

**As the death of Saddam's sons is confirmed, now it's the father's turn:**

# One more to go

MOSUL (YT/Reuters, June 22) - After the US announced that Saddam Hussein's sons Uday and Qusay were killed in a gun battle with U.S. troops at a villa in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul Tuesday, focus now is on how to get Saddam himself.

It is believed that Saddam may end up in a psychological defeat after his sons have died.

In the meantime, US forces have been praised for their ability to track and kill the two sons of Saddam.

"We're certain that Uday and Qusay were killed," Lieutenant General Ricardo Sanchez told a news conference in Baghdad. "We've used multiple sources to identify the individuals."

Uday, 39, Saddam's eldest son, was feared and famed throughout Iraq for his cruelty and playboy lifestyle. Qusay, born in 1966, was one of his father's most trusted lieutenants.

Sanchez said the U.S. military had been given a "walk-in" tip that Qusay and Uday were in the villa and that the six-hour raid involved various military units, including special forces.

"An Iraqi source informed the 101st airborne division today that several suspects including Qusay and Uday...were hiding at the residence," said Sanchez.

U.S. forces had put \$15 million rewards on the heads of each of Saddam's sons.

The military was still working to identify two other bodies recovered from the villa, Sanchez said. Four sol-

diers were wounded in the operation.

Sanchez said Saddam's sons and the others in the villa had barricaded themselves in and fired small arms at approaching U.S. soldiers.

Saddam himself was not believed to have been at the villa, U.S. officials said. They say he is probably still alive and hiding somewhere in Iraq. He has a \$25 million bounty on his head.

Widespread gunfire crackled across Baghdad after dark as word spread that Saddam's sons had been killed.


"It's celebration. People have heard about what happened," a U.S. military spokesman said.


The deaths of Uday and Qusay could be a telling U.S. gain in the struggle to convince Iraqis the horrors the two sons and their father represent can never return. It could also bring welcome relief to President Bush, who has been under pressure over a mounting death toll among U.S. troops in guerrilla-style attacks that they blame on die-hard supporters of the former Iraqi leader.

The imposing, concrete villa belonged to a businessman with close ties to Saddam's family, neighbors said.

Mosul residents said shots were fired from the house as the troops took up positions and approached it in the morning sun.


A new ambush Tuesday claimed the life of a sixth soldier in five days. A Sri Lankan Red Cross technician was killed in another incident.


**A** 

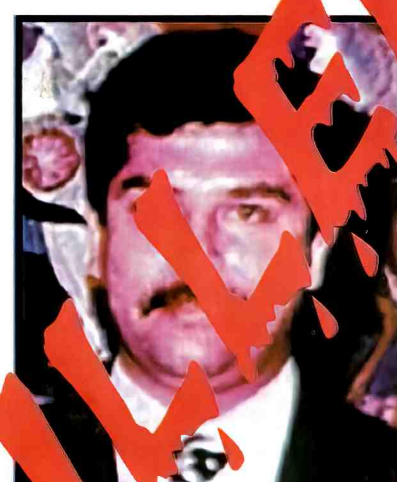


**KILLED!**

**UDAY SADDAM HUSAYN**  
National Assembly Member/  
Olympic Chairman/  
Saddam Feyadeen Chief


**A** 

**A** 



**KILLED!**

**QUSAY SADDAM HUSAYN**  
AL-TIKRITI  
Special Security Organization  
(SSO) Supervisor/Ba'th Party  
Military Bureau Deputy Chairman

**A** 

## Yemen appeals Al-Mouyed's extradition

MOHAMMED AL-QADHI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Supreme Court of Frankfurt decided Monday that the German government can hand over Sheikh Mohammed al-Mouyed and his companion Mohammed Zaid -suspected of having links with al-Qaeda- to the USA to be tried there after providing evidence of the charges against him, while the Yemeni government said it would appeal the extradition's verdict.

The ruling triggered the anger of the Yemeni Islah party that denounced the ruling concerning the extradition of al-Mouyed, member of the central committee of the party, and his companion, who were both detained in Germany in January.

Mr. Hamoud Hashim al-Tharihi, a leading member of Islah said that the ruling was surprising mainly after the visit of President Ali Abdullah Saleh's to Germany and his confirmation on the innocence of al-Mouyed.

Al-Tharihi, chief of the committee following up the case of al-Mouyed, pointed out that the committee contacted the Yemeni ambassador to Germany and al-Mouyed's lawyer and said that they would appeal the verdict, which could potentially lead to a long tedious trial for the old sheikh, whose health has deteriorated tremendously since January according to his relatives.

He even said that a team of MPs and Consultative Council members would soon leave for Germany to continue their efforts to convince the German government to return the detainees to Yemen, taking into consideration the strong Yemeni-German relationship.

In a press statement, the Yemeni

embassy in Germany stressed that efforts made with the judiciary system and government in Germany to release the two persons would continue.

It pointed out that the two men were trapped to Germany in an illegal way that infringes the sovereignty of Yemen. The statement reiterated the important efforts exerted by the Yemeni government to fight against terrorism and that it would try any citizen proven guilty with any terrorist acts. The statement stressed that the strong and friendly relationship between Yemen and Germany should remain at their prime time and that the two countries would continue their cooperation.

Some foreign diplomats have expressed their concern over any possible reaction on the part of some extremists or tribesmen.

However, a reliable source at the Islah party told the Yemen Times that the party will continue its efforts to prove the innocence of al-Mouyed.

He said that there should be no fear and that the Islah with the Yemeni government's efforts to get the detainees back home, will never give up.

He pointed out that the German court's ruling does not indict the detainees and it is the US court that would decide whether they are guilty or not and that lawyers would be authorized to defend him before US courts.



Sheikh Al-Mouyed

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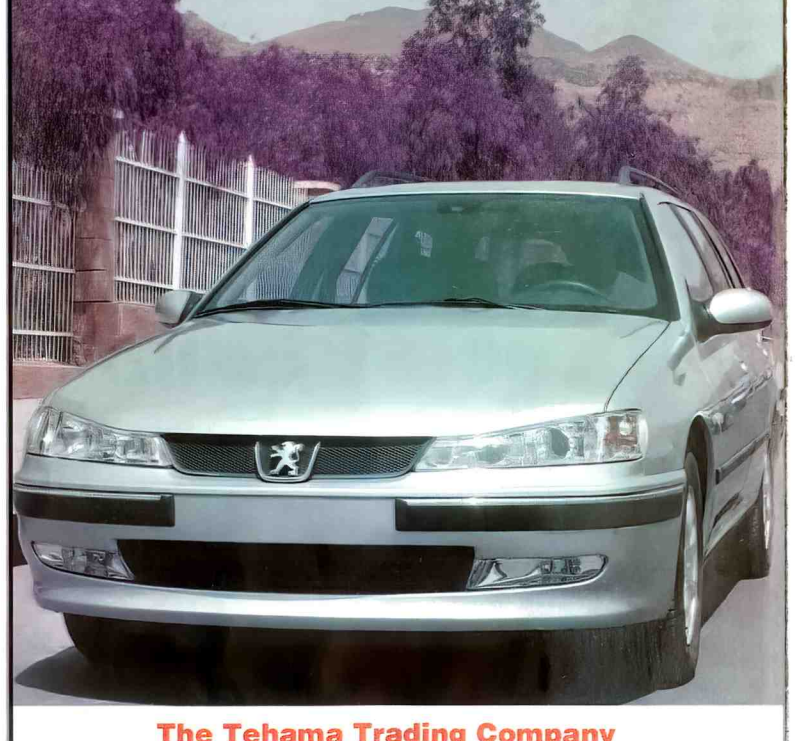
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# Azzandani issues temporary marriage Fatwa

By Mohammed Bin Sallam  
Yemen Times Staff

SANA'A\_ Sheikh Abdulmajeed Azzandani, Chairman of the Islah Shura Council in Sana'a has defended his Fatwa, (religious decree) issued earlier concerning solving youths problems of the Arab and Muslim communities living in Europe and the USA in order to get married to there.

In a statement to the Qatari-based newspaper, Arrayah on July 19, Sheikh Azzandani said that he had issued his Fatwa centering solving the problem of Arab as well as the Muslim communities in order not to get affected by the Western culture and their behavior particularly with regard to establishing open relations between the two sexes.

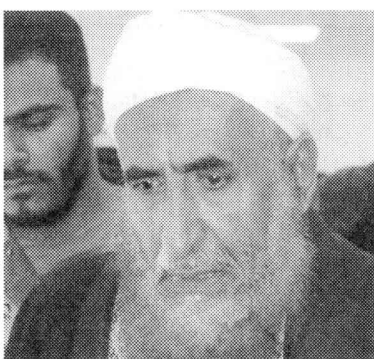
He further added that the marriage

itself had relied on the conditions of the legal marriage and determined by the marriage official, two witnesses, contract, dowry agreed by the two parties.

Azzandani pointed out that availability of a house on part of the husband-to-be can not be considered an obligatory condition.

He said that during his visit to Europe, he was asked to find a solution to the problems of the Arab communities where their families couldn't afford establishing relations with female westerners. This will lead to illegal marriage," Azzandani remarked.

Azzandani sees that the new Fatwa would preserve the Islamic community from being lost in the western countries' traditions.



Azzandani

The new Fatwa has been met by sharp riposte by a number of Islamic religious scholars in Egypt and other Arab states. Those scholars have totally rejected his Fatwa and they considered it as means of committing adultery.

# Family & society training course underway

SANA'A\_ Organized by the International Institute for Islam Studies in the Modern Era and in cooperation with the Civil Society Forum, the first society and family human rights-related training course concluded its activities in Sana'a Monday July 24.

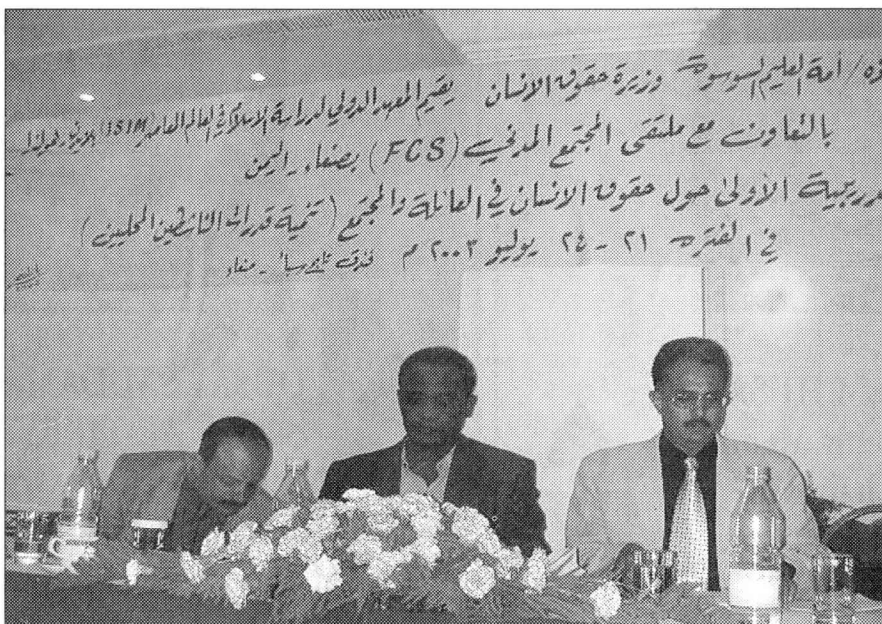
This training course will be followed by two other courses where 60 participants from Tazi, Aden, Hadhramout, Abyan, Hodiedah, and Ibb are to take part.

The second training course is to be held in Taiz on July 26-29 while the third one is due in Aden from July 31 to August 4.

About 30 participants representing a number of vocational and social sectors have taken part in the training course.

The course which started on July 21 has focused on a number of vital aspects pertaining to women and child human rights.

Through delivering lectures, holding training sessions and workshops, the training course aimed basically at exchanging opinions, ideas and practical experiences on how to apply the best ways and means with the view of



raising human rights awareness in order to be effective in family relations and community.

The training course also aims at providing the participants with necessary knowledge and information on international criteria for human rights along with exchanging experiences in this regard.

It also aims at steering participants towards building woman's capacities in the context of human rights demands

through correct tackling and continuous review of the dominant traditional notions and the cultural and social institutions which have links and strong impact on family..

The course is also meant to reactivate experiences with regard to the nature of different forms of prevalent family relations and the Yemeni society which has in turn negative effects on human rights in general and woman and child in particular.

# Training course in banking

A special training course on banking operations started on Saturday July 19 as a step towards broadening the understanding of bank staffers of the basics of modern bank operations. The 10-day course is organized by Arab Academy of Financial and Banking Sciences represented in the Financial Training Institute in cooperation with Yemeni Bankers Association.

The training course aims at providing an extensive background about the nature of the banking sector as well as to give a clear idea of its importance in today's financial markets. Comprehensive lessons were given focusing on money management and the

role of banks in supporting national economies plus means to finance the activities of establishments, businessmen, and individuals.

In the opening ceremony of the training course, Mr. Ahmed Abdulrahman al-Samawai, Yemeni Central Bank Governor gave a speech in which he pointed out steps and stages the bank has implemented and the development that it has been achieving in the recent years.

He confirmed that the regulations adopted by the Yemeni Central Bank are among the best in the world and that the bank carries out massive and distinguished projects such as implementing

the state's budget.

He said that the bank seeks in the near future to introduce modern technology to help in unifying the check issuing process and provide regular reports from the bank's financial affairs department.

Mr. Ahmed Mohammed al-Khawei, the Head of the Yemeni Bankers Association, and Mr. Khaleel al-Shamaa, the deputy of the Arab Academy of Financial and Banking Sciences noted the efforts made and services provided by his organization to improve the skills of bank employees in a step to enhance qualifications of banking cadres throughout the Arab world.

# Hit-and-run attack on journalist

The Yemen Journalists Syndicate, Sana'a, Aden and Taiz branches, denounced the attack on a journalist by members from the security on July 19.

In a press release, the syndicate said that armed men attacked on July 19 journalist, Fahmi Abdulwahed, the sport supplement editor of the Taiz-based state-run al-Jumhuriya Daily. It expressed its sorrow for what has taken place in a time in which the state has been calling for applying law and order. "We appeal to all the military, security and judiciary bodies to mobi-

lize their efforts to catch culprits and return the snatched car to its owner" the statement mentioned Fahmi managed to escape from attackers but his car was taken by them.

Chairman of the Yemen Journalists Syndicate Mahboob Ali contacted interior minister, Dr. Rashad al-Alemi and appealed to put an end to such attacks and carry out an immediate investigation into the case, presenting the attackers to court. Dr. al-Alemi confirmed his will to track down the culprits and put an end to such incidents.

**By providing \$1.9 millions to the government's projects on decentralization and local governance:**

# UNDP promotes decentralization

A document was signed last week between UNDP, the Ministry of Local Administration (MOLA) and the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation MoPIC endorsing an agreement that UNDP, the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) and the UN Dryland Development Center will jointly contribute a total of US \$ 1,616,032 for decentralization and local governance projects while an additional \$350,000 grant will be mobilized from other external sources. The DLDSP is a pilot program which, after an initial phase of 16 months, should develop into a major, multi-year program financed by multiple donors and international financial institutions to provide external support to the national strategy for implementation of the decentralization reforms. This strategy, managed by a High Level Committee chaired by the Prime Minister and operationally coordinated by MOLA, addresses a major challenge of how to translate the progressive legal and regulatory framework already provided by the decentralization law 4/2000, into an effective system of Local Councils and Administrations, committed to transparent and participatory local governance, and capable of promoting local development and fighting poverty.

The DLDSP will help to move in the above direction by addressing three critical needs: (1) more robust District Councils finances, including an improved system of central - to - local fiscal transfers to which both domestic and external contributions for local development could be channeled; (2) the development and testing in 6 pilot districts of systems, guidelines and manuals for participatory and technically sound local public expenditure management, including planning, programming, budgeting, procurement, assets management, accounting and internal controls; (3) better support and supervise District Authorities and of local communities to hold them accountable. The DLDSP will be implemented in 2 Governorates (Taiz and Hadramaut), whereas District Facilitation Teams will be established in 6 pilot districts (AlMakha and Maqbanah in Taiz and Ghayl Bin Yamin, Burum, Hadibu and



Qalanisyah in the Hadramaut). Each district participating in the pilot will have access to (a) logistic technical assistance for adoption of improved local public expenditures management and preparation of a strategic plan, (b) a 3-years investment program and an annual budget, (c) budgetary assistance in the form of increased fiscal transfer for local development spending.

All districts are expected to improve their capacity to invest in local infrastructure and service delivery and promote local economic development. The two districts in the Tihama region (Taiz) will also benefit from additional technical and financial assistance for the identification and implementation of good local practices of Dryland management and water conservation. The DLDSP will be executed by UNCDF on behalf of the Ministry of local Administration (MOLA). The program document was signed by H.E. Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, Mr. Ahmed Mohamed Sofan, and H.E. Sadiq Bin Amin Abu Ras, Minister of Local Administration on behalf of the Government of Yemen, and Mr. Moin Karim on behalf of UNDP.

## 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 that the death of Saddam's sons would weaken the Iraqi resistance?**

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

**LAST EDITION'S**

**QUESTION:**

**Do you approve Yemen's accession to the WTO?**

Yes 66%  
No 20%  
I don't care 14%

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# Announcing judgment against US doctors killer adjourned

The Court of Appeal, Ibb governorate held its third session for the trial the killer of the US doctors in Jibla, Abed Abdurrazzaq.

The trial was attended by US embassy representatives in Sana'a and the convict's advocate.

The defense said that he will present a challenge to the Supreme Court concerning the issuance of the verdict by the Court of Appeal.

The session has been adjourned to next September in order to pronounce the judgment.

# Family planning now needed

By RIDHAWAN AL-SAQAF  
ADEN BUREAU CHIEF

ADEN\_ A training course on population concluded its meetings on July 21 at the Yemeni Saba News Agency building, Aden branch.

The course, which started on July 19, was devoted to raising awareness about population issues, youth and women problems and family planning.

Twenty participants took part in the training course representing different media bodies.

A number of proposals and suggestions were made by the participants in order to map out plans and policies

related to population problems.

This would prepare for women to enhance their role in the field of education, health, society and economy.

This can be also accomplished through mobilizing efforts to make a success of this role in order to coordinate and cooperate with the concerned bodies.

Islamic values ensured by our religion and giving advices with regard to the significance of family planning in accordance with health, social, and economical conditions.

This also can be consulted through returning to religious scholars in family planning, reproductive health, providing

health services for woman and child.

In addition to this, raising awareness among women of the risks of the early marriage among girls was among the top priorities dealt with by participants during the training course.

The state's role in this regard is of indispensable to map out plans and population policies in accordance with the living standards in our country in all fields.

During the 3-day training course, working papers were presented centering on notion of the reproductive health, its components, populations, future challenges along with the human behavior in this regard.

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# *A biographical brief on the two son's of Saddam Hussein* Know them!

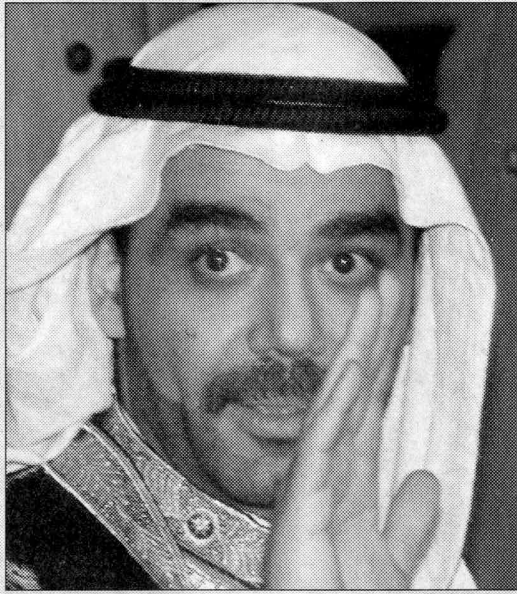
## Uday Saddam Hussein

Uday was born in 1964, the oldest of five children from Saddam's marriage to his first cousin Sajida. Uday, who is notoriously greedy, flashy and corrupt, has staked a claim to power through parliamentary politics. He was elected to the National Assembly in the spring of 2000 - although it took him some six to eight months to physically show up and take his seat in the rubber-stamp parliament.

Uday seemed unlikely to succeed his father, although he controlled the state media and a small security force. A 1996 assassination attempt left him temporarily paralyzed, and he was reported to remain in generally poor health. Uday alienated important figures in Saddam's inner circle. Uday was credited with having a part in the early 1996 killing of his two brothers-in-law, Hussein Kamel and Saddam Kamel, who were married to Uday's sisters Raghd and Rana. Hussein Kamel, a former head of Iraq's military industries and a key player in the country's non-conventional weapons program, had defected to Jordan in August 1995 with his brother, who had headed Saddam's personal guard. The two were lured back to Baghdad, and to their deaths, by promises of an amnesty. Uday is thought to have been responsible for the Kamels' defection in the first place, after threatening to have Hussein arrested.

