought that the time has stopped. But it is stopped in a very wonderful way. I have heard about Yemen's good reputation and its antiquities.

Frankly speaking, what adds to the beauty of Yemen are the people, their courtesy and their polite behavior.

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Protester killed, Arafat defiant on revolt anniversary

GAZA, Sept 28 (Reuters) - Israeli troops shot dead a protester in Palestinian demonstrations on Saturday marking the second anniversary of their uprising as Israel sought U.S. help in resolving its widely criticised siege of Yasser Arafat.

The Palestinian leader vowed no let-up in the revolt and won fresh vows of loyalty from his people 10 days after the Israeli army trapped him in his offices and razed the compound around him. The action was in response to suicide bombings which killed seven Israelis.

The siege has shored up Arafat's slumping popularity and stalled Palestinian reform key to resuming peace talks. But it has also angered the United States which wanted to dampen Israeli-Palestinian conflict to help win Arab support for a campaign against Iraq.

Israeli diplomatic sources said Prime Minister Ariel Sharon had sent a senior aide, Dov Weisglass, to Washington for talks to discuss how to end the impasse between Israeli forces and Arafat and some 200 Palestinians holed up with him.

Israeli troops killed a demonstrator and wounded at least 22 others in clashes with stone throwers in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, after killing a militant in a Gaza refugee camp, witnesses said.

In Gaza City, a teeming militant stronghold, thousands of protesters bearing national flags and portraits of Arafat heard an address from the Palestinian leader relayed from his besieged lodgings and office in the West Bank city of Ramallah.

In remarks conveyed by loudspeakers outside the Gaza parliament building, Arafat cried: "We, the Palestinian people, care not about the siege, because we are the stronger people!" "The people are with you, Abu Ammar!" chanted the crowd, using the 73-year-old leader's nom de guerre.

"We reiterate on this anniversary that we are marching until victory and until the establishment of a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital," Arafat



Relatives of Sami Abedal, 27, who was killed by Israeli soldiers September 28, 2002, mourn during his funeral in Rafah south of Gaza Strip. REUTERS

told crowds who had gathered in the West Bank city of Qalqilya after the army lifted longstanding curfews there and in nearby Tulkarm.

Curfew-Breakers Wounded

Not so in Ramallah, where soldiers fired rubber-coated bullets and teargas grenades to disperse stone-throwing youths.

Saturday marked two years since Sharon, then opposition leader, visited a Jerusalem site holy to Muslims and Jews. The Palestinian revolt erupted right afterwards.

In Israel, hundreds of Israeli Arabs and left-wing Jews observed the anniversary in the northern town of Kfar Manda. Carrying Palestinian flags, they urged Israel to quit the West Bank and Gaza Strip, occupied in the 1967 Middle East war.

Rallies saluting the Intifada (uprising) were also held in Cairo, where about 500 people gathered, Reuters witnesses said. The demonstrators, who also displayed placards expressing solidarity with Iraq, were far outnumbered by riot police.

At a pro-Palestinian rally in Amsterdam, the outspoken wife of European Central Bank chief Wim Duisenberg urged the European Union to put "moral, economic and financial pressure" on Israel to end its occupation of lands it has held 1967.

Gretta Duisenberg used strong words, comparing Israel under Sharon to Nazi Germany and South Africa in the apartheid era.

Israel says the uprising was plotted by Arafat's Palestinian Authority as peace talks stalled as a way of forcing it into territorial and political concessions

in the West Bank and Gaza.

Palestinians say it was an eruption of anger over what they called Israel's efforts to undermine future Palestinian independence, in part by accelerating a Jewish settlement drive which has fragmented territory Palestinians seek for a state.

At least 1,572 Palestinians and 601 Israelis have died in the violence over the past two years.

Sharon's government says the siege

will not be lifted until the surrender of 50 "wanted men" it says are hiding in Arafat's quarters. He has refused to provide a list of who is there or to hand over alleged militants.

The siege drew censure in the U.N. Security Council and from the United States, which also criticised an Israeli air strike in Gaza City on Thursday. The strike targeted a senior Palestinian militant but instead killed two of his lieutenants and wounded 27 civilians,

including several children.

Peres Wants Israel To Heed Americans

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, the main dove in Israel's sometimes rocky "national unity" coalition, told Israel Radio Washington wanted quiet in the Middle East "and rightly so" as it prepared for possible action against Iraq.

"We don't have to draw attention all the time to ... Arafat. We have very difficult problems of terror, and we have difficult problems with the growing bitterness of the Palestinian people.

The war against terrorism cannot be waged only militarily," he said in implicit criticism of Sharon and army hardliners.

Palestinian Authority sources said it had asked the Security Council to convene a session on implementing the resolution it passed earlier this week demanding that Israel lift the siege.

The Israeli daily Haaretz reported Israel would agree under certain circumstances that the 50 men suspected of militant activities be tried and jailed in Palestinian areas.

The Palestinians were confident of success on Saturday.

"The U.N. Security Council resolution, President (George W.) Bush's statements and pressure from the world community are pushing toward forcing Israel to withdraw within 48 hours," Arafat adviser Nabil Abu Rdainah told Reuters.

In a more peaceful demonstration of solidarity, 500 schoolchildren in the West Bank city of Bethlehem released a balloon carrying letters of support to Arafat, and the wind took them northward toward Ramallah, 25 km (15 miles) away.

Egypt jails man who claimed to be a prophet

CAIRO, Sept 28 (Reuters) - Egypt sentenced a man who claimed to be a prophet to three years in jail on Saturday for insulting religion and promoting extreme ideas, court sources said.

Sayed Tolba, who had claimed he knew the secret of the universe and that God had sent him messages from angels, had been tried with a group of 20 followers who used to attend lessons in his home.

The court jailed one of the followers for a year with hard labour on the same

charges as Tolba. It gave 18 others suspended sentences of one year for insulting Islam and fined another 1,000 Egyptian pounds (\$216) on the same conviction.

Most of the followers, who included a doctor, students and factory owners had renounced their belief in Tolba, the sources said.

Egypt has tried dozens of people in recent years for holding unorthodox views on Islam — the country's dominant religion.

Turkish PM says relations good with Baghdad

ANKARA, Sept 28 (Reuters) - Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit said on Saturday there were "no problems" in NATO member Turkey's relations with Iraq at a time of mounting speculation the United States could launch an attack against Baghdad.

Ecevit has repeatedly said Muslim Turkey opposes an attack, worried about social and economic upheaval, but the key U.S. ally is expected to play a role in any campaign, at the least providing logistical support to U.S. warplanes and forces.

Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz is due in Ankara next week to meet Ecevit and rally support against a U.S.-led offensive to topple Iraqi President Saddam Hussein for his alleged programme of weapons of mass destruction.

"From our perspective there are no problems in our relations with Iraq," Ecevit said during a live interview with

private Turkish television station CNN Turk. "These recent developments — issues such as the United States' decision — will be on the agenda (during talks with Aziz), and we will discuss them. We will listen to Baghdad's thoughts, inclinations, worries," Ecevit said. Ankara has sought to improve diplomatic and commercial ties with neighbouring Iraq, despite hosting U.S. warplanes that patrol a "no-fly" zone over northern Iraq to protect Iraqi Kurds who have run the region since the 1991 Gulf War.

Turkey fears a conflict next door could encourage Iraqi Kurds to establish their own state in a northern enclave where they have enjoyed broad autonomy since rising up against Baghdad in 1991.

Rival Iraqi Kurd leaders Massoud Barzani and Jalal Talabani deny they aspire to statehood, but Turkey still worries such turmoil could stir its own

restive Kurds to fight for a homeland in southeast Turkey, scene of a 17-year insurgency by Kurdish separatists that killed more than 30,000 people.

Turkish officials and Barzani have in recent weeks traded barbs over speculation Ankara could send troops into northern Iraq in the event of a U.S. attack.

"It's understood a process...has begun to turn this de facto state into a legal state. This unsettles us. We have expressed our discomfort a few times in the past days," Ecevit said.

"We will naturally respond to every kind of behaviour that is contrary to Turkey's interests, but I hope there will be no need for this kind of a response," he said.

"The Kurdish clans in northern Iraq, especially Barzani, have increasingly taken on an attitude of challenging Turkey. We have in recent days said that we will not accept this," he said.

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M.V. QIYUNHE	13 th Oct. 2002	٣ أكتوبر ٢٠٠٢	كيو نهي
M.V. UNI-POPULAR	10 th Oct. 2002	١٠ أكتوبر ٢٠٠٢	يوني بوبلر
M.V. UNI-PROMOTE	17 th Oct. 2002	١٧ أكتوبر ٢٠٠٢	يوني بريموت
M.V. UNI-PATRIOT	24 th Oct. 2002	٢٤ أكتوبر ٢٠٠٢	يوني باتريوت
M.V. QIYUNHE	31 st Oct. 2002	٣١ أكتوبر ٢٠٠٢	كيو نهي
M.V. UNI-POPULAR	7 th Nov. 2002	٧ نوفمبر ٢٠٠٢	يوني بوبلر
M.V. UNI-PROMOTE	14 th Nov. 2002	١٤ نوفمبر ٢٠٠٢	يوني بريموت
M.V. UNI-PATRIOT	21 th Nov. 2002	٢١ نوفمبر ٢٠٠٢	يوني باتريوت
M.V. QIYUNHE	28 th Nov. 2002	٢٨ نوفمبر ٢٠٠٢	كيو نهي

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MOBILE: 71711024
2- MR. RATHEESH,
MOBILE: 71715121

لمزيد من المعلومات يرجى الاتصال بـ:

١- السيد/ محمد عبد الرحمن الشميري,
سيار: ٧١٧١٠٢٤
٢- السيد / راثيش,
سيار ٧١٧١٥١٢١

Exhausted refugees swarm Ivory Coast sleepy town

BROBO, Ivory Coast, Sept 28 (Reuters) - Two-year-old Noel lifts his expressionless face for a brief moment, then stares again at his swollen, blistered feet.

"He can't even walk anymore," says his aunt, Prisca Krou. Noel's family walked over 20 miles (32 km) from the rebel-held city of Bouake in central Ivory Coast to Brobo, a normally sleepy town now coming to resemble a refugee camp.

French troops who evacuated Bouake's foreign residents this week have set up camp in Brobo, waiting like everyone else for the next act in Ivory Coast's latest drama.

In the main street — there is little else to Brobo — desperate fathers bargained with the drivers of the few vehicles to take their families further east, to home villages and relatives in other parts of the country or the main city Abidjan.

Others, newly arrived, carried bags with a few clothes and other belongings on their head, looking exhausted after the long walk and nervous about what may lay ahead.

"We are just looking for any vehicle," said one man, his son riding on top of a pile of bags in a wheelbarrow.

Clearly afraid, the man declined to give his name and marched on, quickening his pace.

Too scared to talk

Witnesses said some of those fleeing Bouake were members of the armed forces who have refused to join dissidents, but that even after passing unrecognised through rebel checkpoints they were too terrified to talk.

Dozens of people crammed aboard a rusty yellow Renault truck in the marketplace, those already on board pulling up relatives and their belongings.

Muted cheers went up as the engine shuddered into life, only to cut out a moment later.

"I got 86 people on board for the last trip," said the driver, Kone Siaka.

"They paid 2,000 CFA francs (\$3) each," he added, but demanded 2,500 CFA francs from the next passenger to board for the 40 miles (64 km) journey to the next town east — a hefty sum in a town where 100 CFA will buy you a square meal.

A carload of teenage boys with a barrel of fuel and a crate of empty Pastis bottles pass as Brobo's filling station. Here the price of diesel has



quadrupled to 1,500 CFA (\$2.24) a litre since the uprising began over a week ago. Petrol is impossible to come by.

At a shop nearby, Stanislas Pierre Claver has rarely seen business so brisk.

"The people are buying water, food, anything they need on the road," he said.

As he spoke, a couple of French soldiers came in to buy soap for their camp, set up in Brobo's school.

French guns and soldiers have made the town a safe haven for the time being.

But residents know the rebels are just a few miles (km) away and the

French may leave at any time. The government has said it would soon launched an offensive to drive back the insurgents it accused of planning to take power in a September 19 coup.

"I am trying to get my family out," said Casimir Koffi, one hand holding a large sports bag, the other resting on the shoulder of his eight-year-old daughter Adjoua.

"This is a first for Ivory Coast. Not even December 24 was like this," he said, referring to the country's first and virtually bloodless military coup in 1999 which shattered its reputation as an oasis of stability in a troubled region. "This time it's terrible".

Afghan leader confers with Saudi crown prince

RIYADH, Sept 28 (Reuters) - Afghan President Hamid Karzai met Saudi Arabia's de facto ruler, Crown Prince Abdullah, on Saturday during a Gulf tour aimed at gaining financial aid to rebuild his war-devastated country.

The official Saudi Press Agency said the two leaders discussed ways of boosting their relations and regional developments but did not give details.

Karzai has sought speedy delivery of more than \$4 billion in foreign donations pledged by several countries, including oil-rich Saudi Arabia, to be spent on rebuilding his country after 23 years of civil war and foreign military intervention.

The Afghan president also plans to visit Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.

Saudi Arabia and the UAE have been close supporters of Karzai's government, which came to power last year after Afghanistan's Taliban rulers were overthrown in fighting coordinated with U.S. forces.

Among Arab and Muslim countries, Saudi Arabia is the key donor to Afghanistan, with which it has had

close historical and religious ties.

