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Will Berlin still save Zayed?

Extradition approved

BY MOHAMMED AL-QADHI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Germany's Federal Constitutional Court has approved the extradition of Skeikh Mohammed al-Moayad and his companion Mohammed Zayed to the United States, where they are wanted on charges of supporting al-Qaida.

However, Yemen still hopes that there can be a political decision by the German government to over-ride the implementation of the court verdict.

The court said Sheikh Mohammed Ali Hassan al-Moayad and his alleged assistant, Mohammed Mohsen Yahya Zayed, could expect a fair trial in the United States, rejecting the complaints they filed against lower-court decisions backing extradition.

The two Yemeni citizens were arrested Jan. 10 in a sting operation at a Frankfurt hotel, where they had expected to meet a

wealthy American Muslim who promised to finance al-Moayad's charitable centers.

U.S. and German authorities say they learned in December 2001 that al-Moayad was involved in supplying money and militants for Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network as well as to the Palestinian Islamic militant group Hamas.

The American official sources alleged that al-Moayad, a leading member of the Islamic-oriented Islah party, told an FBI informant that he supplied \$20 million, recruits and weapons to bin Laden in the years before the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks.

However, he said that he was a victim of a trap plotted by the US intelligence in cooperation with one of its Yemeni agents. He said that he left Yemen for medical treatment in Germany 10 days before his arrest as he suffers from asthma and diabetes.

Yemen's government repeatedly asked the US and German authorities to return the two



Sheikh Mohammed al-Moayad

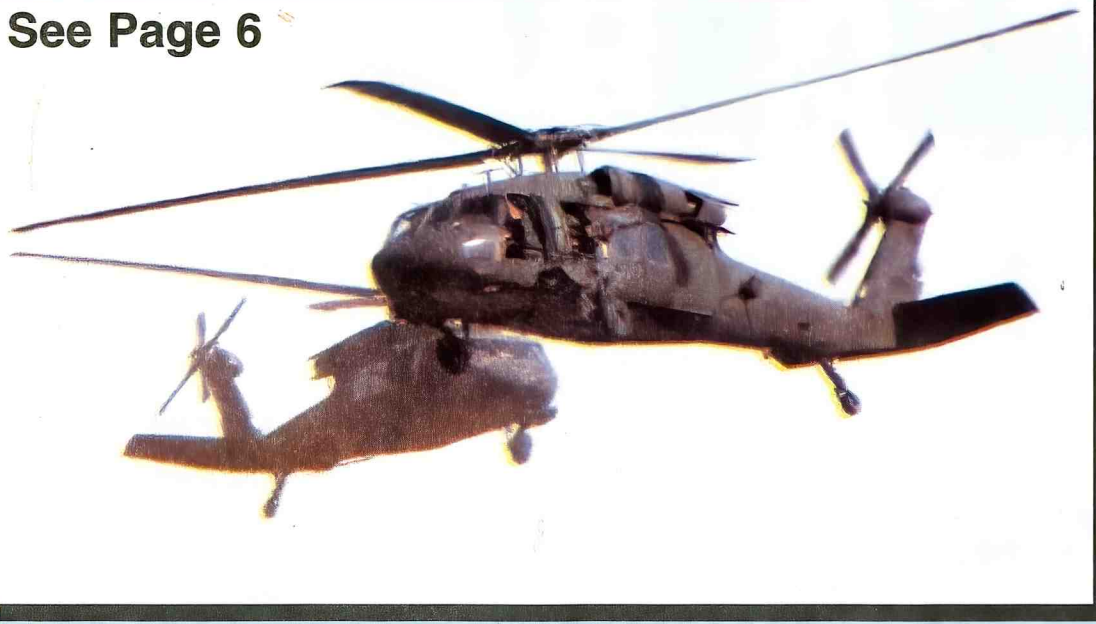
men to Yemen where they can be tried if proved guilty.

Continued on Page 3

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Black Hawks downed in Iraq

See Page 6



A pair of U.S. Army Black Hawk helicopters are shown in this file photo near Falluja. Twelve coalition personnel were killed and nine wounded when two U.S. Black Hawk helicopters downed in Iraq on Saturday. REUTERS

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Freedom of press in Gulf gets boost

BY MOHAMMED AL-QADHI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A new organization for freedom of the press in the Gulf has been recently launched with the aim to promote human rights and press freedom values in the region, as well as defend the rights of journalists in these countries.

The association has come as a result of the Gulf Forum for the Democratic Political Action which was organized by the US

National Democratic Institute in Sana'a during 18-22 October.

It has been named the "Gulf Press Freedom Organization" (GPFO). It is based on an initiative by some journalists who took part in the event. Mohammed al-Yayai, an Omani journalist and writer and coordinator of the GPFO, told the Yemen Times that the organization is meant to promote the values of a free press, and its independence, as well as human rights and how to defend them among journalists in the region.

Al-Yahiyi pointed out that the GPFO will work to promote the professionalism of journalists, helping them to promote their skills in different genres of reporting so that they can be competent to report the truth, voicing the concerns of the voiceless in the society in an objective and professional manner.

Continued on Page 3

Trials of terror suspects start soon



USS Cole just after the blast. YT photo

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Yemeni General Attorney's office recently completed investigations concerning suspects thought to be behind the USS Cole blast in Aden in October 2000, which killed 17 American marines, the Limburg attack in 2002 near Mukalla, and the attack against a helicopter belonging to the Yemen Hunt Oil Company after it took off at Sanaa International Airport at the end of 2002.

Yemeni judicial sources confirmed their trials begin in a few weeks time.

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How do we donate to Palestine?

Sources in a number of mosques across Sanaa have reveal that the Ministry of Endowment and Guidance has taken away donation boxes for Palestine placed by the Islah charity in the city and in other governorates.

The sources said that the ministry's justification was that those donation campaigns were launched without prior notification or licensing from the ministry.

The action of the ministry was protested and criticized by worshippers and mosque staffers who have asked how the mosques can collect donations for Palestine.

The ministry had earlier accused

political parties of using donation boxes to gain political benefits, not for the main goal of collecting money for Palestine.

Some analysts believe that this step may have been taken in response to external pressure by the US government on the Yemeni government to dry out sources of money to militant movements in Palestine including Islamic Hamas and Jihad movements.

The political department of Hamas, Khaled Mishaal had said in a visit last year that very little of the donations collected in Yemen arrive to Palestine, implying that such cash may indeed be used for political benefits instead.

Protecting consumers:

Buyer beware!

BY YASSER AL-MAYASI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Sana'a, Nov. 15 — A number of misbranded and expired goods and commodities have been recorded by the Yemen Society for Consumers' Protection.

The recorded products are foodstuff, medicine and other goods, which poses a real threat to human health, the consumer, and the national economy.

Two kinds of products are detected and differentiated by the society. This

first kind has been still kept by the society including some samples of foodstuff and medicines.

The second kind is related to goods and luxury articles such as, electrical, electronic and household equipment, detergents and cosmetics.

"Those fabricated goods are cleverly produced such as foodstuff, medicine, electrical appliances, textiles, clothes, leather products, spare parts, and other consumer products which have gained the trust of local consumers," a statement from the society said.

Consumers can not distinguish the proper products from the fabricated ones.

The statement has called for an immediate move from official bodies to withdraw the fabricated goods from markets. This is because those bodies alone could detect and control those cases including misbranded or fabricated goods.

The Yemen Society for Consumers' Protection has recently lodged an official memo to the Vice Prime Minister, the International Cooperation and Planning Ministry, and the Chairman of the Medicine Foodstuff Safety where a committee was formed a couple of months ago.

The committee was entrusted with reviewing all the consumer-related issues.

The statement has called that committee for performing its role efficiently and wished other bodies to do the same in order to fight all negative phenomena from being penetrated into our markets.

The weak purchasing power of Yemeni consumers and low level of income have made them restore to cheaper products without being advised of good rather than bad products.

The need for cheap product leads most Yemenis to buy what they are offered and the role performed by the Yemen Society for consumers' Protection is praiseworthy.

Economists on the other hand warned against risks and diseases caused by those products such as health diseases and negative impact to the national economy.

"Commercial counterfeiting and smuggling does not endanger only consumers' lives but damage the reputation of the local products and make dubious their prices when there are similar and cheaper ones," an economic expert remarked.

On his part, Yahya al-Bukhaiti, chairman of the Market Research, Studies and Consumer Center said that prices of

Readers' Voice

Have your voice heard, and go to <http://yementimes.com> and answer this edition's poll question.

THIS EDITION'S QUESTION:

Do you think that violence in Iraq will end after transferring power to the Iraqis?
 - Yes, it will definitely end. **50%**
 - No, it will not. **38%**
 - Maybe. It depends. **7%**

LAST EDITION'S QUESTION:

Do you believe that the calls of Hizb ut-Tahreer to establish an Islamic Chilphate realistic?

• Yes, it is the time for it to happen. **50%**
 • No, it is far away from being realistic **38%**
 • It depends **7%**
 • No, it is not the right time for that. **5%**

clothes have been jacked up during the lesser Barium in Yemeni markets.

"Clothes are sold at high prices and this has taken place in the absence of monitoring. Those clothes don't feature good quality and therefore they are bought from wholesalers in a cheap prices," al-Bukhaiti remarked.

"Clothes are easier to fabricate or to misbrand and therefore, local consumers are deceived," al-Bukhaiti concluded.

Media should participate in campaigns aimed at educating consumers on the dangers of expired products such as chocolate, drinks, bottled milk, honey, beverages, sweets, drugs, biscuits, cigarettes, etc.

Protecting consumers is a national duty and responsibility because it means saving the nation's lives, economists said.

Yemen and China renew health agreement

BY TOWFIQ AL-ABSI
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

The Yemeni Ministry of Health and the Chinese government agreed last week to renew an agreement concerning health cooperation between the two countries.

According to the agreement, China would provide 153 doctors and staffers specialized in various medical fields.

The agreement will continue for two more years starting next January, and includes an assistance package of 400,000 Yuan for medical equipment and other facilities.

A joint Yemeni-Chinese committee is expected to hold a session to draft a number of new agreements in an effort to further consolidate cooperation between the Chinese and Yemeni med-

ical establishments, and train Yemeni cadres to gain experience and pursue higher studies in specializations in various medical schools in China.

Many Yemeni graduates who have studied or worked in China will be given priority in future projects between the two countries.

Yemen's Minister of Public Health, Dr. Mohamed Al-Nomi, signed the renewal agreement on behalf of Yemen, while Ambassador H.E. Mr. Gao Yusheng signed it on behalf of China.

The signing ceremony was also attended by Deputy Minister of Health Dr. Mohamed Al-Ra'ee and Dr. Abdulkareem Shaiban, along with Mohamed Al-Shahari, General Manager of International Cooperation.

Arrests made over smuggling scam



BY ISMAEL AL-GHABIRI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Security forces arrested several individuals last Thursday for trying to smuggle priceless ancient Yemeni antiquities out of the country.

The members of the group were arrested in the governorate of Al-Jowf after they refused to provide identity cards and vehicle documents to

checkpoint police forces in the Al-Salman area in Al-Jowf.

The group attempted to escape police, but failed to get far before the security men were able to arrest them.

A few of the members were Syrian citizens while three were Yemenis. They all admitted that they have been smuggling antiquities for many years from the governorate of Al-Jowf to sell abroad for very high prices.



Health issues discussed

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Sana'a, Nov. 15 - The Minister of Public Health and Population, Dr. Mohammed Yahya Annoami met ambassadors of Japan, Iran and Pakistan last week.

During the meeting, Dr. Annoami discussed a number of vital health aspects with them.

In his meeting with the Japanese ambassador, the health minister discussed the assistance of the government of Japan to support and equip the Tuberculosis Treatment Center in Aden,

as well as assistance to the Cancer Center at the Republic Hospital.

The health minister also discussed with the Iranian ambassador equipping the Iranian Red Cross Hospital which is to be inaugurated in Sana'a.

He placed an emphasis on the existing health continuation in terms of supporting health treatment services at the Iranian Medical Center.

Meanwhile, Dr. Annoami also met with the Pakistani ambassador where a focus of an attention centered on future health projects between the two countries.



Yellow cabs in Sana'a next year

The General Traffic Authority has announced a new law that enforces all taxis to become yellow in color, starting next year.

According to the announcement, all taxis owners will have to get permission from the traffic authority and change their cars' colors to yellow and do all the necessary repairs before an inspection team will start issuing penalties against violators next year.

The law will start to be enforced in the capital region and would slowly be implemented in other districts.

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Country: Republic of Yemen

Activity: Coordinating Environmental Health Interventions in Yemen

Multisector: Environment, Environmental Health, Rural Water and Sanitation, Rural Energy, Poverty and Institutional Assessment.

Funding: Norwegian and Finnish TF No. 051785 executed and managed by the World Bank

Project ID: No. TA - P080859

The Ministry of Water and Environment of Yemen has received a grant from the Norwegian and Finnish Trust Fund managed and executed by the World Bank toward the cost of the *coordinating Environmental Health Interventions in Yemen* activity. Part of the proceeds will be applied for consulting services. The services include studies seeking to diagnose the incidence of diseases, poverty, behavior and EH institutional responsibilities.

- (i) Building on already existing data, an epidemiological baseline study will be conducted in the cluster of villages to determine the EH risks and identify the critical ones based on their magnitude, i.e. the prevalence of the clusters of water-related diseases, respiratory diseases, vector-borne diseases and other potential clusters such as pesticides among women and children under 5. EH indicators will be proposed with the help of WHO (Center for Environmental Health Assessment, CEHA in Jordan);
- (ii) A socio-economic analysis, which will include a poverty assessment and a participatory social assessment, will be conducted to understand/identify income-groups, current practices, behaviors and attitudes related to health: the analysis will especially focus on how these factors affect women and children;
- (iii) Across sectoral institutional assessment of key players, within the public and private sectors, the donor community and NGOs/CBOs would be conducted to diagnose the set-up of on-going uncoordinated interventions by key stakeholders. This component will also explore and identify already existing mechanisms that will enable the key actors to implement the action plan. The assessment will survey ongoing interventions in the area of EH in order to establish an institutionalized coordinating framework among the different actors.

The World Bank now invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing the services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services. This includes: brochure, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, Samples on previous work/task is preferred, availability of appropriate skills among staff, CVs, etc. Consultants may associate to enhance their qualifications.

A consultant will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers (current edition).

Website: <http://www.worldbank.org/html/opr/consult/contents.html>

Interested consultants may obtain further information by sending an email to the Task Team Leader, Marie-Laure Lajaunie. Email: mlajaunie@worldbank.org

Expression of interest must be delivered by virtual means to the Task Team Leader, Ms. Marie-Laure Lajaunie, by 30 November 2003. Expression of interest should also be delivered by virtual and physical means to the address below by 30 November 2003.

Ms. Safiah Al- Eryam
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Qat Hazards Control Society is organizer

Third Ramadhan Cultural Forum wraps up

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Taiz, Nov. 15 - Organized by the Taiz-based Qat Hazards Control Society, in coordination with the Social and Cultural Committee of the Taiz Clubs, the Third Ramadhan Cultural Forum concluded its activities on Nov. 10.

The forum, which ran November 4-10 was financed by the Yemen Company for Ghee & Soap Industry.

During the inaugural ceremony, a number of speeches were delivered by Mohammed Yahya Alwan, Chairman of the Cultural Committee of the Taiz Clubs, placing an emphasis on the leading role of the society, as well as the

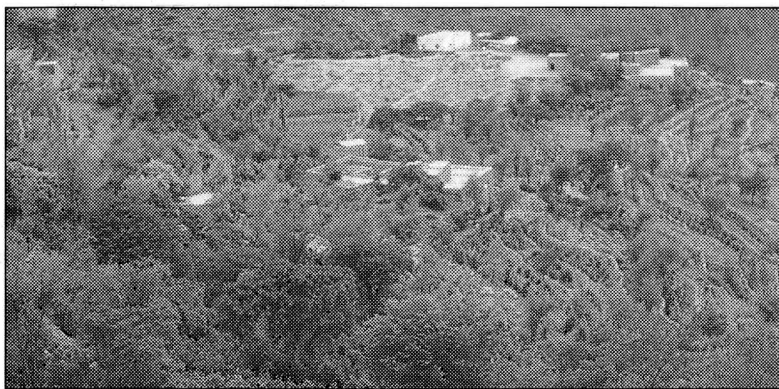
cultural committee for adopting cultural activities which are useful for new generations.

The event was attended by the Chairman of the Qat Hazards Control Society, Shukri al-Furais, and Mohammed Bin Mohammed Abdulmalik al-Hijem, the Taiz governorate Deputy.

Al-Hijem praised the society's role in holding such cultural activities and confirmed the necessity of the Taiz governorate leadership to support such activities.

During the inaugural ceremony, a number of winners and participants were honored.

During the 7-day program, a number



Spacious Qat plantations terraces have creeping through Yemen's fertile plains and mountains. The Qat Hazardous Society Control's main mission is to launch and organize cultural forums and activities for the benefit of disseminating awareness campaigns among Yemeni youths.

of cultural competitions were held such as a Qura'an competition, caricature and chanting competition, extemporaneous poetry debate, cultural individual contests, and lectures.

The society's chairman Shukri Abdullah Al-Furais confirmed that the program aimed at attracting youths and encouraging them to utilize their minds.

The society combats chewing and dealing with Qat regularly by holding meetings, giving lecturers on Qat-related issues, and printing leaflets and posters to raise awareness among the public.

ic efforts to be made before the US legislative and political institutions will make Yemen win the case.

However, a Western diplomatic source told Yemen Times that there is no hope that the two men can be turned over to Yemen, which has no security agreement with Germany to mutually turn over criminals.

"Yemen can now only do one thing, which is to fight for the innocence of them before the US court," he said, on condition of anonymity.

The arrest of the two men last January sparked street protests in Sana'a, thousands condemned the decision and demanded the release of the prisoners.

At that time, protestors said that the extradition would harm Yemeni-German relations, and there have been fears of any revenge attacks against German interests in Yemen.

Accordingly, security measures around the US and German embassies have intensified since then.

ment which can, through a political decision, stop the extradition. He said that Yemen believes that the arrest of the two men was illegal and violates international law.

He emphasized that the German government said that the extradition does not necessarily mean its admission that he is indicted, but shows it is convinced with the evidence of the extradition.

