

President Saleh jubilee year

The man stands always tall

MOHAMMED AL-QADHI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The 17th of July 2003 marks the jubilee year of President Ali Abdullah Saleh assumption of power in Yemen.

Born in 1942, Saleh took over the presidency of the former Yemen Arab Republic on July 17th, 1978 just after the assassination of former president Ahmad Hussein al-Ghashmy on June 24, 1978. Saleh was elected by the People's Council at that time. It was a very critical time for the North of Yemen which was passing through the turmoil of conflict and in-fighting and tension with the former Yemen's Democratic Republic. During these years, Saleh faced a lot of problems and difficulties at different levels but he stood tall and was able to overcome them. He faced the rebels of some south-backed forces in Taiz and in Ibb and other places and after years of fighting, he was able to reach an agreement with them. He even established the General People's Congress in 1998 through which he could harness all political parties. It was a mould for all politicians of different colors and affiliations. Later in the late 1980s, he was conducting dialogues with the leaders of the South to reunite Yemen and of course, that took place in 1990. This is considered to be the most important event and achievement in the modern history of Yemen.

President Saleh is known for his sharp mind which enabled him to continue ruling Yemen for such a long period of time,



President Saleh signing Yemen reunification documents

if we compare to other leaders both in the North and the South who either were exiled or assassinated after short periods of time. Being a sharp-witted leader helped him deal with his enemies and tribes in a clever manner, depending on balances. He did not forsake the tribe as his predecessor Ibrahim al-Hamdi rather

he observed their significance in a rather conventional and tribal society. Therefore, he gained their favor. Even in dealing with his enemies and rivals, he does not defeat them down to the ground just like what he did with the Nasserite who tried to get out of power in 1978. Also with the socialists who are his part-

ners in achieving the unification, Saleh did not take revenge on the party after the civil war of 1994. He rather issued a general amnesty after the war and last month pardoned even those who were indicted after trial for leading the secessionist movement. Despite the motives behind such a decision which still needs more

steps to be taken, it was a formidable move that shows the tolerance of this man.

It was also during his reign that Yemen's border disputes with Oman and Saudi Arabia were settled. The most important, of course, is the Jeddah International Treaty to put an end to as old border dispute as 66 years between Yemen and Saudi Arabia. Even with the problem with Eritrea, he was clever enough to avoid the trap set to him and preferred to go to international tribunal instead of using force to settle accounts with Eritrea. The verdict of the International Arbitration Court was fortunately in favor of Yemen in getting back the occupied island of Hunaish.

After the September terrorist attacks in the US, Yemen was the second target country after Afghanistan. However, the regime of Saleh could manage with the US administration to avoid any strike by the US. It was for the interest of Yemen that the government has been working with the US and other countries to fight against terrorism.

Despite the fact that there are other people who worked with him and that chance was with him, Saleh is a lucky man that Yemen witnessed such great transitions and changes during his tenure in office of presidency. Yet, Saleh has many other things to do. Sheikh Abdullah al-Ahmar believes that president Saleh has to be more liberal and tolerant with his opponent politicians as he used to be. Saleh has to start a real war against cor-

ruption and crook corrupts in the country including his cronies whom if he listened to he would not have this position as a president respected by the Yemeni people and even by his enemies who acknowledge his merit of tolerance and liberal mind. The power and influence of the tribe which has increased during the last two decades has to shrink and wither away if we really want to establish a civil society ruled by law and order for tribalism as been recognized as major detriment to such transition into a modern society. All in all, nobody can deny the fact that Yemen has witnessed many important changes during the rule of President Saleh despite the fact that it is difficult to evaluate his work while he is still in power.

Defendant demands trial of socialist leaders

YSP discloses link between terrorists and influential officials in Jarallah's assassination

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Court of North Sana'a decided Sunday that the verdict against the suspect assassin of Jarallah Omar, the socialist leader, and members of the suspect's gang, would be passed on September 14th while the Socialist Party denounced this step taken by the court, appealing that investigation into the case should reveal the political motives behind the assassin and his group.

In its hearing last Sunday, the Judge of the court, Abdulrahman Jahaf refused the appeal made the advocates of the family of Jarallah Omar to return the case to the prosecution for further investigations. During the session, attended by some socialist and opposition leaders, including the YSP Secretary General, Ali Saleh Obad as well as some intellectuals and writers whose names were mentioned in the list of targets of Ali Jarallah and his team, the team of advocates asked the defendant some questions related to the incident, finance and the people he met

before assassinating Omar. The suspected assassin confessed before the court of his crime and said he did that because Omar and the other targets were secular people who do not recognize Islam as a religion. He also said that he met some people like Dr. Ahmad al-Daghshi who was arrested but later released. He refused to answer other questions.

In a written paper which he read out before the court, Ali Jarallah said that the other detained suspects have no link to his plan for murdering what he described as "secular politicians and writers, missionaries and member of the al-Buhrah religious sect." He said he deceived them by telling them that he could facilitate their travel to Chechnya and Palestine to perform Jihad, pointing out that they had no idea about the messages which he sent to them. He said that he did not plan to create an organization to carry out his ideas, rather he recorded a tape in which he explained his ideas of the necessity that such people should be killed. He denied that he received finance for such operations

and assassination of Omar from Sheikh Abdulmajeed al-Zindani and Mohammed al-Anisi, both of them are leading members of the Islah party and said that he admitted their involvement in the plan because he was beaten up at the intelligence prison. He made it clear that he meant in the beginning to make government officials, including the president, as targets of his operations as they protect such missionaries, seculars and infidels. But he said he excluded the president and top officials as this might have been exploited by the socialist party.

The defendant demanded in a cynical tone that leaders of the socialist, Nasserite and Ba'ath parties to be tried for their infidelity till they repent.

The socialist party accused some influential figures including clerics of cooperating with the terrorist group of Ali Jarallah to assassinate Omar and other leaders of the socialist and some luminaries. In a statement issued Tuesday, the YSP demanded that the religious fatwa passed during the civil war of 1994 against the socialists should be

abolished and that springs of extremism and terrorism should be dried up. The YSP warned against the attempts made to marginalize the political dimension of the crime, pointing out that investigating the criminal aspect would encourage the terrorists to carry out their plan. It said that if the accomplices of the assassin are not disclosed, this means that such terrorists are provided with the necessary protection. It demanded that those accomplices should be brought to justice despite their position.

The socialist party appealed to international and Arab human rights organizations and activists to exercise more pressure on the Yemeni authorities not to go ahead with the case and conduct further investigations into the assassination, dealing with the case as a political crime. It also called for a solidarity campaign with its leaders and other politicians, intellectuals, and writers whose lives are still at risk. These figures complained to the prosecution that their lives are threatened and that they should be given enough protection.

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Wanted Huttat members:**Conditions laid down**

Negotiations conducted with members of Huttat group by the a special committee formed by Abyan governorates' local authorities have reached to a deadlock because of conditions those elements have imposed in return for surrendering themselves to security authorities.

Security authority is hunting down for those elements since their escape from the bloody incidents occurred in mountainous Huttat area lately.

Al-Ayyam newspaper said on Sunday that among the conditions given by those elements is the release of persons accused of killing late Jarallah Omar, assistant secretary-general of the Yemen Socialist Party.

This demand is a new one added to others they had proposed earlier.

Those elements had earlier demand-

ed for government posts, financial compensation at the same footing with colleagues which they state had granted them following the 1994 civil war.

Also among their demands is the release of the prisoners accused of committing terrorist attacks, including the attack on the American destroyer USS Cole at Aden port and on the French oil super tanker, Limberurg at Dhabbah port in Hadhramout.

Reliable sources have mentioned that after failure of those negotiations, the Abyan local authorities have now become convinced that the elements demands are unnegotiable.

Meanwhile, Abyan security continued their chasing of the wanted elements and storming a number of areas in the governorate where they are thought to be hiding.

Council of ministers demand salary rise

SANA'A. The Council of Minister had beginning of last week proposed a cabinet draft law demanding the increase of salaries of ministers, their deputies and undersecretaries in addition to raising allowance by 150 percent and reducing authorities of some institutions and ministers in favor of the prime minister.

Parliament member had criticized the draft law for not including the ministers' financial statement and a brief account on their positions, considering that a kind of escaping responsibility and outflanking the

laws and constitutional texts.

The MPs renewed their demand for raising salaries of armed forces, security and civil servants just like that demanded for the ministers and other officials mentioned in the draft law.

The head of the government had earlier described the parliament members' demands for raising civil servants salaries as it aimed at destroying the national economy considering that a "conspiracy", whereas that demand was proposed by more than 50 MPs from the PGC

bloc.

The parliament had last week concluded its meeting with a closed door session devoted for the demand of dealing with them on equal footing with regard to financial privileges with ministers.

It is to be recalled that the price rise since 1995 has been estimated at 400 percent without any rise in salaries of governmental officials.

According to a study by the World Bank, part of major causes of administrative corruption in Yemen is attributed to low wages and salaries

French Embassy in Sana'a:-**Bastille Day marked**

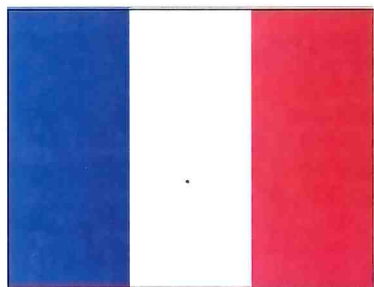
BY ABDUH MOQBIL ASSABRI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

SANA'A. The French Ambassador to Yemen hosted a reception on July 14 marking his country's national day, Bastille Day, which commemorates the anniversary of the French revolution.

The event was held at the residence of the French Ambassador and was attended by ministers, government officials, diplomats, dignitaries, businessmen, members of the French community and other guests.

The storming of the Bastille, on July 14, 1789, immediately became a symbol of historical dimensions; it was proof that power no longer resided in the King or in God, but in the people, in accordance with the theories developed by the Philosophes of the 18th century.

On July 16, the King recognized the tricolor cockade: the Revolution had succeeded.



For all citizens of France, the storming of the Bastille symbolizes, liberty, democracy and the struggle against all forms of oppression.

Yemen and France have established good relations for a better future.

Those relations have greatly increased during the last few years particularly with regard enhancing security cooperation to counter terrorism and helping Yemen to face any terrorist acts.

The security cooperation have increased since the explosion of the



French-flagged Limburg supertanker in Yemen.

The Yemeni-French relations have remarkably improved during the last few years. There are two factors that account for this: First, during the Yemeni civil war of 1994, France intervened in the Security Council to support the Yemeni unity. Meetings were held between the Yemeni and French Presidents in 1995, and in 1996, and 1997. The political consultations are at the highest level on the region's affairs.

President inaugurates Psychiatric and Mental Hospital in Sana'a

SANA'A. The first Psychiatric and Mental Hospital was opened by the president of the republic Ali Abdullah Saleh on Monday.

The hospital which cost which around YR. one hundred million consist out-patient clinics for offering consultations and treatment.

In addition, there are departments for treatment by employment in workshops and rehabilitation with the aim of inspiring self-confidence into the patient and using their potentials so that they can manage their lives independently after leaving the hospital.

The hospital also includes a unit for social treatment and another one for physical therapy as well as other diagnostic departments.

On this occasion, the president gives his directives for setting up a higher board of directors for psychiatric hospitals composed of ministers, businessmen, social dignitaries.

After opening the hospital, the president gave a short address expressing happiness for opening of that hospital, offering his thanks to chairmen and members of the Islah Charitable Welfare Society, the businessmen and the concerned governments bodies that exerted that good effort for equipping the hospital.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by a number of ministers, officials, and figures interested in the health situation in the country.

Readers' Voice
Yemen Times is reintroducing a popular feature "Readers' Voice" - formerly known as YT Opinion Poll. This is your opportunity to have a say on world and local affairs.

THIS EDITION'S QUESTION:

Do you think president Salah would run the coming presidential elections?

- Yes.
- No.
- I don't know.

LAST EDITION'S QUESTION:

Does Bush's tour of Africa mainly target its oil?

- Yes. 54.9%
- No, I don't believe so 33.3%
- I don't know. 11.7%

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البنات

جودة عالية وجوائز مغرية

كيفية المشاركة في المسابقة

الاختيار الأول:

استبدال غطاء سمن البنات الخضراء عبوة ١٥ كجم المختوم عليها علامة صافي بحافظة طعام كبيرة + كويونين سحب على الجوائز المغرية من أقرب مركز استبدال

الاختيار الثاني:

استبدال غطاء سمن البنات الخضراء عبوة ٦.٥ كجم المختوم عليها اسم الشركة بحافظة طعام متوسطة + كويونين سحب على الجوائز المغرية من أقرب مركز استبدال

سيتم عمل سحبين على الجوائز الذهبية والفضية في المركز الثقافي بصنعاء حسب الجدول التالي

السحب الأول: يوم الأحد الموافق ٢٧/٧/٢٠٠٣

السحب الثاني: يوم الأحد الموافق ١٧/٨/٢٠٠٣

سيتم إعلان أسماء الفائزين عبر الصحف الرسمية والوسائل الإعلامية المختلفة

لمزيد من الاستفسار الاتصال بخدمة العملاء تلفون: ٢٦٦ ٣٥٠ ٤/٠٤

Yemeni women on a show

By ABDUH M. ASSABRI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

SANA'A_ A film titled the "Queens of Yemen" has been recently produced centering on Yemeni women's struggle, their wishes and hopes. It is entire-

ly in Arabic and approximately 30 minutes long.

The film was showed in the residence of Mrs Frances Guy, the British Ambassador to Yemen on June 13.

The film show was attended by a number of Arab as well as foreign

diplomats, dignitaries, media representatives and a host of others.

It belongs to Women's National Committee and was financed by the British embassy.

The film deals with women's courage and persistence that leads each one of them to personal success.

"The film deals with positive things, such as, views of man and that the film has been produced by women and for women," Mrs. Guy addressed the audience.

"The idea of the film came out of discussion between the Women's National Committee and the producers but also from an important workshop held during last Ramadhan," she further remarked.

At the end of the show, comments on the film were made by the audience and the producers of the "Queens of Yemen's" film.

Some scenes of the film were taken from hazardous state of women in rural areas.

The limited income of women in rural areas and that they receive low wages in comparison with their arduous work done.

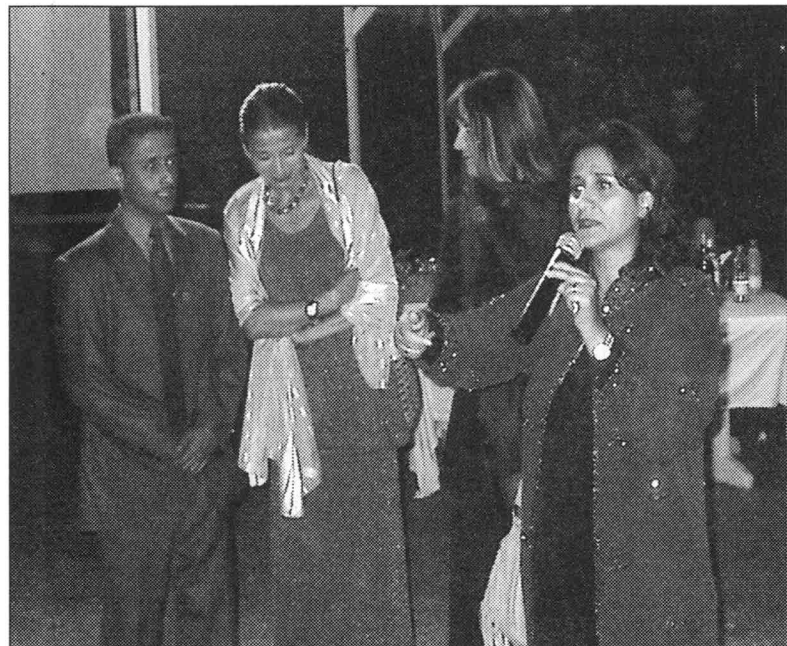
Despite the fact that women in rural areas spend long hours working in



British Ambassador, Frances Guy

fields, carrying water, collecting wood, grazing, bringing up children, preparing food, they still have strong determination and their courage was the main focus of the film in all its different scenes.

Despite of the deteriorating economic conditions, rural women could have had an opportunity to have access to education and employment



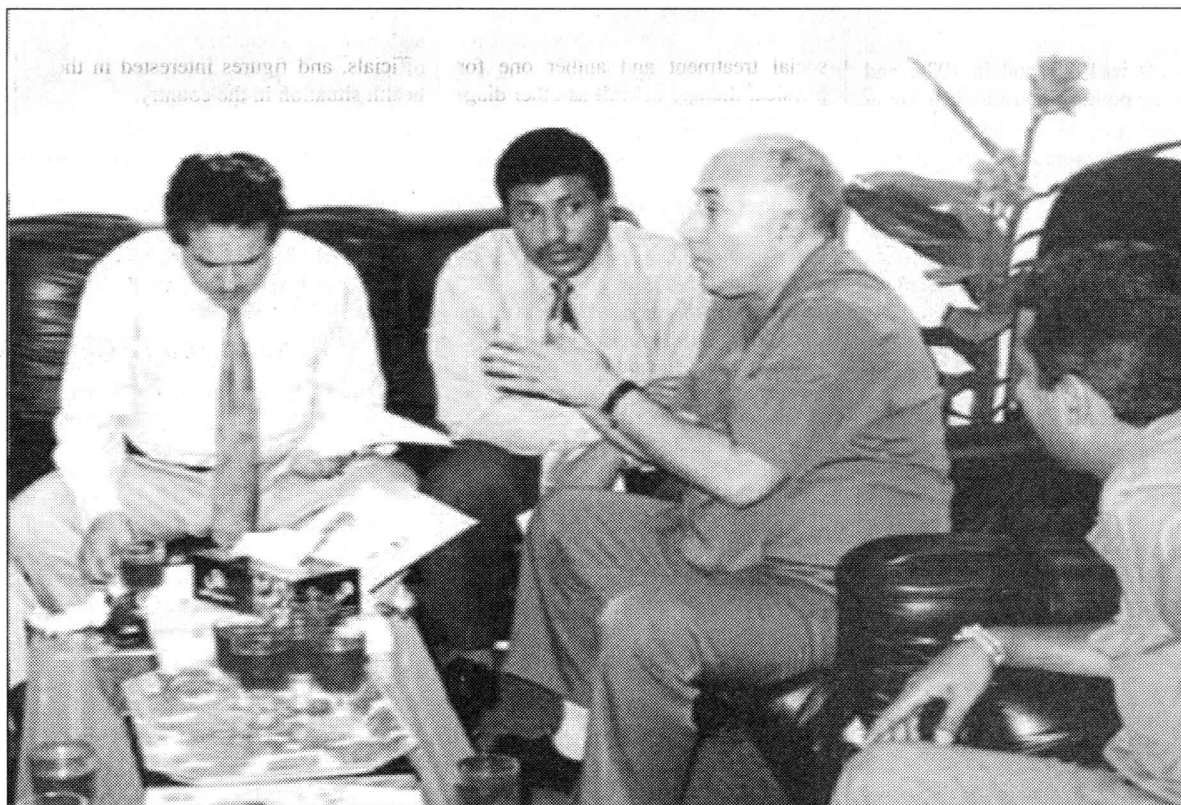
Amal Al-Basha (right) responding to the audience comments

Aden governor, Dr. Yihya Al-Shuabi:

Number of state installations visited

ADEN_ Last Saturday Dr. Yihya Al-Shuabi governor of Aden paid a number of visits to various state offices and installations in the governorate. Accompanied with by Mr. Abdulkareem Shaef vice governor and Mr. Ahmed Al-Dhulai Deputy Assistant Dr. Al-Shaibi started his tour by visiting the general body for standards and measurements and quality management and listened to Dr. Najeeb Qadar general manager of the body as he explained the processes there. Following that he visited the Power Supply Establishment where he met Eng. Abdulaziz Mohammed Ahmed general manager who in turn brief Dr. Al-Shaibi about the performance and achievements of the establishment.

In the same day Dr. Al-Shaibi visited the Central Bank of Yemen and visited the various departments and procedures especially concerning the salaries of the government staff. The Yemen National Bank was the next stop in the tour and there was Mr. Abdulrahman Al-Kuhali head of the administration board received the visitors and indicated the procedures and policies the bank has taken to activate and nourish the bank's activities. Insurance and reinsurance company had its share of the tour and Mr. Abubakr Salem Al-Qty general manager explained the way things work and the efforts and difficulties the com-



Aden governor during his tour

pany is facing in order to deliver good services to its clients.

Finally the group visited General Administration for alms tax where he

appreciated the efforts taken and the progress that has happened in the administration especially with the significant increase in the alms income.

Dr. Al-Shaibi was accompanied also by Mr. Ahmed Ali Saeed General Manager of Seera district and the administration board at the district.

We feel our company cares for us, HUNT employees agreed

For the past seven years HUNT has taken into a marvelous tradition of taking its employees and their families in an outing on the company's expense. And like every year HUNT organized a recreation event and the whole group went to Al-Sabeen Park where they all especially the kids had a nice time late last month.

"Our children await this day impatiently as they consider it another holiday. This not only reflects on us and our leisure it also means that we connect more deeply to our company and with the rest of the staff", many of the staff commented. Quit true, this is because all work and no play makes anyone and not only Jack and dull boy. And HUNT understood this clearly so it created a friendly ambiance in their company during office timing and also reserves special days around the year for recreation and for breaking the

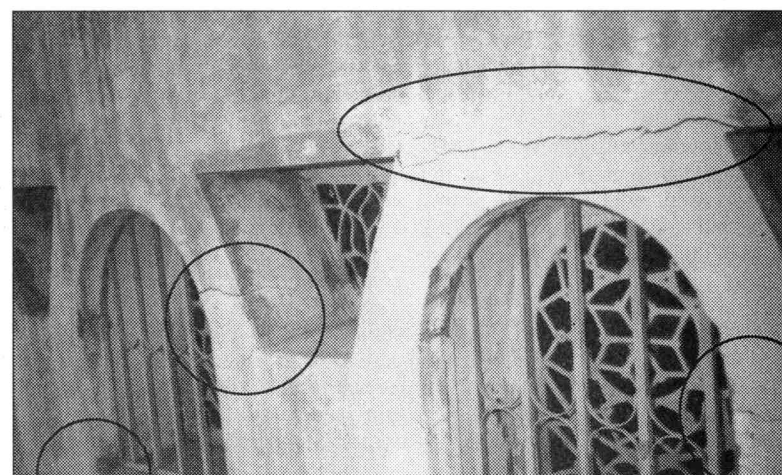
daily work routine. Relations between the staff and the employees and the management increase and stronger bounds are created.