The kingdom was one of just three countries in the world that recognised the Taliban during its five years in power, and hundreds of Saudi nationals fought with the al Qaeda forces of Saudi-born dissident Osama bin Laden in Afghanistan.

Washington blames bin Laden, who was sheltered by the Taliban and whose whereabouts remain unknown, for masterminding the September 11 attacks.

Saudi Arabia has requested the release of dozens of Saudi members of al Qaeda held in Afghanistan, so the issue was expected to come up during Karzai's visit.

Afghan presidential chief of staff, Tayeb Jawad, said on Thursday Karzai's government was willing to extradite Saudi and other foreign nationals.

Karzai's first foreign trip after becoming president last year was to Saudi Arabia.

Two weeks ago Saudi Arabia joined the United States and Japan in pledging \$50 million to fund a \$250 million highway reconstruction project in Afghanistan.

Kuwait says prepared for Iraqi chemical attack

KUWAIT, Sept 28 (Reuters) - Kuwait announced on Saturday it had taken precautions against a chemical weapons attack, saying it would not put anything past neighbouring Iraq, which invaded the oil-rich emirate in 1990.

The region is bracing for a possible U.S.-led military strike to topple Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein, allegedly for seeking weapons of mass destruction.

Kuwait is a U.S. ally but says it will

not allow Washington to use its territory to launch an attack on Iraq without the sanction of the United Nations.

"I do not exclude anything at all from Iraq," Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammad al-Salem al-Sabah told reporters before flying to Egypt for three-days of talks.

"Do we trust Saddam Hussein? No. Do we know that he has weapons of mass destruction? Yes... This is enough for us to be concerned over Iraq's abil-

ity to harm Kuwait", he said.

Iraq denies it is developing weapons of mass destruction, but concerns over a chemical attack have hit Kuwait's stock market, which declined 2.4 percent on Saturday at the start of the trading week.

But Sheikh Mohammad said the emirate was well protected by a large U.S. military presence as well as by German and Czech anti-chemical warfare units.

Kuwait is "probably the safest place in the world as there are many systems to combat any aggression," he said.

Patriot Batteries

A U.S.-led coalition ended Iraq's seven-month occupation of Kuwait in the 1991 Gulf War. For several months, Washington has been sending military hardware to Kuwait for what is officially described as an intensified training programme.

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ASEAN officials see region weathering global storm

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Finance officials from a number of Southeast Asian nations said on Friday that reforms since the 1997 financial crisis and a pickup in inter-regional trade had provided a buffer from a slowdown in the global economy and a high level of market volatility.

"As a result of developments that have taken place in (the region), we have seen a high tolerance level of the volatility that has occurred and we have seen a resumption in growth that is strengthening," Malaysian Central Bank Governor Zeti Akhtar Aziz told a forum sponsored by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

Zeti's sentiments were echoed by officials from the Philippines, Thailand, Singapore and Indonesia.

However, ASEAN Secretary-General Rodolfo Severino offered a cautionary note, remarking that the region was now even more open to the global economy than during the 1997-98 Asian crisis, and that current global economic prospects were highly uncertain.

Still, he agreed a solid base had been laid for the future.

"ASEAN's response and economic performance this year give us grounds for modest optimism about the outlook for the regional economy," Severino said.

"Nations in the region responded with a resolve to increase regional integration, step up financial cooperation and move forward with financial and corporate reforms," he said.

HOLDING HANDS

"In recent years we've seen much stronger regional cooperation," Philippine Finance Secretary Jose Camacho told the gathering.

"Regional cooperation in the financial sector, regional cooperation among central banks, regional cooperation among governments ... and regional cooperation in terms of



ASEAN Secretary-General Rodolfo Severino (R) is pictured in March 2001 with Inamul Haq, Pakistan's foreign secretary. REUTERS

developing markets within the region."

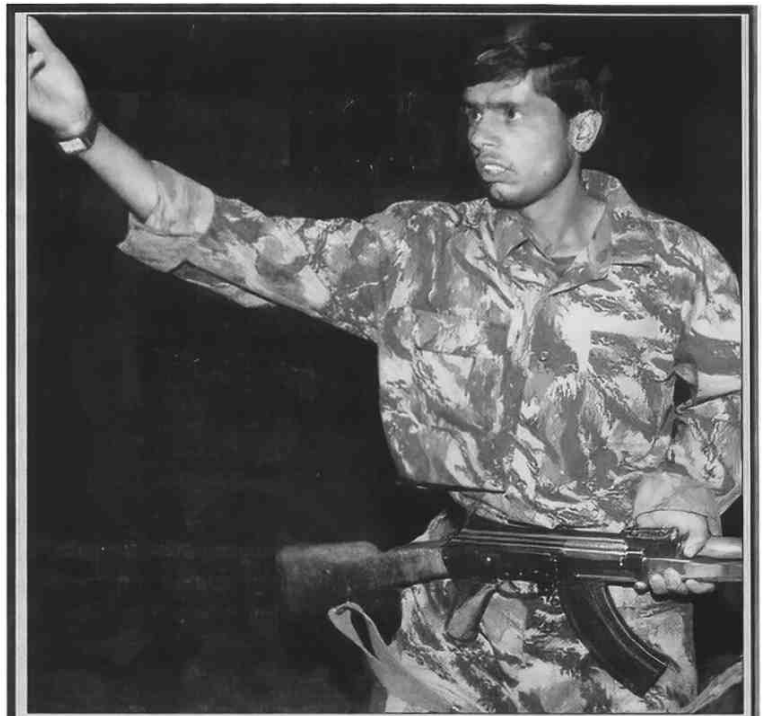
Camacho said he hoped that over time ASEAN countries could develop deeper capital markets. "It is hoped that a portion of the substantial international reserves that are being held by the Asian countries can be partly developed to help develop a regional bond market," he added.

"One of the weaknesses revealed by the 1997 crisis is the shallow

domestic capital market that created the overreliance to foreign capital," Camacho said.

Asked whether they were concerned China's entry into the World Trade Organization would place a burden on their economies as domestic industries struggled to compete with Chinese imports, all the officials said they were not, instead saying they looked forward to the opening of a potentially huge export market.

"We see China more as an opportunity rather than a threat," said Lim Hng Kiang, Singapore's second minister of finance.



An Afghan soldier prevents journalist from going near a dump site where explosions rocked Kabul Saturday, September 28, 2002. Two explosions rocked the Afghan capital on Saturday and shattered many windows but appeared to have caused no significant injuries or damage, witnesses and military radio said. REUTERS

Loud blasts heard in Afghan capital

KABUL, Sept 28 (Reuters) - Two loud explosions rocked the Afghan capital Kabul on Saturday night, but the immediate cause was unclear.

The explosions were heard shortly after 9 p.m. Military radio reports said the explosions happened in a military compound. It was unclear if there were any casualties but a siren could be heard.

International peacekeepers tightened security in Kabul early this month after a car bomb ripped through a busy street in the city centre, killing at least 26 people and wounding 150.

Just hours after that explosion, a gunman tried to assassinate President Hamid Karzai in the southern city of Kandahar, hitting his car and wounding the city governor.

Vacancy announcement

Procurement Officer for the Basic Education Expansion Project (IDA-Credit 3422)

The IDA-financed Basic Education Expansion Project (BEEP) seeks applicants for the position of Procurement Officer who under the general direction of the Project Director, will have overall responsibility for the entire procurement management of the Project. In this respect, he will be responsible for:

i) Planning functions

- Preparing and updating the Project procurement plan for each year of the Project and ensure its distribution to all sectors/units involved in the Project implementation.
- Itemizing and listing all goods required for the Project; grouping goods in packages and determining the procurement method: ICB, NCB, IS, NS.
- Preparing and/or organizing and supervising the preparation of bidding documents and requests for proposals; and
- Working with relevant sectors in developing TORs for the selection of consulting firms.

ii) Procurement Process

- Preparing and ensuring the publication of Specific and General Procurement Notices for goods, and requests for expressions of interest for consulting services.
- Ensuring that documents have received appropriate approvals in accordance with the Development Credit Agreement (DCA).
- Systematically attending on behalf of the CAU all bids opening, evaluation, and contracts award sessions and preparing minutes of bid opening and evaluation reports, in accordance with IDA guidelines.
- Preparing contracts and ensuring they are timely approved, signed and notified, in accordance with the procedures described in the Procurement Manual.

iii) Contract Management

- Inspecting and receiving goods, to ensure compliance with specifications and quantities with the purchase orders/contracts.
- Arranging for safe custody and the proper delivery of goods to the Project institutions, if necessary, and installation in accordance with the contract and the target dates in the implementation schedule.

iv) Relevant Tasks

- Acting as a focal point for any dialogue on procurement management matters relating to the Project as may be required by the Project's financiers.
- Systematically reporting and updating the Project's Management on the status of procurement activities and issues, and follow-up with MOE and other related Ministries and Institutions on procurement and other Project's issues as may be required by the Project's Management.
- Contributing to quarterly FMRs.
- Ensuring that procurement procedures provided in the DCA are respected at all stages.

Qualifications:

- A minimum of a Bachelor's degree in commerce, business administration, engineering, or equivalent qualification.
- At least 10 years experience in a procurement management position.
- Familiarity with the government and IDA's procurement guidelines and procedures.
- Computer literacy and proficiency in both Arabic and English.

Applications along with a detailed resume and copies of supporting documents should be submitted to BEEP, Projects' Sector Building 3- floor, Zubairi-Baghdad St., Sana'a not later than Monday, October 7, 2002.

POW swap highlights Sri Lanka peace bid

OMANTHAI, Sri Lanka (Reuters) - The Sri Lankan government and Tamil Tiger rebels swapped prisoners-of-war on Saturday in the latest move to push ahead a peace process that has already silenced the guns after 19 years of war.

The exchange in a dusty no-man's land in northern Sri Lanka happened amid unprecedented scenes of friendliness between top military leaders from both sides, who mingled with the prisoners to say their goodbyes.

Sri Lanka's top military officer, army chief General Lionel Balagalle, sat casually next to Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) Northern Commander Theepan, an encounter unimaginable several months ago.

"It is yet another significant milestone to a negotiated settlement of what was at one time considered an intractable conflict," said Sri Lanka's Secretary of Defence Austin Fernando.

The swap under a plastic tent came less than two weeks after the two sides met for a first round of peace talks in Thailand.

The Tamil Tiger prisoners were given going-away gift packs that included chocolate, crackers and fruit with a card that read "With the compliments" of army chief Balagalle.

Sri Lankan police stood next to "Tamil Eelam Police" — the police the Tigers have in areas they control — during the ceremony that saw 11 rebel soldiers exchanged for seven government military personnel.

"PEACE DIVIDEND"

"I kept going by the hope I would see my family again," said navy



Tamil Tiger prisoners of war held by the Sri Lankan government walk away from a military helicopter in the northern town of Omanthai on September 28, on their way to a prisoner exchange. REUTERS

Commander Ajith Boyagoda, who was released after being captured by the rebels in a naval battle eight years ago.

One of the released Tigers was a member of the feared "Black Tigers" suicide squad.

Another two rebels were released in the east in the latest in a series of confidence-building measures, including opening roads and allowing greater movement of people, since a Norwegian-brokered truce was signed in February.

"We consider this occasion as one of the peace dividends and hope that similar gestures of goodwill would form the foundation of confidence building," said Suda Master, the deputy head of the LTTE's political wing.

None of the soldiers or police carried weapons, which are not allowed in the crossing-over area between the front lines of the two sides near Omanthai, 270 km (167 miles) north of the Colombo.

The government personnel were later flown by helicopter to Colombo for a meeting with Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe.

The Tamil rebels say they have no more prisoners of war while the government says it has Tamil detainees held under terrorism charges, who are not considered prisoners of war.

Another round of talks is set for Thailand in late October to try to bring an end to the 19-year ethnic conflict that has claimed more than 64,000 lives.

Mass protest in UK against "bombers" Blair and Bush

LONDON, Sept 28 (Reuters) - Waving anti-war banners and chanting slogans against "Bomber Bush and Bomber Blair", tens of thousands of Britons flocked to a vast peace rally in London on Saturday to oppose a possible military strike on Iraq.

Joint organisers Stop the War Coalition and the Muslim Association of Britain estimated more than 350,000 people took part in the rally at Hyde Park and a preceding march from the River Thames near the British parliament.

Police put numbers lower, at 150,000. But that would still make it probably the biggest peace rally in Britain since a huge anti-nuclear demonstration in 1981 drew a quarter of a million.

Myriad groups and personalities

backed the march — from "rebel" members of the ruling Labour Party and the mayor of London, to trade unions, religious leaders, artists, pop stars, rights activists and Gulf War veterans.

"Our message to the U.S. and British governments is that they would be very foolish to defy a coalition of this breadth and diversity. Just sticking a U.N. fig leaf on this does not make it any more humane," Stop the War spokesman Mike Marqusee told Reuters as the march began soon after midday.

"It's the biggest peace protest in Europe for years."

Not surprisingly, protesters directed their wrath at U.S. President George W. Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair, America's closest ally in

the build-up of pressure on Iraq.

Washington and London are trying to get through the U.N. Security Council a tough resolution which would give Iraq one week to accept demands to disarm and 30 days to declare all its weapons of mass destruction programmes.

"Bomber Bush, Bomber Blair, we'll resist you everywhere!" chanted students. Effigies parodied the pair as war-mongers. Protesters shouted "shame" as they passed Blair's residence.

"Hopefully our leaders will see the huge feeling against the war," said Anne Gleeson, a school catering assistant marching with her husband and two children. All wore Palestinian scarves.