In December 1996, Uday was shot, gravely injured and some said partially paralyzed by unknown assailants who are thought to have been taking revenge for one or other of Uday's killings and maimings.

on the Island of Pigs, Jajo was also entertaining. He and his rather rowdy bunch were shooting salvos in the air. Uday crossed the Tigris and asked Jajo to stop. Some time later Jajo fired again. Uday returned and clubbed Jajo to death. Uday was Iraq's media czar, and he owned the

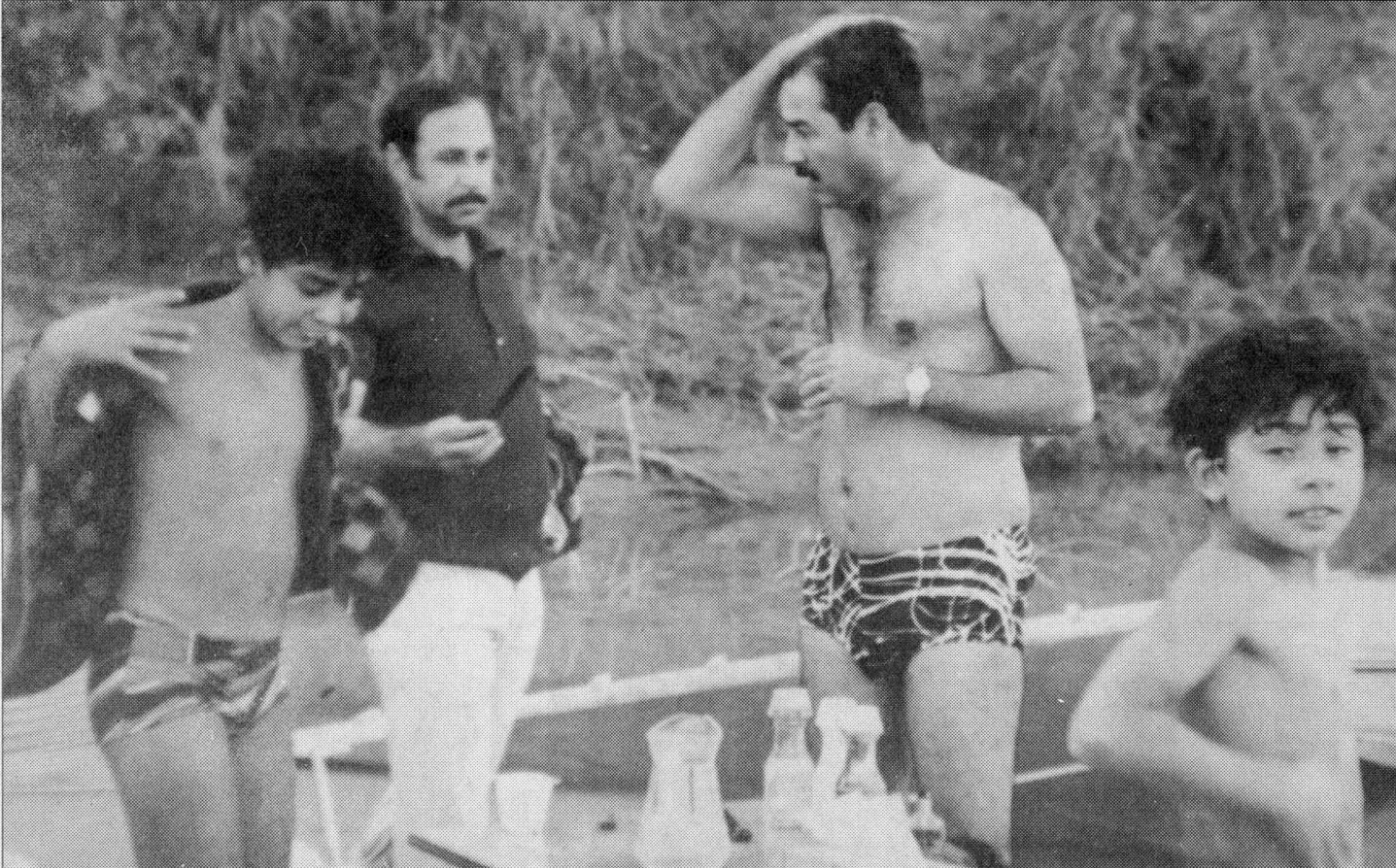
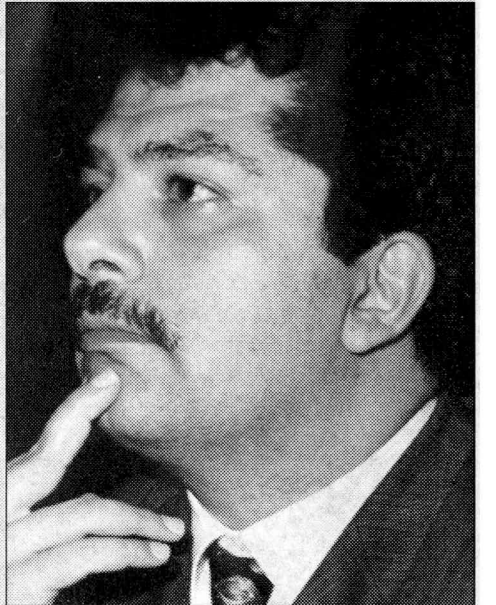


## Qusay Saddam Hussein

Saddam's younger son Qusay appeared to be first in line to succeed his father. He oversaw all Iraqi intelligence and security services, the Republican Guard, and the Special Republican Guard. Qusay swiftly helped Saddam eliminate any real or perceived threat to the regime by using bloody and shocking "tools of repression" to blackmail, force confessions, and destroy opponents. He

tribe in 1995 and local Shi'a revolt in 1997.

In official Iraqi news reports, Qusay Saddam Hussein was identified as the Supervisor of Republican Guard. Little was known about Qusay, inside or outside Iraq. He was known to be in charge of the Special Security



Saddam Hussein chats with his intelligence chief Barzan Tikriti (2nd L) as his sons Uday (L) and Qusay walk past in an undated holiday photo from the private archive of an official photographer for the regime. Saddam Hussein's two sons have been killed in Iraq during a shootout in Mosul, U.S. officials said July 22, 2003. REUTERS

Babil daily paper, the weekly Rafidayn and the Al-Shabab TV station. Uday took control of vast sections of the media, which was not part of a wider strategy of Saddam himself, but a role that Uday carved out for himself. Who controls information in the country, wields great power. Within two years after the uprising (by 1993) Uday had

defected to Europe, reported that he and his teammates were beaten and humiliated at the order of Uday Saddam Hussein for poor performances. He was flogged until his back was bloody, forcing him to sleep on his stomach in the tiny cell in Al-Radwaniya prison in which he was jailed. His account supports allega-

authorized interrogation, jailing, and execution of political prisoners and their families. He periodically ordered during 1988-99 mass prison executions of several thousand inmates ("prison cleansing"). Qusay also led crackdown against the al-Dulaym

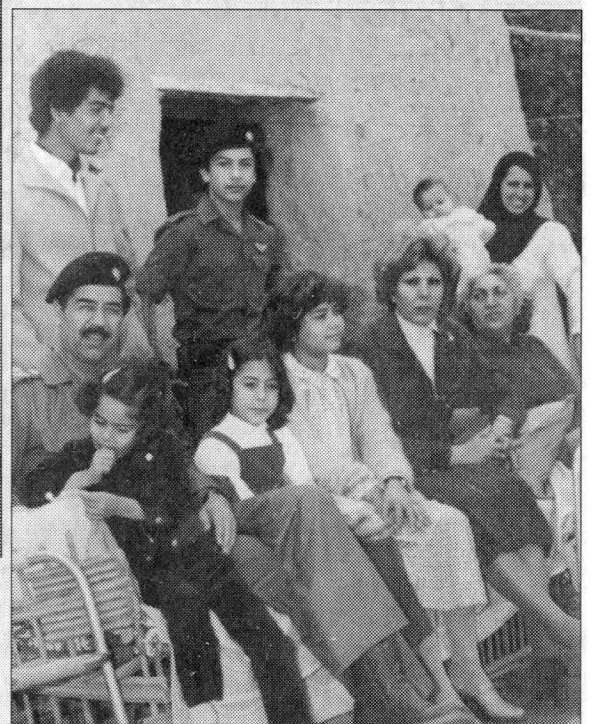
programs. Of Iraq's eight known intelligence services, three or four are thought to have been under Qusay's control since the early

Organization, the Special Republican Guard (SRG), and the elite Republican Guard, the units charged with protecting the regime and special weapons

1990s, including the Directorate General of Intelligence and the General Security forces.

In a surprise move, in mid-May 2001 Qusay was elected to the 18-member Iraqi Regional Command, the executive leadership of the ruling Ba'ath Party. In 2001, he was named Deputy of Ba'ath Party's Military Bureau.

\* Source: [www.globalsecurity.org](http://www.globalsecurity.org)



Saddam Hussein visits the clay home in which he was born in the town of Tikrit among (L-R) his sons Uday and Qusay, daughters Hala and Ragad, and first wife Sajda Kher Alain (4th R) in an undated photo from the private archive of an official photographer for the regime. REUTERS/Str



Saddam Hussein's sons Uday (2nd L) and Qusay (2nd R), accompanied by security guards, hunt for birds in an undated photo from the private archive of an official photographer for the regime. (R)

The intelligence services were unable to find the perpetrators of the assassination attempt against Uday (with the exception of Ali Izzat, a former member of a military office whose sports car was found near the site of the assassination attempt in Baghdad's Mansur district and who was liquidated one week after the assassination attempt which took place in December 1996).

In 1998, Uday killed Hanna Jajo, Saddam's most trusted food-taster and procurer of women. Jajo had acted as the go-between for Saddam and Samira, who became his second wife and the mother of now-teenage Ali. (Saddam remains married to Sajida, despite at least two other known marriages.) The story goes that Uday, said to be closer to his mother than to his father, arranged a party for Suzanne Mubarak, the wife of the Egyptian president, on the banks of the Tigris in downtown Baghdad. Across the river,



Saddam Hussein's sons Uday (L) and Qusay relax in a field in an undated photo from the private archive of an official photographer for the regime. (R)

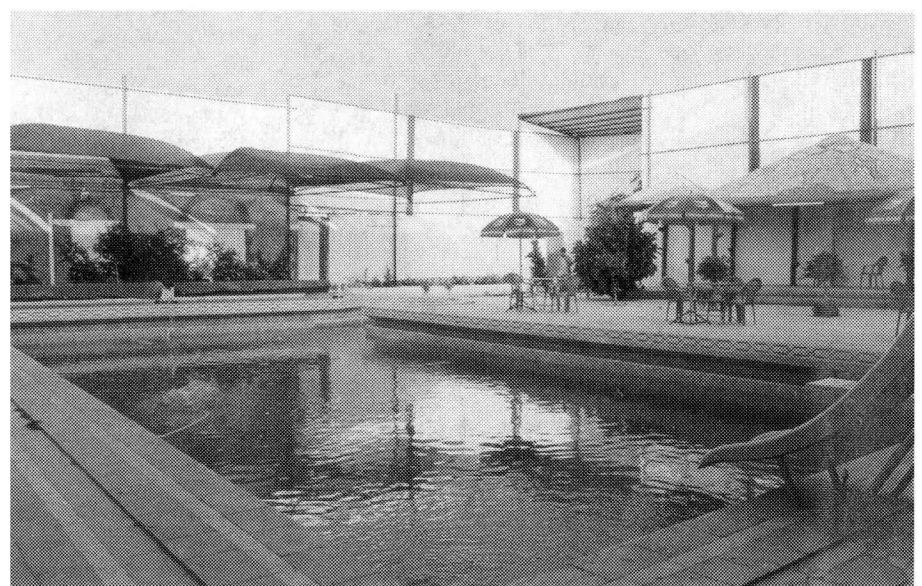
taken over part of the work that used to be done by the Ministry of Culture and Information. Besides, he set up his own parallel system of media: a newspaper, a radio station, a TV station. There was also a high degree of interference on his part into the daily work of the Ministry of Culture and Information which has in itself led to friction and human rights violations. Uday also acted as an unofficial minister of youth overseeing student organizations and cultural activities, and reigned over Iraq's Olympic Committee. In May 2001, Saad Keis Naoman, an Iraqi soccer player who

tions made by Sharar Haydar Mohamad Al-Hadihi, a former Iraqi international soccer player, who stated in August 1999 that he and his teammates were tortured on Uday Hussein's orders for not winning matches. In 2000, three soccer players who played for a team that lost an October game in the Asian Cup quarter finals, reportedly were whipped and detained for 3 days. In 1997, members of the national football team reportedly were beaten and tortured on Uday's orders because of poor play in a World Cup qualifying match.

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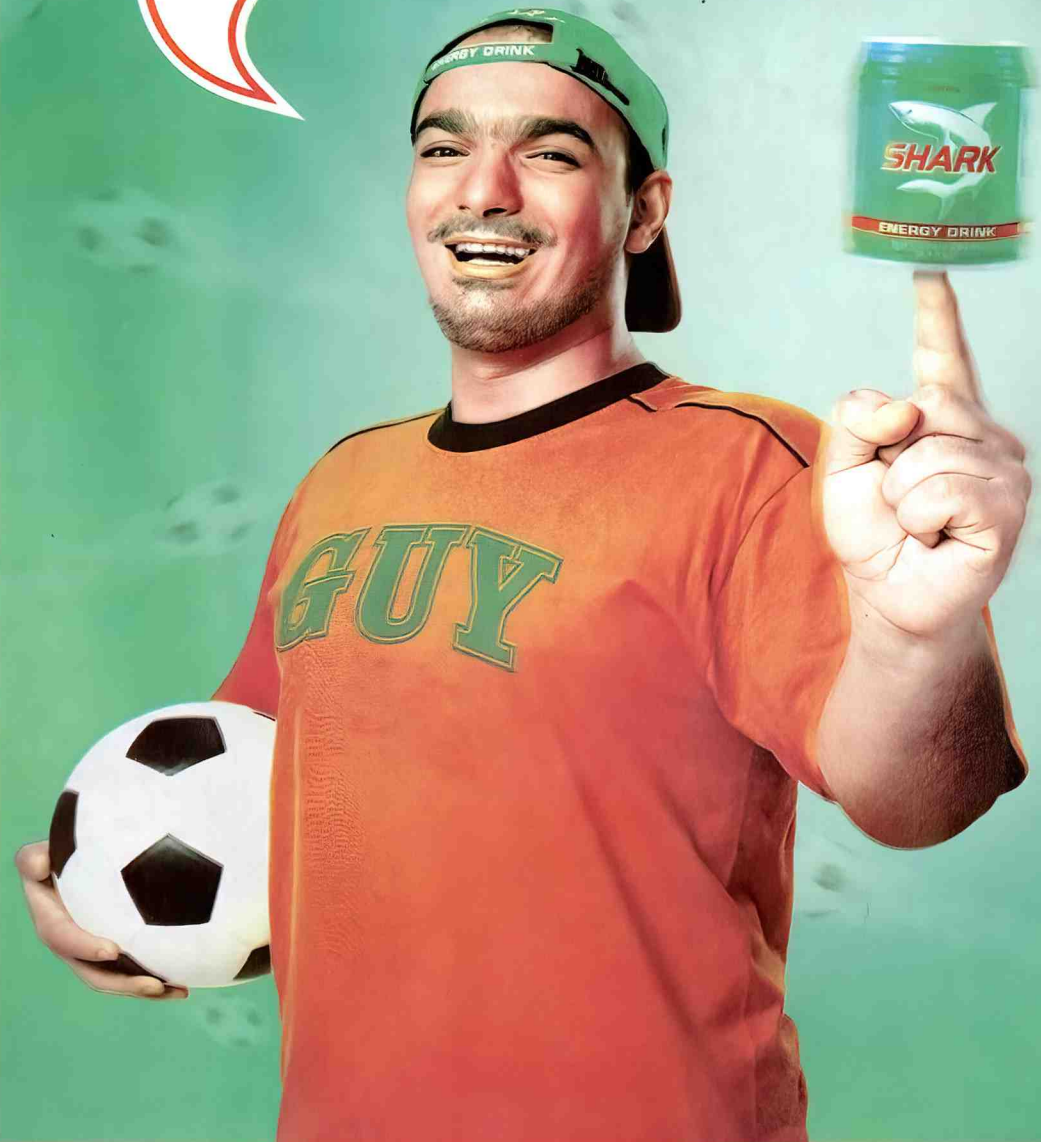
أنقى مياه صحية في اليمن

إنتاج الشركة التضامنية اليمنية للمشروبات الغازية (ي.ب.كو)

أول شركة يمنية تقوم بتعبئة المياه في قارورة صحية من مادة (بي.إي.تي)

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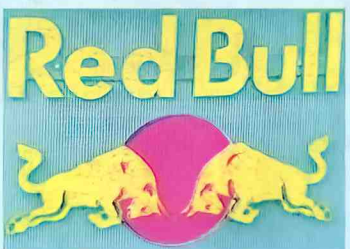
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# Alaiesy Team Wins the Red Bull Open Beach Volleyball Tournament



Sana'a Republic of Yemen, July 17, 2003 – The Alaiesy team won the overall tournament champion at the Red Bull Open Beach Volleyball which was held on July 17th – 18th in Sana'a.

Over the weekend, spectators flooded the Alsabian place to watch sixteen teams from various Yemenis educational and governmental bodies vie for the Red Bull Open Beach Volleyball Championship title.

On the first day of play, Alshorta knocked out Alnassr to progress to the quarterfinals. Yesterday saw the International team battle past the Aleasar to secure spots in the Red Bull Open Beach Volleyball

tournament semi-finals. The Alaiesy and Alshorta went on to defeat the International and Aleasar teams to gain places in the tournament final.

The Alaiesy showed top form and dominated matches against Super star and Arwa University teams, before ultimately taking the coveted title ousting Alshorta, who finished in second place.

Final rankings in the Red Bull Open Beach Volleyball Tournament are as follows:

- 1st Place – Alaiesy
- 2nd Place – Alshorta
- 3rd Place – International
- 4th Place – Aleasar

This new tendency of performing this game sponsored by Red Bull in Yemen has been met with an extreme excitement as evidence by participation of those fond of the game. The referees were Mr. Hussain A. Ibrahim, Mr Mohammed S Alahmadi and the referees Committee Head Mr Fared Galeb.

Mr. Aref Abdu Ahmed, Deputy General Manger of Abdul Galil Radman Co., stated that the Yemen young people inclination towards a variety of new games will contribute to talents development and make the Yemenis well known in such games as these new ones. More over Yemen would be represented at an optimum level in the world completions through interactions with players of other countries.



### This championship adds a new game to the sports in Yemen

Mr. Mohamed Abdulgalil Radman, Red Bull Sales Manager in Yemen confirmed the importance of this game as the object of such events is the recreation of new sports in Yemen to expand the youth sports activities to find new talents. In addition, the youth capabilities could be explored and made known well in Yemen as is in other countries.

It is worth mentioning that this kind of sports was played in Dubai, Riyadh and Al Khubar and its remarkable events there led to its being exercised in Yemen for the continuous success.

To what extent could this progress help this game expand in Yemen?

In his answer to this question, Mr. Mohamed Abdulgalil Radman said that our country has plenty of beaches with suitable locations for this sort of game.

"Red Bull Co. is interested in encouraging the young people in this field of championship to make our countrymen able to participate equally with the neighboring



countries.

This championship is considered a first stage of several championships to be conducted in Yemen in the individual sports. Finally, winners were awarded medals and testimonials by Mr. Hamed M. Murad Red Bull Production Manager.

Mr. Mohamed Abdulgalil Radman Sales Manager, Colonel Ali M. Hasan General Manager of the Police Clubs Union and Mukaddam Mr. Abdullah A. Al Matari the President of the Volleyball Union at the Capital Trust.



Selim Chidiac, Regional Director, Red Bull said, "Red Bull is committed to sponsoring and introducing new sports to the Middle East in general and Yemeni in particular. This is the first-time a beach volleyball tournament has been organized in the Republic and we anticipate it

spurring more Yemenis to participate the game. We hope this is the first chapter in Yemen's future as a serious player in global beach volleyball."

The Red Bull Open Beach Volley Ball Tournament is the latest in a line of sports initiatives the company has in store for the region. The Austrian energy drink sponsors more than 300 top athletes worldwide and is committed to developing young Arab sportsmen.



Mr. Hamed M. Murad, Red Bull Brand Manager in Yemen





# President Saleh Jubilee celebrated in Taiz

YEMEN TIMES STAFF  
TAIZ

The Martyrs Square in Taiz witnessed a huge celebration last Thursday 17th July on the occasion of the silver jubilee of President Saleh's election as president of the republic. Prime minister Abdulqadir ba Jammal attended the celebration in which he delivered a speech describing the dimensions of

this occasion and the significance of this day explaining that what our president has achieved is the greatest victory for our country and the Yemeni people as whole. In conclusion of his speech he expressed his best greetings and compliments on the occasion wishing the president and the Yemeni people further success and glory.

