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# Six killed in tribal conflicts

SADDAM AL-ASHMOORI  
FOR YEMEN TIMES

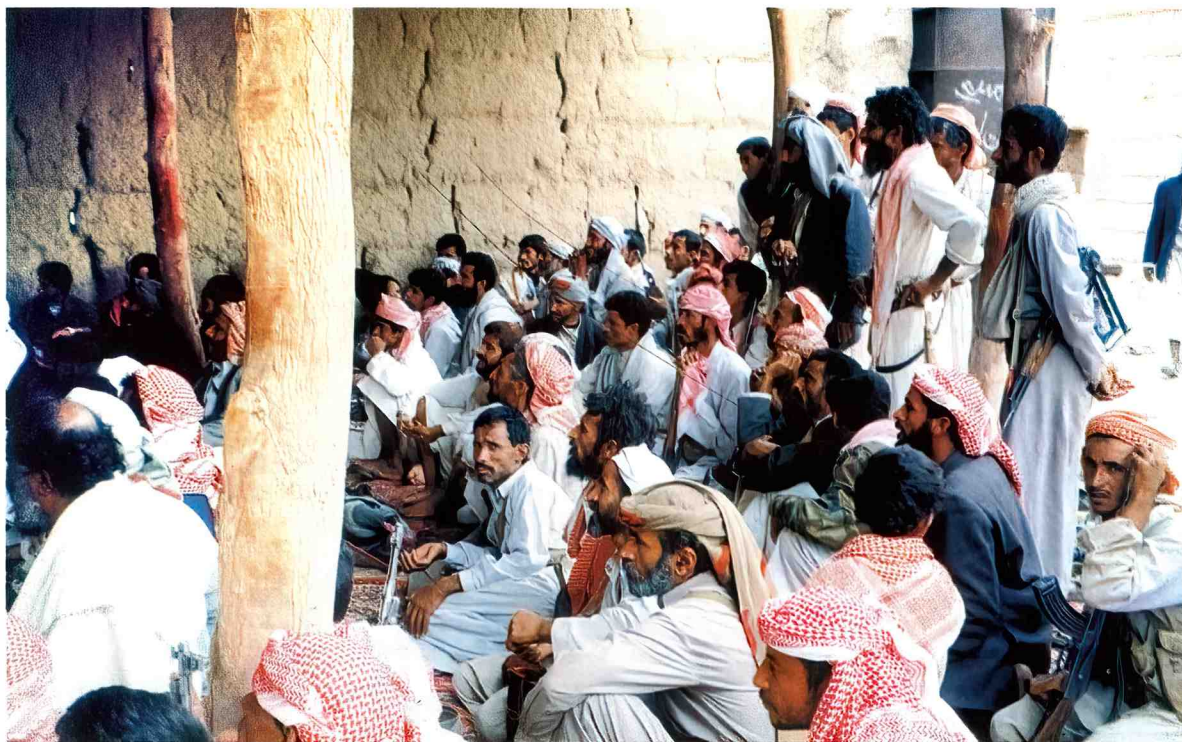
Amran, August 5 - Six tribesmen were killed during armed fightings that took place on Monday and Tuesday in Amran, 100 km north of Sanaa, between Harf Sufyan and Bani Jubar tribes.

The fighting was triggered after a tribesman from Harf Sufyan tribe, using his Kalashnikov, unintentionally killed another tribesman from Bani Jubar tribe.

The victim's tribe did not accept the justification given by Harf Sufyan tribe concerning the incident and insisted that it was intentional, sparking a tribal vengeance war that is continuing till the time of going to the press.

Hundreds of weapons of different types and calibers were used in the fighting, which went on despite efforts by sheikhs of the region to settle the dispute between the two strong tribes.

Government forces have not yet



A large portion of Yemen's 60 million pieces of arms in the hands of Yemeni tribesmen, leading to catastrophic results when tribal wars take place

had a role in stopping the battle, which is one of many that happen frequently in such tribal areas.

Yemen continues to suffer from tribal revenge and conflicts that usually result from minor incidents, but develop into major clashes that kill tens of tribesmen from both sides, and continue until tribal mediation between the two fighting parties ends the conflict.

There are more than 60 million

pieces of light weapons in the country according to official figures, most of which are in the hands of tribesmen who tend to believe in them as a source of pride and manhood. Consecutive governments had failed to put an end to this phenomenon due to the overwhelming number of weapons in the hands of citizens, and the absence of a disarmament law to be enforced on Yemeni citizens.

## High-level US delegation in Yemen:

# Coast Guard training discussed

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Sana'a, August 5 - A high-level US security delegation arrived this week in Sanaa to discuss security cooperation with Yemeni officials.

Dr. Rashad Al-Alimi, Minister of Interior held a meeting on Monday with the delegation headed by US Marine Brigadier General Mastin Robeson, Commander of the Combined Joint Task Force Horn of Africa.

The discussions, which were attended by US ambassador to Yemen Edmund Hull and other US diplomats, focused on training Yemeni coastguardsmen to protect against the infiltration of terrorist elements in or out of the country.

The training program will include theoretical and practical sessions to enable Yemeni trainees to handle cases of infiltration from the sea using advanced combat and chase methods using intelligent equipment to facilitate the chase and arrest of infiltrators.

According to a source from the US Department of Foreign Secretary, Yemen initially requires 150 advanced patrol boats to help Yemeni Coast Guard cover Yemen's coastline.

Countries including the USA, the UK, Germany, the Netherlands, and Saudi Arabia are expected to donate the required tools and machinery to Yemen in order to cope with the requirements in its anti-terrorism efforts.

## After arresting their sheikhs and escorts:

# Jahm tribesmen on the run

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Sana'a, August 6 - Security forces are continuing their chase of members of the Jahm tribe of Mareb. The chase started following an exchange of fire that occurred near the Presidential complex on the 60-meter street last Sunday August 1.

Around twenty sheikhs from Jahm tribe have been held by security forces since Sunday after being called by President Ali Abdullah Saleh for an important meeting.

In a statement to Yemen Times, Jahm tribal sources said that the sheikhs are currently held at a prison in Sana'a after a dispute erupted between them and the president.

One of the escorts, Yahya Nasser Al-

Zaidi, who accompanied the sheikhs to Sana'a to attend the meeting with the President was killed. According to tribal sources, Al-Zaidi was killed after he attempted escape being arrested by security forces. Meanwhile, another escort, Hashed Faisal Al-Zaidi is still receiving medical care at the Police Hospital.

All the other escorts and drivers, around 20, were later arrested and sent to the Central Prison of Sana'a.

A source of the Ministry of Interior had told Saba News Agency that security forces were ordered to arrest a number of armed individuals belonging to Al-Zaidi tribe at the Southern 60-meter street.

Upon arrival of police vehicles at the scene, the tribesmen started firing at the

police forces, resulting in an exchange of fire that led to the killing of one escort and injuring of another.

Meanwhile, a tribal source from Jahm tribe denied the official report saying that the armed tribesmen came to Sanaa to request the release of their tribe's sheikhs, who went to the President upon his request to discuss the possibilities of ending the case of Sheikh Saleh Obad Al-Zaidi, who was killed in April 2003 when police forces intercepted his car in Sanaa.

Jahm sheikhs had met with the president on Sunday and demanded the trial of Obad's killers, who are believed to belong to the police or security forces. Sheikhs complained that the state has started applying extremely harsh measures against the tribes whenever a dis-

pute erupts between the two.

In the meantime, observers believe that the state is starting to focus more on enforcing the law in remote tribal areas, especially in a time the government is exerting extensive efforts against terrorists, who sometimes use tribes as refuge.

Another signal of the government's intention to limit tribal influence in state affairs is the campaign to disarm various areas by purchasing light arms from the markets, a measure which is expected to reduce the number of light weapons - currently estimated at 60 million pieces - tremendously.

### Journalist's brother arrested

Meanwhile security forces arrested on Tuesday the 14-year-old brother of journalist Hassan Al-Zaidi, while leaving his house to run an errand in the neighborhood.

According to Hassan Al-Zaidi, security forces took his brother Mohammed as hostage from Al Zaidi tribe following the incident that took place on Sunday. "His arrest is against the law and he should be set free," Al-Zaidi said.

"Mohammed has done nothing to be arrested. I believe the era of hostages has gone, and no one should be victimized because of a dispute between our tribe and the state."

"I hope the Minister of Interior would consider releasing him swiftly for humanitarian reasons, especially as the arrest was illegal from the start," he concluded.

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*After extensive pressure was exerted by parliamentarians & detainees' relatives:*

# Terror suspects to be tried

By Yaser al-Mayyasi  
Yemen Times Staff

SANA'A\_ After tremendous pressure was exerted by Yemeni parliamentarians and relatives of detainees currently in prison for suspected links to terrorist cells or networks, hundreds of those

detainees are now finally on the verge of being tried.

Among those detainees are USS Cole suspects, along with suspects thought to have links to the blast of the French super tanker Limburg, while many others are directly accused of being part of al-Qaeda organization or their sympathizers.

The government seemed to be reluctant to forward the files of detainees to court until date.

The Yemeni interior minister has promised the parliament to refer the cases of the detainees to court and set the ones found innocent free.

There are currently 5 out of 13 USS Cole suspects still not found.

The Yemeni authorities said it believes that the 5 suspects were killed when their boat hit the Cole destroyer.

Furthermore, according to the Yemeni authorities, 2 out of 10 prisoners who escaped from one of Aden's prisons are key USS Cole suspects. Two of the ten suspects were

detained by the Saudi authorities, while efforts are being made to have the rest arrested. The eight others are thought to be active members of al-Qaeda.

Meanwhile, the Limburg file is still incomplete as Yemeni intelligence is still collecting information from detainees.

## Sharp morgue shortage felt:

# Tragic traffic calamities continue

TAIZ\_ A truck driver, Abbas Naser Abdullah Mohammed, 40, was killed in tragic traffic accident on the Taiz-Makha road on August 1.

The lack of technical checkups was the main reason behind the oil-overloaded truck accident.

The victim was then taken immediately to Tazi General Republic Hospital's morgue.

In addition to this, 2 persons were killed in another traffic incident that took place on August 2 on Taiz-Aden road when their car collided with another car. The two dead bodies were taken to the Tazi Hospital's morgue.

Two weeks ago, 13 soldiers from security forces were seriously injured in a military vehicle collision in al-Wazeaya district. In addition to this, 10 people were killed when their minibus rammied into a truck on the Sanaa-Hodeidah highway at the end of last month.

The truck driver was the only survivor of the accident, which was among the most devastating events on that highway.

Breakneck speed, negligence and technical problems are the main causes of such tragic accidents. Traffic authorities are concerned that lack of road

services on Yemen's busiest highways, such as Sana'a-Taiz and Sana'a-Hodeidah roads could be a contributing factor to the high number of accidents.

### Extra morgues needed

Hospitals in Taiz are in short of the necessary technical supplies particularly morgues. Citizens of Taiz complain of not being able to preserve the dead bodies of their relatives when the need arises. Dr. Abdulmalik Assayani, the Athawra General Hospital Director said that the hospital's morgue is too small and unable to receive more than 15 dead bodies.

On his part, Dr. Muneer Ashameri, the Technical Manager of the General Republican Hospital in Taiz told the Yemen Times that only three morgue in the hospital are found. Each morgue has the capacity of three dead bodies.

The number of dead bodies as result of traffic and security incidents in the hospital exceeds the morgue's capacity which belongs to the hospital.

"The situation has been negatively aggravated when corpses remained in the morgue for more than 6 months," Dr. Ashameri remarked.

"The hospital's administration is sometimes obliged to undertake the burial ceremonies and giving burial permissions to unidentified dead bodies," Dr. Ashameri concluded.

The two doctors called the concerned bodies at the health ministry, the local councils and philanthropists to reconsider and pay due attention to this humanitarian issue.

## 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:

What do you think is the priority to get rid of tribalism in Yemen?  
- Education, health and other services should reach tribal areas.

- Tribesmen should be disarmed using force or any other short-term method.
- Limiting their influence in state affairs.
- Enforcing the law in tribal areas at any cost.
- Something else (you can send email to editor@yementimes.com with your answer).

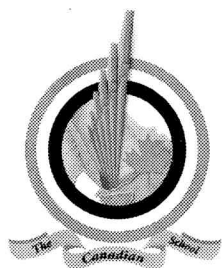
### LAST EDITION'S

#### QUESTION:

Is the widespread of light arms in Yemen the main reason behind attacks such the one that occurred in Lahj last week?

- Yes, but it is one of many. 39%
- No, it helps, but is not that significant. 25%
- Yes, it is the main reason. 24%
- No, it has nothing to do with it. 12%

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**Note:** All ordinarily resident applicants must be residing in country and have the required work and residency permits to be eligible for consideration.

## Erratum

Reference to the news item entitled "27 members of Huttat terrorist group escaped" published on page 2 of last issue (656), Yemen Times would like to clarify that unlike what has been mentioned in the item, no one escaped any jail. The article was referring to the 27 members of Huttat terrorist group that were at large and being chased by security forces after the assault at their hideout in al-Huttat mountains in Abyan according to a statement by the Ministry of Interior published on the front page of the 26 September weekly newspaper issue (1080).

Yemen Times would like to apologize to its readers and those concerned for the unintended editorial mistake as mentioned.



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## New publication in law

Dr. Hasan Ali Meghalli, professor of law at Sana'a University, has published a new book on judicial and law principles. The book includes many commercial issues.

The book is expected to be a contribution to providing people working in law and Islamic law in Yemen with the latest principles of right to legal and judicial veto and approval related to trade disputes.

It is noteworthy that Dr. Meghalli has a number of publications. For example:

- The Judicial and legal principles of Penal Lawsuit.
- The Judicial and Legal Principles of Personal Cases.
- The Judicial and Legal Principles of Civil Matters.



Dr. Hasan Ali Meghalli

## Swimming festival in Aden held

ADEN\_ Organized by the Aden Hotel and under the sponsorship of the El-Sayi for Beverages, al-Qasem Navigation Company; a swimming competition was held in Aden on August 4.

More than 24 swimmers took part in the competition. Mr. Fadhil al-Helali, the Aden Hotel General Manager said that the competition aimed basically at reactivating this kind of sport.

"This kind of competition is held annually and the competition has

proved to be successful in all standards due to active participation of the private sector in order to make a success of this kind of sport," Mr. al-Helali remarked.

Cups and certificates were distributed among top winners by the Aden Deputy Governor, Mr. Ahmed Adhola'ee.

The competition festival was attended by the Saudi Consul, the Libyan Consul, sponsor companies, and a host of spectators.



## Emirates marked Zaid Throne Day and 47 years of development

BY YASSER AL-MAYASI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Emirates people celebrated on Wednesday 6 August 2003 the 47th anniversary on the occasion of throne day when Sheikh Zaid Bin Sultan assumed power and the journey of prosperity had begun and new stage of development and progress had started.

Since Sheikh Zaid Bin Sultan Al Nahian reigned UAE, the country has taken big steps in development process and achieved tangible progress.

Sheikh Zaid has ruled Abu Dhabi since August 1966 and has a major role in declaring the union of the United Arab Emirates on 2 December 1971. Thus, Emirates have locally witnessed modern economic transitions and dramatic development.

Yemen has a strong brotherly relation with Emirates that represents in the continuous support that Sheikh Zaid has given to push Yemen development wheel such as supporting the building of Marib Dam that cost \$105 million in its first phase.

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## Yemen invites firms to bid to manage TeleYemen

SANAA, Aug 3 (Reuters) - Yemen has invited large foreign telecommunications companies to bid for the management of Yemen International Telecoms Co LLC (TeleYemen), a communications ministry official said on Sunday.

The official told Reuters that the tender — which was issued on Saturday and closes on October 1 — was announced ahead of the expiry of a partnership between TeleYemen and Cable and Wireless C.W.L. of Britain at the end of the year.

Cable and Wireless holds a 49 percent stake in TeleYemen while the Yemeni government holds the rest. When the contract expires, TeleYemen will be owned wholly

by the state.

"What is required now is an international company to manage TeleYemen and jointly operate the system, and not a partner (with an equity stake)," the official said.

He gave no further details.

Cable and Wireless began its partnership with TeleYemen in 1970. TeleYemen operates the Arab country's land-line telephones, telex services and analogue mobile services.

Yemen has two other private telecommunications companies which provide GSM services to its population of about 20 million.

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# Taj Sheba announces Best Employee of the year award

The Taj Sheba Hotel this year, Unlike in the past, merged their Best Employee of the year announcements with the Annual Day Celebrations. The General Manager of Labour Office for the Sana'a governorate Mr. Ali Dailamy was present for this important occasion. Mr. Dailamy addressed all the employees on the importance of such functions, and appreciated the efforts of the Taj Sheba Management, for the initiative of sending its employees from Yemen, to leading Taj hotels in India for training and exposure. The choice for the BEST EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR was not a difficult one, as Mr. Mohammed Ghalib Al Yusufi walked away with the honours. The reason for selecting Mr. Yusufi was for his hard work, dedication, a 'never say no attitude in serving his colleagues and maintaining very high hygiene standards in the Staff Cafeteria. The second best employee award was shared by Mr. Mohammed Al Moyad from House Keeping, Mr. Mohammed Ali Saad from Front Office and Mr. Alvito Coutinho from Accounts.

Mr. Ahmed Ali Nasser from the coffee shop, more popularly known as GOLDIE, Mr. Mohammed Al Hashimi from Health Club and Mr. Xavier Fernandes from Banquets shared the third Best Employees award. All the awards carried cash prizes besides Certificates of Appreciation. To continue with the precedent as in the past and

in order to keep employees at the hotel constantly motivated the General Manager of the Hotel, Mr. Rohit Khosla announced the names of five Employees to be sent to India for exposure and learning. These employees will undergo extensive training in their respective areas at Premier Hotels of the Taj Group under guidance of qualified professionals. The names of employees selected for this training program are: Mr. Mujahed Mohammed Salah - Engineering & Maintenance Mr. Ali Noman Mahyoub - Kitchen / Bakery Mr. Nasser Abdulrahman Al Riyashi - House Keeping Mr. Ahmed Ali Nasser - Food & Beverage Mr. Saad Office - Front



(From R to L) Mr. Rohit Khosla General Manager, Mr. Ali Dailamy General Manager of Labour Office, and Mr. Marwan S. Hamdun Resident Manager for Taj Sheba Hotel addressing the gathering



Mr. Mohammed Ghalib Al Yusufi receiving the Best Employee Award from Mr. Ali Dailamy General Manager of Labour Office

The proceedings concluded with lively Cultural events presented by the employees of the hotel that included skits, songs, and dance performances. The Hotel served a special lunch for all its employees and certificates for Best Attendance and Long service awards for completing 20 years, 10 years and 5 years respectively were distributed.

It was an event that will be fondly remembered by all at The Taj Sheba Hotel for the rest of the year with the hope of an equally good function in the years to come.



Ms. Laxmi performing an Indian Classical Dance



Mr. Saleh Abdo Ahmed and Mr. Mohammed Moyad performing traditional Yemeni Dance

**Be healthy with the national milk**

On the occasion of the silver jubilee since the election of President Ali Abdullah Saleh as President of the Republic:

## Yemen's silver exhibition for agriculture, industry, & fisheries concluded on 27th July 2003

Under the sponsorship of Ahmed A. Al-Sheibani Group of Companies

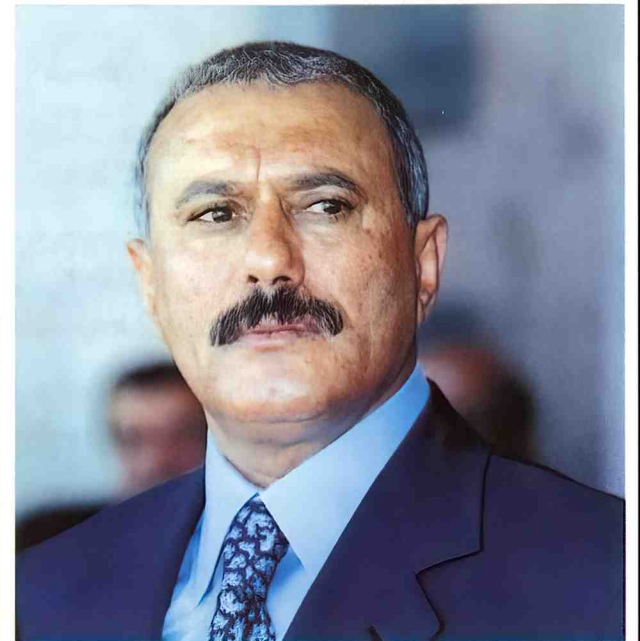
On the occasion of the 25th year since H.E. President Ali Abdullah Saleh was elected on 17 July 1978, under the auspices of Prime Minister Abdulqader Ba Jammal, and on the occasion of the conclusion of Yemen's silver exhibition for agriculture, industry and fisheries, the organizers of the exhibition in sponsorship of Ahmed A. Sheibani & Company, represented by the National Company for Paint and Chemicals, Paradise Juice Industries Ltd. for packaging fruit juices, Food Industries Complex, and Plastic Packing Manufacturing & Trading Co. a reception was held on Sunday evening July 27 at the Police Officers' Club in Sana'a.