Industrial Relation's Officer Mr. Abdulkareem Al-Shami explained about this tradition to the Yemen Times as he said:

"We believe that the more we give our employees the more they give back to the company. We have one thousand and eighty- one employees plus 39 from Marib Company for Oil Refinery and all brought their families along, so you can imagine the huge crowd and the chaos that could have happened had we not implemented the cards system where we provided our staff with them. We provided them with 5 thousand and five hundred meals as well as games and lottery prizes worth four thousand USD in addition to other prizes."



Al Ghofran Mosque cries for help



Several cracks appear on mosque's walls that may cause its collapse

YEMEN TIMES STAFF
TAIZ

Al Ghofran Mosque, one of Taiz important mosques, complains the negligence of the endowments office in spite of the hundreds of thousands of rials it monthly gains.

In fact, endowments office gets benefit from its financial revenues. However, the mosque walls have not been painted since it was re-build 15 years ago, its dome gets cracked which

may fall down on heads of the prayers at any time, and the continuous suspension of the dynamo which pumps water from the well and works only for seven minutes and then stops. The prayers in the mosque get astonished when they see the general manager of the endowments office and the manager of the mosques' affairs come and see what the mosque suffers from, they promise to make repairs in the mosque, but till this moment, nothing has happened.

Winners of the parliament seats in 4 constituencies

Voters are scheduled to cast their votes on Sunday at polling centers where parliamentary by-elections are to be held.

It has been decided to hold again polling in those centers.

Elections committee is expected to announce names of winner MPs on those four centers, namely, two centers, one center in constituency No. (61) and one center in constituency No. (63) in Taiz governorate and at

two centers of constituency No. (75), Lahj governorate in addition to one center at (86) constituency.

Those centers had seen strong competitions between candidates of the opposition coordination council and those of the GPC during the parliamentary elections on 27 April.

Leaders from the opposition had accused the ruling party of seeking to dominate over results of even the remainders of elections centers and to

strengthen its influence on the Supreme Commission for Elections and Referendum, SCER.

The president of the republic last Tuesday issued republican decree appointing Mr. Ashaef Ali al-Hussieni as a secretary-general of the SCER.

Mr. al-Hussieni was before his appointment as leader of the SCER, member of the GPC general secretariat.

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الراتب الشهري من ١٢٠٠-١٧٠٠ دولار أمريكي

الراتب يحدد بحسب المؤهلات.

Yemen's former rulers destiny

By HASSAN AL-ZAIDI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

It is a miracle that a ruler in Yemen and under such difficult circumstances to rise to power and remain all those years long. It is also a miracle to continue ruling Yemen amidst political and social unrest.

When he first assumed power on July 17 1978, the president didn't have any political or tribal or regional affiliations. He neither used tribal influence nor an organized political movement.

The president managed to deal with the tribe, the party, and the religious movements and has his own way of dealing successfully with counterpart rulers, his citizens, and world leaders at times of peace and war.

President Saleh has played a praiseworthy role in dealing with the local as well as international developments.

Recalling the events happened in Yemen after the revolution, we would



Saleh, the youth, in his heyday

find that it had not experienced political stability.

Following the two revolutions, the 26



Photo of President Saleh (left) and Abdulfattah Ismael (right) with the Kuwaiti Amir Al-Sabbah, 28 March 1979, to discuss Yemeni unification.

Ali Abdullah Saleh and the new Yemen

MOHAMMED ABDU SUFIAN SAIF
EDITING MANAGER, TAIZ
NEWSPAPER

In 1978 Yemen was on a crater as the period between October '76 and 17th July '78 was of the most critical times Yemen had faced. That was when Ibrahim Al-Hamdi, ex-president was assassinated and his deputy Ahmed Hussain AL-Ghashmi took charge, only to be assassinated also after an unstable tremulous 9 months ruling on 24th June in his office with a attaché case bomb. Things got even worse as crises between the north and south broke out and the whole region was in a mess desperately awaiting the hero who would save all and set everything right.

It was then that president Ali Abdullah Saleh assumed power to control the situation, a post that many feared to be only a route to death, yet he risked his life for the sake of this country and he was elected as president on the 17th of July 1978. His first objective was to stop the bloodshed and to work on ensuring safety and development for the country in a clear manner in accordance with the principles of the 26 September revolution.

Time proved that president Ali Abdullah Saleh was confident of himself and his abilities to create a better Yemen. He knew that the path is not paved with flowers and that it would be full of risks and obstacles but he believed that he can do it and had his trust on God.

And here it is, 25 years since that day and the country's history is full of achievements and going from strength to strength under the wise

leadership of its president, who had displayed great skills and foresight in ruling and ability to adjust and adapt to the changes in order to lead Yemeni people to a modern Yemen, a country of law, order and institutional establishments. He had chosen democracy as a mythology to achieve all that as he formed National Dialogue Committee, a body that included members from all national forces, scientists, intellectuals and all social segments. This was the first outbreak promising of a new era and indicating the methodology which the president opted to follow. And through the present it is obvious how right he is as Yemen settled its political disputes with its neighbors and crowning all achievements with the blessed unity between the north and the south.

Ali Abdullah Saleh started a new era for Yemen, people and land through democracy and the unity he granted Yemen, and fought for despite conspiracies aimed at dividing Yemen, instigating the civil war in summer 1994. It was for the wise action of the president and the Yemeni will to maintain the Yemeni unity and will to pay the heavy price for it, that the unity was maintained.

It is of no doubt that history would record on its pages, generation after generation, the brilliant achievements of President Ali Abdullah Saleh the first elected president in Yemen and the first president to establish democracy and the first president for the united Yemen. This is President Ali Abdullah Saleh architect of unity, establisher of modern Yemen, and builder of the developing advancement of Yemen.

President ...the maker of historic changes in Yemen

By YASER AL-MAYYASI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Today, Thursday 17 July is the silver jubilee of President Ali Abdulllah Saleh's presidency. Honestly, we can say that president Saleh has taken the risk when he took the power in a country full with many turmoil and bloody massacres.

The President could bravely hold the reins of government where there was no country nor government and he started to establish Yemen from the beginning.

The intelligence and the leadership ability of President Saleh lie in his

flexibility in dealing and the ability to find balance between the various classes and groups. When he came to power he could found a kind of security and stability through which he was able to build important institutions such as the interior and defense and education ministries.

Yemen that is considered one of the poorest countries of the region is distinguished by its complicated population structure that cannot be understood and dealt with except by intelligent leaders like President Saleh.

Here we want to point out that President Saleh success in dealing with Yemen affairs has sprung from his understanding of the nature of the population structure.

Displaying the successes of President Saleh through the 25 years needs many different writings, however, we here want to concisely the most important achievements of President Saleh that have made a big change in Yemenis life some of which has made historic shift for the Yemeni citizens like the Yemeni unification and democracy. Thus, various parties were established and obviously announced their platforms and published their papers to say whatever respecting the constitution and laws.

There are more than 40 newspapers and publications on all their various political, social, cultural and economic trends that have become.

More than 600 non-governmental

September and 14 October, Yemen encountered pitched civil wars between the republicans and monarchists and external interference in those drawn-out wars.

During the 1970s, two major political systems ruled Yemen and then led to split between them.

Assassination attempts were performed against some political leaders.

Since his coming to power, president Saleh has achieved considerable transitions with regard to political stability and could rationally and sagaciously in peace of mind tackle internal affairs and started enlarging new horizons for dialogues with the national political forces along with making contacts and meetings with his brothers in the south.

With his boundless capacity and shrewd policy, he succeeded as a unique example, particularly with creating an equilibrium in handling international relations together with the superpowers.

He had ruled the state of Yemen (formerly known as the north of Yemen) for 12 years, 4 years a ruler of two states and 9 years for the unified Yemen.

He could in a very short period of

time establish a new kind of political stability. Compared to last period, there is a big distinction made on July 17, 1987 and July 17 2003.

During his reign, the president could stabilize democracy, peaceful coexistence power, and political pluralism.

The main unforgettable heroic deeds are reestablishing the Yemen's unification in 1990 and getting rid of the secession war that erupted in 1994.

At the external level, one of the thorny border issues among the neighboring countries has been resolved with the Saudi Arabia and the Sultanate of Oman.

The president could settle disputes with Eritrea.

Above all, the president has been still preoccupied with the states' political, financial, administrative and economic reforms through uprooting corruption and the corrupt.

He has been seeking to stabilize security and safety in all fields.

Destiny of former Yemeni rulers

During the 20th century, the Arab region had undergone severe internal and external political unrest as well as,

military coup d'état.

Yemen was used to be ruled by several rulers. Some of them ruled the country longer and some others were destined to be, killed, exiled or removed.

Among the Yemeni rulers are listed below:

- Imam Yahya Hameed Al-Deen who was shot dead on February 17 after 30 years of dictatorship.

- Imam Abdullah Bin Ahmed Al-Wazeer was beheaded by the Imam Ahmed in Aden after three weeks of coming to power in 1948.

- Imam Ahmed Hameed Adeen came under attempted assassination and then died on September 18, 1962. He ruled Yemen for 15 years.

- Ibraheem Mohammed al-Hamdi was shot dead after 40 months.

He came to power on October 11, 1977.

- Salem Robaye'a Ali was killed in air attack bombardments by his comrades on June 26, 1978. He ruled Yemen in the south for 9 years.

- Ahmed al-Ghashmi, killed on June 24, 1978.

Some of the Yemeni rulers such as, Mohammed al-Badr ran away after the 26 September revolution in the north.

He was in exile and remained abroad till 1996. He ruled Yemen at that time for just one week.

- Abdullah Yahya Assalal ruled Yemen for 7 years and died in 1994.

- Abdurahman al-Eriani ruled Yemen for 6 years and was in exile in Damascus. He died there in 1997.

- Abulfattah Ismael ruled Yemen for 3 years and was in exile in 1981.

- Qahtan Asha'abi, the first president of the republic in the south.

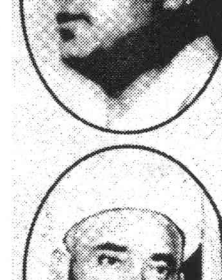
He was toppled in June 1969. He ruled south Yemen for two years.

Enforced exile rulers have been still abroad

- Ali Nasser Mohammed is still in exile. He ruled south Yemen for 6 years and then he was overthrown during January incidents in 1986 took place in Aden.

- Haidar Abu Bakr al-Attas was the last south Yemen president during the pre-unification period. He ruled Yemen for 4 years.

- Ali Salem al-Beidh, the former secretary-general of the Yemen Socialist Party is still in exile since 1994.





Mr. Richard Jensen
President and General Manager
and **Mr. Ali Sohaiki**
Executive Director,
and all staff of

Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen

and its Masila Block Partners

Present their congratulations
and sincere wishes to

H. E. President

Ali Abdullah Saleh

President of the Republic of Yemen

*On the occasion of the 25th anniversary
of his term in office on 17 July 1978.*

السيد / ريتشارد جنسن
الرئيس والمدير العام
الأستاذ / علي السحقي،
المدير التنفيذي
وكافة الموظفين في شركة

كنديان نكسن بترولير يمين

وشركاؤها في قطاع المسيلة
يتقدمون بخالص وأطيب التهاني والتبريكات القلبية إلى فخامة

الأخ / علي عبدالله صالح

رئيس الجمهورية اليمنية

بمناسبة مرور ٢٥ عاما على توليه قيادة اليمن في السابع عشر من يوليو ١٩٧٨م

وكل عام وإنتم بخير،،

CANADIAN
nexen

بمناسبة حلول اليربيل الفضي لمسيرة الخير والعطاء تتقدم

شركة سبيستل يهن

وكافة موظفيها ومنتسبيها بأحر التهاني وأزكى التبريكات
لباني نهضة اليمن الحديث فخامة الرئيس

المشير / علي عبدالله صالح

رئيس الجمهورية



*On the occasion of the president's
silver Jubilee anniversary*

Spacotel
YEMEN

Always Connected.

and all its staff

Present the warmest congratulations to

H.E. President Ali Abdullah Saleh
and the Yemeni people

We present him a message of gratitude,
appreciation, & indebtedness for the progress
and prosperity he has given to Yemen.

Spacotel
YEMEN

دائماً على اتصال.

Militants linked to Arafat claim Israel killing

TEL AVIV, July 15 (Reuters) - A Palestinian man stabbed to death one Israeli and wounded another on Tel Aviv's seaside promenade on Tuesday in an attack claimed by a group linked to Palestinian President Yasser Arafat's Fatah faction.

The involvement of the al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades in the attack, the first by a Palestinian in an Israeli city since militant faction leaders announced a three-month truce on June 29, rattled a fragile truce crucial to a U.S.-backed peace plan.

The Brigades issued statements in Beirut and on its Arabic website saying it was behind the attack and vowing more.

"There will be more martyrdom operations until the occupation leaves our land," it said on its website.

The incident underlined the brittle nature of the ceasefire and its vulnerability to disunity within Fatah, the largest Palestinian faction. Al-Aqsa militants rejected the truce pact declared by Fatah and Islamist leaders.

The violence also overshadowed talks in which Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas said he settled differences with Arafat over his approach to peacemaking with Israel.

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, in talks in London, called Arafat "the main obstacle" to reviving a Middle East peace process but could not persuade Prime Minister Tony Blair to cut Britain's contacts with the Palestinian president.

The 23-year-old Palestinian stabbed and wounded a security guard outside the open-air Tarabin restaurant at around 1:30 a.m. (2230 GMT) before fleeing to the beachfront promenade where he killed an Israeli man taking a stroll with his girlfriend.

A passerby then shot the assailant in the leg, disabling him until police arrived at the scene and arrested him.

The ceasefire proclaimed by main Palestinian factions has raised cautious optimism that the U.S.-led "road map" to peace will bring 33 months of Israeli-Palestinian violence to an end.

SOME MILITANTS VOW TO KEEP FIGHTING

But some militant cells have sworn to ignore the ceasefire and sporadic violence has continued. Leaders of several al-Aqsa cells initially denied involvement in Tuesday's stabbing.

The road map, drawn up by the United States, Russia, the United Nations and European Union, sets out reciprocal steps to halt violence and establish an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip by 2005.

Blair and his Foreign Secretary Jack Straw rebuffed Sharon's case for ostracising Arafat, saying he remained the elected Palestinian Authority leader.

"We still have our differences with Britain on a series of issues, including Arafat," a senior Israeli official said after Blair hosted a private dinner for Sharon. But the official described the event as "an intimate meeting between friends".

Israel accuses Arafat of inciting violence in a militant-led uprising for independence begun in September 2000. It and the United States have isolated the Palestinian president.

Arafat has denied the charge and fended off moves to sideline him since he appointed Abbas under U.S. pressure.

Palestinians say it is Sharon who is blocking progress in peacemaking by refusing requests to release around 6,000 Palestinian prisoners.

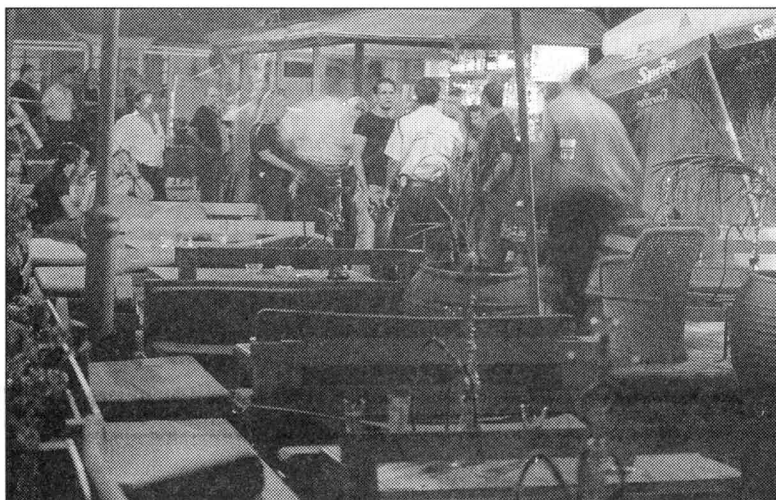
Abbas has come under fire from some Palestinians for failing to persuade Sharon to free more prisoners. He threatened to quit last week in the face of such criticism and after what Palestinian officials said were efforts by Arafat to weaken him.

The reformist premier declared an end to the rift after talks with Arafat in the West Bank city of Ramallah on Monday. "The disputes are over and things are all right," Abbas said.

Egyptian intelligence chief Omar Suleiman, whose country has played a mediating role in the conflict, met Arafat and Abbas in Ramallah on Tuesday to discuss the road map and prisoner issue.



Palestinian President Yasser Arafat (R) gestures beside Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas during talks with Egyptian intelligence Chief Omar Suleiman in the West Bank city of Ramallah July 15, 2003. Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas declared on Monday an end to a rift with President Yasser Arafat that had threatened U.S.-led peace efforts. REUTERS



Israeli policemen and guests stand outside the Tarabin nightclub in Tel Aviv after a Palestinian, armed with a knife, stabbed three people killed one and wounded two, July 15. REUTERS

Syrian troops extend Lebanon redeployment

TRIPOLI, Lebanon July 15 (Reuters) - Syrian troops quit artillery and tank positions in northern Lebanon early on Tuesday, witnesses said, in the latest step of a gradual scaling down of Damascus's military presence in its smaller neighbour.

Syria has about 15,000 troops in Lebanon, a widely resented symbol of the control Damascus gained in Lebanon in the aftermath of its 1975-1990 civil war.

Witnesses said trucks carried Syrian tanks and troops away from positions south of the port city of Tripoli toward the Syrian border, extending troop movements that began late on Monday near the capital Beirut.

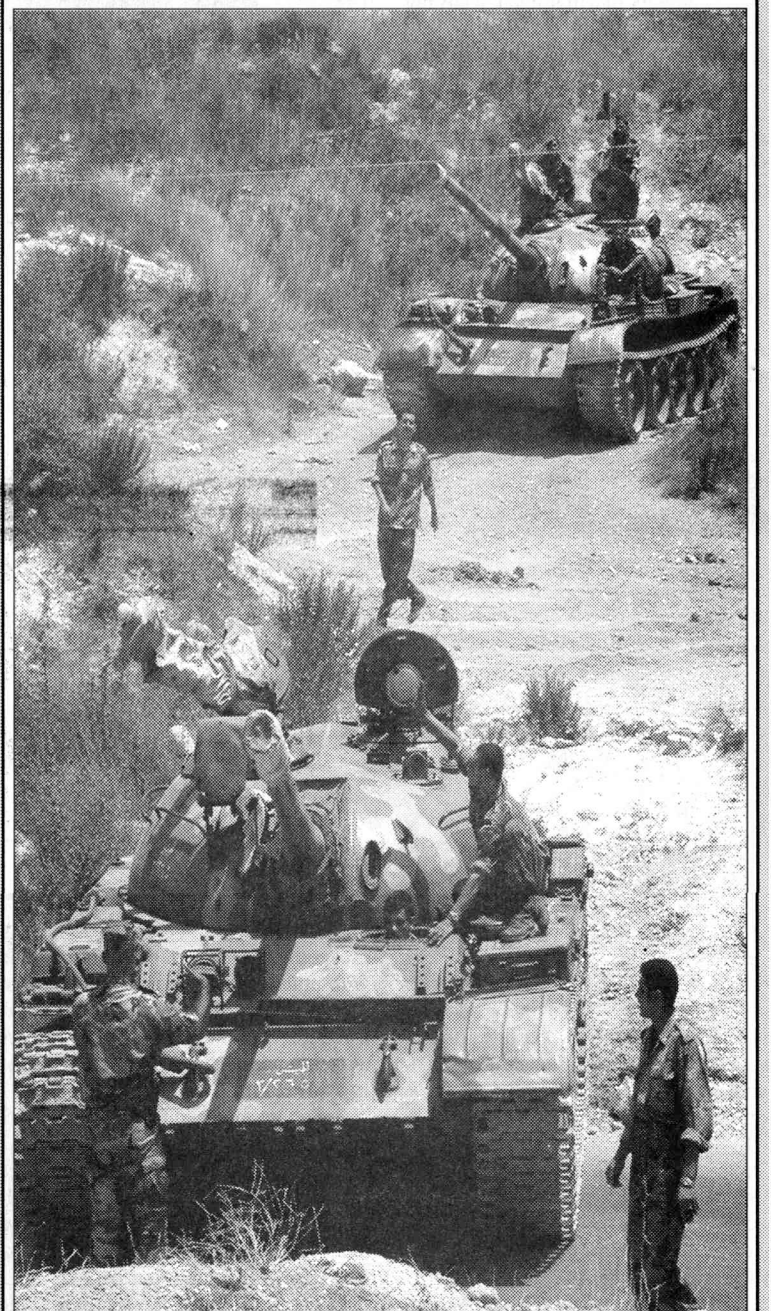
Security sources described the move as part of a planned withdrawal of several thousand Syrian soldiers that began earlier this year, and said at least some of those soldiers

moving now would be leaving Lebanon.

The Syrian troops have become a focal point for Christian-led opposition to Damascus's influence in Lebanon, which it flooded with troops early in the civil war to spare Christian forces defeat by Muslim and Palestinian fighters.

Damascus later turned on those Christians after they sided with its arch-enemy Israel. It helped sponsor a post-war political pact that expanded the power of Muslims at the expense of the traditional political influence of Maronite Christians.

Syria has cemented its role in Lebanon since the war, with strong ties to the army, presidency, judiciary and security services, but in 2001 withdrew its troops from prominent positions in Beirut, in an apparent concession to the increasingly vocal, Christian-led criticism of their presence.



Syrian soldiers drive out their tanks during withdrawal from a post near the northern port-city of Tripoli, July 15, 2003. Syrian troops quit artillery and tank positions in northern Lebanon early on Tuesday, witnesses said, as Damascus gradually scales back its military presence in its smaller neighbour. REUTERS

Key US Army division shocked at extended Iraq duty

FALLUJA, Iraq, July 15 (Reuters) - Under fire and unwanted by Iraqis, the U.S. 3rd Infantry Division in the volatile town of Falluja was bitterly disappointed on Tuesday by a decision to keep them in Iraq indefinitely.

"It's a big shock," said Sergeant Josh Holt of Montgomery, Alabama.

Facing mounting security threats in Iraq, the U.S. military said on Monday thousands of soldiers from the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanised) would stay in the country despite previous plans to send them home in July and August.

The division was the first American unit to enter Baghdad during the war and has been in the Gulf since September. Thirty-seven soldiers from the division have been killed in the war and its aftermath.

U.S. troops have come under fire from loyalists of toppled Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein, armed gangs and relatives of Iraqis killed by U.S. troops who seek revenge.

"It has been tough. I have had to take a seven-year-old child home whose father we killed in an exchange of fire. The family just cried. They just cried. I am sure they will try to get revenge. That is the way it works in Iraq."

After hearing they would head home several times, Third Infantry soldiers were stunned by news that the gritty streets of Falluja would be home in the foreseeable future.