MUSLIMS JOIN MARCH

The demonstrators were rallying under two main slogans — "Don't Attack Iraq" and "Freedom for Palestine".

Ismail Adam Patel, head of the Muslim group Friends Of Al'Aqsa, said the two issues were inextricable. "Until we solve the Palestine issue, we are not going to get any peace in the Middle East. Why are we going after Iraq when Israel has far more weapons of mass destruction?" he told Reuters at the march.

Thousands of Muslims, from Britain's 2.5 million-strong Islamic community, joined Saturday's march. Many protesters, from all strata of society, brought children. Some Church of England ministers were also dotted among the demonstrators.



Scot Ritter



Thousands of protestors gather in London's Hyde Park to demonstrate against a possible military strike on Iraq, September 28, 2002. Joint rally organisers Stop the War Coalition and the Muslim Association of Britain estimated at least 100,000 participated in the march through London on Saturday in opposition to military action against Saddam Hussein's regime. REUTERS

Russia wants inspectors back quickly in Iraq-Ivanov

MOSCOW, Sept 28 (Reuters) - Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov said on Saturday, after consultations with a U.S. envoy, that Moscow still stood for the fastest possible return to Iraq of U.N. arms inspectors, Interfax news agency reported.

"Russia still favours the quickest possible return of U.N. inspectors to Iraq," Ivanov was quoted as saying. There was no mention of Russian support for a strongly-worded U.S.-drafted resolution warning Iraq of consequences if it did not quickly adhere to Security Council demands.

Marc Grossman, U.S. undersecretary of state, had been trying to persuade Russian officials to back a new tough U.N. Security Council resolution setting deadlines for Iraq to admit it holds what Washington calls arms of mass destruction.

NATO moved ships in attack fear -Hamburg official

BERLIN, Sept 28 (Reuters) - Seven NATO minesweepers in the northern German port of Hamburg were moved after British security services expressed concern over a possible attack, a member of Hamburg city's government told NDR radio on Saturday.

"In the current situation, the English security services believe that English ships face risks when in harbour - from the water," Walter Wellinghausen, a junior interior minister for the city, was quoted as saying in an interview transcript.

"We therefore decided...today at 1100 (0900 GMT) to move the ships to another part of the harbour where their safety can be guaranteed," he added.

In London, a Defence Ministry spokesman told Reuters: "There has been movement of ships from Hamburg, but it is all to do with changing security posture, which does happen from time to time." He declined further comment.

Several of the hijackers involved in last year's September 11 attacks against the United States lived for a time in Hamburg.

The United States blames Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda organisation for those attacks and for an earlier deadly assault against the U.S. warship Cole in Yemen's Aden port.

Police recently raided a mosque and an Islamic bookstore in Hamburg as part of their investigations into al Qaeda activities in Germany.

Greek truckers call off strike at eleventh hour

ATHENS, Sept 28 (Reuters) - Greek truckers postponed strike plans on Saturday, hours before a planned industrial action that would have put the brakes on thousands of transport trucks across the country, a union official said.

Truckers had threatened to strike indefinitely from September 29 in an industrial action that would have hit deliveries to airports, train stations and ports throughout Greece.

The proposed action by more than 52,000 drivers was called last week by the Greek Federation of International Road Transporters in protest over what union officials claimed were unfulfilled government promises of rate hikes and tax relief.

"We have postponed the strike," union official Panayiotis Nikolaras told Reuters. "It was called off because the tax issue has now been taken care of, while the government also said it would discuss the modernisation issue."

Rome protesters blow against the winds of war

ROME, Sept 28 (Reuters) - Thousands of flag-waving, whistle-blowing demonstrators took to the streets of Rome on Saturday calling for peace with Iraq.

Accusing U.S. President George W. Bush of war-mongering, the crowd snaked its way through the heart of ancient Rome before holding a rally in a city-centre square.

The hard left Communist Refoundation party, which organised the event, said more than 100,000 people joined the march.

Police did not immediately give any estimates, but reporters said the number of protesters was nearer 50,000.

"Bush is isolated, but sadly that isolation might lead to a war," said Refoundation leader Fausto Bertinotti. "War would push the world into turmoil," he added.

A truck blasting out rock music and peace songs led the procession in bright autumn sunshine as protesters, many carrying red flags, chanted anti-war slogans.

"An eye for an eye will leave the

world blind," sang one group of activists. "No Sir - I won't give you my son!" read the slogan on one woman's T-shirt.

Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi said last week Rome had a duty to support U.S. diplomatic and military efforts to disarm Iraq, and compared Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to Nazi dictator Adolf Hitler.

However, latest opinion polls suggest that almost 70 percent of Italians are against the idea of going to war with Iraq.

Washington and London are trying to get the U.N. Security Council to adopt a tough resolution which would give Iraq less than six weeks to disclose any weapons of mass destruction, with the threat of military action lurking if Baghdad refuses.



Italian left parties supporters show a banner reading "Not to the war" during a peace rally in Rome's central Via del Fori street on September 28, 2002, to oppose a military strike on Iraq. REUTERS

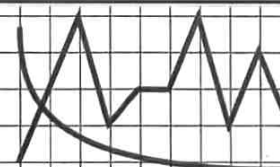
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YT Business



Expatriates' bank versus financial challenges

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

In connection with a project for the establishing a bank for the expatriates, figures mentioned that the Yemeni Banking System consisted of 17 banks distributed over two categories, namely, the central bank, having 19 branches in the governorates and the second is that of various specialties commercial banks.

The project indicates that capital of the central bank reaches to YR 1000 million and it is the only authorized party to overseeing and monitoring banks whether commercial, specialized or Islamic. The structural position of Yemeni banks did not up to now

help to establish a stock exchange market and it is facing a test for supporting or financing the establishment of an expatriates bank.

From the project of establishing expatriates bank and proposals offered in this regard to the expatriates 2nd conference in Sana'a, it is understood that there are big challenges before the project though the conference has supported the idea of its establishment. The challenges can be summed up as :

a) Founding the bank with a capital estimated at USD 50 or 75 million, equal to YR 2 billion requires amounts of money contributed by a strategic investor by 50%, the expatriates and general subscription by 30% and the state by 20%.

b) All submitted options are searching for a strategic investor whose contribution would not be less than 40%, which is an amount if available, the bank founding would be certain, otherwise the bank could never be established at all.

Through the project it is to be learnt that there a existing need for preparing the study on the economic feasibility on the necessity of founding an expatriates bank though the objectives aimed at from the project as mentioned in it are good. These objectives are:

a) to build up expatriate capitals, mobilize expatriates savings and accommodate their investments in any fields such as, a founding



From (R) (L), the Minister of Expatriates, the PM, Vice President, and Chairman of the Shura Council

industrial, professional, agricultural, mining, fish, animal and other companies.

- b) founding insurance companies,
- c) investive funding for contracts works,
- d) buying, owning and leasing pieces of land,
- e) possessing all types of patent letters,
- f) presenting and regulating contribution to long-term loans.
- g) practicing all kinds of banking and credit functions whether for the bank inside Yemen or abroad. Included in this are accepting deposits, granting loans and facilities, buying and selling foreign currencies, collection cheques, issuing, buying and discountings as well as conducting banking and

ordinary dealings correspondents. Functions of the bank, according to the project, also include concluding loans with the government, banks, local and foreign bodies and carrying out actions of an agent to banking and financial institutions.

The bank is also allowed to have n interest in realizing its purposes inside Yemen and practicing all activities and functions of funding, investment and buying and selling of state bonds and government money orders.

To sum it up, all these goals, if the bank was established and began carrying out its activities, would constitute firm foundations for attracting Yemeni capitals abroad and investment operation would be activated in the available opportunities, especially in the Free Zone in Aden.



A scene from the attendees

Arab arbitration recommends encountering challenges of globalization

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Arab Federation of International Arbitration 4th Conference held in Sana'a on September 14-15 came up with results emphasized the significance to explore a reference for the Arab arbitration under the challenges of globalization stage. It had also tackled the new challenges regarding means of settling investment disputes, electronic trade and administrating contracts and arbitration within the framework of the WTO.

The 150 Arab men-of-law conferees have over two days discussed more than 23 researches centered around discussing issues of disagreements of special characteristic, arbitration by using electronic ways, contracts of constructions, and engineering contracts.

The international agreement was reviewed as reference of rules for deciding disputes and the role of judiciary in implementing regulations of arbitration.

Working papers were centered on more important elements of the WTO's agreements, including TREPSS agreement, which a system for settling disputes enhancing the idea of commitment to a unified world system under sovereignty of a unified law.

Working papers also agreed on the important role of arbitration in resolving disputes pertaining to those of intellectual property in accordance with Paris Agreement on protection of industrial property for 1883 and Berne Agreement on literary and art works for 1886 and the agreement on aspects related to the intellectual property rights (TREPSS), 1994.

Participants in the conference were unanimous on finding parallel Arab legislation so that to define features concerning legal protection of the Arab intellectual property and preventing the misuse of privileges granted by the TREPSS agreement to Arab and developing countries.

Mr Ismael Ahmed al-Wazeer, the Chairman of Board of Directors of



Arbitration & Documentation Yemeni Center, that hosted the conference, has made it in his working paper the international agreements as a source for settling disputes, implementation of arbitration terms and role of judiciary in this respect. The paper made it clear that with the rapid spread of the economic globalization and in the context of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), the agreement related to aspects of trade as part of the rights of intellectual property (TREPSS) as one of the results of the Uruguay Round in 1993.

Discussions also concentrated on significance of monitoring applications of legislation and Arab systems related to the intellectual property at the national level.

The conferees were unanimous on the necessity of distinction between international disagreements in electronic trade and regional and local disputes and also the differentiation between the scope of arbitration, whether an international or local.

Among the more important advantages agreed on in deeming arbitration as a means of settling disputes are:

- Arbitration ruling cannot be appealed at the presentation level, though the challenge is permissible.
- Arbitration ensures independence in selecting the decision-makers and also guarantees impartiality.
- Arbitration is characterized by

simplicity of procedures and its secrecy in preserving peculiarity of the intellectual property rights.

When reviewing the issue of distinguishing between trade arbitration and that of sovereignty, there was an indication to the resort by Yemen and Eritrea concerning sovereignty over the islands, sea borders and traditional fishery to the International Arbitration Court.

Participants had also discussed the role of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry to enhance and develop Arab rules of arbitration and agreements as a source for terms of arbitration and extent of convenience of implementing foreign agreements in the Arab countries.

The conferees had reached a conclusion on the necessity of holding training courses for members of arbitration centres in the Arab countries to provide them with experience in arbitration procedures field. Participants also had emphasized that trends of globalization dictate the necessity of resolving disputes with speedy and effective methods that are suitable for trade activity and the creation of equitable competitive atmospheres in Arab relations with members of world trade.

Several countries participated in the conference including, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, UAE, Oman, Iraq, Sudan, Jordan, Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Tunisia, and Morocco.

Sana'a Conference joins forces for Arab Industries development

REPORTED BY MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Regional Conference on Arab Industries Development (RCAID) has united Arabs efforts in two orientations; (1), the development of national industries and self-reliance and (2), facing foreign attempts for dumping Arab markets with foreign products and consumer protection.

The conference, held in Sana'a on 15-18 September 2002, had constituted an important axis for discussing specifications and standardizations on which Arab national industries are based in order to compete with commodities imported from outside the Arab region. The Yemeni party, represented by the Center of Market Studies and Researches, that sponsored the conference, was able to get acquainted with Arab countries experiments to benefit from them in tackling hindrances facing Yemeni industries and to embark on increasing Yemen's exports to Arab markets.

Working papers of the RCAID had confirmed the importance of habituating the Arab industries and engaging civil society organizations in protecting Arab consumer against harms of the excessive inflow of foreign industries products into Arab markets.

Visions of participants in the RCAID were with one accord regarding continuation in coordination of efforts among all Arab countries for building Pan-Arab industry creating inter-Arab trade and establishing Arab Free Zone.

The conferees were also unanimous about the exchange of information, experiences and experiments for facing challenges of world industry in the

Arab world and for protecting the consumer. The conference had also focused on studying the Arab industries current situation by reviewing experiments of 15 Arab countries, circumstances emerging from fears of negative impact for liberalization of world trade.

Moreover, opinions were unanimous on the significance of offering facilities to industrialists in ports and transport as well as providing metal raw materials and working for easing customs and taxes restraints imposed on local goods.

The conferees have also discussed the negative reflections and opportunities provided by agreements of the World Trade Organization for development and protection of less developed nations industries. In the very same direction, the working papers have confirmed that there are inconveniences that must be avoided and should not be repeated especially as the Arab countries, members of the World Trade Organization, have become a market for only industrialized countries.

The conference has also drawn the attention to the necessity of differentiation between freedom of trade and free trade and also preparation of studies on world markets and opportunities available for exporting to them.

It is therefore the conference is considered an Arab regional economic demonstration aimed at uniting Arab energies, enhancing exchange of expertise in a bid to develop and upgrade Arab industries and to developing trade exchange among the Arab countries. Arabs are in further need to unify their investments in industry and draw their assets abroad to be operated in this field and face the challenges of globalization.

The Road Ahead

September and the way forward

By RAIDAN A. AL-SAQAF
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Since the revolutions of September and October, Yemeni people were left with nothing else but poor conditions and questions; What is the state of the nation in the matter of security and defense, the economic condition, the industrialization, the finances, the banking system or the exports?