Al-Qirbi said that Yemen might appeal the verdict before the European Court in case mutual diplomatic means fails.

Meanwhile, the Islah party did not strongly condemn the ruling and only urged the Yemen government to exercise more efforts, considering the verdict is disappointing.

Mohammed Kahtan, head of Isla's political department said that "Germany seems to be restricted by agreements with the US and the verdict of the extradition of the al-Moayad and his assistant is a plight that needs patience."

He said that the political and diplomat-

the GPFO registered in any of these countries, and setting up an office in accordance laws for similar regional NGOs in these countries.

However, membership is open to all professional journalists in Yemen and the Gulf countries. The coordinator can be for the time being contacted at abuanman2000@hotmail.com.

Continued from page 1

Extradition confirmed

According to U.S. prosecutors, if convicted in the United States, al-Moayad would face up to 60 years in prison, while Zayed, who faces a conspiracy charge, could be jailed for up to 30 years.

Washington has given Germany assurances that the suspects will not face a military court or any other special post-Sept. 11 tribunal, or be confined in an internment camp, the constitutional court said in a statement. Instead, they are expected to face a regular criminal court, the court said.

Achim Schlott-Kotschote, a Frankfurt attorney representing al-Moayad, said he will continue to fight the extradition.

"It means we are one step closer to his extradition, but the lawyers will do everything they can to prevent it," he told Associated Press, adding that the case would be taken to the European Court of Human Rights.

Foreign Minister Dr. Abu Bakr al-Qirbi said that Yemen government would conduct dialogues with the German govern-

Freedom of press in Gulf gets a boost

He said that there will be workshops and training courses for journalists in cooperation with similar regional and international NGOs, debating of press and publication laws and working to abolish or amend articles that restrict press freedoms.

The organization will work, through these workshops, to promote the skills

of journalists in using international protection mechanisms to defend their rights being violated in their countries and encouraging journalists in the region to exchange views on various forms of pressures, violations and harassment.

He said that founding members are now discussing possibilities in getting

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UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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1) Information Communications Manager

Responsibilities include the following:

- Provide daily technical support for information management tools and technology infrastructure as well as support the implementation and effective change management;
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- Ensure compliance with corporate information management and technology standards, guidelines and procedures for the unit's technology environment;
- Supervise and assign training for the designated ICT Associate;
- Identify and implement information management practices that enhance the Country Office(CO) effectiveness and develop the yearly ICT work plan;
- Propose tools and methods for improving LAN effectiveness and manage LAN problem solving and support;
- Liaise with the Regional Information Manager (RIM) , LAN Manager

Network and relevant vendors when backup is required and collaborate with RIM, Information Systems and Technical staff in the installation of commercial and in-house developed software and related upgrades on the servers;

- Administer and monitor the unit's network to provide a stable and responsive environment and operate network utility procedures;
- Troubleshoot network problems and keep virus detection and removal central software facilities properly running and up to date;
- Help the Operations Manager in developing ICT training plans for CO staff ;
- Represent the CO in LAN Managers network and UNDP community newsgroups and discussions;
- Supervise the work of the webmaster on the CO website, CO intranet and UN Yemen website;

Qualifications and skills required:

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2) Executive Assistant

Responsibilities include the following:

- Arrange appointments and meetings called by RR, ensuring distribution of agenda, preparation of venue, liaising effectively with concerned parties to ensure their timely attendance, finalizing and distributing meeting minutes.
- Receives and screens incoming correspondence/communications and documentation and attaches necessary background information and maintains follow-up system.
- Attend to all front office phone calls and screens calls using discretion as required;
- types correspondence, documents, and reports including confidential matters; keeps correspondence and files (some of which are strictly confidential)
- Provides support to the Resident Coordinator (RC) and Designated Official for Security by organizing meetings of UN Country Team and Security Management Team ensuring meeting summaries are finalized and distributed to all concerned.
- Draft routine correspondence/interoffice circulation containing general information; prepares formal and informal translation of note verbales, invitation letters and other information required by RR and follows up on settlement of security guards bills and other necessary bills related to RR's office.
- Make necessary arrangements/contacts for RR/RC field trips and ensure preparations for international travel, liaise with travel agents and follow-up with finance to guarantee the tickets and allowances are available and settlement provided quickly.
- Prepare invitation cards for official receptions/functions including UN Day, prepare and follow-up on guest list, keeps up-to-date list of names, addresses, and telephone numbers of Senior Government Officials /Ambassadors/Projects Officials, etc.
- Provide backstopping support to Deputy RR –Programme (P) whenever his secretary is on leave or absent and provide assistance and information of various natures to Assistant RR (P) and colleagues in the office.
- Keep RR's driver informed daily on RR's movement during and after office hours and keep him posted on the RR's daily agenda
- Contributes to the preparation and updating of general briefing notes.

Qualifications and skills required:

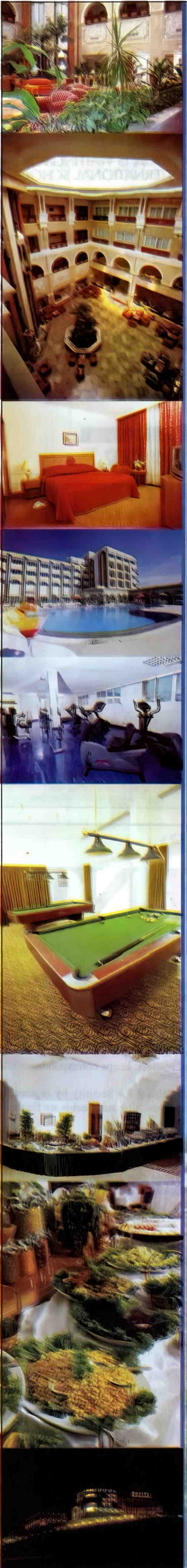
- Completion of secondary education/ diploma
- Seven years experience in an executive office or general office
- Excellent knowledge of computer and Internet use including mastery of word processing and database
- Excellent drafting and communication skills
- Good knowledge of Arabic and English Languages

Candidates who have the necessary qualifications and background for any of the above positions may submit their curriculum vitae to the following address:

Human Resources Unit, UNDP, P.O. Box 551, Sana'a

The deadline for receiving applications is 1 December 2003.

For further details of our vacancies you may visit our website at: <http://www.undp.org/undp-vacancies.htm>



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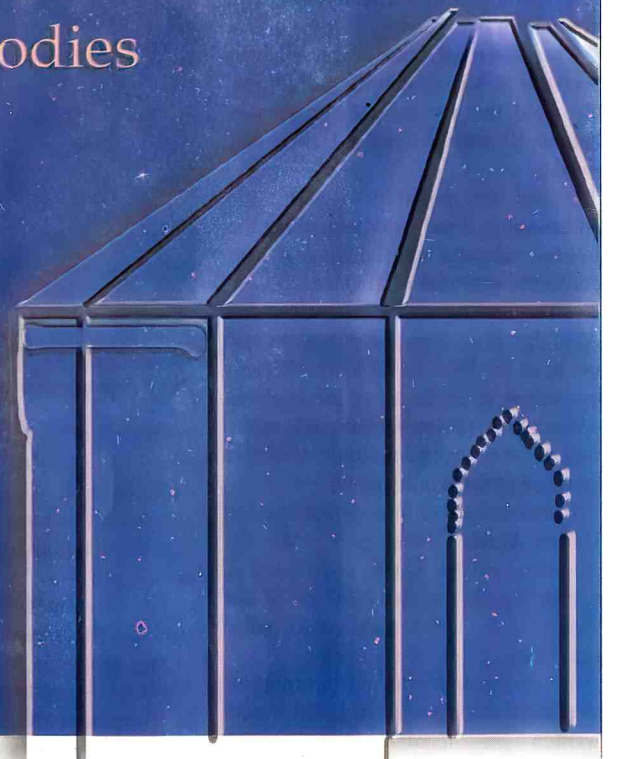
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Iraq to get transition government by June: council

BAGHDAD, Nov 15 (Reuters) - Iraq's interim Governing Council said on Saturday a transitional sovereign government would be in place by next June and an elected government would follow by the end of 2005 after the drafting of a constitution.

The Governing Council unveiled the new timetable after the United States gave up its earlier insistence that a constitution be drafted and ratified before a sovereign government could take over from the U.S.-British occupying powers.

Jalal Talabani, the council's current chairman, said the transition would involve "the creation of a permanent constitution by an elected council, directly elected by the people, and also the election of a new government according to the articles of this new constitution before the end of 2005".

In the meantime, a transitional council will be selected by May next year, which will pick the transitional government by the end of June, he said.

"At its assumption of power, the state of occupation would end," he added. U.S. officials have made clear that while Iraq would no longer legally be under a state of occupation, a sizeable number of U.S. and other foreign troops would remain in the country.



Jalal Talabani (L), the current chairman of Iraq's U.S.-appointed Governing Council, attends a news conference with council member Ahmed Chalabi in Baghdad with Nov. 15. Iraq's interim Governing Council said on Saturday a transitional sovereign government would be in place by next June and an elected government would follow by the end of 2005 after the drafting of a constitution. REUTERS

Two US Black Hawks shot down in Iraq

MOSUL, Iraq, Nov 15 (Reuters) - Twelve coalition personnel were killed and nine wounded when two U.S. Black Hawk helicopters were shot down in Iraq on Saturday, a U.S. Army spokesman in Baghdad said.

A U.S. military spokesman in Baghdad confirmed two Black Hawks attached to the 101st Airborne Division had crashed just after dark.

Sirens wailed and U.S. soldiers kept reporters away from the scene.

Local man Mohammad Badran said the two helicopters collided after an explosion. "I was watching TV when I heard a large explosion," he said.

"I looked outside the window and saw two helicopters. One was flying low and was on fire. The other was

higher up. The first one climbed and hit the higher one. They crashed in separate areas."

The Black Hawk is the U.S. Army's frontline utility helicopter, designed to carry 11 combat-ready assault troops and is also used for medical evacuations.

The U.S. military said the helicopters crashed in the west of the city at approximately 6:30 p.m. (1530 GMT).

Three U.S. helicopters have been shot down in Iraq in the past three weeks for an overall loss of 22 lives.

In the deadliest single strike on American troops since the start of the war to oust Saddam Hussein, a U.S. Chinook helicopter was shot down west of Baghdad on November 2, killing 16 soldiers.

Five days later a U.S. Black Hawk was shot down near Saddam's hometown of Tikrit, killing all six people aboard.

On October 25, guerrillas brought down a Black Hawk in Tikrit, hitting one of its engines with an RPG. The helicopter made an emergency landing and all five crew members escaped before it was engulfed in flames.

Insurgents now mounting some 30 attacks a day have killed 160 U.S. soldiers in Iraq since U.S. President George W. Bush declared major combat over on May 1. U.S. forces in Baghdad have hit back with "Operation Iron Hammer" for the past three days, using air strikes to destroy buildings they say were used by insurgents.

Alleged Qaeda statement denies link to Saudi attack

DUBAI, Nov 15 (Reuters) - A purported statement by Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda network denied it was behind Sunday's deadly bombing in Saudi Arabia and warned it would carry out a new attack on a major U.S. city within two years.

The statement, carried on Islamist Web site al-Mojahedun (holy fighters), also said that the militant group was behind all attacks against U.S. troops in Iraq.

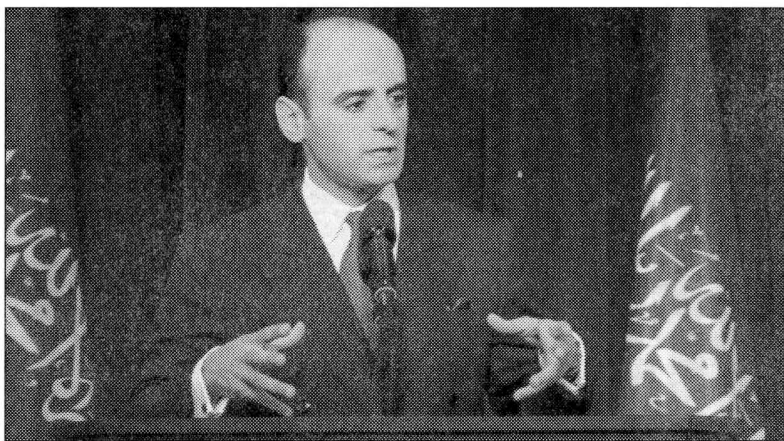
It was not possible to verify the authenticity of the statement, using the Islamic calendar and language which conforms with that of al Qaeda.

"The network fears no one but the Almighty in announcing its attacks and we have no links at all to the Riyadh operations or in targeting the Muhaya compound," the statement said, referring to the housing compound that was attacked in the Saudi capital.

It also warned of more attacks on the United States. "The next strike on America will be 'Qaeda's hell' and it will be the second attack on one of the biggest U.S. cities within two years maximum," said the statement.

It was attributed to the information section of the network and said it was written on behalf of al Qaeda spokesman Sulaiman Abu Ghaiith. The Web site, www.mojahedun.com, has in the past carried alleged statements by al Qaeda.

Saudi authorities said al Qaeda was



Adel Al-Jubeir, Foreign Policy Advisor to Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia, speaks to the press in Washington, Nov. 14. Al-Jubeir said that King Fahd has vowed to strike at terrorists with an iron fist. REUTERS

suspected of being behind the attack which killed at least 18, mostly Arab expatriates in Riyadh on Sunday. It also blames it for triple suicide bombings in Riyadh in May which killed 35 people.

The statement described Saudi Arabia's accusations as "propaganda", saying al Qaeda wanted to clarify its position — that its objective was never to kill innocent Muslims but its slogan has been to kill Jews and Christians.

It said claims by Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayef that suspected al Qaeda militants were planning attacks on Muslim pilgrims in the holy city of Mecca were "nonsense aimed at pleas-

ing the United States and Jews".

The statement said the group had only claimed responsibility for one attack in Saudi Arabia, the cradle of Islam — and that was the 1996 bombing at a U.S. military housing complex in the eastern city of Khobar which killed 19 American soldiers.

Bin Laden has repeatedly called for the expulsion of "infidels" from Saudi Arabia and the entire Arabian peninsula.

"The network is fully responsible for all operations in the country of the Tigris and Euphrates (Iraq) so that the Americans may have a small taste of what we have tasted," it added.

Al Qaeda sympathisers seen behind synagogue blasts

BERLIN, Nov 15 (Reuters) - Car bombs that destroyed two Istanbul synagogues on Saturday look less like a direct al Qaeda attack than the work of Islamic militants who share its fundamentalist ideology, security analysts said.

Turkey said the bombings, which killed at least 20 people, appeared to be suicide attacks with an "international link".

It declined to rule out the involvement of al Qaeda which has frequently used the tactic of coordinated suicide strikes — most devastatingly, in the September 11 attacks on U.S. cities.

But Mustafa Alani of London's Royal United Services Institute said any connection was more likely ideological than organisational.

"There is no history of al Qaeda operating in Turkey. It's very hard to say al Qaeda is involved in this attack. I think the activities of al Qaeda now are concentrated on two states — Saudi Arabia and Iraq," he told Reuters.

'Message on several wavelengths'

By their choice of location and target, Saturday's attacks sent several powerful signals.

The strike against Jews was an indirect blow against Israel, which was fast to condemn the bombings. By targeting Turkey, the bombings hit a strictly secular Muslim nation, an ally of Israel and the United States, and a member of NATO.

"It's a message on several wavelengths," said Roland Jacquard, head of the International Terrorism Observatory in Paris.

He said the likeliest suspect was the militant group Ansar al-Islam, which



A victim is carried on a stretcher after a bomb exploded at an Istanbul synagogue as two blasts struck Istanbul Nov. 15. The explosions were caused by car bombs, NTV quoted Turkish police as saying. One of the blasts ripped through a synagogue in a central district of Turkey's commercial capital. CNN Turk put the latest death toll at 23 and said at least 100 people had been injured. REUTERS

the Pentagon has called the principal "terrorist adversary" of U.S. forces in Iraq.

"It's probably Kurdish Islamist movements close to Ansar al-Islam who want to spread their terror strategy to Turkey," Jacquard told Reuters.

Ansar al-Islam, originally based in Kurdish northern Iraq, has emerged as a suspected force behind attacks on occupying U.S. troops.

IBDA/C seeks the establishment of an Islamic republic in Turkey based on strict Sharia or religious law. It rose to prominence in the mid-1990s for a series of bomb attacks on bars, night clubs and churches in Istanbul.

Broader pattern of strikes

Saturday's attacks carried echoes of a synagogue bombing in Tunisia last year which killed 20 people,

including 14 Germans.

Experts say that while such strikes fit al Qaeda's agenda, it would be wrong to see its hand behind every one.

They say the global militant threat now stems from a plethora of Islamist groups, especially in the Middle East and South East Asia, which are inspired by Osama bin Laden's ideology and methods but have no central unified command.

"There are many different groups but they're all bound by a common ideology, which is hatred of the West, of Western interests, of secular democracy," terrorism analyst M.J. Gohel said on CNN.

"They do work together towards a common goal, as it were, but not necessarily...under one monolithic leadership."

Turkish Kurd rebels they won't dissolve armed wing

NEAR SULAIMANIYA, Iraq, Nov 15 (Reuters) - A Turkish Kurd rebel group fighting for home rule in southeastern Turkey said on Saturday it hoped to continue its struggle by political means but would not dissolve its armed wing.

The conflict between Turkey and separatist Kurds has claimed some 30,000 lives since 1984. An estimated 5,000 Turkish Kurd fighters are holed up in the mountains of northern Iraq.

The rebel group, known until 2002 as the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) and then as the Congress for Freedom and Democracy in Kurdistan (KADEK), said last week it was disbanding to be replaced by a broader body that would seek a peaceful solution.