"We were told three times we would be going home in a couple of months. It is not a good time to announce this. We are demotivated," said Sergeant Chris Grisham, a military intelligence officer.

The Third Infantry shoulders a heavy



A U.S. Army military policeman passes a destroyed car bearing diplomatic licence plates after an explosion in central Baghdad July 14, just a few hundred metres from the compound housing Iraq's newly formed Governing Council. REUTERS

burden in efforts to stabilise Iraq, controlling restive towns like Falluja, where anti-American sentiment is boiling over and U.S. troops are attacked nearly everyday.

U.S. troops are training Iraqi police to eventually take over Falluja, a plan that is key to bringing back stability to the town. But policemen have demonstrated against the U.S. presence and want the Americans to leave now.

Iraqis angry

American soldiers were not the only ones angered by the decision to keep

them here. Local Iraqis are also eager for their departure.

"We boil inside when we see these American soldiers drive by. There is no security here. If they stay we will fight them with our weapons," said Ahmed Abdel Razak, puffing on a water pipe in a crowded market.

A man stopped his car to happily tell him that he heard a U.S. tank was attacked.

American troops in Falluja sometimes pause from their patrols to try and win the hearts and minds of Iraqis. But the public relations campaign often

turns into a verbal war of attrition over electricity and water supply problems.

Standing in the blistering heat as Iraqis listed their complaints, an American soldier brushed white powder off his uniform which built up from sweat.

His comrades nervously clutched M-4 semi-automatic rifles, securing the perimeter of the sidewalk.

"I am hoping that as long as I can get my mail and make some calls home, I can survive," said Private Torrence Gilliam, from Spartanburg, South Carolina.

Heat wave kills 12 in southern Algeria

ALGIERS, July 15 (Reuters) - A heat wave in southern Algeria with temperatures soaring to 57 degrees Celsius (135 Fahrenheit) has killed at least 12 people in the past six weeks, local health authorities said on Tuesday.

Most victims were elderly or people with breathing ailments living in the Adrar area, about 1,300 km (800

miles) southwest of Algiers in the Sahara desert.

Frequent power cuts have made matters worse with workers and residents unable to use air conditioning.

Legislators from the region are to table a draft law in parliament to change the working hours in the south, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. currently to 7:00 a.m. until noon.

China in overdrive to restart N.Korea talks

BY BENJAMIN KANG LIM
AND JOHN RUWITCH

BEIJING, July 15 (Reuters) - China, unnerved by the festering North Korean nuclear crisis, is pushing a compromise format for talks that it hopes will satisfy both Washington and Pyongyang and bring them back to the table, diplomats said on Tuesday.

Washington has insisted on multilateral talks while Pyongyang demands bilateral talks with the United States before any multilateral discussions.

To break the impasse, Beijing supports a multilateral framework for the negotiations that would allow for bilateral meetings on the sidelines, a Chinese Foreign Ministry official told a briefing for Western diplomats.

"Multilateral first, bilateral contacts subsequently and even in a separate room," one diplomat who attended the briefing told Reuters.

The revelation came as Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Dai Bingguo wound up a four-day trip to Pyongyang during which he met North Korean leader Kim Jong-il and presented a letter from Chinese President Hu Jintao.

The contents of Hu's letter were not known, but diplomats in Beijing said Dai probably presented the compromise to the North Koreans.

The North's official KCNA news agency said Dai held in-depth talks with North Korean officials before returning to Beijing on Tuesday afternoon.

A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said Dai's general message to Kim was that it was critical to seek a peaceful resolution, restart talks as soon as possible, protect peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and keep it nuclear free.

Hu and his South Korean counterpart Roh Moo-hyun had agreed to pursue the compromise format during a summit in Beijing last week, the diplomat said.

Hope and anxiety

"I'm assuming that the U.S. is willing to wait for a reaction from



North Korean leader Kim Jong-il (2nd-L) talks with Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Dai Bingguo (2nd-R) in North Korea July 14. The Chinese special envoy handed a letter to Kim from Chinese President Hu Jintao in what diplomats said was a move to try to persuade Pyongyang to agree to multilateral talks on its nuclear ambitions. REUTERS

Pyongyang," said a second diplomat. There was no immediate reaction from North Korea.

"It's clear that there is a sort of hope, even anxiety from the Chinese part, that the Dai Bingguo visit can get some results," the second envoy said.

Analysts say Beijing is best placed to apply pressure on Pyongyang, providing 70 to 90 percent of the North's oil and a third of its imports and food aid.

China, fearful of instability on its northeastern border, was criticised early in the crisis for doing too little. Now it appears to be in overdrive, despatching envoys to Russia, the United States and, now, North Korea in the past month alone.

South Korea said it hoped Hu's mes-

sage would help persuade Pyongyang to return to the table, although analysts in Seoul said it was far from clear whether Beijing would succeed.

An initial round of talks between the North, the United States and China in Beijing in April yielded little.

North Korea and the United States seemed to be drifting further apart rather than toward talks, but diplomats and analysts said China's decision to intervene was significant.

"As much as anyone can influence North Korea, the Chinese can," said a senior diplomat in Seoul.

Still, China was expected to support North Korea's demands for security guarantees from the United States — not to use force or threaten to use force

against it.

Beijing is also floating the prospect of replacing the ceasefire ending the 1950-53 Korean war with a firmer peace "mechanism", diplomats quoted the Foreign Ministry official as saying.

The crisis has swirled since October when the United States said Pyongyang had admitted to having a secret atomic programme.

North Korea has since quit the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and told Washington it has atomic weapons and aims to make more by reprocessing fuel rods. The United States and its allies have not been able to verify that conclusively, although they have long said Pyongyang could already have one or two bombs.

Five Afghan police killed in Taliban raid

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan, July 15 (Reuters) - Taliban fighters attacked a district police station in southern Afghanistan's volatile Kandahar province, killing five men, including a commander, a security official said on Tuesday.

The Taliban fighters arrived in four pickup trucks on Monday night and attacked the police station in Ghorak district to the northwest of the city of Kandahar.

"The clash lasted for more than half an hour. The chief police of Ghorak, Sahak Mama, is among the five killed," said Salim Khan, a provincial intelligence official.

"The Taliban have fled back to their hideouts."

Two policemen were wounded. It was not known if the attackers had suffered any casualties, Khan said.

Kandahar is the former power base of the Taliban, who were driven from power in a U.S.-led offensive in late 2001.

Taliban fighters have been blamed for

a rash of attacks in recent months, many of them in the south, raising fears that the hardline militia was regrouping.

The government and U.S.-led forces play down worry of a resurgent Taliban challenging the government but say they are capable of launching raids and bomb attacks.

The U.S. military said it suspected a blast that damaged a car carrying two military personnel near the U.S. embassy in Kabul on Monday evening was caused by a bomb. No one was hurt.

About 100 Afghan government troops and civilians have been killed or wounded in bomb blasts and rocket strikes across southern Afghanistan since the beginning of the year.

Afghan officials say Taliban fighters and their al Qaeda allies are plotting their Afghan raids from the safety of neighbouring Pakistan.

Pakistan, which backed the Taliban for years until the September 11 attacks on the United States blamed on al Qaeda, says it does all it can to stop militants crossing back and forth to Afghanistan.

Afghans stage anti-Pakistan protest in Kabul

KABUL, July 15 (Reuters) - About 200 demonstrators took to the streets of the Afghan capital on Tuesday to protest against alleged border incursions by Pakistani forces.

The peaceful protest came a day after Afghanistan said Pakistani troops had crossed into the eastern part of the country, an area where soldiers from both sides have clashed in recent weeks. Pakistan has repeatedly denied any incursions.

The demonstration also coincided with a meeting in the city between Afghan, Pakistani and U.S. officials to discuss security, including the border row, an Afghan official said.

"We will drive them from our land!" shouted protesters on a central Kabul street. With some chanting slogans in favour of democracy and against religious conservatism, they were stopped from marching to a U.N. office and the

Pakistani embassy, witnesses said.

Afghanistan and Pakistan have long had disagreements over their porous border, but recent intermittent clashes and accusations of intrusions have strained relations.

Protests have erupted in several parts of Afghanistan and a mob attacked the Pakistani embassy last week, smashing windows and office equipment and damaging vehicles.

Afghanistan's latest allegations erupted during a brief operation by U.S.-led forces on Afghan soil, and by Pakistani troops on their side of the border, to prevent movement of ousted Taliban fighters and their al Qaeda allies.

An Afghan presidential spokesman said on Monday Pakistani forces were found to have encroached into two districts to the east of the city of Jalalabad. In one place they were about 600 metres (yards) inside Afghan territory, he said.

New Indian envoy says Pakistan peace possible

WAGAH, Pakistan, July 15 (Reuters) - India's new ambassador to Islamabad crossed into Pakistan on Tuesday and said peace was possible after an easing of tensions between the nuclear-armed South Asian rivals.

Shivshankar Menon, 53, crossed by at Wagah, the only official border post currently open between the two countries. Considered one of India's top diplomats, he has served as India's ambassador to Israel, Sri Lanka and most recently China.

"My task is to create an environment for peaceful and friendly relations with Pakistan," Menon told reporters, adding that his arrival was a sign of "positive developments".

"Since diplomats have been appointed on both sides, further negotiations will take place," he said.

"Certainly peace is possible," he replied to a question.

Asked whether it was possible to resolve the dispute over Kashmir, that brought India and Pakistan to the brink of a fourth war last year, he replied:

"I am two steps in Pakistan, wish me luck, let me go to my office, then I will reply to such huge questions."

Pakistan and India agreed to restore full diplomatic ties after Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee, 78, said in April he would make a final bid for peace in his lifetime.

Pakistan's ambassador to India arrived in New Delhi last month.

Menon's arrival comes days after Pakistan and India restored a bus service via the Wagah crossing, the most visible sign so far of the warming of ties.

The countries severed road, rail and air links and downgraded diplomatic ties after a bloody attack on the Indian parliament in December 2001 which New Delhi blamed on Pakistan-based militants fighting its rule in Kashmir.

Reopening the bus service was part of a series of steps aimed at laying the groundwork for formal peace talks, but no date has been set for restarting air or rail travel.

South Asian nations said earlier this month that their leaders would meet for a summit in Islamabad in January, offering the possibility of top-level talks between India and Pakistan on the sidelines.

Despite the thaw, Pakistani and Indian forces have continued to trade fire over the line of control separating their parts of Kashmir.



India's new ambassador to Pakistan, Shiv Shankar Menon, REUTERS

Manila offers bounty for Muslim rebels' recapture

MANILA, July 15 (Reuters) - The Philippines offered a reward of five million pesos (\$93,000) on Tuesday for information leading to the recapture of a leading Islamic militant after a jail-break which marred Manila's anti-terror campaign.

Indonesian Fathur Rohman al-Ghozi, a self-confessed member of Jemaah Islamiyah, escaped from a high-security prison in Manila early on Monday, apparently with the connivance of his guards.

He escaped with two Filipino prisoners who are believed to be members of a radical Islamic group, the Abu Sayyaf. Both groups have been linked to Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda network.

"We are offering five million pesos for Al-Ghozi," national police director General Hermogenes Ebdane told local radio.

He added that rewards of two million pesos would be offered for information leading to the recapture of Abu Sayyaf bomb expert Abul Mukhim Edris and one million pesos for the other rebel fugitive, Meram Abante also known as Omar Opik Lasal.

Ports and airports have been put on alert to prevent the three from fleeing the Philippines. A nationwide manhunt has been launched and mugshot photos of the three fugitives distributed to all police intelligence offices across the country.

Indonesian police said they were on the alert in case al-Ghozi attempted to reach his home town, Madiun in East Java. Al-Ghozi, who said he was on a mission to wage holy war in Southeast Asia, was serving a jail term of up to 12 years for illegal possession of explosives and falsifying travel papers.

The slim, bearded Indonesian

escaped a week after being charged with murdering 12 people in the bombing of a Manila commuter train on December 30, 2000 — one of a series of near simultaneous explosions in the capital on that day.

President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, angered and embarrassed by the escape, immediately sacked the three prison guards assigned to watch al-Ghozi's cell after police officials said there were no signs of a forced break-out, suggesting connivance.

Police said they were looking at the possibility that guards with access to duplicate keys might have used these to open the cells where al-Ghozi and the others were being held.




National Security Adviser Roilo Golez told reporters in Manila on Tuesday that Philippine security authorities had alerted their counterparts elsewhere in the region, particularly in Indonesia and Malaysia.

"Already there is possibly the biggest manhunt in the Philippines so far and maybe even a big manhunt in the region assuming that he is attempting to get out of the Philippines," he said.

Heru Santo, police chief in East Java, told Indonesia's Antara news agency: "We have already been proactive in watching out for the possibility of him returning to Madiun, and we will coordinate with Interpol."

Chief Superintendent Jesus Versoza, head of the Philippines' police intelligence group, took responsibility for the jail fiasco and resigned. Two other senior officers were sacked.

Arroyo spokesman Ignacio Bunye told local radio: "She won't stop until we get down to the bottom of how these prisoners escaped." US\$1 = 53.6 pesos

₱5,000,000.00	
	Name : Fathur Rohman Alghozi
	Alias : Rony Zazad Bin Amad
	Nationality : Indonesian
	Age : 31 yrs old
	Height : 5'6
	Weight : 60 kls
	Build : Medium
₱2,000,000.00	
	Name : Abdulmukim Ong Edris
	Alias : Alex/Ryan
	Nationality : Filipino
	Age : 30 yrs old
	Height : 5'5"
	Weight : 130 lbs
₱1,000,000.00	
	Name : Omar Opik Lasal
	Alias : Merang Abante
	Nationality : Filipino
	Age : 31 yrs old
	Height : 5'4"
	Weight : 75 kls.

A poster offering a reward of five million pesos (\$93,000) for information leading to the recapture of an Islamic militant has been released by Philippine police in Manila July 15. Indonesian Fathur Rohman al-Ghozi, a self-confessed member of Jemaah Islamiyah and two members of the local Muslim rebel group Abu Sayyaf, escaped from a high-security prison in Manila early on Monday, apparently with the connivance of his guards. REUTERS

Bangladesh navy locates sunken ferry

DHAKA, July 15 (Reuters) - Bangladesh navy experts used sonar to find the remains of a ferry nearly half a kilometre (mile) from where it sank in a huge river whirlpool last week, killing more than 400 people.

"The ferry has been located 120 ft (40 metres) under water, about 300 metres (yards) away from the site of sinking," Navy Lieutenant Commander Mahbubur Rashid told reporters.

"It has been partly buried under mounds of sand."

Salvage officials said rain and wind still hampered operations, but some 177 bodies had been pulled from the Meghna river as it makes its way to the Bay of Bengal.

"Efforts to salvage the M.V. Nasreen will continue for few more days," said a government official in Chandpur district, where the ferry sank.

The triple-deck Nasreen — licensed to carry 300 people — had more than 600 aboard when it plunged into the Meghna near the town of Chandpur, 170 km (106 miles) southeast of the capital, Dhaka.

Only about 200 people managed to reach the shore or were rescued by fishing boats after the ferry went down around midnight on Tuesday while most aboard were asleep.

Ferry disasters occur frequently in Bangladesh, where marine laws are rarely enforced despite huge loss of life every year.

At least 450 people were killed in a similar ferry accident in May last year at almost the same spot.

Of 20,000 ferries plying the country's many rivers and coastal waters, only 8,000 are registered and just 800 have fitness certificates, shipping officials say.

Mr. Mohamed Taha Hamood Al Hashimi

The Managing Partner,

Mr. Hisham Mohamed Taha Hamood Al Hashimi

Marketing Executive,

the partners, and employees of

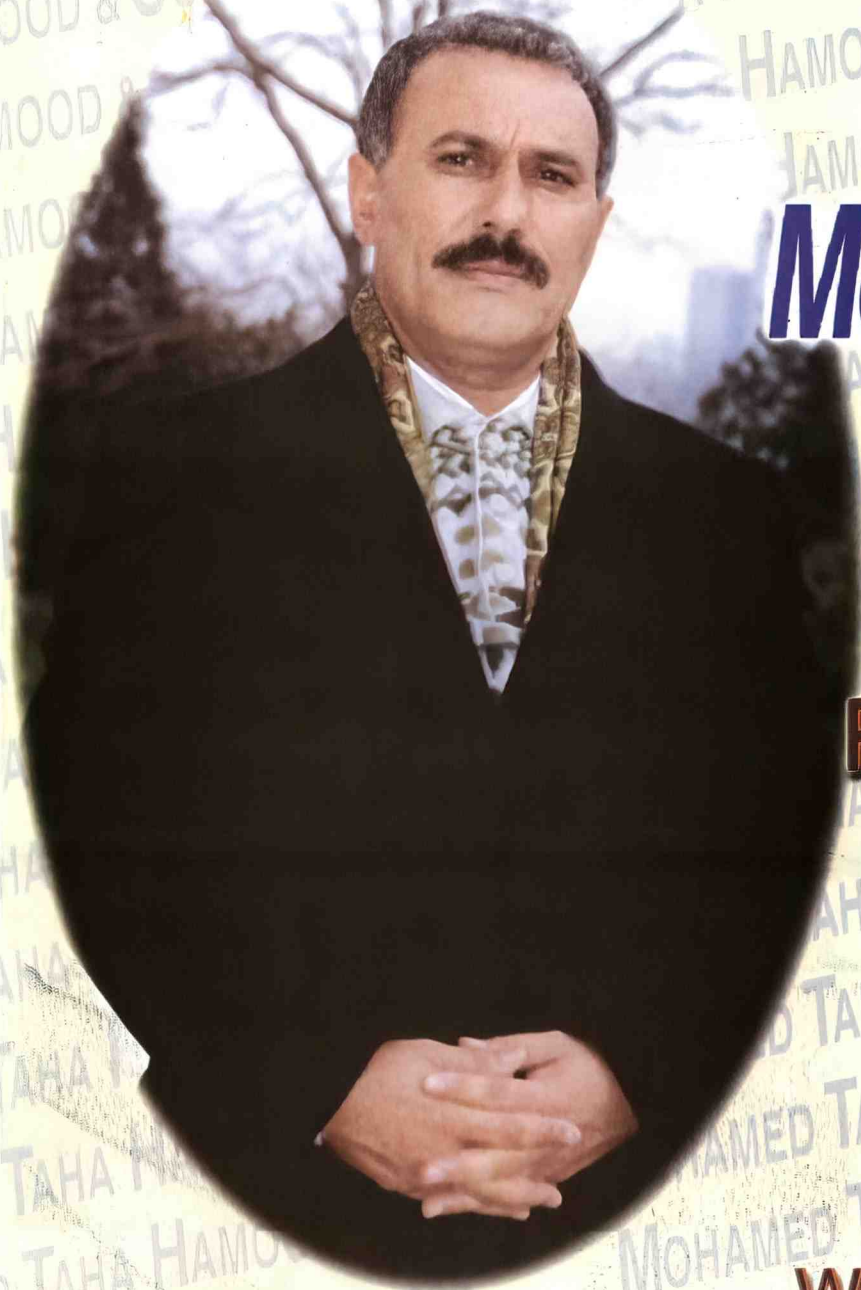
MOHAMED TAHA HAMOOD & Co.

**present their warmest
congratulations to H.E.**

President Ali Abdullah Saleh

**On the occasion of the 25th
anniversary since he started
leading Yemen on 17 July 1978**

**We present him a message of gratitude,
appreciation, and indebtedness for
all that he has given Yemen for progress
and prosperity**



Mr. Mohamed Taha Hamood Al Hashimi
Managing Partner



Mr. Hisham Mohamed Taha Hamood Al Hashimi
Marketing Executive

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Hayel Saeed Anaam Group of Companies



Presents its heartfelt congratulations & felicitations to President

Ali Abdullah Saleh

*On the occasion of the 25th anniversary
since he started leading Yemen on 17 July 1978*

on behalf of Hayel Saeed Anaam Group of Companies

Ali Mohammed Saeed Anaam Ahmed Hayel Saeed Anaam

مجموعة شركات هائل سعيد أنعم وشركاه

تتقدم بأحر التهاني والتبريكات لفخامة رئيس الجمهورية

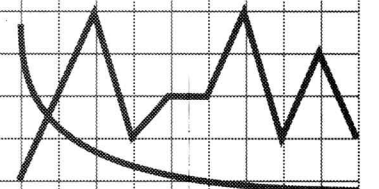
الأخ/ علي عبدالله صالح

بمناسبة حلول اليوميل الفضي لمسيرة التنمية والعطاء
في توليه فخامته قيادة الوطن في السابع عشر من يوليو 1978م.

عن المجموعة

علي محمد سعيد أحمد هائل سعيد

YT Business



Yemen celebrates president Saleh's presidency silver jubilee...

Economic and development accomplishments, great changes

BY MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Today Yemen marks the 25th anniversary of President Ali Abdulla Saleh since he assumed power as president of the republic of Yemen on 17 July 1978 prior to the unification of the country.

Celebrating the silver jubilee comes after these years in which president Saleh has been devoting his time for building Yemen and establishing a modern country and market economy system and the achievement of great accomplishments in various fields. Specialists in Yemeni affairs say that President Ali Abdulla Saleh has contributed to guide the Yemeni successive governments for upgrading the economic, and development conditions. He has been giving them guidelines and directives for building roads, dams, providing services for the people and establishment of economic partnership with the neighbouring countries as well as European countries and the United States and Japan

and China and many others. Directives of the president urged the concerned institutions to work hard and rapidly for unifying financial, taxation, customs and banking laws and regulations and also to develop and modernize them in compatible with variables and also for unifying the national currency. During the period 1990-2002 estimations of the budget revenues increased by 17 times and expenditure by 24 times and the percentage of deficit by 5 per cent. The fiscal years 1990-2002 have realized actual surplus in implementation of the state budget amounted to YR 18 billion in 2000 and YR 41 billion in 2001.

Since his assumption of power in 1978, President Ali Abdulla Saleh has been paying attention to and interest preparation of the development plans for the achievement of goals of the economic, financial and administrative development. During his reign there have been the five-year plans of 1982-1986, 1987-1990, 1996-2000 and the 2001-2005.

In 1995 the unity state began the application of financial and administra-



tive decentralization policy by issuing financial and administrative authorizations till the passage of law No. 4 for the local authority.

During the presidency of president Saleh the country of Yemen has been

united and its army was unified. The unified state adopted a unified budget and the first financial law of the unity state was issued in August 1990 and the first budget of the unity state was prepared in 1991.

The unification state has since 1995 been implementing the policy of financial, administrative and economic reform aimed at developing industrial and agricultural production, controlling the exchange rate of the national currency and curbing unemployment and rise in the rates of inflation.