Judge Ahmed Abdullah Al-Hijri governor of Taiz delivered a welcoming speech to the audience emphasizing on "our right as Yemenis to cele-



brate this occasion and that we all should be proud of the achievements our country has reached under the wise guidance of President Saleh."

Following the speeches entertainment shows were displayed as more than 350 dancers of various governorates drew a beautiful spectacle called "Kindness and The Leader". The ceremony started with a Zamil (folklore group songs) that praised the togetherness and unity of the people with the leader and the common efforts to achieve our goals. Then the dancers portrayed artistic parades in which messages of togetherness, unity between leader and people were conveyed. The groups danced on the song carrying the title of their show "Kindness and The Leader" whose lyrics was written by poet Mohammed Mushin Al-Haddar and composed by composer Ahmed bin Gowdal. Artist Salma Al-Thahiri designed the dance movements which were directed by director Fared Al-Thahiri. The song told about the country's history and the events that it under went in the past and hopes of the future.

The dancers in beautiful moves and colorful dresses then displayed a modern version of Alliyowa folklore

dance from Aden and other local dances from Taiz, Hadramout, Shabowa, Abyan, Lahj and Sana'a. Swords, local head covers were a part of the costumes and Yemeni daggers for men and for women there were the beautiful head covers and elegant colorful dresses and silver accessories.

The place was filled with joy and laughter and the incense smell filling the air giving a very intimate touch of the Yemeni culture especially with the background images of the national monuments such as the Marib dam, Seera Fort, Dar Al-Hajar and Al-Gowaizi Fort.

All in all the celebration was a magnificent occasion to relive the success of this country and the great deeds of our president. This was a chance to reflect on the Yemeni history and to look back with pride to the achievements and the progress Yemen is living. Thanks to all the heroes behind and in the scene the celebration was a memorial one and of course thanks to All Hayel Group represented by Mr. Shawqi Ahmed Hayel who provided a lot of the facilities and afford the materials and expenditure of the celebration. And last but not least thanks to President Ali Abdullah Saleh whom we celebrate today and always.

## Ethio-Yemen Relations:

### From good to better

TEFSAYE NEGASSA,  
COUNSELLOR,  
EMBASSY OF THE FEDERAL  
DEMOCRATIC  
REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA TO YEMEN

The relations between Ethiopia and Yemen began as of the first half of the 6th century AD. The people of the two countries started establishing their livings in each other's country since 525 AD. There are many historical records and living evidences which prove these longstanding relations in terms of economic, social, cultural, and religious ties which peoples of both countries enjoyed for centuries. Yemen is the oldest country in this part of the world to establish both trade and diplomatic relations with Ethiopia. The modern diplomatic relations took off as the signing of such a document took place on March 22, 1935 in Sana'a.

Our strategic position on both sides of the Red Sea is truly instrumental. We have come to boost the age-old relations by signing various economic, social and political agreements to allow a better trade movement, people to people understanding via travel and investments as well as exchange of cultural values, scientific know-hows and experiences. Both countries are also engaged in working to the common goal of bringing stability and peace to the Red Sea region. Yemen and Ethiopia have been sharing not only good times, but also problems as they occur in each other's country. And as such, as trust-worthy friends, their relation is growing by leaps and bounds under the present regimes in both countries.

As stated earlier, Yemen and Ethiopia have been strategic friends. They are located at a geographical position that is also strategic. This means we (the two countries) have strategic roles to play in ensuring not only economic development in both countries, but also contributing greatly to harmony, peaceful co-existence and stability in the region. Ethio-Yemeni close relations are not the matter of choice, they are a natural must.

While the two raise many common points in their remote civilization, and enjoy deep rooted people to people bondage, less had been worked out in strengthening their diplomatic relations until recent time.

Soon after the downfall of the Dictatorial Military regime of Ethiopia in May 1991, the Yemeni Government and the then Transitional Government of Ethiopia signed a memorandum of understanding here in Sana'a in 1992 to promote bilateral cooperation in the economic, social and cultural fields.

The two countries, since then continued to work on developing mutual interests in various fields and in mid 1999, reactivated the Joint Commission in a meeting held in April of the same year in Sana'a, during which a number of agreements were signed and ratified in social, political, and economic fields and are now in the process of implementation.

When the second Ethio-Yemen Ministerial Commission was held in Addis Ababa from 25 January to 1 February 2001, various executive programs including cultural science and education, industrial, export promotion, oil and energy, and tourism cooperation agreements were signed. Besides, agreements on the accordance of double taxations and the news agencies cooperation, as well as a memorandum of understanding on housing and urban planning cooperation were also signed at the meeting.

The third Ethio-Yemen Joint Ministerial Commission was held in Sana'a from May 8-12, 2002. At the meeting, both sides stressed their wishes to further consolidate cooperation between the two countries.

Deliberation on the existing and future areas of cooperation and agreements reached at the session, were on economic and commerce cooperation in investment, agriculture and technical education, vocational training, oil gas and minerals, cultural and scientific education, tourism, housing and urban planning and cooperation in the field of immigrants and protection of nationals.

The visit of H.E. President of the Republic of Yemen Ali Abdullah Saleh to Ethiopia as of 20-22 July 2003 will further enhance the multifaceted relationship between the two countries in the economic, political, security, cultural, and other fields of mutual interest.

Additionally, promotion of closer relations between the two sisterly countries will have vital contribution to the well-being of their people and to the promotion of peace, security and stability in the Horn of Africa and Southern Red Sea.

## A message of gratitude and appreciation to the wise leader and unity symbol of Yemen

On the occasion of the silver jubilee since the journey of development and great achievements that started on the 17th of July 1978 and on behalf of the representative of the Sultan of Dawoodi Bohra sect,

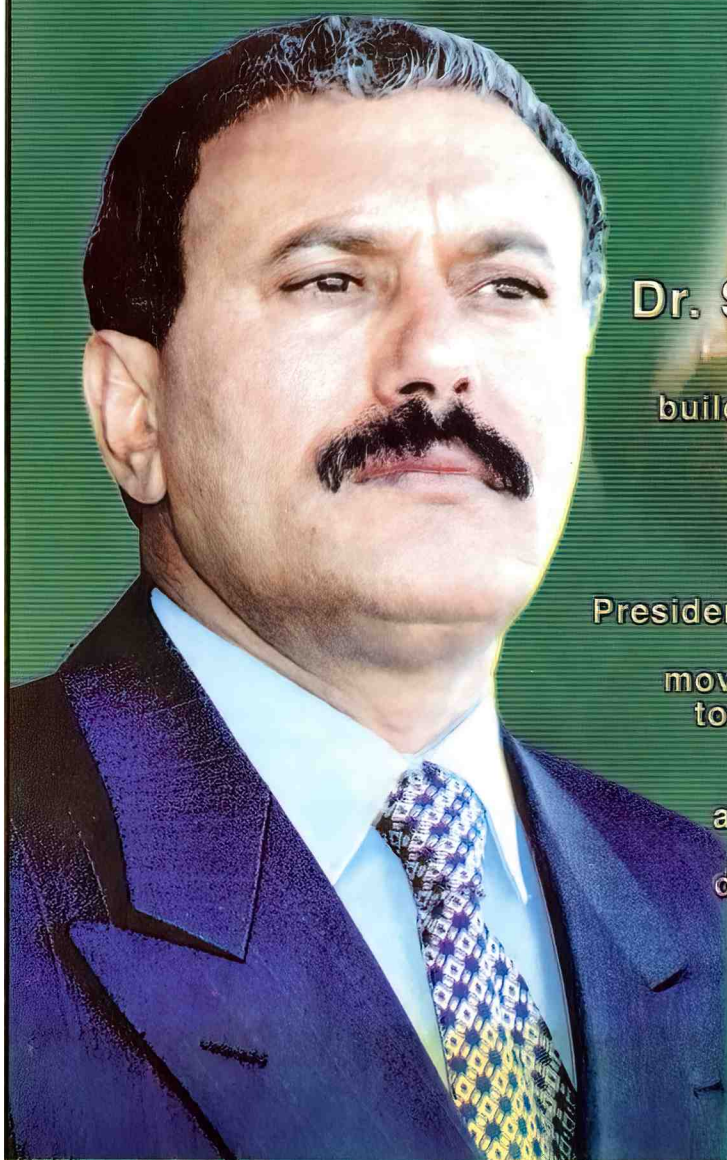
Dr. Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin, we present our warmest and sincerest congratulations and greetings to the builder and establisher of Yemen in this modern era.

H.E. President  
Ali Abdullah Saleh

President of the Republic of Yemen - May Allah protect him. We offer His Excellency our gratitude for moving Yemen towards development and prosperity, towards security and national unity, and towards freedom and democracy.

We value the great accomplishments achieved in development and other aspects in life that were made possible during His Excellency's glorious era, wishing Yemen an even greater future under His Excellency's wise leadership.

Representative of the Dawoodi Bohra sect's Fatimi Dai in Yemen  
Sheikh Salman Rashid and all Bohra followers in Yemen.





# Baghdad calling! Mobiles spring to life in Iraq

BAGHDAD, July 22, (Reuters) - A mobile phone roaming service was mysteriously available in Baghdad on Tuesday, bringing cellular service — banned in Saddam Hussein's secret state — to ordinary people in the Iraqi capital for the first time.

Yet officially, a tender for three mobile phone licences the U.S.-led administration plans to offer across Iraq has yet to take place. A U.S. military spokesman could not immediately say why the phones were working or what that meant for the tender.

The service providers involved were unavailable for comment.

Callers with foreign registered GSM phones were able to make and receive calls and send text messages to countries as far away as the United States and South Africa. Few Iraqis have suitable phones for now. Foreigners working in Baghdad have widely relied on pricey satellite telephones to stay in touch.

"MTC-Vodafone wishes you a pleasant stay in Kuwait," a text message sent to roamers in Baghdad said. Other cellphone users reported they had briefly had service on a Bahraini network, Batelco. That went off the air later.

An MTC-Vodafone service representative reached via a mobile

phone using his own company's network from Baghdad told Reuters he was not aware of roaming services being offered there yet.

"That's great...But they didn't tell us," he said.

The U.S.-led authority that has been running Iraq since Saddam was overthrown in April invited potential bidders for the mobile telephone licences to express their interest last week.

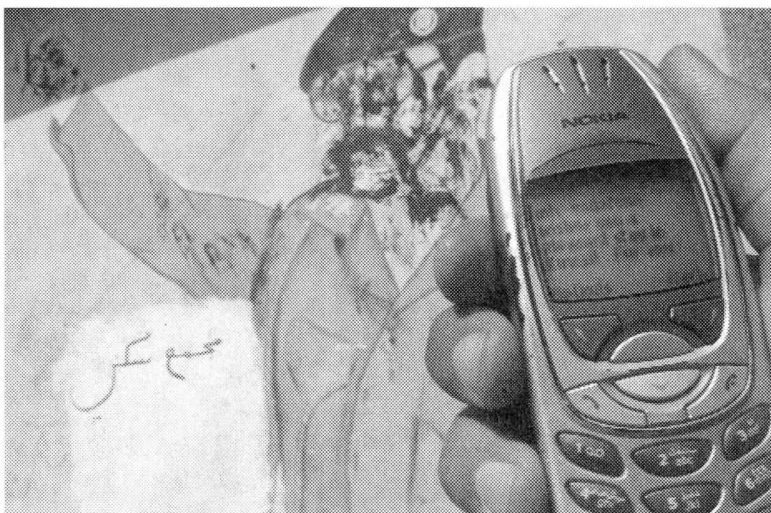
The licences are one of the most potentially lucrative contracts to be offered in Iraq, where mobile phones were banned to all but senior officials connected to a special network.

War-time bombing disrupted the existing land line network and still only about half of Baghdad's ordinary telephones work.

## Rival Technologies

The Provisional Authority has said it will issue a request for proposals next week that would be available to the firms that express interest. Proposals would be due 14 days later.

Iraq has not yet decided whether to use U.S. technology or the rival, more widespread European GSM system that is used throughout the rest of the Middle East.



An Iraqi holds a mobile telephone, connected to a Kuwaiti network, near a portrait of toppled leader Saddam Hussein in the capital Baghdad July 22. A mobile phone roaming service was mysteriously available in Baghdad Tuesday, bringing cellular service — banned in Saddam Hussein's secret state — to ordinary people in the Iraqi capital for the first time. REUTERS

But the issue of what technology will be chosen for the national networks has become increasingly thorny.

A decision to use the global system for mobile communications (GSM) standard, widely used in Europe, would be a blow to U.S. firms hoping to build a wireless network in Iraq based on the CDMA (code division multiple access) standard developed by California-based

Qualcomm Inc.

GSM technology would allow Iraqi cellphone users to travel to neighbouring countries without changing phone.

The U.S. Army and development workers now use a network in Baghdad built by WorldCom Inc, a bankrupt U.S. telecoms firm that is doing business under the name MCI.

# Palestinian PM says to ask US to pressure Israel

CAIRO, July 22 (Reuters) - Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas said on Tuesday he would ask the United States during a trip to Washington to pressure Israel to implement steps in the "road map"

release of Palestinian prisoners and a halt to Israeli settlement on territories occupied by Israel in the 1967 Middle East war.

Israel on Sunday agreed to free hundreds of Palestinian prisoners,



Arab League Secretary General Amr Mousa (R) speaks in a joint news conference with Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazin) in Cairo July 22. Abu Mazin, who is in his first trip outside Palestinian lands, discussed with Mousa the latest developments on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict and the means to carry out the Roadmap before starting his expected visit to the United States of America. REUTERS

plan for Israeli-Palestinian peace.

Abbas is due to hold talks with U.S. President George W. Bush in Washington on Friday in an effort to push forward the U.S.-backed plan which outlines reciprocal measures to end violence and establish a Palestinian state in 2005.

Speaking to reporters after talks in Cairo with Arab League Secretary-General Amr Mousa, Abbas also repeated Palestinian calls for the

disappointing Abbas's hopes for a full amnesty but keeping the peace plan in motion. Abbas has said the release of all 6,000 prisoners is vital to boosting support for the plan.

Abbas was due to hold talks on Tuesday in Jordan with King Abdullah and senior Jordanian officials before departing for Washington to meet Bush. Abbas discussed the peace plan with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Monday.

# Tehran row deepens over probe into Canadian death

TEHRAN, July 22 (Reuters) - Iran announced the appointment of a hardline judiciary official to head a probe into the death in custody of a Canadian journalist, prompting protests from reformists who said on Tuesday he was unfit to handle the case.

The worsening row over an inquiry into the death of Zahra Kazemi, who died earlier this month after her arrest for taking pictures outside a Tehran prison, exacerbated the intense power struggle between reformers and conservatives in Iran.

The European Union and Canada have demanded Iran prosecute those responsible for the death of Kazemi, 54, a Montreal-based photographer of Iranian descent who died of a brain haemorrhage caused by a severe blow to the head.

An initial government inquiry, commissioned by pro-reform President Mohammad Khatami and released on Sunday, failed to pinpoint how Kazemi was hurt and said further investigation was needed to identify who may have

caused her death.

The head of the judiciary named Tehran Prosecutor General Saeed Mortazavi to lead the probe — an appointment that incensed reformist lawmakers.

Mortazavi closed scores of liberal newspapers and jailed many journalists in his former post as a court judge.

"Mortazavi's background is questionable... Without doubt this appointment makes a mockery of legal and fundamental issues," reformist MP Hossein Ansari-Rad was quoted as saying in the liberal Yas-e No daily on Tuesday.

Judiciary officials did not immediately respond to Reuters' requests for comment on the criticism of Mortazavi's appointment.

Several MPs have already called for Mortazavi's resignation over the Kazemi case, because of his role in her arrest and initial interrogation on June 23. They also accuse him of being responsible for an initial government announcement that

Kazemi had died from a stroke.

Critic says findings now predictable "This appointment is not at all acceptable and the fate of the case is now predictable," Naser Qavami, head of parliament's legal and judicial commission, told Yas-e No.

Analysts said the political row caused by Kazemi's case was an extension of the long-running power struggle in the Islamic Republic between reformists allied to Khatami and conservative rivals who resist any watering down of Iran's Islamic theocracy.

Although Khatami has won two landslide elections and his allies hold a majority in parliament, his ability to deliver on pledges to improve democracy, justice and personal freedoms has been hampered by conservatives who run powerful bodies such as the judiciary and veto-wielding constitutional watchdogs.

Conservatives rushed to Mortazavi's defence.

"Mortazavi's only crime is that he

blocked the spread of lies... and the influence of anti-revolutionaries in the press," conservative MP Ali Emami-Rad told state radio.

The hardline Jomhuri-ye Eslami, in an editorial, speculated that Kazemi's injuries may have been self-inflicted.

"She may have hit her head against a hard object, like a wall, to create problems for the interrogators or prison officials and force them to accept her demands," it said.

But reformist newspapers noted that according to the initial government inquiry, Mortazavi was present during a lengthy interrogation on the first night of her arrest.

Later in her detention, when questioned by someone from Mortazavi's office, Kazemi began shouting and insulting the official, whose voice she recognised, the report said.

"Who was this interrogator, and what was his behaviour," that Kazemi reacted in such a way, Yas-e No asked in an editorial.

# Peres raises "world capital" solution for Jerusalem

JERUSALEM, July 22 (Reuters) - Shimon Peres, the head of Israel's opposition Labour Party, has suggested resolving Israeli-Palestinian conflict over Jerusalem by putting its holy sites under U.N. stewardship, a spokesman said on Tuesday.

His plan calls for declaring a holy area of sites sacred to Jews, Christians and Muslims in Jerusalem's old walled city as a "world capital", with the U.N. Secretary-General serving as mayor, Peres' spokesman Yoram Dori told Reuters.

Israel claims Jerusalem as its capital, including the Arab eastern part captured in the 1967 Middle East War and annexed in a move that is not recognised internationally.

Palestinians want to make East Jerusalem capital of the state they hope to establish in the West Bank and Gaza Strip under a U.S.-backed peace plan.

Peres raised the idea in a meeting with visiting Russian diplomats-in-training when they asked how he envisaged a solution to conflicting Israeli-Palestinian claims to the city, Dori said.

Israel has previously rejected proposals raised by the Vatican to internationalise Jerusalem.

Peres, a former prime minister and an architect of interim peace deals with the Palestinians, has not raised the proposal with Israeli or Palestinian leaders, Dori said.

# Mediators delay Sudan peace talks, suggest August 3

NAIROBI, July 22 (Reuters) - Peace talks between Sudan's warring factions will not resume this week as scheduled, but mediators said they had invited rebels and the government to restart negotiations on August 3.

The delay will allow mediators to pursue consultations with Khartoum and the southern Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA).

Talks in Kenya between the sides had reached what was meant to be a final stage and mediators had hoped for a comprehensive deal by mid-August.

But the Sudan government is angry over proposals put forward by

mediators on issues such as wealth sharing, the structure of the army and the status of the capital.

The government, based in Sudan's mainly Muslim north, has been fighting the SPLA since 1983, in a war which has killed an estimated two million people.

The conflict is over oil, religious freedom and the right for southerners to rule themselves. The two sides signed a breakthrough agreement in July 2002, allowing the south to hold a referendum on independence and exempting non-Muslim areas from sharia law.

# Egypt says elections key to ending Iraq "chaos"

CAIRO, July 22 (Reuters) - Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak called on Tuesday for swift government elections in Iraq to end "chaos" on the ground which was threatening the Middle East.

"It is a danger to the region's security and stability that tension, instability

Baghdad on Monday, adding to an almost daily toll of U.S. casualties.

A U.S.-backed governing council, which held its inaugural meeting on July 13, is working out a new constitution leading to an elected, internationally recognised Iraqi



A U.S. Army soldier asks for two representatives to come forward to speak with his unit, during a protest by the Independent Political Prisoners Institution in front of the headquarters for the U.S. administration in Baghdad July 22. About 100 demonstrators came forward to complain that their group had been promised a seat in the new Iraqi Governing Council, which was then formed without them. REUTERS

and a lack of security continue, that chaos spreads and public services collapse," said Mubarak, head of the Arab world's most populous country.

"The way out from these regrettable circumstances lies in working as fast as possible towards an Iraqi authority taking over responsibility for all of this. It should be an elected authority," Mubarak said, in a speech broadcast on state television to mark Egypt's July 23, 1952 revolution.

A U.S. soldier and an Iraqi interpreter were killed in an attack in

government.

The council has some political muscle but final control of Iraq still rests with Iraq's U.S. civil administrator Paul Bremer, whose country led forces which overthrew Saddam Hussein's government in April.

Most Arab states, including Egypt, were vehemently opposed to the U.S.-led war, and have repeatedly said were eager to see the United States end its occupation of Iraq and hand control of the country back to its citizens.



# Blair in crisis-hit Hong Kong after grilling in China

HONG KONG, July 22 (Reuters) - Prime Minister Tony Blair is expected to lend a sympathetic ear on Wednesday to calls for more democracy in the former British colony of Hong Kong after getting grilled by Chinese students in Shanghai over the war in Iraq.