The reception was attended by Mr. Iqbal Yaseen Jihad Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade and Mr. Saleh Muthanna Nasser, Deputy Minister of Agriculture along with a number of chairmen and members of boards of directors of companies plus

dozens of representatives of participating companies and their guests.

Yemen's silver exhibition for agriculture, industry, and fisheries was held during 17-26 July and was organized by the Ministry of Industry and Trade in cooperation with Sanaa International Exhibition Center and with the participation of several official sectors, along with 70 national companies and establishments. The event included the exhibition of national, agricultural, and fish-related products. The exhibition witnessed an overwhelmingly large number of participant companies and visitors.



### Ministers of Industry and Agriculture:

"The silver exhibition achieved its goals in presenting our national products, and reflected the need for more efforts to compete with foreign goods."

On behalf of Mr. Hassan Amr Suwaid Minister of Agriculture and Mr. Rajeh Khaled Sheikh Minister of Industry and Trade, Mr. Saleh Muthanna Nasser and Iqbal Yaseen Jihad Deputy ministers of Agriculture and Industry (respectively) talked during the conclusion ceremony of the exhibition about the indications of the 25th anniversary of President Ali Abdullah since he was elected as President of Yemen. They stressed on the great achievements accomplished during his rule in all political,



Deputy Minister of Industry & Trade

economic, and social life aspects. They also expressed their happiness for the success of the Yemeni silver exhibition and for the high level of participation of the politicians and national production sectors. They also noted the exhibition's role in exposing the development



Deputy Minister of Agriculture

achieved in the field of national production. They also emphasized the importance of such exhibitions in exposing national products to the public, especially in a time the market is overwhelmed by foreign goods. They also stressed on the importance of having production sectors work with

the state extensively to enhance standards of national products to rise to international standards so as to be able to withstand competition from foreign products filling our markets. They said this is also needed to match the export quality standards to have a say in the regional and international markets, pointing out that industrial, agricultural, and fisheries sectors are of special importance in this respect.

The two officials then expressed their appreciation of the Sana'a International Exhibitions Center, to Ahmed Abdullah Al-Sheibani's Group of Companies and to all national sectors participating in this silver exhibition, which was 'fully successful.'



Mr. Walid Al-Sheibani receives the coat of arms and belongs to the National Company for Paint and Chemicals



Mr. Arif al-Sheibani, the Vice general manager handing certificates and coats of arms to the companies.

### Walid Al-Sheibani:

"The silver exhibition was an important economic event"

On behalf of the sponsor of the event, Ahmed Abdullah Al-Sheibani's Group of companies, Mr. Walid Al-Sheibani G.M. of the National Paint and Chemicals Factory, gave a statement during the event in which he said, "It is my pleasure on behalf of myself and the group represented by the National Paint and Chemicals Factory (Shield Chemical), the Paradise Juice Industry (Sun Quick and Primo), Foods Industries Complex Company, and Plastic Company, to welcome you to our celebration which is signaling an important economic event represented in Yemen's silver exhibition for agriculture, industry, & fisheries held at the Sanaa International Exhibitions Center. It is to my delight that our



Mr. Walid al-Sheibani

economic celebrations are coinciding with our people's celebrations on the occasion of the 25th anniversary since H.E. President Ali Abdullah Saleh starting leading the country, and to mark the great overall developmental achievements that were accomplished since 17 July 1978, which was a turning point in all aspects." "The country has grown and

developed to greater horizons in an institutionalized manner that achieved overall development in the industrial, agricultural, and fishery sectors, and in particular to the strategic industries, whose true beginning was on 17 July 1978."

"Yes indeed, that day signaled the real beginning for all the production and service sectors. The great attention paid by H.E. President Ali Abdullah Saleh and the government to such important economic activities signals their awareness of and attention paid to seriously pushing for greater economic development and to raise the standard of national products to that of international products in terms of quality and standards so as to meet the needs of the Yemeni consumer and to reflect on our beloved country's image amid tense international competition."

"Our national production would not have been able to reach such good quality, which enabled it to compete internationally, if there had been no open market strategy with an environment encouraging investments and focusing on strategic and successful ways to provide facilities, energies, and workforce for successful projects."

"Finally, I would like to thank all those who encouraged and supported this important economic activity, with the hope that our government would pay more attention and give greater encouragement to the industrial sector, which would reflect on having various national sectors help each other amid legitimate competition for the sake of the national interest in particular, and the country's overall development in general."

### Mr. Najeeb Al-Sheibani:

"The Sheibani Group of Companies is a pioneer in national production"

In another important statement during the ceremony and on behalf of the sponsor of the event Ahmed Abdullah Al-Sheibani's Group of Companies, Dr. Najeeb Al-Sheibani said, "It is quite important to say that whatever achievements accomplished in the last quarter century in overall development, have made our country move forward by leaps and bounds resulting in a more prominent place for Yemen regionally, in the Arab world,

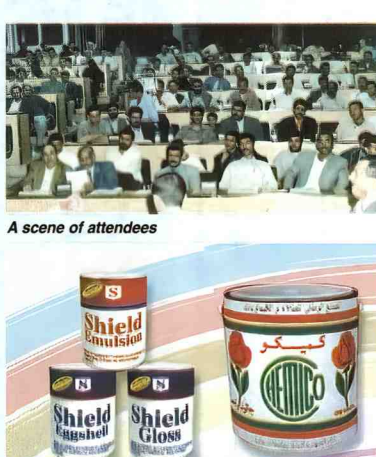


Mr. Najeeb Al-Sheibani

and internationally. Yemen's word has become quite well-heard and respected, and it is no secret that our political leadership represented by

H.E. President Ali Abdullah Saleh -may God bless him- has given great care and attention along with the government of Abdulqadir Bajammal to the industrial sector, especially to the sectors related to economic activity throughout the country." "I would like in this regard to thank our leader for his role in accomplishing such developmental achievements. I also seize the opportunity to present a special proposal, which I hope would gain your approval. I propose announcing a special year for industry during which support and encouragement to the

industrial sectors in the country would be given to expose it regional, in the Arab world, and international so as to stand up and compete with the others. This is needed greatly because we are witnessing a globalizing system, which resulted in many limitations and obstacles when competing with foreign products that are greatly affecting national goods, especially emerging ones." "In conclusion, I would like to thank you all and wish our country more development and progress, and to our political wise leadership the greatest of success."



A scene of attendees



Mr. Arif al-Sheibani

On his part, Arif al-Sheibani, the Vice general manager handed two coats of arms of Ahmed A. al-Sheibani group of companies to the deputy minister of commerce and Industry and the Deputy Minister of Agriculture.

### Participants emphasized success of exhibition and proper organization and preparation

The closing ceremony's activities were then concluded by offering various refreshments at the garden of the Police Officers Club. The splendid thing noticed at the end of the ceremony was that all the industrial products of various national companies were presented to the guests, especially the newly produced brands. Representatives of the participating establishments and companies said that the silver exhibi-

tion was a wonderful national initiative and that the success of the event was mainly attributed to the proper organization and preparation by the organizers. They asserted that the event has indeed achieved its goals with such massive participation of companies and overwhelming interest by the public and visitors, which exceeded expectations. Ahmed Abdullah Al-Sheibani's Group of Companies for Industry, Trade, and Shipping, the sponsor of the event had a distinctive role at the silver jubilee exhibition as they exhibited their fabu-

lous goods that included décor, industrial and marine paints, military equipment paints, wood paints, sealants, construction chemicals, etc. Other goods were also presented including prominent refreshments brands including Primo, Sun Quick, Tea House, and the company has also implemented new techniques to exhibit products and distributed gifts and presents to guests after a draw took place, which resulted in giving away valuable gifts including gold wear. The visitors at the scene seemed satisfied and delighted.



# Parliamentary elections and Salafi Movements in Kuwait and Yemen

By HASSAN AL-ZAIADI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Yemen and Kuwait have witnessed recently relatively similar general parliamentary elections with some differences in nature. And in spite of the various deficiencies in both experiences we could definitely say that both countries have gained from their experiences and made a progress in their democratic movement.

The Kuwaiti relation with politics could be said to have started in 1963 when the legislative council was established and relative freedom of speech and expression was available in that country then. And the democracy movement since then had been progressing as they also view themselves pioneers in the Arabian Peninsula in this aspect. However it is the inclusion of females in politics that really displayed a democratic leap in that country although it is not so much as compared to other democratic countries. Another aspect in the Kuwaiti democratic experience is the

appearance of various political trends and political-religious affiliations of which the Salafi sect is one. The surprising result in the latest peoples' council elections when the Salafi sect won a number of seats was not as much as one as the fact that the Salafis actually believed in democracy and in participating in elections or in democratic events in general. This in opposite to the Salafis in Yemen who view such events as Haram (blasphemy) coming from the belief that democracy itself as a concept is against the religion. In Kuwait, the two Salafi movements (Revitalizing Culture Society and Salafi Movement) participated in the elections and even won seats in the council in spite of the fact that some scholars still have conflicting views on the participation in elections. However, Ahmed Al-Duaij one of the candidates who did not succeed in winning a seat told us that: "There is no dispute between the Islamic trends candidates and I say that the Salafi movement has deep roots and a programme and specific cases in the people's council because it is related with public bases and believes totally

that the parliament is a legal and correct method to express opinion and it has a promising future because the movement is aware of the needs and demands of the coming era and hence are ready to coordinate with all Islamic trends if bases are agreed upon. There is coordination between the Salafi movement and some of the independents who have similar beliefs relating to the Islamic issues and standing against cases that differ with the Kuwaiti culture such as women's participation. We are going into the experience and accept the consequences."

Perhaps the Kuwaitis participated in the parliamentary experience being aware of the demands of the new era and adapting to changes but it is still feared that a new tone would rise in their language and dialogue. The Salafi movement has a few clear cases most importantly Islamitizing the laws and school syllabus. They fight against all liberal movements and modern trends which conflict with the Kuwaiti culture and with Islam from their prospective.

This was a quick review to the Salafi stances in Kuwait regarding the 2003 parliamentary elections there, displaying their straying from the deep-rooted movement founded by Shiekh Mohammed bin Abdulwahab in the 18th century. In Yemen, the Salafis termed the Ikhwan movement which comes from the same roots (Al-Wahhabi) as atheists and looked upon them with disapproving eyes on their participation in the elections. Shiekh Muqbil bin Hadi Al-Wadie founder of the Salafi movement in Yemen expressed this when he said: "Those Ikhwan will not push us from al-Mahara to al-Hudaida and they have to repent and ask god to forgive them for their grave sins which they committed as participation in elections and acceptance of democracy."

The conflict between the Salafis and al-Ikhwan in Yemen appeared in the

early nineties when the Salafis made use of the liberal environment and availed acceptance from the authorities. It was then that they received funds and donations from many pro-Salafi organizations. The Yemeni Salafis faced democracy and the elections with total rejection and termed all that participate in it or support it as atheists and sinners because they believe democracy and elections are acts of blasphemy. They use their numerous centres which are more than 120 and mosques which are more than 700 around the republic in which they teach their fundamentals to thousands of students and also use cassettes and preaching in mosques to condemn and defame democracy and its related issues.

And just like the Salafis in Yemen are divided the Salafis in Kuwait are too, but their disputes did not prevent them from having a common stand towards the elections and participating in it.

Perhaps the disputes between the Yemeni Salafis are due to the variation in their opinions about democracy and political groups. In general three divisions of Salafis could be found in Yemen:

- The first group maintained its disapproving stand towards democracy and political grouping or any similar political associations such as societies and the like. This is that of Shiekh Muqbil al-Wadie and his followers.
- This one disapproved democracy but approved formation of political groups and societies, which made them viewed as outcasts by the first group. This group is represented by Abulhassan Al-Masri and his followers.
- This group is what is called organized Salafi movement which was established by al-Hikma al-Yamaniya Society and which approved democracy and participated in the elections with reservations. The variation in stands in the Salafi



Kuwaiti women, craving for democracy



Al-Zaidi interviewing Ahmed Al-Duaij, an Islamic candidate

movement in Yemen goes back the Salafi sect and might lead to stoppage of the funding and Saudi support which change of its rigid stance against democracy a clear violation of the Saudi references which views any change of the Salafi centres in Yemen depend on.

## Cinema in Taiz, facing oblivion

By FAROUQ MUQBIL  
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES, TAIZ

Just as it is the case all over Yemen the condition of movies halls or cinemas in Yemen is quite miserable. Even though it's been 40 years since the first public cinemas in Yemen appeared, today imported movies films are shown in pathetic movie houses using the most outdated technologies. The first time a movie was screened in Taiz was in 1963 in a cinema house that is more like a store and since then 5 movie houses were established; Bilqeess, 23rd July Hall, Saba, Al-Muntazah and Al-Jahmaliya. Out of those 3 have been closed down and only two; Saba and 23rd July are struggling to stay alive. The question here is why the situation of Cinema in Taiz is so bad?

### No cinema without production

Since there is no real movies production in Yemen in general the general establishment for cinema and theater was established but unfortunately in vain because until today not a single production has been made. And so Yemen keeps depending on imported western movies which clash strongly with the Yemeni culture which is greatly considered one of the obstacles against cinema industry in Yemen.

### History of Yemeni cinema

Unfortunately there is no adequate information at all about Yemeni movie production or any recorded or documented database. The little information comes as word of mouth that the first movie show machines were that of Imam Ahmed possessions which are stored in the National Museum in Taiz.

Journalist photographer Adil Al-Ariqi said that the first cinema in Taiz was that immediately after the revolution and was named Cinema Al-



Ghanami because it was screened at Al-Ghanami courtyard an event that lasted for a short while to be replaced by Cinema Bilqeess. Hence onwards several movie halls appeared and disappeared yet most were run by the government. A time came when the demand on cinemas was quite heavy as Mr. Aboud Mohammed Omar owner of 23rd July movie hall says. "There used to be a large crowd and the hall used to have more than 450 attendees and in the balcony more than 220." He commented.

Mr. Razi Abdulaziz Al-Yousifi Culture Bureau Officer in Taiz exclaimed that it is strange how the appeal to movie halls has deteriorated since the eighties when there used to be large halls and even sections for women. But today in spite of the globalization and modern technologies people have stopped going to movie halls and women refrained totally.

### Is it The End?

Yes, according to cinema owners in Taiz they expect that sooner or later the movie halls in Taiz will become extinct especially with the various problems

they face such as outdated technologies and high taxation. Aboud Mohammed Omar owner of 23rd July Hall said that he'd be searching for a new project soon. And Mr. Ramzi Al-Yousifi Culture Bureau officer in Taiz explained that the reason behind closure of 3 halls was that: "they couldn't live up to the expectations of the audience as well as they were pressurized by the laws and legislations controlling this industry. Then lately the dish and digital satellites phenomenon overcame the forthcoming and so people opted for seeing movies at home. Not only that, the statuses of the halls is pathetic as they are filthy and uncomfortable, so people would rather stay at home or go to internet cafes as a substitute"

Al-Yousifi, however, confirmed that the culture bureau in Taiz will do all that it can to revive cinema in Taiz.

The situation is bad and if nothing is done cinema in Taiz will be history in no time. Although it is one of the mass media but it is ignored in our country due to laws and culture. There is no manufacturing and there is no audience, so is there hope?

# 2003

## عروض الصيف المذهلة

من ٢٥ يونيو حتى ٣١ اغسطس

TX-21Z88X

TC-21PS70R

هدايا فورية عند الشراء

RX-CT73 0M2

RX-CT85 0M2

RX-CT88 0M2

السحب الكبير على الجائزة الكبرى في ٣١ اغسطس

جودة عاليه... اسعار لا تقارن

صنعاء - عصر تلفزيون ٥/٦/٢١٤٣٣٤ - فاكس ٢٠٧٢٢٤

تاروع حدة ٢٠٠٧٢٣ - فاكس ٢٠٠٧٢٨ - فاكس ٢٠٠٨٢٤

الرجل المتعد في الجمهورية اليمنية

شركة ألفا المحدودة

عدن تلفزيون ١/٢ - فاكس ٢٤٧٥٦٠ - فاكس ٢٤١٢٧٩

الجديدة - تليفون ٢٠٠٥٨٥٥ - المكلا تليفون ٢٠٠٤٦٢٢



## Qatar emir names new crown prince

DOHA, Aug 5 (Reuters) - The emir of Qatar, a key U.S. ally, named his younger son as heir apparent on Tuesday, replacing his other son Sheikh Jassim bin Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, who diplomats say has been asking for wider powers.

An official decree carried by the news agency QNA said Emir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani accepted the decision by Sheikh Jassim to step down as crown prince and replaced him with his younger brother Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani.

Both sons are in their 20s.

There was no immediate explanation for the sudden change, but diplomats say that Sheikh Jassim had been complaining of being sidelined in the running of the oil-and-gas rich country.

QNA said Sheikh Jassim sent a letter to his father explaining his decision to step down, saying "the time is appropriate to step down and prepare for a successor".

The letter, carried by agency, did not give specific reasons but Sheikh Jassim said he had first accepted the post in 1996 to help his country after authorities foiled a coup plot against his father and arrested dozens of people.

Sheikh Jassim is Sheikh Hamad's third son. Sheikh Tamim, who heads Qatar's Olympic committee, is his fourth.

Diplomats told Reuters that Sheikh Jassim, who has held the post since 1996,



The emir of Qatar Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani attends the opening ceremony of the 125th meeting of the OPEC conference in Doha in this June 11, 2003 file photo. REUTERS

was frustrated because he did not have enough official responsibilities. Another diplomat said the change might be due to health reasons, but did not elaborate.

Qatar, a small state with a history of palace coups, hosted the advance headquarters of U.S. forces in the war that toppled Iraqi President Saddam Hussein in April. The OPEC member has the world's third largest natural gas reserves.

Sheikh Hamad, 54, ousted his father, Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad al-Thani, in 1995 in a bloodless palace coup while the old emir was in Switzerland.

## Iran leader urges leniency for detained students

TEHRAN, Aug 5 (Reuters) - Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei urged the judiciary on Tuesday to show leniency to dozens of students who were arrested during pro-democracy protests in June and July, the official IRNA news agency said.

The announcement follows growing calls by student bodies, reformist politicians and human rights groups for the release of students arrested during street protests which took place in several Iranian cities in the past two months.

Judiciary officials said in July that 4,000 people were arrested during the protests although more than half of them were quickly released.

Mohsen Safaei Farahani, parliament's special envoy to investigate the status of detained students, said earlier this week that 30 were being held in Tehran's Evin prison, where most of Iran's leading political dissidents are detained.

Local analysts said Khamenei's move may indicate an effort by Iran's clerical establishment to ease lingering tensions left by the protests and the wave of arrests.

## Turkey sees no obstacle to U.S. loan guarantees

ANKARA, Aug 5 (Reuters) - Turkish Economy Minister Ali Babacan said on Tuesday Turkey was confident it would shortly secure up to \$8.5 billion in U.S. financing despite lingering tension with Washington over the war in Iraq.

The release of the cash may indicate the two NATO allies are on their way to patching up relations damaged by Turkey's refusal to allow U.S. forces to attack Iraq from its soil.

"There doesn't appear to be any obstacle (to the release of the credit) at the moment, but it would be best if we behaved prudently," Babacan told reporters at a news briefing.

The United States has delayed the release of a \$1 billion grant, convertible into up to \$8.5 billion in loan guarantees, since March saying the aid was tied to progress on economic reform under Turkey's \$16 billion IMF pact.

The International Monetary Fund on Friday approved its latest \$500 million loan tranche to Turkey saying Ankara had speeded a range of reforms of its frail economy,

many delayed since April.