Besides the progressive efforts made to create a strong and diversified economy stressing on extensive investments, liberalization, privatization, and increased international trade as an attempt to achieve economic modernization. Yemen today is still a slow developing nation, but as a matter of fact, Yemen is a very promising country with a bright future because of the many natural resources it has. We are gifted with oil, minerals and many other natural resources, some of that are nowhere else found in the world; like the unique plants found in Socatra Island.

On the other hand, in spite of the many improvements and advances that took place since the revolutions, we need more. For example more and quality educational facilities are required urgently. According to the National Center for Information, out of the 18.300.000* population of Yemen, 47%* lie in the age group from 0-14 years. That is more than 8.000.000 Yemenies. Now, do we have enough schools and educational institutes for even half of those? Then how do we expect people to live comfortably? How are they going to get jobs in the future if they can't get education now? Especially with a population growth rate of 3.5%*.

Our country needs the kind of people who are proud of their heritage and have a strong sense of belonging. These people are the generations of the future who our country needs in order to prosper. But first, we need to prepare these future generations for a different tomorrow; we need to grow the love of the country in them and habituate them to face this changing world. This is the responsibility of the education system to ensure that future generations receive quality education that can enable them to at least match their peers in the rest of the world. Sadly it is clear that this is not possible, too many of them too little of facilities.

I am sure that there are many efforts in order to contain this problem. Particularly during the last decade, and from my part I would like to encourage such improvements and efforts made by every single person in order to make this country one step ahead in the right direction.

Endnote: Another 26th September passes by us and I ask about the way forward. I have a feeling we are moving in the right direction but we are too slow, serious efforts has to be made in order to speed up the pace.

* :Source: National Information Center - 2000

A humanitarian perspective on the autumn of our discontent

HASSAN BIN TALAL
FOR THE JORDAN TIMES

It has been a painful year for humanity. The attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, were one of the greatest manifestations of the indignities that man is capable of heaping upon fellow man. But as we look back upon that tragic day and engage ourselves – and one another – in reflection and contemplation, more sober thought should be dedicated to the yet unseen consequences of those events. We are moving towards confrontation and aggression, uncertainly if not all of us hesitatingly. Yet we surely owe it to the innocent thousands who died on that day – and all those who have died since – as well as to future generations – to take a step back from that awful brink.

As a Muslim I am deeply offended and embarrassed that the perpetrators of this massacre had the audacity to describe themselves as Muslims and claimed to have acted in the name of Islam. What a gross indignity to the almost two billion Muslims that inhabit our planet.

Long before these terrorists hijacked the planes that crashed into New York and Washington DC, I believed that we needed an enlightened centrist platform based on inclusion where men and women of goodwill shared in their common humanity.

Since last Sept. 11, the human family has endured many indignities: suicide bombings in Israel; the systematic slaughter of men, women and children in the Indian city of Gujarat; nuclear brinkmanship in a region that ought to be concentrating its energies on education, poverty alleviation and development; violent vigilantism that has led to racist murders of innocent people on the streets of America; and the murder of civilians in the Palestinian territories.

The new millennium echoes with the familiar cries of hatred, anger and violence. My greatest fear is that if we continue to depend on the rule of force,

on power, as a deterrent, we will eventually be unable to disable violence. We must become more sensitised to the concept of consequences: The consequences of poverty, illiteracy, oppression, lack of opportunity, despair and anger, which can all lead to the contemplation of violence. To my mind, as a citizen of the world, intolerance, prejudice and bigotry can also be seen as forms of illiteracy and ignorance, eroding social values, eating away at our humanity and stamping on our sense of ethical obligations and duties – to one another and to the world as a whole.

If the world cannot grow beyond the new "tribalism" of "regionality" or unilateralism that has developed apace over the last year, we are going to face a very uncertain future. However, if we can search for commonality through a dialogue of universal values, and establish a code of ethical conduct, we could perhaps achieve the security that safeguards human dignity and enables the fulfillment of human needs through solidarity, ridding society of its erroneous need for individuals who seek to terrorise us.

This one act of terrorism must not allow us to degenerate into automatons under crude banners of patriotism or religion. Ambassador Robert D. Crane argues that: "The greatest challenge lies not in enforcing stability through military might, which can never succeed in the long run, but in building security through foreign policies that address the political roots of terrorism".

The Islamic ethical ideal is based on the premise that all of creation is somehow organically and spiritually interconnected. In the Islamic concept of tawhid, or essential unity of creation, this is acknowledged as a fundamental tenet of faith. If you were to go up into space and look down upon a Muslim world where everyone is prostrating five times daily towards one focus point, you will notice concentric circles that symbolise this essential unity, this interconnectedness, this irresistible inter-existence of humanity. This is my

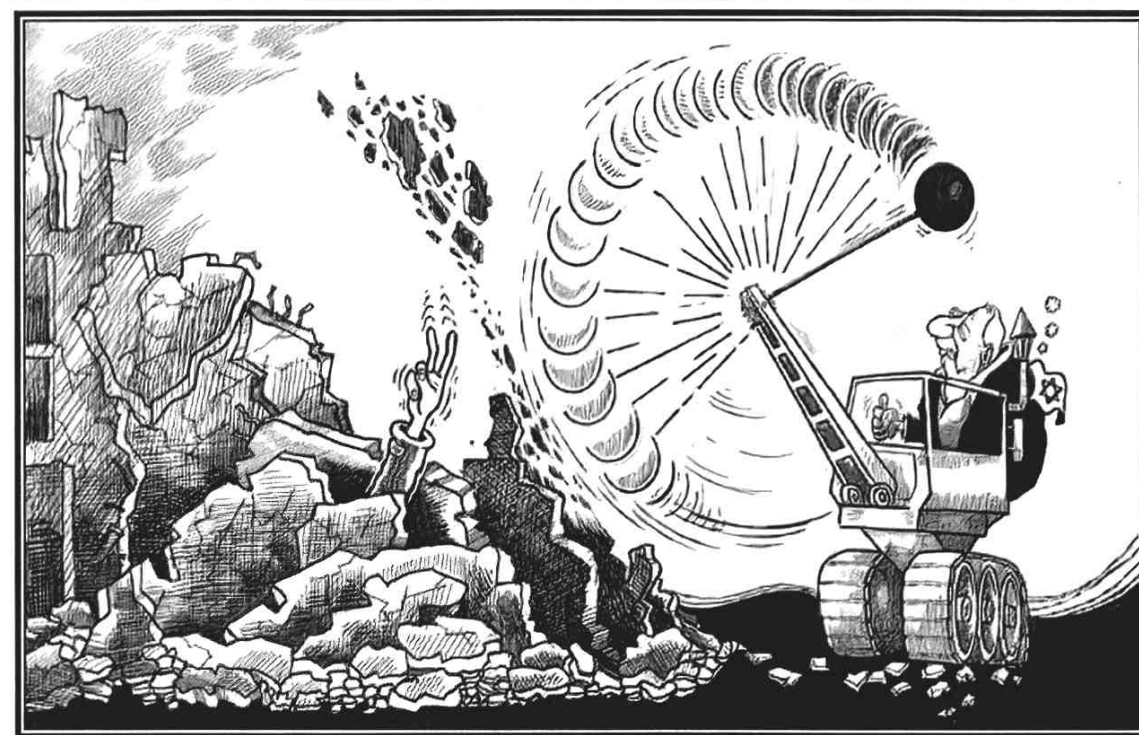
Islam. This is pluralism and respect for diversity.

As moderator of the World Conference on Religions and Peace and president of the Club of Rome, I represent idealists with a holistic approach. We share "a common concern for the future of humanity", acting as ex-officio catalysts of change. This global perspective is essential to wise leadership given the intense interdependence between nations in this new age. Given the ultra-sophistication of weapons of mass destruction (WMD), this is no time for provincial ideologies that cannot grasp the complexities and nuances of contemporary mores and challenges – the political, social, economic, technological, environmental, psychological and cultural problems of the "world problematique". It is crucial for us to maintain an educated, multi-disciplinary and long-term perspective on policy choices that determine our destiny, limiting evils like poverty and prejudice through expanding the boundaries of knowledge. The world cannot afford anything that falls short of that mark.

What we need is to bring certain unacceptables to an end – war, terror, violence and disregard for the inherent dignity of humanity.

We must therefore learn to work together globally, recognising our common ground. This means respecting the sanctity of life that is inherent to all faiths. People of all faiths and none must recognise a sense of our shared history on this one fragile planet that we inhabit together. That should motivate us to move towards a new human agenda for a better world of compassion, reconciliation and understanding. At the very least, we have to evolve a civilised framework for disagreement; at best, we must aim to attain a common perspective for global initiatives and global response to times of crisis.

It is my personal hope, obviously shared by millions, that never again will we see something as tragic as the billowing smoke that enveloped the collapse of the Twin Towers and all



Courtesy Arab News - Khalil's cartoon

who were in them last Sept. 11. We are going to be seeing reruns of that surreal sight for a long time to come and it should serve not just as a symbol of a heartbreaking day, but also of a tragic schism in humanity. It is also my hope that the Twin Towers will be replaced, not just by the exquisite towers of light that were first conceived to fill the horrible void where they used to stand, but also by a common perception of the twin concepts of civilisation and culture. That would mean that we had finally risen above the hostile energies revealed on that day, to a higher plane of insight into the steps to be taken to ensure our shared future.

The Koran calls on us to observe "the perpetual change of winds – the alternation of day and night – the variety of human colours and tongues – the alternation of days of success and reversal among peoples", and to reflect on our part in the completeness of creation that is beautiful in its diversity.

What a glorious bridge to eternity it would be for all those we lost on that day, Sept. 11, 2001, and those lost since, if they were each remembered as the souls who lit our humble, human steps towards a deeper understanding of each other for final peace.

A Reply to "How can Yemen declare that the US is wrong" Article written by Mark Thompson under the heading "An opinion from the USA"

NADA Z. B.,
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I have read your "simple explanation" in one of our newspapers in Yemen, on "How can Yemen declare that the US is wrong". Now let me explain to you why so many people "hate" the American government, and that does not only include the Arabs.

You said that America wants Freedom to all. Who is the American Government to tell people what the right religion or system is. You call America a democratic country? Why don't you see what is actually happening in your country before you go on criticizing others. You are saying that Americans know what Democracy is?? That it is the best system and everyone else should follow it! There are limits to freedom and laws established by each country to secure people's safety; it doesn't mean that American laws and systems are all right.

I agree with you, no government is perfect. And I agree with you that it is wrong for a government to take over another country, but that is exactly what the Israeli government did and the American Government is supporting it. So how can you say that the American government has stopped such thing from happening, in fact it is helping it happen. It might be true that the US is not interested in taking over another country, but it is interested in taking its resources, which include oil.

Did you know that the "American Government", wanted to build pipelines in Afghanistan to take oil but the AL-Qaeda wouldn't let them?? Off course you didn't know, why would your government give you such information? You might think it's a lie; it's your choice.

You said that US wants to stop massacres! Well why didn't they do that in Jenin when the Israeli army massacred a whole village?? But the US just believed the Israeli army when they said no we didn't. Then why wouldn't the Israeli army let anyone in Jenin, including UN workers and other volunteers? Maybe because they are hiding something? Can you answer these questions? The "American Government" who "does not want to massacre people" (as you say), has killed thousands of innocent people in Iraq, Vietnam, and in Afghanistan. And you say they do not want to massacre people, well that is not what is happening.

You think our newspapers and news reports are full of propaganda, well I have news for you, so are the American media. If you listen to CNN, it is full of bias and propaganda; they only bring you one side of the story. I have American friends who don't live

in America, who told me that CNN is the last resource they would listen to for news because it is biased. These people say that because they have heard other news channels that bring both sides of the story, unlike CNN. Just ask yourself, have you seen a Palestinian being interviewed in CNN without being attacked or given the chance to talk?

So yes, "a little county" such as Yemen can declare that the US is wrong according to their opinion. The US is the main cause for peoples' suffering around the world, because it is afraid of a second power to rise. They don't want competition do they? I don't blame them, people in power always want to remain there, but that doesn't make it right, does it?

You think that our governments control whatever we hear and read, well in case you didn't realize that happens in all governments, including your own. The American Government has censored a lot of Arabic websites so that its people cannot get information from there, what do you call that? Check the Al-Jazeera website in the US, it is completely different from its website outside the US, because it is censored. So don't come and lecture us about propaganda in our media when it happens in your own "Democratic" country.

Countries around the world do not have to follow the American Governmental system. We have our own religion, laws and systems, so live with it. Not all people are alike and we don't have to follow laws that go against our laws, morals, and religion. We have a culture we want to maintain, and I don't see why it is an AMERICAN problem to take us away from it. Americans helped the growth of many fundamentalists and then they blame it on the Arabs or Islam (for your information Osama Bin Laden was a CIA agent, ask them what went wrong there) If you know about Islam, Mr. Educated, you would know that what fundamentalists do is not all right, you only know about Islam what your Government wants you to know through its media and movies.

If America and Israel want peace in the Middle East, than why is Israel the only country in the Middle East with a nuclear weapon and why doesn't it allow UN inspections in, when Iraq has been sanctioned for not allowing the UN in? The American Government is only doing what interests it and its allies only, so yes, they are wrong.

Just like you American citizens are fed up of being blamed for everything wrong, which isn't true, cause your government is the one blamed, WE too are sick and tired of American intervention with the whole world "to make it a better place" for them not us.