Blair wrapped up a visit to mainland China on Tuesday where he tried to strengthen trade ties and saw hope in efforts to kickstart talks to defuse the North Korean nuclear crisis.

But his Far East tour, which included Japan and South Korea, has been overshadowed by the suicide of a British defence expert that has rocked his government and sparked calls for him to quit.

In a tough question-and-answer session on Tuesday, top Chinese students pressed Blair to justify the war and about the mysterious death of David Kelly.

Blair defended his decision to attack Iraq and said he had no regrets, adding he had no doubt that Iraq had been developing weapons of mass destruction.

"What you have got to do as a political leader in a democracy is you have got to say this is where I stand, that is what I believe," Blair told students at Beijing's elite Tsinghua University.

"If you believe that, you can vote for me; if you don't believe it, you don't have to vote for me," he added.

China opposed the war on Iraq, a stance reflected in the line of questioning from the students, who asked how sure he could be there were weapons of mass destruction and

objected to the notion of a country invading another state to liberate its people.

But there were light moments, including a song from Blair's wife, and many students praised him as eloquent and persuasive.

Aboard his plane to Hong Kong Blair denied to reporters that he had authorised the leaking of Kelly's name to the media days before his body was found and said the government had acted properly throughout the entire affair.

He also said China had indicated a second round of talks on the North Korean nuclear crisis was likely in a few weeks. China brokered talks in April between the U.S. and North Korea.

Blair said states like North Korea could not be allowed to develop nuclear programmes while its people starved, but he said invasion was not an option.

"In North Korea, these people are treated in the most terrible way. So yes, we can't go and invade countries just because we want to, I agree with that."

Blair also said on Tuesday that he thought China's new leadership was showing flexibility over policy governing Hong Kong, which was rocked by mass protests this month denouncing the local government and its planned anti-subversion bill.

Fearing it could be used as a base for subversion against it, Beijing has been pressing Hong Kong to pass the security law as required by its constitution, known as the Basic Law.

"The Basic Law has got to be upheld, but exactly how that happens is



Visiting British Prime Minister Tony Blair (L) chats with Shanghai Mayor Han Zheng along the riverside Bund overlooking Pudong financial district July 22. Blair wraps up China trip seeing headway on North Korea talks and prepares to head for Hong Kong after calling for more democracy in the Chinese-run city, rocked by recent mass protests over an anti-subversion bill. REUTERS

the open question," Blair told reporters.

"I think from my discussions in China that there is a willingness to ensure that the interpretation is in a way that is fully consistent with the Joint Declaration and doesn't go further than the Chinese believe that they need," he said.

Under the handover agreement between London and Beijing, Hong Kong was guaranteed a high degree of autonomy for 50 years, though many critics say there has been a subtle erosion of freedoms since the end of British rule.

Political turmoil in Hong Kong has brought one of the most historically sensitive chapters of Sino-British ties

back onto the agenda. The two sides spent the years since the 1997 handover trying to redefine relations in terms of trade and investment.

Blair will meet pro-democracy legislators on Wednesday evening and embattled Chief Executive Tung Chee-hwa on Thursday before leaving the territory.

"In Hong Kong, it's going to be important for us both to make sure we try to work with the local people so that we stabilise the situation..." he said.

Blair, who promised Hong Kong people six years ago that he would continue to speak out for their rights, called on Monday for more democracy in the Chinese-run city.

# U.N. body says situation in Liberia "horrific"

GENEVA, July 22 (Reuters) - The United Nations refugee agency UNHCR said on Tuesday the situation in Liberia is "horrific" and voiced its grave concern over the fate of tens of thousands of terrified people now crowding into Monrovia.

To make the situation worse, the agency said, it has had to suspend an emergency sealift it had been operating since the start of the month to move Sierra Leonean refugees in Liberia back to their country's capital Freetown.

And it said High Commissioner for Refugees Ruud Lubbers was renewing his appeal for support for calls from U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan for the rapid deployment in Liberia of an international peacekeeping force.

"The UNHCR is gravely concerned over the horrific situation in Liberia and the fate of tens of thousands of displaced people and refugees now jamming Monrovia," the agency said.

Hundreds of people were seeking refuge in the UNHCR compound, including many Sierra Leoneans who were hoping to be taken home on the

ship that had been used for the rescue operation, the MV Overbeck.

But the vessel, which had evacuated some 1,500 refugees in four journeys between Freetown and Monrovia had to return empty at the weekend because it developed problems while waiting for fighting to ease so that it could dock.

"As soon as the security situation allows, it will return to Monrovia to continue the emergency evacuation," the UNHCR said.

Some 15,000 Sierra Leoneans, who originally fled a civil war in their own country, had been living in and around the Liberian capital. The UNHCR said it had lost contact with many of them since a resumption of fighting last Friday.

The agency has evacuated all its international staff from the city, and its operations are being maintained by locally-recruited personnel.

One, whose home was now behind rebel lines on the edge of the city, reported on Monday that the situation there was "calm but tense", and that the local community had formed a neighbourhood watch to prevent looting.

# Typhoon cuts power, damages homes in Philippines

MANILA, July 22 (Reuters) - Typhoon Imbudo slammed into thenorthern Philippines on Tuesday, causing a temporary power cut at Manila's international airport and blowing roofs off houses, witnesses and officials said.

Disaster officials said they had no immediate reports of casualties from the strongest typhoon to hit this country of 82 million people since 1998.

electricity posts in Isabela.

The weather bureau said Imbudo had intensified since Monday, with winds of 190 kph (118 mph) and gusts of 230 kph (143 mph). The typhoon is expected to pound the Philippines before moving northwest towards Hong Kong on Thursday.

In Manila, officials blamed Imbudo for a 25-minute power failure at Ninoy Aquino International Airport. National carrier Philippine Airlines cancelled



Waves from Manila bay spray seawater onto a Filipino motorcyclist along Roxas Boulevard in Manila July 22. Typhoon Imbudo, the eighth typhoon to hit the country this year with strong winds of 190km/h (118 mph) and gusts of 230 km/h (144 mph), slammed northern Philippines on Tuesday. REUTERS

They said it was too early to assess damage to crops as Imbudo swept across the rice and corn-growing areas of Isabela and Cagayan provinces on the main island of Luzon.

"I can hear the winds howling. The roof of my kitchen is gone," a housewife in Cagayan told Reuters by telephone.

Local radio said the strong winds had uprooted trees and toppled

two domestic flights from the capital to destinations in the central provinces.

"We have raised signal number 4 in the Isabela-Cagayan area. The last time that we raised such a signal was on October 11, 1998," government meteorologist Mario Palafox told Reuters.

The weather bureau uses a four signal scale to warn residents of the strength of a typhoon.

# U.S. vows safe Korean War event, atomic talks loom

PANMUNJOM, South Korea, July 22 (Reuters) - A U.S. general said on Tuesday events to mark the end of the Korean War 50 years ago would be safe and solemn, in tune with careful moves toward talks on the North's atomic ambitions.

On Monday, North Korea denounced the July 27 ceremony as "a very dangerous act" and asked the United Nations to try to get the event in the world's most fortified border area cancelled. It said another war could be forced on the divided peninsula.

"This is one more ruse intended to tamper with the history...in violation of the U.N. Charter and international law under the cloak of the 'U.N. forces' and the 'U.N. command,' the North's mouthpiece, Korea Cental News Agency, said on Tuesday.

But South Korea's unification minister said diplomatic moves by China and others had made the possibility of nuclear talks and reduced tension with North Korea "more tangible than ever".

Jeong Se-hyun said at a business lunch that he agreed with British Prime Minister Tony Blair's assessment on Monday that talks could take place in a few weeks. Blair visited Seoul on Sunday.

The minister said he had told North Korea at ministerial talks earlier this month in Seoul that Pyongyang had a small window of opportunity to re-enter multilateral talks rather than the bilateral talks it favours with the United States.

"Should they miss this window they might not have another chance," he said. "So we urged them to be decisive."

North Korea, the United States and China held a first, inconclusive round of talks in Beijing in April.

North Korea has been tip-toeing toward a second round while keeping up a parallel track of harsh rhetoric, as it often does ahead of a compromise or concession. That included a letter to U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan on the anniversary event.

China's role crucial

But U.S. Brigadier-General Tom Kane told reporters during a tour of the Joint Security Area at the heart of the Demilitarized Zone, which is the most militarised frontier in the world and divides the peninsula: "We feel very confident that the nations and veterans who will participate in the ceremony are going to be in a safe and secure environment".

He said there would be about 200 foreign dignitaries as well as veterans at the ceremony to mark the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice Agreement, which halted three years of war between Chinese-backed North Korea and U.S.-led United Nations forces.

Kane said North Korea had not been invited to the event. At the weekend, North Korea said it had rejected an invitation.

"The event is about the solemnness of the signing of the Armistice and the peace and relative stability and security that it has given to this part of the world for over 50 years," said Kane. A separate statement from the U.S.-led U.N. Command said the ceremony was to honour all veterans.

Minister Jeong said the anniversary was a reminder of what was at stake for



South Korean (R) and U.S. soldiers stand behind of the United Nations flag at the Panmunjom truce village in the demilitarized zone which separates the two countries July 22. A U.S. general said on Tuesday events in the demilitarised Zone to mark the end of the Korean War 50 years ago would be safe and solemn, in tune with careful moves toward talks on the North's atomic ambitions. REUTERS

South Korea, Asia's fourth-largest economy.

"Our position is extremely precarious," he said.

He said China's efforts on talks were crucial.

"As a result, the possibility of reopening the dialogue and holding multilateral talks as soon as possible has become more tangible than ever," he said through an interpreter.

Jeong said Seoul's assessment was that recent North Korean comments to U.S. officials and others about their atomic project were aimed at gaining leverage over Washington and were not necessarily true. He said the prime

North Korean aim was keeping leader Kim Jong-il in power.

Kim, Supreme Commander of the North Korean people's army, inspected military unit 292 on the front line and set forth tasks which would serve as guidelines in further increasing the combat capacity of the unit, the Korea Central News Agency reported on Tuesday.

The Washington Post reported on Tuesday that U.S. administration officials were considering granting North Korea formal guarantees it will not come under U.S. attack as part of a verifiable dismantlement of its nuclear programme.

# Dutch soldier slightly wounded by Kabul blast

KABUL, July 22 (Reuters) - An improvised bomb exploded near a Dutch peacekeeping patrol on the outskirts of the Afghan capital a few hours before another bomb was found in a central shopping street frequented

by foreigners, peacekeepers said on Tuesday.

A Dutch soldier with the International Security Assistance Force was slightly wounded in the explosion on the southeastern outskirts of Kabul on

Monday morning. ISAF spokeswoman Major Sarah Wood said the soldier received a cut to his forehead.

A U.S. embassy advisory said as many as seven improvised explosive devices had been found in Kabul in the

past 36 hours, but Wood said she was aware of only three suspect incidents. The U.S. advisory restricted embassy employees to only essential travel.

Security forces defused a bomb found in a shoebox on Monday afternoon in

Chicken Street, a popular shopping area for foreigners, including peacekeepers and troops from a U.S.-led coalition battling remnants of the former Taliban regime and the al Qaeda network.

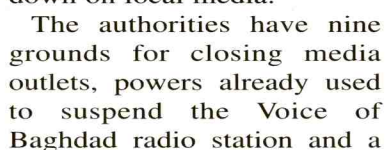
A senior intelligence official said it

was unclear who was responsible for planting the Chicken Street bomb, but noted that previous attacks had been blamed on Taliban remnants, al Qaeda and forces of a renegade warlord Gulbuddin Hekmatyar.



# Poland criticises stricter U.S. visa rules

Bremer's order also bans incitement to ethnic and religious hatred, but the media group said the wording was vague enough to allow the



It said the powers of the Iraqi Media Network, acting as an interim body to replace the former Iraqi information

Journalists needed better legal protection, while the recent deaths of two journalists underlined security problems, it said.

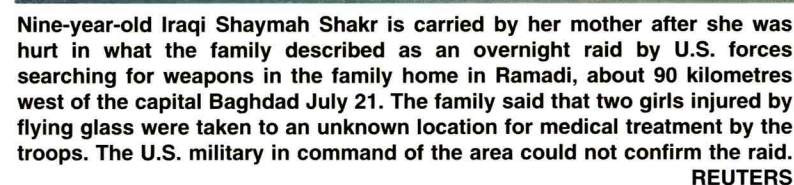
U.S. consular offices now decide on an individual basis whether a visa request needs an interview. The new

Diplomats say Poland's hopes of a visa waiver are unrealistic because too many Poles travel to the United States to seek illegal jobs.

Klaus, who turned 62 last month, is a sports fanatic and generally

Klaus was elected as head of state by parliament earlier this year after Havel's second and final term ended.

U.S. Army troops secure the scene of an attack in the Iraqi town of Ramadi, 90 kilometres west of the capital Baghdad as military police investigate July 21, 2003. A U.S. military spokeswoman said an armoured patrol in the restive town of Ramadi, west of Baghdad, was hit by two improvised bombs and that two soldiers were wounded.



U.S.	AND	BRITISH
<b>TROOPS KILLED:</b>		
<b>COMBAT/ATTACKS</b>		
United States		153 (39)
Britain		14 (6)
<b>NON-COMBAT</b>		
United States		79 (57)
Britain		29 (4)

**NOTE: NON-COMBAT** is defined as accidents, U.S. or British fire killing or wounding their own troops, and other incidents unrelated to fighting.

Web site: [www.genpack-ye.com](http://www.genpack-ye.com) E-mail: [genpack@y.net.ye](mailto:genpack@y.net.ye)



## YT Business

Yemeni-American Businessmen Council goals

# Promote investments, technology transfer, enhance trade relations

BY MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The meeting held recently in Sana'a between members of Yemen's Chambers of Commerce and Industry Board of Directors members and director of American Government Relations office Mrs. Ellen Levinson resulted in agreement on the establishment of a Council of Yemeni-American Businessmen (YABC). Yemen Times has obtained a copy of the work program of the Council that determined its objectives as including:

-the providing of an open structure

suitable for trade, investment and economic cooperation of Yemen and the United States of America,

-promoting for private investment, transfer of technology and providing employment opportunities in Yemen,

-building and enhancement of awareness about the economic and political value of Yemen as an essential building of free democracy in the Middle East.

The Council would contribute to drawing up policies, laws and projects that encourage economic, trade and information communications between the public and private sectors in both countries.

Establishment of YABC and its projects:

The YABC would concentrate in the preliminary stage, July 2003-June 2005 three aspects:

1- Organizational statements and membership:

-entering the council in the United States and establishment of its office in Washington,

-formation of basic database on companies, sources, organisations, agencies and other apparatuses that possess capabilities, services, and products, that may benefit from economic and trade relations between Yemen and the U.S.,

-formation of an American-Yemeni membership base and determining ways of long-range funding composed

of members of the private sector and possibility of financing from various other establishments and individuals,

-formation of organizational system including board of directors, working groups, consultative committee and administrative elements work for facilitating dialogue between members and taking decisions on policies, programs, priorities and carrying out educational and promotional activities,

-establishment of cooperative work relationship with the Yemeni embassy in Washington and the American embassy in Sana'a.

2- Discussing plans and formation of information materials:

-conducting researches on American policies related to trade, investment, discussion of Yemeni companies, products and services entering the American markets,

-seeking for opportunities of American investments and trading with Yemen and defining the obstacles concerning American trading and investments,

-preparing and supplying of brief information for members of the council on exploring policies, plans and markets,

-preparing and supplying information about the council and job opportunities and investment opportunities in Yemen.

3- Promotional and information activities include:

-taking part in meetings held under the patronage of other sides such as chambers of commerce, government organisations, official scientific academies and government agencies working in commercial affairs in order to provide them with information about the

council and its task,

-providing information on the council and conducting dialogue with American policy and plans-makers such as senior executives at the department of trade and office of the American trade representative, state department, agriculture department,

energy department and the house of

senates and senior Yemeni employees, -coordination with the Yemeni embassy in Washington concerning special activities as symposium of cultural heritage, visits by Yemeni senior officials to the United States of America.

Yemen & Gulf States

## Activation of economic & trade partnership

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Gulf-Yemeni working group that held its meetings in Sana'a recently has come out with signing a minutes in which the two sides have stressed the significance of effecting identicalness of Yemen's program for economic and financial reform and its outputs to

The GCC's laws and regulations.

According to the minutes the group has identified a working program to be discussed during the coming meeting, pertaining to the possibility of Yemen accession to some of the GCC's bodies. Yemen looks forward to closely cooper-

ating with the GCC states and realizing the goals hoped for from the economic and trade integration among the Council's member states.

The Meeting held under co-chairmanship of Yemen's foreign undersecretary Abdulla Ali al-Radhi and Mr Mohammed bin Ubeid al-Mazrouie, assistant secretary -general for economic affairs at the GCC had reviewed in general the existing cooperation between Yemen and the Gulf States.

The two sides have agreed on the necessity of activating the role of Yemen and its partnership with the Gulf States, and choosing a bunch of laws and regulations that are deemed to be part of outputs of the Yemeni program for the

administrative and financial reform. They also agreed to include them in lists to be considered in the process of implementing identicalness or harmony in this respect.

The fields of research and comparison have also included the laws of industry and trade and customs and also the law of investment.

It has been decided to hold the third meeting of the group in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia beginning of January 2004. The third meeting is scheduled to continue discussion of the topics agreed upon for the purpose of speeding up Yemen's accession to Gulf economic and trade organizations. This would open the way for Yemen to benefit from that accession.

Yemen & Syria

## Enhancement of economic and trade partnership

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Yemen and Syria have signed an agreement on a common mechanism for implementation and application of an agreement of passenger and goods overland transportation. The agreement aims at strengthening bilateral relations in trade in context of the two sides' keenness on upgrading mechanism of joint Arab action in economic, tourism and investment fields. Signing the agreement on the joint mechanism came at the conclusion of meetings of the technical committee for transport held in Damascus lately. The meetings came out with positive results in implementation of the resolu-

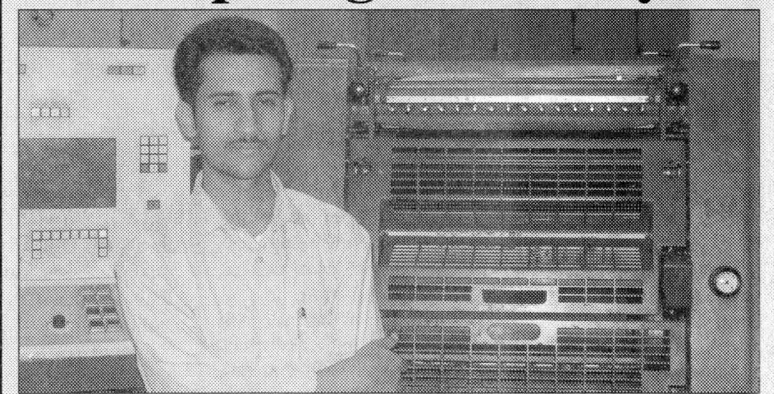
tions taken by the joint higher committee that had held its meetings in the Syrian capital on 26-27 January 2003.

During the meeting of the technical committee for overland transport an agreement was reached stipulating that the Yemeni and Syrian transport ministries should form a special committee to follow up implementation of the joint mechanism in this regard. Regarding air transport the joint technical committee agreed to hold a direct meeting grouping representatives of both civilian airways organisations and representatives of both carriers in the two countries to discuss the memorandum submitted by the Yemeni side. The committee confirmed the necessity of rapid communication for fixing venue and time of the specialists

meeting. The Yemeni side received a copy of a draft project for sea transport addressed to the Yemeni foreign ministry.

Yemen expects from the implementation of overland transportation agreement with Syria to increase trade and tourist exchange between the two countries and facilitate trade transactions and transporting of goods. Yemen imports Syrian-made clothes and industrial products that are largely popular in Yemeni markets. Yemen had signed with Saudi Arabia and Jordan on implementing mechanisms for facilitating streamline of the movement of passenger and goods transport movement with Arab countries and to speed up the project of establishing the great Arab free trade zone.

## Success Secrets Inspiring excellency



In the printing and publishing industry, one of the most important factors to success is how the leader manages his people. From my own experiences it is my firm believe that unless your employees are comfortable in working with you and the working environment you would not get an extraordinary and top quality product.

I have immense admiration for the employee who does what he likes

doing best, one whose independent thinking can encourage new ideas that inspire excellence in the way things are done, this is a habit I encourage everybody to promote in himself and his team.

And finally, I'd like to quote that unless you trust your people abilities, you may never produce something better.

Nabil Al-Mesbahi, Manager,  
Al-Mesbahi Printing House.

# Re-Announcement

Invitation for the participation in the implementation of the Project of His Excellency the President of the Republic for the Promotion of Computers.

The Ministry of Telecommunications & Information Technology represented by the Public Telecommunication Corporation, (P.T.C) invites Companies and individuals interested in participating in the implementation of the project of His Excellency the President of the republic, for the promotion of Computers, to establish a production and assemblment line for Computers at the Telecommunications & Information Technology City at the Ministry of Telecommunications & Information Technology.