Government officials would travel to Washington on August 18 for talks on the aid, which could be released to Turkey in up to five instalments, Babacan said. Turkey wanted officials from the IMF to join the talks, he added.

Muslim Turkey is still weighing a U.S. request to deploy troops to help secure Iraq, but it is unclear whether the United States will wait for an agreement before releasing the credit. Washington has not made a direct link between the financing and Turkey's deployment of the peacekeeping troops, though it has asked Ankara to suggest ways to improve battered relations.

Approval of the U.S. financing would help Ankara meet any economic fallout of the war in Iraq and pay down a domestic debt load of \$125 billion, swollen by a 2001 financial crisis.

Babacan said the U.S. financing could reduce Turkey's debt rollover ratio by five percentage points in 2004.

# Palestinians await prisoner release, Israelis wary

JERUSALEM/GAZA, Aug 5 (Reuters) - Excited relatives were on Tuesday preparing modest ceremonies to welcome home Palestinian prisoners about to be freed by Israel, their joy tempered by regrets that many more will remain in jail.

In Israel, the decision to release 342 prisoners on Wednesday left many people incredulous. Some Israelis welcomed it as a peace offering, but relatives of victims of suicide attacks were struggling to come to terms with it.

"The release, to us, seems both immoral and impossible," said Pnina Aizenman, who lost her mother and five-year-old daughter in a Jerusalem suicide bombing in June last year.

"I feel really bad about the release and I think all the bereaved families feel the same way," said Aizenman, who survived the attack along with her two-year-old son.

Israel published on Monday the names of the prisoners it plans to free in efforts to bolster a U.S.-backed peace plan. None was convicted for involvement in suicide attacks during the 34-month-old Palestinian uprising for independence.

The Palestinians had expected 540 prisoners would be freed and want an amnesty for all 6,000 Palestinians in Israeli jails.

"We are happy but had hoped that all prisoners would be released," said Sami Abu Daqqa, a Palestinian in the Gaza Strip.

His brother Abdallah, jailed in January 2002 for membership of the radical Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, is among those scheduled to be released on Wednesday.

### Paper hearts and flowers

Some Palestinians are planning sim-



An Israeli policeman stands in front of a group of foreign and Israeli activists after they were detained and taken to the police station in the West Bank settlement of Ariel August 5, 2003. Israeli troops detained 47 activists who tried to block construction of a security barrier through Palestinian land in the West Bank Tuesday. REUTERS

ple welcome gestures for the prisoners.

In Khan Younis in southern Gaza, Tayseer Abu Shammala's five children prepared for his return by decorating their home with flowers and paper hearts bearing the inscription: "I love you."

Dalia, 10, said the world seemed a better place now that her father, detained without charge in April, was coming home.

"Without him I felt like an orphan," she said.

But her mother Yusra said happiness would be complete only after Israel set free all the other prisoners.

Aizenman's home in the West Bank Jewish settlement of Maaleh Adumim is decorated with photographs of the daughter and mother she lost in June 2002. She said the planned release had shaken her faith in the government.

"The two children I have left — the one I had after the attack and the one who survived — are in danger because these prisoners, who helped prepare a bomb or helped some other way, will now be able to hurt my family again," she said.

The prisoners are obliged to sign a document saying they will refrain from "hostile activities".

A few grieving Israelis welcome the release as a step towards peace and reconciliation.

Roni Hershenson, who lost his son Amir in a 1995 suicide bombing and his son Elad in 2000 when he committed suicide after his best friend was killed in an attack, said steps such as the prisoner release were the only way to stop the violence.

"Every step that minimises the hostility between the two peoples is welcome and desirable," he said. "I support the prisoner release and its expansion as the peace process moves forward."

# Guerrillas wound two U.S. soldiers in Iraq attack

FALLUJA, Iraq, Aug 5 (Reuters) - A rocket-propelled grenade attack on a police station west of Baghdad on Tuesday wounded at least two U.S. soldiers, the latest victims of a guerrilla war that has killed 53 American troops in the last three months.

In Baghdad, the U.N. humanitarian coordinator in Iraq warned that lack of security could deter donors from providing desperately needed aid to keep the country afloat in 2004.

The grenade slammed into a police station in the restive town of Falluja, 50 km (32 miles) west of the capital. Two U.S. soldiers were taken away in an ambulance as a crowd gathered, chanting their support for deposed president Saddam Hussein.

"We sacrifice our blood and our souls for you, Saddam," they shouted. The fugitive dictator has so far evaded capture despite a \$25 million price on his head.

The U.N. official, Ramiro Lopez da Silva, said persistent insecurity and concerns about bankrolling a military occupation could make donors wary of committing funds.

He said \$5 billion was needed from an October aid conference merely to keep Iraq's creaking infrastructure and basic services from grinding to a halt next year.

Iraq needed to spend a minimum of \$20 billion in 2004, and income from the ramshackle oil industry and other sources was unlikely to exceed \$15 billion. Donors must supply the rest.

"That is just to keep things going," da Silva told reporters. "If you want a qualitative leap, a quantum leap in living standards and conditions, you would need much more."

Even if money is pledged it may not materialise — much of the cash promised to Afghanistan has yet to arrive.

"If we want to attract something



Two U.S. army military policemen carry their wounded comrade into the police station in Falluja, 40 km west of Baghdad August 5, 2003. At least two U.S. soldiers were wounded on Tuesday when a rocket-propelled grenade was fired at a police station in the restive town of Falluja. REUTERS

close to \$5 billion as support for Iraq next year, donors will have the present security environment very much in mind," da Silva said.

### Guerrilla war

U.S. officials say remnants of Saddam's militias and security forces, as well as some foreign fighters, are behind the guerrilla campaign that has killed 53 U.S. troops since Washington declared major combat over on May 1. Officials also blame Saddam loyalists for sabotage of oil pipelines.

U.S. forces have mounted a series of raids in the rebellious "Sunni triangle"

region north and west of Baghdad to hunt down the attackers and search for Saddam.

An army spokesman in Saddam's home town of Tikrit said nine suspects had been captured in raids over the past 24 hours.

"They were a combination of Fedayeen and Baath party or just anti-coalition," the spokesman said at a U.S. base in one of Saddam's former palaces overlooking the Tigris river. "They included four targeted individuals."

Scores of Iraqis have been detained in the recent raids. Most have been

middle-ranking officials, rather than close associates of Saddam on a most-wanted list of 55 top officials.

Of the 55, 18 are still on the run. The rest have been captured or killed. Saddam's sons Uday and Qusay were killed last month in a U.S. raid on their hideout in northern Iraq.

Arab television networks have broadcast several taped messages purportedly recorded by Saddam, exhorting Iraqis to fight a holy war to expel U.S. troops. CIA officials say the most recent tapes were probably genuine.



# Bomb rips through Indonesia hotel, kills 14

JAKARTA, Aug 5 (Reuters) - A huge car bomb ripped through one of the top hotels in Indonesia's capital on Tuesday, killing 14 people and wounding about 150.

The city's governor said a suicide bomber was probably responsible for the attack on the JW Marriott Hotel — the second major blast to hit Indonesia in less than a year.

It was timed as thousands of workers poured out of offices for lunch and mosques called the faithful to prayer.

The blast ripped through the lobby and set fire to cars and taxis out front. Many windows in the 33-storey hotel were blown out. Wreckage from the charred lobby was strewn over a wide area.

Diners were eating lunch in restaurants and cafes in the hotel and in a nearby office tower when the blast blew out windows and showered people with shards of glass.

Australian tourist Simon Leuning had just arrived in Jakarta from Perth and was relaxing in his room at the hotel when the explosion occurred.

"The window blew in, blew me across the room," he told Reuters Television. "I got out of there as fast as I could."

The Indonesian Red Cross said 14 people died and 150 were wounded.

"Thirteen bodies have been evacuated to hospitals while the last one, a human head without body, was just found by a Red Cross team on the fifth floor of the hotel," a senior Red Cross official said.

The National Police Chief, General Da'i Bachtiar, told reporters the car bomb blew up near the lobby, not the basement as earlier reports suggested. He said the blast was similar to the Bali bombings.

Tuesday's attack coincided with high-profile trials of suspected Islamic militants on bomb-related charges — including that of Abu Bakar Bashir, an influential cleric in the world's most populous Muslim nation.

He is accused of leading the Jemaah Islamiyah network blamed for a series of attacks on Western targets including

October's Bali bombings that killed 202 people, most of them foreign tourists.

## Mad Panic

Police have said a Dutch banking executive was among the dead, while two Americans, two Singaporeans, an Australian and a New Zealander among those wounded. The official Antara news agency said 111 people were injured, many seriously.

The Marriott, popular with foreign businessmen, is in the wealthy suburb of Kuningan on a major road through the city's business district. The hotel is close to the diplomatic area of Menteng where many Western embassies and consulates are based.

Management said the hotel was 70-80 percent full at the time of the blast.

"It was panic. Mad panic," said Stephen Mellor, a foreign resident who was parking his car less than 100 metres (yards) from the hotel at the time of the blast.

"The police and paramedics did what they could, but they seemed overwhelmed. People were almost hijacking cars in desperation and piling the injured in them to take to hospital."

Jakarta Governor Sutiyoso said, "There is a strong possibility this was a suicide bomber," while Defence Minister Matori Abdul Djilil was more blunt, calling it an act of terrorism.

Washington said last week that Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda network was planning new suicide hijackings and bombings in the United States and abroad. The U.S. embassy held its 4th of July independence celebrations at the hotel.

## Warnings

"Intelligence agencies have warned for months now of the possibility of attacks and the bulk of Jemaah Islamiyah remains at large," said security expert Andrew Tan at Singapore's Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies.

A visibly angry chief security minister Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono condemned the bombing and said the government was determined to find the



Indonesian police examine the wreckage of cars damaged by a blast at the Marriott hotel's compound in Jakarta on August 5. A huge car bomb killed 11 people and wounded more than 100 on Tuesday as it ripped through a luxury hotel in the heart of Indonesia's capital. REUTERS



Indonesians try to identify the bodies of bomb victims in a Jakarta hospital after a bomb blast at the Marriott hotel in Jakarta August 5. A huge car bomb killed 10 people and wounded more than 100 at a luxury hotel in the business centre of Indonesia's capital on Tuesday. REUTERS

"inhumane" perpetrators. He also told Indonesians not to assume public places were safe.

The explosion hit Indonesia's financial markets. The main stock index ended down three percent, its

lowest in more than two months.

The Marriott, which opened in September 2001 and has 33 floors and 333 rooms, is the latest luxury hotel in the bustling city, home to over 10 million people.

# Kenya says: Ethnic Arabs held over Mombasa blast



About Rogo Mohammed, one of five men charged over November's suicide bombing of a hotel in Mombasa, waves at the Chief Magistrates Court in Nairobi August 5. Last year's November 28 bombing of an Israeli-owned hotel in Mombasa killed three suicide bombers, 10 Kenyans and three Israeli tourists. REUTERS

PRETORIA, Aug 5 (Reuters) - Kenya said on Tuesday two men arrested in an anti-terror raid in the coastal city of Mombasa last week were Kenyan nationals of Yemeni origin.

One of the men set off a hand grenade, killing himself and a policeman, as he was being driven to a Mombasa police station on Friday for questioning over last November's suicide bombing of the Israeli-owned Paradise Hotel near the city.

The other was held in the same raid earlier in the day, also in Mombasa, where Kenyans of Arab origin make up a sizeable proportion of the near one million population.

The United States said on Monday the two arrested men were suspected of links to Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda, which claimed responsibility for the hotel attack that killed at least 16 people. The attack occurred within minutes of a failed attempt to shoot down an Israeli airliner leaving Mombasa's airport.

"Both men are Kenyans but of Yemeni origin," Kenyan National Security Minister Chris Murungaru on a trip to Pretoria told Reuters.

He sought to reassure outsiders that the east African country's security situation was in hand.

"We do not expect any further security breaches," Murungaru said.

Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki said last Friday's grenade attack involved two or three individuals and "we dealt with all of them".

"Anyone visiting our country would know that we are ready and shall deal with people who are bent on creating chaos," he told a news conference during a three-day visit to South Africa.

Five men, all of them Kenyans of Arab origin from the Indian Ocean coastal region, have been charged in connection with the attack on the Paradise Hotel but have yet to enter pleas.

The grenade blast was the latest in a series of blows to Kenya's key tourism industry which earns the east African country millions of dollars in foreign exchange.

Five years ago the U.S. embassy in Nairobi was bombed, killing more than 200 people, in an attack the United States linked to al Qaeda.

Earlier this year both the United States and Britain warned their citizens against non-essential travel to Kenya for security reasons. Britain later revoked its warning but a U.S. travel advisory against visiting Kenya remains in place.

Police have carried out many arrests in Mombasa and the Kenyan capital Nairobi in a bid to tighten security in the wake of the hotel attack.

# Sukhoi sale to Malaysia fuels Putin's SE Asia hopes

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 5 (Reuters) - Russian President Vladimir Putin, in Malaysia to sell a squadron of Sukhoi warplanes, said on Tuesday he hoped the deal would help Moscow sell more aircraft in Southeast Asia.

Putin, in Kuala Lumpur for little over a day before returning home via Uzbekistan, signed the deal valued at \$900 million for 18 Sukhoi Su-30MKs, the first of which will be delivered to Malaysia in 2006.

Military experts say the Su-30MK will be the most powerful combat aircraft ever operated by a Southeast Asian country.

"I cannot but mention about the large contract in the field of military cooperation. I mean the planned delivery to Malaysia of Russian aircraft, Sukhoi 30MKM," the Russian president said during a question-and-answer session at a business lunch.

The Su-30MKM is a variant of the Su-30MK.

"I think from this Malaysian platform, Russian aviation techniques can be moved to the region of Southeast Asia," Putin added.

The Su-30MK's air-to-air missiles outrange all enemies' and the aircraft has unusually powerful radar, experts say.

Russia has sold similar versions to China and India, and a less advanced version to Vietnam. Indonesia is buying the aircraft, too.

Malaysian Defence Minister Najib Abdul Razak said palm oil sales would cover 30 percent of the bill for the

planes, and 30 percent of the remainder would be offset by a transfer of technology to local firms.

"It will be 30 percent counter-trade of palm oil and 30 percent (of the rest through) transfer of technology," Najib told Reuters, when asked how Malaysia planned to finance the deal.

Malaysia has territorial disputes with all of its neighbours. But it also enjoys good relations with them, although it has regular diplomatic spats with next-door Singapore.

The Su-30MK is regarded as superior to Lockheed Martin's F-16s, operated by Singapore, Indonesia and Thailand.

The Malaysian air force currently flies MiG-29s, F/A-18D Hornets and British Hawks.

Boeing Co is hoping to sell Malaysia a squadron of F/A-18E and F Super Hornet fighters. The Super Hornet is an enlarged and more powerful development of the Hornet.

Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad, who was fiercely critical of the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq, is sitting on that \$1 billion deal.

Meantime he has met with a procession of European leaders, who like Putin belonged to the so-called "coalition of the unwilling" for their opposition to the Iraq war.

French President Jacques Chirac and German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder paid call on the veteran Malaysian Muslim leader earlier this year.

Putin was due to fly to Uzbekistan late on Tuesday, before heading home.



Liberians sing and dance during the arrival of Nigerian peacekeepers at Monrovia's International airport August 4. Long-awaited West African peacekeepers swooped into Liberia by helicopter on Monday, as war-weary Liberians danced for joy in ruined streets on hopes of an end to 14 years of bloodshed. REUTERS

# Thai minister banned from political office on graft

BANGKOK, Aug 5 (Reuters) - A Thai court banned a deputy minister from holding political office for five years on Tuesday for falsifying his wealth report, a charge Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra escaped two years ago.

The Constitutional Court, a panel of 15 judges authorised to rule on politicians' conduct, voted eight to five with two absentees that Deputy Industry Minister Pichate Satirachaval failed to declare debts, as all members of parliament have to do.

"The court voted in majority that Pichate deliberately submitted his assets and liabilities report with false

details," court clerk Noppadon Hengcharoen told reporters.

Noppadon said Pichate and a co-defendant had not paid a 49 million baht (\$1.17 million) debt as ordered by the Supreme Court seven years ago and had not included it in his asset report.

Thaksin told reporters Pichate was not guilty of corruption, so would continue to work for his Thai Rak Thai Party despite the ban.

Thaksin escaped a five-year ban from politics in 2001 when he was narrowly acquitted of charges of concealing assets when he was deputy prime minister in 1997, enabling him to stay on as prime minister.



# Portugal fire death toll rises to 11

LISBON, Aug 5 (Reuters) - Portugal's worst forest fires in a generation have killed two more people, bringing the death toll to 11 in a week, authorities said on Tuesday.

A 62-year-old man was found dead with signs of having been overcome by fumes, Portuguese news agency Lusa reported, and the charred body of an elderly woman was found in Oleiros, 170 kms (105 miles) northeast of Lisbon.

Commander Antonio Gualdino, duty officer at the National Rescue Operations Centre, confirmed the two deaths but had no details.

About 3,400 firefighters and soldiers had worked through the night to take advantage of a drop in temperatures to combat fires, many of which have raged for days.

"Weather conditions were favourable last night and we managed to put some fires out, but temperatures will climb again today to 40 degrees Celsius (104 degrees Fahrenheit) and the wind is beginning to blow from the east, which will certainly complicate matters," he said.

Portugal declared national disaster on Monday and made more than 100 million euros (\$113.6 million) available to victims of the blazes.



Firefighters turn away from the searing heat while battling a forest fire in Gaviao 100 km northeast of Lisbon August 4. Portugal declared a national disaster on Monday due to forest fires that have killed nine people in the last week as a heatwave fanned blazes across Europe. REUTERS

In the past week some 54,000 hectares (135,000 acres) of woodland have been destroyed by fires, according to a preliminary

estimate by the Forestry Commission. About one-third of Portugal is covered by forest and fires have spread in woods

dried out by weeks of drought as high temperatures and strong winds have fanned the flames.

# Blair under new fire over smear of dead scientist

LONDON, Aug 5 (Reuters) - A top aide to British Prime Minister Tony Blair admitted on Tuesday smearing a scientist whose suicide over the case for war in Iraq has sparked the worst crisis of Blair's premiership.

Blair's official spokesman, Tom Kelly, acknowledged that he had made comments comparing the scientist with fictional fantasist Walter Mitty, just hours before the expert's funeral.

The admission, which comes a day after Blair's office denied anyone had made the remark with its approval, drove Blair's government deeper into turmoil and further undermined its credibility at a time of plummeting public trust.

Tom Kelly said the comment had been made in a "private conversation" with a reporter and was not designed to discredit the scientist David Kelly, who is to be buried on Wednesday.

"I now recognise that even that limited form of communication was a mistake, given the current climate," Tom Kelly, who is not related to the scientist, said in a statement.

"I therefore unreservedly apologise to Dr Kelly's widow and family for having intruded on their grief."

Speaking to Reuters at his home outside Belfast, northern Ireland, Tom Kelly refused to say whether he would resign.

## Spinning out of control?

David Kelly slit his wrist after being outed as the source of a BBC report alleging the government had exaggerated evidence of Iraq's banned weapons to justify an unpopular war.

Blair's reputation for "spin", and the failure to find in Iraq the banned weapons which the British and U.S. governments had always said were the reason for the war, have caused his trust ratings to collapse. The crisis has been exacerbated by the govern-

ment's handling of the David Kelly affair.

The latest opinion poll on Tuesday showed that 52 percent of the public trust Blair very little or not at all.

Last Friday, the government launched a judicial inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the suicide. Senior figures including Blair will be called to testify in coming months.

Blair's spokesman said he had linked David Kelly's name with fantasist Walter Mitty in an off-the-record briefing about potential lines of inquiry into the suicide.

"It was meant as one of several questions facing all parties, not as a definitive statement of my view, or that of the government," he said.

Mitty, a fictional character created by the American author James Thurber, is a fantasist with delusions of grandeur.

The Independent newspaper on Monday, attributing the "Walter Mitty" comment to an anonymous government source, suggested it was part of a government strategy to imply David Kelly had exaggerated his own role in assessing Blair's case for going to war.

Critics of the government agreed. They said Blair's team could not resist meddling from behind the scenes, despite calls for restraint from Blair, who is holidaying in Barbados.

Glenda Jackson, a former minister from Blair's Labour Party and an outspoken critic of the Iraq war, said attempts by Blair's Number 10 Downing Street office to discredit David Kelly hours before his funeral were "obscene" and "unspeakable."