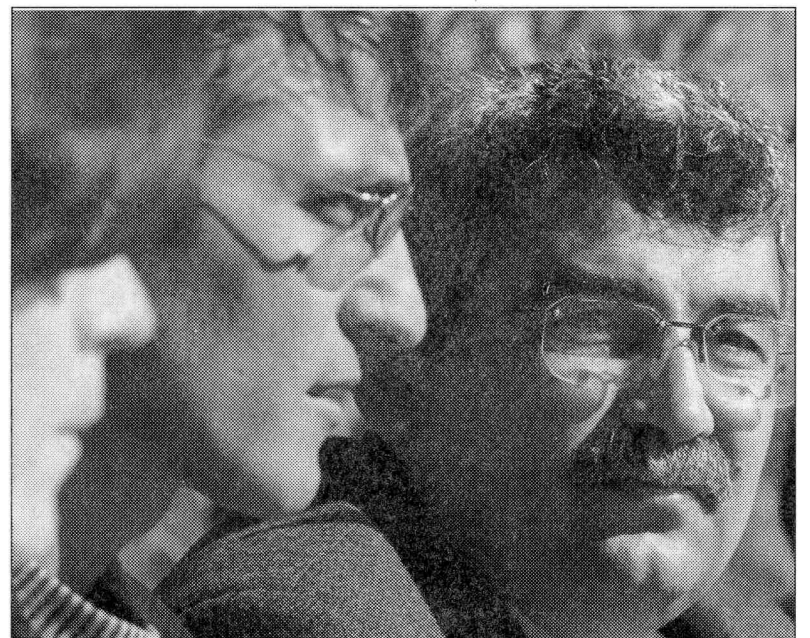
But at a news conference at a camp in the mountains of northern Iraq, the president of the new body, which calls itself the People's Congress of Kurdistan (KONGRA-GEL), said a Turkish Kurd military force would be retained for self-defence.

"They will now be just a defence force, political bound to the congress," congress president Zubeyir Aydar said. "They are continuing to struggle according to our political charter."

He said the armed struggle would end if a political solution was agreed with Turkey's government.

"As long as there is pressure, people will join the military wing. But we want to transform them into the political field.

The dissolution of the army is



The president of the newly renamed People's Congress of Kurdistan (KONGRA-GEL) Zubeyir Aydar attends a press conference Nov. 15, held in the mountains of northern Iraq. REUTERS

entirely dependent on the Turkish state," Aydar said.

"Our aim is to dissolve the army if there is a legal political and democratic way we can solve the problem of the armed struggle."

Aydar said the militia would not go on the offensive and would only fight in self-defence. "The defence forces now are waiting as a line of defence. If there is no attack we will not fight, but a ceasefire requires both sides."

Last month KADEK called off a five-year unilateral ceasefire, triggering fears in Ankara of a revival in fighting.

Violence in the region largely subsided after the capture and imprisonment of Kurdish rebel leader Abdullah Ocalan in 1999. Ocalan is reported now to be sick and his organisation feels its ceasefire has brought no concessions from Turkey.

Guest workers rush to leave S.Korea before deadline

SEOUL, Nov 15 (Reuters) - Thousands of mostly Asian guest workers scrambled to leave South Korea or go into hiding on Saturday, the deadline for 120,000 undocumented immigrants to leave or be deported.

At Incheon International Airport, crowds of workers, many of them from China, the Philippines and South Asia queued to catch last-minute flights, an airport official said, while others tried to extend their stay.

"Flights to such countries are almost fully booked and some delays in departure are also reported," the official said.

The government is trying to overhaul an abuse-riddled industrial trainee system under which South Korea had imported cheap labour. It is replacing the scheme with a programme that allows shorter-term illegal workers to get proper work permits, but expels long-term undocumented workers.

The government crackdown will affect just over half of the nearly 230,000 foreign workers in Asia's fourth-largest economy. By Friday, less than a fifth of the 120,000 had left, a Justice Ministry official said.

Two workers, men from Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, killed themselves this week to avoid forced repatriation, while groups of workers and rights advocates went on sit-in protests and hunger strikes to protest against the crackdown, police and media reports said.

The Justice Ministry said it would launch a nationwide check on Monday and would immediately expel those who had air tickets and passports.

It said it would work with foreign missions to repatriate those without documents and tickets in a campaign that will continue until end-June next year.

A superstar stands guard at S.Lankan rebel border

MUHAMALAI, Sri Lanka, Nov 15 (Reuters) - Smartly dressed young boys and giggly girls in green saris staff the counters. They fill out forms, check vehicles and bags and hand out passes to visitors driving into Sri Lanka's rebel-held Wannai region.

Welcome to Tiger territory, a huge swathe of land in Sri Lanka's north controlled by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), which wants a separate state for minority Tamils called Tamil Eelam.

Pictures of Velupillai Prabhakaran, the reclusive LTTE leader, hang on the walls, some showing him in battle fatigues, others in civilian clothes.

Nearby stumps of leafless palmyrah trees, their tops burned by artillery shells, stand as mute witnesses to a two-decade-old civil war that has killed at least 64,000 people.

A fragile ceasefire has silenced the guns for now but a political crisis in the capital Colombo has raised fears of a return to fighting.

"You a foreigner? Know Tamil, Sinhala?" asks a young LTTE rebel sitting behind a table with a bunch of discoloured plastic flowers, referring to Sri Lanka's two main languages.

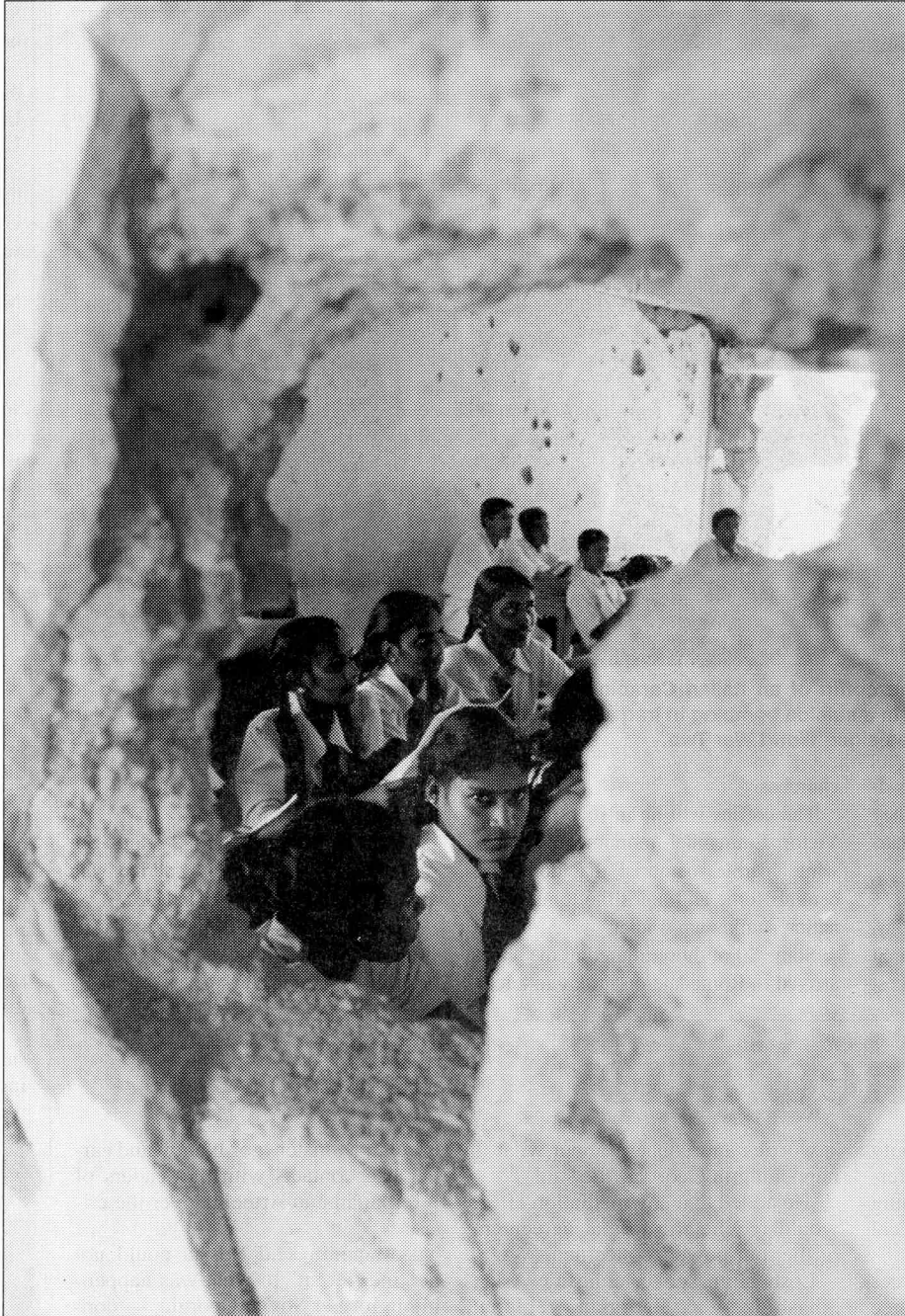
He then proudly waves a blue booklet.

"This is a Tamil Eelam passport. It costs 1,000 Sri Lanka rupees or 500 Indian rupees," says the rebel who seemed to be in charge of the checkpoint.

When asked how old he was, the rebel, who gave his name as Raj, smiled and said: "I am 18. I am the new superstar."

Rebels, mostly as young as Raj, are the new frontline managers for the LTTE — the new unarmed stars who screen visitors and decide who goes in and who doesn't.

They look at foreigners with suspicion and at times seek clearance from higher rebel officials before allowing them in.



Tamil students study in a bombed scarred classroom at the Kilinochchi Central School in Sri Lanka's Tamil rebel-held Kilinochchi town Nov. 12. A ceasefire between Tamil Tiger rebels and the government has brought peace to the city and the school, badly damaged in the civil war, is being rebuilt.

"HIGHWAY OF DEATH"

The "Highway of Death" — so named because of the thousands who died in a long battle for the control of the road — snakes through the heart of the shrub jungles of the Wannai, linking Jaffna peninsula in the north with the south, with check-

points on both ends.

Last week traffic on the road dropped sharply after President Chandrika Kumaratunga sacked three ministers from Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe's cabinet. The president also suspended parliament and the crisis has prompted

Norwegian peace envoys to pull out until the feud is resolved.

"People panicked and few Sinhalese were going in. From about 900 vehicles that come in and go out from here daily, the number dropped to just 300," said a Sri Lankan police officer at the southern checkpoint at Omanthai.

Towns and villages lie along the highway, once thriving communities that are now just dots on a map.

Small red boards painted with skull and crossbones hang on barbed wire, warning travellers of landmines.

Coming in from Jaffna the road turns into Elephant Pass, an isthmus where a Sri Lanka military garrison, routed during the war, once stood.

WIPE OFF THE MAP

A rusted machine gun, propped on a stone, is the only sign of the fierce wars fought for control of the pass that connects the Jaffna peninsula with the rest of Sri Lanka.

Some parts of the road, opened last year after the LTTE and the government signed a Norwegian-backed ceasefire, are mud but most of it has been rebuilt, injecting life into the war-torn north.

Houses destroyed by artillery shells can be seen along the way.

Mostly there is little except broken road signs rattling off names of places that no longer exist.

Mankulam, Puliyanakulam, Omanthai and Paranthan — all victims of pitched battles.

The exception is Kilinochchi, the LTTE's de facto capital that is fast emerging from the ashes but in need of aid money to complete reconstruction plans.

"Foreign aid has been promised, but the money hasn't come in yet," said a government official in Kilinochchi.

Donors have pledged \$4.5 billion, much of it for relief efforts in war-torn areas, but it is tied to progress in the peace process.

Nepal's Maoist rebels ambush patrol, kill general

KATHMANDU, Nov 15 (Reuters) - A Nepali brigadier general and three soldiers were killed when Maoist rebels, fighting to replace the constitutional monarchy with a communist republic, ambushed an army patrol on Saturday, an army spokesman said.

Brigadier General Sagar Bahadur Pandey was the most senior army officer to be killed since the rebels launched their armed revolt for a communist republic, in which more than 8,100 people have died since 1996.

"They died when an army vehicle drove into an ambush laid by the rebels," an army spokesman told Reuters. The incident took place near Hetauda, about 150 km (90 miles) south of the Nepal capital Kathmandu.

At least six other soldiers were wounded and flown in a helicopter to a hospital in Kathmandu, said the spokesman.

The rebels, who abandoned peace talks in August, recently started raiding military and government installations in the Terai region — the main commercial and industrial hub of the Himalayan kingdom.

Violence has escalated since the rebels, who model themselves on the late Chinese communist leader Mao Zedong, pulled out of peace talks after the government refused their demand for a new constitution to decide the future of monarchy.

At least 900 people, mostly the Maoist guerrillas, have died since then.

Chinese Ambassador to Nepal Sun Heping vowed on Friday his country's support to the government in its drive to crush the rebels who consider the post-Mao China counter-revolutionary.

In a separate incident, Maoist rebels shot dead three police officers in Nepalgunj, 550 km (345 miles) west of the national capital, police said.

"No one has been arrested and security has been beefed up in Nepalgunj after the shooting," a police spokesman said.

The insurgency has hit Nepal's economy, threatened its stability and scared away investors and tourists in the scenic nation tucked between Asian giants, China and India.

Japan says still plans to send troops to Iraq

TOKYO, Nov 15 (Reuters) - Japan's defence minister told U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld on Saturday his government still intended to send troops to Iraq "at an early date", but was closely watching the situation on the ground.

He spoke after Japanese officials had warned that committing non-combat forces was impossible under existing conditions after Wednesday's attack in southern Iraq that killed 18 Italians.

At a joint news conference in Tokyo following a meeting with Defence Minister Shigeru Ishiba, Rumsfeld seemed to show understanding for Japan's stance.

"We've always believed that the situation is different from country to country and each nation, each sovereign nation, needs to think through...what makes the most sense from their standpoint," Rumsfeld said.

Tokyo had been expected to commit about 150 non-combat troops to Iraq before the end of the year.

But it now faces a quandary, torn between its alliance with the United States and domestic public opinion, which opposed the U.S.-led war in Iraq and is predominantly against sending troops to the country.

Ishiba made clear that Tokyo

remained committed to sending non-combat soldiers to Iraq at some point.

"Our country wants to fulfil its suitable responsibility at an early date making use of the capabilities of the Self-Defence Force while closely watching the local situation," Ishiba said.

A Japanese fact-finding mission left for Iraq on Saturday to report on the security situation.

In addition to sending troops, Japan has pledged to provide \$5 billion in grants and loans to rebuild Iraq, making it the biggest donor after the United States.

Japan enacted a law in July allowing the dispatch of troops to Iraq to help with reconstruction and humanitarian activities.

However, the law stipulated that the military, whose overseas activities are constrained by the country's pacifist constitution, would be sent only to non-combat zones.

That led to debate over whether there were any such areas in Iraq, where U.S. soldiers are killed almost on a daily basis.

Rumsfeld, making his first visit to Japan since becoming defence secretary nearly three years ago, also touched upon another sensitive issue in Japan, the U.S. military presence

on southern Okinawa island.

Rumsfeld said that, while the issue had been raised during his visit, the United States had yet to decide details of possible changes to its military presence around the world.

"We don't have any specifics...We're not at the stage of making proposals or anything like that," Rumsfeld said.

There are 58,500 American troops stationed in Japan including the Seventh Fleet, out of which about half — 28,900 — are based on Okinawa, including 18,000 U.S. Marines.

Incidents such as the 1995 rape in Okinawa of a 12-year-old Japanese girl by three American servicemen have prompted calls to shift the U.S. troops away or reduce their numbers.

Media reports earlier this year — denied by U.S. officials — that most of the Marines stationed in Okinawa might be shifted elsewhere, perhaps Australia, had raised hopes for such a move among residents in Okinawa.

Rumsfeld is to visit Okinawa on Sunday and meet Okinawa Governor Keiichi Inamine before heading to Seoul for talks with South Korean leaders.

Twelve Afghans die in road accident

WAZIRISTAN, Pakistan, Nov 15 (Reuters) - At least 12 Afghans were killed and seven injured when their vehicle overturned in Pakistan's tribal region of south Waziristan, an official said on Saturday.

Seven women and five children died when their overloaded vehicle overturned on Friday on a mountain road, an official in this remote Pakistani region said.

The injured were sent to hospital, he said. The victims were going to the Pakistani city of Dera Ismail Khan to spend winter there, they said. Every year, many Afghans temporarily migrate to Pakistan to escape the harsh winter of Afghanistan.

Rwanda says key Hutu rebel leader surrenders

KIGALI, Nov 15 (Reuters) - Rwandan authorities said an anti-government Hutu rebel leader had surrendered and would fly into Kigali on Saturday in what analysts said would be a major boost for efforts to stabilise the volatile Great Lakes region.

A government official identified the man as Paul Rwarakabije, military commander of the Kinshasa-based Democratic Liberation Forces of Rwanda (FDLR), a largely Hutu rebel group opposed to the government of Rwandan President Paul Kagame.

"He is the overall commander of FDLR and he is coming along with a big number of his forces including senior military commanders," the official said.

"We expect also a large number of his weapons and ammunition to be coming in the next days," the official said.

The largely Rwandan FDLR is estimated by analysts to have between 15,000 and 20,000 guerrillas who are fighting to topple the Tutsi-led Rwandan government from jungle bases in the east of neighbouring Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

Many FDLR fighters are Hutus implicated in the 1994 Rwandan genocide although Rwarakabije, a

former Rwandan army officer, has not been accused of a role in the orchestrated slaughter by Hutu extremists of 800,000 minority Tutsis and moderate Hutus.

A senior official of the U.N. peace-keeping mission in the DRC described Rwarakabije's surrender as "potentially very, very significant because if this results in the collapse of the FDLR command structure then it could be a huge development."

The DRC government banned the political activities of the FDLR in September 2002 and told its leaders to leave the country as part of a pact aimed at ending the DRC's many-sided conflict.

The South African-mediated accord was one of a series of deals meant to end Congo's subsiding conflict, which killed an estimated three million people and pitted Rwanda and Uganda against the DRC government.

Rwanda pulled out an estimated 20,000 troops from DRC last year and in return Kinshasa said it would disarm the Hutu fighters who fled to Congolese territory soon after the genocide.

A new transitional DRC administration grouping government and former rebels was sworn in in July, though fighting still rages in the east between an array of armed factions.

Italy in mourning awaits return of Iraq dead

ROME, Nov 15 (Reuters) - Church bells tolled and flags flew at half mast on Saturday as Italy awaited the return of 16 soldiers and two civilians killed in the nation's worst military slaughter since World War Two.

Since last Wednesday's suicide attack in the southern Iraqi city of Nassiriya, Italian leaders have stressed the dead were in Iraq on a mission of peace and reconstruction.