Those interested in the project should submit their applications to the Procurement & stores head Office at the P.T.C, Al-Jiraff, Airport Road to obtain the Pre-Qualification documents priced at (10,000) ten thousand Yemeni Rials (on a non-refundable basis).

Participants should take note of the following conditions:

1. To submit all Technical, Commercial and administrative pre-qualification documents.
2. To submit a copy of the Agency Document from authorized agent in Yemen representing foreign company, authenticated and certified by the concerned authorities.
3. The offer must be in the Arabic, or the Arabic & English language to be submitted in one original and three copies.
4. A copy of valid Tax Card with regard to local companies.
5. A copy of valid Insurance card with regard to local companies.
6. Offers must be valid for period of not less than (90) ninety days from the date of opening the enveloped offers.
7. All offers must be placed inside an envelope and sealed by red wax.

All offers must reach the Project Committee Secretariat at the Telecommunications & Information Technology City building not later than 10:30 a.m. on Saturday the 23rd of August 2003.

Envelopes will be opened in public at 11:00 a.m. of the same day in the Meeting Hall of the Telecommunications & Information Technology City in the presence of company officials or their representatives who may wish to attend.

P.T.C shall not accept any offer submitted after the above-mentioned deadline.

## Kuala Lumpur & Jakarta Package Special Summer Offer

Hotel Names	City	07 nights 08 days	Single room	14 night 15 days	Single room	Accommodation bed & breakfast
Istana hotel	Kuala Lumpur/Malaysia	\$680	\$890	\$910	\$1330	Category *****
Park Inn International	Kuala Lumpur/Malaysia	\$595	\$700	\$695	\$900	Category ***
J W Marriott	Jakarta/Indonesia	\$875	\$1155	\$1075	\$1635	Category *****
Aston Atrium	Jakarta/Indonesia	\$770	\$930	\$865	\$1185	Category ****

Agent Commission 5% on the total package.

Conditions:

Price per person on twin sharing (min 2 person per departure)

Child under 12 years of age sharing parent room at 50% of the package fair

Infant 10% of the package fair.

Round trip ticket Sanaa Kuala Lumpur Sanaa - Sanaa Jakarta Sanaa

Accommodation at the hotel mentioned above on bed & breakfast.

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## Words of Wisdom



The value of time should be one of the key aspects in our way of thinking. If a society is oblivious to time, it is definitely primitive or at least backward, even if it has modern airports, and lots of machines. I believe that our political, economic, cultural and social leaders have a duty to insist on a better understanding of and interaction with time. This is a vital factor in our ability to join the 21st century.

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

OUR  
OPINION

*How it feels to be the least developed Asian country:*

## Does anyone care?

I saddened me tremendously to realize that Yemen continued to fall down the list in terms of human development. The UNDP Human Development 2003 revealed that Yemen is the least developed Asian country for this year. It shows Yemen on the 148th spot after being in 144 last year, and in the 130 spot the year before.

We can sense that things are not going to the better in terms of human development. There may be slight improvements in cleanliness and in other artificial things, but the education system continued to deteriorate, so did the health sector and the other civil services.

Trying to figure out why we have become so low in ratings in terms of human development we will realize that the main reason behind is clear in the title of the report. We simply did not develop humans. Our streets may be cleaner now, but that is not because our people have become more aware of cleanliness, but rather because we deployed thousands of workers to clean up the streets virtually every few hours. As for citizens, they continue to throw garbage in the streets carelessly even more than before. We need to realize that a short term solution like bringing cleaners is much less powerful than raising education and awareness standards of the citizens themselves.

Today, we are witnessing in a staggering annual rate of population growth exceeding 3.6%. This in itself is a time bomb that threatens to explode within the few coming years to lead to a humanitarian catastrophe. I do not want and I cannot imagine in Yemen becoming one of the African countries with famine and starvation everywhere you go.

After all, Yemen has resources and all the means to flourish and advance. Yet it is kept in the least developed countries category.

What is even more concerning for me is that officials don't seem to get it and take things seriously. It seems that they are living in another world. Is it their air-conditioned fancy cars that make them unable to smell the sewage system or feel turbulence while driving on ruined streets in the city? Or is it their extra luxurious house complexes that let them live in another world? Or perhaps it is their frequent travels to Europe and elsewhere for work and vacation that prevent them from realizing the true situation we are in.

When the government ministers took the oath a few months ago, did they realize what they are getting into? Do they know that Yemen may face a water crisis in 10 years, may have the population doubled in 20 years, and may become a totally improvised state with little oil or energy resources and almost 100% of its population below poverty line in 50 years?

When I heard the news about our rank in the report, and when I realized our officials said that Yemen is going on the right path towards development and accomplishments I thought that there must be something wrong in how our officials think. Either they are trying to fool the people and the world, or they are themselves being fooled in not being aware of the true situation.

Just as I thought that they would never find an excuse for being in such a low rating, I received a comment by one of our officials saying that globalization is to blame.

Well, if we still cannot admit that we have been committing mistakes for so long and need to fix them, I guess it will be quite hard for us to have them corrected, leading to an unpleasant feeling of "I just hope I won't live until the day when Yemen is ranked the least developed country in the world!"

The Editor

## Separate fishermen from mammoth investors ruining the environment:

# The conscious of the sea



BY YAZAN AL-SAGHIRY  
Yazanonline@hotmail.com

Have you ever been to Hodeidah or Hadramout? Have you ever met a local fisherman? Can you imagine, there are still people in the 21st century living in cottages? How about if I tell you that those cottages are not wooden! They are made out of straw! They call them "Ishash", single: "Isha". Some time ago, a bald, short and fat man went to the Ministry of Fisheries in order to meet an official. He was very well dressed; especially the tie! Oh dear, I can't forget his tie. Anyway, he introduced himself as an investor. He sat on his chair in front of the official, boasting his full belly, smoking his 'light' cigarette and saying: "You know sir, I work on investment since I was very young. As for now, I really like to do some business in my country; fisheries business. So, I came to you to know what are the facilities you offer; although I'm preoccupied with an idea - I got it from different sources: you help no one at all!" "Oh really" the officer answered, "well, allow me Sir to say, you are absolutely wrong. We encourage the investors to invest in Yemen, and, so a result, we have a lot of Yemeni and non Yemeni investors working here. Anyway, we have a book of our regulations and rules, you can 'study' them, and then you will know what are the facilities we do offer. On the other hand, not related to your interest, we even help the fishermen to have their own fishing boats! We pay 50% of the total amount. As for the rest, the fisherman pays them as payments every six months, for four years. What else can be done?" The investor said happily, "Amazing, I want to have some boats of yours!" The official tried to correct the misunderstanding, "You got me wrong Sir, this offer is only for local fisherman; not investors! Besides, every fisherman is allowed to have only one boat". "I'm a fisherman!" The investor said "It is so easy, I work on fishing, so I'm a fisherman". "Sir, in order to be a fisherman, you have to be a member in one of the fishermen social associations", said the official. "Didn't I tell you, you help no one!" The investor said with a stupid smile on his face, "I will make this country, not a naive fisherman". Here, the official got very upset. He gave the investor the book he told him about, and showed him the way out! After this conversation, a memory sneaked through my mind. Once, I witnessed and investigation with some fishermen. I remember, I was very bored until all of sudden, I noticed a very poor man. He was wearing a shirt, it was torn almost in two halves, and a 'Fota' - a Yemeni traditional cloth, it looks like a skirt, but it is manly -, with no shoes! Yes, he was barefoot! Trickle were filling his face and his skinny hands. I don't know really,

believe it or not, but the moment he came in, I smelled the smell of the sea! Amazingly, that man knows almost every inch of the Red Sea! He named more than 30 islands and rocks in that short period of investigation! And his trips on fishing - as he said - sometimes last for weeks. Can you see the difference? A man never goes to the sea, unless he wanted to spend some time on the beach in the summer with his family! He lives in his house - if I didn't say 'Palace' - with his family, running his business from his office. And he says: "I'm a fisherman!" On the other hand, we have a man, who has nothing! Traveling in the sea means everything to him! Otherwise, he would die out of hunger! He is unified for weeks with the sea, feels its feelings, happy when the sea is calm, and scared when the sea is angry. He obeys the sea rules, and believes me, they are very harsh rules. When that poor fisherman was asked about the last month he went fishing, the man was very confused. All he remembered, he went when the moon was full, which means it is 14th or 15th of something; he meant of course a Lunar Month! He knows time by looking at the moon. As I told you, he is very obedient to the law of the sea. He heard stories from his grandfathers about courage men, who disappeared in the sea, but that didn't make him reconsider his carrier. Something in his heart tells him, "It was their fault, they might broke that sacred law!" Whether that rude investor likes it or not, those fishermen are the kings of the sea. He is nothing but an intruder, especially when he has no respect to them or to the law of the sea. He might be rich, and they might be poor, but he is temporal and they are eternal! I know it is a vague conception and it needs some explaining.

I believe I have a marvelous example. Do you know that the traditional Yemeni fishermen played a very major role in the tribunal between Yemen and Eritrea over Hanish and other islands and rocks in the Red Sea? Their statements were highly considered by the Arbitral Tribunal. Their memories and 'naive' stories - like that 'naive' investor said - were very crucial to assure the right of Yemen in those islands. Also, the traditional fishing regime itself was highly appreciated by the Arbitral Tribunal. This was shown in the "first phase: the Eritrea - Yemen Arbitration" (First Award), the last chapter (No: XI), which was entitled by "Disposition, the last Article (527-vi): 'the sovereignty found to lie with Yemen entails the perpetuation of the traditional fishing regime in the region including free access and enjoyment for the fishermen of both Eritrea and Yemen'. When that first arbitrate issued on 9/10/1998, it was based on "sovereignty determination". Here, any researcher is expected to raise a very important question; why did they recognize the subject of traditional fishing in the first award: 'sovereignty Award'; the award that confirmed Yemen's sov-

ereignty over those islands? In fact, he would not be able to find any answer in the first phase award! Because the Arbitral tribunal chooses top put all the subjects of 'Maritime Boundaries' and 'Traditional fishing' in the "Second Stage: Maritime Delimitation". They stressed the traditional fishing in one whole chapter (No: IV), which was entitled by "The traditional fishing regime". The articles (form 87 to 112) were all about traditional fishermen and their extraordinary case! The tribunal issued that the sovereignty here is not to be considered 'a Western Territorial Sovereignty'. Otherwise, Eritrean fishermen were not allowed to fish nearby Yemeni Islands, nor use them for sheltering (Second Award, article (92)). As a result, the traditional fishing award:

1- It was only about fishermen from both parties (Yemen and Eritrea), not Yemeni Government nor Eritrean Government!

2- It gave the fishermen the right to fish in every inch in the eastern part as well as the western part of the Red Sea. In other words, they have the right to fish in the eastern part as well as the western part of the Yemeni Islands, article (109).

3- If any fishermen (Yemeni or Eritrean) crossed the maritime boundaries, which were demarcated by the Tribunal, it is not a 'violation' because, both parties traditional fishermen have a humanitarian and historical right to fish in 'the whole region', article (109) too.

4- Neither the Yemeni nor the Eritrean fishermen are asked for any kind of agreements between both governments to give them that right, article (110).

This issue is really highly important because there are a lot of misunderstandings about it, but I don't want to be far from the main idea. So, I will leave it now for good, but with hope that I might come to it next time.

Back to our subject, if the Arbitral was very understanding to this issue and this is an international court, i.e., it is the highest judgment authority on earth, so why don't we understand? Why doesn't our government understand? Of course, no one asks to end the investment in any field in Yemen, but we do want to have some strict punishments for those 'Pirates'; I mean those investors who destroy the marine environment, destroy the coral reefs and torn the nets of the fishermen', which was issued by the government to punish those who break 'the 6 nautical miles', which was issued by the government itself last year. It says, "All investment ships are obliged to fish beyond 6 nautical miles from the coast. This regulation in particular is always broken! These are some drops from rain of violations that happen almost every day. So, dear government: SOS\*!

\* An internationally recognized radiotelegraphic distress signal, used esp. by ships and consisting of the letters SOS spelled out in Morse Code (—).

COMMON  
SENSE

By Hassan Al-Haifi

## A road to peace without Israeli checkpoints

That the Bush Administration is committed to see the peace proposals for the Middle East Conflict, drawn up by a committee of four (the UN and three other states including the United States, France and Russia) through is significant. However, it is most important to understand that a peace can only be accomplished, if the important factor in the process, the United States, becomes oblivious to the domestic political considerations at stake, and works to the removal of the causes of the ongoing violence that we have witnessed in various forms for over 80 years. This would dictate that Washington, and more specifically, White House have a thorough understanding of the issues involved in the Middle East conflict, a feel of the history of the region and the complex interrelationships involved. To be honest and straightforward about certain elements in the conflict (such as considering the resistance to Israeli occupation, which is considered by international law as illegal by any standards) as terror and determining who should be speaking for the vanquished - the Palestinians, denotes a clear indication that the mediator is inclined to lean towards the feelings of one side. Having said all that, we still believe that it is the United States that can bring peace to the Holy Land, because it indeed holds most of the strings of influence in the region that can have an effect on getting the implementation of any plan of the drawing boards and on the ground sustainably. While it would have been more preferential to see the White House take off where the previous administrations left off, after making considerable progress. If the Administration wants its own peace agenda, it must bear in mind that in this conflict, there is not much more that the Palestinians can really give up, when considering that they have been on the short end of the stick all along this conflict. If it comes into this process, with the thinking that, well let's take off from what we have on the ground, where the Israelis are continuously gaining ground and the Palestinians are continuously losing lives and land, we will really come to a quicker dead end than Oslo and Madrid came to eventually. The Israelis favor such a continuation of movement from one drawing board to the next, because in the interim, they continue to pursue their expansionist agenda on the ground and the Palestinians continue to loose their association with the land by an ongoing fait accompli situation, that they will have to succumb to for each peace plan drawn up.

Since the Road Map has started, the Israeli settlement build-up continues, a "token" gesture of release of prisoners has not materialized, but reflected a PR effort to smooth the rigged edges of an unjustifiable occupation that can only be described as tragic, inhumane and lacking in the least considerations for human dignity and human rights. On the other hand, the Israelis continue their classic methods of intimidation (remember the "Sharon walk to the Al-Aqsa Mosque, which launched the present round of violence, even before he was elected Prime Minister). Recently the Israelis have been sending waves of tourists to the sanctuary of the Al-Aqsa Mosque, which should immediately raise alarm bells that the Road Map is already in danger, before it even got off the launch pad. The fact of the matter is that, we know the Israelis do not want any peace plan to work, because they have always instigated actions that eventually spark off obvious reactions by their Palestinian "partners", thus bringing the plan to a dead end, because of security considerations. It is a vicious circle the Israelis have mastered over the last fifty years, with their neighbor Arab States and with the indigenous population they have misplaced. On the other hand, the Israelis will continue to stall the process by a thousand and one means, while they continue to advance their own "plans" for the Holy Land.

We are not confident that this Road Map will be a sustainable process, because the White House will continue to give heavy weight to Israeli views, while throwing any views by the Palestinians on the waste paper basket, even if all the Arab leaders plead and beg until their mouths are dry to at least listen to the Palestinian side. But, we should like to hope that after the American fiasco in Iraq, the Arab world would be worthy of one sign at least that the Americans do have sincere genuine intentions for the region.

What should be also important is that the other members of the Committee that draw up the plan, must follow through on the implementation stages as well. This would at least provide the White House with the political cushion to withstand the pressures on the political domestic front, which continuously works on the premise that Israel is the only human side to the story in the Holy Land and everything else is either associated with terrorism or anti-American hatred. There is a lot more at stake for all concerned.

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## Letters to the Editor

### No salaries for Hodeidah teachers

Teachers have not yet received June's salaries in Hodeidah province. It is now 19th July. Teachers are used to receive salary after 45 days. In other words, the month in Hodeidah province consists of 45 days. Yet, we are obliged to accept it but this month, July, has come and 50 days have passed without salary. We are very worried that this case may develop to be worse resulting in salary payments after 60 days.

It is not only miserable but it is really disastrous. The time that teachers are waiting for their salaries on tenterhooks to pay back the heavy debts, rents, etc. is being stretched beyond endurance. The salaries are delayed 10 days more than usual. When are we going to receive our salaries at the end of the month not in the middle of the next month?

The expensive living costs are killing us in our beloved country in which the government perhaps enjoys tortur-

ing its teachers. They may want to use the Arabic proverb, "Make your dog hungry to follow you constantly." What is the final arbiter to solve this Herculean task? Can't we receive our salaries at the end of the month like all others?

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### A word about Qat

There was a line in the article "The Qat: means for work and richness... But a water exhausting agricultural phenomenon" that I found disturbing and hypocritical. The line is: "The one who chews qat feels strength and activity and concentration in mental works and protects the Yemeni society from drug addiction".

First, qat is a drug. Second, many Yemenis are addicted to it. There are Yemenis who keep their families starving so they can buy qat to satisfy their habit (i.e. their addiction). This you

## Letters to the Editor

cannot deny.

Qat is like gambling, alcohol, and other drugs. All of these tear apart families and are time-consuming as well as money-consuming. If the Messenger(PBUH) had known of the Yemeni's qat addiction he would have banned the drug.

Farmers use their land to grow massive gardens of qat instead of growing valuable plants such as those that bear vegetables, grains, and fruits.

The youth spend a long portion of their day to attend qat sessions instead of looking for jobs, studying, and working.

Qat is something that should be dealt with and illegalized as well as the alcohol that is sold in Aden, Al Hodeida, and other cities.

Every Yemeni that wants to live life economically secure must give up their qat and stop going to other countries to look for jobs. They are lucky to have land and to have opportunities to create jobs. They don't live under oppression like the Palestinians and Iraqis.

When will we ever return to our golden age when education was valuable and that we were the most advanced? When will we reclaim our title as Felix Arabia?

Ali Hussein  
alamari7@juno.com

### Raises plus anti-corruption

I read your article "Council of ministers demand salary rise" with great interest. It is about time Yemen's ministers, civil servants, military personnel, teachers etc received pay raises in keeping with increased inflation and cost of living.

However, there is no point in doing so without a comprehensive Anti-Corruption Bill. If enforcing the anti-corruption laws would save Yemen tens of million even if salaries were increased 2000%.

Studies in the US showed that higher paid police forces were less corrupt than lower paid forces.



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# Kelly the fall guy in Blair's crusade

David Kelly  
For the Independent

**T**he British PM's obsession with defending his honour over Iraq turned a 45-minute sideshow into a tragedy, writes Hugo Young.

We have to remember that the tragedy of Dr David Kelly began with something utterly unworthy of such an outcome. It was an extremely trivial point. It wasn't about life and death in war. It didn't deal in official secrets. It wasn't a case of espionage, betraying the security of the country.

The point was a story quite marginal to these things that might have mattered. It was: could Saddam Hussein have launched weapons of mass destruction in 45 minutes? The point that was stirred into turmoil, and then driven towards tragedy, was even narrower: whether Saddam could do this or not, who was the source of a BBC story saying some knowledgeable insiders did not believe it?

This is trifling stuff. In a normal political world, where top people had not taken leave of their senses, it would not produce a crisis. It certainly would not push anyone over the brink to suicide, if that's what happened to Kelly. So you have to look further and see what made a triviality achieve all that.

The answer is regrettably simple.

The 45-minute detail was hyped by Tony Blair into the essence of the foulest charge against his sainted integrity, and therefore had to be squashed by every means. The smell that's left behind is even more odious: that of a state - executive and parliament combined - willing to abandon all sense of proportion to score political points against its critics.

How a small detail, a sideshow, billeted into suicidal crisis is the British Government's work from start to finish. It alone put "45 minutes" into the public realm, last September. Blair projected it further, in his introduction to the dossier. This was meant to shock, and it did so. But there it was, doing the work it was designed to do: scare part of the country into supporting a future assault on Saddam.

Stage two of this infamous and potent - if virtual - 45 minutes came later. As war got closer and another dossier appeared, rumblings emerged from the intelligence world. They didn't like the way politicians were turning the sceptical speculations of intelligence into firm public assertions, designed to play the same role as the 45 minutes: scare the British witless into war.

But only when the main war was over did the notorious 45 explode to the top of the agenda. Again this was the Government's doing. The news reporter Andrew Gilligan, on BBC

radio, reported that one knowledgeable intelligence insider thought the September dossier had overhyped the 45. Because the 45 had been so graphic - the crown jewel in the glittering propaganda for war - maybe its tarnishing caused special pain.