"It's the opening salvo by Number 10 in an attempt to turn the victim into a villain," she told Sky News.

Jackson called on the spokesman to be sacked and said an apology should come from "much higher up the chain".

# Berlusconi sees himself as U.S.-German mediator

BERLIN, Aug 5 (Reuters) - Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi, whose Nazi insult sparked outrage in Germany last month, said that he hoped to soften tensions between the United States and Germany with his easy-going manner.

"I have already done so and I will continue to do. I tend to defuse and soften disputes," Berlusconi, who holds the rotating presidency of the European Union, told mass circulation Bild newspaper in an interview published on Tuesday.

"I try — particularly over a meal — to ease these tense situations with irony

and conversation," Berlusconi said.

U.S.-German relations have been severely hit by German resistance to the Iraq war, although officials from the two countries have been trying to mend fences in recent months.

"There is a period before the war, the war and a post-war period. Now is the time to look forward. The differences of opinion belong to the past. We all need to work now to give stability and order to the world," he said according to the German text of the interview.

However, Berlusconi marred the launch of Italy's six-month presidency of the European Union last month by

comparing a German member of the European parliament to a Nazi concentration camp guard.

In a previously released section of the interview, Berlusconi said he and Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder had acted together to smooth over the affair.

Indeed, Berlusconi told Bild he was "almost a German" himself given his passion for work.

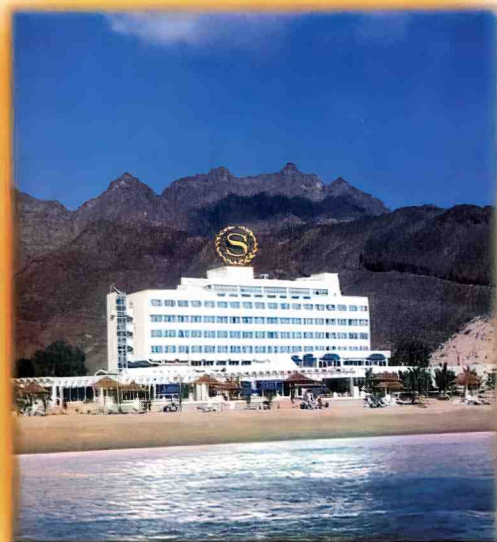
Berlusconi said his relations with U.S. President George W. Bush were very strong and he praised the American leader for his efforts to secure world peace.

"Of course there are always prob-

lems, but George W. Bush tries to solve them in cooperation with Europe and the international community. Both the father and the son have forged coalitions. Their political and strategic quest is the opposite of isolationism," Berlusconi said.

Berlusconi said strong transatlantic ties were vital for security and growth and the war on terror, but also in the bid to tackle worldwide poverty, hunger and disease.

He also said German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer was a "natural" candidate for the position of a future European Union foreign minister.



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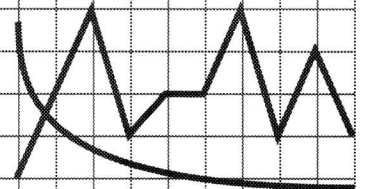
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# YT Business



Yemen's campaign against terror in regional waters,

## Ensuring fish wealth investment, building export ports

By MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

It seems that the Yemeni campaign on terror has had positive reflections due to Yemen's interest in protecting its security in the regional waters and preventing infiltration of suspect elements. To do so Yemen has established coast guard force that led to providing protection for marine wealth and working on catching ships that violates rules of fishing and putting an end to investment at the expense of marine life.

This campaign has encouraged the private sector to invest in fish sector. Local authorities have embarked on offering facilities for investors and taken strict measures for protecting fishermen, coral reefs and small fish. It is therefore the government is paying attention to rehabilitation of strategic seaports, including Shahr port, Hadramout governorate and it is working for adding new ports or erecting some water barriers along the coastline stripe, in addition to raising the capacity of electric power for providing refrigerators and cooling places for private companies or big investment companies.

The governorate of Hadramout is considered among the most significant Yemeni governorates that are seeking for taking care of sea environment by establishment scientific research centres for better organisation of tradition-

al fishing...

It is for this reason the Yemeni businessman engineer Abdulla Ahmed Baqshan has built the Yemen Fish Company, whose productive project is scheduled to be inaugurated next July. The company has sought help of British experts who have completed scientific studies about the coastline. The company began building its installations on the land and would build a port serving its activity, an institute for training employees and fishermen, an ice factory and a site for exportation costing \$25 million.

For this purpose the company has held a training course for a group from Mukalla fishermen society as part of its scientific program aimed at raising quality of its production.

The company has chosen its site in al-Dhabba area, east of Mukalla. And including its training program the company would, during the remaining part of the year, conduct eight training courses with eight selected societies in the coastal region of Hadramout governorate for informing the fishermen on the proper methods of fishing and increase of their production. There are now nine fishing companies in Hadramout out of 17 fishing companies working Yemen off shores. But the Yemen Company Ltd is distinguished from them by combining between coastal installations and sea installations in order to create job opportunities and increasing profits



Fishermen using traditional fishing means

through using state-of-art technology on methods of fishing.

From above there could be seen that

Yemen's awareness about sea and its regional waters is moving along two courses; first a security one to prevent

infiltration of terrorist elements and the second is exploiting the fish wealth by building new ports and encouraging

investment by the private sector in production and manufacturing and marketing marine life.

## Women in Yemen, drop in workforce

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Statements issued by the National Committee in Yemen indicate that Yemeni woman activities in the workforce are still low despite the growth of civil society organisations and growing presence of the woman in it. Workforce market has provided her with opportunity for gaining an equal and increasing chance in the general activity.

Sources in the committee say many of government legislation limit the proportion of the woman participation in work, in addition to prevalent social traditions that prevent her from going for work. This situation is there despite her presence in many societies and organisations as active members, though not as participation effectively in those organisations board of directors. The sources mention that there are complications precluding the woman to be an engineer or a lawyer or to work at military academies or oceanography, let alone the diplomatic corps.

Practically there are work opportunities dominated by men and some legislative help them curb woman's work in areas of investment and free banks.

It is to be noted that there is duality in dealing with Yemeni woman in labour market regarding incentives, wages and travels and all these contribute to give woman frustration with respect to work and her refusal to go to work. This consequently increases the rate of 35 percent unemployment in the market.

The degrading view regarding woman work in Yemen is still prevalent up till now. This view mentions that the woman place is at home only and she has nothing to do with economy or politics.

The proportion of women in the population is more than 51 percent and only a tiny percentage of them work in labour market. The education system in Yemen is now encouraging the woman and education of girls and this means the number of woman employees would be doubled in future. A large proportion of women are specialized in human sciences, literature and languages and this

would cause decline in the proportion of woman's presence at scientific specialties and consequently in the labour market.

In context of economic and financial reforms and Yemen's heading for human development there are indicators on improvement of the Yemeni woman position at the labour market, especially that the world donor sides emphasize on this orientation and associate their assistance with development of woman in Yemen.

Sources at the National Community for Women say the Yemeni government does bear the responsibility for the drop in the proportion of woman participation in the workforce especially that there are many reasons precluding her entering the markets particularly social habits and traditions. The sources confirm that the Yemeni woman has gained big political accomplishments. Now she has to get her right to work and to attain equality with man and development of the society along preserving the Arab and Islamic identity.



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**Words of Wisdom**



For small countries like Yemen, which is badly dependent on the generosity and good will of the rest of the world, our worldwide image is vital. Yemen should come across to the world as a country that is helpful in promoting peace, harmony, peaceful coexistence, and positive interaction.

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



**OUR OPINION**

**Do donors know?**

Last week I paid a visit to one of Sanaa's most prominent and active NGOs. I was given an idea about how it is run, whom it serves, and what difficulties and problems it faces.

One of the main conclusions I came up with after the meeting was that the inefficiency and corruption taking place in the government has extended far beyond imagination and reached donations given by donor countries and organizations.

"Our work with the government and donor communities has given us a clear idea of the magnitude of corruption in the country. You will be surprised" the NGO's chairman said.

One of the examples given about the corruption level in the country was about a case in which a former minister refused to receive a massive donation worth millions of rials because he did not get a 'commission'!

What makes the situation worse is that no one holds those officials accountable for the damage they have inflicted on Yemen when they turned down offers to give free supplies of various goods deeply needed in the country.

I have heard of cases where officials demand bribes so openly to allow contracts, etc. and this does take place in many countries in the world. But what I couldn't imagine was that officials could reject donations just because they would not get money in return.

Isn't this a signal of how frightening the level of corruption has reached?

On the other hand, citizens are outraged at the fact that many international organizations and donor countries may know that there are projects that include corruption and mismanagement, yet do nothing about it. This is mainly attributed to the sensitivity that may emerge when bringing such issues in the diplomatic and foreign relations level.

However, this is the era of transparency and accountability. It should be clear to governments that do not handle donations or assistance properly that if they do so, they will be deprived from future donations and aid, which could somewhat wake up the receiving government's conscience and make it 'less corrupt' when dealing with donations.

But sometimes, governments don't care what donors think or do, resulting in a waste of time, money, and energy on projects that never materialize and whose assets and capital is lost on the way, either in the pockets of officials, or for intermediate procedures that are never completed, leading to the collapse of the project before it is open.

The question 'Do donors know?' is perhaps a naive one. Yes, they do know, but they should also realize that by keeping silent or not pushing for change is not only passive, but also damaging. By doing so, they are not only preventing Yemeni people from benefiting from donations that they offer, but they also are indirectly supporting corrupt officials to be even more corrupt.

I just hope they would understand my point.

*The Editor*

**World's largest famine**

MARTIN DANSKY BSC.  
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The world stays focused on the events in a post Saddam Iraq, peace is being bartered for the 9th time between the Israelis and Palestinians and still few dare to regard what is now unfolding in sub-Saharan Africa. This is probably due to the unpopularity of famines in Ethiopia and neighboring regions in the horn of Africa. Many are just conditioned to think of famine as a natural occurrence that somehow it will take care of itself or that the number of affected areas will never reach an amount to warrant real concern. Africa is still labeled as a continent where rampant famines are common. But this upcoming famine is a collection of prior disregarded insults to the region that have been ignored or set aside. The famine is coupled with the affect of the Aids virus and other diseases that make it difficult for rural families to look after themselves and ward off famine.

Ethiopia lost many people to famine in the 1980's. Today Ethiopia is not the only region affected, regions once considered to be more fertile like Zimbabwe are. Other regions affected earlier in the year are Zambia, Mozambique, Malawi, Lesotho and Swaziland. A lack of rain the region has caused crops to wither and a long dry season has now embraced the region. Not all of these countries have a history of chronic famine.

Kenya a land known for its grassland safaris, is also hit in its northern semi-arid region of Pokot. Today that region also has a poor water supply for its human population and livestock. The malnutrition levels of women and children in the region have also risen. The most recent case of famine was three years ago where funds for the region were received from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Continued grants from wealthier European nations cannot be taken for granted. It seems that a long-term solution would be required which would keep the land in question irrigated so that crop failure would be reduced.

In many places such as Niger where there has also been famine in the recent past, malnutrition and disease have gone hand in hand. Young children are also especially susceptible to meningitis, tuberculosis and measles.

Relief for famine victims is not the only requirement to alleviate the hardships. Import permits, which would allow relief to enter the famine-hit countries, are delayed. Countries are not receiving enough funds to by the seeds for the next planting season, according to some reports.

Organizations such as Islamic Relief calls for donations for the stricken areas but also advertises that unless the inhabitants of the afflicted countries help themselves by building reservoirs and wells and planting seeds in a timely manner, the famine will continue from year to year. Irrigation pumps are

required to counter the effects of drought, to allow farmers to moisten their soil in the absence of rain and allow them to have a second planting season during normal years. If these steps are not taken and families are not educated to manage their resources, famine will always be cyclical and chronic. Parents in the afflicted area should follow prescribed health and social standards to prevent the spread of disease. Such applies to any sub-Saharan mother who breast feeds a second child while the older one, from 10 months to 2 years old, has to depend on another food source. That child is destined to be malnourished and will likely never reach adulthood.

Whereas figures are reported as 11.5 million destined to die from starvation, one report I saw on the impending crisis puts the figure to over 50. A more accurate breakdown of the figures predicts that 17.9 million will die in the horn of Africa and another 16.4 million will be at risk in the southern region of Africa from Zimbabwe to Mozambique and Angola. Food relief is holding starvation at bay but the solution to chronic famine is far from reach. A country like Ethiopia is a model for combating mass starvation, where its army has been mobilized to distribute arriving grain packages. But there is a mix of poverty and famine that makes recovery in the region very difficult. We will soon see if our efforts to prevent mass starvation in these regions was too little and too late.

*Letters to the Editor*

**Islam is democracy!**

I am a young woman who embraced Islam a few months ago and was in the process of looking into moving to the Middle East. I was hoping that moving in that part of the world would enable me to live in a more Islamic environment. I spoke to a few sisters at my local mosque and was surprised to hear the negativity the Arab Muslim women feel about their homeland. I was even more surprised at their shocked looks when I said that I would prefer to live in a society that is an Islamic state rather than living in a society that is driven by "western democracy". My 3 years of research and studying Islam prior to reverting leads me to believe that Islam is democracy. So why then do we look elsewhere? I believe there is no form of democracy that can measure up to the rights and freedom Islam gives men, women and children in all matters be it personal, marital, legal or stately affairs. I suppose my question is then why are not all countries in the Middle East Islamic States? Why do we need a "domino effect" geared by the West to start the process of their version of "democracy" when in reality Muslim countries already have the tools to create such an environment for its people?

*Afrah Jaan  
afrahjaan@hotmail.com  
Law and order:*

**Far from reality**

Our president's comment on the above subject is welcomed by all Yemenis. While it is not for the first time such comments are given, ever since 1989 during re-unification efforts to the homeland the same comments have been reiterated today with no tangible results.

It is incumbent upon the government and the president to establish the rule of law and order in this country and equal citizenship to all irrespective of nativity or tribal classifications. All the economic, social and industrial development cannot be achieved with the current lawlessness and wide-spread corruption. The wheel of development cannot be turned without the availability of law and order.

Besides, recent survey reported continuing drop in

**Islam is democracy!**

foreign investment due to the lack of investments security caused by corrupted judicial system. Gulf investors opt for Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Morocco etc. where sound judicial system safeguards their investments. The increase in unemployment in this country can be tackled by Arab and foreign investors, who could only be attracted by the rule of law and order currently in the doldrums.

It is high time the government and the president spearhead real changes towards the achievement of law and order. Tribal and military individuals who are mostly the law breakers and have protection from the higher authority in the country have to be dealt with no mercy.

*Mohamed Abdullah  
basmeirmohd@hotmail.com*

**Nothing can justify suicide**

I like to leave this note with a suggestion about the article I read on the suicides in Yemen.

Nothing, nothing can be too bad, no matter if it is family feud, poverty or loneliness. I speak this from experience. Have faith in Allah the Most Merciful and if you feel something, if you feel you are alone then you are not. There are thousands, millions all over the world that feel what you feel.

Please, come together, set up a Hotline number where people can call and talk to someone without giving their names but to just talk because this will help and it has helped in England. I am saying this to the government, to the police, to the organizations and even the newspaper Yemeni Times. If you can set up a free Hotline number so people can call and speak to someone about their worries and what ails them. It will make a great difference in their lives.

To read such a thing saddened me greatly because they are my people and anything that pains my people, pains me too. Have faith in Allah the Most Merciful for this life is short and the Hereafter is better and eternal and did not Allah say that it is forbidden and that if you do such a thing then Hell fire is the resting place?

*Letters to the Editor*

So, you cut yourself from this life to go into another that is more pain? It doesn't make sense. Please, I am even willing for people to email their worries to me and I will listen. I may not help or have questions to their answers because I am a human like them but I will listen and I will reply to every email letter.

Subhanallah! For such a thing to happen really worries me. There must be something in Yemen that one can do for such people who feel they have lost hope.

*Alawi Abdulla Taha  
adam\_taha2000@yahoo.com*

**No phone connection from Libya!**

I would highly appreciate if Yemen Time can raise this issue to the concerned department in Yemen on behalf of the Yemenis in Libya.

For two months no direct call can be made to Yemen from Libya, the issue is that all calls to Yemen are routed via Italy, all calls are stopped at Italy and a voice announcement says that the calls to Yemen are not available from Italy.

No one can call Yemen including the Yemen Embassy in Libya.

Would you please help us as you always do and find out what is going on.

*Mohamed Abulgaith  
Mohamed\_Abulgaith@Libyaoffice.com*

**About Nadia Muhsen**

I want to enquire about Mrs Nadia Muhsen, currently in Yemen. I am aware that Nadia is married happily to her husband and has children and it's not my wish to demand she be allowed to leave the Yemen.

However I would like to enquire as to the possibility of Nadia being allowed to visit her home country with her family solely for the purposes of receiving healthcare treatment. As from what I understand Nadia's health is not that good. Also as Nadia still holds British citizenship her healthcare would not cost her husband anything.

I am aware you may have received many letters about Nadia, I do not wish to offend and I would like to make it clear I am not anti-Muslim. However, I would like to see Nadia be allowed to return to Britain for a brief period to receive healthcare only.

Also it is possible to send a message to Nadia through

your paper. I would like to wish her and her husband well and hope that she and her family are in good health.

*Megan Bowie  
flyingangelnz@xtra.co.nz*

**Dear Megan,**

I believe Nadia does follow news on the Yemen Times whenever possible, and perhaps should receive your greetings and think about your proposal.

*—The Editor*

**Zandani's fatwa not right**

I believe that the Zandani Fatwa on marrying from the West is repulsive and short-sighted. Who is he to decide for people how to live their lives? Arabs and Muslims have been marrying their cousins for hundreds of years and look where they are now? They are among the most backward, unproductive, intolerant, uneducated and poverty stricken. Zandani and others like him have no proper credentials or understanding of the world we live in today or what makes sense. He seems to agree with the Saudi wishes in this respect. The Saudis are also waging a war against intermarriages. So Zandani is perhaps representing their opinion.

*Ali H. Alyami  
alialyami@aol.com*

**Qat: a poison taken everyday in Yemen**

What makes you lose your time, lose your money -in fact most of your income-everyday in your country Yemen is this evil plant called 'Qat'. Your health, which is the most important thing in your life, is destroyed by taking this poison everyday.

A lot of people say it's not a drug. I am amazed at how furiously they are defending this evil and lying to themselves everyday. How come it's not a drug when we are so addicted to it until the level that it change the way you live and feel, especially after chewing it for a long time and reaching 6:00 pm, when it makes you feel like a different person. Didn't you ask yourself once why does every country in the world count it as a drug except you. All the studies about qat confirm it is a drug, and in order to go on and develop your country, it is time you admit it too.

*Terry Berg  
berg@hotmail.com*

**COMMON SENSE**



*By Hassan Al-Haifi*

**Like the walls of Jericho: "The walls of Sharon must also come crumbling down"**

What is happening to the United States? That is the big question that is perplexing the minds of most observers these days. America's marriage between the evangelical right and the International Zionist Movement has surely driven the United States into a corner of domestic confusion, economically, politically and socially. On the international sphere, America's friends have been turned into enemies and the invincibility of power has proven powerless in the weakest of battlegrounds, when that power turns helpless amidst a pitiful guerrilla challenge. The marriage is even producing political dogmatism with evangelical sectarian thought, which would make the most devout of believers seek explanations from heaven as to the moral precepts that would condone the unlawful killing and systematic rape of the Holy Land in His Name. Surely the Lord Al-Mighty has not changed the fundamental principles, painstakingly etched out by tens of prophets and messengers, with a Heavenly Mandate to combat oppression and transgression, especially when associated with his Majestic Name. But, Mr. Delay the Republican Majority Leader in the House of Representatives of the United States will insist that it is more Christian to be Zionist than to uphold human rights and justice and to protect the lives of people like Rachel Corrie, an American citizen who gave her life for truly upholding the justice, which the Lord seeks to implant on this planet. What has Christianity turned into?