Observers affirm that what distinguishes the tenure of president Saleh is his great attention towards determining priorities of the state activities and how to develop financial revenues and distribution of spending along with meeting needs of the population and expansion in extending services for them, especially the remote areas. Among the president's directives was his interest in tackling negatives of the economic reform program and the launch of the social safety net for fighting poverty. The president has paid attention to exploration of oil, liquefied gas and mineral wealth till the country became an oil producing state producing 450 thousand barrels of oil per day.

The president managed to hold negotiations with creditor countries and to

The Road Ahead

Success secrets

Dear Readers,

I'd like to inform you that starting next week every Thursday issue will contain a new column named 'Success Secrets'. every week This column will be written by a businessmen sharing with you something from his own experience, and tips which should be helpful for people of interests.

Please look forward to next Thursday, and if you have any questions for any of the participants please send me an email and I will forward that to the concerned party

Sincerely,

Raidan Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf
r_saqqaf@hotmail.com

obtain a decision of exempting Yemen from its debt according to Paris club countries that supported Yemen's economic reforms. Observers also affirm that president Ali Abdulla Saleh has managed, during these 25 years of running the country, by dialogue, consultation and democracy to win his people's opinion and respect.

The Qat; means for work and richness...

But a water exhausting agricultural phenomenon

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

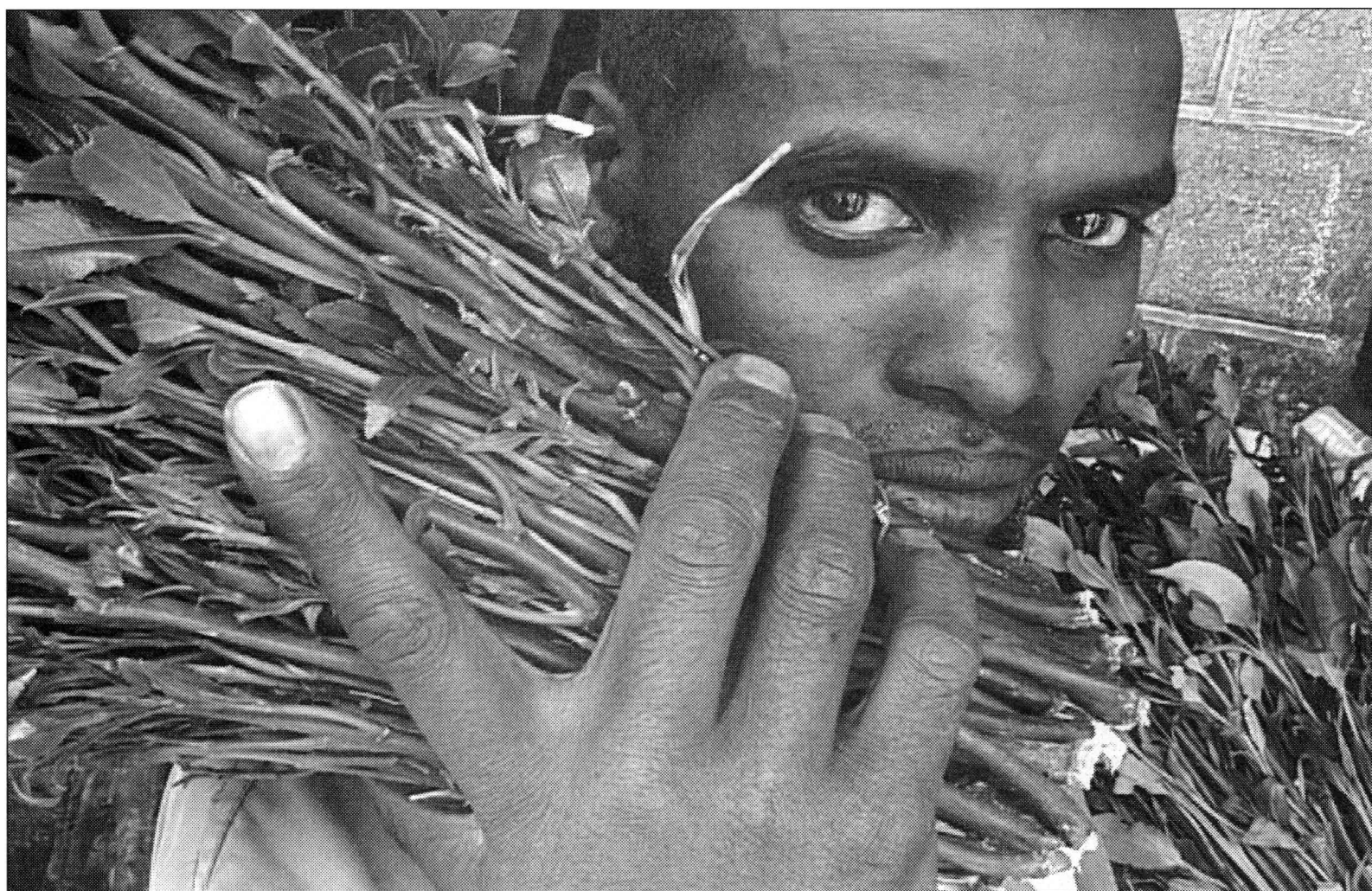
Chairman of the Yemeni society fighting the Qat Ahmed Jaber Afif described the spread of the phenomenon of chewing qat, the non-nutritive plant, among the boy and girl students and the juveniles as something horrific. Those students gathering in sessions for chewing qat are urged by and were victims of the illusive thinking and justification that it helps them in concentration while studying especially during preparation for school examinations seasons. They are really under the spell of psychological illusion and power of habit and imitation.

Mr Afif says the qat is no longer just a habit in the Yemeni society but rather a serious epidemic and very few families are immune against it. What is more horrific is that it has been communicated from the father and the mother and the elder brother to school students. But Mr Afif expresses his hope that the educational and awareness campaigns implemented by his society among the youth would result in future positive outcomes.

The society continues its campaigns after it has finished the first phase of the third national program for enlightenment against the heavy damage of qat by targeting more than 35 thousand students from both sexes.

Coordinator of the campaign Balqis al-Lahabi says the society has implemented the first phase of the program in 24 schools inside the capital secretariat with participation of 22 volunteers in this field. The campaign advised the students of damage caused to environment because of planting qat in addition to its damage to food security, health and family problems.

A recent study obtained by the Yemen Times has warned against aggravation of



Qat consumes huge amount of irrigation water, leading to a draining in aquifer reservoirs. It also deteriorate human's health condition

the problem of food security in Yemen and considered qat one of its major reasons because growing qat controls more than 60% of most fertile arable land area and exhausts a high proportion of irrigation waters, trained labour and road networks. The study has emphasized that by the end of 2003 the number of per-

sons exposed to the lack of enough food would amount to 5 million people and because of expansion in growing qat the number would top 8 million people by the year 2025.

Another study conducted by the World Bank says the quantity of water consumed in Sana'a is 30 million cubic

meters a year, whereas 60 million cubic meters of water is consumed in growing qat in Sana'a basin. Statistics indicate that 90% of Yemeni men are of the habit of chewing qat everyday while the average among women ranges between 10-60%. The average of chewing qat among men and women increases in the urban

areas more than the rural areas because of the more available leisure in the cities.

A study on the relationship between the phenomenon of chewing qat and health clarified that chewing this plant causes pyorrhea, improper position of teeth and deformity of tooth curve,

appearance of white spots in the mouth and ulceration in its tissues, in addition to insomnia, inappetence, and constipation. However, the study points out that qat is of advantage in healing some diseases such as diabetes, asthma, stomach and intestines disorders and a cure for coughing and malaria. The one who chews qat feels strength and activity and concentration in mental works and protects the Yemeni society from drug addiction.

Farmer Adham al-Nahamy says the annual proceeds of one hectare planted with qat amounts to one thousand dollars which much better than the revenue of a hectare planted with wheat which does not exceed 150 dollars a year. And this encourages farmers to expand in growing the qat. A qat dealer at al-Hasaba market for qat Hassan al-Matari says there are forty kinds of qat trees. Some of them are of high quality and others are low in quality in that of containing the substance causing exultation.

Statements of agricultural statistics explain that since the year 1970 till 1998 the area of land grown with qat has increased from 800 hectares to 102924 hectares at an increase average exceeding 1187%. This expansion in planting qat has been at the expense of growing fruits, vegetables and coffee. Qat growing occupies around 2% of the total cultivated area of the land while qat's consumption of water is estimated at 820 million cubic meters a year that is at an average of 8500 cubic meter for a hectare as a general average. Revenues gained from qat sale are estimated at YR 400 billion a year. Tens of thousands of manpower works at its farms and markets. A qat seller Farhan Abda Sabri says if it was not for this tree (qat) the majority of the Yemeni people would have been without work and a great famine would have happened in the country.

Words of Wisdom



Parents and family elders are not providing good role models, either. Many adults spend their time chewing qat and watching satellite TV programs that represent the lowest common denominator: the children's recreational needs are mostly neglected, leaving them to wander off into the streets and mix with bad company.

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

OUR
OPINIONWhen Arab
unity becomes
a necessity

During my last visit to Belgium last week to attend a European Seminar on Trade held in Brussels, I have come to realize once again how divided we are as Arabs, and how it shows in our action. Even European officials at the European Commission see us as divided and with no solid united stance on virtually any thing. "The European Union may not be a single state, but we are definitely not the Arab League." one of those officials said to participants at the seminar. Indeed, this shows how the Arab League is seen as merely a fake illusion that we Arabs created to feel united, yet it is no more than a decoration and a podium to talk a lot and do nothing. Hence, those who are betting on it to bring unity to the Arab nation are somewhat too unrealistic in a time the Arabs have deep divisions that do not only limit their abilities to bring about a united stance, but even to avoid damaging each other.

How many times have you heard Arabs saying "too much talk and little work" while watching Arab summits one after another on TV?

In this globalizing world, we cannot afford staying divided without having our own future at stake. We can look around us and see how different regional unions are emerging in various parts of the world. Those coalitions are popping up in South America, Africa, East Asia, and Europe, which is now expanding to include 25 countries in total and hence controlling a significant share of the world's trade.

"We want to have a say in world affairs, and that cannot happen unless we work on strengthening our unity to have our voice heard by the world, and its superpower, the USA," said another EU official.

This is the era of coalitions and alliances that have common political, economic, and social objectives.

As Arab countries, we have the advantages the Europeans don't have, and that is a common language, religion, social values, and other attributes that make the probability of a successful Arab Union very high.

Perhaps the EU example is one to follow. Alliances, coalitions and unions are being formed worldwide to fight against imbalance and to gain more from globalization and also to be respected and have their voice heard.

Will the day come when the Arab League will be the Arab Union, with common policies, open trade, and a unified stance? It all depends on our peoples and leaders.

The Editor



Independent Cultural, Economic & Political Weekly
First English Newspaper in Yemen, founded in 1991
by Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

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P. O. Box: 3488

Dubai:
Dar Al-Hikma
Tel: 00971506589158
P. O. Box: 2007

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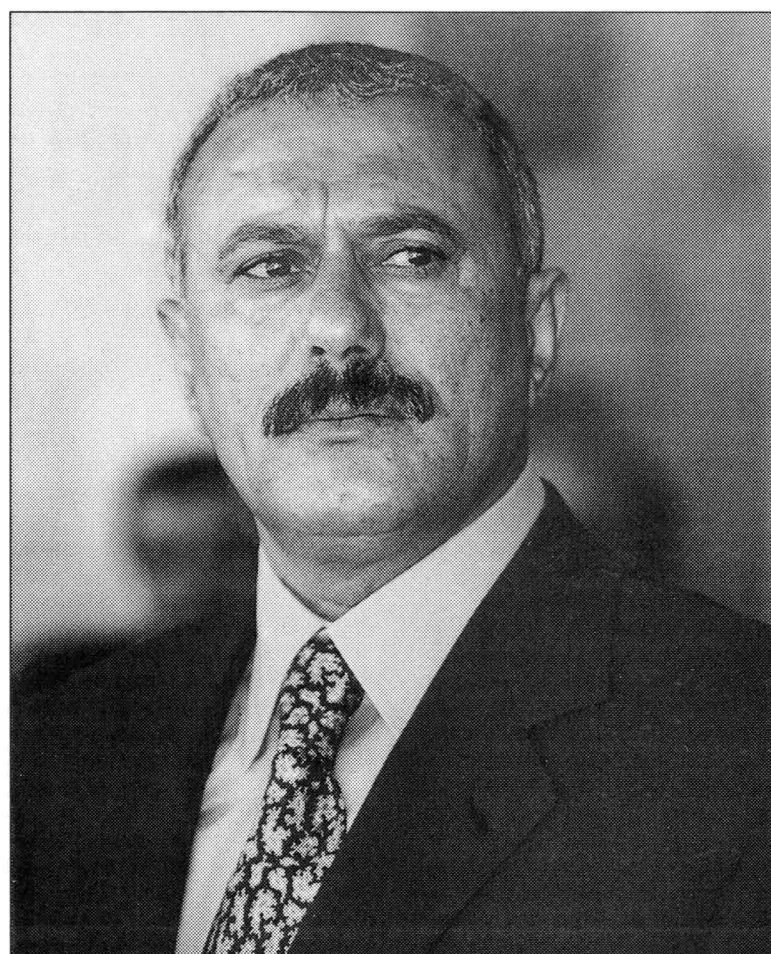
17 July a memorable
day in Yemen history

By Abdulla Hussein Brakat
Shoura Council member

Undoubtedly, the talk on 17 July 1978 is a long one because it is an important event in the history of the people of Yemen. On that day president Ali Abdulla Saleh was elected by the constituent people's council as a president of the republic. That day was the dividing line between the chaos that preceded that event and a key for the political and democratic march and an introduction for political and security stability. On that day president Ali Abdulla Saleh assumed his power and all are aware of the difficult circumstances the country was experiencing and nevertheless he had shouldered the responsibility courageously.

Politically and democratically the election of president Saleh by the people's council represented a democratic action confirming that the president did not come to power atop a tank but by being elected by the people's representatives. It was thus a step indicating a good democratic initiative. The first thing this leader had done was the formation of committee for national dialogue, composed of all parts of the political spectrum, scientists and all segments of the people and the draft charter was submitted to the people for referendum. The national charter was later considered a document that represented the essence of experiences, thoughts, hopes and ambitions of the Yemenis in democracy, freedom and political and security stability. The charter has defined the national constants he most important of which was the achievement of the Yemeni unity. In the light of the charter the General People's Congress was founded in 1982 as a political organization and an extension of the national movement, and thus realizing expectations of the masses in revolution, unity and democracy.

After the war of 1979 the president worked for establishing closer ties with the former southern part of the country as a beginning of restoring the unity of Yemen. The Taiz meeting was held in 1981 between the president and Ali Nasser Mohammed where the two presidents had formed the higher council and formed joint ministerial committees and joint projects. The meetings continued till the Aden agreement in November 1989 when an organization for the transitional period was declared between the two sides in April



1990 and then the Yemeni reunification was declared on May 22, 1990.

The 22nd of May 1990 represented the most important event in Yemen's modern history and rather the Arab history. The Yemeni unity was restored in a democratic way and an understanding between the political leaderships of the former two parts of the country and then there was the referendum on the constitution of the republic of Yemen on 15 and 16 of May 1992 and the constitution and unity were then became property of the people of Yemen.

The constitution has organically connected between unity and democracy and political pluralism. Political parties began practicing their organization publicly exercising their political rights in a democratic way. On May 22, 1990 the world congratulated the people of Yemen on this blessed step and under the unity many other steps were taken in various fields, the more significant of which are:

- the border treaty between Yemen and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia,
- the border agreement with Oman,
- verdict of the international court of justice on Yemen's right to the island of

Hunaish and Hunaish Archipelago.

With these agreements Yemen has confirmed its keenness on good neighborly relations and the realization of security, economic and cultural cooperation and also cooperation in international forums.

The Yemeni attention paid to the infrastructures such as roads, ports and airports and basic structures has facilitated the process of economic building and expansion in health, electric and other services in all areas. He state worked hard for overcoming the economic deterioration caused by the secessionist attempt after the reunification. Since 1995 the state embarked on the economic, administrative and monetary reform. Thus the reality of democratic life our country is living on the basis of political pluralism has become a civilized conduct we boast of in the light of the national constants.

No doubt he president Ali Abdulla Saleh is the man who has understood his people and adhered to them, preserved their interests and achieved their ambitions and aspirations.

Translated from 26 September weekly

Investors of the investors

Ali Mohammed Al-Sulaimani
Yemen Times, Aden

While investment has become a worldwide strategic aim of the holistic development movement Yemen still repeats its cracked tape, welcoming investors, holding seminars and conference and explaining the merits of the investment law and the Free Zone laws in Aden...etc.

All this is important but the more important is to provide attractive incentives for investment, because he capital is not as said; coward, it is rather smart and aware of the course to follow, just like mountain water heading its way

into the sea. And although there are various investment opportunities in Yemen yet stockbrokers, middlemen and monopoly problems hold them back. This is because the system in this country is to put all strings in one man's hands in a specific field and hence nothing moves forward without him. This leads to bribery and corruption and other relevant things. The strange thing is that the American ambassador to Sana'a Edmund Hull said something interesting regarding this as he said: "No development without security and no security without investment" which is true, came in our holy book Quran 1424 years ago in Quraish Chapter when it linked safety to nutrition. Yes we cannot talk about

development and investment in isolation from honest modern management and providing security and social insurance for employees and their families, protecting them from corruption and injustice. Unless a healthy environment is supported where credibility and qualifications are the criteria, this country will remain deprived of investors and investment. It is not enough to brag about some not implemented laws of buried opportunities. It is for the country's sake that serious measures are taken to stop this chaos, stop the authorities from offending willing investors and investing on the investors, else our road to investment is really going to need to take a very long distance.

Letters to the Editor

An appeal to Arabs from
Benadiris

Benadir is the coastal region of southern Somalia. With the highest population density in the country, Benadir was historically known for its cotton industry, goldsmiths, fishing, and agriculture and construction industry. Through the centuries, Benadir flourished to become one of the most important trading coastal regions in East Africa. It is inhabited by communities, which have succeeded in forging common cultural values, beliefs, and a distinct

identity. Its peaceful multi-ethnic population includes Arabs, Bantus and Cushites. The Benadiris did not participate in the recent civil war in Somalia. But as the conflict spread, our community became a victim of the tribal war. The World Disasters Report 1997 states: "Most of the victims in Somalia were members of the Bantu and Benadir clans." Half of our people fled the country in search of peace. The Benadiris suffered much loss and devastation. Yet they rose to the challenge and survived, though not within the boundaries of their country. The

Letters to the Editor

buildings of old Mogadishu, Merca and Brava, which the Benadiri ancestors founded with their meagre resources more than a thousand years ago have been destroyed. But our history remains intact. This will continue to stand as long as we are proud of who we are, treasure our past and preserve it for future generations. Although the Benadiris of today are trying to preserve their Arab identity, customs and traditions, few facets of the culture, like the Arabic language, have begun eroding. A few scholars like me who want our community to recover its identity and the

pride in our Arabic culture cannot do much without the help of our Arab brothers. I believe the restoration work involves elaborate research and studies on this community of Somalia. A systematic study will also serve as a rallying point in the enhancement of our relations with the Arab world. A little help from our brethren in other countries, with their access to the media and their governments, will go a long way in helping restore the Benadiri people's Arabic identity.

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COMMON
SENSE

By Hassan Al-Haifi

Europe: A sphere
of influence of
Tel Aviv?

We understand the background leading to the success of the American Zionist lobby in the United States, and are even sympathetic to the American people for being so easily misled to believe that accession to the Zionist cause is the only proper direction for American foreign policy to pursue. This goes without saying that American citizens should guard against losing their grip over an important element of their foreign relations, which are bound to have recalcitrant long term implications, not only for the United States but for the world at large. This is already present in the unclear orientations this policy has taken over the last two and a half years with the right wing and evangelical coalition prevailing in the present White House Administration. On the other hand, one is at a loss in finding rational justifications for the American people allowing their government to be used as the arm-twister of the Zionist state against other sovereign states as the latter decide on their internal and external state of affairs. Even when these states or their respective institutions are acting well within their sovereign rights and jurisdictions, the United States finds no reason to hesitate to placate Zionist interests in fulfilling the latter's wishes in influencing the actions of these states.

This dangerous precedence in relations between the United States and other sovereign states (some of which have enjoyed long standing close alliances and mutual interests with the US) is manifested by two significant events in bilateral relations, which should raise eyebrows among civic and civil society organizations, working on the domestic front and within the scope of the international community.

The first involves the recent scolding by the British Government directed against one of the most outstanding news service organizations, the British Broadcasting Corporation - an autonomous agency of Her Majesty's Government, which is well known for its objectivity and professional acumen. The scolding was over a report on Israel's unchecked nuclear capability, which is not subject to any monitoring or control by the International Atomic Agency or any other world monitoring agency, because Israel is not a party to any nuclear arms control agreements. Of course, it is already known that Israel possesses about 200 atomic warheads of some sort or another, and is theoretically capable of destroying most of the major cities of the Middle East, while not raising any alarms anywhere. It is worthwhile to mention that this dangerous buildup has been compiled with the tacit blessings of the United States, not to mention US funding and technology (a good share of which was stolen!).

One need not worry about the standards that the BBC applied in presenting an important issue, such as the threat the Israeli nuclear capability presents to world peace, since the BBC is reputed for its professional competence and attention to professional ethics, but more important, for its reliance on substantive facts. The worry that arises from this development in inter-governmental relations, is that the scolding represents a clear interference in the operations of an autonomous news service, which must continue to enjoy that autonomy if it is to continue to enjoy the high international respect that it justly deserves. Moreover, that this scolding comes due to interference in the domestic affairs of the UK, by Israel or the United States, represents a serious breach of the concepts of sovereignty of an important and reliable ally, which the UK has proven to be for the US. It is clear that Israel does not wish to face any public concerns vis a vis its unchecked armaments programs, which is why the insistence of heavy doses of pressure on the UK government to clamp down on reporting such "sensitive issues".

The other issue is the amendment of the Belgian legislation that once brought Belgium to the forefront, as a defender of human rights; i.e., the law that allows for international perpetrators of crimes against humanity to be tried in Belgian Courts. For a while this law stood without facing any real heavy controversy, although some countries did ask questions as to how far should legal jurisdictions of sovereign states be stretched. But, because the law was deemed sound by most civil minded human beings and justified, the arguments against the law were kept on the soft scale. This questioning mainly came from states that are aware that some of their officials might face litigation in such a legal context. But when the first perpetrator to be tested under the law happened to be Ariel Sharon, the Prime Minister of Israel, who has been superficially convicted for some of the responsibility for the Sabra and Shatilla massacre of well over 1,500 Palestinian civilians, including men, women and children, the pressure keg of the Zionist establishment was turned on high. Initially, this led to a postponement of summoning the perpetrator, pending completion of the systematic elimination of the residents of Gaza and the West Bank (his tenure as Prime Minister). But that was not enough for the international Zionist lobby, and pressure was brought on Belgium to soften the law, until it lost the real significant value which it originally had.