As such, they are being returned as modern martyrs and not fallen combatants. "The Italians of Nassiriya did not die for oil or a neo-colonial plan...they considered their mission a force for peace," leading newspaper Corriere della Sera said in an editorial.

Coffins bearing the bodies of the fallen, hailed by Italians as national heroes, were due to arrive early Saturday evening aboard a military transport plane.

The anguished wait for the return of the dead was punctuated by a poignant moment at the Vatican on Saturday morning, when Pope John Paul embraced the widow and orphaned daughter of Giuseppe Coletta, one of the Carabinieri military police killed.

The bombing on the Carabinieri military police base, which also killed nine Iraqis, has traumatised the nation, which is preparing for one of the biggest state funerals of modern times.

Posters pasted up across Rome call on



Soldiers and Carabinieri carry the coffin of an Italian Carabinieri at Nassiriya airport Nov. 15. Italy prepared to welcome home soldiers wounded in a suicide bombing in Iraq and braced for the return of the bodies of 18 men killed in the deadliest attack on its forces since World War Two. REUTERS

Italians to "honour the fallen" and a leading Italian Church figure suggested they should eventually be beatified as "martyrs for peace".

The government has proclaimed a national day of mourning on Tuesday, when the funeral will take place in St Paul's Basilica, one of Rome's largest

churches. The coffins will lie in state inside the Victor Emmanuel monument, a huge white marble memorial that dominates central Rome and holds the tomb of the nation's unknown soldier.

Some 20 of those injured in the attack arrived in Rome late on Friday to a tear-

ful welcome from family and friends and taken to a military hospital

"I am so proud of him," Giulio Boi said of his 22-year old son Federico, who arrived home swathed in bandages.

"The firing he said to me was that he wants to go back there and help people," he told La Stampa newspaper.

UK security forces go on higher state of alert: BBC

LONDON, Nov 15 (Reuters) - Britain's security services have been put on their second highest state of alert after warnings of possible plans by al Qaeda supporters, the BBC reported on Saturday, but said there was no specific or imminent threat.

The BBC reported on its Web site that the increased state of alert was not linked to the state visit next week by U.S. President George W. Bush.

Britain has been on high alert since the September 11, 2001 attacks in the United States. The internal status for the security services — including the police, army and counter-espionage service MI5 — had now gone to "severe general" from "substantial", the BBC said.

It said the increased internal alert, which is normally kept secret, followed warnings about plans by supporters of Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda network, which was blamed for the September 11 attacks.

Britain's Home Office declined to comment on the BBC report, saying: "We would never discuss threat levels."

The police would also make no comment. A study released on Tuesday said London was at greater risk of a terror attack than any other major city in the United States or Western Europe.

The study, by the Control Risks Group business consultancy, said Prime Minister Tony Blair's support for the U.S.-led war in Iraq as well as Britain's large Muslim population meant there was a serious possibility of a suicide bombing.

Despite the government's backing for the war, anti-Bush sentiment is strong in Britain. Tens of thousands of protesters, including some from Continental Europe, are expected to gather in London when the U.S. president arrives, and police have been preparing to mount one of London's biggest security operations.

Aristide clash in Haiti capital

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, Nov 14 (Reuters) - Thousands of demonstrators seeking the ouster of Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide clashed on Friday with the president's supporters and police outside the National Palace, witnesses said.

The march was organized by Andre Apaid, a businessman and coordinator of Group 184, originally a coalition of 184 organizations calling for the replacement of Aristide with a provisional government. The groups accuse Aristide's administration of corruption and suppressing dissent.

Apaid's brother, Claude Apaid, said a truck full of demonstrators, including his son, was struck by rocks and its front windshield broken as it entered the meeting area.

Apaid said police stopped and searched the vehicle, finding shields

and plastic hand restraints, which the head of Group 184's security, also in the car, said were needed to protect the demonstrators. Police arrested all 20 people in the truck, Apaid said.

Police had no comment on the incident.

Witnesses said Aristide supporters, chanting pro-Aristide slogans and waving photos of the president, threw rocks at demonstrators, while riot police shot tear-gas pellets into the crowd or fired their guns in the air.

The witnesses said they later saw a group push a man against a wall and hit him with wooden sticks. One man yelled, "Kill him!" After a few minutes, a police car pushed through the crowd and rescued the man.

The victim, Erwin Monstanto, suffered no serious injuries and said later he had been beaten because he said he hated Aristide.

Russia may help mediation in Georgia

MOSCOW, Nov 15 (Reuters) - Russia said on Saturday it might take part in mediation efforts to help defuse the crisis in neighbouring Georgia where thousands of protesters are demanding veteran leader Eduard Shevardnadze step down.

Stressing the idea was still in its

infancy, Valery Loshchinin, a deputy foreign minister, told a news conference Russia was considering joining Azerbaijan and Armenia in political moves to help end the crisis.

"The idea is that democratic forces (in Georgia) should listen to the voice of their nearest neighbours...and their

worries and concern about what is happening in Georgia," he said.

He added that any mediation effort would require the formal agreement of the four powers concerned.

Loshchinin spoke alongside Aslan Abashidze, a Georgian regional leader who on Friday met Russian

Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov and earlier had contacts with the leaders of Azerbaijan and Armenia over the crisis.

Loshchinin said Russia could not be "indifferent" to what was happening in former Soviet Georgia — confirming that Moscow was fearful the trouble on its southern border could ignite unrest in the whole, volatile southern Caucasus region.

The West is watching with equal concern since Western companies are building a pipeline to take Caspian Sea oil to the Mediterranean coast.

Abashidze, a longstanding political rival of Shevardnadze who is seeking to drum up support for him in the bloc of former Soviet countries, discounted the use of force in any mediation mission.

He said Georgia and its neighbours had a whole range of "political levers" to use to help solve the crisis.

But he suggested Shevardnadze would meet force with force inside the country if the opposition took up arms to oust him.

"If the situation gets out of control and they (the opposition) decide to use force, the leadership of Georgia is obliged to defend the people, the legal authorities and the constitution of Georgia," Abashidze said.

Abashidze said opposition protesters were being manipulated by forces inside and outside Georgia who had been paid and specially trained to foment trouble. He did not elaborate.

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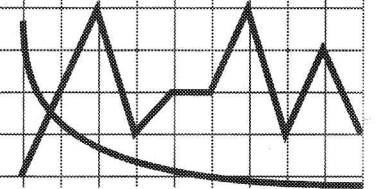
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YT Business



Still in its infancy

Giving security to the private sector

BY MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Providing security and a stable investment climate remains a priority of the Yemeni government. This is in response to security threats in the country. The state has therefore worked for intensifying programs and training in military units. The state managed to regain its control by curbing terror and offering security services to trade and banking sectors.

By engaging the private sector in working in security services to non-governmental institutions, the government was hoping to realize the integration and coordination among security bodies and armed forces and private security companies, in order to re-instate security confidence across Yemen.

The experiment seemed important in having private companies for security, and providing job opportunities, while offering services to citizens and foreign tourists such as banks, hotels, companies and hospitals and private universities.

Private security guard companies prepared individuals and train them, contracting with them in return for monthly salaries paid to their employees not exceeding 80 dollars for a guard. Security companies were offering several jobs subject to the nature of contracting by the parties requesting the service.

The most important one is keeping security, monitoring cameras, emergency and early warning equipment and barbed wires. The job also includes companies working in vitally important places such as minerals.

In addition, there is the accompanying of foreign tourists and very important political and parliamentary personalities. Youth in

possession of university degrees or secondary school graduates find opportunities in being recruited to companies offering security services that focus mainly on getting financial profits, as they are considered as trading investment companies offering service to their clients. Profit is their first interest and comes before the security duty. And this is the most outstanding of their defects.

Employees prepared for doing the jobs in those companies are given various training courses, mainly the English language, in order to be able to communicate with foreigner tourists. Other courses are on fire fighting, medical aid, self-defence and physical fitness to encounter with emergency events.

Owners of tourist agencies view that the experiment of guarding service companies gives foreigners a good impression of security and an ability to communication with them, unlike members of official security authorities that are most times not given training in the English language.

Employees at those companies confirm that those contracting for demand of this guarding service find the confidence in their being guarded away from problems they might face with citizens and tourists. Consequently this increases the proportion of those dealing with such companies due to the good reputation enjoyed by the guards.

The experiment in Yemen is still in its beginning. Some companies offering security have emerged and disappeared after a short while because requirements of their services needed a huge financial asset to be invested.

This does not mean that government security bodies are incapable of carrying out their tasks, but it is meant to give opportunities to the private sector to play its part in keeping social security.



The better features of private company security men in terms of better organization, more reliability, higher education, friendliness to customers, cleanliness, etc. make governmental security men (soldiers) incompetent and unable to match the requirements of many companies and organizations through Yemen. Photo by Yemen Times

People with disabilities deserve better treatment

Integrating the handicapped into society

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The handicapped of our society have the right to a better life and full integration, to gain their right to enjoy all that they are entitled to, without any hindrance. They can, as a social segment, contribute to the process of development.

The 1st Arab Regional Conference held in Sana'a lately stressed the importance of working for their full integration, and a better life as a serious step to reach a draft of a comprehensive world document which the United Nations adopts.

The Sana'a declaration produced by the conference pointed out that the proportion of disabled in Yemen is estimated at 10 per cent, and called for joining forces and efforts of government institutions and local and international non-governmental organizations for alleviation of psychological, social and physical damage the handicapped are suffering.

The declaration demanded the necessity that the handicapped should

be provided with whatever they need to allow them to attain a better life.

The conference also recommended the necessity of completing legislation on rendering care for the handicapped and their rehabilitation, and holding symposiums and workshops on the comprehensive international agreement on protection of the handicapped, to be signed by the Yemeni government.

It asked that those activities should be attended by all bodies and establishments involved with care for the handicapped.

The conference also called for media programs for the handicapped, for a recommendation to civil society organizations to play a significant role in supporting the international agreement.

Regarding facilities, the conference stressed the necessity of counting government, commercial, social and investment institutions in order to define what the handicapped need.

The conference also called for commitment to world designs and specifications on creating buildings for the disabled, in addition to teaching the

deaf signs to all students, including in the school curricula at both elementary and secondary stages.

The conference reviewed the handicapped traffic problems, demanding drawing up certain signs, especially audio and light signs.

It also asked for special lanes at crossroads and sidewalks and building artificial blocks ahead of those lanes.

The conference recommended the importance of benefiting from the internet in gathering and providing information related to the care and rehabilitation of the disabled.

The conference did not forget to call for providing necessary financial support for the media in the area of the handicapped integration, and from mosque preachers in spreading awareness on the handicapped right to better life.

The conference urged for offering free medication care to the handicapped, and issuing a health card enabling the handicapped to receive treatment at all health institutions, as well as creating a system for health insurance for the handicapped.



Rehabilitated handicapped girls at a workshop, an image of their being integrated in society

Words of Wisdom



The appreciation of the Yemen Times worldwide is growing. It is ironic that such international standing is not reflected in the Yemeni government's attitude towards the paper, not that matters. At the world level, there is considerable moral support for the paper.
Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, (1951 - 1999)
Founder of Yemen Times

Islah and YSP tension

Rekindling old fires

By MOHAMMED AL-GHUBARI

Opposition parties in Yemen are working hard on wrapping up the disputes between the Reform Party (Islah) and the Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP). The disputes resulted from a rumor of a religious advice referred to prominent scholar Abdulmajid al-Zindani in which he termed the former speaker of parliament and the socialist leader Dr. Yassin Saeed Noman as an atheist.

Through calls and meetings leaders in the opposition are trying to bridge the gap between the Islah and the YSP, a gap that brought back memories of the crisis Yemen witnessed in 1993, which led eventually to a war where more than 10,000 soldiers were killed, and in which the whole military force of the YSP was destroyed.

Islah provoked the public against the YSP and its leadership, considering them as forces working against Islam. If the peace messengers are careful, the "Common Meeting Assembly" alliances between the opposition parties will remain intact, countering the power party's wishes. Yet it seems reality is against the alliance, and facts are indicating that differences between the two parties are more than could be bridged.

The YSP is more inclined to the modern secular approach where rights and freedoms, law and order come first, whereas the Islam follows a political approach wearing a religious dress, which puts Islamic beliefs and principles and the religious identity above anything else.

State has more power

The International circumstances inherited from what is termed as war against terrorism has strengthened the power of state in Sana'a, which declared its early allegiance to the international alliance against terrorism, and entered a security and military cooperation with the United States of America.

While it seemed that the Islah party has become in-demand internally, considering it's the strongest opposition, and the one eligible to ruling, externally it seems it's affiliated to the Islamic groups seen as groups of terrorism.

Also, the declaration of the Islah political office, denouncing the religious statement terming the socialist leader as an atheist, conveys the party's disagreement with the fanatic approach of some of its own members led by Abdulmajid al-Zindani.

Yet this declaration seemed to cause more arguments than answers, as it considered what comes from the individuals remotely from their leading positions, a

personal opinion to which they would be accounted for according to the executing laws.

It was an issue that was rejected in the opposition, particularly the YSP considering what religious men and scholars declare is sacred and receives acceptance amongst the religious mediums, especially the fanatic ones.

And since this was the feeling, the YSP who had spent two years working with the Islah party, seemed more objecting to the delay of its issues and demands posed since the assassination of Jar Allah Omar during the opening session of the Islah general conference last year.

The YSP openly demanded that the Islah Party declares its stand in the issue of religious condemnation of the Southern and Eastern citizens that took place during the 1994 summer crises, and which was pronounced by Dr. Abdulwahhab al-Dailami, minister of justice, then and the leader in the Islah Party.

The YSP added its demand that the YSP should have a clear stance against the speech which termed the YSP leaders and atheists and traitors demanding that religion nationalism and Arabism are not concepts confined to one political party or group and that the YSP is a civil political party that operates under the laws and constitution just like any other in the country.

Fears are linked to fanatics

The probability is that the YSP fears and those of a wide sector of intellectuals and politicians regarding the religious statements and the relating acts violence, those fears are not linked to the Reform Party - Islah - as an establishment but it is linked to the extremist and fanatic groups who are active within this party and who are related to leading personalities such as al-Zindani who is well respected among all the religious sides legislatively and politically.

The assassination of Jar Allah Omar and before 150 of the socialist's cadres is an example of what follows after religious declarations where members of the Islah party are not guiltless of provoking and instigating such acts.

The YSP leadership said that in order to sustain the "common meeting assembly's unity" the Islah party should take a number of procedures, firstly to condemn the atheist-religious declarations, to cancel those stated in the past and to conclude with a clear declaration of the relations between religion and politics, as well as to commit to the constitution and law as the only reference in contradicting to the "Rule is for God" slogan which is been promoted by the Islamic groups.

The ruling party who had been using the incident to increase the opposition's and intellectuals' fears regarding the

proximity with the Islah Party, has not stopped declaring through its leaders that it is willing to have a political dialogue with the Socialist Party - YSP.

It even stated that the YSP has got its preserved status especially as it was the partner in the creation of the Yemeni Unity in 1990. Moreover, it even went to the extent of using the some of the returned socialists who had left the country post the civil war to promote the idea of getting closer to the ruling party regarding it as the nearest party in programs to the YSP instead of the Islah Party which is considered quite remote in this aspect.

The irony in this battle, which has broken the apathy in the Yemeni political arena, that prominent leaders in the Islah party are pointing accusing fingers to the ruling party criticizing it of working in favor of the dividing between the opposition parties through using fanatic elements to serve the ruling party's purposes, an event which would weaken the Islah Party and cause divisions in its lines using statements and stances of some of its members.

Those Islah leaders accusing the ruling party of playing this role confirm that it is not serious in fighting extremism and terrorism; otherwise it would have taken penalizing measures against all those who produce stances and statements that create internal disputes, where the authorities had earlier adopted the publishing of a book titled "Nasecha" - Advice, in which the Islah parties are accused in becoming alliances to the seculars and letting go of the Islamic beliefs and oaths, the very books which created disputes within the Islah party before it was discovered that the conservative wing in the party was the one who prepared the book while others were responsible for printing and publishing it.

Court decision, old wounds

Now, in the midst of Ramadan, we await an order for the Court of Appeal to look again into the assassination of Jar Allah Omar, the case in which the verdict in the primary court had given a death sentence to the criminal. This promises to be a furious confrontation between the opposition's left, the YSP, and its right wing the Reform party.

As the former will demand, the reinvestigation in the assassination involves interviewing three of the most well-known fundamentalists, whose names had been mentioned in the case papers as funding elements of the criminal Ali al-Sawani or as sympathizers with his beliefs.

It will also open old books of when the Islah party accused the YSP of being the oppressing side during the civil war, as it had been stated when Islah took its place on the ruling party's side.

COMMON SENSE



By Hassan Al-Haifi

The 17th of Ramadhan

The date of the 17th of Ramadhan represents two important events in Moslem History. The first occurred after about three years from the date of the migration of the Prophet Mohammed to Yathrib (henceforth called Madinat Al-Rasul, or the City of the Prophet PAUH and shortened to Medina). On that fateful day, Islam took on a more militant stance, after having established institutional footing, with the first Islamic state set up in Medina. When the Prophet Mohammed (PAUH) migrated from Mecca to Medina with his early followers, the autocrats of Mecca confiscated all the belongings of the Moslems of Mecca. The Moslems of Mecca wanted to repatriate themselves by attacking the trade caravans of the Meccan merchants who held sway in the Meccan establishment. Suffice it to say that these merchants were responsible for all the persecution the early Moslems faced in the City of Mecca, in the first 13 years after the first revelation came down to the Prophet Mohammed from heaven, which also happened during the Holy Month of Ramadhan. The Meccan polytheists heard that their trading caravan might be attacked by the Moslems, who have now become strengthened by the conversion of the Aws and Khazraj tribes (who themselves were émigrés from Yemen), who were feuding tribes that settled in the City of Yathrib. The conversion of these tribes ended their long standing feud and introduced the utopian brotherhood of Islam, under which all Moslems became united together with everything they owned to be shared by all the members of the community. The Meccans sent a force of about 1,000 with 100 cavalrymen. The Moslem force that engaged them numbered 300 with only three on horseback. Yet from the start when the Meccans sought to be challenged on a three by three basis, the Moslem challengers (Hamza, the Prophet's brave uncle, Ali, the Prophet's faithful and brave cousin and Al-Walid Ibn Al-Mughiera, whose father fought on the side of the polytheists). The latter was wounded, but his attacker was killed by Ali. Then, the Moslems and polytheists fought it out in full combat, with the polytheists quickly being routed, leaving seventy dead and a number of others wounded and taken as prisoners. The Meccans were astounded by the victory of the rag-tag Moslem militia and were unable to get a hold of themselves especially as they were far more in numbers and far better equipped. The Meccans also lost many of the evil leaders, who were extremely prejudiced against the Moslems and some of them died of heartbreak at the defeat (such as Abu Lahab, who was the defiant uncle of the Prophet Mohammed as cited in the Quran) very soon after the Badr engagement, as the first battle for Islam was called.