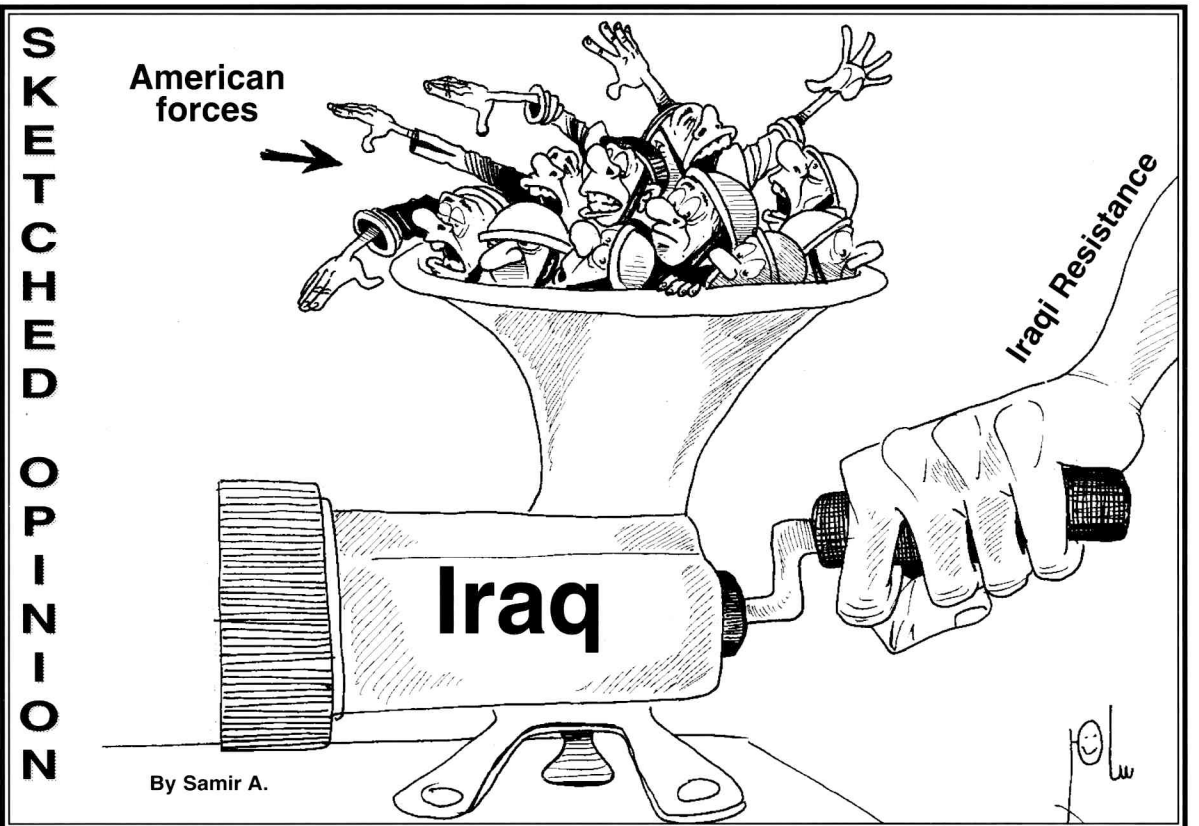
Whatever, this was the moment at which Blair and his spokesman, Alastair Campbell, decided to begin an exercise in hyperbole that soon swept every available particle of state power into the defence of their integrity. This involved them in several degradations. Here are some.

One, refuting charges that were never made - that Campbell inserted the 45 into the dossier knowing it to be false, whereas the real issue was one of presentational nuance, not overt falsity.

Two, using this minor issue to blur the far greater question overhanging the Government at the time the Gilligan story came out: did Blair tell the truth about why we went to war, and would WMDs ever be found?

Three, insisting that the source of the story was what mattered, and squeezing every airway to try to get the BBC to disclose it - as if this mattered more than the manifest postwar fact that the 45 was always a myth, and the WMDs probably no longer exist, for all of which, the Prime Minister now tells a confessional Congress, "history will forgive us".

A source, a source, my kingdom for a source, said Blair and his people.



Enter David Kelly, an obscure though not unimportant consultant to both the British Foreign Office and the Ministry of Defence, who volunteered to his bosses that he had talked to Gilligan and maybe helped him on the story, without being his prime source. The honourable act of a man who had no idea he would shortly be thrust into the maelstrom that uniquely surrounds a Prime Minister who has decided that his integrity, if not his political life, is under threat.

There are secondary players in this sordid game. The BBC's and Gilligan's performance on the question of the source has been shifty. When Kelly first appeared, they said the real source was in a different department, implying an intelligence official rather than a

defence consultant. Later they refused even to confirm or deny anything. This left the impression with some that Kelly might indeed have been the source. Kelly may have had the same sense that he was being fingered.

The recent behaviour of the foreign affairs committee of the House of Commons has been more ignominious. Its first report on the origins of the Iraq war was measured enough. But then its chairman and Labour members seem to have got caught up in the frenzy of No.10, suddenly calling Gilligan for a second interrogation and coming out from behind closed doors to smear his reputation. Coupled with their gratuitous bullying of Kelly to name himself as the culprit, these second-division politicians showed little respect for

natural justice.

But the most eloquent message concerns the Blair Government. It must be right at all times. Above all, the integrity of the leader can never be challenged. He never did hype up intelligence. He didn't take Britain to war on any other than the stated terms. Any suggestion of half-truth, or disguised intention, or concealed Bushite promises is the most disgraceful imaginable charge that deserves a state response that knows no limit.

That's how a sideshow came to take over national life. Now it seems to have taken a wretched, guiltless man's life with it. Such is the dynamic that can be unleashed by a leader who believes his own reputation to be the core value his country must defend.

## Dangerous Burba-lings from OpinionJournal.com

# The occidental tourist

BY MICHAEL YOUNG\*  
FOR REASON MAGAZINE

**O**ne rarely has to wait long to enjoy those moments when blue chip publications print the worst sort of hogwash. Such was the case last week when the Wall Street Journal's Opinion Journal Web site published a commentary by one Elisabetta Burba, an Italian lady who, we were warned, is a journalist.

Under the title "Whooping it Up: In Beirut, even Christians celebrated the atrocity," Burba wrote of her experiences in Lebanon, where she was visiting during the homicidal September 11 attacks against New York and Washington. Her argument, as the title suggests and as she wrote, was that "the offspring of [the] great [Phoenician] civilization were celebrating a terrorist outrage. And I am not talking about destitute people. Those who were cheering belonged to the elite of the Paris of the Middle East."

One can instantly spot the usual affliction of tourists visiting Lebanon, namely a fondness for obsolete clichés. Perhaps Burba hadn't heard, but a 15-year war and over 100,000 deaths pretty much did in Beirut's "Paris of the Middle East" reputation. But there is much more in her essay: In addition to the clichés, there is flimsy evidence, reliance on hearsay, and awe-inspiring laziness.

First, flimsy evidence. Our journalist has just heard news of the U.S. attacks: "[We] went into an America-style café in the Hamra district...rated as one of the most expensive shopping streets in the world...The café's sophisticated clientele was celebrating, laughing, cheering and making jokes, as waiters served hamburgers and Diet Pepsi. Nobody looked shocked or moved. They were excited, very excited."

Forget for the moment that Burba's guidebook prose merely recycles the pre-civil war description of a no-longer-opulent Hamra. It is her insis-

tence that people were rejoicing at the attacks that is especially unconvincing. Couldn't it be that they were laughing for some other reason? Burba doesn't speak Arabic, so she wouldn't know. Did failing to silently grieve for the U.S. victims mean the café's patrons endorsed their collective murder? Alas, people, as Burba's subsequent sight-seeing in Lebanon showed, do go on functioning as before.

Then there is hearsay. Burba has a tendency to believe whatever she's told, particularly when it squares with her preconceptions. Still reeling from her traumatic encounter with the happy throngs in Hamra, she asks "some moderate Arabs" if those approving of the attacks are a minority. The person answering spoke for many, Burba supinely explains, when he remarked: "Ninety percent of the Arab world believes that Americans got what they deserved."

But the high point of Burba's laziness comes one evening when she is "in the Christian northern part of Beirut [and hears] some loud noises." Ever the intrepid reporter, Burba asks what the sounds are. Someone responds: "Probably they are celebrating the attacks." Burba is dumbfounded: "You mean the Maronite Christians are also celebrating?" "Yes," comes the answer, "they also feel betrayed by the Americans." Burba, naturally, swallows this hook, line, and sinker.

How both passages got by Opinion Journal's editors is astonishing. This isn't news. It's not even propaganda. What we have here is the chambermaid exchanging gossip with the milkman. One need not even bother picking the passages apart, they are so poor, their assumptions so shaky, the author's gullibility, or bad faith, so pervasive. But then Burba's article is a veritable forest of such commentary. One can devote an evening listing her errors, and invite friends in to participate.

At this stage, two warnings are in order. The point here is not to target a dreadful piece of writing, nor even chastise Opinion Journal for publish-

ing something so simplistic, but to engage in self-defense. There is a sincere belief in the U.S. that the Lebanese were fully behind the air attacks. When the attitude in Washington is "You are against us if you are not with us," irresponsible pieces like Burba's are downright dangerous.

There is also the matter of distributing collective responsibility. Undoubtedly, there were people in Lebanon happy with the mass murders in Washington and New York. There were even a few in the U.S. who applauded them — and that's not even including such serial cretins as Jerry Falwell, who interpreted the attacks as divine intervention to punish the extravagances of sinful Americans. However, extending such alleged approval to Lebanese society as a whole is not only a no-no in serious journalism, it is factually wrong.

Many Lebanese watched with horror what took place on September 11, and they did so because many of them knew, or feared they knew, people in and around the World Trade Center. There were ceremonies in Beirut to honor the victims, and the U.S. embassy welcomed many people presenting their condolences. There are countless Lebanese living in the U.S., and countless others here who await — and who will now have to wait for much longer — a chance to follow them.

I assume that Burba knew she wouldn't have much of a story if she described the nuances in Lebanese reaction to the attacks. She knew Opinion Journal would likely not run a piece that banally argued how divided an Arab society could be over the horrendous loss of life in the U.S.

Good for you Signora Burba. Though you used fraudulent means, you sold your piece. Bravissima!

\* Michael Young  
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# Where is Iraq war instigator, Richard Perle?

BY WILLIAM HUGHES

**P**erhaps we should take a break on looking for Saddam Hussein, Osama bin Laden, William "Slots" Bennett, or even James J. "Whitey" Bulger. For me, the key question today is: Where is Richard Perle? Before the launching of Iraq War No. 2, in March 20, 2003, Perle, America's lingo, regularly appeared on TV and cable TV programs, on radio, and in the print media, too. He repeated, ad infinitum, ad nauseam, why it was so absolutely critical for the U.S. to immediately invade Iraq. America was "at risk," he said, with that ubiquitous smirk on his mug. There wasn't a moment to lose. "Saddam has WMD," he told us, and he also "hates America" and poses a dire "threat to our security?" The shifty Perle, the Mother of all Neo-cons, also predicted, like former Defense Department official, Ken Adelman, that a U.S. invasion of Iraq would be a "cakewalk!" It will be "easy," he boasted. We would also be "exporting democracy" to the Iraqi people, who will "welcome us" with open arms "as liberators," he claimed over and over again in similar words. Cakewalk! Easy! Exporting Democracy! Liberators! Sure!

Now, Perle is among the missing! The man with the sinister-looking scowl hasn't showed up on the Talking Head circuits since about the time the U.S. occupation of Iraq began going sour. Could he be hiding out in his beloved Israel, in a safe house provided by Benjamin Netanyahu, a/k/a "Bend-the-Truth Yahoo?" Or, are the War Hawks, Rep. Tom Lantos (D-CA) and Sen. Joseph Lieberman (D-CT), telling him to keep a low profile by working temporarily as an extra on a Hollywood movie? Who knows?

It's a certainty that the idea of

"regime change" for Baghdad was first hustled in Zionist Israel. A 1996 paper concocted by Perle, Douglas Feith and David Wurmser, entitled, "A Clean Break: A New Strategy for Security the Realm," called for, inter alia, "the removal of Saddam Hussein and the installation of a Hashemite monarchy in Baghdad."

The "realm" Perle, Feith and Wurmser were seeking to secure, however, wasn't America's, but Israel's! The study was intended as a blueprint for the then-upcoming Likud-dominated government of Netanyahu. Feith now works for "our" Defense Department, in a high policy post, while Wurmser is planted in the State Department as a "special assistant." ("Examining the Role of Israel and its American Friends in Promoting War on Iraq," Allan C. Brownfeld, WRMEA, May, 2003).

For a while, Perle was a chief honcho of the Defense Policy Board, which advised Donald Rumsfeld and reported directly to another shadowy figure, Deputy Defense Secretary, Paul Wolfowitz. Perle was recently forced to resign from the top post, but still remains on the Board.

Perle is a notorious Israeli Firster. He is a member of the Jewish Institute of National Security Affairs (JINSA). He is also a research fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, a hard line, right wing "think tank," that has slated Iran as America's next war target. Perle advocates a so-called "Pax Americana," a new American Empire, which promotes America's world domination. Gee, I wonder if Israel will benefit from that scheme, too?

Perle serves, also, on the Board of Advisors of the Foundation for Defense of Democracy (FDD)-another right wing group, which is, of course, fanatically pro-Israel. He hangs out with Super-Hawks, such as: Charles Krauthammer, William Kristol and Gary

Bauer.

In fact, Perle is a master deceiver! American soldiers are now dying in Iraq, 30 since President George W. Bush declared "mission accomplished" on board the USS Lincoln, on May 1, 2003. As the body bags of our fallen heroes return to Dover, Delaware's Air Force base, loved ones have every right to blame Perle, and his ilk, for their losses.

The Iraq invasion was not a "cakewalk." Iraq doesn't have WMD, nor did it have any ties to terrorists, as Perle tooted. And, the Iraqi people bitterly resent the U.S./British invasion and occupation of their country.

The unnecessary and immoral destruction by Coalition Forces of Iraq's gas, water and electrical works, the bombing of their cities, pollution of their lands and rivers by toxic chemicals, leaking raw sewage and tons of depleted uranium, the death and injuries to countless thousands of innocent civilians, and the mostly total collapse of its social, health, cultural and monetary systems, too, has been a human catastrophe of the first magnitude. A country of 25.5 million souls has become a living hell for no darn good reason. Opponents of the war have nothing to regret.

Democracy, Perle's rotten lies to the contrary, is not, like Coke Cola, an exportable product. Americans troops now face death around every corner in Iraq, as the situation on the ground begins to resemble the guerrilla warfare conditions of the British-occupied north of Ireland during the late 70s. The Iraqi war will only be over when the Iraqi people say so. The cost to U.S. taxpayers could hit \$1.6 trillion. And, this totally uncalled for conflict has created even more enemies for America around the globe.

A final question: Will the slippery Perle, America's lingo, ever be forced to answer to the people for his incalculable wrongdoing?



# A movie: Queens of Yemen



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**O**n Sunday 13 July, the British Ambassador to Yemen Mrs. Frances Guy gave a reception party at the British embassy building, including a film show on Yemeni Women. The film was financed by the British Embassy, and produced by Ms. G. Torrubia.

The film impressed the audience in its professional photography, sound, personalities, and in the affairs its theme has tackled, i.e. Yemeni women. Three samples of Yemeni women are chosen from various segments of the society to build its theme on.

One was about a woman who struggled hard to continue her studies until she graduated as a doctor in medicine. The second was about a Yemeni woman who fought severely to carry out her own business to support and finance her children's education while her husband was merely a passive burden on the family. He only chewed Qat and spent the whole day with his idle friends. The third example was that of the strong Yemeni woman, who is distinguished by her role in fighting for her rights—and other women and human rights—to take them by all means through law and constitution. The third example resembled a tireless woman who also fought to have her inheritance despite the fact that it should have been given to her by law, but it never happened.

A lively discussion followed the film and was concentrated on two main points: right to education, and violence against women.

The film in my point of view is phase 1 regarding Yemen women affairs. It shows actual situation in Hodeidah and Taiz regions. We hope that other phases will follow to show other aspects of family life in other Yemeni areas, and also to show development of women education today all over Yemen Universities.

My intervention concerning parents' opposition to education not only for women, it happened to me personally in Hadhramout. My father didn't allow me to go to intermediate school in Ghail Bawazeer, because I will be corrupted!! The only way that I escaped, in his absence, and he tried to bring me back by car, but fortunately he couldn't get me. Even my marriage took place without consulting neither me nor the mother of my children- both of us were forced at that time, in 1969.

So women issues in Yemen can be solved with time, by spreading education all over the country especially in rural places when 80% of the people live there.

As to the injustice mentioned by one brilliant lady, as dealt with according to the laws in Yemen, the husband for instance has the right to kill his wife if he finds her with another man, but meanwhile the wife has not the same right to kill the husband if she finds him with another woman!! The only punishment the betraying husband receives is an imprisonment for one year!! Such a light sentence is not even given for killing an animal!!

This argument is misinterpreted; because I assisted myself the discussion of this article in National committee for Women. The main philosophy behind the law is that if the husband finds his wife at home with another man in bed in an improper situation, he might involuntary use his weapon to kill both. In such a case he is not guilty; but if the wife finds him in the same situation with another woman, she must make sure that the woman is not another wife for him. Because by law, if a husband is found practicing adultery, the court will punish him by death penalty.

As to violence against woman, I think really that a large portion of woman suffers from domestic violence due to illiteracy of their husbands as well as ignorance of rights and duties of both husband and wife.

Although the holy Quran mentions the possibility of beating the wife, the prophet gave its limits and restricted its form as follows:

It is the last thing to happen after discussion and advice, then sleeping away in the same room to show your anger. Then of course quarreling might take place and hands might be used. As to the wife no restriction to use her hands in any way she likes, if she can. But the husband is restricted by the following:

Do not touch the face!! Meanwhile all movies, the husband slaps the wife on the face.

Do not insult her femininity and beauty.

Do not break any bone.

Do not cause a wound or flesh damage.

Finally, do not leave any trace on the



Part of the audience during the show

body.

With all these conditions how a husband can beat his wife!! Moreover the law states clearly that if it happened that you break a bone, or caused a wound, or a trace is found on the body, the judge demands the same from the husband: eye for eye, tooth for tooth, etc.

As to women rights in Yemen, they are far better than in the west, except that application of laws is null unfortunately. I think with ladies graduates from faculties of law; they can create their own offices for women lawyers, to carry out women affairs in courts.

As to rights compared to women in the west: She carries her father and mother names until death, the same as man, and not her husband's name like most western countries.

She gets the same salary as man if she has the same qualifications and experience meanwhile the woman in the west has not.

She gets 30% less just because she is a woman even in America the capital of human rights!

She has her share in heritage which might be more or less than the man depending on the situation. The argument that is widely spread that the woman gets half the share of what the man gets is not true. This is only one case for brothers and sisters alone

where the brothers get double the share of sisters. But this is on condition that the brothers must spend on living of all the family instead of the father; meanwhile the sisters put their money in their pockets.

She has the right to divorce, if she demands this in the act of marriage only by tongue. Otherwise she has the right through the court and the judge.

A woman has no financial responsibility whatsoever even if she works. Her money is always for her. The husband has no right whatsoever to ask her for her own money. Even if it happens that the woman is very rich, no obligation for her to pay a penny. Family finance and needs are a must on the husband.

## *An overview of a fruit introduced to Yemen just recently:*

# Mangos find a place in Yemen

Yemen Times Staff  
Taiz Bureau

**M**ango is a seasonal fruit that appeared in Yemen for the first time in Al-Haza in Zabid just adjacent to Raima Mountains. Since then, it grew well in Al-Barakani and Al-Dhabab Valley in Taiz and also in Lahj, Abian, and Hodeidah. The mango is native to southern Asia, especially Burma and eastern India. It spread early on to Malaya, eastern Asia and eastern Africa. Mangos were introduced to Yemen in the 20th century.

Anang, Anba'a and Anb Idham are a few of the local names for mango, which has a beautiful tree belonging to the citrus family that originally comes from India and China. Al-Mudhafar Al-Rasooli in his ancient book "Al-Mutamad" had written about this fruit. "Al-Anba'a is an Indian plant that can not exist outside India and China. Its tree is similar to that of walnuts and Indian people gather it when it is ripe, cover it with salt and use it as pickles. In their culture it is one of the favorite types of food and is also considered an appetizer. If eaten constantly, it gets rid of bad breath and sweat odor," he said.

Mango was never mentioned to have existed in Yemen any time in ancient history, which implies that indeed, it



appeared in this country in the 20th century. Spice dealers or alchemists never mentioned mango in their documents including Dawood Al-Antaki who was a scientist of the sixteenth century. He did not even point to it in any of his references indicating that it was not known in Egypt then.

### Mango's features

Mango is an attractive tree that reaches more than 4 meters in height and blooms small orange or purple flowers. Its branches and leaves give a delightful distinguished smell. However there are

types of mangos.

Mangos will grow in almost any well-drained soil whether sandy, loam or clay, but avoid heavy, wet soils. A pH between 5.5 and 7.5 is preferred. They are somewhat tolerant of alkalinity. For good growth, mangos need a deep soil to accommodate their extensive root systems, and they found this soil in many areas in Yemen.