We are not at all proposing that Christians should see the world as we see it, although the fact of the matter, Christianity and Islam have much more in common than Christianity and the chauvinistic dogmatic chauvinism, which has turned Mr. Delay into more of a Zionist than even Ariel Sharon. It is more likely that Mr. Delay is more aware of his political ambitions than the realities on the ground in the Holy Land. This marriage, which Mr. Delay is propagating is encouraged by the obvious rewards of political gains of the present administration in the White House. But now that the White House is beginning to sense the obvious miscalculations of falling into the abyss of Zionist thought indefinitely, as Sharon went on to publicly stab American foreign policy considerations in the back, and insisted that he is proceeding on with the construction of the Walls of Sharon in Paqlestine. Mr. Sharon better remember that the Walls of Jericho fell a long time ago and for the simple reason that God wanted them to fall. President George Bush is correct in insisting that the walls are an obvious manifestation of Zionist will rather than an effort to seek security for Israelis. In fact, Mr. Sharon has driven the Zionist state into a more unsecured realm with many majority of Israelis rightly wanting to exit the ugly cycle of violence initiated by no other than Ariel Sharon. Even the illegal settlers in the settlements planted in the West Bank and Gaza are willing to give up the lucrative livelihoods they had living in these illegal settlements and settle for more squeezed out existence in Israel of 1948 (This is what the *New York Times* said and not any Palestinian propaganda). This comes because they realize that Sharon cannot be trusted to protect them anymore, once the United States has found Sharon's ambitions too taxing for America's long term interests and a further challenge to the US to the difficulties that are now being encountered in the previous fiascos that the Zionists have railroaded the US into, in Afghanistan and Iraq.

It seems that the Zionist establishment played out the role of ignorance and political ambition too much for even the strongest of supporters amidst the Bush Administration. In fact, one has seen evidence of American anger at how much the Zionist role has infiltrated in the workings of American domestic and international affairs. Many emails and web sites clearly display an obvious streak, with many Americans taking it upon themselves to wage a systematic war against Zionist domination of the United States, as they see those who fall outside the Zionist sphere of influence suffer from discrimination in all walks of life including positions in economic, social and political strategic areas of American life. One would be safe to assume that the unholy marriage of Zionism and evangelical politics will not stand to remain permanent, because many Americans will simply come to realize that the investment in Zionism does to pay off in serving American interests, nor in disseminating the American moral message adhered to by the founders of the United States. It is worthwhile noting at this juncture that two centuries ago, the American forefathers, in fact warned of the penetration of Zionist thought into the American mind set, and insisted that the Constitution should include controls that will prevent the infiltration of Zionist thought as they saw it then into the moral standards they wished America should be guided by. One only has to read the minutes of the Constitutional Convention of Philadelphia in 1789 to confirm the concerns these forefathers were raising, with a clear vision of the eminent dangers of allowing Zionist thought to take over all aspects of American thought and morals. But, just as the old Walls of Jericho fell so will the Walls of Sharon, especially the walls implanted in American political and Christian misguided thinking.



# Nonsectarian, Arab Iraq no longer exists'

By MICHAEL JANSEN  
JORDAN TIMES

The observers' Patrick Graham contributed a telling and moving piece last weekend about glancing encounters with the sons of Saddam Hussein, and in so doing explained who they were and what they did. While driving round Baghdad before the war, Graham saw Qusay in the driver's seat in a car at a traffic light. A keen horseman, Graham used to ride at the stables where Uday's favourite mount, a magnificent Arab called Assad, "Lion," was kept.

Graham grew fond of Assad, who liked ice-cream. The horse was looted after the war and disappeared. Graham set out to find him but failed. Qusay at the wheel, a single body guard, beside him, Uday's horse were for Graham symbols of the Iraq which was smashed when the US and British bombs began to fall last March. Qusay, No. 2 on the US most-wanted list, was safe on the boulevards of Baghdad; Uday, No. 3, was a monster whose recreation was riding his black stallion. Today there is no safety for anyone in the streets of Iraq's capital, and little possibility of recreation for its paupered populace, plagued by heat and lack of electricity, water and employment.

Graham's article made me cast my mind back to the day that I met Saddam Hussein — briefly. In November 1976 my husband, Godfrey, and I were invited to go to Baghdad to attend a conference on Palestine organised by my American University of Beirut classmate, Abdel Wahhab Kayyali. Abed, a longstanding member of the Baath Party and the highest ranking Palestinian, gathered a fantastic collection of people for this conference.

There were the usual Palestinian professors such as Walid Khalidi and Fayeze Sayegh, both of whom spoke eloquently about the plight of their people. But there were also figures of world stature, like the marvellous

South African singer Miriam Makeba, her then husband Stokeley Carmichael, a radical black leader from the US, and the great Italian novelist Alberto Moravia.

The conference was held in the good old Baghdad Hotel overlooking the sluggish, brown Tigris. During the opening session Godfrey and I took seats five or six rows from the stage. As it concluded and we rose to leave the hall, Abed, who was sitting with someone two rows in front of us called out, "Godfrey, Michael, there is someone here I would like you to meet." We waited in the aisle for them. Abed said, "I would like you to meet the Vice President of Iraq, Saddam Hussein." We shook hands, a bit surprised that he would be here without body guards and fanfare. I remember him as a not-very-tall man in a brown suit, brown shoes, and a white shirt. Senior members of the regime were seen in public and drove round without hordes of guards. I saw the then president, Ahmad Hassan Al Bakr, drive down Saadoun Street in a Mercedes with just one police out-rider.

One of the highlights of the conference was a brilliant performance by Miriam Makeba which was followed by a spectacular trio of Iraqis with small drums. We had thought it was impossible to top Makeba, but they did. Artists, musicians and writers were encouraged and supported by the government.

After the conference closed, I went along with two other old friends from AUB to visit Babylon, Karbala and the Umayyad castle of Uhair, Godfrey and a colleague flew to Mosul. Iraq was a united country then.

Several years later Abed, who had become an author and publisher, asked Godfrey, who at the time was the Levant correspondent of The Economist weekly of London, if he would write the biography of Saddam. Godfrey said: "Yes, why not, if I can tell the full story." Abed asked, "What do you mean?" "The total man, his good side and his bad side. I will draw

up two lists of adjectives, say, "brutal, harsh, uncompromising... on one side and a promoter of literacy, generous to Arab causes, and so on on the other."

Abed did not like the idea. Godfrey even drew up his two listings. They dickered for years over it and even went to Baghdad by bus — during the Iran-Iraq war when there were no flights — to discuss the idea with members of Saddam's entourage. We had a call one day from Abed, who was in Casablanca, "I have to go to Beirut for a few days and then I will come to Cyprus to discuss the book. He wants to go ahead with it."

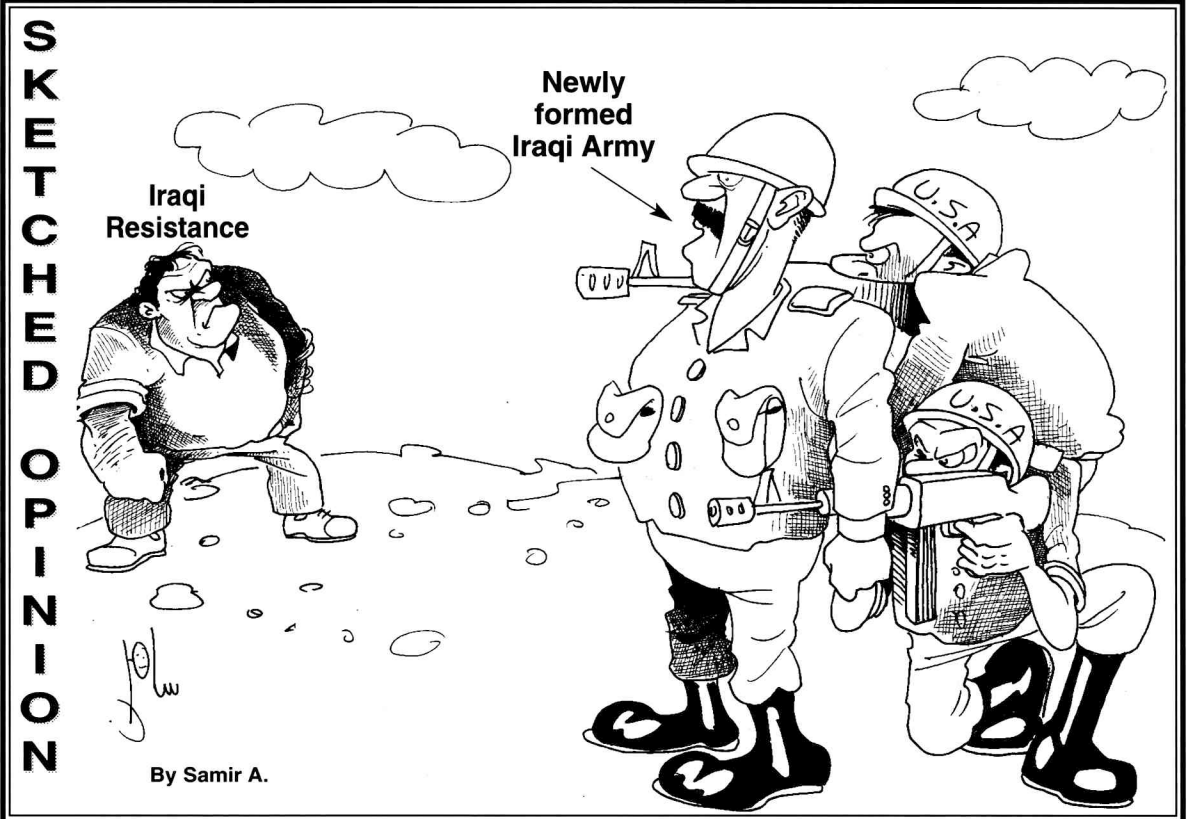
Abed was murdered in his Beirut office a few days later. The book was written by someone else who did not insist on using unflattering descriptive words.

In 1979 I went back to Baghdad for the Arab summit set to decide on whether Egypt could continue to be a member of the Arab League after signing a peace treaty with Israel.

Despite calls from Syria, Kuwait and the PLO to expel Egypt from the league, Jordan, Iraq and Saudi Arabia, which had adopted a moderate line, managed to persuade the majority of members to suspend Egypt, cut funding and move league headquarters from Cairo to Tunis.

Saddam was not a radical but a pragmatist — until he invaded Kuwait.

An Iraqi friend who has just spent two weeks in Baghdad told me: "The Iraqi republic of 1920 is finished. Dead. The old political contract [between Sunnis, Shias and Kurds] has been abolished. A new contract must be drawn up to reflect the change in demographics... This is very difficult for the council to do because it is a sectarian body. The test will be if appointments to the Cabinet are technocrats or made on a sectarian basis." Saddam is gone, his sons are dead, nonsectarian, Arab Iraq no longer exists. What the US Proconsul in Baghdad, L. Paul Bremer III, and the Iraqis who have joined the interim Governing council will put in its place no one can tell.



## Why did Blair act the warrior?

By JAMIL ALI HAMMOUD  
THE DAILY STAR

Some time back, British Prime Minister Tony Blair appeared on the British political scene during a moment of public disenchantment with the country's two main political parties — the Conservative Party and Labor. He represented, much like former US President Bill Clinton, a new style of leadership. He brought something new to Labor, while keeping in touch with the party's "old guard." He knew how to respond to public dissatisfaction by concocting his so-called "third way." He was charming and the nation was charmed.

Blairites would like us to accept the third way as a distinct middle-of-the-road alternative to traditional conservatism and liberalism. In retrospect, we can say it was much more a brilliant election agenda than a political ideology. Yet that did not matter, because Britain believed in the newcomer. Accordingly, his star rose, and so did Labor's. Blair did indeed chart a moderate political course until he surprised us with his militant stance on Iraq. It would have been one thing for Blair to support US President George W. Bush's agenda, but to be

more royalist than the king was another matter.

For Britain's foreign policy to be in line with that of the US is natural. But for Blair and Bush to have forged a perfect alliance before the Iraq war that went beyond merely harmonizing their countries' foreign affairs was very strange, given the two leader's different backgrounds and beliefs. It was that extra step that Blair took beyond the natural alliance between the two Anglo-Saxon nations that caused surprise and became a subject of reflection and interrogation.

On Iraq, Blair risked all the credit he had earned. Outside his dwindling group of supporters, there is little if any doubt that the prime minister exaggerated, dramatized and overplayed (many will say lied in bad faith about) the Iraqi threat. As the scene of the morning-after unfolds in London, polls indicate that Blair has lost a vote of no confidence from his public.

Meanwhile, many observers are discounting his political future. Whether he will rise up again as his idol Clinton did remains to be seen. But his chances of regaining his credibility are slim to none. This is a prime minister who is regarded by many as having waged war based on information lifted from a doctoral thesis written over a decade earlier.

Bush is religious, ideologically oriented, dogmatic in his speech and simplistic in his views of both friends and foes. At least that's the image we have of the US president and his administration. Blair's third way stands in sharp contrast: It is pragmatic, moderate and consensus oriented. Blair is a liberal who shifted toward the center. Bush is a conservative who

moved toward the right and, some would say, the far right. In fact, Bush has more in common with French President Jacques Chirac than with Blair.

A politician takes risks in the hopes of realizing some return. Many theories have been proposed about the return sought by the Bush administration in Iraq — from oil to liberation and everything in between. What about Blair? What in Iraq brought out the warrior in him? Some say he was motivated by economic interests and lucrative reconstruction contracts. Yet the reconstruction of Kuwait after 1991 should have provided a cautionary tale, since American firms took the lion's share of business, despite Britain's participation in the emirate's liberation. There was no reason to believe things would be different this time around, and the auctioning off of Iraq's wealth has proven that.

It has also been suggested that Blair saw himself as a statesman seeking a historical legacy, and considered the redrawing of the Arab world a perfect opportunity. However, it is Washington that is doing the redrawing, while the public relations tasks are left to London. Moreover, statesmen generally write or are the subject of these, they don't copy them. Accordingly, this argument is no more convincing than the first.

Did anyone believe that Blair was motivated by moral considerations? Neither Pope John Paul II nor the head of the Anglican Church did. Why did Blair do what he did? Only he can enlighten us one day. Until then, I wonder if the prime minister read Samuel Huntington's Clash of Civilizations and saw light in it.

## Israel's wall: A well-planned, sinister attempt at separation

By MUSTAPHA KARKOUTI  
GULF NEWS

Why does almost everyone call the so-called Israeli security wall a fence, as many politicians and writers do? A giant concrete monstrosity, three times the height of the Berlin wall, is hardly just a bit of barbed wire. It is by all definition a wall and it is offensive and inhumane.

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon claims that the wall is a "moveable fence" (i.e. temporary), in an attempt to satisfy the Jewish colonisers. After it has cost \$1 million a kilometre and devastated so much Palestinian land and homes, it should not be moved where it will cost and destroy more, but should be stopped and dismantled.

The United States President George W. Bush was right last week to describe this monstrous Israeli project as a "wall" and to highlight the fact that it will be the source of problems which will hinder movement on the roadmap.

Following his meeting with the Israeli prime minister Bush said: "I think the wall is a problem and I've discussed that with Prime Minister Sharon. It is very difficult to develop confidence between the Palestinians and the Israelis with a wall snaking through the West Bank."

The president's words on the wall carry significance, particularly as they

come after so many months in which it had been very difficult to get any attention of the mainstream media towards the wall and its terrible impact, both on Palestinian daily life and on the prospects for a future peace solution.

But let us not raise our expectations so high. When it comes to Israel, we have seen this president in the past eating his words and breaking promises. It remains to be seen if Bush will back up his words with deeds, and make use of his considerable leverage upon Sharon. The wall has been with us for longer than a year. So, why did the Bush administration choose this moment to state that the wall is the source of all problems?

If President Bush wanted to raise objections to the legitimacy of the wall, which everyone who has read his statement would have understood, he should stick to his words. The next few days or weeks should determine how credible the president's statement is.

The Palestinians and many Israelis would have preferred the president to have declared where he considers the final borders of the state of Palestine to be, to have proposed a real map or at least have made really convincing noises during the past year as the wall was being built.

No one can believe that the U.S. administration, which has colossal satellite imaging capability to spot every single illegal mobile home in the occupied territories, was unaware of

the true route of the wall.

Despite the fact that the president has aired his unease about the wall, there are fears that the administration does not seem to seriously grasp the gravity of the situation. At best it seems it is treating the wall as a humanitarian matter, a mere obstacle that infringes on the Palestinians' rights of movement and transit or some kind of a little naughty action of stealing a little more Palestinian land.

In fact, the wall is the product of a well-planned and sinister design to entrench further in the Palestinian territories and enhance the illegal Israeli occupation. It is not a security measure to protect Israelis from Palestinian attacks. The way to achieve security is total withdrawal and putting an end to this brutal occupation, sealed with an American-led international peace treaty.

It is not only Israelis but Palestinians, too, who wish to be safe and secure. As they are being killed in far greater numbers, perhaps the Bush administration might spare them a thought. The Western media, particularly the American one, far from reporting every Israeli military action, omits many killings of Palestinians largely because there are too many, yet I am not aware of a single unreported Israeli fatality.

It is high time to look at Israel as an occupying power, not just as a mere defenceless victim that needs protection. Sadly, the U.S. administration has

not yet come to this conclusion. To deny that Israel is an occupying and oppressing power is a distortion of gargantuan dimensions.

Israel's security is not the responsibility of the Palestinian Authority, nor is it the responsibility of Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas's struggling government. To secure Israeli lives we do not need a wall, nor an electric fence. We need a political decision by an Israeli government to end the occupation immediately.

It is a well-documented fact that Israeli forces control every sphere of Palestinian existence: whether they live or die, can move, work, get to school or hospital. Ever since 1967, Palestinian homes have been demolished and the land taken for Jewish-only colonies.

There is no such thing as a secured state that occupies, tortures, imprisons without trial and endorses collective punishment.

This wall will not only separate many Palestinian villages and turn some of them into isolated enclaves, but in numerous locations, it will separate villages from farmland belonging to the residents of those villages. The respected human rights group, B'Tselem of Israel, estimates the wall will likely cause "direct harm to at least 210,000 Palestinians residing in 67 villages, towns, and cities".

The writer is the former president, Foreign Press Association in London.

## Over powerful matador but traitorous

By ABDULLAH SHAWQI HUSSEIN  
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

So far there has been no idea about the shameful attitude of Arabs at large and leaders in particular towards their national issues, especially regarding the Palestinian issue and the fabricated one against Iraq.

In contrast to most western countries which have expressed their protest against the unjustifiable Anglo-American military campaign on Iraq, there has been a number of Arab countries, except for a few, adopting a spectator position to what is happening in Iraq and suffering of their Iraqi brothers at the hands of Anglo-American occupation troops.

In an article, published in the British newspaper the Independent by Robert Fisk, titled "So where are the Arabs" the writer said that majority of protesters at Bush's arrogant aggressive action on Iraq were westerners. "Yet, faced with catastrophe, the Arabs are like mice". By such likening, he

has actually been right because he, though not an Arab, has felt extremely sorry for Arabs' regrettable attitude. Moreover, some countries, which are not worth remaining as Arab states have urgently appealed to America to adopt crucial decision concerning the Iraqi leadership i.e. it has to exterminate Saddam and the Baa'th party, whether they proved guilty or not.

What is seriously painful is the unfortunate situation and the futile suggestions which we have never recognized their ultimate point to some extent. Arabs, forgetting their forefathers' incitement to the unification of word and stand under one single banner, have resorted to the UN which, in spite of its international power has got to be helpless before the arrogance of Bush and his administration. Bush and his administration have ignored the world public opinion and the American people opposition and launched their aggression on Iraq to finish the mission his father had begun in 1991, deliberately violating all international laws and the United Nations Organisation.



# Sana'a: City of Arab culture

SELECTED BY ISMAIL AL-GHABRI  
FROM A PUBLICATION BY THE  
GENERAL AUTHORITY OF TOURISM,  
YEMEN

## The old city

There is an opinion saying that "Yemeni architecture is a mirror of its civilization". If this is true the old city of Sana'a could be the best example. Although the houses of the city are not very old (large numbers of them date back to 400 years ago), however the new ones were rebuilt according to the same design adopted earlier. The current city is originally built on the ruins of the older city. The numbers of its houses are about 14000. Nowadays any person can walk from the center of the city, (Al-Baqar market), for a distance of 500m towards any direction, without seeing any modern building or western designed building.

In the old city, there exist about 50 mosques, most of them are with minarets, and a lot of them are next to gardens. The most important of which is the "Grand Mosque" whose building dates back to the days of Prophet Mohammed (Peace be upon him). It is considered one of the most ancient mosques in Islam. The mosque's original building dates back to the year 270 A.H. (9th century A.D.). At least some of the materials used in building were taken from the ruins of Ghumdan Palace, such as well-cut stones, pillars, etc.