The second event is significant also, especially to Shiite Moslems, and occurred some thirty years later, in Kufa, Iraq. The prophet's cousin, Ali, had been elected to the Caliphate, as the fourth successor to rule the Moslem World after the passing away of the Prophet Mohammed (PAUH) in 622 AD. However, Ali was contested by the Umayyad leader Ma'awiah Ibn Abu Sufian (His father, Abu Sufian, was one of the staunchest opponents of the Moslems and only converted to Islam after the Moslems have taken over Mecca some thirteen years after the Flight to Medina. He and his allies were not keen on setting up an orthodox Islamic state as has been the case over the last forty years since the Moslems fled to Medina, but wanted to set up a more mundane order, with an autocratic state replacing the far more democratic and just regime that prevailed under the Orthodox Caliphs (Abu Bakr, Omar ibn Al-Khattab, Uthman ibn Affan and Ali ibn Abu Talib). By claiming to avenge the death of the Third Caliph, who was sadistically killed when the citizens of the state were protesting the unjust and illegitimate influence of the Umayyads in the caliphate. The protest turned into a mob scene. There was a battle fought between the two factions and Ali's forces were prevailing and almost routed the Umayyads. The clever Amro ibn Al'as came up with a suggestion that prompted several Moslem Quranic readers to raise the Quran to decide on the case of the dispute between Ali and Ma'awiyah. When the arbitrators were chosen, for some reason, Ali's followers insisted that he chose a weak arbitrator, while Ma'awiyah chose the cunning Amro without any dispute from anyone. Because Ali was democratic, he submitted to his constituent's choice knowing full well that he did not have a chance against Amro. The settlement ended with a stalemate between Ali (ruling from Kufa, Iraq) and Ma'awiyah (ruling from Damascus). There were several constituents, who went on the extreme end of both sides and denounced the settlement, demanding that Ali should seek the forgiveness of God, for relenting to the Umayyads and for other non-sensical reasons. Ali had fought these dissenters fiercely for they started to cause havoc throughout the Moslem state. They were killing women and children and committing acts of highway robbery, while claiming that anyone who did not see Islam their way is an infidel and his blood and property are sanctioned for these extremists to take as they please (Doesn't history often repeat itself?). Ali fought these dissenters (who were called Khawarij) fiercely until they were defeated in the Battle of Al-Nahrawain, where 1,100 of them were killed while only 11 of Ali's followers fell. Three of these dissenters plotted to assassinate, Ma'awiyah, Amro and Ali on the same day (17th of Ramadhan) in the year 661 AD. The only one to succeed was the assassinator of Ali and this tragically ended the life of one of the most heroic and cultured (his eloquence is unrivalled to this date) disciples of the Prophet Mohammed (PAUH), who many chroniclers claimed killed half the number of enemies of Islam in combat during the early battles in defense of the faith.

- Editor

OUR OPINION
A dim future for Iraq

The conditions in Iraq are extremely volatile and unpromising. A friend who has just returned from Iraq told me that security conditions in Baghdad have reached a level in which people cannot dare to leave their homes after sunset, sometimes even in Ramadan.

The activities in public are scarce, and people do not feel secure. Robbers, murderers, and criminals are moving around the country freely and can strike any time without being chased or punished.

"You feel that you are your own protector. The conditions are extremely complicated. Imagine that you cannot guarantee that you will be killed for your money at any time, and cannot expect the poor police forces to help you out," he said. Furthermore, weapons, which are the only means that can be used to protect property and lives, are now confiscated by the US occupation forces, subjecting families to possible intimidations by other armed bandits.

Then he referred to the fact that the judicial, and law enforcement authorities in the country are very weak and unorganized, making it virtually impossible to apply punishments against culprits and criminals. "You just need to prevent bad things to happen to you, because once they happen, you cannot expect them to be resolved."

What the country is going through now makes Iraqis start to feel like they have a dim future ahead. US forces and Iraqi people are being killed every day. Basic services are still not fully available to the public, especially those in remote areas, who have suffered the most during this time because of district patrols and checkpoints.

What Iraqis want right now, according to my friend, is that they be given the security they used to have during Saddam's regime. Most Iraqis do not want Saddam to return, and would love to have democracy in their country. But more and more people are beginning to feel that the bill to be paid may be too high. "We cannot jeopardize our security and well-being for democracy and elections. There are priorities!" my friend added.

This view is quite common throughout Iraq, and particularly in the areas that have been affected most by the violence (mid-Iraq). The idea behind building a country based on democracy cannot happen unless people feel they are safe and secure. They go on voting for elections if their lives are continuously threatened and are harassed every once in a while by security forces searching their houses.

Only the Americans can make the difference in the world and bring the sense of optimism of Iraqis to a higher degree. They can do this by speeding up the process of providing security and basic services to the Iraqi people. They can simultaneously turn over more authority and power to Iraqi hands. This will make the people think that after all, the country is slowly regaining its confidence and status as a secure and well-established country.

But if things go on as they are today, this may lead to an explosion of hatred and disgust against American forces, making things worse for all sides.

Could the American administration figure it out before it is too late?
I hope so!

The Editor

Letters to the Editor

Why support Iraqi resistance?

I'd like to hear from some people in the Arab world on their general opinion on the Iraqi Resistance. Based on Samer's cartoons, there seems to be a lot of support for it. Personally, I believe it will only inflict harm on the Iraqis themselves.

Given that the U.S. has shown that it has very little interest in conquering far-off nations for their land, and those who cooperate with the U.S. end up much better off for it (I'm thinking Germany, Japan and South Korea) I see little sense in the resistance.

What would be a best-case scenario for the resistance? Certainly driving out the Americans, but then what? Return Saddam to power? Install another Taliban or dictatorial regime?

Disintegrate into warlords and chaos, like Afghanistan, Yugoslavia and Africa? I think the best horse for the Iraqi people to bet on right now is the U.S. If you would like to share your opinion on this issue, please email me at my email below.

Sam Dolgin-Gardner, NYC
Samdegisme@hotmail.com

About Washington Post's review on YT

I am a native New Yorker who has been living and working in France as a teacher and a translator for over a quarter of a century.

Just half an hour ago, I read a Washington Post press review of President Bush's 11/6 speech, in which - for whatever reasons - he undeniably extolled freedom and championed democracy.

Reference to a recent Yemen Times editorial was made (washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A25610-2003Nov11.html), and a link provided to your website. It was mentioned that your publication's reaction had not been as negative as a superficial web surfer or TV viewer might have been led to believe.

In fact, your reaction, especially in the answer to the letter from Ms. Jacobs, is quite negative - and disappointingly so, in my opinion. You don't seem to realize that the military reaction recently undertaken in Iraq is a telling indication that unlike too many of its prede-

Letters to the Editor

cessors, the Bush administration is dead serious about fighting against dictatorship and in favor of democracy. That is what USA soldiers have been dying for, and it is the noblest, the most worthy of causes.

We may not see eye to eye on this, but I would like to think we can agree to disagree. On the other hand, I admit to having been shocked and jolted by your editorial stance in which unnamed framers of the USA constitution are said to have been wary about possible "Jewish" influence or interference. As a student of history, I cannot even begin to understand who or what you may have had in mind. As a concerned citizen, I worry that your principled opposition to Israel (as a state? with its post-1967 settlements?) could well dovetail into the all-too-usual, sadly timeworn, positively unhelpful, altogether indefensible refrains characterizing the odium of anti-Semitism.

Am I making a mistake? It should be obvious that I am not looking for a fight, but rather calling and bidding for

a dialogue. Could you kindly try to clarify?

Jeffrey R. Arsham, France
jeffarsham@yahoo.fr

Dear Jeffrey,

I believe you have a point in opening a dialogue. I only want to affirm to you that if you are a historian and yet are not aware of the Jewish lobby's influence on the USA's administration, then you ought to ask yourself why the USA is the only nation on earth to have vetoed tens of times to save Israel from critical Security Council resolutions, and why it has been in support of the small nuclear state -with atomic bombs- in a time it has prevented others from even thinking of peaceful reactors.

You should give it a thought and study well, not only from books offered to you, but in experiences of real life and undisputable happenings around you. Only then will you get the complete picture. Don't be offended. I am also responding so kindly by asking you to look around you and think!



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Will the United Nations survive?

BY ISRAR UL-HAQ
FOR HIPAKISTAN.COM

Will the UN survive against the constant onslaught of the US unbridled unilateral actions? That is the question, this article seeks to ask and answer. The United States policy of unilateralism and pre-emptive war was formulated by Rumsfeld (Foreign Affairs June-July 2002) in execution of the blueprint drawn up in December, 2000, by the Neo-conservative Think Tank Project for the New American century well before September 11, terror attack and even before the President Bush was sworn in as the President of United States.

The blueprint is based on the hard core of the dictum that "in some cases only defense is a good offense" and stemming from it has been the US National Security Strategy released in September 2002, providing for unilateralism and pre-emption to the exclusion of the United Nations where deemed necessary in the national interest.

Such a strategy of pre-emption was earlier incorporated in the US state policy by President Bush's proclamation at West Point to the effect that US will strike first and explain later, this unilateralism and pre-emptive strategy has been fully documented in presidential directive announced on December 10, 2002, providing in utter violation of the

Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty for the use of nuclear weapons of low yield in the pre-emptive war against terrorism; it also authorizes pre-emptive strikes on states and terrorists groups that are close to acquiring the weapons of mass destruction or the long range missiles capable of delivering them. Could there be a greater threat to world peace and security? And could there be a more sinister move towards the strangulation of the United Nations?

The United Nations Organization was raised on the principle of equal sovereignty of the member states big or small, their collective responsibility for maintaining world peace and security, with the laudable objective of "saving the succeeding generations from the scourge of war" and as laid down in article 1 of the Charter to establish peace based on justice and the adjustment and settlement of disputes in accordance with the principle of international law. The international law thus has been made the integral part of United Nations.

The Charter accordingly provides under articles 34, 35, 36 and 41, an elaborate machinery for the resolution of disputes and for addressing as promptly as possible all situations and developments that are likely to threaten peace. Remedial measure like arbitration, mediations, conciliation and judicial determination by international court of justice etc. of the disputes and issues that are likely to result in the breach of peace have been provided for under article 33 of the charter.

These peaceful measure failing, the Security Council of United Nations has been empowered under article 42 to impose economic sanctions arm embargo and stationing peace-keeping force. Under article 47 of the charter the Council may call upon for armed assistance and facilities from its member states and then proceed to plan for collective armed action through a military staff committee under the articles 46 and 47 and finally execute the plan under articles 48 and 49 of the charter.

The Security Council being thus sufficiently empowered to deal with all such situations which might threaten to result into aggression against any member state. There is therefore no justification what so ever for the policy of unilateralism or pre-emptive war on the part of any member state of the UN.

The right to self defense granted under article 51 of the Charter becomes available only in the case of a state being actually attacked and until the Security Council takes measures to maintain security. A state even when exercising its right to self defense is bound under the article to report the situation as soon as may be to the Security Council and the Security Council in its discretion is empowered to take such collective action as it thinks fit.

It was in exercise of its right of self defense under this article of the UN Charter that the US attacked Afghanistan and put the Security Council on notice that it reserved its right to take military action against other



sates as well and accordingly it subsequently attacked Iraq in utter violation of the UNSC resolution 1441- on the pretext of disarming Saddam Hussain of the weapons of mass destruction, without however recovering any such weapon even after months of occupation of Iraq.

The article 51 of the Charter providing for the right of self defense has to be read along with article 2(4) of the charter which call upon all members to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against their territorial integrity or political independence of any state in any other manner inconsistent with the purpose of United Nations.

The maintenance of world peace and even the exercise of the right to self defense has been thus collectivized under the umbrella of United Nations and accordingly the kind of US unilateralism and pre-emption is not only repugnant to the United Nations Charter but it stands debarred from the conduct of International relations.

The international Court of Justice in its judgment in Nicaragua case (1986) held that states do not have the right of collective response to acts which do not institute an armed attack. Adumbrating the meaning and scope of an armed attack the court observed "the court sees no reasons to deny that in customary law the prohibition of armed attack may apply to sending by a state of an armed band to the territory of another state if such an operation because of its scope and effect would have been classified as an armed attack than a frontier incident

had it been carried out by a regular armed forces."

The terror attack of September 11, as given out by the US itself, was carried out by 19 hijackers of different nationalities equipped only with box cutters and as admittedly they were not organized or sent y any state or states, the September, 11, event does not qualify as an "attack" within the meaning of the international court of justice judgment in the Nicaragua case, far from so qualifying under article 51 of UN charter.

Having made the above observation the Court in deciding the complaint of Nicaragua held that the US was guilty of using "unlawful force" that is international terrorism against that country, Nicaragua, upon the US defiance of the Court judgment took the matter to Security Council where the US vetoed a Security Council resolution which called on all the states including the US to adhere to international law.

The court had also ordered the US to pay substantial reparation to Nicaragua and desist using of unlawful force. But the US dismissed the court's judgment with contempt and responded with immediate escalation of the attack. Nicaragua as a measure of the last resort went to the General Assembly where it succeeded in getting a similar resolution passed when the US and Israel opposed for two years in a row.

Similarly in spite of a number of resolutions by the UN Security Council at the General Assembly declaring East Jerusalem to be an Arab land and prohibiting Israel to shift its capital there and calling upon member states not to

shift their embassies to that place, the US Congress, in utter defiance of these UN resolutions has asked the US President to shift the US Embassy to Jerusalem.

In the aftermath of the occupation of Afghanistan, the treatment meted out to Taliban and al-Qaeda fighters after being taken prisoners constitutes a flagrant violation of international law and therefore of the United Nations. This is a reminiscence of the treatment meted out to those captured in the wars fought by the barbarians in the distant past.

As to the right to seek extradition of the fugitives taking shelter or hiding in other countries the principle and procedure for the same has been laid down under the international law namely there should be an extradition treaty between the requesting and the requested states.

The states seeking extradition is obligated under international law to furnish a statement of evidence of complicity in respect of the fugitive and the state from whom the extradition is sought has the right to satisfy itself that there exist sufficient evidence to warrant the extradition in accordance with the treaty of extradition and further that the fugitive in course of trial will receive full justice.

Such being the principles of international law governing the extradition of fugitive, Mullah Omar's refusal to extradite Osama Bin Laden in the absence of the US producing any evidence of his complicity in September 11 terrorist attack was quite in accordance with international law and morality and by no means constituted a legitimate ground for the US to invade Afghanistan.

So who did invite these guests?

BY JONATHAN FREEDLAND
FOR JIHAD UNSPUN

We all know the feeling. You glance at the diary and realize you have guests coming to stay next week, when nothing could be less convenient. They're coming from abroad, expecting to be entertained for several days and it's far too late to cancel. This is the last thing you need.

So spare a thought for Tony Blair, as he scans the calendar and sighs. There are the dates, circled and unyielding: November 18 to 21 - Bush in Britain. He knows what it will mean. His guest is the most unpopular US president in living memory. The anti-war movement will be back on the march, gearing up for its biggest outing since it brought up to 2 million Britons onto the streets in February. Blair will have to make yet more speeches like the one at Guildhall on Monday, once again defending the war on Iraq. And for a fortnight, starting now, all eyes will focus not on the domestic agenda by which his government will eventually be judged, but on the matter which has brought him greatest grief since taking office.

A Times poll yesterday found half the public regard Blair's closeness to George Bush as bad for Britain; next week will show the two of them standing shoulder-to-shoulder, in coverage that will be wall-to-wall. Blair must want to shout up the stairs to Cherie: "I never wanted him to come here in the first place. Whose bloody idea was this?"

As well he might ask. For no one seems ready to own up to this particular invitation. "It came up as a matter of routine," says a Foreign Office spokesman, "all American presidents get them in their first term." Except Bush's trip can hardly be described as routine. He will be the first US president to come here on a state visit - with all the extra lashings of ceremony and royal red carpet that that term implies. (There was big hoopla for Woodrow Wilson in 1918 but even that, the protocol experts say, did not quite count.) Working visits are common enough, but a royal welcome is not given easily: Bill Clinton had to wait till his final month in office before he had an invitation to take tea at Buckingham Palace. Bush will be staying there as a house guest.

So how did it happen? The Foreign Office suggests a call to the palace, who promptly insist this was not their doing.

"This whole visit is being done with advice - with a capital A," says a palace spokeswoman firmly. The royal family did not do this on their own; government was involved. The two sides cannot even agree on when this wizard idea first surfaced. The Foreign Office says it was settled in June 2002; the palace and US embassy say the first they heard of it was early this year.

All of which makes you wonder if even the hosts are getting cold feet. You can hardly blame them. For who does this trip really benefit? Not Blair, who's getting a headache he could do without. Not the Queen, who has an allergy to political controversy and, given recent events, can hardly be eager to see her already beleaguered institution tarred by association with the "toxic Texan".

No, there is only one beneficiary of this visit and it is the Bush White House. With an election campaign looming, they are anxious to deflect the accusation that Bush is isolated. They want to show he has allies and friends around the world and few play better in the US than Tony Blair, whose American ratings put his home numbers in the shade.

That explains why Bush is keen to be seen with the PM, but not why he might want the full flummery of a state visit. A clue can be found in the text studied more closely than any other by the political operatives in the Bush White House: the campaign to re-elect Ronald Reagan in 1984. That made heavy use of TV footage which cast Reagan as a statesman, at home across the globe. A favorite sequence showed the president and the Queen on horseback in Windsor Great Park during his 1982 visit. The Bush team want some royal shots like that of their own. Apparently they were particularly keen on an open-carriage procession down the Mall, and are said to be disheartened by London's suggestion that that might not be possible due to "security".