There is also a small type that does not exceed two meters in height with a dark trunk and rectangular leaves similar to those of Guava trees. Its fruits are quite small and sour and could be grown

in cool climates. The medium size mango is the most prominently grown in Yemen because it grows in moderate climates and is quite sweet in taste. Yet the third type is the largest in size and Yemeni farmers started growing them many years ago. Perhaps this type of mangos has been brought by merchants who went back and forth between Yemen and India in the last century. This type of mangos is mostly grown in hot to moderate climates and has found good conditions for itself in Zabid, Abyan, Malhan, Lahj, Juba, East Sabir and the Dhabab Valley in Taiz province. Yet the best kinds are found in Al-Barakani Valley in Al-Hujariya and they ripen in June and July because it is their season.

### Medical benefits

Very little has been mentioned about mangos in ancient books but Shiekh Mohammed bin Yihya Al-Junaid, one of the famous Yemeni herbal physicians said, "The really sweet mango juice gives the body great energy and if mixed with milk it helps stomach problems and cures intestine infections. It is an appetizer if taken moderately. It is advised not to drink water immediately after drinking mango juice. The oil that is extracted out of mango peels also heals asthma and pile diseases, but the sour type of mangos could seriously affect the kidneys and weaken the gums."

## Seeking harmony



BY IRENA KNEHTL  
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

By Irena Knehtl  
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Years after wars, dry seasons, sand storms, wild seas, and seasons plenty of rains when baskets were full of grapes, gold brown dates, melons, papayas and mangos, he phoned her.

Peace be with you, said the voice.

She immediately recognized him at once from the voice. His voice was trembling. He seemed nervous, afraid. With the trembling she, suddenly, heard again the voices of near bye mountains. Now brown and dusty. Where the silence fell with the waking birds. And setting moon.

The aridity of the soil.  
The tiny mountain pathways.  
The summer head in the shadowless roads.  
Great clouds of rising dust.

In the souks the morning clamour was stilled, as merchants and customers alike stood immobile, women whispered and some prayed.

Peace be with you, she replied.

He did not know what to say.  
How is it, he finally asked after long pause.  
Good, she replied short.  
Again long pause. He knew, she begun writing. About man, land, dignity, and freedom. About freedom of thousand faces above the sky, which they never had. He remembered the fire in his heart. And apricot blossoms in her hair. How he remembered to forget. How he wanted to be like a mountain in front of her...to shield her.

His voice was trembling now. Was afraid. All life was good. He knew it now. Only man makes it evil. He was free now to desert purpose and seek harmony.

There were rumors of rain.  
A chain of voices  
Imaginations of sand  
He had rose water brought to wash his eyes.

He could spend the winter, the summer, and then another winter and another summer here.  
For he was in his own land in midst of

Pavilion of roses and  
The sea of mood.

He did not know what to say. And then he told her. Told her what he could not tell her all the many years.

The he loves her.  
Will always love her.  
Only her.

ABDULWAHAB A. AL SOFI

**I** had visited many places .I had gone to many valleys. I had penetrated many forests. I had come across many golden desert sands. I had got many vacations. I had visited the best islands in the world. I had enjoyed all the wonderful sights on the globe. I had sailed many oceans where I could see a charming life. Yet I realized that I have visited nothing. I still have a lack of discoveries. This feeling came after I had met her. She is the biggest SHE .She is not a female I am not sure. She may be a girl with an angel's body. Let's imagine she is a female. What I wonder is that every part of her body represents every pretty area of the world.

In short, if you had seen her you would have visited the charming places in the world. She is a small piece of the paradise, so that no one can describe her as she is. Who can number Allah's Creativities? Once, I could see her, so that I decided to travel again. I forget my history. My legs carried me to her with closed eyes but with wide-open heart. I devoted all my emotions to her, ignoring all dire consequences. There, on her cheek I put a tent alone. This is the beginning, but I think my journey ends at the same place. It is a fertile area with golden desert. Thus, I believe I will live my remaining life on her cheek. As you know, the greediness of human beings forces me to move to another place. I go a little farther of my tent. I find a calm clean stream with pearls twinkling. This

stream is full of emotions and sadness at the same time. It is so enjoyable that sadness and happiness embrace each other. It flows from springs which are fantastic. You can swim safely and wash your body without any soap. It is not like other seas or oceans .You can live peacefully. No waves pushing you away or whales and sharks threaten you. Only love, good feelings are replaced. What is hidden is greater than mentioned. The lips are sucking each other, attracting their visitors. There, I had a sweet juice. They are usually moisture. It is just fantastic and so wet that I slide and drop down in the mouth. This is because she smiled and her lips are apart. I was dropped on many victims. These victims were deceived, same as me. We stay a while facing many diffi-

culties. At this time I convinced my mates that we were sleeping for a long time with a sweet dream. Later we found ourselves in a deep ditch. We started to long for our countryside because of cities' pollution and a violent din of civilization. All of my friends in the ditch wanted to go back to their countryside. Then, we rushed together to climb, but we were too deep down to get out of the ditch. At last we agreed to help each other by pushing up one by one. Yet, we quarreled with each other, because every one wanted to be out at first. Thus, we will stay down; down forever as long as we envy people and we tread on our friend's heads, to have a charming life .We have to sacrifice for each other to live our sweet dream in reality.





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خصم ٥٠٪ لتحميل أحدث البرامج  
والخدمات للموبايل  
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**HONDA**



# Local Press

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr

**26 September weekly, organ of the Yemen Armed Forces, 17 July 2003.**

## Main headlines:

-17 July, inauguration of national gains era

-Yemen, Sudan, Ethiopian foreign ministers meet in Sana'a next month  
-Defense ministry source denies news of a military personality to chair anti-terror society

Columnist Abdulsamad al-Qaleesi says in an article that the people's referendum for Ali Abdulla Saleh to become president of the republic and in the way it was carried out is a Yemeni precedence in this time and venue. It has overstepped the historical heritage on the one hand and also stepped ahead in the geographical sense. This is a favor we can ascribe to president Saleh, but the question is whether he was alone in this regard. Was he alone who achieved this achievement? Or hasn't he partners as advisers or a good entourage?

It is a grave mistake to attribute all favors to one person and also a serious mistake and injustice to ascribe mistakes to one. The truth is that any leader is surrounded always by many persons, some have an official position and other some have close personal relationship. A leader would certainly take important resolutions influenced by their opinions except the dictators who take their decisions without consulting his advisers.

**Annas weekly, 21 July 2003.**

## Main headlines:

-Al-Mouayad and companion waiting for the last chance

-Saudi youth drowns in a dam in Yemen

-Authority and opposition agree on the dual elections system

-Loans agreements enkindle a crisis inside parliament

Columnist Dr Hassan al-Jawshaie says in his article that the Geneva agreement gives a kind of immunity to citizens of countries exposed to war or occupation in a way their is no attack on their properties, honor or killing of that country's citizens by soldiers of the occupying force. But America has another opinion in this regard. It wants immunity against and protection for its soldiers in case of occupying a country against any legal accountability when its soldiers commit the crimes of killing the occupied country's citizens or if they plundered their properties as it is happening now in Iraq. In other words America wants its soldiers to be above the law and accountability when they kill, plunder and violate the honor of the people under its occupation.



**Al-Shoura weekly, 20 July 2003.**

## Main headlines:

-JMP candidate not to take part in by-elections

-Shortcomings of Yemeni policies preclude progress in all fields

-Iraqi team investigate into loss of more than a half million dollars in the Iraqi embassy in Sana'a

Columnist Abdulla al-Qadhi says that the government bodies usually hold celebrations and festivals and symposiums on the World Population Day which falls on the 11th of July. This is something good and perhaps it has been understood as casting light and increasing awareness about the population issue.

The population problem in Yemen is increasing year by year and is getting aggravated. The population growth rate reaches more than 3.7,

## Main headlines

- President Saleh: Absence of solidarity, cause of what the nation exposed to
- We emphasize resolution to stabilize the state of law and order
- Shoura Council & parliament demand release of al-Mouayad & companion
- Military and civilian leaders back home
- Five European countries agree to maintain supporting demining
- Al-Asbahi secretary-general of the GPC, expectations
- Abu Isbaa' withdraws from by-elections sticks to results of previous elections
- Azhar sheikhs assail sheikh Al-Zindani fatwa
- Security issues dominate Addis Ababa meetings
- Theft of money in Iraqi embassy in Sana'a
- \$ 650 thousand stolen from Iraqi embassy in Sana'a treasury
- Al-Mouayad and companion fate to be decided this week
- Political security arrests eight prayers including 4 children
- Aden: American participation to chase probable terrorist infiltrators
- Interior minister: Escapees are 8 accused of Cole incident, 7 of involvement in Limburg, 195 due to al-Qaeda links
- Prime Minister Bajammal, acting president
- FBI conducts large-scale investigations in the wake of Aden container
- Explosives experts to defuse a suspected explosive charge inside a patient's stomach

which is the highest rate in the world. According to specialists the problem of population lies in the big difference for realizing the population growth and the limited of resources and weakness of economic growth and inability of development to face the needs of the population. The reason behind failure of population projects and programs is attributed to the administrative corruption and spread of the phenomena of wantonness as the government itself testified in linking corruption and terror in the latest government program read out in the parliament. In conclusion the population growth if not accompanied by setting up plans and programs and are being implemented the population increase would continue to be a strong challenge heralding dangerous economic and social consequences in the present and future.



**Al-Isbou weekly, 17 July 2003.**

## Main headlines:

-Thousands of fishermen declare strike in protest to the Eritrean piracy

-Government sources denied dialogue, confirming resolution to decide the matter without conditions with the Huttat group

Columnist Nouman Qaied Saif discusses in his article the question of government employees' salaries and the argument on increasing them. He says whenever the people's voices of protest raise because of the deteriorated living condition the government resorts to declare very slight increases in salaries every some number of years. Despite the little amount of increases in the salaries of the lower ranks among the government officials they usually do not exceed the 20 percent and subject to taxes which absorbs it and prices jump up in response. In contrast the government

gives jumping increases to senior government officials as lately suggested to be 150 percent.



**Al-Mithaq weekly, organ of the GPC, 21 July 2003.**

## Main headlines:

-The president: The tripartite grouping is for stability of the region, not against anyone

-By-elections preliminary results: GPC wins two constituencies and Islah in one

-AlJawfi opens heated files of education

-Social Affairs: non-governmental organizations work without permits and should rectify their situations

-Industry minister requests the private sector to enter exportation market strongly

The political editor of the newspaper says the visit of the president to Ethiopia acquires special importance because of the significance of the results it is going to come out with. No doubt the results would be culmination of the positive efforts of our country aimed at enhancing the friendly relations with Ethiopia in all fields. The visit and its results would prepare the atmospheres for that help efforts of the two countries for the achievement of the highest degrees of cooperation and coordination among the states of the Horn of Africa.

Perhaps the most prominent indicators of the future horizons are the figures that indicate the economic and trade cooperation and their future scopes especially since the formation of the higher joint committee between the two countries in 1992 in addition to the multi fields of cooperation, economic, investment, trade tourism and others. This also would enhance the two countries role in fighting terror and security cooperation.

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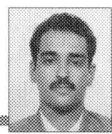
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# An introduction to the Internet Basics of HTML (2)



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 commonly 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 the form of words or images to move from one source to another on the Internet. Markup here means putting text, images or pictures along with tables on one page in an understandable way. And finally, Language means the programming language used. It is worth bearing in mind that there are other languages used in web pages for designing, but HTML was the first and continues to be the dominant language.

## Web page backgrounds

You can use HTML to change the web page background color or picture. The default color of the web pages is usually white or gray. To change the default color of the page you add the background attribute in the body tag. In our example, as in fig 1 in line 5, we changed the background color of the page to a new color which has the value of "CCFFFF". You can also use the regular expressions for colors such as red or blue ...etc. For example to make the background of the page look green you write the code as follows:

```
<Body bgcolor="Green">
```

Notice we use "bgcolor" in HTML to refer to the page background color.

It is very important to select a background color that fits the color of the text of the page. If the text color is black, the background color should be lighter, e.g. white color. The default color for text in any web page is usually black. It can be changed by adding the attribute for the text color in the same body tag. For example in our code to change the color of the text that will be written in the body of the page, we change the body tag to look as follows:

```
<body bgcolor="#CCFFFF" text="#000080">
```

The text color now will have the value "#000080" and this value is something closer to the dark blue. You can also use the regular expressions of colors for the text color.

Here, we have just changed the color of the regular text. 'Regular' here means the text that is not acting as hyperlink. The text that is acting as a hyperlink should have a different color to distinguish it from the regular text. The default and most common color used to format the hyperlinks, is blue.

In case you have your own style in selecting colors and you want to change the color of the hyperlinks, you add the "link" attribute to the body tag. For example to change the hyperlink color to brown, we change the body tag to the following:

```
<body bgcolor="#CCFFFF" text="#000080" link="Brown">
```

Well, I don't think you will not like to follow the standards, but in web designing standards are critical so I don't advice you to change the hyperlinks color.

Another distinct text color is that of visited hyperlinks. If you have noticed this before, when you go back to a web page that includes hyperlinks you visited them before, the text color is different from what it was before. This is very useful for visitors so as they can easily recognize the links they have already clicked. The default color of the visited links is something closer to purple. To change this color to another, you add the "vlink" attribute, which stands for visited link, to the body tag. For example to change the visited links color to red, the body tag should look as follows:

```
<body bgcolor="#CCFFFF" text="#000080" vlink="red">
```

There is also the active hyperlink text color. Active text is the hyperlink text which is in-transit after the visitor clicked on it. To change this color you add the active link attribute "alink" to the body tag. To change the color of the active links to white, the body tag should look like this:

```
<body bgcolor="#CCFFFF" text="#000080" vlink="red" alink="white">
```

## Using lists

HTML provides a variety of methods to display lists of data. There are three basic styles of lists you can design by using HTML. The three types are, Unordered lists, Ordered lists, and Definition lists.

## Unordered Lists

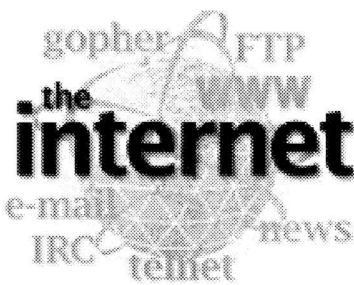
An unordered list is a list that shows a number of items without any ordering. For example an unordered list that includes three items could look as follows:

```
Main Cities in Yemen
<LI> Sana'a
<LI> Aden
<LI> Taiz
```

To design the same example by using HTML we use the "<UL>" tags as follows:

```
<UL> Main Cities in Yemen
<LI> Sana'a
<LI> Aden
<LI> Taiz
</UL>
```

Notice, the <LI> tags don't need closing tags.



```
1 <HTML>
2 <HEAD>
3 <TITLE> Yemen Kids On-line
</TITLE>
4 </HEAD>
5 <body bgcolor="#CCFFFF"
text="#000080">
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>
```

Fig1

We can also select the type of the bullets either disk, square or circle by adding the "type" attribute to the list tag as follows:

```
<UL type="circle">
```

## Ordered Lists

Ordered list is a list that shows a list of items with ordering or a sequence. The order could be alphabetical or numerical order. To display the previous example by using an order list, we use the ordered list tags "<OL>" and "</OL>" as follows:

```
<OL> Main Cities in Yemen
<LI> Sana'a
<LI> Aden
<LI> Taiz
</OL>
```

The default type of the order is numeric where the counting starts at "1". To change the type of the order and the starting point of the list, we add the type and starting attributes to the ordered list starting tag.

The type could be one of the following:

- 1: uses numbers (default).
- a: uses lower case letters in sequence
- A: uses upper case letters in sequence
- i: uses low case Roman numbering
- I: uses upper case Roman numbering

So to make our example list ordered alphabetically, we change the code as follows:

```
<OL type="a" start=a >
```

If you have any questions about the lessons please send me an e-mail to ayatharazi@hotmail.com.

Next week: More in HTML

# Literature in the University Curriculum of the Education Faculties (PART 2)



BY DR AYID SHARYAN  
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Language courses seem to be like driving lessons, metaphorically speaking. These lessons can help to train a student to drive the vehicle but literature is the highway on which they test themselves and try to drive that vehicle. If they are able to use language on that testing ground, then they are equipped with the necessary tool; if not they are bound to fail. Literature is like the sea on which untrained swimmers of the language would not be able to come safely to the shore. Thus both language and literature courses are complementary, not mutually exclusive.

To stress the role of literature, one needs to see the views of experts in the field. The importance of teaching literature, the paper assumes, emerges from the premise that literature is considered an important component of the curriculum at the Departments of English of the Yemeni Universities and in most Universities around the world. It has attracted the attention of linguists who care for how English language can be taught to foreign learners (Widdowson, 1975; Hill 1986; Collie & Salter, 1987; Duff and Maley, 1991; Brumfit & Carter, 1991; Cook, 1994; Weber, 1996). Literature was viewed 'to teach and please'. It is widely accepted that the linguistic and conceptual levels of a literary text carry with it delight and wisdom for EFL learners. For this English literature was a major component in the syllabuses of Faculties of Education at Sana'a University, i.e. about 22% of the total courses (36/158x100=22%). In addition to this, the two basic aims for teaching literature here are enrichment of vocabulary and literary appreciation.

Teachers in many parts of the world feel that literature is a rich language resource which can be exploited beneficially (Ambatchew, 1997: 44). Literature is an authentic material. Teaching experience shows that learners benefit a lot from this unmodified language in the classroom because of the skills they acquire in dealing with difficult or unfamiliar structures in literary texts. Literature encourages interaction and debate in and outside the classroom which is an aim for language learners. Literary texts are often rich in language and multiple layers of meaning. It can be effectively mined for discussions and sharing feelings or opinions. Asking learners to examine sophisticated or non standard examples of language (which can occur in literary texts) makes them more aware of the norms of language use (Widdowson, 1975). Literature educates the whole person and seeks the general betterment of society through concepts of equality, non-exploitation and moral principle (Brumfit *et al*, 1991: 236). By examining values in literary texts, teachers

encourage learners to healthy develop attitudes towards the other culture. These values and attitudes relate to the world outside the classroom. Literature provides the reader with unusual syntax, uncommon vocabulary and literary devices that are not found in other tailored texts without which a university graduate would lack proficiency in the target language for not understanding things like allusions, paradoxes, ironies, understatement, for instance, which are part of the native speaker's competence and performance.

The flexible features of literature enable the teacher and students to contemplate and think over, or rather philosophise, the painful or beautiful aspects of life and existence. It develops the capacity for individual response to life and people through the mock reality where we can analyse the personalities and psychologies of other people, real or imaginary. In exploring the varied shades and layers of meanings, students reflect on ideas, beliefs and emotions when analysing literary texts while identifying with this character or that. Students react to a characterization of this personality or that situation which evokes some kind of response and self-involvement in the learning situation. Literature not only provides pleasure, but also develops emotional and intellectual capacity of the learners. It gives a genuine context for communication which an EFL teacher needs to motivate learners to participate and use their English.

Literature is more likely to provide the necessary stimulus to incite learners to speak and communicate effectively. The writers of literary texts communicate to us their feelings, emotions and experiences; we communicate our understanding and interpretation of the writers' experiences. In such a learning situation, students employ whatever language they have and make learning real not artificial. In addition to widening students' views, literature is used as a means to encourage effective teaching of the foreign language, encourage understanding between cultures by opening a window on the target culture and literature embodied in the target language.

Transfer of training in literature to everyday life is obvious in this situation. We read stimulating stories, for example, for entertainment, or for some linguistic considerations. Some of these linguistic considerations are acquired

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# READERS FORUM

Dear Dr. Sahu,

I was very glad to have noticed the list of 100 lessons of 'Improve Your English' on some interesting themes, published in Yemen Times on November 2001.

I noted that there are some exciting subjects that are very useful for me and also I would like to teach my daughter the correct way to use phrases mentioned therein.

I request your help to inform me where in Bahrain I can find these books.

Best wishes,

Mohsen Sharif

Moshen.sharif@alwasatnews.com  
Manama, Bahrain

Dear Mr. Sharif,

Thank you for your interest in the lessons published in the column 'Improve Your English'. The lessons are being brought out in a book form in near future. We will let you know when it is published. Meanwhile, please keep following up the lessons. Best wishes.

—Dr. Sahu

# YOUTH FORUM

## Believe me

You're shining as the sun  
Your name is beautiful and nice  
You give life its beauty  
And the world its best prize  
Clear as crystal  
Beautiful as wreath  
Angelic and pure, you, who  
come from paradise  
It is no exaggeration  
With out you  
The life is dark  
The honey is salty and the nature is dirty  
Paramount in the world is your name  
I don't compliment you  
Satisfying you is my aim  
You're the queen of my heart  
Willy-nilly, I love you  
And what you desire I must do.



By Majdi Yahia Al-Radhi  
Level 3, English Department  
College of Education, Al-Mahweet

## Learning to speak

Learning to speak is a very complex process. We realize that fluency in speaking is the most difficult skill to develop. Learning to speak English, I think, is more effectively achieved by speaking than by listening or reading. So we must have the opportunity to express our ideas, feeling, attitudes freely. Transfer of learning occurs properly only when pupils are given enough, examples, linguistic or functional drills.