The importance of dialogue between peoples

ROMANO PRODI*
THE DAILY STAR

Once more storm clouds are piled over the Gulf while anger, grief and despair are boiling over in the hearts of Israelis and Palestinians, two peoples whose destiny is to live side-by-side and together. Sept. 11 has come round to remind each of us of our duty to work to prevent a "clash of civilizations." And yet at the same time the dialogue between peoples and cultures is playing a bigger part in the EU's external action.

This paradox is only apparent as things stand, and the enormity of the challenge underlines its urgency.

Around the shores of the Mediterranean we must all try to live in the present, in harmony with the shared values of the times whilst remaining true to our own identities.

We need to turn Euro-Mediterranean relations into a symbol of peaceful coexistence and a model of greater justice for the world, healing the scars that history has left on the region.

The process of unification now under way in Europe is a unique opportunity to rethink our relationship with all our neighbors, stretching from Russia to the shores of the Mediterranean, as well as our policies toward them. The influx of migrants also spurs us to search for new balances and new ways of organizing our societies. And globalization is both an immense opportunity for development and a daunting challenge, especially for the more vulnerable.

Political and economic dialogue therefore needs to go hand in hand with a cultural dialogue that could become a powerful instrument for shaping the course of events. After Sept. 11, many voices were raised in favor of dialogue between cultures and societies. But well before that date, the EU – and the Commission in particular – had recognized the importance of

such a dialogue.

The need for action has now become urgent. Dialogue should not be seen as taking place only elsewhere, beyond our borders. It must start here, in Europe itself, in our inner cities, which are all too often the breeding-ground for intolerance and prejudice. We need to rediscover our common cultural heritage and harness it for greater mutual understanding and respect. This we must do because of the ever-clearer risk of an ideological and cultural rift, not only between Europe and the Arab and Muslim world but also within European and Arab and Muslim societies.

This is why our objective is to develop a special relationship between Europe and the Mediterranean, using all the instruments available to strengthen our partnership. The European Commission has thus instigated a range of initiatives and programs to promote mutual awareness, both in and outside the EU and especially in the Mediterranean.

Recently, for instance, we decided to extend the Tempus program of university exchanges to our Mediterranean partners, and we are looking into the possibility of doing the same with various vocational training and continuing education programs.

Other projects are under way. There is the Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for dialogue between cultures, approved in principle by the 27 foreign ministers at the Fifth Euro-Mediterranean Conference held in Valencia. The Foundation will work with various civil society institutions, both public and private, national and international, to give consistency and continuity to initiatives such as the Conference on Inter-cultural Dialogue held in Brussels in March this year and the plan to introduce a program of study grants on the Fulbright model, which is making good progress.

We have also set up a High-Level Advisory Group to work along these

lines. The body is to report back to me by the end of the year, in particular on the conditions for giving new impetus to the Euro-Mediterranean cultural dialogue and setting out practical guidelines for a reinvigorated approach to cultural cooperation.

So it is not just a question of organizing more conferences and seminars. We want to open a new chapter in Mediterranean cooperation that will draw inspiration from these opportunities to meet and take stock together. If we are to do this successfully, it means we must also be capable of shedding light on what lies at the foundations of our cultures, especially the three great religions that originated in the Mediterranean area.

While it cannot be denied that these religions have give rise to conflicts and even brutal wars in the past, they have also been – and still are – founts of hope, creativity and wisdom. They can and must contribute decisively to our joint efforts to bring together all the peoples that live around the Mediterranean.

But civilizations and relations between cultures cannot be reduced to their religious dimension or explained in exclusively religious terms. The rifts between them are produced above all by injustice, poverty and economic disparities. And all these problems must be tackled too.

A dialogue between cultures is not – nor should it be – an instrument of political dialogue or a substitute for one.

That would be counterproductive for both dialogues.

But it is true that if a dialogue between peoples and cultures takes root

in civil society, it could bear fruit in the form of amicable and fruitful political dialogue.

Beyond our commitment extends far beyond the realm of culture. The Barcelona European Council approved the setting up of a fund that will enable the EU to play a more active role in

public and private investments on the southern shores of the Mediterranean. The goal of the European Commission and the Spanish presidency was more ambitious. At that stage it could not be attained in full, but it is still on the table.

When faced with situations like the Middle East, Europe should throw all its political, economic and imaginative force into creating the conditions for dialogue. This means much more than brokering a cease-fire or delivering humanitarian aid. The real objective is to put ourselves forward as a proactive mediator that – acting in scrupulous observance of all the relevant UN resolutions – can make the opposing parties look at the issues that divide them in a new light.

A lasting solution to the conflict can only be achieved through a collective commitment by the European Union, the United States, Russia, the Arab world, Israel, and of course the United Nations. It is obvious that no unilateral approach can work.

Dialogue between cultures does not mean a cultural leveling-out in favor of Western values and economic interests. Nor does it mean passively enduring and accepting a homogenized culture where only the values and will of the strongest prevail. The EU provides the only example of democratic management of integration between various cultures. It is proof that there is an alternative to cultural uniformity and supremacy.

The dialogue we want is a dialogue that respects different cultures and the peoples who embody them, as long as these cultures uphold the fundamental rights of each human being.

The time is ripe to shoulder new responsibilities, and to show that globalization is not necessarily antithetical to cultural diversity, solidarity and shared values.

They can, and must, coexist.

Romano Prodi is the president of the European Commission

Our new generation & historical heritage



BY MUJAHED AL MUSSA'ABI
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Despite the fact that Yemen is one of the least developed countries of the world, it seems to be widely affected by globalization and the information technology sweeping across the world and imposing themselves on the lives of Yemenis willingly and unwillingly. By saying this, I am not blaming our country for allowing globalization to affect our lives. On the contrary, I do strongly support development and progress which are not in conflict with our identity or individual characteristics.

In fact, it is not surprising for a nation with a glorious past and well-

respected civilization to use available modern tools to achieve greater development. Yemen was once the cradle of human civilizations represented in a rich ancient urban cultural heritage and astonishingly well-designed historical cities and it surely does want to go back to its glorious days.

The Yemeni city of "Azal" -now Sana'a- is among the most ancient cities of the world. The mystical architectural beauty of Old Sana'a makes it a source of fascination and charm by all tourists visiting the city.

Nevertheless, the lack of awareness of the significance of the cultural heritage of Yemen among young Yemenis, whom we bet on for the future of the country, is also a source of concern. Most of those young men and women have little respect and appreciation to the cultural heritage or historical assets of the country. Unfortunately, they are fascinated more by the developed

world resembled by the western modernization and they blame globalization for that. They tend to indirectly contribute to the possible loss of this valuable heritage because they know nothing about it and don't care of what could happen to it if abandoned.

This is a dangerous phenomenon that could have catastrophic consequences on our country's heritage. Young Yemenis of the day know more about New York and Paris than Sa'ada and Shibam. They may even ask with a sense of carelessness "What do we need those old mud buildings for?" or "If heritage is needed so much, why is a country like the USA with no architectural heritage or deep-rooted civilization still the most developed country in the world?"

This is yet another example of the poor education taught to our new generation. Hence, we cannot blame them before blaming ourselves for not providing them with thorough and better education to raise their awareness of the value of historical heritage for every nation.

Our duty towards our children

It is the responsibility of the whole society, private sector, civil organizations and government to exert efforts to strengthen the concepts of the value of cultural heritage in our children's minds.

All fathers and mothers are requested to teach their children that a nation without past has no future. People who forget their ancient civilization would be neglected in history and become a nation without roots. They should be informed that cultural heritage and original inherited professions are invaluable assets that should be maintained. They are considered a national



Historical city of Shibam, integrated with nature

wealth not only for us, but for all humanity to learn from and discover. We should have our children investigate why are tourists coming from the so called 'modern world' to see our historical sites and why are they fascinated by them." They should ask "Why is UNESCO declaring some Yemeni historical sites like Old Sana'a, Shibam and Zabid as world heritage sites?"

They should learn that such significant cultural heritage is contributing to the development of the country like any other natural resource such as oil, gold or gas. Our young generation should feel proud of its history, which they need to value and study in schools. Let them feel and appreciate

the beauty of the new unique architecture of our historical cities, which we should protect just as we protect our interests and treasures. They should recognize that a new modern building in a historical city would distort its identity and historical value. So, we should integrate these principles in their daily life activities at school, at home, at the theater and the on TV programs.

The second step would be to involve our children in dealing with issues related to historical sites and cities to make them familiar with risks of modernization which threaten the historical value of these cities that remained firm for ages.

A good step forward

I have read that within its national awareness raising campaign, the **Urban Cultural Heritage Program UCHP** is holding several cultural activities, the last being in Zabid. Those activities involve the participation of school pupils in historical cities in painting workshops to eventually present a unique exhibition showing the paintings of children at the end of the workshop.

We need to encourage such appreciated steps and motivate other governmental and non-governmental organizations to hold similar activities if we really want to raise a generation aware of its historical and cultural heritage.



Old buildings of Zabid City

Yemeni youth shout: Help us!

IBRAHIM ADDAHAN
YEMEN TIMES, IBB

It is well known that the youth are the powerhouse of any nation. Therefore, all nations and societies pay more attention to the youth and do all their best to develop and improve their lives in all aspects including education, culture and science, etc. If the youth are strong, educated and well-oriented, their nation becomes stronger and more prosperous. Only then will they look at the future with hope and optimism. Youth have the potential to build modern and developed nations.

But what if the authorities do not care for their youth? What if a system

is not working to explore the potentials of the young population? What if a nation does not empower its next generation with knowledge and correct orientation in order to build a better tomorrow?

Frankly speaking, our youth here in Yemen are pessimistic about the future. They see a dark present and even a darker tomorrow. Their approach to life is full of frustration. They are frightened by what is to come. Let me convey to you the impressions I got from a number of young men at Al-Awkaff area in Ibb City, particularly from the street known as 'love street.' This street has become an important place for huge crowds of young boys and girls aim-

less drifting back and forth. They walk up and walk down the street, talking loudly, flirting, teasing and haggling. They have nothing to do but wandering in the street day in and day out.

During my visit to the 'love street' I met with some young boys and asked them, why they come to this street. "This is the best place in Ibb. We used to come here to spend time in feeding our eyes and enjoying ourselves" one of them said. "We have nothing to do except wandering and hanging around in the streets with no objective" another commented.

This habit is not restricted to Ibb alone. The same applies to all major cities in the republic. Thus, this implies that a significant portion of our young generation feels lost and does nothing meaningful to keep itself busy. Basically, this is a lost opportunity for the nation because this way, we fail to benefit from the energy and resource that these young people represent. But more ominously, if we cannot harness this energy for good use, it could be exploited in a bad way leading to enormous difficulties for the future of this country.

Some people have spent many years going to schools, sometimes finishing university degrees. However, as they graduate, they fail to find any job opportunities. They feel frustrated, desperate, and hopeless. They studied hard and graduated in the hope of finding jobs, starting a family and securing a peaceful future. However, not only do they fail to fulfill their desires, but they also do not contribute to the welfare and progress of their country as a whole despite the fact that they do have the ability to be productive and helpful.

Those young educated graduates

face a bitter reality and become pessimistic about their future. When schoolboys see their seniors jobless and completely frustrated, they lose interest in studying because they do not believe that the education they get is a guarantee for a better future. Whenever urged to read and work hard in their studies, they refuse by shrugging their shoulders and asking "what is the use of studying if we know that we will not find any jobs once we graduate?" This is the question asked by the students of these days.

They argue that the way to wealth and prosperity in Yemen of today is not through education and hard work, but by linking up with influential power centers either through hypocritical political affiliation, especially those that are close to the regime or by forgery, stealing and robbery. To make their case, they give examples of well-known ignorant and corrupt individuals, who have become rich and influential figures.

To conclude, it is believed by the youth that the well-being of a person in Yemen today has little to do with how much informed or how hard working he/she is. According to many young men and women, the system does not promote or even value the qualities of hard work and knowledge. That is because unqualified, undeserving and unproductive people are holding high-ranking positions in the state, while the qualified are set aside.

The youth of Yemen deserve higher priority in the hierarchy of the state. The future of the country can only be built by and through them. The unemployment rate in Yemen is estimated at a staggering 38%. While that is already a terrible waste of manpower, it is a pity that an increasing number of

the jobless are among the educated people of Yemen. It is unacceptable to see the most-educated sector of the population is unable to work and hence make ends meet, while the least productive and educated are hired as very influential figures.

Thus, we call upon the concerned authorities to pay more attention to the youth because they are the hope of the nation and of the future, and a nation without well-educated youth that are given their leading role in the community is a nation without a future.

Continued from last page

SCIENTIFIC MIRACLE :

Blind man drives car using "artificial eye"

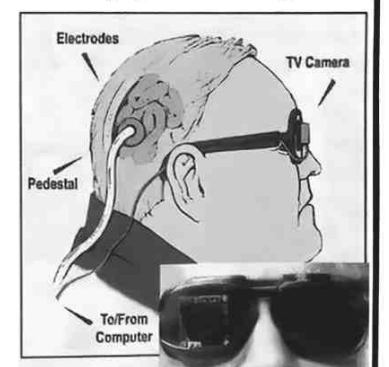
Four of the eight patients reported that their phosphenes were brilliantly colored. These are the first colored phosphenes reported by blind patients, giving hope that future prostheses will be in full color. The patients have just started to use the systems.. the man driving the car was the first to have been implanted... and the remaining seven patients are now being trained. The device is primarily designed for mobility rather than reading. However, "rapid advances provide the possibility that the patients will be able to scan the Internet and Watch TV," said Dr. Dobbelle.