One Republican source, close to the White House, has a theory as to why the Queen is such an important catch for the image makers. "Look, Americans don't know shit. They're not going to recognize the prime minister of the Philippines. The only foreign leaders they could pick out are the Queen of England and the Pope - and we've already got those pictures." With the Pontiff in the can, the Queen is the co-star the president needs.

Getting the first ever state visit for a US president was a big request, but Team Bush had just the man to make it.

William Farish, the US ambassador to London, has been the invisible man of the diplomatic circuit since he arrived here. But he has one asset: he is a genuinely close friend of the Windsors. A racing fanatic, he even trains and keeps the Queen's horses at his Kentucky estate.

According to this version, it is Washington, not London, which is driving next week's visit. Even the timing is designed to suit them: late November is the run-up to Thanksgiving, with Congress due to be in recess and a convenient drought of rival news. They could not wait till next year, when the election campaign will be at full throttle, and when foreign jaunts risk Bush Sr Syndrome - spending too much time abroad when Americans want their president to fix things at home. Next week is the time that best suits the Republican re-election effort, so that is the week he is coming. My Republican source detects the hand of Karl Rove, Bush's chief political counselor: "Rove is driving the timing and image-making of all this."

If this is the White House's thinking, some UK government officials wonder if they might have blundered. The best pictures from next week may be of a giant Bush statue being toppled, Saddam style, in Trafalgar Square. If rioters on heat, rather than a president on horseback, is the defining image of the visit, won't that be a failure? Not necessarily. So long as the protesters look like the usual suspects - multiply pierced, Genoa-style activists in torn clothes and mohican haircuts - then, I'm told, the White House will not worry. They will be able to say Bush enjoys the global support of all but a few anarchist weirdos. If the demonstrators look like the UK equivalent of America's "soccer moms", regular people of all ages, including plenty of women - tricky to bring out on a weekday - then Washington may have to rethink.

It seems incredible that the White House could breezily decide to use Britain as a backdrop for a glorified ad campaign - and be granted its wish. The government insists it really wants this visit, that a relationship with the sole superpower cannot be taken for granted, but has to be, in Jack Straw's words, "maintained and nurtured".

But this seems a stretch. If Britain, which continues to lose soldiers in Iraq, and Blair, who has put his entire prime ministership in jeopardy, have not already done enough to maintain and nurture this relationship, then what kind of relationship is this?

To American Jews: Israel needs your criticism

URI DROMI
FOR THE INTERNATIONAL HERALD
TRIBUNE

Next week, 4,000 leaders of the organized Jewish community in North America will convene in Jerusalem for their annual General Assembly to discuss with their Israeli hosts the "shaping of our common future."

As I intend to participate, I would be happy if one of the Jewish American participants grabbed me by the sleeve and demanded to know what Israel was doing in Gaza. Why Gaza? Because, in a nutshell, it embodies the major problems Israel is now facing.

Israel keeps 7,700 Jewish settlers in the midst of 1 million Arabs in locations that have no strategic importance and in an area which, unlike Judea and Samaria - the West Bank - doesn't even have a biblical significance (except, of course, for Samson).

These settlements in Gaza create endless friction with the Palestinians, breeding hatred and revenge, and securing them taxes the already overburdened Israel Defense Forces. No wonder, then, that in poll after poll the majority of Israelis say that Israel should evacuate its settlements from Gaza.

Those who oppose this claim that a unilateral withdrawal by Israel would be perceived as rewarding terror. The counterargument is that the time is never right. If Prime Minister Ehud Barak had not pulled Israeli troops out of Lebanon in 2000, we might still be

stuck there, because of appearances. Recently, the debate about Gaza became heated, when three soldiers (two of them women) were killed at an army base in Netzarim - a post that was supposed to protect the nearby settlement, but instead became a target itself.

Surely American Jews have something to say about this. After all, they are fully aware of the studies predicting that in few years there will be more Arabs than Jews between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea. Surely they are as worried as the Israelis that if Israel keeps the territories, it might either lose its Jewish nature or become an apartheid state.

In the 2002 annual survey of American Jewish opinion by the American Jewish Committee, American Jews were asked: "As part of a permanent settlement with the Palestinians, should Israel be willing to dismantle all, some, or none of the Jewish settlements in the West Bank?" Ten percent answered "all," 55 percent said "some," 34 percent - "none" (2 percent were not sure). This is exactly how Israelis feel about the West Bank settlements, and it is therefore safe to assume that American Jews may be feeling the same as the Israelis in regards to Gaza as well.

Yet when it comes to sharing their views with the Israelis, the leaders of the organized Jewish community adhere to the motto of "Israel Right or Wrong." They don't even allow a staunch supporter of Israel such as Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz to say something remotely critical of Israel: When he told a pro-Israeli rally in Washington last April that Palestinians as well as

Israelis have been victims of Middle East violence, he was booed off the podium.

It is not healthy for a friend of Israel - any friend of Israel - not to be allowed to speak freely about its policies. Take the security fence. If the erection of the fence means that olive trees have to be uprooted, that is unfortunate but necessary, and owners of the trees should be compensated. Yet if Jewish settlers destroy olive trees just to harass their Palestinian neighbors - as happened last week near Nablus - then I expect every decent Jew who is a friend of Israel to feel comfortable enough to protest, without immediately being accused of undermining Israel's cause, or being told to shut up because his or her life is not on the line.

In the same public opinion poll, American Jews were asked to agree or disagree with the following statement: "Regardless of their individual views on the peace negotiations with the Arabs, American Jews should support the policies of the duly elected government of Israel." Sixty-one percent agreed, but 36 disagreed (4 percent were not sure). Why, then, exclude from this discourse the voice of one out of three American Jews?

The love and support that American Jews have showered on Israel over the years is admirable. That they can't - or won't - participate in this central debate in Israel is therefore doubly regrettable. They would better serve the Israeli cause by giving the Israelis their honest opinion, even when they disagree. A vibrant democracy like Israel can take criticism.

The View From Here

BY JAMIL ABDUL KARIM*

Holy living
vs empty talk

Ramadan is winding down, and with it, another season where Yemeni have done their best to muster all the merriment they can, at least under the circumstances.

Indeed, for some, shopping without enough money isn't easy, especially for food that's often overpriced and outdated. And it's hard to smile knowing that kin in Palestine remain without a home, while the Yanks continue to trample with their muddy boots all over Iraq.

But thank God for small solaces, such as having a simple cool drink. And, now, quick, tell me, what is your favourite soft drink? It seems to me, based on casual observation, Coca-Cola and Canada Dry drinks are in a dead heat for Yemen's most popular beverage.

Of course, bottled in Yemen's port city of Aden, Canada Dry in Yemen happens to fall under Coke's trademark, that is its American umbrella. Clever.

And I have yet to see a single Yemeni even taste one particular competitor called Mecca Cola. You likely know of it, as this Islamic alternative is now in some 45 countries.

That may seem like good progress, since Tawfik Mathlouthi, a businessman from France launched Mecca Cola last Ramadan with the motto, "No more drinking stupid, drink with commitment!" He noted it's time to fight "American imperialism and Zionism by providing a substitute for American goods."

But the so-called stupid drinking of the world-famous beverage from the Coke people is still continuing everywhere. Even in Pakistan, a country created as the ideal Islamic state, Mecca Cola only has five per cent of its market. Why is that?

I suggest, quite simply, it's because people drink what tastes good.

Isn't this something to think about for those of us who are wringing our hands over the evils of American cultural imperialism? You know: Planet Hollywood and MTV and Big Macs from Belgrade to Bangkok, all signs of the Yanks' desire to Coca-Colonize everyone. What are we to make of it?

Not as much, perhaps, as some people would like to. Because, don't people accept the cultural trappings they want, without coercion? As one American told European film-makers: "If you made movies as good as your cheese, people would watch them too."

Don't you think it's strange when some Muslims make the point that America is going to hell because of its immoral culture, then turn on American shows? Saddam's Hussein's son Uday launched Youth TV in Iraq, using pirated Hollywood movies. His radio

station had disc jockeys blast George Bush as a criminal before giving a snappy introduction to the rather salacious pop singer Madonna.

Even North Korea's president Kim Jong-il idolized the former basketball star Michael Jordan, while heir Kim Jong-nam loves Mickey Mouse. And why wouldn't he? I recently saw Mickey in a Sana'a supermarket. Apparently some store manager felt that the Disney icon is not just American, but a universal figure that can bring a smile to even the most difficult of days.

But isn't this soft American power? Yes. But let's remember that American cultural dominance is hardly new. A century before satellites could beam anyone's propaganda or immorality anywhere, countries were miffed over U.S. brand bullies like Kodak cameras, Heinz ketchup and Colgate tooth powder. Miffed, but using them, of course, because they were quality products.

That doesn't make everything coming from the U.S. good. But by our own actions, we're proving that everything from America is not bad either. And compared to history's previous empires, like Rome, cultural control of the Yanks is in many ways quite tame. Have you seen anyone thrown to the lions in any coliseums lately?

Some even argue that today's soft imperial power, rather than adding to global tension, enhances peace. Unlike hard power, that is military domination, soft cultural power can promote stability through commerce. Numbers since the mid-20th century support this: liberal democracies virtually never go to war with each other because they'd rather line up for burgers, that is become economic allies, than fight.

So if a McDonald's comes to Yemen, be honest. What will you do? I suggest you'll want to see if their hamburgers taste good. If you're already eating great-tasting burgers, fine, you won't go. But if you're not, and if you find a Big Mac hits the spot, why should you worry about where it originated some 50 years ago?

It's all food for thought, something to mull over next time you choose, if you do, to have a Coke product. That's what holy living is all about, Ramadan or not. It's about walking the walk, not just talking the talk. It's about making your actions line up with your words in the everyday details of life. It's living with freedom, inside.

If we really got a taste of that, we'd all be better off, not to mention happier. Don't you think?

*Jamil Abdul Karim
comments on Arab and
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Moving Yemen forward

Preserving our heritage
means building our futureISMAEL AL-GHABIRI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

It is no secret that developed countries give the greatest of attention and importance to their nations' heritage because this heritage is for them among the pillars of the future. This is why when we maintain our heritage; we are investing for the future and our next generations.

However, looking at today's conditions, we can easily see that little attention and importance is given to our heritage. Many feel that holding on to our heritage could mean that we must live in it and forget about technology and the new world. This misconception has created an illusion that throwing our heritage behind our backs could be a formula to become a developed country. Those fail to realize that developed countries have built upon their heritage and hold on tight to it.

In Yemen, we have so many beautiful heritage sites. Among them is the ancient city of Arwa, one of the most genuine and spectacular ancient cities in history. The city maintains its mystical and mysterious feel in every possible way. The ancient houses, architecture and monuments make it a spectacular piece of our past. But unfortunately, not much is done to publicize this wonderful city, which enjoys a spectacular variety of manuscripts, architecture, and arts.

Due to neglect and carelessness by both the local villagers and the authorities, the spectacular walls, houses, and monuments of the city are slowly

falling apart. There is no maintenance, no attention, and no efforts to preserve this wonderful city, which could have been a major tourist attraction for thousands of tourists from all over the world.

This is just one example of many other tourist sites that resemble our rich and genuine heritage, which we unfortunately do not value at all.

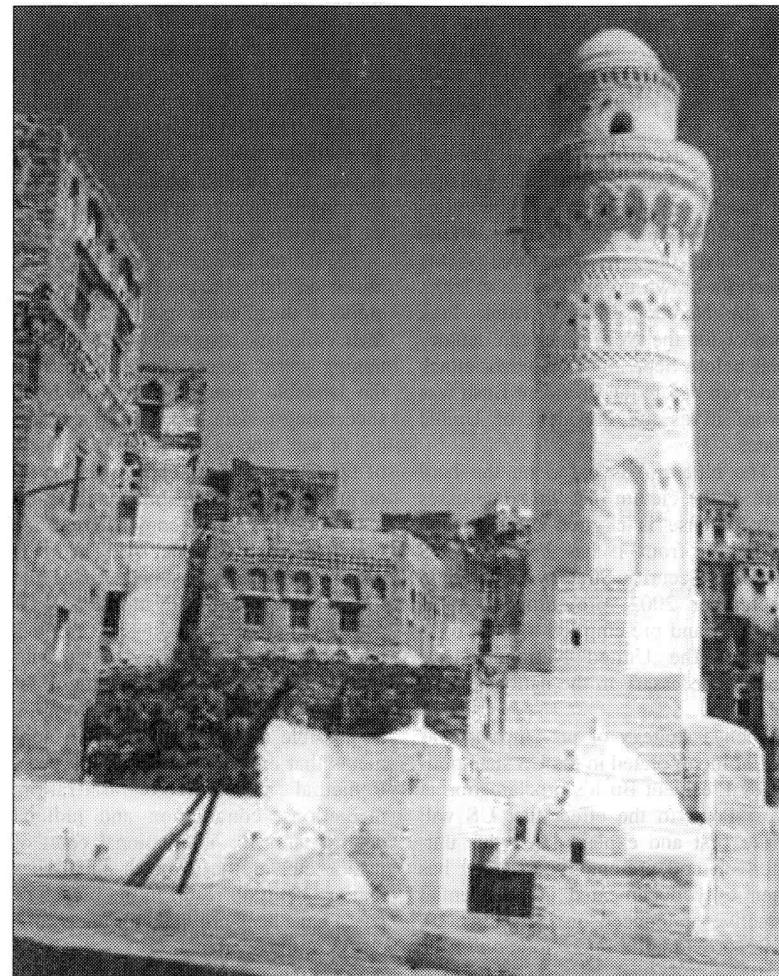
The lack of awareness of Yemeni citizens, especially in rural areas, of the importance and value of historic monuments could have catastrophic results on our future. There have been so many reports of villagers tearing pieces of ancient Sabaan temples and sites and using ancient rocks from those temples to build their own new houses. This is not unique to a certain area, but it is common wherever they go.

Those villagers do not know that the future of the economy could lie in those ancient rocks that may look useless from the first instant. But if sold elsewhere in the world could be worth hundreds of thousands of US dollars.

Our heritage, that is lying there in the different parts of the country could be the driving force behind a recovering economy in the form of hard currency flowing in through tourists who wish to see those fascinating sites.

We can hence see how the past could influence the future. If we are careless about our heritage and abandon it in the way we are doing today, the tourism industry will never revive, and the economy would continue to deteriorate, causing more troubles for our future generations.

This is the case only if we deal with



Queen Arwa Mosque

the effect of our heritage from a merely materialistic point of view. But on the other hand, our heritage could also teach us many things we failed to learn. We can learn a lot of how our earlier generations became successful in running their businesses and establishing such powerful kingdoms. We

could use those hints to build our own future to repeat the glory and bring the change desired.

But this cannot happen unless there is true understanding of our culture and heritage. It can only come from faithful Yemenis who value their past, and look after their future.

Review of Shoun al-Asr Magazine

A publication that informs

BY MOHAMMED KHIDR
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Shoun al-Asr (Contemporary Affairs) is a quarterly publication issued by The Yemeni Center for Strategic Studies. It is a highly informative magazine specialized in economic, political and social affairs.

The latest edition of the magazine for the months July, August and September 2003, No. 12, has been rich with various articles and studies and contained a supplement on proceedings and working papers discussed in the symposium of the third parliamentary elections held on 27 April 2003.

The working papers were presented by a group of Yemeni intellectuals, university professors and journalists. In addition to the supplement on the latest parliamentary elections there are other studies and articles, such as a thorough study on the "Woman at the Age of Globalization" by Dr Sameer Abdulrahman al-Shamieri, professor of Sociology at the college of education, University of Aden.

Also, there is a study titled "Challenges of Arab Social Security under Globalization" by Dr Ibrahim Hamza al-Dulaimi, an Iraqi researcher; and also an economic study titled "Developing Economies and Dealing with Globalization and World Trade Organisation: Yemen as Example" by Dr Abdulla Awadh Nasser, head of the economic office at the Yemen Socialist Party.

Despite the great importance of the topics, I had the opportunity to read thoroughly the social study of Woman at the Age of Globalization" by Dr al-Shamieri.

12
شؤون العصر

المراة في زمن العولمة

د. سمير عبد الرحمن الشميري

تحديات الأمن الاجتماعي العربي في ظل العولمة

د. إبراهيم مصعب الدليمي

التفكك الاجتماعي - البطالة

ملف العجدة

لندوة الانتخابات النيابية الثالثة 27 أبريل 2003: رؤية تقويمية

تقويم مراحل التحضير للانتخابات النيابية 2003

أ. ناصر محمد الطويل

البرامج الانتخابية للأحزاب السياسية بين الواقع والطموح

د. محمد أحمد الحياوي

المشاركة السياسية للمرأة في انتخابات 2003 البرلمانية في اليمن

أ. عبد الناصر المودع

الإعلام العربي في الانتخابات النيابية 2003

أ. جلال الشريعي

تقويم دور منظمات الرقابة المحلية والدولية

أ. جمال عبد الله الشامي

نتائج الانتخابات النيابية - مؤشرات ودلالات

د. عبد الجليل الصويغ

الاقتصاديات النامية وتعاؤها مع العولمة ومنظمة التجارة الدولية: اليمن نموذجا

د. عبد الله عوض جيزيل

تقارير

عروض كتب

إصدارات جديدة

نشاطات المركز

مكة - فنية - علمية

تصديق

المركز اليمني

للدراسات الاستراتيجية

السنة السابعة

العدد الثاني عشر

ربيع - جمادى الأولى 1424 هـ

يوليو - سبتمبر 2003 م

The study tackles a very sensitive and highly important aspect of the society life, i.e. the status of the woman particularly in the Arab world and Yemen.

The study is divided into three premises, each discussing in details a review of its characteristics and treatments for the negative aspects of them. The three categories are:

- 1-Globalization and Family Disassembly.
- 2-Woman, as merchandise for sex and sexual excitement,
- 3-Globalization and change in the woman's life.

At the conclusion of his study, Dr. al-Shamieri reviewed benefits and positive aspects of globalization, and also brought up certain ideas and suggestions on how to protect the woman from dangers of globalization.

Dr al-Shamieri has written with a very fascinating and interesting style that would not give the reader any opportunity to leave the study unfinished, which is a style much needed and wanted in scientific and sociological studies in order to attract attention and interest of a reader and thus achieve the goal of enlightening the society, particularly at this time of globalization and its threats to our Arab and Islamic culture if we are not very careful.