We are not sure if we feel sorry for Belgium or should really make it clear that Belgium was helpless in ascertaining its sovereignty, since its other European friends could do nothing to help their colleague in the European community. The American pressure was just too great on them as well to get them to agree to moving NATO headquarters from Belgium and other arm twisting tactics, which the US has put to service, for the sake of an obvious criminal, even as judged by his own people (400,000 Israelis protested Sharon's involvement in the Sabra and Shatilla Massacre).

We believe that in the light of these events, it is clear that Washington should set out a definition of sovereignty that it expects nations to be guided by, implicitly indicating that sovereign acts are subject to a stamp of approval from Tel Aviv.

The intimate alliance that caused American and Israel to be reviled

PATRICK SEALE:
THE GULF NEWS

Much of the talk in Europe these days - in newspaper offices, at dinner parties, in foreign ministries - is about how the United States and Britain were conned into going to war against Iraq, or perhaps how they conned the rest of us into believing that they had good reasons for doing so.

It is now widely suspected that the war was a fraud, but who perpetrated the fraud and on whom? Were Bush and Blair fed fabricated intelligence or did they knowingly massage and doctor the intelligence to exaggerate the threat from Iraq so as to justify an attack?

Everyone agrees that Saddam Hussain was a monster, but the military invasion to depose him is seen by many, and certainly on this side of the Atlantic, as illegitimate and unprovoked, and a blatant violation of the UN Charter, setting an unfortunate precedent in international relations. Henceforth in the jungle, only might is right.

Various intelligence and foreign affairs committees of the British parliament and the U.S. Congress have started inquiries into how the decision to go to war was taken, when, why, and on what basis.

But it will require a superhuman effort to penetrate the murky thicket of competing government bureaucracies, spooks, exiles, defectors and other self-serving sources, pro-Israeli lobbyists, magazine editors, think-tank gurus and assorted ideologues who, in Washington at least, have a massive say in the shaping of foreign policy.

How did it all begin? An important part of the story, though not the whole of it, is the special relationship between the United States and Israel. Warren Bass's important and timely book, *Support Any Friend*, written with candour and firmly-rooted in primary sources, takes us back to the diplomacy of the 1960s, and to what he argues were the beginnings of today's extraordinarily intimate alliance between the United States and Israel.

It is in effect the story of how Israel and its American friends came to exercise a profound influence on American policy towards the Arab and Muslim world. Bass believes it all began with JFK. It is an interesting thesis and he argues it well, although in my view at least, the U.S.-Israeli entente actually began with LBJ, after Kennedy's assassination.

The neocons - a powerful group at the heart of the Bush administration - wanted war against Iraq and pressed for it with great determination, overriding and intimidating all those who expressed doubts, advised caution, urged the need for allies and for UN legitimacy, or recommended sticking with the well-trying Cold War instruments of containment and deterrence.

War it had to be, the neocons said, to deal with the imminent threat from Saddam's fearsome weapons which, as Tony Blair was rash enough to claim in his tragicomic role as Bush's "poodle", could be fired within 45 minutes of a launch order.

Where did the information for his remarkable statement come from? How reliable was the pre-war intelligence reaching Bush and Blair?

The finger is increasingly being pointed at a special Pentagon intelligence cell, known as the Office of Special Plans headed by Abram Shulsky, which was created after 9/11 by two of the most fervent and determined neocons, Paul Wolfowitz, Deputy Defence Secretary, and Douglas Feith, Under Secretary of Defence for Policy, to probe into Saddam's WMD programmes and his links with Al Qaida because, it is alleged, they did not trust other intelligence agencies of the U.S. government to come up with the goods.

It has been suggested that this special Pentagon intelligence cell relied heavily on the shifty Ahmad Chalabi's network of exiled informants. If evidence was indeed fabricated, this may well have been where it was done.

'Bush Doctrine' emerges

One way of looking at the decision-making process in Washington is to see it as the convergence of two currents or trends. The first was clearly the child of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, which both traumatised and enraged America, shattering its sense of invulnerability but also rousing it to "total war" against its enemies in the manner of a Hollywood blockbuster.

Perhaps because they had more experi-

ence of wars and terrorist violence, Europeans were slow to comprehend the visceral impact of these events on the American psyche.

Suddenly mighty America was afraid - afraid of mass-casualty terrorism; afraid of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction; afraid that "rogue states" might pass on such weapons to nebulous, elusive, fanatical, transnational terrorist groups such as Al Qaida, enabling them perhaps to strike again with even more devastating effect.

The aggressive National Security Strategy of September 2002 sprang from these fears. It proclaimed that containment and deterrence were now stone dead; that the U.S. had to achieve and maintain total military supremacy over all possible challengers; that any "rogue states" which might be tempted to acquire WMD would be dealt with without mercy by means of preventive or preemptive war.

Under this "Bush Doctrine", the United States gave itself the right to project its overwhelming power wherever and whenever it pleased, to invade countries it disliked, to overthrow their regimes, and transform hostile "tyrannies" into friendly - read pro-American - "democracies". It was a programme for global dominance, driven by the perceived threat to America but also by a modern version of imperial ambition.

The second overlapping trend - overlapping because many of the same people were involved - was more narrowly focused on Israel in its conflict with the Palestinians and its Arab neighbours.

Right-wing Jewish neocons - and most prominent neocons are right-wing Jews - tend to be pro-Israel zealots who believe that American and Israeli interests are identical, even inseparable (much to the alarm of liberal, pro-peace Jews, whether in America, Europe or Israel itself).

Friends of Ariel Sharon's Likud, they tend to loathe and despise all Arabs and Muslims. For them, the cause of "liberating" Iraq had little to do with the well-being of Iraqis, just as the cause of "liberating" Iran and ending its nuclear programme - recently advocated by Shimon Peres in a Wall Street Journal editorial - has little to do with the well-being of Iranians. What they wished for was an improvement in Israel's military and strategic environment.

The Iraq crisis has made their names and organisations familiar to every newspaper and magazine reader: Wolfowitz and Feith, numbers 2 and 3 at the Pentagon; Richard Perle, former chairman and still a member of the influential Defence Policy Board, sometimes known as the neocons' political godfather and around whom a cloud of financial impropriety hangs; Elliott Abrams, senior director of Middle East affairs at the National Security Council with a controversial background in Latin America and in the Iran/contras affair; and their many friends, relations and kindred spirits in the media, such as William Kristol and Robert Kagan of *The Weekly Standard*, and in the numerous pro-Israeli think-tanks, such as Frank Gaffney's Centre for Security Studies, the American Enterprise Institute, the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs, the Project for the New American Century, the Centre for Middle East Policy at the Hudson Institute, the Washington Institute for Near East Policy (born out of AIPAC, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee) and many others.

As has been observed by several commentators, 9/11 provided the neocons with a unique chance to harness (some would say hijack) America's Middle East policy - and America's military power - in Israel's interest by succeeding in getting the US to apply the doctrine of preemptive war to Israel's enemies.

Reform of Middle East

This trend rested on a mistaken, indeed willfully tendentious, analysis of the attacks which the U.S. had suffered - not just the body blow of 9/11, but also the numerous earlier wake-up calls such as the suicide bombing of two U.S. embassies in East Africa or the attack on the USS Cole in Aden harbor.

The basic neocon argument was that terrorist attacks should not in any way be read as the response of angry, desperate men to what America and Israel were doing to the Arab and Muslim world, and especially to the Palestinians. Quite the contrary; America was attacked because the terrorists envied the American way of life. America was virtuous, America was "good".

The real problem, the neocons argued,

lay not with American policies but with the "sick" and "failed" Islamic societies from which the terrorists sprang, with their hate-driven educational system, with their inherently "violent" and "fanatical" religion.

So, rather than correcting or changing its misguided policies, the U.S. was urged to "reform" and "democratise" Arab and Muslim societies - by force if necessary - so as to ensure its own security and that of its allies. Wars of choice became official American policy.

Concerned to ensure Israel's continued regional supremacy, and at odds with what they saw as distasteful opponents, such as Islamic militancy, Arab nationalism and Palestinian radicalism, the neocons argued that the aim of U.S. policy in the Middle East should be the thorough political and ideological "restructuring" of the region.

Exporting "democracy" would serve the interests of defending both the United States and Israel. A "reformed" Middle East could be made pro-American and pro-Israeli. All this seems to have amounted to an ambitious - perhaps over-reaching - programme for Israeli regional dominance, driven by Israel's far-right and its way-out American friends.

First candidate

Iraq was the first candidate for a "democratic" cure, but the need for this doubtful medicine could just as well justify an assault on Iran, Syria, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, or wherever a "threat" was detected or America's reforming zeal directed. Immediately after 9/11, Wolfowitz clamoured for the destruction of Saddam Hussain's Iraq.

This was a cause he had advocated unsuccessfully throughout much of the 1990s. But the accession of the neocons to positions of power, the fear of more terrorist attacks, and the president's combative instincts now made what had been a Dr. Strangelove scenario appear quite doable. No scrap of evidence, however, could be found linking Saddam Hussain to Osama bin Laden.

Nor did Iraq pose an imminent threat to anyone, least of all to the U.S. or Britain. Exhausted by two wars, it had been starved by a dozen years of the most punitive sanctions in modern history.

Hans Blix's UN arms inspectors had roamed all over the country and acquired a good grasp of its entire industrial capability. They had found no evidence that Saddam had rebuilt his WMD programmes.

They would have certainly liked more time to look further and make quite sure. This was the view of most European experts. Meanwhile, Arab leaders had buried the hatchet with Iraq at the Arab Summit in Beirut of March 2002.

All Iraq's neighbours wanted to trade with it, not make war on it. In the atmosphere of reconciliation which then prevailed, even Kuwait did not think it seemed to admit that it still longed for revenge for Saddam's 1990 invasion.

There were, however, plenty of reasons why Israel and its friends in Washington wanted Iraq "restructured". Saddam had dared fire SCUDs at Israel during the 1991 war and, more recently, he had been bold enough to send money to the bereaved families of Palestinian suicide bombers, whose homes had been flattened by Israeli reprisals. These "crimes" had gone unpunished.

Moreover, in spite of its evident weakness, Saddam's Iraq was the only Arab country which might in the long run pose a strategic challenge to Israel. Egypt's government had been neutralised and corrupted by American subsidies and by its peace treaty with Israel, while Syria was enfeebled by internal security squabbles, a faltering economy and fossilized political system.

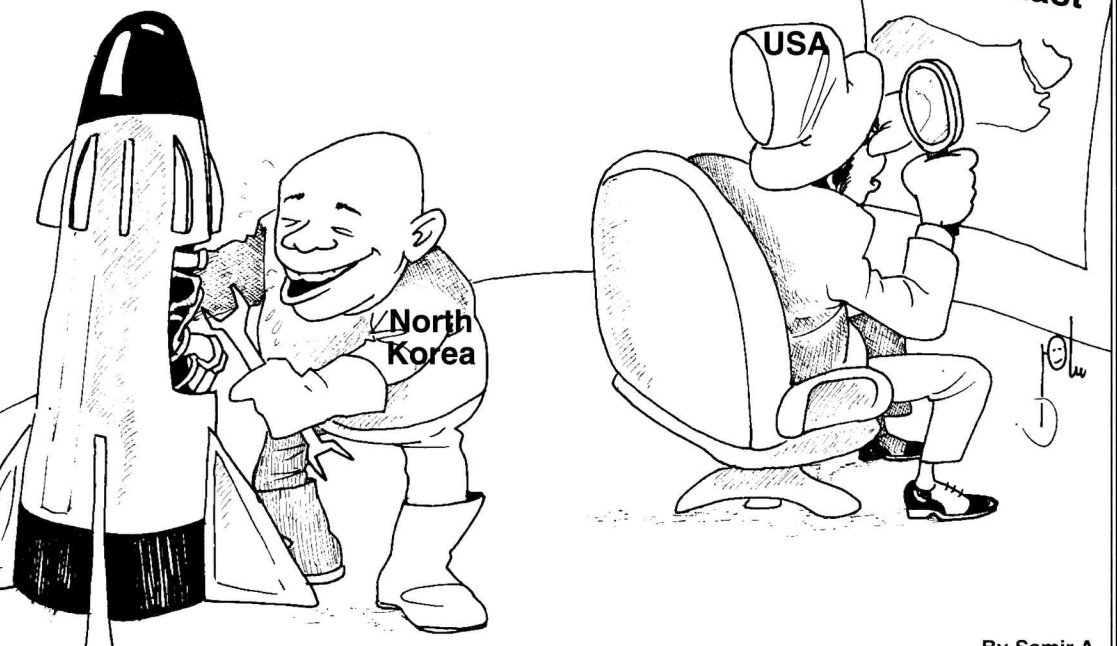
The Iraqi leader had to be brought down. His fall, the neocons calculated, would change the political dynamics of the entire region. It would intimidate Tehran and Damascus, even Riyadh and Cairo, and tilt the balance of power decisively in Israel's favour, allowing it to impose on the hapless Palestinians the harsh terms of its choice. Some neocons were already envisioning an Israel-Iraqi peace treaty as a bonus by-product of the war.

High watermark

These concerns, in addition to control of Iraq's oil resources, rather than Saddam's alleged WMDs, were the real aims of the war against Iraq. They were embraced by the United States to assuage its own fears and restore its sense of absolute power.

WMD disarmament

SKETCHED OPINION



By Samir A.

But what made the attack possible - the motor behind it - was one over-riding fact of American political life: the U.S.-Israel alliance, as close a relationship between two states as any in the world today. The Iraq war was in fact the high watermark of that alliance.

Warren Bass seeks to establish that the foundations of the U.S.-Israel alliance were laid by the Kennedy administration. He even gives a precise date - August 19, 1962 - for the start of the military relationship as we know it.

On that day in Tel Aviv, Mike Feldman, the deputy White House counsel and Kennedy's indefatigable contact man with Israel and American Jews, met secretly with Ben-Gurion and Golda Meir and told them that "the President had determined that the Hawk missile should be made available to Israel."

The Israelis were ecstatic. The Kennedy decision destroyed the Eisenhower embargo on the sale of major weapons systems to Israel. "What began with the Hawk in 1962," Bass writes, "has become one of the most expensive and extensive military relationships of the postwar era, with a price tag in the billions of dollars and diplomatic consequences to match."

The Hawk sale is therefore the first pillar of Bass's case for saying that Kennedy was the father of the U.S.-Israel alliance. The second is what he describes as Kennedy's "fudge" over America's inspections of Israel's secret nuclear weapons plant at Dimona in the Negev.

Although ingeniously and entertainingly argued with a wealth of detail, the thesis is not conclusively proven. As a matter of fact, the Kennedy team, with the exception of Feldman and his friends, did not want a special military relationship with Israel, fearing that it would trigger a regional arms race.

Kennedy was not taken in by Ben-Gurion's histrionic description of Nasser, the Egyptian leader, as a cruel aggressor bent on Hitlerian genocide. He knew Israel was strong enough to deal with any Arab threat. He didn't believe it needed the advanced weapons and the formal American security guarantee Ben-Gurion requested. He told Ben-Gurion firmly that he did not want to be the U.S. President that brought the Middle East into the missile age.

Kennedy was in fact attempting to reach out to Nasser whom he recognised as a nationalist, and not a communist. He feared that giving Israel preferential treatment might push the Arabs into the arms of the Soviets.

In turn, the State Department's Middle East experts saw no good reason for the United States to change its arms policy towards Israel. As an internal memo put it, "To undertake, in effect, a military alliance with Israel would destroy the delicate balance we seek to maintain in our Near East relations."

Nevertheless, Kennedy finally approved the Hawk sale, which Eisenhower had refused two years earlier. But he seems to have done so against his better judgement. He was eventually worn down by Israel's persistent and systematic exaggeration of the Egyptian menace, and more particularly by Shimon Peres' ability, based on chillingly detailed knowledge of internal administration debates, to play off the Pentagon and the NSC against the State Department.

Bass's case is also arguable regarding Dimona. Far from turning a blind eye to what was evidently going on there, JFK was totally opposed to Israel getting the bomb and was prepared to disregard the views of the American Jewish community on the matter.

In the spring of 1963 he warned Ben-Gurion in the sharpest tones that (in Bass's words) "an Israeli refusal to permit real Dimona inspections would have the

gravest consequences for the budding U.S.-Israeli friendship." He wrote Ben-Gurion two scorching letters, on May 18 and June 15, threatening that "this Government's commitment to and support of Israel would be seriously jeopardized" if Israel did not permit thorough inspections to all areas of the Dimona site.

Ben-Gurion and his successor Levi Eschcol lied through their teeth to Kennedy about Dimona but, as Bass writes, Kennedy was preparing to force a showdown. Had he not been assassinated on November 22, 1963, he was on course for a confrontation with Israel.

Father of alliance

The fudge came later with Lyndon B. Johnson, who was far less concerned than Kennedy with nuclear proliferation. Skirting the issue of Israel's nuclear ambitions, Johnson approved the sale to Israel of large numbers of American tanks and warplanes even before the 1967 blitzkrieg, which propelled the Jewish state to stardom, pumping a large segment of the American Jewish community full of confidence, ambition and even arrogance.

Lyndon B. Johnson was the true father of the U.S.-Israel alliance. It was he, rather than Kennedy, who "set the precedent that ultimately created the U.S.-Israel strategic relationship: a multimillion-dollar annual business in cutting-edge weaponry, supplemented by extensive military-to-military dialogues, security consultations, extensive joint training exercises, and cooperative research-and-development ventures."

Bass raises the intriguing possibility that the Hawks were never really intended, as Ben-Gurion pleaded, to defend Israel's air bases from a knock out blow by Nasser's MiGs, but rather as a perimeter defence to protect the Dimona nuclear weapons plant. Some indirect corroboration of this thesis was later to emerge.

In delivering its own knock-out blow to Egypt's airforce on the first day of the 1967 war, Israel lost eight jets in the first wave of attack. One wounded plane came limping back to base in radio silence. It wandered into Dimona's air space, and was promptly shot down by an Israeli Hawk missile.

From 1967 onwards there was no stopping the extravagant blossoming of the U.S.-Israel relationship and the parallel creation and financing of what Norman G. Finkelstein has controversially called the "Holocaust industry". If Johnson had been the father of the alliance, Henry Kissinger was to be its sugar-daddy.

In 1970, he invited Israel to intervene in Jordan when a beleaguered King Hussain asked for U.S. protection. Syrian troops had entered the country in support of militant Palestinians then engaged in a trial of strength with the little King.

Israel was only too happy to comply with this most irregular request. It made some much-publicised military deployments in the direction of Jordan. Emboldened by this support, Hussain's own forces then engaged the Syrians, who quickly withdrew. Hussein's army was thus left free to slaughter the Palestinians.

Rather than seeing Black September as the local tiff that it actually was, Kissinger blew it up into an "East-West" contest in which Israel had successfully faced down not just the Syrians but the Russians as well. This was the real launch of the U.S.-Israel "strategic relationship" in which Israel was entrusted with "keeping the peace" in the Middle East on America's behalf - and was lavishly rewarded with arms, aid and a cupboard-full of secret commitments directed against Arab interests.

Kissinger adopted as America's own the main theses of Israeli policy: that Israel had to be stronger than any possible combination of Arab states; that the Arabs' aspiration to recover territories lost

in 1967 was "unrealistic"; that the PLO should never be considered a peace interlocutor. His step-by-step machinations after the October War of 1973 were directed at removing Egypt from the Arab line-up, exposing Palestinians and other Arabs to the full brunt of Israeli military power.

Ariel Sharon's invasion of Lebanon in 1982 - in which some 17,000 Palestinians and Lebanese were killed, triggering the birth of the Hizballah resistance movement - was a direct consequence of Kissinger's scheming.

In 1970 Israel received \$30m in U.S. aid; in 1971, after the Jordan crisis, the aid rose to \$545m. During the October War of 1973 Kissinger called for a \$3billion aid bill, and it has remained in the several billions ever since.

'Friends of Israel'

In due course the U.S. Congress was captured by AIPAC - in Bass's phrase, "the purring, powerful lobbying machine of the 1980s and 1990s" - while the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, founded in 1985 by Martin Indyk, an Australian-born lobbyist for Israel, set about carefully shaping opinion and placing its men inside the Administration.

Dennis Ross, Indyk's colleague at WINEP and a high-level negotiator for Bush I, became Clinton's long-serving co-ordinator of the Arab-Israeli peace process; he rarely failed to defer to Israel's interests, which is one reason the peace process got nowhere. He has now returned to WINEP as its director and continued advocate.

But nothing in the history of the U.S.-Israel alliance has equalled the accession by "friends of Israel" to key posts in the current Bush administration, and their determined and successful struggle to shape America's foreign policy, especially in the Middle East - including the destruction of Iraq.

The nagging question remains as to what the special friendship has achieved. Have the wars, security intrigues and political showdowns of the past decades really served Israel's interest?

A student of the region cannot but ponder these questions: What if the dovish Moshe Sharett had prevailed over the hawkish Ben-Gurion in the 1950s? Sharett sought co-existence with the Arabs whereas Ben-Gurion's policy was to dominate them by naked military force, with the aid of a great power patron - ideas that have shaped Israeli thinking ever since.

What if the Occupied Territories had truly been traded for peace after 1967 (as Ben-Gurion himself advised, with rare prescience), or after 1973, or after the Madrid conference of 1991, or even after the Oslo accords of 1993? Would it not have spared Israelis and Palestinians the pain of the intifada, with its miserable legacy of hatred and broken lives? Has the triumphalist dream of a "Greater Israel" (which James Baker III, for one, warned Israel against) proved anything other than a hideous nightmare, infecting Israeli society with a poisonous dose of fascism?

The U.S.-Israel alliance is officially and routinely celebrated in both countries, but its legacy is troubling. Without it, Israel might not have succumbed to the madness of invading Lebanon and staying there 22 years; or to the senseless brutality of its treatment of the Palestinians; or to the short-sighted folly of settling 400,000 Jews in Jerusalem and the West Bank, who are now able to hold successive Israeli governments to ransom.

An inescapable conclusion is that the intimate alliance, and the policies that flowed from it, have caused America and Israel to be reviled and detested in a large part of the world - and to be exposed as never before to terrorist attack.

The writer is a British writer and consultant on Middle East affairs.

The hazardous delivery

BY MAHAMOUD DUALEH
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

Presumably, you must have felt the bliss of getting a new baby sibling, or a new baby infant. Well, a week and a day ago I, Jesse Carpenter, had the pleasure of getting a new baby sibling: a sister, actually. I was picturing in my mind how cute she was going to be. The numbers of pictures of my baby sister racing through my mind were practically infinite. To decipher how it went from absolute contentment to total depression in just the modest instant you would have to read the rest of this account.