Learning to speak is enhanced when we can perceive meaningful association between teaching materials and real life situations. So in order to develop the speaking skill. One should

1. Listen to music of English language and also to some resource Channels like BBC.
2. Get ample opportunity for participation.
3. Participate in a variety of learning activities including manipulative drills, guided conversation, free oral work such as discussion with our classmate, debates, skills competitions
4. Be aware about the context of language according to who is speaking to whom, where and why.

By Majdi Mohammed Ali  
Level 4, English Department  
Al-Mahweet

My sweetheart  
My love, I need your tender hand to guide me on the path of life. I cannot live without you. I feel that I can only live with you. Your absence is death - oh! How happy would I be to walk and talk with you. When I am near you, everything, every instant, every minute has its marvelous poetry.  
My dear little adorable girl! You have to know this:  
I love only one - that is you.  
I am very fond of you.  
I will be so sad when I miss you.

Ahmed H. S.  
Faculty of Education  
Seiyoun - Hadhramout

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

## This week's question:

Can we make the background of the web page a picture instead of a color?

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:

Dr. Ramakanta Sahu  
ramakantasahu@yahoo.com

Tel: (01) 465396 Mobile: 73889013 P. O. Box 14533, Sana'a



# Three records fall at swimming championships

By DEREK PARR

BARCELONA (Reuters) - Three world records have tumbled on an action-packed night at the world swimming championships.

Australians Matt Welsh and Leisel Jones claimed the first two and Japan's Kosuke Kitajima concluded the hectic spree with the third in the men's 100 metres breaststroke on Monday.

Welsh, best known as a backstroker, caused the biggest shock at the Palau Sant Jordi when he broke the men's 50 metres butterfly world record in an inspired sprint which caught his rivals cold.

Welsh, the slowest final qualifier, got out fast and blasted away from his more fancied rivals down the outside lane number eight, hitting the wall in 23.43 seconds, 0.01 seconds inside the mark set by fellow Australian Geoff Huegill at the 2001 world championships.

American Ian Crocker, the fastest man in the heats and semi-finals, had to settle for silver in 23.62 with Russia's Yevgeny Korotychkin third in 23.73.

"Oh my God, I've won. Oh my God, it's a world record," said Welsh. "Damn, I've got another race," he added, reminding himself that he had a semi-final to come in his 100 backstroke title defence. He successfully negotiated that to qualify joint fourth-fastest overall for Tuesday's final.

Jones, Olympic and world silver medalist, plucked her world record out of the semi-finals, sweeping through the 100 breaststroke in one minute 06.37 seconds to beat the 1:06.52 mark set by South Africa's



Australia's Leisel Jones competes in the 100 metre breaststroke heat at the 10th World Swimming Championships in Barcelona July 21, 2003. She later plucked a world record out of the semi-finals, sweeping through the 100 breaststroke in one minute 06.37 seconds. REUTERS/Laszlo Balogh

Penny Heyns in 1999.

### Powerful finish

Kitajima trailed sixth at the halfway mark of the 100 breaststroke final as Britain's James Gibson led inside the world record split.

But the double Asian champion hit back with a vengeance on the return leg to win in 59.78 and better the 59.94 mark set by Russia's Roman Sludnov two years ago.

Thirty-year-old Jenny Thompson struck a blow for swimming's older generation when she ripped away with her second gold medal in two days, taking her overall world championship

medal tally to a record 11 — seven gold, three silver and one bronze.

Thompson, who anchored the U.S. to victory in Sunday's 4x100 freestyle relay, trailed at the halfway mark of the 100 butterfly final but surged through on the return length to regain the title she won in 1998.

Thompson, world 100 butterfly and 100 freestyle champion in 1998, was chased home by Poland's Otylia Jedrzejczak (58.22) and Slovakia's Martina Moravcova (58.24) but they could not catch the American, who is enjoying a triumphant comeback after retiring following the 2000 Olympics.

Medical student Thompson, who

won a title at the Pan-American Games way back in 1987 when she was just 14, said that the idea of winning world gold 16 years later would have seemed unbelievable.

Fellow American Natalie Coughlin, suffering from a high temperature and eliminated in the morning's heats of her 100 backstroke title defence, trailed home last.

### Took charge

Kitajima had come within 0.04 seconds of the world mark in Sunday's semi-finals when he clocked 59.98 to become only the second man to swim

the event in under a minute and he took charge of the final with a rip-roaring finish.

American Brendan Hansen took the silver in 1:00.21, almost half a second adrift, and Gibson had to settle for bronze in 1:00.37.

Olympic champion Yana Klochkova scored a runaway victory in the women's 200 individual medley after suffering a rare defeat in the event at the 2001 worlds at the hands of American Maggie Bowen.

The 20-year-old Ukrainian won by fully two seconds in a championship record 2:10.75 from Australia's Alice

Mills (2:12.75) and China's Zhou Yafei (2:12.92). Bowen was fifth.

For once, Ian Thorpe was upstaged on a night when the record-breaking fell to others.

The 20-year-old Australian, who scored a unique third successive win in the 400 freestyle on Sunday to take his overall world gold tally to a record nine, gave best to his Dutch rival Pieter van den Hoogenband in both heats and semi-finals of his 200 freestyle title defence.

But Tuesday's final showdown between Thorpe and his Olympic conqueror will be the one that counts.

## Barca fans welcome Ronaldinho

By ALBERT GEA

BARCELONA (Reuters) - Around 30,000 fans crowded into the Nou Camp to get their first glimpse of Ronaldinho wearing Barcelona's burgundy and blue strip.

The Brazilian was unveiled as a Barca player after completing a move from Paris St Germain for an initial transfer fee of 25 million euros (15 million pounds) that could rise as high as 30 million euros (21 million pounds).

The 23-year-old, who will inherit the number 10 shirt from the departing Argentine Juan Roman Riquelme, was given a hero's welcome by Barca fans

packing two sides of the ground.

They were able to see the presentation on giant video screens before watching their new idol run through a range of tricks and flicks on the Nou Camp pitch.

"This is one of the most emotional days in my life," Ronaldinho told the crowd. "I'll do everything to give the fans reason to cheer."

Ronaldinho's decision to join Barcelona in preference to Manchester United or Real Madrid was based in part on the recent experiences of Romario, Ronaldo and Rivaldo — three Brazilians who all triumphed during their time at the Nou Camp.

"I want to follow in their footsteps,"

said Ronaldinho. "They are all great players, world champions, and in part they're the reason why I'm here."

"Ever since I was a child I've dreamed of joining Barcelona and now the opportunity has arrived."

Barcelona president Joan Laporta, who promised during the election campaign to sign at least one world class player with a media profile to match, said the arrival of Ronaldinho would help the club recoup their reputation as one of the world game's biggest players.

"Barcelona already has great world renown but Ronaldinho will help project the club's image around the globe," Laporta said.

# Tour free-for-all begins with stage finish

By ALISON WILDEY

LUZ-ARDIDEN, France (Reuters) - Once each stage of the Tour de France ends a different kind of race begins.

The riders cross the finish line and barely have time to slow down before they are engulfed by television cameras and tape recorders. The chase is on for the story.

Even a professional cyclist can struggle to outpace a determined journalist with a deadline.

"Everyone wants a piece of you," said Australian rider Robbie McEwen.

The 31-year-old McEwen used to be in the media spotlight having won the green jersey last year and worn it for five stages this time round as leader in the points standings.

"If it's been a real long, hot, hard day, you're going for the green jersey points and you've just sprinted as hard as you can to the finish, there's people standing there just 100 metres from the finish waiting to stick a microphone in your face," McEwen said.

"What I've actually been doing this year is riding straight through to the (team) bus and having a shower and cooling down first, because, you know, there's obviously other things I'd rather do than stop immediately and tell stories."



Once each stage of the Tour de France ends a different kind of race begins. File photo shows he pack of riders making its way through the Pyrenees during the 159.5 km fifteenth stage of the Tour de France cycling race between Bagneres de-Bigorre and Luz-Ardiden July 21. REUTERS/Eric Gaillard

"It (the bus) is like a sanctuary, you get inside and nobody can get you. You can just cool down, catch your breath and then if you feel like it you can go and talk to people," the Lotto rider said.

### Autograph hunters

Having battled through the chaos of the media scrum, there is no respite for the riders who are then faced with hordes of fans and autograph hunters.

The brightly coloured team buses are not cordoned off from the public and fans can be found gathered around them, eagerly waiting for a glimpse of the riders.

"Everyone can get close to the athletes. It's probably why people like cycling," said McEwen.

"It's not like football where they're locked behind a fence and they only get a glimpse of them (the players) as they leave the stadium and get in the bus."

"Everyone can approach

the riders. But it's okay, people generally aren't that fanatical," he said.

But the person everyone wants to see, four-times winner Lance Armstrong, remains one of the most media shy. The race leader is usually whisked away by car after climbing off the podium.

Prologue winner Bradley McGee wore the yellow jersey until the end of the third stage and said he now realised what a burden it could be.

"After two days in the yellow jersey I really appreciate how Armstrong deals with all the pressure and all the media attention," the FDJeux.com rider said after losing the overall lead.

"It really wears you down but he has to face it everyday and yet he manages to hold it all together."

7-Day Weather Forecast					
Sana'a			Aden		
Day	Hi	Lo	Day	Hi	Lo
Thu			Thu		
	☁	29 13		☁	40 29
Fri			Fri		
	☁	29 12		☁	49 28
Sat			Sat		
	☁	29 12		☁	39 28
Sun			Sun		
	☁	28 12		☁	39 26
Mon			Mon		
	☁	28 12		☁	38 26
Tue			Tue		
	☁	28 12		☁	38 26
Wed			Wed		
	☁	28 12		☁	38

## THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

BY Eugenia

**Leo** (Jul 23 - Aug 22)  
You should be concerned about your financial future. It can go either way depending on what you do to ensure security. Check out the possibilities. Real estate may be your best option.

**Virgo** (Aug 23 - Sep 22)  
This is a perfect day to do a little networking. Mix business with pleasure if possible. Get together with prominent people and you will gain insight.

**Libra** (Sept 23 - Oct 22)  
Things may not go according to plan today. Slow down and let the dust settle. Don't expect romantic encounters to run smoothly.

**Scorpio** (Oct 23 - Nov 21)  
Take a trip. You will discover interesting facts and better understand yourself and your family.

**Aries** (Mar 21 - Apr 19)  
Complaining won't help you get the things done that are pressing. Do what you must and your work will eventually be appreciated. You will feel better about yourself when everything is complete.

**Gemini** (May 21 - Jun 20)  
You may experience some major ups and downs today and control will be necessary in order to avoid a mistake. Sudden changes will lead you in a new direction.

**Cancer** (Jun 21 - Jul 22)  
So many things are happening, it's hard for you to decide your best course of action. Listen to someone with experience and you will feel more confident when making your final decision.

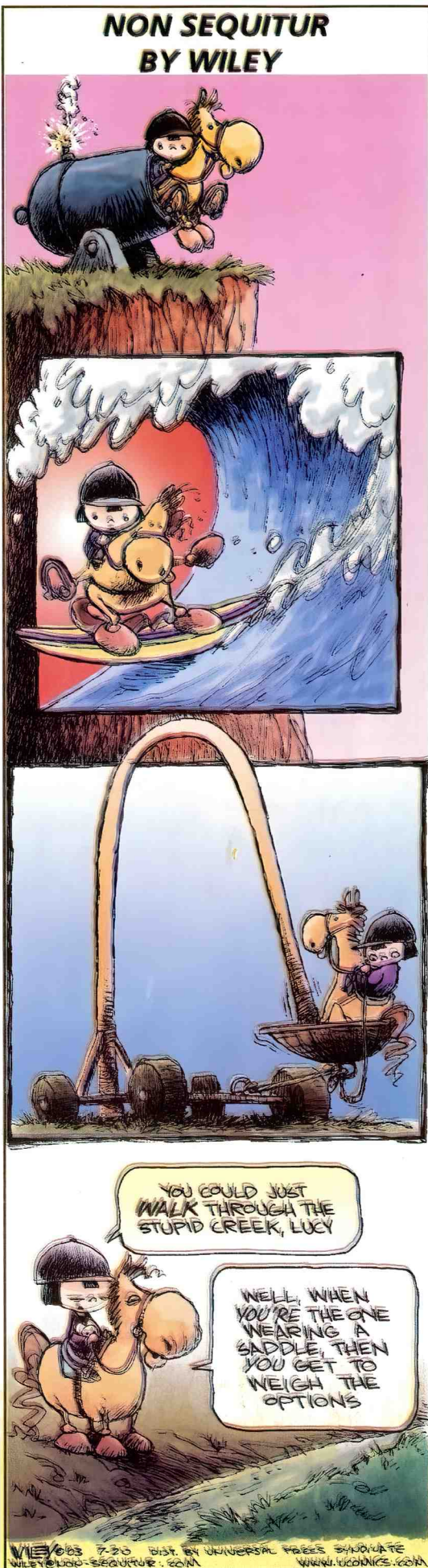
**Taurus** (Apr 20 - May 20)  
Take control of any situation that you face. Communicate openly and honestly and you will get the support you are looking for.

**Sagittarius** (Nov 22 - Dec 21)  
Look over your personal papers and make sure everything is in order. Money matters may crop up. Proceed with caution and refuse to cover the expenses of others.

**Capricorn** (Dec 22 - Jan 19)  
A partnership may be on the line. Take a serious look at what you want. You may need to make some adjustments initially, but it could turn into a very good union.

**Aquarius** (Jan 20 - Feb 18)  
If you have neglected your health you may want to make some adjustments. Rest will be needed. Don't let work worry you.

**Pisces** (Feb 19-March 20)  
A new look or purchasing a something that will enhance your appearance will lift your spirits. A change will be good. Social activity will lead to romance.







## *YHOC's annual picnic*

### We feel our company cares for us, YHOC employees agreed

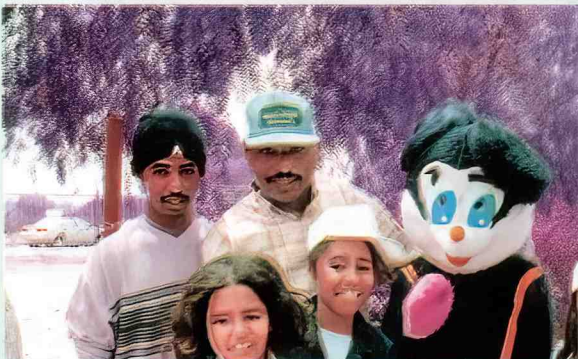
**F**or the past seven years YHOC has taken into a marvelous tradition of taking its employees and their families in an outing on the company's expense. And like every year YHOC organized a recreation event and the whole group went to Al-Sabeen Park where they all especially the kids had a nice time 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. Quite true, this is because all work and no play makes anyone and not only Jack, a dull boy. And YHOC 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 Supervisor Mr. Abdulkarim 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 (YHOC) plus 39 from Yemen Oil Refining Company (YORC) and 202 employees from JHOC and all brought their families along, totally approximately 7000 attendees to the annual picnic. So we can imagine the huge crowd and the chaos that could have happened if had we not implemented the valid Medical Identification Cards System for entering the park 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."





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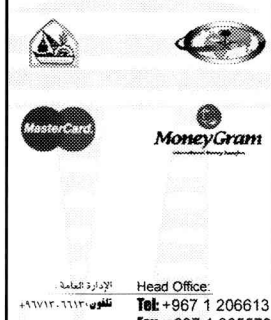
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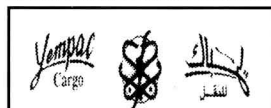


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sales and air conditioning aspects not less than 3 years. Fluent in English and Arabic (speaking and writing). Yemeni citizens preferred. Interested People should forward their CVs to the following Fax: 448399.

■ **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.

■ **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.

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■ **Hana Al-Daiati**, English second year at sana'a university, looking for a job as a secretary, please contact 71659264

■ **Ibtesam Al-Bahloli**, Secondary School graduate, and diploma in secretary, seeking a job as a secretary, please contact : 71659264.

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■ **15 years of experience** in managerial cadre, very good knowledge in cargo, and couriers, experience in IBM brunch card system, also good in sales & marketing, administration, and troubleshooting, nationality Indian, contact 73810416

■ **BSc (Computer Science)**, MBA (Human Resource Management) with strong exposure in all the functional areas of H.R. with Coca-Cola and ICICI bank total experience of 6 years, Male Indian Bachelor aged 28 seeks suitable placement. No location preference. contact Mr. Anil on: 73598137. Email: ttak@rediffmail.com.

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# Promising tourist future Al Qahera Castle in Taiz

AHMAD SALEH AL BOKHARY  
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

In Taiz, there are many tourist sites which can be of great importance for tourism. Al Qahera Castle is one of these sites but unfortunately needs

attention to be qualified into a tourist spot.

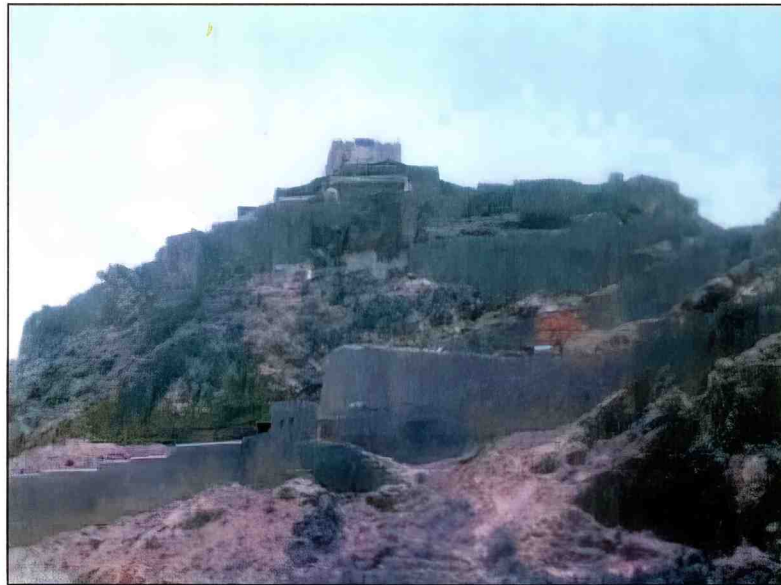
It had been of great importance long time ago before revolution as a military center. Now, the situation has changed and the local authority must stress on the preparation of the castle for tourism. During the movement of

the martyr Ahmad al Tolaia in which he tried to change the rule of Imam Ahmad, Al Qahera castle location had played a significant role in the fight between the Imam and the revolts. From the castle, Imam Ahmad ordered his military leader, al Mahgany, to cannon the armies and revolutionist gatherings. Imam killed many of the revolutionists among whom his own brother, Sief al Eslam Abdullah. Under the patronage of the governor, Ahmad al Hegry, al Qahera castle and its walls have been continuously repaired to benefit from it as an international tourist location which will bring financial revenues.

After the completion of the repairs of the castle and its open to receive tourists, the country hosts international delegations from a number of countries among whom are Japanese.

Regarding the method in which the castle will attract the tourists, the castle will be provided with water fountains and water pours down to the west side of the castle into the old dam. The old dam was founded when repairing the wall, to be deep and huge.

And in return, water will fall again to the castle fountains. An electrical elevator will be provided to transport



Al-Qahera Castle



Taiz city as seen from the castle

tourists from Saber mountain to the castle. This will enhance the tourist attraction factors and the tourist who stands on top of saber mountain, will view Taiz as if from a window in the sky.

Taiz enjoys a wonderful weather in all seasons of the year. On the top of saber mountain, you can enjoy a

healthy weather. And as a result of the will-be-provided possibilities, the castle along with Sheikh Zaid park will become tourist spots for many official and tourist delegations. It is of great importance to lighten completely the way leading to the castle in order to get easily to the location day and night. In addition, it must be provided with

qualified cadres for tourism service and safety to enhance Tourism.

Taiz is really a land of culture and education, a center of industrialization of many tradesmen among whom are Hael Saeed group companies named al- Saeed Group. All these elements help and encourage tourism investment in Taiz.



The world's first two bottlenose dolphins conceived through artificial insemination using frozen-thawed semen were born recently at SeaWorld in San Diego. Baby McGuire, (TOP) seen here swimming with his mother Toby (BOTTOM) at Sea World in San Diego July 21, 2003, was born on May 30, 2003 from the sperm of a male bottlenose dolphin at the U.S. Navy Marine Mammal Program. Baby Charlie (not pictured) was born to mother Purina 12 days earlier, both dolphins weighed 40 to 45lbs were 3 1/2 feet in length and are in good health. REUTERS

## Flying underpants cause crash on German highway



BERLIN, July 22 (Reuters) - A pair of flying underpants caused a crash on a German highway when they landed on a driver's face and blocked his view, police said on Tuesday.

A police spokesman in the central town of Gotha

said one of a group of naked men in a van threw the underwear into a Volkswagen Passat as they passed it on a busy stretch of one of Germany's notoriously speedy autobahns.

"The underpants landed on the driver's face, causing him to ram the truck

ahead from behind," said the spokesman, adding that he did not know why the men were driving along naked.

No one was hurt in the crash, but police are hunting the owner of the underpants for failing to stop at the scene.

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