Congratulations to Dr. al-Shamieri for his success in conveying the message he has wanted to give the reader and for the good efforts he has exerted to produce his appreciable study. I would personally recommend this work to be studied by our youth, particularly girls, and also by parents, to be aware of dangers facing the young generation if it does not arm itself with good knowledge of the reality we are living at the present time.

رابح الجائزة الكبرى لمسابقة روثمان سيارة تويوتا لاند كروزر GXR 2003 والرابح الرابع لسيارة هيونداي أكسنت 2003



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رمزي محمد مصلى جرادة
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مع
روثمان

أسماء الفائزين بمسابقة روثمان كنج سايز



الرابح الرابع
الحضر هاشم ناصر المشرقي
دليل

أسماء الفائزين بجائزة جهاز تلفزيون جي في سي ٢٥ بوصة

- ١- علي أحمد محمد البجلي
- ٢- لطفي سالم سعدون الصيعري
- ٣- علي قاسم سعيد أحمد
- ٤- مبارك صهر دويل
- ٥- مرزوق سيف حسان الشرعبي
- ٦- فطين علي هائل العامري

أسماء الفائزين بجائزة طقم مجلس عربي

- ١- محمد قائد علي محمد الشلح

أسماء الفائزين بجائزة جهاز تلفزيون سيار / سامسونج

- ١- منصور محمد أحمد الحاج
- ٢- عادل عبدالله علي
- ٣- بلال محمد أحمد
- ٤- رسمي أنور عثمان الشعبي
- ٥- طيب علي عبدالرب الجهمي
- ٦- أحمد موسى أحمد العميري
- ٧- عبد الرحمن حزام قائد أحمد
- ٨- فهد عبده حزام غالب
- ٩- فؤاد محمد راجح الحمادي
- ١٠- ثائر غالب مهدي
- ١١- رفيق محمد صالح الموجري
- ١٢- شوقي أحمد حمود القولي
- ١٣- محمد عبد الوهاب محمد علي
- ١٤- هادي علي سعد عيسى
- ١٥- أنور عبده علي عبده
- ١٦- علي عبد الرحمن أحمد
- ١٧- ردمان عبد الكريم اليوسفي
- ١٨- أحمد صالح يسلم جويان
- ١٩- سالم عوضين يا خليعة
- ٢٠- صهر شيخ بن فهيم يا وزير
- ٢١- علي علي سعيد بن سعيد
- ٢٢- منصور محمد أحمد الحاج
- ٢٣- علي أحمد قاسم إسحاق
- ٢٤- يكيل أحمد يحيى الجريزح
- ٢٥- علي صالح أحمد الأحمد
- ٢٦- محمد سعد محمد الحراسي
- ٢٧- أحمد عبدالله ثابت الأشادي

أسماء الفائزين بجائزة جهاز ريسيفر ديجيتال مع الصحن

- ١- عبدالله حسين المهدي
- ٢- عبد الإله أحمد سعيد منصور
- ٣- مالح ناصر أحمد مرشد
- ٤- محمد عبده عبده يوسف

مازال لديك العديد من الفرص للفوز بإحدى الجوائز التالية:

- ٩ ريسيفر ديجيتال مع الصحن
- ٣ طقم للمجالس العربية
- ٤.٠٠٠ علبه سجائر روثمان
- ٢٤ هاتف متحرك
- ٩ جهاز تلفاز (JVC) ٢٥ بوصة



سيجارة المدخين

الوكيل المعتمد في اليمن مجموعة هائل سعيد أنعم وشركاه المحدودة

صناعة يمنية

تحذير صحي: التدخين سبب رئيسي لأمراض القلب والرئة وتصلب الشرايين

Local Press

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr



Al-Sahwa weekly, 13 Nov. 2003

Main headlines:

- MPs express amazement at officials' joy for losing future of the Free Zone
- In a condemnation statement of Riyadh incident, Islah says what happened targeted the nation
- Saudi foreign ministry directs to visa retained passports

Local Councils' by-elections Ahmed Othman has written an article saying the recent attack on a residential complex in Riyadh whose victims were innocent children and women has increased the mystery and began to disclose the fact of the big enigma that began on 11 September. The mystery increases with the recent explosions of Riyadh because he who kills children and women and innocent people in Mecca or Riyadh and creates horror in a Moslem country in this form could only be a finger of Zionism. Justifications and motives that some would use for attacking New York and Washington have no existence in attacking Mecca and Riyadh and against civil targets and residential complexes housing peaceful Moslems and civilians whatever the opinions were. Israel alone is the one having interest and the first beneficiary of these explosions. If there are any other sides beneficiary of those blasts, they will be the American occupying forces besieged in Iraq, along with the fact that the first loser are the people of America and the Arab and Moslem peoples. The enigma is still there and the entire world is paying the price and no one is able to decipher the mystery of the truth of al-Qaeda and the lie of the Iraqi weapons of mass destruction and the explosions moving from Washington to Mecca and Riyadh.



Al-Rai al-Aa'm weekly, 11 Nov. 2003

Main headlines:

- New Taliban in Yemen, Hizbut-Tahrir (Liberation Party) holds its first conference
- 80 per cent of loans go to tenders without benefiting from them.

On Israel's using of depleted uranium

um weapons the newspaper mentions that the heroes of intifdha do not possess but their stones and some light weapons that could not fight with the weapons used by the Zionist occupation soldiers. But the occupation army did not hesitate in using all types of weapons, even the internationally prohibited, to suppress the Palestinian intifadha. Medical reports have proved many times that the Zionist occupation troops have used the depleted uranium in their war against the Palestinians, especially against children. There are many indications prove that 1500 of al-Aqsa intifadha wounded have been exposed to projectiles and ammunition of depleted uranium. When faced with such facts by the Arab MP Issam Mukhawal at the Zionist Knesset, the Israeli minister of defence evaded from answer and refused. MP Mukhawal said he had got a report issued by an American organization condemning the Zionist forces of using ammunition clad with depleted uranium in fighting against the Palestinian intifadha. MP Mukhawal added that if the issue was not considered as it should it would change into a resounding international scandal and make Israel pay the price for those crimes against humanity and must pay damages to the victims because of its use of this internationally banned weapon.



Al-Wahdawi weekly, organ of the Nasserite Unionist Organisation, 11 Nov. 2003

Main headlines:

- JMP meeting
- Explosion in Bani Hushaish area, Sana'a
- Seven persons, victims of fire in an oil tanker
- Yemeni students demand relief of the cultural attaché in India
- 160 Ethiopians violating residency regulations, deported
- Technicians of Taiz University factory continue their strike
- 22 prisoners in Sa'ada released

The newspaper's political editor says in his article says perhaps some have thought that Damascus foreign ministers meeting of Iraq's neighbouring countries held on November 2 was devoted against the American occupation of Iraq and what has

Main headlines

- A YSP leader Abdulqader: No dialogue now between the YSP & GPC
- Islah demands stopping GPC control on official media and use of mosques for political purposes
- American special task forces arrives in Sana'a
- Confirming advanced phase of Yemeni-Saudi security cooperation, Al-Qirbi: Washington asks us more than giving, our security cooperation stems from our national interest
- Walid bin Talal: We have to accelerate effecting political and economic reforms in Saudi
- Saudi embassy refuses to grant 12 thousand Umra visas to Yemenis
- Drug trafficking gang arrested in Aden
- Iraqi resistance escalates attacks on American forces
- Oil marketing department inflicts \$21 million losses on Yemen
- Bush takes religion a pretext for interference to remove regimes in the region
- Riyadh explosions heralds others in Bahrain and Qatar, Saudi accuses al-Qaeda, the toll 20 killed, more than 100 wounded
- Saudi prince Naif: We took all warnings into consideration regarding occurrence of imminent attack
- Health ministry warns against a Chinese medicine causing cancer and kidney disease.
- Replacing Yemeni preachers by Egyptians, inaugurated
- Hizbut-Tahrir holds caliphate conference in Yemen
- Negligence causes death of 18 children in Mahweet
- American authorities intercept post parcels sent from Yemen
- Bush assails despotism of Arab regimes
- Unidentified plane violates Washington's air space
- American demand for halting arms smuggling from Yemen
- Thirty Americans killed in Iraq in ten days
- Islah put itself in the square of no-authority and no-opposition
- Threats of killing some princes of ruling family in Saudi Arabia, American plans for changing ruling regime in it
- Yemen at lowest position in educating girls
- Bush: East's backwardness caused by political failure
- International report: Yemen a crossing for exporting weapons

entailed it of storming and killing and impoverishing of the people of Iraq and dangers of this occupation against the region, especially following the campaign of American accusations of Iraq's neighbouring countries of influx of fedayeen across their borders to support the Iraqi resistance.

Any stance demanding the American occupation to leave Iraq has not been issued by the conference. The conference did not hold the American occupation responsible for what is befalling the Iraqi people and warn it from repeating its aggression on peoples of the region.

Damascus meeting when mentioned the occupation it came via the United Nations to enhance its role and drawing up a timetable for ending the occupation. Thus the Damascus meeting demanded departure of occupation via the United Nations, the body out of which the aggression and occupation came and under the very nose the neighbouring countries that did not protect their neighbour.



Annas weekly, 10 Nov. 2003

Main headlines:

- Saudi embassy refuses to grant visas to 12 thousand Yemenis to perform Umra
- Hizbut-Tahreer holds caliphate conference in Yemen

Muna Safwan says in her article that the qat is destroying the Yemeni society. We have more than 20 million spoiled hours and annually more than two billion dollars are spent on qat while we are suffering from an economic deterioration, in order to overcome it we need doubling production and increasing working hours. The writer says we work less than required and our work is without a real production. The calamitous image of qat is that it is increasingly demanded by the youth and girls, whether students or employees. The Yemenis have known qat for centuries but they did not consume it ravenously as is the case in the latest decades. Nowadays the Yemenis are much busy in chewing the qat and chewing the time and unfortunately we find university professors and opinion leaders and journalists are insisting that chewing qat is for defla-

tion. Some say the qat chewing session changes into an intellectual forum in which high level discussion is held but what results do we reach out of those discussions of which the intellectuals find them as a justification for defending chewing qat? The qat is really and actually the cause of our backwardness, the writer maintains. Yemen would not rise up while it is embracing this satanic hour of qat chewing that taught us laziness. We find that defenders of qat are those who are supposed to be defending the society against it.



Al-Balagh weekly, 11 Nov. 2003

Main headlines:

- Members of local council at Labous district appeal to the president to send a fact-finding committee
- Yemen receives Nabeel al-Heala after five-year imprisonment in Bosnia
- Mahweet sees a number of incidents, security situation deteriorated
- Higher Committee on considering conditions of prisons discusses situations of prisons and prisoners in Mahweet

Ali bin Ali al-Raimi writes an article a slogan quite known in our country and that is "implement and then plan" saying the normal law and dictates of sound reason says there must be planning first and then implementation not the reverse. The indication of that is to seek help of the scientific method in planning and comprehensive study of all aspects the project intended to be executed. When we criticize randomness and non-planning in our life we aim at showing the defect and illness and start treatment and rectify the failure. One of the big government projects that were founded on the basis of implement and then plan is that of electric power. In these projects there was no observation of study and planning beforehand at the time of design and implementation. There was no consideration of people's need of the electric power in industry and other activities and increase of population and rapid growth of cities. The project was implemented without taking into consideration the future.

World Press

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

Egypt

Al-Ahram

On the third day of the Operation Iron Hammer, US aircraft on Friday bombed targets close to Baghdad airport believed to be the hideouts used by the Iraqi resistance.

In return, Iraqi resistance fighters continued to intensify attacks against US troops, killing three soldiers and injuring 13 others Thursday and Friday.

Al-Akhbar

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak is to deliver on Sunday a keynote speech during this year's joint parliamentary session.

His speech is expected to tackle the latest international and regional

developments and Egypt's earnest efforts to bring peace to the Middle East.

Al-Gomhuria

Israeli Foreign Minister Silvan Shalom said on Friday that Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon will meet his Palestinian counterpart Ahmed Qurei within 10 days. But the date of the meeting was not revealed.

Egyptian Mail

Iraqis can expect a faster transfer of power, but the US troops will stay until they have defeated the guerillas who are fighting against the coalition forces, US Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said on Friday.

India

The Times of India:

India's last-minute offer of 7.2 million US dollars for training athletes tilted the scales in its favor as New Delhi won the bid to host the 2010 Commonwealth Games.

Hindustan Times

US President George W. Bush on Thursday announced his intent to nominate a top investment banker and former Treasury Department official as

the next US ambassador to India.

The Hindu

Andhra Pradesh Governor Surjit Sinha Barnala on Friday dissolved the 294-member State Legislative Assembly, 11 months ahead of the completion of its tenure, on the recommendation of the Council of Ministers which wants to seek a fresh mandate on the plank of fighting naxalite violence in the State.

Philippines

The Philippine Star

Four people, including two children, died Friday after being electrocuted by high tension wires, which fell on them as tropical storm "Weng" rampaged through the central Philippines.

Philippine Daily Inquirer

President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo warned Friday that anti-government forces were trying anew to destabilize her administration and undermine the

presidential election in 2004.

The Manila Times

Mark Jimenez, a former congressman who was extradited to the United States last December, was sentenced to more than two years in prison for federal election fraud on Thursday by a court in Miami, Florida. Jimenez, who pleaded guilty to election conspiracy and tax evasion charges, was also ordered to pay 1.2 million US dollars in restitution.

Nigeria

This Day

A new wave of fuel scarcity looms in southwestern Nigeria, as the Independent Marketers of Nigeria on Friday ordered its members to suspend loading in protest against the Petroleum Equalization Fund they are required to pay.

Weekend Vanguard

Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo on Friday at he Supreme Court lost his battle to terminate the petition filed by the opposition All

Nigeria People's Party presidential candidate General Muhammadu Buhair, challenging his victory at the April 19, 2003 presidential polls.

Saturday Punch

Following the 2 million US dollar bounty offered by the United States on exiled former Liberian president Charles Taylor, mercenaries may invade Nigeria soon to capture the ex-warlord and deliver him for trial, former Nigerian foreign minister Bolaji Akinyemi said.

Pakistan

Dawn

Prime Minister Mir Zafarullah Khan Jamali on Friday said he had always discouraged extensions, deputations and contracts, hastily adding that he was only referring to civilians.

The News

Pakistan is making every effort to restore peaceful environment in the region and for this purpose Pakistani leadership sent a message

of goodwill to the Indian leadership, said Information Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmad on Friday.

The Nation

Pakistan said on Friday India still lags far behind in meeting Islamabad's condition for setting up several visa camps in both countries as New Delhi increased diplomatic strength from 47 to 55, yet 55 less than the original strength.

Kenya

Daily Nation

Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki on Friday challenged the armed forces to play an active role in the national economy recovery, saying the rehabilitation of the infrastructure is one of the areas where the country could benefit from the armed force's expertise.

Kenya Times

The Kenyan government has set aside 40 million shillings (about

526,000 US dollars) towards the street rehabilitation program in the country, Deputy Secretary in the Ministry of Local Government Rueben Rotich said Friday.

The People

Leaders of civil society, business and government from across Africa will meet in Kenyan coastal city Mombasa this month to promote homegrown solutions to the continent's problems.

Improve Your English



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I. What to Say Situations and Expressions (57): Tribute to a teacher (V)

The role of teachers is to guide, to stimulate, train young minds and give the children the courage to question, sometimes even given knowledge. Some teachers cast a magic spell on their students by virtue of their inimitable art of teaching. They make learning an enjoyable experience. They lead the learner to the threshold of knowledge and fill his mind with an unquenchable appetite, and insatiable drive to explore the sea of knowledge. The efforts of the teachers are gracefully acknowledged by the learner who feels gratified to have discovered the spring of joy behind the heavy load of books. He waxes eloquent to express his thankfulness to his teacher.

- When I was small I had a teacher wise and tall Lessons she taught were cool So I never missed a day at school Thus we ended up setting a trend Out of everyone at school, She became my best friend. Thanks for being the way you are!
- Dear class teacher! Time can never fade away the lessons you gave me in my school days. Being in your class I learnt the A to Z of so many things; from book to behaviors you taught me to perfection, almost everything Being in your class I gained very rich experience which is worth cherishing. Warm greetings on Teacher's Day.
- To a wonderful Teacher! Your classes were so exciting and your lectures inspiring. My love of knowledge grows each day because you sowed the seeds. I'm truly grateful. You make all students happy, you make learning fun... And that makes you Teacher, a very special one!
- All of us love you Teacher! If every class had a teacher like you to guide them the way you do, the world would be a brighter and happier place. Teacher! you're wonderful.
- For a special teacher who knows the ART of TEACHING and more. Thanks for being 'you'.
- you're the reason I love school. Your classes are fun and enjoyable too. So thanks for all that you do. Dear Teacher! I very much appreciate you.
- You've made learning exciting. You've opened up so many doors of opportunity and broadened my horizons. You've revealed to me a fresh insight, a new approach. Thanks for everything you've done for all of us.
- If every teacher were as nice as you, Every student in the world would like school as much as I do. I'm glad you're my Teacher.
- Learning with you is an enlivening exercise that helps me grasp everything with interest.
- Teacher! You're outstanding, you make learning so much fun. 'Thanks' is only a part of the heart felt gratitude that I feel for an outstanding teacher like you.
- A bag of books is not heavy, Pages of homework is not a pain, For you are always so sweet to me, That I can do all things, with a huge, cheerful smile. Thanks for being so nice.
- For my A-1 Teacher Your classes are never a bore, Your teachings are more fun than That I ever felt before. That's why in my books, you are, Teacher one. You are really the best.
- Teacher, you make our lessons colorful. You're a loving teacher who makes our lessons fun. So here comes this note to thank you for all that you've done. Teacher, you are the best.

Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences.

- I am too glad to see you happy and smiling
- She is too beautiful to attract the attention of a youngman.
- I predicted that all will go wrong without her.
- I respect him as he is my father.
- Make hay when the sun shines.

Suggested answers to last week's questions

- He showed courage worthy of an **elderly man**.
- No fewer than** thirty persons have died of malaria.
- He is the kindest and the **most generous man** I have known.
- I work **more** on Saturdays than on other days.
- Shakespeare is greater than all **other** dramatists of the world.

III. Increase Your Word Power

(A) How to express it in one word

- Government by officials.
- An absolute government.
- Conferred as an honor, for jobs performed without payment.
- Of unknown or unadmitted authorship.
- Allowing the passage of rays of light.