"I wish she comes soon," I said excitedly. Getting a new baby sister is rewarding in so many ways. First of all, you get to teach them what's right or wrong. You could have the bare privilege of seeing them grow up. In a way, its practice for when, or if, you ever get a child of your own.

"How do you think he, I mean she, will look, Jesse? Do you think she will look anything like me?" My sister, Julia, asked quizzically, yet, very excitedly. "Yeah, Jules, I do think she will look quite like you," I answered very calmly. Even though I was acting normally, I was also really excited. The thought of having a new baby sister was just too thrilling.

My unaccompanied period was ruined because of the phone ring. "I'll get it!" I yelled while hurrying

ing to the phone. When I reached it I picked up the handle and said, "Hello?" I could have heard familiar sobs in the background by then. "H-h-hello?" My aunt said trying to hold her tears back. "What happened?" I asked with a quite raised voice. "Jesse, you have to arrange the b-bab-by's stuff-fff." Then she burst into tears. "Just calm down and tell me what happened from the beginning." I said quietly. "No time!" My aunt shrieked and hung up very violently. What could have possibly happened? All I could have done at that moment was packing my sister's belongings.

In about ten minutes my aunt came with my uncle from the hospital. My aunt had tears slowly dripping down her face. She was trying to cover up her dreadful heavy sobs. It made me just want to cry, but I held back my tears enough for my aunt to say, "Jesse, t-the doctor-r said t-hat-t," then she burst into tears again. My uncle took my aunt inside the house and told me to wait in the living room.

"What could have possibly happened?" I thought. "The baby couldn't have died because she wanted the baby's things. Maybe, no that would be crazy, but it could happen. What if my mom died?" And I continually was deeply thinking about all of these possible dreadful matters.

My uncle came back in about two minutes. He told me that my mom was going to get an operation because the baby has the cord, the umbilical cord, wrapped

around its neck twice. He said, "We are still waiting for the answer from the doctor. I wish everything is fine." So my uncle kissed me on my forehead and took off.

I was waiting for the dreadful moment that my uncle will call and tell me the good news, or the bad news. So, I was passing up and down the living room. All the content-filled moments with my mom were flashing through my eyes. I could see everything. I was not going to let my mom die. Not right now.

"Jesse is mom going to be alright?" my sister asked. "Yes, Julia, mom is going to be alright." I answered with a lot of confidence. Then I saw my aunt came in with total happiness in her face. How could she be so happy? Then it stroke me. My mom made it. Then my aunt, Elizabeth by the way, said, "Jesse, Julia, your mom went through the terrible operation!" She exclaimed excitedly. The happiness that filled my face that instant was just unbearable. I was terribly glad that my mom was able to live the operation. Even though she was going to be in for the next three days I was still the most blissful guy on this planet.

When my mom finally came back from the hospital we welcomed her with a huge party. Well not that big, but she was still happy for all that we did. To prove that she said, "You know, when I was in the hospital all that I could think of were you. All you guys went rushing through my mind."

Marriage arrangements

By Fahmi Ameen Al-Absi

In some areas in Yemen, marriage is a family rather than a personal affair because males and females in those areas do not mix socially. Young men and women have few or no chances to get acquainted with each other. Traditionally, parents arrange marriages for their sons or daughters. Finding a mate is done through either their own social contracts or professional match makers. Some Yemeni

tribes strictly observe the principle of "Kafaa" which is interpreted as no woman may marry a man whose family is inferior to the social status of her family.

In case of finalizing marriages, representatives of the bride's would negotiate the marriage contract arrangements with the groom's representatives. According to law, the future husband and wife must express their consent, but they usually take no part in the arrangements taken in the process of completing the agreement of their marriage. The marriage is

concluded by the bridegroom's and the bride's male representatives rather than by the bride herself. The contract establishes the terms of the marriage and outlines appropriate recourse in the event these terms are broken. Special provision inserted into the contract becomes binding to both parties. Men, of course, exercise authority in the marriage home. A man may marry more than one wife and he may divorce his wife at his will. Children belong to the husband's family and stay with him in case of divorce.



Your way to success

BY AHLAM MOHAMMED NAJI AL-ASKERI

Success. This word seems to be normal any other one, but if you consider it well you will find how it is really different. The matter is that it has a great meaning and wide-range of things that everyone wishes to have in his life, particularly in one's practical one.

We want to know to what extent people can be successful in their lives. Unfortunately many people can not be successful as they desire. There are many reasons for that, but to offer an advise to help people who want to end up a stage of their lives and substitute it with a life full of success and ambitions, is a task let's call it the success process.

Suppose that you are dissatisfied with yourself in any field whether in your job or at school, you just have this kind of feeling that you are always the worst, most of the time you come up with late performance and you really want to change but it looks difficult, if not even impossible. You may choose one of two, the first one: you are going to forget about being successful because you think you are not from this type of people and you can not be one of them. The result in this case you are going to be a loser all your life by destroying all your chances.

The second recommended way that you take the risk to change and become another person. I am saying take the risk because it is not that easy unless you are so determined to succeed. We have different stages;

we will talk about them step by step:

1- Realizing the real current situation: You need in this stage to take a careful and an objective look at yourself, how you are doing in your work, study, and relationships with others. You may reach a decision that you have to improve all those aspects, so you will work on that, get all your concentration to focus on this matter, think inside yourself about what you have done and what is still to be done. This step should not make you hopeless.

2- Creating a new way of thinking: Consider all the negative points in your life. Ask yourself why "I am doing all these things however, I am completely sure that they are wrong, they do not benefit me at all but I am still doing them," here the mind will give messages that there is something supposed to be wrong but you are doing it, there is no necessity to

do this but it is done. By time you will find your compulsiveness about doing this negative thing goes down to a certain level. This step could be more effective if the mind agrees with the feelings.

3- Your goals: Every person should have goals in his life, looming ahead before his eyes. Without aims you are lost, so you must specify some significant goals and try to classify them according to their importance. In other words you need to have priorities in your life.

4- Positive thinking: It happened that a man went to a woman who claimed to know many things and then she told him that he is one of the grandsons of Napoleon Bonaparte, the man was so happy. After many years he saw the woman again, went to her and said "thank you because you told me that Napoleon Bonaparte is my grand father now I

am a very successful man"

"Who are you?" the woman asked him. So that means she was not honest with him and he was not one of Napoleon Bonaparte's grandsons but he had achieved great things by the positive thinking about himself. Be sure to get positive thinking all the time, keep telling yourself "I can do it, I am capable to do this, and I will make it." This kind of words will enhance your ability and increase your success rate, and always create an image of yourself as a successful person.

5- Making the right decision: Once there was a man who was asked "What is the secret behind your success?"

"Right decisions" he replied. "Where do the right decisions come from?" they asked again. "From experiences in life" he answered. "Where do experiences come from?"

they asked. "From wrong decisions" he said. Making the right decision could be little hard for those people who do not have any experiences in life, but they should stop making decisions because they will never learn. One has to follow certain steps to get the most appropriate decisions like the following; take a decision, put alternatives for it, make for every alternative a possibility, then choose the best possibility and make your decision to change yourself.

6- Changing the lifestyle: Try to avoid anything that could make you go back and implement everything

that will make you more ready for brighter future, even if they are simple things. They could affect. For example wake up early, and go to work or school while you are optimistic because this has an impact on what will happen in your entire day.

After all these steps become part of your life you will definitely feel that you have done something was not possible in the past. This feeling will encourage you to keep going on the right track till you make all your dreams come true. Remember "ability is nothing without opportunity", so give yourself this opportunity by implementing what leads to success.

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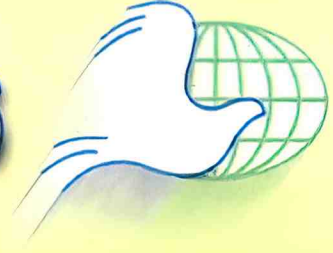
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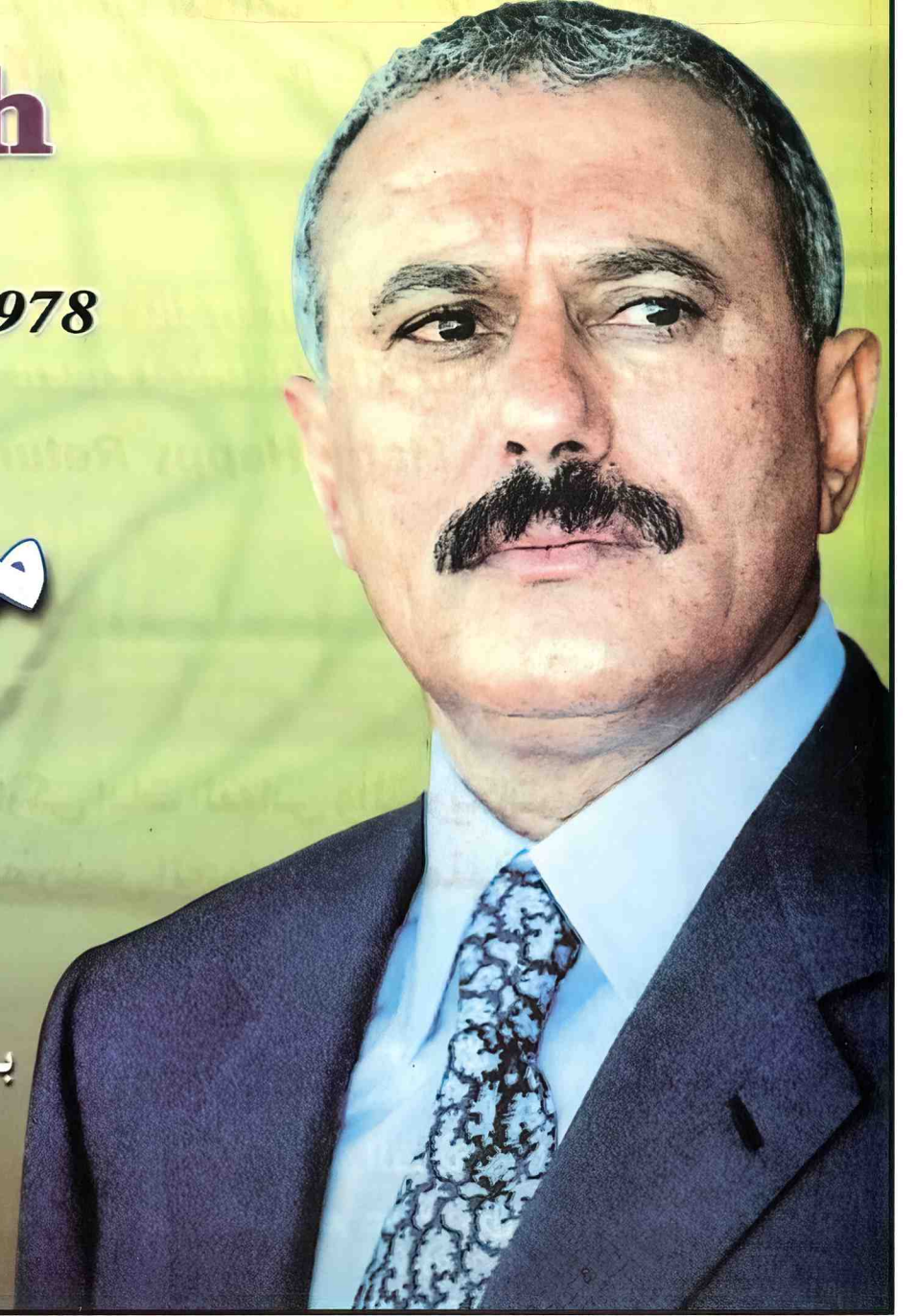
Many Happy Returns

مجموعة شركات العالمية

تتقدم بخالص التهاني والتبريكات لفخامة رئيس الجمهورية

علي عبدالله صالح

بمناسبة مرور ٢٥ عاما على توليه قيادة اليمن في السابع عشر من يوليو ١٩٧٨م
تحية ورسالة شكر وعرفان ووفاء لما قدمه لليمن من تطوير واستقرار للبلاد
وكل عام وإنتم بخير،،،



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وأطيب التبريكات
إلى فخامة رئيس الجمهورية

علي عبدالله صالح

بمناسبة مرور ٢٥ عاما على
توليه قيادة اليمن في السابع
عشر من يوليو ١٩٧٨م
تحية ورسالة شكر وعرفان
ووفاء لما قدمه من تطوير
واستقرار للبلاد

**M
B
E**



An introduction to the Internet

Basics of HTML (2)



ADNAN A. AL-HARAZI
ACADEMIC HEAD
NCC EDUCATION,
YEMEN CENTER

Referring to previous lessons, we said that web pages are actually HTML files. **HTML** stands for **HyperText Markup Language**, the most used programming language in formatting Internet web pages. There are several versions of HTML. The latest version is HTML 4.0. **HyperText** here means the text that references another text in a nonlinear method. You click over links in form of words or images to move from one source to another in the Internet. **Markup** here means putting text, images or pictures along with tables in one page in an understandable way. And finally, **Language** means programming language. It worth bearing in mind that there are other languages used in web pages designing but HTML was the first and still the dominant language.

Controlling Line Spacing

We said in the previous lesson that the `<body>` tags define the body or text of the page. All the content which is intended to be read goes between these tags. For example, any thing that you type between the opening and closing body tags will be displayed in your web page. The inserting of images, adding tables or buttons will be done also in between of these body tags. In brief, most of the coding work should be in between the body tags. Ok, if you type any text in the body part of the page it will be displayed in the top left corner of the page. If you tried to add spaces or blank lines in the HTML code to make the text appear in specific place it will not work. The text will appear again in the top left corner. It is not possible to control line spacing by adding blank lines in HTML source. This must be done by using explicit tags. You can use the break tags `
` `</BR>` to make the text jump into a new line. For these tags you can just use the opening tag. Another tags used for line space controlling are the paragraph tags `<P>` `</P>`. These tags make the browser format the text surrounded by the tags into a paragraph with appropriate formatting at the beginning and end of the paragraph. Let's go back to our example from last lesson and add the new tags we just learned as in fig1.

```
1 <HTML>
2 <HEAD>
3 <TITLE> Yemen Kids On-line
</TITLE>
4 </HEAD>
5 <BODY>
6 Welcome <BR>to Yemen
Kids On-line Web site
7 <P> Please enjoy the site
and if you have any
8 comments please send them
to
9 ayatharazi@hotmail.com
</P> <P> The site
10 was designed by Yemen
Times readers </P>
11 </BODY>
12 </HTML>
```

Fig 1

The new tags that I added to our "index.htm" file are in bold here to make them easy to locate. Notice, don't add the numbers, I use them as references in the discussion. To add these new tags open the file from last week lesson and just add the new lines with the new tags. Save the file and go browse it. You browse the file by going to the folder where it is saved and click over it. In line 6 the break tag will make the rest of the sentence jump into a new line. In line 7 I started a new paragraph by using the paragraph tag `<P>`. What ever the number of lines you type between the paragraph tags, they will be formatted as one paragraph.

Controlling Fonts

By using HTML you can change the attributes of the font used in the web page. You can change the style of the font or you can change the color or size of the font. To make the text in bold you can use the bold tags `` ``. Any text between these tags will be displayed in bold. Another HTML tags that can be used to format text is the *italic* tags `<I>` `</I>`. Any text in between of these tags will be in *italic*. By the way, you can apply as many tags as you can for any part of your web page. Let's apply these new tags for the word "Welcome" in line 6 in our example. Add the tags as follows:

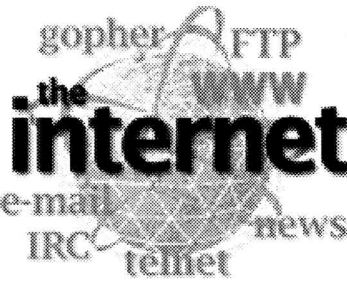
```
<B><I> Welcome </I></B>
```

Save the new changes and browse the file. Notice the word "Welcome" text is bold and italic. Ok how about the font style? You change the font style by using the font tags `` `` and this tag has some attributes that you can change. These attributes are the font style, the font size and the font color. You can use them all at the same time or you can just use any of them as needed.

Let's go again to the word "Welcome" in our example and try to change the font attributes. Change line 6 to the following:

```
<FONT face="Andalus"
size="4" color="#FF99FF"><B><I>
Welcome </I></B> Welcome
</FONT>
```

Save the file and browse it. The word "Welcome" will look pinky and size of it is 4 and the type of the font is "Andalus". Size of the font of any text in a web page can be left to be the default which is different from a browser to another. In our example we change the font size to 4. The font size should be selected carefully to make the web look readable and organized at the same time the face of the font is about the type of the font you want to format the text. There are many types of fonts. The most common ones are TIMES NEW ROMAN, ARIAL and others. Selecting the type of the font depends on the designer's taste or viewpoint. Color of the font is the most exciting part of the font attributes. For the text we are changing I selected the color "FF99FF". What kind of color is this? And can't we just use the regular expressions for colors like "Red" or "Blue"? Well, the pattern value used for the color is actually made of three parts. These format is what we call hexadecimal numbers type where FF=255. The three parts in this number are representing the percentages



of RED, GREEN, and BLUE in this color. These types of colors are what so called RGB colors. We can write the same number in decimal format so the new value will be 255.99.255. The red color in hexadecimal format will be FF.00.00. The green will be 00FF.00 and the blue will be 0000FF. The white color will be FFFFFFFF and the black will be 000000. In between the white and black values you can get millions of colors. Notice you have to add the "#" sign before the color code. If you don't like to use this color codes, you can just use the regular color words like "red" or "blue" etc.

Alignment of Web pages Objects

For controlling the place where we want the text, images or any object alignment tags can be used. These tags are `<CENTER>` `</CENTER>` to place the object in the center of the horizontal, `<LEFT>` `</LEFT>` to place objects in the left side of the line and `<RIGHT>` `</RIGHT>` tags to place the object in the right side of the line. For example to place the word "Welcome" in our example in the center of the line, the line 6 in the code will look as follows:

```
<FONT face="Andalus"
size="4"
color="#FF99FF"><B><I><CEN-
TER> Welcome </CENTER>
</I></B> Welcome </FONT>
```

Don't worry if line 6 gets bigger even if the code moved to the next line. As you can see above, the code could split over two lines or more and no problem with that.

Headings

Headings come in six different levels as follows:

```
<H1> </H1>
<H2> </H2>
<H3> </H3>
<H4> </H4>
<H5> </H5>
<H6> </H6>
```

"<H1>" tag is the biggest header, and "<H6>" is the smallest header. Let's try these new tags. Again for the word "Welcome" in our example, let's make it look as a header. In line 6 I will add the header tags biggest size as follows:

```
<FONT face="Andalus"
size="4"
color="#FF99FF"><B><I><CEN-
TER> <H1> Welcome </H1> </CEN-
TER> </I></B> Welcome </FONT>
```

You see programming in HTML starts small and then gets bigger when you add more tags to it. If you have any questions about the lessons please send me an e-mail to ayatharazi@hotmail.com.

Next week: more and more in HTML

Literature in the University Curriculum of the Education Faculties in Yemen (PART 1)



BY DR AYID SHARYAN
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This is in response to the article *The Importance of Teaching English Literature in Schools* by Mohammed Aziem Al-Bashir in Yemen Times 10 July, 2003, where he tries to argue that literature is language. This response shows that Yemen Times has been a forum for a wide readership to share ideas on several pertinent issues facing the academic community and the country at large in Yemen.

The Importance of Teaching English Literature in Schools came from not a pen-and-theoretician in his ivory tower. In fact I share Al-Bashir's ideas in toto, and agree with him. As a teacher of literature at the University of Sana'a I present my perceptions about the English literature teaching scenario at the tertiary level.

I will begin by referring to four authentic discussions regarding teaching literature in Yemen at the university level. Last week I was one of a team working on revising the content of the syllabus for the Department of English, at the University of Science and Technology. Some language teachers in the meeting seemed to believe that literature courses should be substantially cut down in view of the perceived needs of students in the future. Some questioned the validity of literature in learning the language. Their logic is that students need to study skill courses (speaking, listening, reading and writing) and this will make students better users of English. In addition to this, students, according to their belief, need to study some courses in linguistics (say phonology, phonetics, contrastive analysis, transformational, generative grammar, human and animal communication, and the list goes on). This view is not limited to this particular situation. In Aden University, the second example, there has been a lot of discussion and workshops regarding the revisions of courses at the Department of English, particularly the literature course. The assumption is that the literature component should be reduced. The third example is from Sana'a University. Some time ago there was some kind reshuffling of the literature courses at the Department of English, Faculty of Education, Sana'a. Suggestions were put forth that modern literary texts should be taught at lower levels for the simplicity of language. Courses that contain archaic language demanding more conceptual and linguistic knowledge are to be taught at advanced level in BA program. Later I made some kind of revisions for the content of these courses and started to implement these ideas in a graded systematic way in the series (*English Literature Textbooks Series*) referred to by Al-Bashir in his article last week. The fourth example is from the MA Program at the Department of English, Faculty of Education, Sana'a again. There was a proposal to include some literary courses in the program. The idea presented by literature teachers at the department was not so much welcomed by the language teachers, reflecting the same prototypical thinking that literature is not going to help the target students since they belong to Faculty of Education.

For a while I thought that these people who held views against literature are right. I was trying to put myself in their place and see the matter from their point of view. Perhaps because of the industrial and business orientation and in an age of consumerism things are seen from the perspective of supply and demand. The graduates who master English language skills according to the recipe mentioned above would be better speakers of English and will be accepted in the market. To me education is an investment. It is not a luxury. We need to produce high quality products from our departments of English that can be accepted both locally and internationally. I thought whatever serves my students' needs and enables them to have strong com-

mand of the target language should be welcome. Therefore if a corpus of literature is not needed, we need to modify the curricula of Humanities Colleges that graduate such teachers.

Before I read *The Importance of Teaching English Literature in Schools* by some one in the field of teaching, I had thought of the matter for quite some time. "Is literature language?" is a question of great significance. The argument of people against literature implies that literature is not language. What else is language, if not literature? Dr Mahmoud Al-Muktari from Ibb University, Department of English, has a pertinent question in this context 'Is it language or literature?' The simple answer that is universally accepted is that literature is nothing but language that reflects the highest form or multidimensional meanings in that language. Therefore I thought it in order to highlight the issue from a real life experience as a teacher of literature and from the viewpoints of an expert in the field. (Informed responses for this article are, of course, welcome).