Houses: The height of some of its houses reaches 8-9 storeys with an average of 5 storeys. The ground floor is used as a warehouse and was also used for cattle. The first floor is used as "Diwan" (reception hall for social occasions). The second floor is allocated for women and children, whereas the upper floors are only used by men. Relaxation place lies at the top of the house. It is a rectangular room with wide windows to enable the sitters to see the fields and gardens of Sana'a, the room is called "Mafraj". The Mafraj played an important role in enhancing the literary deliberations, sense of humor, and music, all of which Sana'a become famous of.

The ground floors and some of the first floors are built with stones, while the upper floors are built with bricks. The floors are separated by a belt of artistic designs and wonderful decorations. The wooden windows are topped by transparent marble or by colored glass. There are also about 9 stream public baths in the city. The city has about 40 markets, each one is specialized in a certain commodity or handicraft, such as the market of wood, cows, coffee, copper, etc. and all are full of life and fragrance of the orient.

The city was surrounded by a solid wall fortified by towers, some of which are still standing. The city used to have four main gates closing every night after evening prayer at 8 P.M. and opening before dawn prayer at 4 A.M. nothing remained of them except the southern gate (Bab al-Yemen). The old city of Sana'a has been considered a unique example of world heritage for many reasons, among which, Sana'a is one of the largest ancient cities which is still standing, its architectural style is different, distinguished, and an unequal among the ancient cities of the world. For these reasons, UNESCO adopted a resolution to initiate an international campaign for the protection of the ancient city of Sana'a in 1984. There are also a number of ancient buildings, each one is called "Samsara" which is similar to Khan "Inn" in other countries. One of them is currently rehabilitated to become a training center for those working in handicraft industries and an exhibition for their products. (It lies on the way connecting between Bab Al-Yemen and the middle of Souk). Another one is, not so far from the first, turned into a center for arts.

## Wadi Dhahr

It is about 14 km north west of Sana'a. It is one of the fertile beautiful valleys surrounding Sana'a. It is nearly 6km long. There, grow different kinds

of fruit trees. The historian Al-Hamadani (10th century AD) mentioned that there were more than 18 kinds of grapes in this wadi. On the top of a high rock at the middle of the wadi lies Dar al-Hajar. It is a big beautiful palace consisting of 5 storeys containing 17 rooms. It is believed to be built on an ancient historical site. The oldest building dates back to the end of 18th century (around 1786 AD), built by Imam Al-Mansour Ali Bin Al-Mahdi Abbas. Imam Yahya Hamid al-Deen added (during the thirties of the 20th century) a number of storeys, Imam Yahya used to spend autumn there. The palace is today a tourist attraction. Through a passage from inside the building, there is an access to an ancient rock cemetery, not far away from the palace.

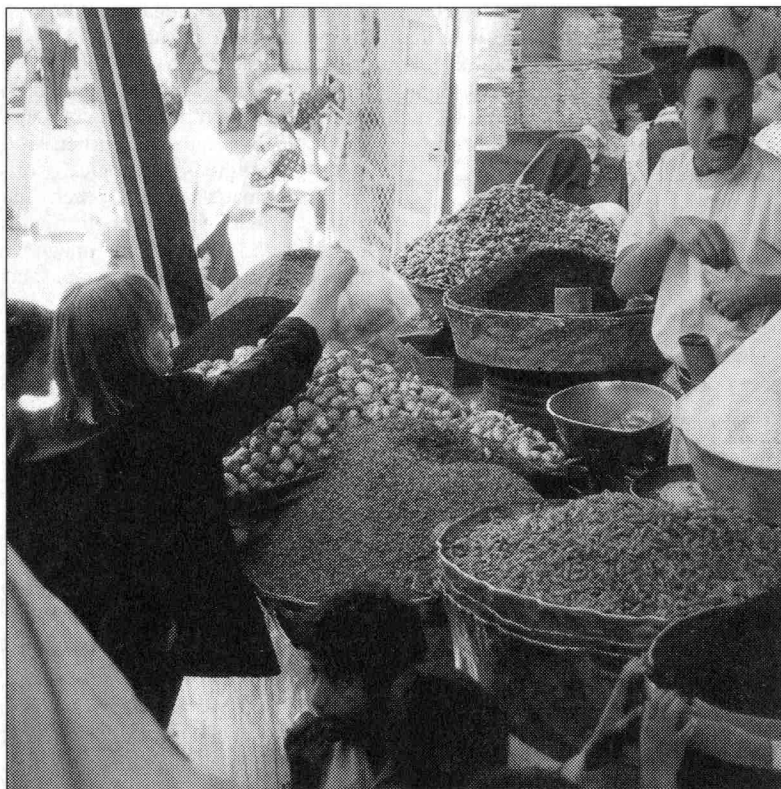
## Bait Baus

It is about 7km from Haddah town. It is one of the ancient sites. This can be deduced through the Sabaean inscription at the entrance of the village. There exist a dam to reserve water. It was used in providing the village with water in the past.

## Ghaiman

The ruins of this city are located 20 km southeast Sana'a, at Bani Bahloul directorate, on the top of Ghaiman mountain which is 200m above the level of the Wadi. Ghaiman was one of the ancient Yemeni cities, which played a major role, and deserved to be historically and archaeologically notified, as the case with other Himyarite cities like Dhafar, Bainun, and Waalan.

It is an example for the skills of Yemenis, in various fields particularly the field of architecture. The people of Ghaiman cut their rock graves in the hill opposite to the site. Remains of Ghaiman represent remaining walls of



Spices seller in the Market of Sana'a



The historical capital of the republic of yemen

the fortified city and some parts of a stone paved road leading to the entrance of the city. The golden period of Ghaiman was in the first three centuries AD.

The most important sight on the top of Ghaiman Mountain is a group of water reservoir cut in rock. Their rock graves are distinctive from others in Yemen. The metropolis is highly reputed because it contains the grave of the famous Himyarite king (Al-Karib Asaad) which encouraged so many people to dig there in search for treasures. Among those people was Imam Ahmed Bin Yahya Hamid Aldin who ruled Yemen from 1948 until 1962. His efforts led to discover some archaeological findings like heads of bronze statues, bowls and jewelry, some of them are exhibited in the National Museum in Sana'a.



صندوق الأمم المتحدة للسكان

## SUPPORTING REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH, POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN YEMEN

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#### The National Programme Officer:

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- Analyzes and reports on programme and project progress in terms of achieving results, using existing monitoring and evaluation tools and introducing new mechanisms and systems; identifies constraints and resource deficiencies and recommends corrective action. Monitors financial implementation vis-à-vis target expenditures and results.
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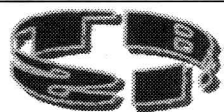
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# We no longer need them

BY YASSER AL-MAYASI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

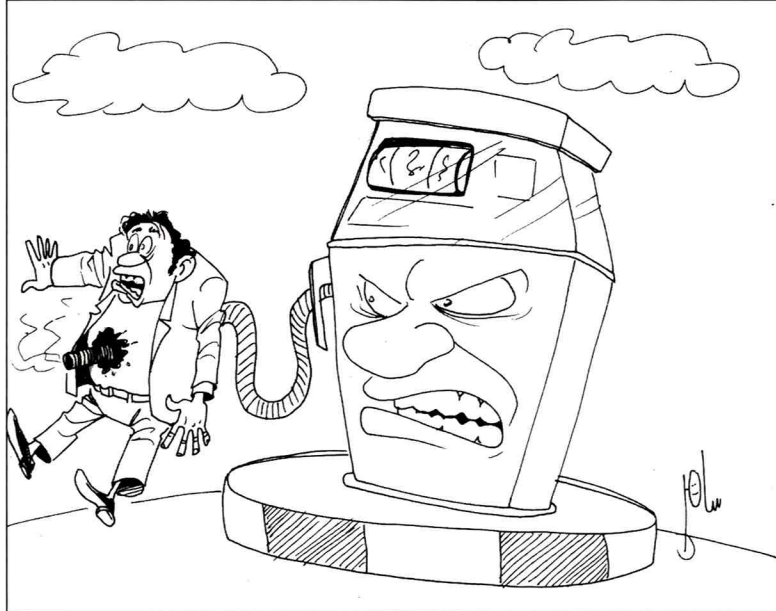
Old cars which pollute the air with emissions are causing growing environmental and health problems in Yemen. Since 1990, Yemen has been focusing more on its environment administration. An official institution has been charged with environmental affairs and protection for which it provides a number of environmental laws and programs nationwide. As a result, an environmental protection law was issued in 1995, determining the standards of air quantity to insure environmental and public health protection as well as the cultural and urban heritage of historical cities. But it was never activated. Now the government has started to feel the seriousness of the problem, so a special committee was formulated from the Shoura Council in order to study the project adding tax to the fuel price to put an end to damage from old cars. These procedures come after the negative affects of the secondhand cars and the pollutions it cause for environment specially these shifted to Diesel.

Such negative affects became a disturbing problem threatening the people directly. The effects of diesel remain a danger that threatens the respiratory system, cancer, and suffering of people living among pollution. In most of the countries of the world and the Mideast countries, the environment's concerns have become an issue and responsibility that should be held accountable by all the people.

In a country like Yemen, the environment pollution has become evidently clear particularly when diesel-powered vehicles have been found in large quantities in a number of Yemeni cities.

The earth's atmosphere has been covered by fumed smokes and that the man himself along with the environment becomes the only victim of such pollution.

The problem lies in the fact that those imported diesel-powered vehi-



cles have become a tangled problem to get rid of.

Before 1995, there was a few numbers of diesel-powered vehicles.

But nowadays, the number has reached more than 2853 cars, more than 942 private ones and more than 2619 transportation cars.

The number of those diesel-powered vehicles is not found only in Sana'a but also in other governorates of the republic.

According to reports issued by the traffic authority, around 1000 diesel-powered vehicles are found in Sana'a. Those cars are found in large quantities.

Diesel substance is restricted only to agricultural machines and huge trucks and pickups, which are operated in long highways linked cities.

This is because, the atmosphere helps to crumble the particulars of poisons puffed out by those vehicles.

While in cities, smokes that emitted from those vehicles concentrated in the city atmosphere itself. Cities like Sana'a, smoke becomes static in the air because it is surrounded by mountains and that the city itself has become thickly populated and suffers from the shortage of oxygen.

The problem has been increasing day by day and the dangers of the waste materials have threatened our

environment and the people's lives.

The problem lies also in the fact that when people themselves are hankering after buying those diesel-powered vehicles because they are too cheap.

A study has confirmed that the waste materials emitted from those vehicles contain chemical substances which affect the people's live particularly children who are unable to breath the gaseous substances.

Man's exposure to the emitted smokes will affect his expiratory system for a long period of time.

It will also lead to malformation and cancer. The awful odor of diesel causes skin sensitivity and cough.

**Economic impact**

There is a great negative impact resulting from the random import of diesel-powered vehicles, whether from the neighboring countries or the countries of origin. According to a study, the number of exported cars and vehicles are sold on the Yemeni marginalized markets. The proposed age of those vehicles is too low and therefore they are easily broken down and they are in need of constant spare parts and repairs. In conclusion, what is needed is to stop importing those diesel-powered vehicles.

# Mirrors tarnish women's image

TORONTO (Reuters) - Mirror, mirror, on the wall, who's the ugliest of us all?

Wall-to-wall mirrors in gyms and dance studios might stop women getting the exercise they need because women who work out in front of a mirror get discouraged and feel tired, Canadian researchers said on Friday.

The study, published in the journal Health Psychology, focused on young women who exercised less than 15 minutes a week. It found that, regardless of how they viewed their bodies, women who worked out in front of a mirror felt worse, or no better, and less at peace after 20 minutes of activity.

"The mirrors make women more self-aware, they think of their shortcomings. Things like: 'I look fat, I

should be more active'," said Kathleen Martin Ginis, lead author of the study, and a professor at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario.

"When women are more introspective, they might feel 'I'm not that great' unfortunately."

The survey questioned 58 women with an average age of 22 — young enough to be concerned about body image.

Participants took turns on stationary bicycles, working out either in front of a mirror or with the mirror curtained over.

And whether the participant felt comfortable about her body or not, the outcome was the same — women who did not have to watch themselves exercise felt calmer, more positive and more

revitalized at the end of their session.

Still, Martin Ginis stressed that mirrors can be positive and functional. "I don't want to convey the idea that we should rip out gym mirrors," she said, noting that exercisers often needed to see their form, or assess if they are using the correct muscles groups during strength training.

But things were different for beginners. "For beginner exercisers, mirrors can be daunting," she said.

Martin Ginis suggested gyms provide areas without mirrors to encourage novice exercisers. And women could get fit without using a gym anyway.

"Women don't need to exercise in a gym," she said. "Thirty minutes of walking, or hiking is good too. There are other ways to get your exercise."

# Just telling women to breastfeed not enough

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Simply telling a new mother to breastfeed, or even giving her a pamphlet laying out the benefits, is not enough to really encourage the practice, according to a study published on Friday.

Women need to be coached at length on how and why to breastfeed, the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, an independent panel of medical health experts that advises government health agencies, says in new recommendations.

The science backing breastfeeding is clear — breastfed babies are healthier and less susceptible to disease, they may have better brain development

and they have stronger bonding with their mothers.

They are less prone to be either underweight or overweight and breastfeeding also helps a mother lose the weight gained during pregnancy.

The World Health Organization recommends breastfeeding for a full two years while the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends nursing for at least one year and longer if possible.

Yet in 2001 only 69.5 percent of new U.S. mothers said they had ever breastfed their newborns and just 32 percent are still breastfeeding at six months.

Low-income mothers are the least

likely to breastfeed.

The new recommendations, published in the Annals of Family Medicine, suggest that doctors encourage new mothers to enroll in educational breastfeeding classes that address techniques, common problems, benefits, myths and skills training.

The Task Force recommends against the use of packages given to mothers when they leave the hospital when they include samples of formula, which have been found to lower rates of breastfeeding.



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# Local Press

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr

**Al-Isbou weekly, 31 July 2003.**

**Main headlines:**

- Plundering plots of land in Aden
- American diplomat: Explosion did not target the embassy
- Jalal A'raf, chairman of Egyptian journalists

political editor of the newspaper says in his article fear hovers above the embassies of Germany and the United States in Sana'a and l-Mouyad is to stay for another three months in Germany before being extradited to America. Yemen's foreign minister considers handing over al-Mouya to America would affect Yemen-America security cooperation.

The Yemeni interior minister stresses the necessity of security alert, sending urgent messages to security officials in all Yemeni governorates. He has focused on embassies security and residence quarters of foreigners at a time a statement of the American state department warns its nationals against traveling to Yemen.

The issue of sheikh al-Mouyad abroad and chasing terrorists inside occupies a forward position in the scale of priorities, political and security-related. Fears are increasing despite official assurances on the return of al-Mouyad while the reality is that handing him over to American authorities is but a question of time.

It seems that the fate of al-Mouyad can be read easily. For the efforts are no longer useful and as much as they produce suppressed sorrow, they have consequences that deluded the public opinion and contributed to the loss of reality since his arrest up till now. On the other hand the question of hunting down for the wanted who accused of being terrorists seems violent in its outward appearance but rather unclear in its details.

Fighting terror should not be dealt with leniently and with little expertise. If the Yemeni-American security cooperation is declared in its general form the disclosure of its extent by the government is no longer a logical matter. Fighting terror by hiding facts causes a political and social crack inside and gives opportunity for the terrorists to practice their terror.

**Al-Sahwa weekly, 31 July 2003.**

**Main headlines:**

- Explosion near the American embassy in Sana'a, two bombs near the Egyptian embassy
- Information ministry complains finance ministry
- FM: My visit to Sudan and Djibouti to support security of the Horn of Africa
- Because of illegal contracts, real estates director behind bars
- New suicide cases in Taiz and Hudeida

Columnist Abdulwasie says in his article that what is going now in Palestine makes us perceive the world is living without reason and without conscience. People living in the country that they inherited from their fathers who lived there for thousands of years. Then came a handful of aliens, usurped their land and became as if they are owners of the land and considered the indigenous people as having no right to stay. Those aliens have treated in an unjust way by exposing them to killing, displacement and house demolition in an unprecedented way. After all this period of more than fifty years of continued aggression and tyranny, the countries siding with this usurper especially America, they have come up with a so-called a "road map". It is a Zionist plan but all feign it is an American creation. The gist of the road map plan is that the victim has to stop defending themselves and not to fight the aggression. Despite all its bias to the Zionist entity and its aggressive policy America is still considered as a mediator and peace sponsor.

**Althawri weekly, organ of the YSP, 31 July 2003.**

**Main headlines:**

- Eight people killed in Jabal al-Salmi in Yafie
- YSP politburo member Dr al-Mikhail demands the change of the local council
- An attempt to loot an YSP office in Yafie

Columnist Abdulbari Tahir confirms that the rule crisis is very apparent and

## Main headlines

- Mohammed Qahtan: Attas next president, al-Biedh vice-president
- German Supreme Court reconsiders decision of handing over al-Mouyad
- Journalists sue their syndicate, accuse it illegitimate
- Retired Colonel kills eight in Yafie
- Bin Laden's sister-in-law injured in lbb
- Yemen initiative Arab Union, Presidents, Kings Council, Parliament, Shoura council
- President to take part in UN General Assembly session
- Responding to presidential pardon, hundreds of military and civilian leaders back home

the most demonstrated evidence is the absence of law and order, weakness of the state and increase of violence and terror. Negligence and increase of corruption, reaching to standard levels, have helped deepen the crisis that is seen in many aspects such as tribal rebellions, banditry and absence of sound solutions. The impasse the weak state resorts to in dealing with terror, violence and corruption is that it tightens the grip against the freedom of expression and goes further in marginalization of political opposition and weakening its role. To deal with the loss of its prestige the state resorts to strengthen tribal trends and more strength alliance between the military and tribalism. The result would be weakening the language of politics and absence of the effect of civil society

organisation. On the other hand the political opposition is incapable of creating the democratic alternative and despite its dialogue it does not stand on a common ground. The opposition has traveled a distance in removing the psychological barriers regarding its old and unjustifiable rivalry but these dialogues at the Joint Meeting Parties are still too far from taking part in any activity, especially in dealing directly with the people and joining its forces to confront the policies of impoverishment and oppression. Perhaps the weakness coordination in the latest parliamentary elections has deepened the crisis. The most apparent aspects of the crisis could be the absence of tackling of the economic, social and political crises, the increase in unemployment rates, the low level of services, deterioration of education and

health services in addition to hectic rise in prices of food stuffs and necessary goods.

**Annas weekly, 4 August 2003.**

**Main headlines:**

- American occupation troops in Iraq arrest Arab fighters of Yemeni, Syria and Saudi nationalities
- Forged YR 1000 denomination in circulation, origin unknown
- Committee on follow-up a-Mouyad case returned with German sympathy
- American experts to train Yemeni troops mid of this month
- Justice Minister conducts field research before embarking on judiciary movement

Columnist Abdulghani al-Maweri says the question of sheikh al-Mouyad and his assistant hand over to the American authorities has become a matter of time. The Frankfurt court has given the legal and moral cover suitable for the German government that sees itself as not in a position of choice. The tension in its relations with the American administration due to its stand opposing the war on Iraq imposes on it a kind of a more than ordinary cooperation stance. The Yemeni government should have realized this fact and concentrated its diplomatic efforts on the America instead of wasting them in Germany, especially that al-Mouyad is not a real objective of Washington and his arrest would not effect a change in its war on terror in which Yemen takes part with enthusiasm and strength. The mere reminding the Bush administration of this would make it possible giving the Yemeni government a political victory by releasing al-Mouyad after a short time of interrogation and detention in return of a government pledge of prohibiting raising donations to any party other than the Palestinian authority. The Yemeni government may accept this especially that it is a major condition for accession to the Middle East Partnership Alliance, expected to be announced by America in 2013.

If America succeeds in incriminating money going to the Palestinian resistance factions in return for the release of sheikh al-Mouyad it would have com-

pleted what it has begun of confiscating and besieging the Islamic money which according to Israeli strategists more dangerous than the weapons of mass destruction.