The patients had been blind from periods ranging from 4 to 57 years at the time of surgery. One patient, blind from birth in one eye, lost the other at age 45. A second patient..who was 77 years old at the time of surgery-lost both eyes in a mortar attack during World War II. Both patients saw "normal phosphenes."

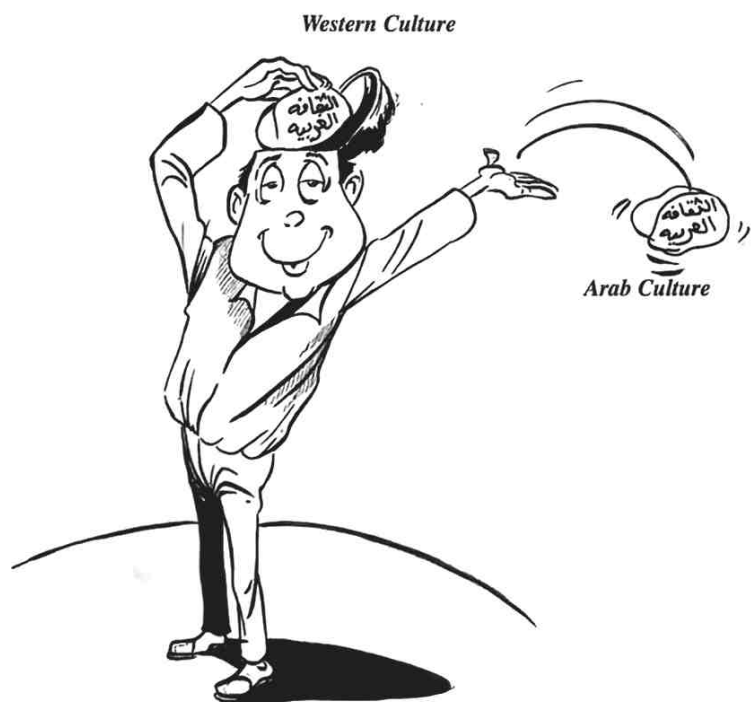
These cases suggest that neither patient age- nor period of blindness- is a contradiction for surgery.

All operations were performed at the CUF Hospital in Lisbon, Portugal by Joao Lobo Antunes, MD, who is Chairman of the Neurosurgery Department at the University of

Lisbon, along with John P. Girvin, MD, formerly the Chief of Neurosurgery and Vice President of Medical Affairs at the University of Western Ontario and now Chief of Neurosurgery at the King Faisal



Specialist Hospital in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. Both Dr. Antunes and Dr. Girvin have worked on the project for more than twenty-five years. They had collaborated on implanting Dan and Jerry, the successful prototype patient in 1979. They were assisted by Domingos Coiteiro, MD a Portuguese neurosurgeon, and on some cases by Kenneth R. Smith, Jr., MD is Director of the Division of Neurological Surgery at St. Louis University Health Sciences Center



Yemen health system's enhancement or re-engineering ?

BY DR JURGEN PATZELT
SURGEON & HEALTH-ECONOMIST
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

Whenever you try to improve a system the decisive question is whether it is worth investing resources in modifying a rotten process to a little higher quality outcome or better give up the old way for a completely re-engineered one like zero-based budgeting and client-centered process-management instead of "renovating" antique functional procedures.

In the political and economical scene this "revolutionary way" has sometimes proven disastrous but sometimes it was a blessing and the only way out of a dilemma (the end of communism).

Which way to go is a political decision in context with economical and ethical aspects, maybe eased a little by this article and its future prospects.

Assessment of the present situation

Results of an extreme centralized system for planning, budgeting, staffing and even executing operational everyday activities in health care facilities are obviously to be seen in the weaknesses and shortcomings within the health sector of Yemen.

The majority of PHC -units and -centers are under-stuffed with low-skilled personnel, and lack of essential drugs and supplies.

Comparable is the situation even in referral hospitals, having to compete with by far better equipped private

ones, offering excellent service and medical quality, sometimes for the same price or even cheaper than state hospitals if you take into account the money for cost-sharing (often much higher than the official list), "side-money", "bakschisch" and the fact that most of the drugs and other medical items are not available.

Parallels to Other Countries and lessons to be learned

1. A comparable situation in the German Health Care sector has led to a complete change in health care supply planning and management. Because the government could not provide the needed money for investment any more and for subsidizing the inefficient community- and state owned- hospitals, close collaboration with private investors was welcome.

First the capacity planning was reduced to a mere framework, to be filled by the communities and even private investors. Second, the old system of planned "cameralistic management", comparable to the Yemen situation, was abandoned and replaced by an efficient economic- and quality-outcome centered.

2. Private management in community hospitals was accepted and even the complete takeover by private investors was favored.

3. Public Private Partnership and even the takeover of complete hospitals by private groups were accepted.

4. Thus the government as well as

the health insurance companies got rid of the burden of high investment and even could reduce the running costs of hospitals.

5. Nevertheless the problem of rising health insurance premiums has not been solved until today. So new ways like managed care, case-management or disease-management have to be tested and implied in pilot projects.

Ideas for Future Yemen-adapted Enhancement

1. Public Private Partnership and foreign private hospital chains could help the government out of the dilemma of scarce resources versus increasing endless demands.

2. Equal distribution of cadres with better supply in remote areas by incentives and motivation would reduce maternal and child mortality rates and morbidity.

3. Improving management of health care facilities would bring by far more efficiency and higher output/ better outcome with the same amount of money.

4. The money saved by private investment could be used for spending in other social activities and social welfare.

5. Less bureaucracy by decentralization and autonomy provides more money for acute curative medicine.

Using the Challenging Chance for Change

1. The world around is permanently changing, especially in the field

of medical research and technology. So to have better equipped health care facilities, even if not owned by the government could only be an advantage for all.

2. Better qualified, motivated and higher paid staff must result in more and more satisfied patients and a better image for district and central government.

3. State's tasks could be to construct the legal frame, licensing, staffs training and quality surveillance, preventive measures etc. more than the direct supply of the population with health care facilities.

Learning by Doing with Trial and Error NOW

To change a system will always bear the risk of mistakes and even change it to the worse in the beginning. But there seems to be no way out of this "trial and error" while learning from the mistakes and afterwards change it to the better.

The advantage for Yemen is, to profit from mistakes others have already made without repeating them. This is a time- and cost-saving method.

On the other hand side it should be avoided to copy systems without modifying and adopting them to the special situation of Yemen mentality, culture and religion.

For example it surely will not be necessary to have exact the number of staff or in- and outpatient facilities or hospital-beds per capita as in comparable industrialized countries.

This would only create an unfathomable economic burden without any necessity.

In Yemen many things done by the relatives of patients would only be cost-increasing if done by professional staff like in the so-called "developed countries".

The number of hospital beds is only 10% of the German supply but Germany has fourfold the number of beds per capita then the USA. So what could be the "right" measure ?

Japan's spending for health care is by far less than that of many comparable developed countries - nevertheless Japan has the highest life-expectancy rate in the world!

What's the Best Solution for a Yemen Health System ?

Consultancy reports, workshops, questionnaires and comparison with other countries ?

Anything is possible and probably also worthwhile.

Nevertheless the best method seems to be the consent of a highly qualified and experienced group of decision-makers within the Republic of Yemen.

This group of experienced qualified managers should discuss and compare all systems of health planning, health-care supply, health insurance systems so to find out the best system to be adopted

Again in a way of trial and error within different pilot-projects the best alternative solutions should be repeatedly tested in pilot projects and evaluated in a sort of PDCA-cycle (Plan, Do, Check, Act) for final decision.

How and Where to qualify the Respective Cadres ?

Beginning with a one years' diploma-course in collaboration of well experienced and highly qualified institutions like the *Yemen National Institute of Administrative Sciences* and the *German Government Development Organization CIM*.

October 5th 2002 will be the beginning of this two-semester diploma-course until the final exam on August 16th 2003 in IBB.

After successful completion of the course the same could be held in all branches of NIAS so finally to cover Yemen with a sufficient number of highly qualified health managers as a precondition for more effective and efficient health care supply in the Republic of Yemen.

Population National Policy in Republic of Yemen 2001-2025

Population Work Program 2001-2005

Public Health

- A decline in morbidity and mortality so that the expectancy of life at birth may reach 63 years.
- An expansion in health service coverage to include 70% of total population.
- Spreading widely health education and awareness.

Child Health

- A reduction in Infant Mortality Rate from 75 to 55 per 1000 live birth.
- A reduction in Under-Five Mortality Rate from 105 to 74 per 1000 live birth.
- Treatment of 50% of acute respiratory infections.
- An increase in the usage of Oral Rehydration Therapy (ORT) to cover 60% of diarrhetic cases.
- An expansion of the Expanded Program of Immunization to cover 90% of target population.
- An improvement in nutritional status of children and mothers.

Women and Maternal Health

- A reduction in Maternal Mortality Rate by 15% of its present level (351).
- An increase in the coverage of antenatal care to include 60% of pregnant women.
- An increase in deliveries attended by trained health workers to 40% of all deliveries.
- An expansion of postpartum care to cover 15% of women.
- An expansion in tetanus immunization to cover 60% of all pregnant women.
- Raising awareness with regard to sexually transmitted and other chronic diseases.



المجلس الوطني للسكان
NATIONAL POPULATION COUNCIL
الهيئة العامة للسكان

Family Planning

- An increase in Contraceptive Prevalence Rate to 28% of all married women in reproductive ages. The Prevalence Rate of modern methods is to rise to 23%.
- Raising awareness of spouses with regard to the importance and benefits of family planning. In the same time family planning services is to be diversified and improved.

Gender Equity, Equality and Empowerment of Women

- Taking necessary measures to narrow down gender gaps especially with respect to school enrollment, labor force participation and social services. The absorption capacity of the school system is yet to be expanded especially for girls.

Population and Sustainable Development

- Speeding up the pace of human development. The contribution of promising productive sectors in GDP is to be maximized.
- An execution of several programs for technical education and vocational

Education and Literacy

- An improvement in primary school enrollment ratios to reach 76% (92% for males and 59% for females), the geographical distribution of schools is to be modified according to population density as revealed on the school map.
- Providing adequate support towards the realization of the objectives of the National Strategy for Literacy and launching continuous national campaigns for illiteracy combating.

Population Distribution

- New investments and projects are to be located in various regions in such a way as to bring about a balanced regional development. Towns and secondary cities are to be developed. Investment in the agriculture sector is to be encouraged.
- The causes and consequences of excessive urban growth are to be thoroughly investigate to propose appropriate solutions. The population spatial mobility is to be controlled in view of economic and environmental considerations.

Children, Adolescents, Youth, the Elderly and Handicapped

- Ensuring protection for children and adolescents from all forms of exploitation and human rights violations. Efforts must be intensified to integrate adolescents and youth in development programs.
- Improving facilities and services of health, social and psychological care for the handicapped with special reference to the elderly women. Their living circumstances ought to be paid special attention.
- Equal rights must be guaranteed to the handicapped without any discrimination. They must be enabled to participate in all aspects of life: socially, economically and culturally.

training for the sake of improving the employment level and curbing unemployment.

- An improvement in environmental protection measures joined with limiting non-sustainable production and consumption patterns.

Celebrating 26th September

SUSTAINABLE

Ellen von Zitzewitz
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

It's a beautiful scenery visiting Sana'a at night these days. Many buildings are lightened for the 26th September. As beautiful these lights are, they are using scarce energy resources and result in frequent electricity shortouts. The Ministry of Tourism and Environment (MTE) and the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) at Zubeiri Street near Baghdad Street has taken a different approach: With the support of TSC, the leading company for Renewable Energy in Yemen and the Royal Netherlands Embassy, the entrance of the ministry is now lightened by a solar installation. A photovoltaic system only using the sun runs the lamp



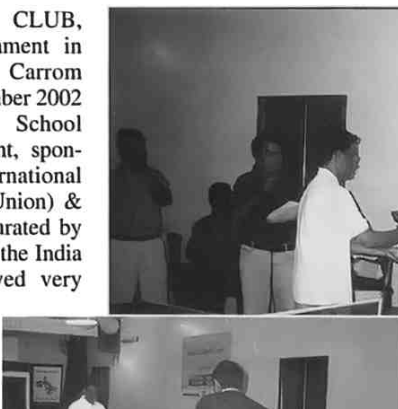
day and night. This is one of the first tangible results of the workshop on Climate Change - Renewable Energy 2 weeks ago. Ahmed Zabarah, Director General of TSC: We really appreciating the installation on the ministry entrance as the MTE and EPA are supporting significantly the Renewable Energy sector. We hope other ministries and agencies will follow using solar installations. Also the Minister Abdul Malik Al-Iriani appreciates the installation: We thank the TSC for its efforts and want to continue to work in this field. Anwar Abdul Aziz, Director for the Climate Change and Renewable Energy Department, has already next steps in mind: We hope with further assistance of the international community to promote more pilot installations.

Senior Staff of the Ministry of Tourism & Environment celebrating 26th of September sustainable

Sport Events at India (Embassy) Club

INDIA (EMBASSY) CLUB, Sana'a held Sports tournament in Table Tennis, Chess & Carrom between 17th & 26th September 2002 at the India Embassy School Auditorium. The tournament, sponsored by Coca-Cola, International Bank of Yemen (Western Union) & Mr. Chowdhury, was inaugurated by Dr. Thakur, the President of the India (Embassy) Club. It received very good response with 90 participants taking part in the event comprising three categories-Senior, Junior and Ladies.