Literature plays a vital role in learning English not only at the university but also in schools as Al-Bashir has suggested. The role of literature in the learning process cannot be underestimated. Some language teachers feel hesitant to use literary texts in the language classroom for unjustifiable reasons. Kramsch (1994: 7-8) is of the opinion that "teaching language is constantly viewed as a less sophisticated, hence less difficult, task than teaching literature." Perhaps literature is a little more demanding but no doubt more rewarding. The ultimate objective of learning language is to be an able speaker/ user of the target language. If that is the aim, the teaching literature certainly enhances and fulfills this objective.

Literature does not present words out of contexts, idioms and syntax in artificial language but in real authentic text and context. It is an intellectual exercise on how these words, phrases or sentences are made; it is a real interpersonal interaction between the writer and the reader, between the character and the other character though in a sort of 'mock reality'. The life-counterparts of those imaginary characters would use similar language if placed in such intricate situations. Literature then is the recorded language of those characters and the highest level of thought and imagination of the writers. It is 'a slice of life' or a cross-section of everyday language and behavior of the target language. Any tailored material that would be presented in the language skill courses would be wanting if compared to a narrative poem of Robert Frost or a short story of Hemingway, for instance. In addition to this, any course in phonetics, morphology or syntax is bound to say something about the language under discussion more than teaching the language itself. One can study word formation and memorize dictionary words but he won't be able to communicate effectively or understand the varied shades of meanings of words if not exposed to the literature which embodies the experience, tradition, religion and culture of the target language. However, if the person is only trained in the area of language (theoretical part), he would not be able to respond to the intricacies of real everyday language that is rooted in its culture and literature. How can a learner respond to the figurative language of allusions, ironies, paradoxes, understatement and the sound devices, let alone foregroundings, syntactic inversions, deviations from norms, of the target language if not exposed to the cream of that language (literature)? Literature, it is true, is the language of the elite, but that does not mean it is not related to everyday interaction in so far as literature is a fusion of language and concept at the same time. The conceptual and linguistic levels of the literary text make it more challenging to dismantle its intricacies and complexities of the literary texts in itself so as to yield the desire enjoyment for students.

To be concluded next week

Poetry Corner

Begin afresh, Begin Afresh...

BY DR ANIL K PRASAD,
Associate Professor & Head, Department
of English, Faculty of Arts,
Ibb university)

One late afternoon
When I was
On my usual stroll
Through
The comfortably
Crowded streets of
The Green Governorate
A raindrop
Randomly fell
On my forehead
And it was a surprise
To see the sky
Without a fleck of cloud!
"Is it going to rain?"
"I don't think so," said she
Who has always
Been walking
Beside me.

Then what was that?
Today I travel back
To know what was that
That day walking
Down the track
I had a feeling
Of displeasure.

An infinitesimal globe
Of life: a raindrop
Fell on my forehead
And conveyed quietly
A message of hope
Caressing me
To go ahead and heed
The bell
That marks the end
But as well
Of the start
Of a new period...

Forget not, my dear students!



ARIF AHMED
AL-AHDAL,
DEMONSTRATOR, EDUCATION
COLLEGE, HODEIDAH
UNIVERSITY

In the present age of globalization
Knowledge is the only wealth
But wealth is only one fruit of the tree
The gardener nourishes the plant,
waters it and gives it nutrition.
Only then does the plant blossom
into a tree
And reaches its fruition.
The tree which bears the maximum
fruits
Bows down its head to the very
ground
And a tree which has no fruit is
always straight
Proud and hollow from within.

Such an ordinary tree after achiev-
ing immense growth
Only raises his egotistic head to the
sky
As if he were second to none on
the earth
But it is only proud and is without
any intrinsic worth
Wealth ought to be considered
Not an end in itself
But only a means,
In pursuit of divine spirituality

Forget not, my dear students,
That you are the loveliest plants of
the garden
The gardener-teacher has fertilized
you
And you will definitely bear whole-
some fruits.

Take the lesson from the humble
tree
With its branches lowered modestly
In front of anybody and every
body.

You ought to be like that humble
tree
You ought to be meek and docile
After achieving learning and
knowledge
Which the teacher has imparted to
you.

Wealth can bring you material joy
But it has to be used by you
To gain inner peace and spiritual
bliss
Learn to be as glorious as the hum-
ble tree.

Dedicated with sincere love
and affection to my dear stu-
dents in the Modern Language
School, Hodeidah.

Name: _____
Age: _____ Province: _____
Tel: _____



This week's question:

What is the difference between the break tag `
` and the paragraph tag `<P>`?

Your answer: _____

Those who send the correct answer (along with all the required information) will have the chance to win a free computer course at NCC after the draw. The date of the draw will be announced later

Contributions, including articles views and comments for publication in this page may please be addressed to:

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Local Press

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr



Al-Shoura weekly,
organ of the Union of
People's Forces in
Yemen, 13 July 2003.

Main headlines:

- Security men continue for the fifth week arresting worshippers who condemn Israel in the grand mosque
- Huttat gunmen continue regrouping themselves despite the interior ministry denial
- Haider al-Attas: I pray for the president not give a chance for the skeptical on sincerity of intentions of the amnesty decree
- Head of the "Terror- fighting Organization" arrested on charges of fraud

Columnist Alawi al-Ashwal says in his article that it is too early to predict the government's ability to implement mandatory programs governed by time periods. Regarding the economic program the question is whether this government can work simultaneously for realizing a high growth rate and a strong position of the balance of payments under the economic policy of the free market through carrying out an effective role in running the economic activity and rather organizing that activity in collaboration with the private and mixed sectors.

It is believed that the first thing supposed to be done is a quick re-valuating of the basic features of the market economy depending on the background of the prevailing system and failure of former governments in implementing the then so-called the policy of price reform and the market economy. The writer of the article sees the necessity of adapting with effects and variables and restraints to attain the suitable way for tackling the economic problems. This should be based on a group of factors. There must be

an utmost benefit from all economic resources, the degree of efficiency in the use and distribution of resources, protection of sectors in need of it and breaking the monopolies that deform the operation of distributing resources. There should be a motivation of capitals and channeling them towards new productive fields and monitoring the propaganda means that lead to creation of fabricated circumstances for a certain merchandise and deluding the consumer.



Al-Thawra daily 15 July 2003.

Main headlines:

- Shoura Council discusses chemical safety
- Chairman of Shoura council receives the U.S. ambassador to Yemen
- Ibb court of appeal adjourns studying the case of killing American doctors till Monday
- Yemen parliament call on the German parliament to help in release of al-Mouyad and Zaid
- One American soldier killed, seven others wounded in two attacks in Baghdad

The newspaper editorial is devoted to talk about the 17 of July the 25th anniversary of president Ali Abdulla Saleh assumption of his post in 1978. The editorial says the past 25 years were of the most fertile stages of giving, development, accomplishments and construction. Despite all the circumstances and factors that Yemen had gone through during this period permeated with difficulties and hindrances, president Saleh has been bearing the concerns and woes of his people and dealt with his responsibility with his sincerity, hard work and wisdom. Against the true determina-

Main headlines

- People complain of double rise in electricity and water bills
- Draft law on raising ministers' salaries by 150 percent
- Policemen beat a secondary school student
- Eritrea detains 277 Yemeni fishermen in two months
- Large-scale campaign to buy weapons from citizens

tion the march of construction surmounted all difficulties and accumulations. President Ali Abdulla Saleh managed to domesticate the turbulent reality through the spread of the spirit of dialogue and social reconciliation so that the homeland could come out from traps of conflict and prepares the way for means of stability that paved the way to the unity and the roads for realizing it. All those tasks did not preclude him from speeding up the steps of development and effecting the essential change in the sectors of industry and economy, oil exploration

and expansion in agricultural production, in addition to educational, health, electricity and drinking water projects.



Al-Isbou weekly, 10 July 2003.

Main headlines:

- Tribes hinder demarcation of borders between Yemen and Saudi Arabia
- Two people from the group of Hutat arrested in Aden and Abyan
- American delegation continues inspection of security measures at

Yemeni sea ports

- Arab meting on fish wealth to be held in Sana'a late this month
- Mediation to calm down armed clashes in Sana'a

Columnist Ali al-Maqri says in his article that he does not agree with some politicians an intellectuals regarding their stance versus the question of Arab unity as an urgent priority for the current Arab situation. He argues that there were many Arab rulers who called for the unity and confronting the enemy in an attempt to escape from their internal problems and crises who they were the cause of them. Despite that all political realities confirm the impossibility of Arab rulers agreement and heir changing the slogan of unity into reality and practice due to the nature of their regimes, we read and hear some people demanding those rulers to put the question of unity as a priority. Those usually offer many justifications and reasons for their demand but in reality they are siding with those despotic rulers under this priority or that of confronting the enemy that is conspiring on the Arab nation unity.

Now it is necessary to demand the possibility of founding free political and economic relations among the Arab countries founded on joint interests, as is he case with the successful regional relations all over the world, and to place democracy as an urgent priority to the unity. If democracy is established in every Arab country where the citizen is granted his political, economic and social rights without falsification, it would then guarantee finding a modern renaissance the interests of which are to be integrated with the regional and national environment without the need of slogans.



Annas weekly, 15 July 2003.

Main headlines:

- Citizen from Dhamar kills a person and mutilates his body
- MP al-Samiee criticizes parliament performance, expects conspiracy against him
- Parliament Speaker: It is of the president's interest to represent all.
- Communications minister instructs halting telephone services of false companies
- The president opens psychiatric hospital in Sana'a

Columnist Nasser Yahya says in his article that he has earlier proposed to import electoral committees to run and oversee the elections in our country after failure of Yemeni officials in guaranteeing honesty of the elections. Two weeks ago the prime minister Abdullqader Bajammal announced that there was no objection on importing judges to run the judiciary process as long as our judges are not performing their tasks in the required manner. The author of the article says his proposal was not given due attention but as for the prime minister's remark it has aroused resentment of some Yemeni judges and many of them expressed amazement at such a proposal. The important thing about the prime minister's remark is the principle. It is the rule of importing officials from abroad, in case of failure of their Yemeni counterparts in performing their duties. In this way the Yemeni people can stick to the premier's proposal and ask for importing a full government staff as long as the majority is convinced that those in charge of the executive power are either inefficient or corrupt.

World Press

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

Egypt

Al Ahram

Chief of Egyptian security intelligence Omar Suleiman is due in the West Bank city of Ramallah Tuesday on a lightning visit, during which he will meet with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas.

Al Akhbar

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak is to receive Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov, who will arrive in Cairo Wednesday from Beirut.

The minister will convey a message to President Mubarak from Russian President Vladimir Putin on the latest

developments in the Middle East as well as means of boosting peace opportunities for the region.

Al Gomhuria

A Egyptian presidency statement issued Monday reiterated the country's support for a swift transfer power to the Iraqi people to preserve the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The Egyptian Gazette

Khartoum is to host the meeting of the Egyptian-Sudanese Higher Committee. The forthcoming meeting will focus on reviving economic integration projects between the two countries.

Britain

The Independent

British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw stood accused of misleading the public over the threat from Iraq Monday night after he cited evidence that Saddam Hussein was trying to build a nuclear bomb without saying it was 12 years old.

The Daily Telegraph:

British Prime Minister Tony Blair's plans for a new world order in which advanced nations would take armed action to remove brutal or failed

regimes were blocked Monday by fellow center-Left leaders.

The Times

British Oxford and Cambridge universities were on Monday told to modernize or face government intervention in the way they manage their affairs.

Financial Times

French President Jacques Chirac used Bastille Day Monday to call for a "temporary softening" of the European Union's stability pact to make it more flexible and stimulate growth.

Germany

Die Welt

US Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld admitted for the first time that attacks against American troops in Iraq are organized.

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

French President Chirac on Monday called on members of the euro zone to loosen the restrictions in the stabilization pact.

France

Le Figaro

In his traditional July 14 national day speech, President Jacques Chirac mentioned three objectives of the state: continue to cut taxes, reform the education and grant aid to cultural creation.

Le Monde

Unsurprisingly, French President Jacques Chirac called for dialogue while remaining determined on reforms. On foreign policy, he welcomed Washington's initiatives in the Middle East while urging Europe to do more in this field.

La Tribune

In a move that angered Europe's smaller countries, French President Jacques Chirac called for a "relaxation" of the rules fixed in the 1997 Pact of Stability and Growth that underpin Europe's single currency to allow governments to stimulate economies that are close to recession.

Japan

Yomiuri

The Japanese government is set to conclude a status of forces agreement with Kuwait, envisaging that the Air Self-Defense Forces will be based in the nation to transport goods to help rebuild Iraq.

Asahi

A total of 31 Japanese were infected with hepatitis viruses via donated blood between April and June.

Pakistan

Dawn

President Pervez Musharraf and his Tunisian counterpart Zine El Abidine Ben Ali on Monday agreed to increase economic cooperation to match the excellent bilateral ties existing between the two countries. Musharraf is on a week-long visit to Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco.

The Nation

The United States, Pakistan and Afghanistan will hold crucial talks in Kabul Tuesday in the wake of escalated tension on the Durant Line and border clashes between Pakistani and Afghan troops.

The News

Pakistan said Monday it will not accept any conditions from India for holding the South Asian Association Regional Cooperation summit in Islamabad scheduled for January next year. India would like to see progress on South Asian Preferential Trade Arrangement.

India

The Hindustan Times

India on Monday rejected Washington's request for a division-level force of around 15,000 combat troops to act as part of the US-led "stabilization force" in Iraq. The government made it clear that it was willing to "consider" the deployment of Indian troops in Iraq if there was "an explicit UN mandate" for it.

The Times of India

The Bush administration expressed its disappointment at India's decision not to send troops to Iraq but added that bilateral ties would not be affected. The decision was received with surprise in Washington as Indian Ambassador Lalit Mansingh met senior Pentagon officials as late as Friday to review the Iraq situation.

The Hindu

Two-and-a-half year old Pakistani girl Noor Fatima's open heart surgery has been "tentatively fixed" on Wednesday, July 16. Her parents, nervous about the delicate procedure that lies ahead, have also had to deal with intense media attention.

Nigeria

The Guardian

The first batch of 1,000 west African peacekeepers from Nigeria, Ghana and Mali are expected to arrive in war-torn Liberia at the end of July, with a Nigerian military chief as force commander.

This Day

President Olusegun Obasanjo on Monday convened a high-level security meeting to discuss the continued vandalization of oil pipelines and bunkering in the Niger-Delta region which has cost the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation about 7.7 billion naira (about 60.15 million US dollars).

Vanguard

The Anambra State House of Assembly expunged on Monday from its records Thursday's proceedings on the purported resignation of Governor Chris Ngige and declared that its decision mandating Deputy Governor Okey Udeh to take over the administration of the state was taken in error.

Kenya

Daily Nation

A newly-finished research shows that Kenya is ranked the third in genetic engineering research in Africa, just behind South Africa and Egypt.

The People

The United Nations World Food Program has said that millions of

Sudanese currently receiving food aid may have their rations cut by half unless the UN body receives new donation within the next few weeks.

Kenya Times

A total of 20 people die on the spot Monday morning when a minibus and a lorry collided head-on along central Kenya's Sagana-Nairobi road.



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presents its warmest congratulations to

**H.E. President
Ali Abdullah Saleh**

On the occasion of the 25th anniversary since he
started leading Yemen on 17 July 1978

We present him a message of gratitude,
appreciation, and indebtedness for all that he
has given Yemen for progress and prosperity

شركة انتراكس

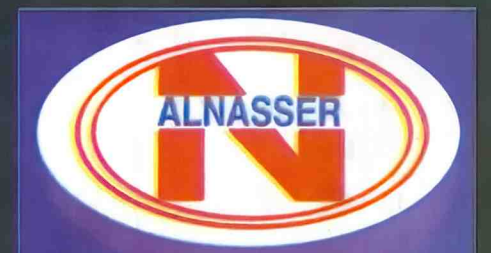
تتقدم بأحر التهاني وأطيب التبريكات
إلى فخامة رئيس الجمهورية

علي عبدالله صالح

بمناسبة مرور ٢٥ عاما على توليه قيادة اليمن في
السابع عشر من يوليو ١٩٧٨م
تحية ورسالة شكر وعرفان ووفاء لما قدمه
من تطوير واستقرار للبلاد

عبدالله ناصر الخراز

رئيس مجلس الإدارة



INTRACS



Armstrong survives big Tour scare

By FRANCOIS THOMAZEAU

GAP, France (Reuters) - Lance Armstrong has survived his biggest scare since winning his first Tour de France in 1999 after his leading rival, Spaniard Joseba Beloki, crashed in front of him near the end of the 184.5km ninth stage to Gap.

The American's bid to win a record-equalling fifth Tour was nearly ruined when Beloki, runner-up last year and second in this year's race, lost control after his tyre blew on the melted tarmac surface.

Armstrong was forced to swerve past the stricken ONCE team leader and into a dusty field before crossing a ditch and rejoining the race.

Beloki, in obvious distress, was helped by team mates before being taken to hospital in an ambulance.

Tour doctors later confirmed that he had broken his right leg near the hip and also sustained wrist and elbow fractures.

"I had never been that scared. Real panic. In a moment like that, it's only a reflex of survival," said the Texan.

The American, who survived a near-fatal cancer to win the first of his four Tours in 1999, kept his overall lead after taking the yellow jersey in l'Alpe d'Huez on Sunday.

But Kazakh Alexandre Vinokourov, who



The pack of riders tackle the French Alps during the 184.5km ninth stage of the Tour de France cycling race between Bourg d'Oissans and Gap on Monday. US Postal team rider Lance Armstrong of the USA presently holds the overall race leader's yellow jersey. REUTERS/Vincent Kessler

won the stage in Gap after breaking away on the last of the day's four climbs, the La Rochette hill, is now hot on his heels.

Vinokourov, winner of the Tour of Switzerland, is now only 21 seconds behind Armstrong going into Tuesday's 219-km 10th stage to Marseille.

"It's really magnificent. It's my fourth Tour and I really wanted to win a stage. That day has come and I'm very happy," said the Kazakh, a former winner of the Dauphine Libere and Dunkirk Four Days.

Aggressive tactics

Beloki, who said after Sunday's stage that he would keep attacking Armstrong all the way to Paris, paid dearly for his aggressive tactics.

He tested the Texan on the last two climbs of

the day, the St Apollinaire and La Rochette and was leading a furious chase to catch Vinokourov.

When his tyre blew up, there was nothing the 29-year-old Spaniard, who finished on the podium in his three Tours, could do to stay on his bike.

"The road was in a very bad state because of the heat and it was not safe to go down at that pace," Armstrong said.

"His tyre exploded and it was impossible for him to stay on his bike. I had to do a little bit of cyclo-cross in the field but I had the scare of my life," he added.

The crash was all the more upsetting for Beloki as he had once again looked the main threat to the American.

When Vinokourov made his move on the La

Rochette climb, he took the chase in hand with Armstrong behind him, hoping to bridge the gap.

As it was Vinokourov won his first Tour stage in just over five hours, with a 36-second lead over Italian champion Paolo Bettini and Spaniard Iban Mayo, winner in l'Alpe d'Huez on Sunday. Armstrong sprinted to finish fourth in the same time.

Earlier on the stage Spaniard Aitor Garmendia took the day's big climb, the 2,360-metre ascent of the Col d'Izoard before Jorg Jaksche briefly threatened Armstrong's overall lead.

The German, 10th before the day's stage, three minutes and 19 seconds behind Armstrong, was part of a small escape group that built up a six-minute lead on the peloton.

England jump to third in one-day ratings

LONDON (Reuters) - England, West Indies and New Zealand have leapt up the International Cricket Council's one-day ratings after recent wins.

After starting the season in eighth position England jumped to third while West Indies moved to fourth, one point behind.

At the top of the table Australia's lead over South Africa is extended to 16 with Ricky Ponting's side increasing their rating by two to 134 points and South Africa dropping two after losing to England.

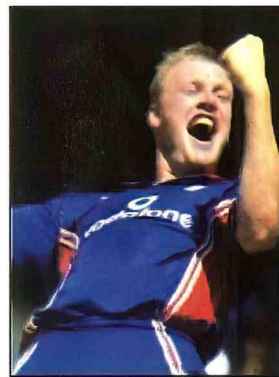
India and Pakistan tumbled down the table due to the removal of games played between August 2000 and July 2001 from the system.

Ratings (previous position in brackets)

Tabulate under team, rating, rating change:

1. (1) Australia 134 + 2
2. (2) South Africa 118 - 2
3. (7) England 107 + 4
4. (6) West Indies 106 + 3
5. (8) New Zealand 106 + 3
6. (4) Sri Lanka 105 - 1
7. (3) Pakistan 105 - 3
8. (5) India 104 0
9. (9) Zimbabwe 63 - 3
10. (10) Kenya 28 0
11. (11) Bangladesh 3 - 1

Where ratings are equal the calculation is refined to three decimal places to determine the higher-ranked team.



Andrew Flintoff celebrates taking the wicket of South Africa's Sean Pollock during their triangular one-day series final at Lord's. England, West Indies and New Zealand have leapt up the International Cricket Council's one-day ratings after recent wins. REUTERS/Russell Boyce



Once team's Spanish rider Joseba Beloki grimaces in pain after crashing during the 9th stage of the Tour de France cycling race between Bourg D'Oisan and Gap. Beloki, who was second of the overall standing was almost hit by US rider Lance Armstrong who was riding immediately behind him. REUTERS/Bruno Fablet

Kournikova away till mid-August

By MATTHEW CRONIN

OAKLAND, California (Reuters) - Anna Kournikova will not be back playing regularly on the WTA Tour before the middle of August and may miss the U.S. Open because of a persistent back problem, her agent has told Reuters.

The 22-year-old Russian player has informed organisers of WTA events scheduled for the next two weeks at Palo Alto and San Diego that she will not be taking up wild cards, her agent Phil Depicciotto said on Monday.

"She won't play the Canadian Open in

Toronto (starting on August 11) but, if she's feeling better, may ask for a wild card into New Haven, which starts the week before the U.S. Open," he added.

The U.S. Open begins on August 25.

Kournikova has a chronic sprain of the lumbar spine, a condition which is inoperable.

"Anna is unable to play a consistent tour schedule with her back the way it is now and unless there is a marked improvement, her schedule will remain uncertain," said Depicciotto.

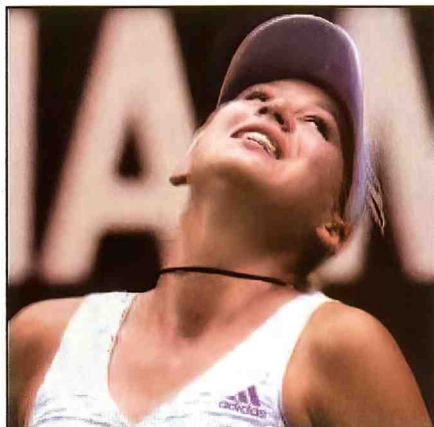
Kournikova is planning to get back on court this week, playing doubles and mixed

doubles at a "World TeamTennis" exhibition event in Pennsylvania.