Suggested answers to last week's questions

- Compulsory enlistment for military or other services: **Conscription** (n.)
- A place where young plants are reared: **nursery** (n.)
- The absence of government in a country: **anarchy** (n.)
- A state in which the government is carried on by elected representatives without a monarch: **Republic** (n.)
- Government carried on by an absolute ruler: **dictatorship** (n.)

(B) Foreign phrases and expressions

Give the sources of origin and meanings of the following:
1. Che sara' sara' 2. Cognito, ergo sum 3. coiffeur 4. coup d'etat 5. crime de la crime

Suggested answers to last week's questions

- bonafide** (Lat.): Good faith.
- bon homie** (Fr.): Good nature.
- bon jour** (Fr.): Good day; good morning.
- bon voyage** (Fr.): A happy journey to you.
- boutique** (Fr.): A shop, tradesman's stock.

(C) Words commonly confused

Bring out differences in meaning of the following pairs of words:

- cession, session, cessation 2. physic, physique,
- pair, pare 4. stationary, stationery 5. waist, waste

Suggested answers to last week's questions

- deadly** (adj.) (causing death): Greed is a deadly sin. **deathly** (adj.) (like death) The disease has left him deathly pale.
- rob** (vt) (take somebody's property): He was robbed of his belongings at gun point. **steal** (vt) (take somebody's property secretly and unlawfully): Someone has stolen my purse.
- sickness** (n.) (illness): He was absent in the class because of his sickness. **sickliness** (n.) (falling frequently ill, often being in poor health): His sickliness may cost him his job.
- womanly** (adj.) (suitable or right for a woman): She is liked for her womanly modesty and compassion. **womanish** (adj.) (feeling, behavior of a man like a woman): People snob him for his womanish habits.
- marital** (adj.) (associated with military or war) Marital law was enforced in the country to suppress the revolution. **marshal** (n.) (office of highest rank in the army) He was ranked Field Marshal in view of his brilliant performance in the war.

(D) Phrases and Idioms

Illustrate the meanings of the following phrases in sentences:

- hold to
- intrude upon
- keep back
- look upon
- make over

Suggested answers to last week's questions

- draw over** (win over): The candidate is canvassing to draw over the voters.
- get the better of** (gain advantage over): He got the better of his competitor and secured the contract.
- give out** (proclaim): It was given out that the enemies had been defeated.
- given to** (addicted): My friend is given to smoking.
- go in for** (compete for): Hajer is going in for the international poetry competition.

IV. Grammar and Composition

(A) Grammar:

Choose the best answer.

- My brother has been living in England ___ three years.
A. for B. since C. ago D. during
- Do you have any idea ___ made this statement?
A. whose B. that C. who D. which
- My five-year-old daughter was very ___ when her doll was broken.
A. embarrassed B. insulted S. offended D. upset
- The policeman asked him if he was sure that it was his car that ___ stolen.
A. been B. had C. had been D. has been
- I'm afraid I can't come and see you this evening. I have to stay at home and look ___ my little daughter.
A. after B. at C. in D. for

Suggested answers to last week's questions

- I bought a lovely pair of cheap shoes in **artificial** leather.
- He said he was a doctor but he was a **fake**.
- A lot of material now-a-days consist of **man-made** fibres.
- You are **wrong**, 65 and 75 don't make 155.
- He says he's been working late but I think he's **lying**.
- A **false** accusation was made against him.
- One who steals is a **dishonest** person.
- If someone is finding difficulty in breathing, **artificial** respiration can be given.
- I can no longer tell if what he says is true or **untrue**.
- Imitation** fur is very popular with animal lovers.

(B) Composition: Paragraph writing

Expand the idea contained in the saying

42: BAD WORKMEN BLAME THE TOOLS

Last week's topic.

41: A HUNGRY MAN IS AN ANGRY MAN

Hunger is simply irresistible. Seneca aptly remarks: "A hungry person listens not to reason, nor cares for justice, nor is bent by any prayers." Love, ethics and principles are thrown to the winds by a man with an empty stomach. In Sanskrit there is a saying that there is no sin which a hungry man finds impossible to commit. Pangs of hunger are truly unbearable. A hungry man fails to see reason. He is prone to be impatient, angry and loses all sense of proportion. At the moment of acute hunger his mental equipoise is badly tilted. Any attempt to make him exercise his balance of mind is most likely to meet with utter failure. He is easily provoked and it is not surprising if he crosses all bounds of civility and decency. Therefore, care should be taken at individual and social levels to prevent men be driven to the edge of insanity owing to hunger.

V. Pearls from the Holy Quran

"The Night of Power Is better than A thousand Months."
S97:A3

VI. Words of Wisdom

"Love is life. Everything that I understand I understand only because I love."
— Keiichi Morisata

A tribute to H.E. President Ali Abdullah Saleh in the Jubilee Year of his presidency

A Visionary



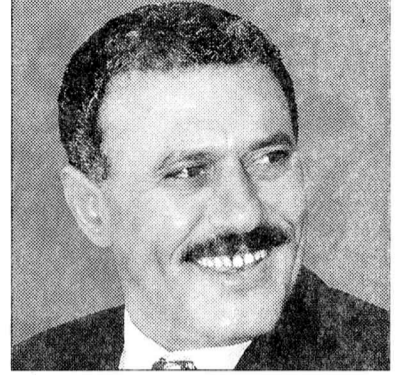
DR. M.N.K. BOSE
(BOSE@y.net.ye)
Associate Professor of English,
Faculty of Arts, Ibb.

Twenty-five years is no small time
To stay above all is no small matter.

Nineteen forty-two saw
A sun being born
To brighten up this backward land.

Nineteen seventy-eight saw
A guiding star to ascend to the presidency
To uplift this nation that was in fragments
Not in soil, but in spirit.

Relentless pursuit of peace and friendship
Dauntless bravery to face tribulations
Tireless efforts to bring the people



together
Effortless ease to turn the neighbours into friends
Endless vision to lead Yemen to prosperity.

Small in stature but great in achievement
You have stood the trials of time.
A visionary of the twenty-first century
You have done the Yemenis proud.

A Report on the talk given by Dr. Mahmudul Hasani at Sana'a University

Modern poetry: The reality and the myth

By **DR. AYID SHARYAN**
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
FACULTY OF EDUCATION
SANA'A UNIVERSITY

On 5 October Dr Mahmudul Hasani, Head of the Department of English, University of Science and Technology, Sana'a, gave a talk on *Twentieth-Century Poetry: An Overview*, at the Department of English, Faculty of Education, Sana'a University. Students from all levels as well as the faculty members were present.

At the outset, Dr Hasani traced the origin of modern poetry. He referred to the last two decades of the 19th century, especially to the major technical innovators like G.M. Hopkins and Thomas Hardy — the semi-Victorian and semi-modern poets. He explained how they influenced other writers like T.S. Eliot and Ezra Pound, leading to the emergence of varied modes and concepts in the 20th Century (e.g. imagism, symbolism, fragmentation, allusions, loss of faith, spiritual bareness, Oxford Group, etc).

He touched upon the Georgian poets that evaded the harsh reality by going to simplicity, instead of facing reality. He illustrated the different modes of modernism and postmodernism by referring to some writers in American and British literature. He quoted lines from poets like T.S. Eliot, W.B. Yeats, W.H. Auden, Amy Lowell, Ezra Pound and so on. He emphasized how modern poetry deals with the harsh reality of modern man unlike the romantic or neo-classical poets. Modern poets, particularly in the first half of the 20th Century, like the metaphysical poets, tend to exhibit their learning and scholarship in their poetry to challenge the reader. If life is complicated, it needs language that is complicated to express this entanglement of modern man. The individual is

caught between personal desires and social obligations that alienate him from others. Modern man is faced with great challenges of ideologies and historical events that include Freud's psychology and Marx's theory of class struggle. These are explicitly or implicitly reflected in modern poetry.

Decadents and war poets as well as wasteland literature are manifestations of disintegration and spiritual collapse. Many things in the periphery are unable to hold to the center any more. To quote W.B. Yeats "Things fall apart; the center cannot hold". Conventional establishments such as family, beliefs, ideologies that used to represent a point of reference are challenged by modern thoughts. Bewilderingly complex demands in the modern age have alienated the individual who runs after mirage.

He concluded his talk by highlighting the causes leading to the obscurity of modern poetry which relate, on the one hand, to the techniques used such as imagism, irregular rhyme, irregular rhythm, no fixed stanza form, no fixed metric unit and, on the other, to its theme such as war, allusions to different cultures, obsession with death, loneliness, loss of faith, wasteland literature, psychological catastrophes, etc.

The illuminating and highly informative talk evoked a lively participation by students who had an opportunity to interact with the speaker as well as with Dr Abraham. Dr Ayid Sharyan, and other staff members in the Department. The event was marked by a stimulating intellectual fervour which was shared by all those who were present on the occasion.



Dr. Mahmudul Hasani

WONDERWORD

by DAVID OUELLET

MILK SHAKES

Solution: 9 letters

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | D | E | T | L | A | M | Y | R | I | A | D | N | E | L | B | L | M | A | G |
| L | A | E | S | O | T | C | U | R | F | L | A | D | E | X | I | M | I | N | T |
| W | O | L | C | Y | K | R | A | D | O | M | A | E | R | C | E | C | I | A | L |
| H | H | O | T | N | T | R | E | C | I | P | E | B | K | L | H | Y | H | N | C |
| I | C | O | C | O | K | S | V | A | N | I | L | L | A | I | F | Y | E | A | O |
| T | S | N | P | M | S | C | A | N | R | O | C | R | L | S | R | N | R | B | C |
| E | R | N | U | E | W | E | A | T | E | E | I | L | I | R | E | O | B | E | K |
| P | S | A | R | L | E | T | E | N | T | P | L | T | E | S | B | M | S | A | T |
| F | E | T | Y | U | E | H | G | Z | S | S | A | B | S | C | O | A | E | T | A |
| R | T | E | S | S | T | N | F | E | I | S | P | O | B | E | I | N | P | A | I |
| E | A | Y | L | U | I | N | G | L | N | S | D | I | G | U | G | N | O | Y | L |
| E | R | G | E | P | C | A | A | R | A | A | C | L | S | L | B | I | W | R | E |
| Z | D | R | L | N | R | R | E | R | C | V | O | H | A | E | H | C | D | R | L |
| E | Y | E | T | E | I | D | O | E | U | B | O | S | O | C | L | R | E | E | B |
| L | H | N | V | C | N | H | D | S | S | A | S | R | A | C | I | P | R | B | U |
| P | O | E | H | E | E | N | C | H | E | P | T | E | O | N | O | P | P | W | O |
| M | B | S | T | S | A | F | K | A | E | R | B | S | K | U | O | L | O | A | D |
| I | R | R | Y | R | A | V | R | K | M | H | C | N | E | U | Q | U | A | R | T |
| S | A | I | G | N | I | V | R | E | S | C | H | E | R | R | Y | I | I | T | T |
| B | C | S | F | R | U | I | T | R | P | N | I | E | T | O | R | P | L | S | E |

HOW TO PLAY: First read the list of words, then look at the puzzle. The words are in all directions — vertically, horizontally, diagonally, backward. Circle each letter of a word found and strike it off the list. The letters are often used more than once, so do not cross them out. It is best to find the big words first. When you find all the words listed in the clues, you'll have a number of letters left over that spell the Wonderword.

CLUES

- | | | | | |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|
| Apple | Cocktail | Fruit | Nice | Size |
| Banana | Cocoa | Glass | Peel | Snack |
| Bartender | Cold | Globs | Perfect | Soda |
| Base | Cool | Grande | Pour | Spiral |
| Beach | Corn | Helping | Powder | Strawberry |
| Beat | Dairy | Herbs | Protein | Sucrose |
| Beverage | Dark | Ice cream | Quart | Sweet |
| Blend | Dessert | Lemon | Quench | Tasty |
| Breakfasts | Digestion | Lick | Raspberry | Trays |
| Bubble | Double | Liquor | Recipe | Tropical |
| Canister | Drink | Lunch | Restaurant | Turns |
| Carbohydrates | Drip | Machine | Rich | Vanilla |
| Carob | Energy | Malted | Satisfying | Vary |
| Cherry | Firm | Maltose | Serving | Whip |
| Chill | Flavor | Meal | Shaker | White |
| Chocolate | Freeze | Mint | Simple | |
| Cinnamon | Fructose | Mixed | Sips | |

ANSWER NEXT WEEK

Last Week's Answer: Kennel

YOUTH FORUM

The Importance of Discipline in life

Discipline is the rule through which people can know and understand our behaviors. It is the rule that teaches us the right way or system that we should follow in our life. Discipline and regulation are two faces of the same coin. We can't achieve regulation without discipline and vice-versa. To continue in this life we must

follow some rules/systems and abide by some traditions/customs to face the realities of life. If one wants to be a good person and be respected by others, one should also respect them first and, to achieve all these things, one should follow certain principles in one's daily dealings with others and begin at first with oneself. Discipline teaches us how to be good students through cul-

tivation of diligent study habits and how to be successful by refining our behavior. Morality, discipline and culture are interrelated. One's behavior is determined by one's personal and social culture. To conclude, one has to do one's best to cautiously follow the canons of self-discipline in order to achieve success in life because there is no life without system or discipline.
BY HAJAR SHIBAM

Fasting in Ramadhan

Fasting in Ramadhan is one of the 'pillars' of the Islamic faith. It was declared an obligatory duty (Fardh) in the second year of the Hijrah upon each and every Mukallaf and breaking it (iftar) isn't permissible except for any of the following reasons:
1. illness.
2. A woman in the final stage of pregnancy and a nursing mother.
3. Travel.
4. 'Haydh' and 'Nifas'.
5. Old people.

'Mufitrat':
1. Eating and drinking.
2. Sexual intercourse.
3. Vomiting.
4. Cupping (hijamah).
5. Seminal emission.
6. Injection invalidates the fast and requires 'Qadha' in opinion of some schools.
7. Inhaling a dense cloud of suspended dust invalidates the fast.
8. Application of 'Kohl' invalidates the fast in the opinion of Malikis.
9. The intention to discontinue the fast.
Prohibited Fasts:

All the schools except the Hanafi concur that fasting on the days of 'Eid al-Fitr' and 'Eid al-Adha's' is prohibited (haram), but in the opinion of Hanafis is 'Makruh' (meaning not 'haram' but harmful to the faith). All the schools concur that it is not valid for a woman to observe a supererogatory fast without her husband's consent if her fast interferes with the fulfillment of any of his rights.
BY Hana'a Ali Saeed Al-Amari
Department of English,
Khawlan College of Education.

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كوبون اسئلة رقم (٢)

للمشاركة إقرأ التفاصيل:
على الراغبين في المشاركة في مسابقة الملايين الكبرى ٢٠٠٤ تعبئة المعلومات الشخصية في الكوبون العرفق وقص الكوبون ومن ثم عليهم ترقيب عدد الخميس القادم للإجابة عن الأسئلة التي وردت في هذا العدد ثم جمع الكوبونين معا وإرسالهما إلى مقر الصحيفة في صنعاء (شارع حده - خلف السفارة الفلسطينية) أو إلى مكاتب الصحيفة في عدن أو تعز أو الحديدة. كما يمكن للمشاركين إرسالها إلى بريد الصحيفة في صنعاء على عنوان (ص.ب. ٢٥٧٩ ، صنعاء).

ستستمر المسابقة لمدة أشهر ويمكن للمشاركة أن يشاركوا بأكثر من كوبون، وستعلن أسماء الفائزين في الصحيفة في وقت سيحدد لاحقا، كما سيتم توزيع الجوائز في خلال أيام من إعلان النتائج. للاستفسار يمكن للمشاركين الاتصال بالصحيفة على (٠١) ٢٦٨٦٦١ في أوقات الدوام. حفا موقفا للجميع....

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التلفون: العنوان: المدينة/ المحافظة:

- ١) في أي مدينة يقع مقر مصانع منتجات يمانى التابعة لمجموعة اخوان ثابت؟
- ٢) هل يمكن لمشتركي سبيستل يمن تصفح الإنترنت عبر هواتفهم؟
- ٣) ما إسم موديل سيارة نيسان المنشور إعلانها في هذا العدد من صحيفة يمن تايمز؟
- ٤) ما إسم شركة CCC بالعربية؟
- ٥) موقع (www.yg-bank.com)
- ٦) شركة ناتكو وكيل لماركة سيارات شهيرة. ما إسم هذه الماركة؟
- ٧) ما عدد المنح التي تقدمها شركة كنيديان
- ٨) في أي تاريخ من شهر نوفمبر ٢٠٠٣ أقامت اليمنية حفل تكريم لوكلائها المميزين؟
- ٩) من هو وكيل سوني في الجمهورية اليمنية؟
- ١٠) في أي شارع يقع المقر الرئيسي لشركة آرتكس؟
- ١١) نكس سنويا؟



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Campbell the hairdresser advises Blair



A hairdresser says he is surprised to receive an email from the prime minister asking for his thoughts on a draft of his speech to the Labour party conference. Prime Minister Tony Blair makes an address at the Sacred Heart School in London, on Thursday. REUTERS

LONDON (Reuters) - A hairdresser says he is surprised to receive an email from the prime minister asking for his thoughts on a draft of his speech to the Labour party conference.

Ronnie Campbell fired off a quick reply to Tony Blair, thinking it was a cutting edge new scheme to bring politics to the people - or a friend having a joke.

"I wrote back, 'Thanks Tony, I've had a quick look and it seems fine. Go ahead,'" he said.

Invitations to dinners and speeches at the House of Commons also started to land in his inbox. But Campbell stopped relishing his new role as a political insider when an email arrived from the Ministry of Defence.

He called the police, who realised Ronnie Campbell The Hairdresser shared a name with Ronnie Campbell The Member of Parliament and their email addresses had been mixed up.

With their email connection cut, Campbell said Blair was welcome to visit his salon, Kutting Krew, if he needed any advice in the future.

"And he could do with a decent hair cut," he added.

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صنعاً - شارع الزبيري (٣٧٥١٠٠) - مركز صنعاء التجاري (١١٨٥٠٤) - عدن - المعلا (١٢٣٣٤١) - المكلا - الدس (٢٠٢٤١٢) - فرع - شارع جمال (٢٤٠٨١٧)

Zubayen Trading & Industry Company شركة زبّين للتجارة والصناعة **ZTCO**

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