The main tournament in Table Tennis Senior was won by Tushar Patkar beating Ibrahim in nail biting finish. Tushar also won both T.T & Chess events for third year in a row. The Ambassador of India, Mr. M. S. Suman distributed prizes to the winners.



Mr. Ranganathan, the Vice President of the Club thanked the organizers and suggested sports set up & coaching by top players in future.

The other winners were:
Senior Carrom: Mr. Ignatius
Ladies Chess: Mrs. Radha
Ladies Carrom: Mrs. Ram
Junior T.T.: Waji
Junior Chess: Sanath
Junior Carrom: Fazil

Local Press

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr



Al-Mithaq weekly, organ of the General People Congress (GPC) ruling party, 22 Sept.2002



Attariq weekly, 24 Sept. 2002

skip over while claiming its being serious in treating the deep failures. It should do so lest its media address should change into a kind of a practical joke.



Al-Balagh weekly, 24 Sept.2002.



Al-Sahwa weekly, 26 Sept. 2002.



Al-Wahdawi weekly, organ of the Nasserite People's Unionist Organization, 24 Sept. 2002.

Main headlines:

- President Saleh emphasizes importance of documenting Yemen Revolution history
- Beginning of October, a protocol regulating Yemeni-Gulf relations to be signed
- Registering of voters starts beginning of October

Columnist Dr. Abdulaziz al-Makalih writes this week on women's rights under the revolution. He says admits festivities marking the Yemeni revolution's 40th anniversary, we have to pinpoint the gains scored by women in Yemen through these years since the eruption of September and October revolutions, which have been permeated with undeniable obstacles and setbacks and conflicts.

Yemen woman has managed to prove her existence in the new reality. The birth of the revolution can be presumed as beginning of a new history of the Yemeni women. It has ushered the date of her joining the primary, preparatory, secondary and university stages of education. It is the beginning of going to work beside her brother, forming a united force of joint change and energy for achieving development.

No one can exaggerate to mention that the woman has realized her complete victory over years of deprivation estrangement from reality. She has, however, a long way to go. But the distance both man and woman have traversed can be considered amazing compared to the condition they were leading before the revolution. It is quite sufficient to cast a glance at education statistic that mentions that two million female children and girls are presently continuing their study in schools and universities, opposed to "Zero" before the change country has seeing by virtue of the revolution.

Main Headlines:

- Parliamentary committee meets detainees at Security & Criminal Investigations Station
- An unidentified persons denies arrest of Ramzy bin al-Shaibah
- PM Bajamal call for restructuring Hadramout Wadi economies
- Sheik bin al-Ahmar: Aims of 26 September Revolution not confined to one part of the homeland
- Inspection committee conducts investigation into conditions of al-Razi public hospital in Khanfar

Columnist Khalid Ali Tuaiman says despite that the strategic vision of Yemen's economy put the growing unemployment at the forefront of blocks on the road of salvaging it. Nevertheless, the government says repeatedly it is not concerned with tackling the aggravating unemployment, but within the limits of demand and supply laws of labor market. The government is taking the "labor market" a veil to hide behind and a pretext to run away from a problem into a crisis, because there isn't any real labor market in our country. Our country is still labeled among the least developed countries and lacks to simplest founding a labor market. One wonders about what labor market our government is talking about.

Our government is ignoring a number of facts indicating to causes of escalating rates of unemployment. These causes and factors do not lie in existence of variation between demand and supply in the alleged labor market, but rather in absence in practical plans and programs for comprehensive development. They also lie in the huge amounts of public funds devoured by corruption.

This and other factors our present government should not have ignored or



RAY weekly, organ of the Sons of Yemen League party, 24 Sept. 2002.

Main Headlines:

- Elections Committee assails RAY party
- National Security Apparatus 25 officers to leave for U.S.A for training
- Investigations into Raudha events disclose secrets related to "al-Qaeda"
- Yemeni suspect terrorist seeks political asylum in Switzerland
- Israel threatens to deport Arafat, Ahmed Yassin
- Military, leaves suspended in precaution to Eritrean escalation.

Mr. Abu Usama has written an article commenting on the recently-held expatriates conference in Sana'a. He says the government wants the expatriates return to invest in their home. The citizen also awaits this return and the expatriate is seeking it.

The government it is keen to offer all facilities and guarantees to the investors. Yemeni expatriates who posses capitals demand the removal of all hindrances on the road of their return. They complain of bureaucracy, inefficiency of infrastructure.

They demand for complete judicial system in order not to lose their rights and they are afraid of weakness of security and control of the influential.

These are rightful and reasonable fears and demands. The expatriates do not want to venture with their capitals. They would not be convinced by mere speeches and conferences lacking of practical steps.

Main Headlines:

- Under American pressure, political security refuses releasing terror-suspect detainees
- After much effort, the parliament team managed to meet detainees suspected of terror
- Eritrean provocation's, the cause of tension with Yemen
- Bohra sect responsibilities: U.S. ambassador incapable of penetrating the sect
- American intelligence readies for a large-scale secret operation in our country
- American military building-up in the Horn of Africa targeting Yemen, Iraq, Somalia
- Yemen demands America to repatriate the Yemenis detainees in Guantanamo

The newspaper's editorial is devoted to the 40th anniversary of the Yemeni 26 September revolution. It says celebrating the revolution anniversary indicates that the revolutionary will is still active to realize the essential goal of the revolution; i.e. building the Yemeni man and liberating him from injustice and chains of poverty and backwardness.

Undoubtedly, freedom, which is the groundwork of the start for building the self, has become the object our country's pride and pride of the political leadership that laid foundation of the freedom and still working on stabilizing it. The editorial maintains that while celebrating the revolution anniversary, the revolutionaries' determinations to develop and upgrade the citizen's status, must not get waned.

Determination must increase and take the course of uprooting deformation and corruption the revolution march has met with in its course.

Main headlines:

- Islah party assistant secretary-general al-A'ansi: We reject bartering public interests for private interests
- Deputy parliament speaker al-Ra'ie attacks MP al-Wajeeh, parliamentarians withdraw in protest
- Interior ministry admits violating the law
- Eritrea maintains its provocations, arrests a number of fishermen
- Bintalib: detainees wait for a decisive decision by the parliament

Columnist Zaid al-Shami wrote an article on the 26 Sept. revolution confirming that the revolution came to represent great expectations for the Yemenis to move towards broader horizons of justice, equality and progress and talking part in the political life. Throughout forty years, many achievements have been realised and the citizen got the right to learn, assume the highest positions, he feels his freedom and dignity are safeguarded and he can sue any one. The citizen has also gained the right to work and earn his living and to move freely inside the country. Unfortunately, the writer maintains, these rights or gains began to dwindle and equality and justice have changed into a dream. Duties are not at the same footing for all and the situation could also be applied to rights. Thus differentiation and nepotism have become the prominent characteristic prevalent in all dealings.

As for the rights they have become threatened; the right to education, medical treatment, public jobs and his right to political participation. Thus we have gone back to the situation more than forty years ago in fields of justice, and equality and these are factual remarks we put them before our officials.

Main Headlines:

- Security bodies continue arresting those wanted by Washington
- Aden governor lays hold of government house, sells for YR 45 million
- 500 US commandos, 800 snipers and agents prepare to enter Yemen
- Overseeing and basic committees refuse parties replacement of their representatives

Mr Ahmed Jaber Afif says when the 26 September revolution erupted the Yemeni people were looking for a salvaging outlet from the despotic Imamate rule. The revolution was an outcome of the struggle of the national movement since the beginning of the thirties. The maturity has reached the stage of conviction, i.e. all the people were wanting the change and salvation. Differences aggravated among people, especially since the seventies, were because of overweighing the personal interests and running after material benefits. I have been always supporting the "dissolving" of differences between classes because there were not differences in the full sense of the word. At present we are surprised that the real differences have not been known but at the present time. Those who devastated, and plundered the public property under the pretext of the revolution are not to be deemed as from among the revolutionaries.

The 26 September revolution, and before it the revolution of 1948, and all their sincere men have worked for achieving equality among people and social justice. This is the essence of the aims of the revolution and its principles, added to them education and health.

World Press

Major news items in leading international newspapers *Provided by Xinhua*

Egypt

Al Ahram

The traffic jam in Cairo would continue within the upcoming 20 years, said Dr Nagaya, representative of the Japanese International Cooperation Agency, who chairs the task force in charge of drawing up study on Cairo traffic.

The traffic conditions in Cairo would be critical, Nagaya said, calling for preparing a comprehensive plan to face the problem.

Al Akhbar

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak understands Sudan's conditions well and is keen on the unity of Sudan and its national security,

Sudanese Minister of Information and Telecommunications Az-zahawi Malik was quoted as saying.

The minister added that Mubarak and his Sudanese counterpart Omar Al-Bashir believe that the Egyptian-Sudanese ties and Arab national unity are hinged upon unity of Sudan's south and north.

Al Gomhuria

Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Maher has denied the country's mediation in the Iraqi file.

Maher, in a statement, also called on Iraq to comply with the international resolutions and voiced hope that the Iraqi crisis would be diplomatically settled.

U.S.A

The Washington Post

The Bush administration is proposing a fundamental redrawing of the rules that govern U.N. weapons inspections in Iraq, seeking guarantees that inspectors be protected by armed UN security forces and granted immediate access to all Iraqi territory.

A massive local and US federal police force outnumbered and overwhelmed anti-globalization protesters Friday in downtown Washington and quickly stamped out sporadic acts of vandalism in a morning of demonstrations that ended with hundreds of arrests.

The New York Times

US liberal Democrats, led by Senator Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts, voiced reservations Friday about giving President Bush a free hand to attack Iraq before a new, tougher set of United Nations inspections is put into effect.

Lawyers for the US General Accounting Office and Vice President Dick Cheney clashed Friday before a federal judge over which branch of government's claim is paramount: the executive power to keep records confidential or the legislative right to investigate how public money is spent.

Britain

Financial Times

Thousands of city jobs were at risk as big investment banks hurriedly draw up plans to appease regulators by stripping out their research operations.

The Times

Britain and the United States are asking the United Nations to give Iraq a 30-day deadline to declare its weapons of mass destruction, or face military attack. The draft Security Council resolution being promoted by British and US officials would demand that Iraq make full disclosure before the deadline of its banned ballistic missiles and chemical, biological and nuclear weapons programs, diplomats said.

The Daily Telegraph

Girls as young as 11 will be able to obtain the morning-after pill at a London school without their parent's

consent. If the scheme is successful, it could be extended to every secondary school in a borough of London which has the fifth highest teenage pregnancy rate in inner London. The head-mistress of the school said her school was trying to behave responsibly.

The Independen

Charles Clarke, the Labor Party Chairman, said Friday Britain should join the euro as soon as possible to maximize its influence in the European Union.

The Guardian:

Britain and the US are proposing a seven-day UN deadline for Saddam Hussein to agree to disarm and open his palaces for searches of hidden weapons, a Bush administration official and UN diplomats said Friday night.

German

Frankfurter Allgemeine:

Leading politicians of the governing Social Democratic Party demanded tax increases five day after the general election. Opposition says it's "electoral fraud."

Sueddeutsche Zeitung:

The debate in the UN Security Council over an Iraq resolution

entered the decisive phase. The United States and Britain want to draw the other three countries with veto right in the council—France, Russia and China—to their side.

Die Welt:

The telecommunication company Mobilcom plans to cut 1,850 of its total 4,200 jobs and close three bases.

India

Indian Express

In a significant headway in investigations, the two terrorists who stormed the Swaminarain temple in west India's Gujarat state were Friday identified as Pakistanis as police detained the driver and the owner of the car used by them.

The Hindu

Taking a big leap in air power, India Friday inducted the state-of-the-art multi-role Russian fighter aircraft Sukhoi (SU-30 MKI), giving a cutting edge to the country's air force.

Hindustan Times

An Indian armed forces contingent Friday left here for Alaska to participate in a joint Indo-US exercise aimed at achieving inter-operability of land and air forces.

Kenya

Kenya Times

Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi has directed Police Commissioner Philemon Abong'o to arrest politicians over utterances that are likely to harm Kenyans, stressing that peace should prevail in all statements leaders uttered.

Daily Nation

Kenya's draft constitution was launched Friday and a 30-day countdown to a National Constitutional Conference was announced from Saturday.

Pakistan

The News:

President Pervez Musharraf on Friday rejected the Indian allegation of Pakistan's involvement in the recent temple killing in Gujarat, saying, "This is totally a misperception."

Dawn:

Pakistan was elected to the UN Security Council on Friday after seven years.

Daily Times

Pakistan's foreign exchange reserves now stand at 8.1 billion US dollars, Finance Minister Shaukat Aziz told the media in Washington on Thursday.

Philippine

Manila Bulletin:

US warplanes struck Basra airport in southern Iraq and knocked out its radar Friday, as Russia poured cold water on Washington's efforts to win official UN backing for making war on Baghdad.

The Philippine Star:

Members of the rebel New People's Army attacked a police station in Lopez town in the northern province of Quezon on Friday, killing the police chief and wounding two of his men.