"After this week, she'll know a lot better how she feels," Depicciotto said. "But even if she feels better, she's not in good enough shape to play regular tour events yet."

Since injuring her back at the Australian Open in January, Kournikova has only played a handful of tournaments and last competed at a challenger tour event in Charlottesville in mid-May.

The Russian attempted to play a grass court tournament in England ahead of Wimbledon but aggravated her back injury in practice and was advised to take four-to-six weeks off.



Anna Kournikova will not be back playing regularly on the WTA Tour before the middle of August and may miss the U.S. Open because of a persistent back problem, her agent has told Reuters. Kournikova is shown in a January file photo at the Australian Open in Melbourne. REUTERS/David Gray

7-Day Weather Forecast

Sana'a			Aden		
Day	Hi	Lo	Day	Hi	Lo
Thu	29	13	Thu	41	27
Fri	28	13	Fri	40	28
Sat	28	13	Sat	39	28
Sun	27	13	Sun	38	27
Mon	27	13	Mon	39	26
Tue	26	11	Tue	37	26
Wed	26	11	Wed	37	27



THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY BY Eugenia



Aries
(Mar 21 - Apr 19)

You can recoup some of your losses today. Check out business and investment opportunities or move some of your money into a fund that is more conservative.



Taurus
(Apr 20 - May 20)

Prepare to meet new people. Join a new organization that can hook you up with people who have the same interests and concerns.



Gemini
(May 21 - Jun 20)

You may not please everyone by putting in extra time at work, but your efforts will pay off. The ideas you implement will be unique. This is a perfect day to work on something requiring detail.



Cancer
(Jun 21 - Jul 22)

You can expect to receive a letter, package or some interesting news today. Take a little time to catch up on phone calls. The more you fit into your day, the better.



Leo
(Jul 23 - Aug 22)

A chronic health problem may act up today if you are under stress or overly tired. You are in control, so stop letting other people take advantage of you.



Virgo
(Aug 23 - Sep 22)

Your personal life may be shifting a little. Keep your private affairs to yourself. Someone could take advantage of you, so protect your interests.



Libra
(Sept 23 - Oct 22)

There may be changes going on around you, but if you continue to do your best, you will not be subject to any setbacks. Use your ingenuity. Avoid getting drawn into gossip.



Scorpio
(Oct 23 - Nov 21)

You owe yourself a little rest and relaxation. Self-improvement projects will pay off. Your peers will approve of your ideas if you are sophisticated in your approach.



Sagittarius
(Nov 22 - Dec 21)

Don't let anyone know what you are really thinking. You are probably way off track and could embarrass yourself if you get jealous. Find out all the facts before you take action.



Capricorn
(Dec 22 - Jan 19)

Adaptability will be your key to success today. Make plans to spend time with friends. You can expect to receive something interesting in the mail.



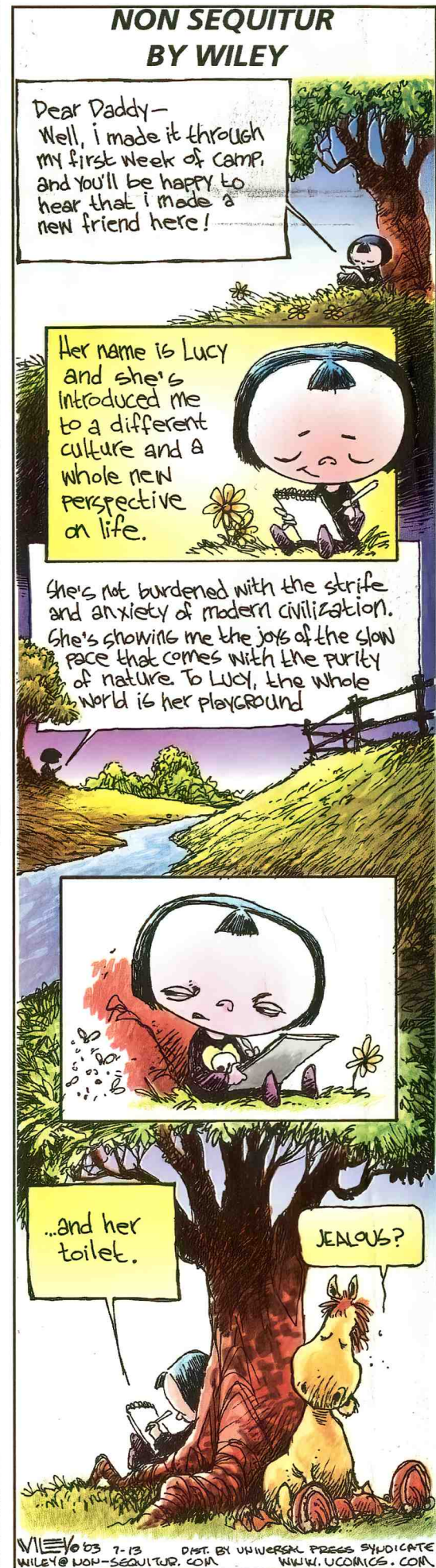
Aquarius
(Jan 20 - Feb 18)

Changes are happening all around you. Take a look at the job market and apply for some interesting positions. You can stay ahead of the game.



Pisces
(Feb. 19-March 20)

The information you discover today will lead to a higher earning ability. Educational pursuits or an apprenticeship will pay off. Prepare to do a bit of traveling.



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Villa No. 143 - Tel 264263, Fax:263234

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■ Al-Nasim Cargo Forwarders for packing, customs clearance, domestic & international forwarding air & sea. Contact: Al-Nasim cargo forwarder.
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■ ITS Global Logistics, Tel: 967-1-218142 (5 lines) Fax: 967-1209940, Email: itsgroup@y.net.ye
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■ Yemen International school requires qualified teachers for the following positions: science teacher(10,9,8,7 grade) Arabic teacher(3-6th), Quran/islamiyat(6-10th), please send CV's to fax No. 422506 with your current telephone No.

■ A school is looking for a native speaker teacher of English. Please call at: 73218155 if you are interested.

■ SCCL Sana'a requires five males Yemeni Nationality Bachelor/Master holders on Translation with IT/Tech/Medical/Pharmacy as Marketing Executives Trainees. Attractive Packages! walk-in-interview with c.v. Tel: 254586

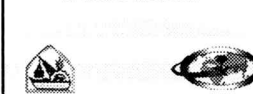
■ A School is looking for a Math and Science teacher. If any is interested please call : 73218155

■ Wanted 1. Electronics Engineer, or medical spare parts engineer, 2 to 3 years stationary experience. 2. An engineer or a university graduate in marketing computer softwares, at least 4 years experience at this field, Fluent English (speaking and writing). Interested applicants should forward their CVs to the following Fax: 274119, Mr. Faysal, Sana'a

■ Wanted Sales Manager,

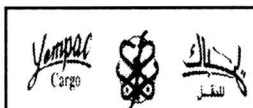


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Email: redsea@y.net.ye.
Hadda Complex B. 6. P.O. Box:19227,Sana'a, ROY.

Having a university certification on Mechanical Engineering, Experience on sales and air conditioning aspects not less than 3 years, Fluent in English and Arabic (speaking and writing), Yemeni citizens preferred, Interested People should forward their CVs to the following Fax: 448399.
■ Wanted Secretary: excellent communication skills Arabic and English, Typing Arabic and English. Good knowledge of internet, must have at least 3 years of experience in commercial field. Computer literate. Tel. 01-467831/2/3/4, Fax: 647835.

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■ house maid available with good English Arabic language, does The House/Office cleaning, also good at cooking please contact 7907328

■ I've completed a bachelor of English studies, I've got the experience in teaching English in schools and in private education institutes, I've got a diploma in secretariate, experience at translation, fluent at English language, "reporting, evaluation, and supervision, follow up and leadership, please contact Mr. Mohamed Saleh at 04-241197

■ Abdulkareem Abdo Al-Fakeh fluent at English (American accent) good with computers prefer to work for American companies here in yemen phone: 7179294, email: kareem16ye@yahoo.com

■ A retired Yemeni well qualified freelance Arabic to english translator available in aden, documents send for translation (Max 500 words) will be completed within 48hrs, payment negotiable. call at 02-232500 anytime during working days and working hours or plot 90/8 sharia

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saihot, khormaksar, Aden
■ Secondary School graduate-studying at Sana'a university-level one faculty of commerce, one and a half years experience in sales, good command at english, knows to speak Indonesian language, please call at: 7902397, 674-787

■ specialized diploma in English and computer attended many extensive training courses in sales and administration attains, Ten years experience at executive and administrative works, please contact ahmed at 71935350 or 7311682

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■ Highly Qualifies and experienced Teacher available to teach TOEFL, SATS and IELTS to prospective students desirous of gaining Admission to foreign universities. Mr.Asim Phone: 73819434.

Real Estate

■ A building for rent, consists of 18 apartments, located at Haddah St. in front of Shamar Hotel, for more information please contact Tel: 71110023

■ Villa consist of two floors with stone tiles courtyard part of it garden, the two floor consist of eight rooms, one saloon, 2 big halls, two kitchen, four bathrooms, four telephone lines, located at haddah st. next to french embassy, Sana'a, please contact Mr. Salem on 504811/12

■ For rent: Spacious 3rd and 4th floor villa with open floor plan 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, living room, dining room, kitchen and 3 sitting rooms, everything large, partially furnished, large 12 libna, backyard with two car entry/exit points please contact mobile:73776101 for English and 73707731 for Arabic.

■ Supper Lux Two Story+full basement Villa, located at Haddah, near world bank, consist of large living room, family room, 4bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, and open dining room, contact Mr. Ahmed Muraisi on :7902784.



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المسوري، سيار: ٧٣٣٠٠٢٠٠٠

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ت: ٢٤٣٢٥٩-٢٤٠٣٨٩ ص: ١٨٣٣٥

■ One story+ full basement, large living room, dining room, family room, 3bed rooms, 3bathrooms, large guards room, and cars parking. Located at Haddah Monthly rent of \$1,000, please contact Mr. Ahmed Muraisi.

■ Available for rent New Villa , good location. Next to the new Asbahi City, behind the presidency Palace, two floors, with big yard, guard room and a toilette. Good to be an office, or a company or big house. The Rent Rate is \$500, please contact Mr. Ah-Sharif Tel: 71730651.

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■ Diplomat selling Toyota Corolla 1987 Compact model car, sparingly used, Duty paid. Expected price US\$ 3000 (negotiable). Contact M. Vasudevan, Tel. 441251/252.

■ For sale: KIA car model 91, in a very good condition with a prize of 330.000 YR, please contact Mohamed on Mobile: 71921072.

■ To buy: Cressida car, Model 90-92, Please contact Mohammed Ahmed on Mobile: 71105666

■ To buy: 92 model Mercedes benz Around 900,000 Reysals contact: Mr. Shiply Al-shamiry, 71277523.

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■ For sale: A lap top Dell company P4, in a very good condition, 512 Ram, 1700 GHZ, 30 GB hard disk, cd Rom, DVD, Cd writer, with a prize of 1400\$, ready for negotiation, please contact Mr. Ali Saleh Ali, on : 71286716.

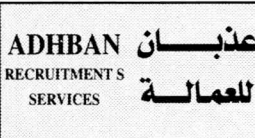
■ Needed Laptop Computer P3 or P4 in good condition. Contact: Mr. Waddah 73741479

Home/Office Equipment

■ For sale: Dental X-Ray, Sterile, light cure, amalgamator, Contact: Mobile: 71127988

■ For sale: A washing Machine and Refrigerator.
Contact: Mr. Abdo Subeay,

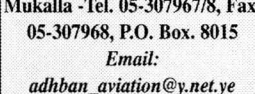
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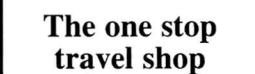
Email: adhban_aviation@y.net.ye



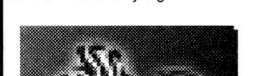
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م. نصار المحفدي

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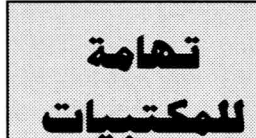
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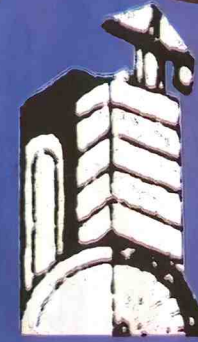
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We present him a message of
gratitude, appreciation, and
indebtedness for all that he has
given Yemen for progress and
prosperity

نقدم بأحر التهاني والطيب التبريكات
إلى فضيلة رئيس الجمهورية

علي عبد الله صالح

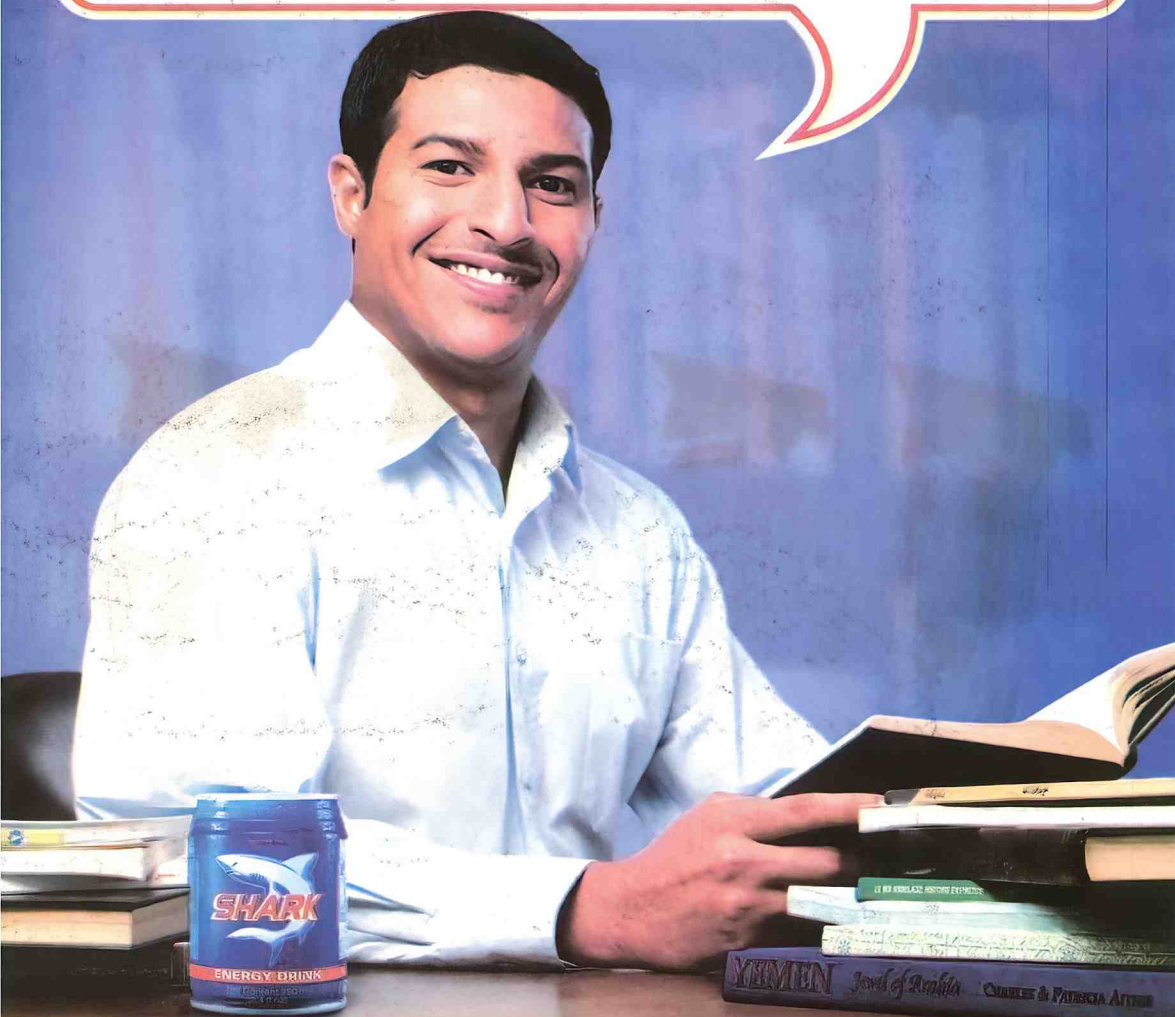
بمناسبة مرور ٢٥ عاماً على توليه قيادة
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أول شركة يمنية تقوم بتعبئة المياه
في قارورة صحية من مادة (بي.إي.تي)



Karesh area:-

Virgin land abandoned

BY FAROUK MOQBIL
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

Close to the Aden-Taiz highway to the north-east of Bait Hameem area, lies al-Howaima natural hot springs.

The area is approximately 2 km from the main highway. The area is separated by a route formed as a result of the downpours coming from lofty mountains surrounding the area heading for Lahj governorate. One can reach the natural hot springs through a dirt road.

electricity, hotel services, or cafes, except a very small news agents' shop.

"No visitors or foreigners have stopped being seen here," people say. Despite of its alluring geographical importance, the area is administratively and technically isolated.

Good for therapy

Perhaps, we are in a country where tourism industry hasn't yet improved or that it might be completely wiped out of our memories.

We see with our own eyes some attractive areas which are in reality

of great tourist importance and that the Karesh area is among those sites.

What is needed is just an asphalted road which doesn't exceed approximately 2 km along with water outlets.

In order to utilize this strategic spot, essential services, such as electricity, telecommunications, cafes and clubs are also needed.

Ahmed Saif, Ibb governorate, said: "It is regretful to see such conditions deteriorating. Karesh has been still a virgin land. If it is well exploited, millions of rials can be gained.

The land of Karesh along with its

natural hot bathing springs and the natural tooth - cleansing stick has featured the area of the availability of those two elements.

Scientists say that the natural cleansing stick for teeth has medical properties good for teeth.

Doctors warn against the excessive use of artificial toothbrush because it causes gingivitis and other diseases. It contains mineral substances and natural but sour taste useful for bad smells coming out from mouth. The fresher the teeth stick is, the better the mouth becomes.

More sorrow than in anger, the Arak tree has been exposed to danger and random use by inhabitants.

Perhaps, the depressing faces of the habitants there, their deteriorating living conditions have made the people turn a blind eye to those two uninvested treasures.

The big problem is that natural hot spring is threatened to be lost as a result of laying a claim over it.

The Yemen of today is in a bad need of the profits of tourism at all levels either at the level of national economy or improving the ways of life or that of the environment and keeping it clean.

All this makes lots of duties, responsibility as well as challenges on part of the government and its concerned bodies.

It requires the government to sin-

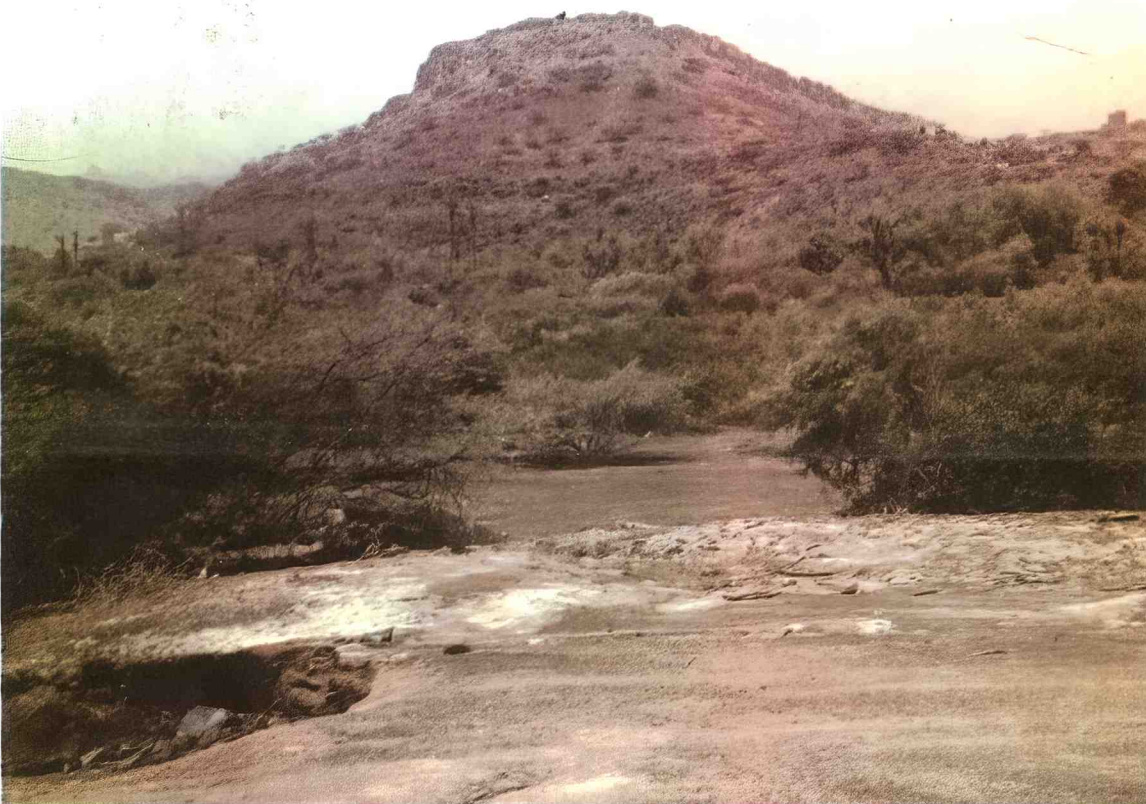
cerely and positively move towards establishing an effective policy whose fruits will yield in the near future.

It should also exert efforts to avoid any anticipated negative effects or that ones faced on its way of constructing and developing tourism industry in Yemen.

The negative effects may result

from different reasons such as the low-level of planning and absence of government supervision.

If we cast a look on the countries that have got ahead of Yemen in the tourism drive, we will see the great profits those countries have made from tourism. Their economies have actually flourished and become very prosperous.



Arak trees, scattered over Kerish area

The area is famous for Arak trees, (its roots used for cleaning teeth) that grow alongside the road.

Both, boys and girls earn their subsistence allowance by selling natural cleaning sticks for teeth, shampoo, and other wildlife reptiles for passenger on the Aden-Taiz highway.

In the early morning, one can find such people representing different Yemeni cities.

The first thing that comes to your mind is that the inhabitants are deprived of the essential services.

Only mud-built rooms can be seen along with a warm water cistern used for swimming.

Men can bathe in the morning, while women in the afternoon.

This site has been left as it is and that man has never brought new things to promote this site or invest it as a potential tourist spot.

The whole place is covered with green bushes as a result of waters that come from those hot springs.

The essential constituents are completely lacking of services such as,

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