**26 September weekly, organ of the Yemen Armed Forces 31 July 2003.**

**Main headlines:**

- Sana'a hosts the 8th Arab conference for mineral wealth in October
- Person convicted of blowing oil pipeline is given 5 years imprisonment and 12 thousand dollars fine
- Meeting next week with donors to implement the strategy of alleviating poverty
- Yemeni-European committee to meet in Sana'a in October
- Six elements from Huttat group arrested

Columnist Khairalla Khairalla wrote in his article that following the rapid military victory the Americans and the British have achieved in Iraq, the British Prime Minister Tony Blair expected for himself a flowery political future. But expectations began to recede because of the reality in Iraq embodied by incapability of the American administration and it the British government of overcoming the existing difficulties. These difficulties are essentially attributed to Saddam Hussein as throughout his rule he had behaved in a way leading to a result that there would be Iraq after his departure from power. He would leave a dismantled country no authority could be in a position to control. Till before the 18th of last July Blair was able to tackle the problems resulting from his country's participation with American in administrating the Iraqis affairs. On the 18th of July the corpse of the British Dr David Kelly, advisor at the defence office was discovered.

It seems that the curse of Iraq has affected Blair who waging on the military victory to stay in power for a longer period. After the death of Kelly many things changed in Britain. It is for sure that the political future of Tony Blair has become threatened, at least inside the Labour Party itself. The question is whether Tony Blair would be forced to tender his resignation or would he suffice himself to offer the defence secretary as a scapegoat.

# World Press

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

### Egypt

**Al Ahram**

Egypt has held its first forum on the homeless children phenomenon in Fayoum. The discussions revealed that there are 93,000 homeless kids in the country among 250 million street children all over the world.

**The Egyptian Gazette**

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak Monday received a message from his Sudanese counterpart Omar Al Bashir, which is a reply to Mubarak's message to Bashir dealing with the Egyptian proposals to

develop the Arab League.

Bashir's message to Mubarak was handed over by visiting Sudanese Foreign Minister Mostafa Othman Ismail during his meeting with his Egyptian counterpart Ahmed Maher.

**Al Akhbar**

Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Maher met with European Mideast peace envoy Marc Otte who is paying his first visit to Egypt after assuming his new post. The European envoy told Maher he will continue the work of his predecessor ambassador Miguel Moratinos.

### France

**Le Figaro**

Europe faces a hottest summer this year since 1949. Unprecedented high temperatures were registered Monday in main cities across France. The heat wave brought serious pollution, exceptional draught and repeating forest fires. In most provinces, restrictions on water supply are implemented. The agriculture suffers the most.

**L'Humanite**

The exceptional heat wave is to reaches its maximum on Tuesday and persist for about a week.

**Le Monde**

The Libarians saw a light of hope as the first contingent of multinational

peace force arrived in the country on Monday to help end its 14-year war.

**La Croix**

The United States has difficulties in calling in reinforcement from other nations to help its ailing occupation forces in Iraq.

**Les Echos**

The French government could buy up to 30 percent of the stock of Alstom, the debt-strapped engineering group, by subscribing to a capital increase. Alstom's new CEO, Patrick Kron, and the group's three main banks, said the government has agreed to take up half of a 600-million-euro (680-million-dollar) capital increase.

### Britain

**The Times**

Every hospital, school and business in Britain faces criminal prosecution unless it can prove it is tackling stress in the workplace.

**Financial Times**

One of British Prime Minister Tony Blair's two chief press officers is the Downing Street official who described David Kelly, the scientist at the heart of the Iraq weapons row, as a "Walter Mitty" fantasist, it emerged Monday night.

**The Independent**

A Tory call for new immigrants and asylum-seekers to undergo compulsory health tests was condemned Monday as "extremist and unworkable".

**The Guardian**

The whole legal basis under which 13 "suspected international terrorists" are being interned indefinitely in Britain without trial is to be reconsidered by the House of Lords, it was announced Monday night.

### Germany

**Die Welt**

Germany can experience the hottest days this week with temperature rising over 40 degrees centigrade.

**Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung**

The German government will decide in September at the earliest

whether German peace-keepers should be sent outside Kabul.

**Handelsblatt**

EU Commissioner Mario Monti will take action against car companies which hinder the liberalization of markets.

### Japan

**Mainichi**

The US Marines will set up a new task force at Sasebo base in west Japan.

**Yomiuri**

Japanese prosecutors will not indict the country's former Foreign Minister

Makiko Tanaka for misuse of the salary of a state-funded secretary.

**Asahi**

Japan's education ministry is to allow high-school dropouts to apply for college entrance exams.

### Pakistan

**The News**

President Pervez Musharraf said Monday his country's nuclear deterrent remains in place and could never be compromised, nor would the Kashmir issue between Pakistan and India.

**The Nation**

Sixteen fishermen drowned while 17 others swam offshore and were rescued Monday when their boat

capsized near Othal, Pakistan's western Balochistan province, officials said.

**Dawn**

Afghan Finance Minister Ashraf Ghani on Monday in Islamabad offered his country's support for the development of Pakistan's Gwadar deep water port under construction, saying it would act as a gateway to prosperity for the entire region.

تماينا  
أجمل التهانى والتبريكات نهدىها للأخ العزيز/  
الأستاذ / مراد عائف حمود  
بمناسبة حصوله على درجة  
مجلس قانونى معتمد.  
المهنتون  
مكتب التربية والتعليم بالأمانة العربية للكمبيوتر (سيرش فورد ذي نيو)  
رائد / سند عائف حمود سلطان، حمزة محسن عائف حمود.  
نصري ابوبكر السقايف وكافة الأهل والأصدقاء...



# An introduction to the Internet Basics of HTML (4)

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

Referring to previous lessons, we said that websites are actually HTML files. HTML stands for HyperText Markup Language, the most widely used programming language in formatting Internet websites. 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 in one page in an understandable way. And finally, **Language** means programming language. It is worth bearing in mind that there are other languages used in website design, but HTML was the first and is still the dominant language.

### Graphics

Almost all web sites use graphics in some form. They range from simple buttons marking links all the way up to full screen photographs. We need to understand the different types of graphic formats available and how to use them effectively.

A graphical image is built up from pixels, which are tiny rectangular areas. Each pixel has a color drawn from a range of permissible values. The quality of an image is based on the density of the pixels (the number or dots per centimeter) and the number of possible colors for each pixel. A typical image has 256 possible colors for each value. This requires 8 bits (one byte) for each pixel. A graphics image might be 200 pixels wide and 100 high. This will require about 20 Kbytes of storage. The size of the storage required for images increases very rapidly with size and with quality.

256 colors are not sufficient to convey the full range of colors and intensities that can be seen in reality. It is possible to increase the range of colors by using up to 24 bits (3 bytes) for each pixel and this represents a practical limit for what can be distinguished easily. Unfortunately, this further increases the amount of storage needed. The problem is not about using up more storage, but the time it will take for transmitting images on the Internet. A 200

x 100 24-bit image requires at least 60 Kbytes in storage, and will take a relatively long time to be transmitted. Transmitting such an image using an average dial up modem will require up to half a minute before it arrives fully to the user's computer. Of course faster modems are available, but it would be unrealistic to expect that all the customers of a web site must have fast modems.

### Graphic Formats

There are so many different ways in which a graphical image can be encoded. Each of these ways has different characteristics and advantages. HTML browsers are usually capable of rendering a small number of different formats directly and can use other programs to handle other types. Three formats are common:

- **GIF** (Graphical Interchange Format) has been in use as a graphics format for many years. It is mostly used for images with few colors, and the less the number of floors in GIF images the smaller in size they become. There are several different versions available, but most browsers and other tools can handle the commonly used forms. GIF has some specific advantages for web applications.

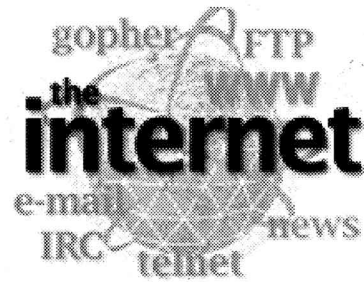
- It is streamable, means that the format is suitable for transmission over communication systems such as the Internet.

- It has progressive display abilities, where the image can be displayed as it is received rather than waiting for the whole file to be transmitted.

- It supports a simple form of transparency allowing it to be placed on top of a background or another image.

- **JPEG** (Joint Picture Experts Group) is a more recent and complicated format, designed to be particularly effective in compressing realistic images such as photographs. JPEG has some specific advantages for web applications.

- JPEG uses 24-bit depth allowing millions of color in contrast to GIF, which usually uses 256 colors only. Hence, JPEG is much more suitable for colorful photo-



```

1 <HTML>
2 <HEAD>
3 <TITLE> Yemen Kids On-line </TITLE>
4 </HEAD>
5 <body bgcolor="#CCCCCC" text="#000080">
6 
7
8 Welcome <BR>to Yemen Kids On-line Website
9 <P> Please enjoy the site and if you have
10 any comments please send them to
11 ayatharazi@hotmail.com </P> <P> The
12 site was designed by
13 <A href="http://www.yementimes.com">
14 YemenTimes </A> readers </P>
15 </BODY>
16 </HTML>
    
```

Fig1. NOTE: DON'T INCLUDE THE LINE NUMBERS

graphs.

- JPEG uses lossy compression designed to work effectively with photographs. It is capable of achieving compression ratios up to 20:1 without visible loss in quality and ratios of 100:1 are possible if minor degradation in quality is accepted. The amount of compression can be selected for the purpose envisaged.

- JPEG has become a very popular standard and is likely to continue to grow in popularity.

- **PNG** Portable Network Graphics PNG, (pronounced 'ping') apart from being free of patent controls has some fur-

ther advantages over GIF.

- PNG supports 24 bit color images. This is a significant advance on GIF.

- PNG has much more sophisticated transparency control, making it much more useful for web applications.

- PNG was designed from the outset to be robust for Internet use.

So GIF is useful for small fast to transfer images (buttons, lines, icons, etc.), while JPEG is useful for the displaying of real picture to preserve the accuracy of the image with minimum size requirements. On the other hand, PNG is useful if you don't want to pay patent cost.

### Inserting Graphics

Graphics are incorporated into web pages using the <IMG> tag. There are several attributes that can be used with IMG.

- **<IMG SRC="src">**

This places the graphics image at the current location on the page. "src" is a file on the local system, but can also be a file in another website.

- **<IMG SRC="src" ALT="src Description" WIDTH=width HEIGHT=height>**

width and height specify the size of the image in pixels. They should always be used together. These measurements tell the browser to allocate the required rectangular area on the page to the image. This allows the browser to show the page layout in advance of the transmission of the full graphical image, so it speeds up the rendering of the page. Both WIDTH and HEIGHT require numbers as parameters.

In our example page, if we want to insert an image saved in C: drive we use the <IMG> tag as follows:

```


    
```

Check the border attribute; it creates a border for the rectangle that will hold the image as it looks in fig 2.

If you have any questions about the lessons please send me an e-mail to [ayatharazi@hotmail.com](mailto:ayatharazi@hotmail.com).

Next week: more and more in HTML

# Grammar Translation: The dominant method in many ELT classrooms

**BY INSTRUCTOR NASSER O. ATTAMIMI**  
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The question of which method is most appropriate for teaching a second language is still under debate. Therefore, foreign languages are learned and taught in various ways. Although none is perfect, some of these ways are more successful than others. In many schools in Yemen, grammar translation is still used by many teachers to teach English. This method was originally used more than a century ago in Europe, in the formal teaching of Latin and Greek. The main principles of this method relate to the teaching of literature and grammar. In the 19th century, it was rejected and attacked for its shortcomings as a means of teaching modern living languages. Educators are now aware that it does not enable students to communicate through verbal interaction, which most approaches nowadays take into account and aim to achieve.

In this short essay we are going to throw light on why this method is still used in many English-teaching classrooms in Yemen. At the same time we shall try to show the advantages and disadvantages of this method. In fact, both the teachers and students of English in Yemen frequently find it convenient to resort to some kind of translation. They commonly attempt to explain a foreign word, phrase or sentence by giving a mother-tongue equivalent. Consequently, we may ask ourselves why do teachers in Yemen prefer such a method? This may well have been due to the constant use of textbooks based on this principle. These textbooks dominate the work of the teacher who follows this method. In addition to that, many teachers have not had adequate training in modern language teaching methodology. Also, many teachers are elderly, and they learned their English following the grammar translation method and continue this tradition.

The other reason is that directors of education demand a focus on gram-

matical accuracy. They observe that in schools speak and write ungrammatically. Then they insist on teaching explicit grammar. At the same time supervisors are often reluctant to accept and change the way of teaching. Therefore, they compel the teachers to follow a certain plan and to cover certain lessons within a given period of time.

Furthermore, most of English classrooms in Yemen have a large number of students, so the teachers find the techniques prescribed in the grammar translation approach suitable for them to solve the problems of large groups. Typically, this involves students in listening, copying rules and writing out exercises from the black board. The teachers, through this method of teaching, may not need to make great efforts in teaching classes. So when they feel tired, they can simply set the class on a written exercise. Furthermore, by this kind of method, the teachers do not need to show much imagination in planning their lessons, since they usually follow the textbooks page-by-page and exercise-by-exercise. As we know, the grammar translation method relies on using the mother tongue as a medium of instruction. The teachers find this useful in explaining some technical terms/abstract items such as beauty, cleverness etc... in the foreign language.

Another advantage of this method, which we observe as teachers, is that it is easy to apply and does not require a teacher who is a fluent speaker of the language. Moreover, it can be taught to classes of any size even by a teacher with an imperfect knowledge of the language and no special teaching techniques.

In spite of the above advantages, the grammar translation method has its own disadvantages. For example, there is no attention paid to accurate pronunciation. Furthermore, there is no attention paid to the use of language in communication and on the activities of listening and speaking. This means that structures of the language are presented by the teacher through the classroom discussion of grammar rules and the exceptions of their rules. Then these rules are fol-

lowed by written exercises to see if the students have grasped the details or not. But the problem emerges in ignoring the active oral use of the language by the students. Consequently, students do not feel that they have mastered the rules of the target language. Their role in the classroom is for the greater part of the time a passive one. They only absorb and then re-constitute what they have absorbed to satisfy their teacher.

Added to that, the grammar-translation method is not successful with the less intellectual students who muddle through making mistakes over and over again. Such students find foreign language study very tedious. Thus, they drop out of the class and consider such learning as an impossible one. Similarly, the highly intelligent students who become reasonably adept are still confused in the foreign language. They may be very embarrassed when asked to pronounce anything themselves.

Incidentally, some experienced and newly graduated teachers find it possible to resort to another method to enable their students to integrate with others through verbal interaction. Such teachers who are forced to use textbooks based on grammar translation realize the difficulties. They are frustrated by the unreal forms of language it contains and the enormous range of vocabulary.

To conclude we may declare, as all modern approaches recognize, that language is a matter of communication and is used as a medium between people to interact with each other. The grammar translation method has been found to be inappropriate in such a case. Therefore, to encourage teachers to adopt new and more effective approaches and techniques, we have to take into account many factors. One of these factors is that Ministry of Education, should be re-training and encouraging teachers to produce learners who are able to use the language in communication. Modification to the contents of the syllabus has to be considered in order to meet the needs of the learners in the context of Yemen's needs at present and in future.

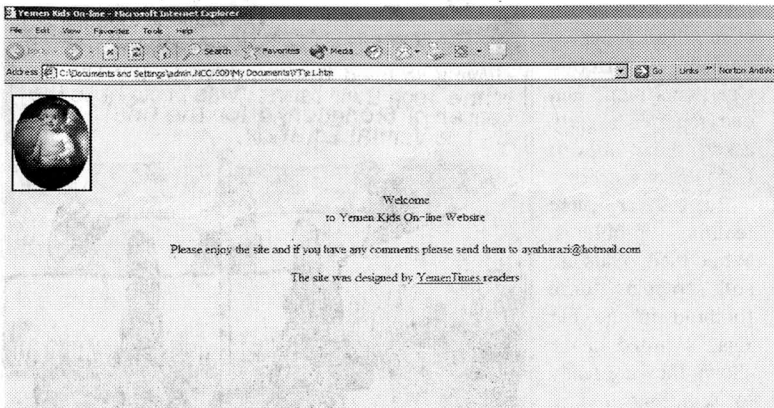


Fig 2 the page after inserting the image.

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT NCC Prize Draw

Yemen Times and NCC would like to announce that the draw for the NCC competition prize will take place next month. The last lesson will be published on August 14th. The exact day of the draw will be announced on the education page in one of the coming issues.

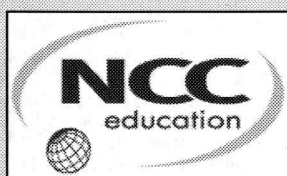
### How to participate:

Any person willing to participate in the competition should have at least sent 4 correct answers for the lesson questions to the NCC address mentioned.

### The prize:

The prize for the winner will be in the form of a comprehensive 6-month program called "International Certificate in Computer Studies (ICCS). The course usually costs as much as USD 750 (more than YR 135,000).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tel: \_\_\_\_\_



**This week's question:**  
How can we insert the image without a border?

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

# YOUTH FORUM

**The flag**  
The national flag is a symbol of affiliation and has a great significance for all citizens. When was that the flag assumes a lot more significance. When the country wins independence the flag is the highest emblem of people's aspirations. The flag means glory and dignity and signifies the power of the country. If you visit Europe you will see their union flag everywhere. What is the secret meaning of the flag? We hoist the flag when we have any national celebrations or any ceremony. We shouldn't have any narrow views in this matter.

**Adel Alkhalaidi**  
adelsk@aawsat.com

**I can't forget you**  
O my heart! Excuse me or won't you accept my apology?  
Oh! Don't say that I don't know the meaning of love  
I love you and feel that it's a worthwhile experience

Despite the pangs my heart's full of eagerness  
Oh my love! Excuse me or won't you accept my apology?  
My mind stops not from your thoughts  
And my heart echoes your love

I cannot forget you but am tired of waiting  
Do not look for me for I dwell in the depths of your heart  
Between your eyelids and in your dreams.  
I can't forget you ... I can't forget you  
I love imagining that day when we'd live together.  
And now what'd you yourself say about me?

**Mofed Abduh Othman Alobaid**

**Level 4**  
Education, Faculty of Khawlan

**Education: The lost paradise**

Education is the most essential pillar for building up of the society. The edifice of the society cannot be improved without its support.

If we look for the causes of the progress and development of some countries while other countries still suffer from poverty, and backwardness, we would realize that the first sort of people have been given the proper education. So they can make the best of tomorrow. While the others disregarded education and denied its importance, and thus are still in the primitive stage.

Ours is one of those countries which attempted to improve the system of education. It began since 1962 after revolution, and continued till 1990. During this period Yemen witnessed a renaissance in the system of education. "The improvement was not limited to the field of education but it included whole systems of the country". But after 1990 what happened? The illiteracy rate which began to reduce bounced to grow, the students began to leave the schools and to work to get money. It is true some schools have been built in different areas where needed, this phenomenon occurred after 1990.

Our educational standards have declined day after day gradually, and the reasons are evident: no care, no observation, and no regard for authority, ministry, teachers and students. No strong order can force them to do the best. No consideration about the dangers of this situation that will produce a week generation who live in the darkness of illiteracy and backwardness. Therefore we must, all of us look carefully

at the tomorrow that lies ahead of us and act before it is too late.

**By Basheer Amin Yousef Alslwe**  
Level 4  
Faculty of Arts, Khawlan

### Really I need you

How I need you?  
I need your love, your heart!  
To I hide in it, to hide from people's eyes,  
I need to feel with your being with me  
My love, my friend,  
I need to feel my presents beside you  
In your life,  
But I ask my self,  
Will this day come?

**Abdulrahman Alshmaa**  
Faculty of Economic, Sanaa  
alshmaa@yahoo.com

### The pillars of success

Everything in this world has its beginning and end. This is the system of the world that no one is eternal. Then what is the importance of the way a man faces his future? Our future may have a lot of difficulties, and expected surprises for us. But we must learn more from mistakes of others as well as from our own mistakes. No one is perfect except the supreme One. We must be prepared to learn from others. We must build ourselves from the grass roots. We must harbor hope in our hearts and work hard for a bright future. By hard work we can acquire the highest degree. Our future is in our hands, we can make it very bright or otherwise. We believe that success is the pillar of life and we should have the grit to achieve it at all costs.

**Mofed Abduh Othman Alobaid**  
Level 4, Education  
Faculty of Education and Arts  
Khawlan



# Rusedski could face Federer

MONTREAL (Reuters) - Greg Rusedski is facing a possible second-round match against Wimbledon champion Roger Federer at the Montreal Masters.

Montreal-born Rusedski enjoyed a homecoming of sorts with a 7-5 6-3 victory over Nicolas Lapentti from Ecuador.