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للتواصل: ت: ٢٧٥٠٦١ / ٢٧٤٥٤٢ فاكس: ٢٧٥٠٦٢

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الحرم اليمني صنعاء، في الزمعة جوار مكة العروة
ت: ٢٧٤٨٩١ - ٢٧٤٨٩١ - ٢٧٤٨٩١ - ٢٧٤٨٩١
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فاكس: ٢٧٤٨٩١ - ٢٧٤٨٩١
حجرتن - شارع الخضران ت: ٢٧٤٨٩١ - ٢٧٤٨٩١ - ٢٧٤٨٩١ - ٢٧٤٨٩١
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صنعاء، ش. حدة، جولة مجاهد، مقابل مركز الكيم التجاري، ت: ٧١١١٣٧ - ٧٧١٠٧٤

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صنعاء: شارع نور حجاب شرق العري، تلفون:
٢٠٢٢٣١، ص.ب: ٢٢٢٢٣
فرع عدن: المنصورة - كاشفي، ٣٤١٢٠٥٨

موظف شاخرة
خلطات مركزية، الحصى، حولة
الساعة، علي الذاري، سيار.
٧٢٨٩-٨٧٢
مطلوب: سكرتيرة تنفيذية:
سكرتيرة عامة، مدير إداري،
مدير مبيعات، مدير تسويق،
مدير مالي، موظفي حسابات
متخصصة، ت: ٧٢٨١١٠١
مطلوب: موظفي وموظفات
حاجته لمدرسين في الدورات التالي:
صيانة، برامج تطبيقية، برامج هندسية،
تصاميم، قواعد بيانات، للاستفسار
يرجى الاتصال على هاتف ٤٤١٤٨،
سيار: ٧١٩١٥٠٠، أو الحضور إلى
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مجال الادارة، للاستفسار: د احمد
النابهي، ٢٧٤٧٢٤
شركة رائدة في مجال التجارة
والمقاولات تلتن عن حاجتها لسكرتيرة
تجيد استخدام الكمبيوتر والطباعة
عربي/الانجليزية، للاستفسار:
٧٢٨١٠٤٦٥-٢٢٢٠٤٤
مطلوب خياطة علي أن تكون
لها خبرة في مجال الخياطة
النسائية والتصميل، للعمل في
حي شميلة، ت: ٧١٧٢٦٦٦-٧١٧٢٦٦
مطلوب وكالة الذاري
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معدن ثقيلة، الحاصنية نساء،
شخصية قوية.
٧٢٨١٠٤٤٢/٢٤٩٩٤
ولادة،
اشعة/عظام/اطفال/مخاطبة،
ممرضات، فنيو تشغيل

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President of the Republic

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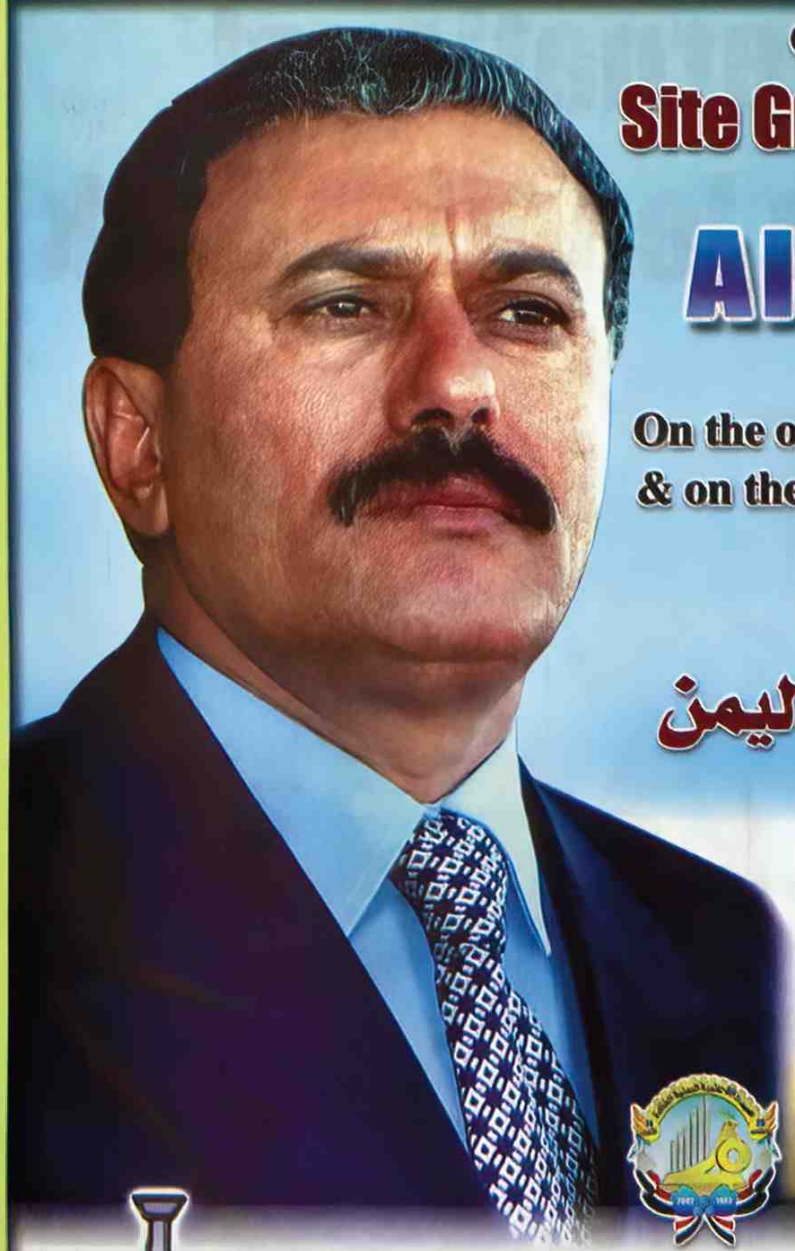
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1-Games-North Korea start on winning note, Afghans routed

PUSAN, South Korea (Reuters) - There were contrasting fortunes for North Korea and Afghanistan as both countries embarked on a new era in international competition in the Asian Games football tournament.

North Korea, who are taking part in a major sporting event south of the border for the first time, beat Hong Kong 2-1 in their group F opener thanks to an 82nd minute winner from striker Hong Yong-jo at Changwon Stadium in Pusan.

But Afghanistan mounted little resistance against defending champions Iran as they were hammered 10-0 on their first appearance at the Asian Games since Hiroshima in 1994.

North Korea barely threatened in the first half but they took the lead in the 59th minute when midfielder Han Song-chol pounced on a loose ball after Jon Yong-chol had hit the post.

Poon Yiu Cheuk equalised for Hong Kong with a well struck free-kick in the 67th minute but North Korea had the final word as Hong conjured up space on the edge of the box to fire a right-foot shot into the bottom corner.

Meanwhile, striker Alireza Vahedi Nikbakht scored five as Iran crushed Afghanistan to spoil their return to the Asian Games football competition



Afghanistan's football team before their match with Iran - Reuters

after a 48-year absence at Gudeok Stadium.

Iran ran riot in the second half, scoring seven times with veteran forward Ali Daei coming off the bench in the 66th minute to score the final two in a one-sided group E opener.

"I was satisfied with the way the players performed today. But we came here hoping to win matches, so I have to be disappointed with the result," said Afghanistan coach Mir Ali Asgarc. The Asian Games have officially opened yesterday, Sunday September 29.

President honors junior football team

Sana'a, Sep 26 (Saba)- The president of the republic Ali Abdullah Saleh along with vice president Abdu Rabu Hadi and officials of the sports ministry honored on Thursday members of the national team of juniors as well as the technical and administrative staff. President granted the order of merits in sporting to 48 sportsmen in appreciation for the honourable results the team achieved in its outstanding participation in the finals of the Asian nations held in UAE during the period from 7 - 22of current month.

The team qualified to the finals of the World Cup and it secured the second position in the finals of the Asian Cup. The president expressed his appreciations for the excellent performance of the junior team urging them to exert more efforts to achieve excellent results in the finals of the World Cup of Juniors. President praised the efforts



Yemeni junior football team: the team of 'hope'

Photo courtesy Saba News Agency

exerted by the coach of the team, Ameen Assunaini, which resulted in achieving honourable results for the team of juniors and reflected the high competence of the national cadres. He directed the government to give more

care of the youth sector and develop their abilities and skills in all fields including the sports. He also directed the ministry of sports to take care of the junior teams to support the national teams in the future.

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Sam Yemen International School achieves a leading rank



With confident steps and renewed energies, the Sam Yemen International Schools (SYIS) were able to achieve a leading rank among other private schools in Yemen. By having the top high school graduate (with highest grades in the republic), SYIS have proven that they provide the best education and highest quality instruction to all their students. The school's curriculum is based on the well-respected curricula that are based on international standards. On this occasion, the top-notch high school graduated attributed their success to SYIS that offered them the best education environment and best teachers.

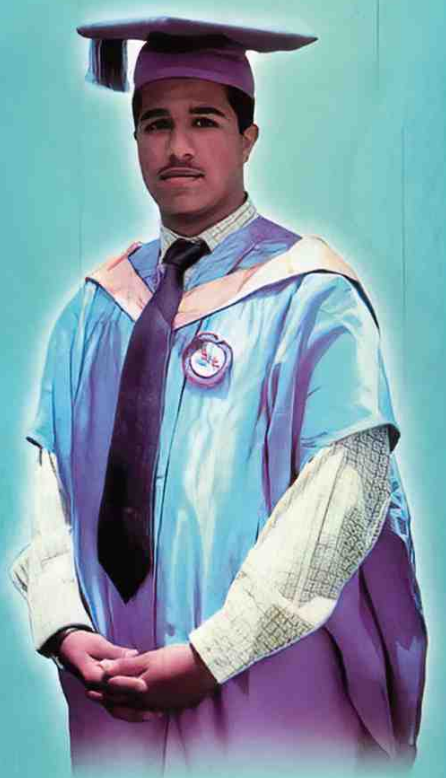
Mr. Shoban V. Chakrala, the Head of the Scientific Department of SYIS said, "The level of the books followed in SYIS is very high. We follow the 'AS' level in all the subjects. Understanding ability of Yemen students is good but as it is normal in every level, not all the students can understand at once, ; but there are brilliant Yemenis who can build a strong intellectual and well-developed Yemen in future.



Jamal Abdulnasir Al-Zindani, who became the first in the republic in the Scientific English department said, "I attribute my success in achieving the first rank in the republic to my school after God. My school enabled me to explore my talents and enhance my skills as it offered me highly qualified teachers with excellent pedagogic abilities. Through its excellent system, the school seems to be looking for the best staff and has given me the capabilities to travel abroad to gain my higher studies."



Tharan Ahmed Abdulrahman Al-Iryani, who became the third in the Republic in the Scientific English department, "I could not find any other school with such a strong curriculum and student-friendly school as that of the SYIS. I was always with the management as the chairman of the students union, and can frankly tell you that the management deals with its students just like parents. They used to give us all that we needed either for our own studies or for other sports and leisure activities not provided in other universities. I have studied for the last five years at SYIS and I am currently training in computers and preparing myself to travel to Canada for higher studies.



Adel George Fahmi, a Sudanese student, became the fourth in the republic in the Scientific English department said, "My school is excellent in all aspects. It provides its students with many things and the school's curriculum is British. Hence, there are tremendous efforts exerted in all academic fields to create a well-qualified student. I enrolled in the school four years ago and I have now applied to study at the University of Science and Technology.



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Congratulates President

Ali Abdullah Saleh

& to all the Yemeni people

On the occasion of 26th September Revolution.

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تتقدم بخالص التهاني والتبريكات لفخامة المشير

علي عبدالله صالح

رئيس الجمهورية

وإلى كافة أبناء شعبنا العظيم

بمناسبة الذكرى الأربعين لثورة السادس والعشرين من سبتمبر الخالدة

26 September



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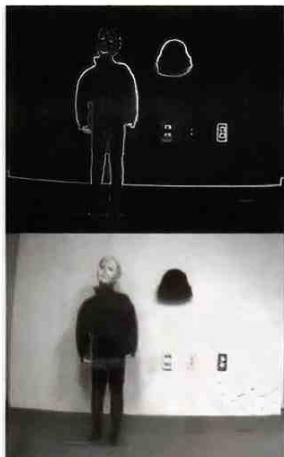
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SCIENTIFIC MIRACLE :

Blind man drives car using "Artificial Eye"

BY DOBELLE INSTITUTE
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A totally blind man has been able to drive a car, using a new "electronic eye" like the glasses worn by Geordi La Forge the "Chief Engineer" in Star Trek. "The patient drove slowly and entirely on private property" ...



above: scene with artificial eye
below: scene with healthy normal eye

Institute (Portugal) Lda announced that their functional "artificial eye" for the blind was now available commercially. They reported eight cases from six countries. Two years ago, the same team reported implantation of a prototype in "Jerry" and "Dan," the result of research which began in 1968.

The systems, implanted in Lisbon, Portugal in April, 2002, cost \$75,000 USD each, including all hospitalization, and surgical fees. In several cases, foreign government insurance plans paid all or part of this cost, but the majority of the money was raised privately by each individual patient. Additional implants are scheduled to begin in June, 2002. New systems will cost \$98,000.

A miniature television camera is mounted on the lens



Totally blind man driving a car in his own property

of sunglasses, sending its' image to a microcomputer on the belt. This microcomputer processes the data and decides which electrodes to stimulate, controlling a stimulator- also worn on the belt. Cables from the stimulator enter the head through a "percutaneous pedestal," screwed to the skull, is like a tiny fire hydrant sticking through the skin. This connects to electrodes on the surface of the visual parts of the brain.

All of the patients lost their vision by trauma and none of them were candidates for retinal implants. In fact, very few blind patients have an intact retina and are candidates for retinal implants. All 16 bilateral implants in

eight patients produced excellent displays of "phosphenes," which is the term for flashes of light created by stimulation of the brain.

Continued on page 14

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