He could now face Federer if the Swiss player can overcome Argentine Gaston Gaudio in his opening match on Tuesday.

Arnaud Clement and Simon Larose caused the first upsets of the Montreal Masters on Monday with respective victories over Carlos Moya and Gustavo Kuerten in opening round matches.

Clement, the French world number 33, contained the fourth seeded Spaniard's strength from the baseline with a string of stunning volleys to move into the last 32 with a 7-6 4-6 6-3 victory.

"I was surprised at the level of my game," Clement said.

"I have only beaten him once in six previous matches so he always makes it very difficult for me."

Moya praised his opponent while admitting that he had been outplayed.

"It was not an easy first round match and I think he played well," Moya said.

The centre court crowd witnessed a second shock win when Canadian wildcard Larose — the world number 314 — battled hard to oust the 13th-seeded Brazilian 7-5 7-6.

"I didn't want him to settle at all. I just kept my cool and went for it," the 25 year-old Larose said after registering his first victory over a player ranked in the top-200.

However, top seed and world number one Andre Agassi was in no mood to be part of an upset as he eased to a 6-4 6-2 win over Canada's Frederic Niemeyer, another wildcard.



Greg Rusedski is facing a possible second-round match against Wimbledon champion Roger Federer at the Montreal Masters. Montreal-born Rusedski — seen in a file photo — enjoyed a homecoming of sorts with a 7-5 6-3 victory over Nicolas Lapentti from Ecuador. He could now face Federer if the Swiss player can overcome Argentine Gaston Gaudio in his opening match on Tuesday. REUTERS/Brent Smith

"He certainly has a big serve and likes to take risks, but he gave away too many points today," Agassi said of the 27-year-old Niemeyer, the world number 241.

Agassi admitted that he needed to play stronger opponents as he stepped up his preparations for the U.S. Open later this month.

"I need a challenge and to experience some real pressure tennis," the 33-year-old American said.

### Shuettler cruises

One of those challenges could come from German eighth-seed Rainer

Shuettler who cruised past Mikhail Youzhny of Russia 6-2 6-4 and is a likely quarter-final opponent for Agassi.

In other first round matches, 11th-seeded Paradorn Srichaphan of Thailand overcame a second-set fightback to oust Spain's Alberto Martin 6-0 7-6.

Argentina's Jose Acasuso rallied past Fabrice Santoro of France 2-6 6-3 6-4 and Juan Ignacio Chela won an all-Argentine battle against Agustin Calleri, 5-7 6-4 6-3.

Meanwhile, Paraguay's Ramon Delgado held on to edge Croatia's Ivan Ljubicic 7-6 7-6 and France's Paul-

Henri Mathieu proved too strong for Australia's Scott Draper in his 7-6 6-4 win.

Morocco's Younes El Aynaoui also advanced to the second round with a hard-fought 6-3 6-7 6-3 triumph over American Mardy Fish as Slovakia's Karol Beck was also pushed all the way to beat France's Michael Llodra 6-7 7-6 6-1.

American prospect James Blake won 7-6 6-4 against Radek Stepanek of the Czech Republic.

Three other first round matches were postponed after rain delays earlier in the day and were held over until Tuesday.

# Lewis won't fight again this year

RESEDA, California (Reuters) - World champion Lennox Lewis has pulled out of a December rematch with Vitali Klitschko and will not fight again this year, the Ukrainian heavy-weight says.

A December 6 date had been tentatively set for a rematch of their June 21 fight in Los Angeles that ended with Lewis scoring a sixth-round technical knockout over Klitschko, who was badly cut above and below his left eye.

But according to Klaus-Peter Kohl, chief executive for Univerzum, Klitschko's German-based promoter, Lewis has informed them he has no plans to fight again this year.

"If this is true, then it really caught me off guard," Klitschko was quoted by his promoter as saying in Hamburg. "I did not expect to hear anything like this."

"I am really surprised that Lewis suddenly feels unable to have a rematch this year."

"First, he put pressure on me, saying that I could not fight because of the cuts around my left eye. So I had several different experts examine the eye."

"Independent doctors in Los Angeles and Germany both gave me the OK to resume training right away. They both said that a fight later in the year would not be a problem for me."

A late replacement for injured Canadian Kirk Johnson, Klitschko (32-2, 31 KOs) was the heavy underdog against Lewis (41-2-1, 32 KOs).

### Heroic effort

But he produced a heroic effort

against the Briton and was leading on all three judges' scorecards when the bout was stopped because of an ugly gash above his eye that required 60 stitches to close.

Lewis had agreed to a rematch with Klitschko but wanted assurances from an independent doctor that the Ukrainian's wounds had healed from their June bout.

"Honestly, it seems to me that Lennox is looking for an easy exit," said Klitschko. "Why else would he wait until after I have been cleared to fight to announce that he did not want to fight?"

"He is looking for an easy way out. Lewis is a great champion, but I have the feeling that he realises how tough the fight against me really was and how difficult the rematch will be."

"I am ready to fight Lennox Lewis right now. And, you know, I still feel like the winner of the first bout."

"I am very confident that I will also win the rematch."

"This is a fight the fans want and deserve to see again. For the boxing fans all over the world, I really hope that Lennox will change his mind and that we will have the rematch before 2003 is over."

Klitschko's agent, however, appeared not to hold out much hope of getting the rematch in before the end of the year saying he would look at possible other opponents.

"Perhaps Vitali will have another fight in between and the showdown against Lennox Lewis will take place next year," Kohl said.

# United's U.S. tour an "unqualified success"

By STEPHEN WOOD

NEW YORK (Reuters) - It has not necessarily been obvious from Alex Ferguson's demeanour over the last two weeks, but Manchester United's pioneering tour of the United States has been judged an unqualified success.

Ferguson, the old-school manager wary of media intrusion and open training sessions, can have no qualms over the readiness of his players for the season ahead after watching United register four successive, emphatic victories on American soil.

Yet it was his gestures off the pitch, albeit begrudgingly given, which helped United generate the necessary interest — and therefore money — among sports fans.

He was told in no uncertain terms before they landed in Portland on July 19 that if United were to spread their gospel, increase their north American fan base and thus sell jerseys, the media and supporters had to be given access to the team.

The need for a charm offensive was even more acute given the sale of David Beckham — the most famous soccer player among the U.S. public — just

days before the tour began.

So through gritted teeth Ferguson answered all sorts of questions from American and international journalists, while he could also be seen waving coyly to American fans who had paid up to \$50 just to watch the players train.

### "Excellent reception"

As a result, United delighted many with their public face, intrigued even more American marketing men and thrilled just about everyone with their high-scoring wins over Celtic, Club America, Juventus and, on Sunday, Barcelona.

"I have no doubt United will be back here," said Ferguson. "The reception given to us has been excellent, and the facilities for the players have been superb."

"It's not about conquering anything...this is a big country and we still have a long way to go."

It is true. Chief executive Peter Kenyon continues to point out that despite their presence in the U.S., "there will still be people in Arizona or Kentucky or Kansas that haven't heard about us".

But three of their four games were

sold out, and estimates that show United may have doubled their north American fan base from 3.5 million to seven million will genuinely excite Kenyon and marketing director Peter Draper.

Their ambition now is to convince the mass market of wealthy white America — not just the ethnic, soccer-stronghold communities — to part with their money.

"In terms of selling tickets and attracting interest, the tour has been an unqualified success," Brian Lewis, a sports reporter with the New York Post, told Reuters.

"On game day I saw 10 people in Manhattan wearing United jerseys in the space of eight blocks, and in New York that is very unusual."

### "Great success"

"Over here, it is a case of 'what have you done for me lately' as far as sport is concerned, so United have to keep up their presence in the future."

"But they have penetrated a market which has disposable cash. At the moment they have clearly cracked the American market."

The English champions are sponsored by several American companies, who

are keen to invite United back for a similar tour in the future.

Perhaps more importantly, Kenyon's vision has seen United steal a march over European rivals Real Madrid, Liverpool and Arsenal in the rush to cash in on the lucrative American market.

A low-profile marketing agreement with the New York Yankees will help United sustain the interest, through Yes network television.

The cable and satellite channel has the rights to show delayed coverage of premier league games throughout the new season and, with the New York area alone holding roughly 25 million people, it is a major step forward for United.

"The tour has been a great success, and we are very happy to be showing United games this season," Bob Davis, vice-president of communications at Yes, told Reuters.

"The American public was wary of soccer at first. There have been false starts here before, but we believe the future of the sport in this country is very good...United as a brand are up there alongside the New York Yankees as the top two forces in the world."

For soccer experts, the experience in the U.S. has sometimes been imperfect.

Certain United players still go unidentified, while one announcer at the Juventus game managed to mispronounce Bobby Charlton's name and one reporter eagerly asked 'how does it feel to play soccer?'

But they are mere teething problems. While their rivals are still scrapping for a foothold in the Far East, United have shown they are ready to scale the mountainous U.S. market.

In the process, Americans have learned that, love them or hate them, Manchester United are rarely ignored.

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Sat	25	11	Sat	37	27
Sun	25	10	Sun	37	26
Mon	26	10	Mon	36	25
Tue	26	10	Tue	36	25
Wed	27	11	Wed	36	26

## THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

BY Eugenia

**Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22)**  
You may not like change, but it is headed your way and it looks good. Focus on career and making moves that will lead to a higher salary. Be creative.

**Libra (Sept 23 - Oct 22)**  
Talking through your ideas, troubles or thoughts will bring results. You can form closer friendships with people but don't mix business with pleasure.

**Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)**  
Your thinking is right on target. Someone around you may not like change, but once he or she sees the results, it will be a different story.

**Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 19)**  
Do what you know in your heart you will do well. By doing so, your creative vision will enrich your life and lead to new friends.

**Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)**  
Finish up all the odd jobs that are dragging you down. Put some energy into getting or staying in shape. Have confidence in your own worth.

**Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)**  
Start to do something important for your community. Your involvement could open doors to new and exciting opportunities. Your trendy style and unique way of doing things will contribute to your success.

**Taurus (Apr 20 - May 20)**  
Take care of yourself or chronic health problems may develop. Look at your options before you make financial commitments.

**Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22)**  
You will have to play it safe today or you stand to lose. Don't lend or borrow. Your ideas may be good, but the timing isn't right. Back off and work by yourself.

**Pisces (Feb 19-Mar 20)**  
Someone you work with may not be trustworthy. If you are erratic about the way you do things, you may be blamed for a mistake. Don't get upset or you will end up making matters worse.

**Gemini (May 21 - Jun 20)**  
If someone tries to restrict you, it may be time to reevaluate the relationship. Changes in your personal life are apparent, so move forward.



Best view in 60,000 years:

# Mars ready for close-up

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Mars is getting ready for its close-up, with the red planet coming as near to Earth this month as it has in almost 60,000 years.

Its closest pass will come on Aug. 27 at 5:51 a.m. EDT, when Mars will be less than 34.65 million miles away.

The last time it came nearer was around Sept. 12 in 57,617 B.C. when Mars came about 25,000 miles closer, at a distance of 34.62 million miles from Earth.

"If Neanderthals had telescopes, they would have seen it a little bit better than we will on August 27," said astronomer Geoff Chester of the U.S. Naval Observatory in Washington.

To backyard observers, Mars will be the brightest natural object in the sky except for the sun and the moon, Chester said in a telephone interview. Even though it will be close, it will not look much bigger than it usually does.

"People are kind of all thinking that all you've got to do is go outside and you're going to see this big red blob that's half the size of the moon," Chester said. "That's not the case."

What people will most likely see is a brilliant pinkish object dominating the southern sky. At that point, Mars will be the brightest thing in the heavens. Venus would have shone bright if it had been visible, but it will be hidden behind the sun when Mars comes closest to Earth.

Mars will appear to be about the same size as a middling-sized crater on the moon, Chester said.

To get an idea of how big Mars will seem at its closest, the typical thumb held at arms' length covers about one degree of the sky, or 3,600 arc seconds. The moon is about half a degree of the sky, or 1,800 arc seconds. Mars at its closest will appear to be 25.11 arc seconds — only about one more arc second than its usual 24.

Mars will get even closer to Earth on Aug. 28, 2287 — but still not as close as it did in the Neanderthals'



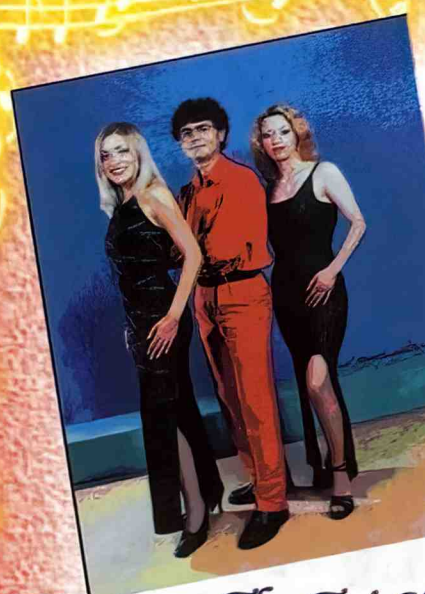

time. "It is a marvelous opportunity to get people interested in astronomy and what you can see from your own backyard," said Stephen Maran, an astronomer and spokesman for the American Astronomical Society. "We hope that more and more people will get used to looking at the sky so they will be interested in efforts to cut down on light pollution."

As Earth's next-door planetary neighbor, Mars has always been a subject of fascination. Recent NASA probes have sent back images suggest-

ing water once flowed on or near the martian surface — an exciting prospect for those curious about whether Earth-type life ever existed on Mars, since water is seen as a prerequisite for life on other planets.

On Monday, NASA selected the low-cost Phoenix probe as the first so-called Scout mission to Mars. Phoenix is expected to land on Mars in late 2008, in terrain suspected of harboring large quantities of ice within 1 foot (0.348 meter) of the surface, and then will analyze subsurface material, NASA said in a statement.

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المحافظة الخليلية

الترتيب	الاسم	رقم الكوبون	المحافظة	الصحة
١	رائتة محمد أحمد	٠٧٨٣٨٢	ذمبار	طباعة مع الفنون
٢	محمد حسين ناجي	٠٩٨٥٧٩	اب	غصالة كهربائية
٣	بسال عبدي	٠٨٠١٢٠	ذمبار	تلفزيون ملهون
٤	رشاد أحمد محمد صالح	٠٩١٤٢٩	اب	تلاجة كهربائية
٥	أحمد علي محمد	٠٧٨٢١١	ذمبار	جهاز كمبيوتر

المحافظة الشرقية

الترتيب	الاسم	رقم الكوبون	المحافظة	الصحة
١	عوني أحمد عبدالله عيون	١٤٥٢٨٠	حضر موت	طباعة مع الفنون
٢	أحمد عبد الله دهمش	١٤٧٤٠٢	حضر موت	غصالة كهربائية
٣	فيصل علي عبد الله	١٤٩٩٠٣	حضر موت	تلفزيون ملهون
٤	شوقي عباس أحمد الوصالي	١٤٧٤١٠	حضر موت	تلاجة كهربائية
٥	أحمد سعيد أحمد	١٤٩٧١٣	حضر موت	جهاز كمبيوتر

المحافظة صنعاء

الترتيب	الاسم	رقم الكوبون	المحافظة	الصحة
١	زيتا إسماعيل القاضي	٢٦٤٨٠٩	تكمز	طباعة مع الفنون
٢	مقبل سعيد عبدة	١٦٤٣١٤	تكمز	غصالة كهربائية
٣	محمد علي نعمان	٢٦٦٦٨٠	تكمز	تلفزيون ملهون
٤	شاد أحمد ناصر	٢٨٦٠٤٣	تكمز	تلاجة كهربائية
٥	حسين محمد أحمد	٢٦٢٧٩١	تكمز	جهاز كمبيوتر

المحافظة الشبوة

الترتيب	الاسم	رقم الكوبون	المحافظة	الصحة
١	ثابت سعيد اسكندر	١٢٥٥٨٨	الحديدة	طباعة مع الفنون
٢	عبد العزيز خليل محمد	١٢٢٢١١	الحديدة	غصالة كهربائية
٣	ناصر محمد عياش	١١١١٧٣	الحديدة	تلفزيون ملهون
٤	محمد عبد الوالي سيف سعيد	١٢٥٣٨٢	الحديدة	تلاجة كهربائية
٥	وليد محمد حسن أسين	١٢٨٤٤١	الحديدة	جهاز كمبيوتر

المحافظة الحديدة

الترتيب	الاسم	رقم الكوبون	المحافظة	الصحة
١	مجدي محمد أحمد الشبوي	٠٠٢٥٢٩	الأمانة	طباعة مع الفنون
٢	محمد إبراهيم	٠٣٧٥٠٩	الأمانة	غصالة كهربائية
٣	علي صبح	٠٠٥٩٦٧	صنعاء	تلفزيون ملهون
٤	زكي صبرة	٠٤٨٦٦٦	الأمانة	تلاجة كهربائية
٥	عبد الله عبدالرحمن	٠٤٨٣٣٩	الأمانة	جهاز كمبيوتر


المحافظة عدن

الترتيب	الاسم	رقم الكوبون	المحافظة	الصحة
١	وضاح عبد الخالق سليمان	٠٦٢٢٢١	عدن	طباعة مع الفنون
٢	منير جملان	٠٥٨٧٢٨	عدن	غصالة كهربائية
٣	أحمد ناصر أحمد	٠٦٨٨٩٨	عدن	تلفزيون ملهون
٤	عبد الله عبد الدائم محمد تميم	٠٦٢٢١٤	عدن	تلاجة كهربائية
٥	عصام عبدة سيف غلاب	٠٥٨٩٨٤	عدن	جهاز كمبيوتر

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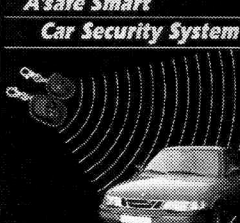
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Abdulkareem Abdo Al-Fakeh fluent at English (American accent) good with computers prefer to work only with American establishments in yemen phone: 71719294.

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

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For rent a two floors Villa with stone tiled courtyard, part of it is a garden, both the floors consist of 8 rooms one saloon, 2big halls, 4bathrooms, 2 kitchens, and 4 telephone lines, Located at Haddah St. near french embassy sana'a, please contact Mr. salem at tel: 01-240310/504811/2 sana'a

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Under the slogan "With Crystal, Win Twice"

## First Summer Draw Festival of Crystal Soap held

Reported by YT Staff  
Taiz Bureau

The Crystal Soap draw festival was held on Sunday 3 August at Dream Land Park in Taiz. The Festival was attended by about 200,000 participants festival and 30 winners were announced.



Mr. Hisham Ali Mohammed Saeed, the deputy manager of Yemen Company for Ghee and Soap Industry

Mr Hisham has emphasized that Crystal soap does really win trust of the consumers in Yemen. It finds a very-developed state in the markets to assure strongly that the national product can compete with the strongest world brands for its high quality and that has come as a result of a long series of market studies and research and the consumer encouragement and interest in the consumer market.



Guests attending the First Summer Draw Festival of Crystal Soap in Taiz.

Yemen Times "It is of our pleasure to thank the Yemeni consumers who proved that their consumption awareness is on an increase day by day and they are real supporters for national product which has now become entertaining of high quality in conformity with the best quality standards."

Mr Hisham has emphasized that Crystal soap does really win trust of the consumers in Yemen. It finds a very-developed state in the markets to assure strongly that the national product can compete with the strongest world brands for its high quality and that has come as a result of a long series of market studies and research and the consumer encouragement and interest in the consumer market.



Women and children have also shown interest and attended the event.

product of Crystal soap which deserves to be the pride of national industry.

Commenting on the Festival activity and large number of attendance, Mr Hisham says, "We feel amazed and delighted to see the large number of participants estimated at 200,000 in the first draw. Crystal, known by its strong efficacy, its distinguished price and economical quantity will grant you more prizes and you will win twice during the coming two months."

Hisham, at last, appreciated the support of the Yemeni consumer for the national product and, the impact of this support on economy and development of the society.

In the draw festival, Mr Mokhtar al-Fakih, the marketing manager at Yemen Company for Ghee and Soap Industry told YT that the large presence of consumers to the Crystal draw festival gives indication to their trust in the national product and the support for the national economy and its development. "It is an expression of their satisfaction of the high quality of the product and Crystal soap."

The country benefits from national products and in return, the Yemeni consumers must be keen to enhance the national industry.

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The Yemeni Banking Guide

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