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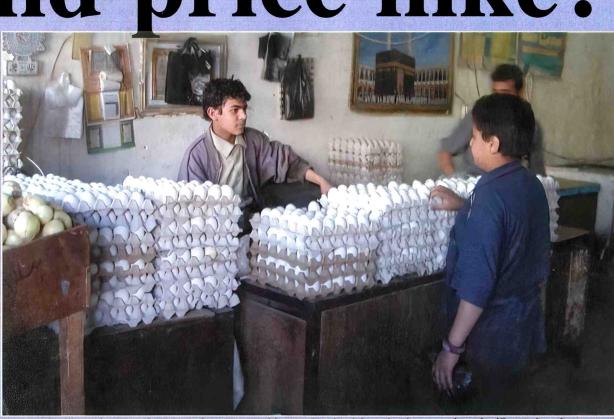
Monday, 19 January 2004 - VOL. XII • Issue No. 704• Price 30 Yemeni Riyals • Founded in 1991 by Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

# **External factors** behind price hike? BY MOHAMMED BIN SALLAM YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Yemeni cabinet has last Tuesday familiarized itself with a special report on the price changes in wheat and flour and some other commodities, which according to the council of ministers, are ascribed to outside factors. The cabinet says the increase in prices are caused by the rise of those commodities prices at the world level, added to that the increase in transportation costs. The council of ministers has also affirmed that the current hikes in prices could be considered as emergency and extraordinary state and that it has entrusted the minister of Industry and Trade to implement the part related to the foodstuffs included in the cabinet resolution No. 69 for the year 2003 for another six months.

The request also included carrying out an inspection campaign to warehouses and preventing any manipulation of monopoly of foodstuffs, especially the commodities of wheat and flour. The council of ministers has given its directives to give priority in the unloading operation at Yemeni ports to basic foodstuffs and also to study reflections of price increase on local commodities.

Continued on page 3



Due to significant increase in eggs prices, many citizens abstained from buying, causing significant drop in eggs sale YT Photo by M. Bin Sallam throughout the country.



# Yemen safer than before but Qaeda threat remains

BY MIRAL FAHMY REUTERS

Yemen appears to have claimed a rare victory against al- Qaeda with help from Washington, analysts and diplomats say. But they warn that militants still pose a threat

in a country where arms are plentiful and sympathy for the al Qaeda network's holy war against the West runs high.

Sana'a, in the cross hairs of the U.S. war on terror since the September 11 attacks, has scored some major successes with the help of military training and funding from Washington. Last year, the authorities arrested Yemen's numbertwo al- Qaeda suspect, Mohammad al-Ahdal.

In November 2002, Yemen turned a blind eye while the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency killed a top leader of al Qaeda - blamed for the attacks on U.S. cities - in an airstrike there.

Sana'a has also rounded up hundreds of militants and launched a massive campaign to disarm a largely tribal population that prizes automatic weapons and grenades. Roads linking cities bristle with army checkpoints, where tribesmen are required to deposit their weapons

before carrying onto their destination.

"The most important thing is that the Yemeni authorities have in one way or another arrested or eliminated the top echelon of al- Qaeda," U.S. ambassador Edmund Hull told Reuters.

"Yemen has moved from reactive measures to proactive measures. It's not 100 percent yet, but Yemen has improved its capabilities and now the challenge is to maintain these efforts."

Western diplomats agree security in Yemen has improved in leaps and bounds since the September 11 attacks.

Continued on page 3

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No democracy, but totalitarian regimes exist in Arab World: Oaddomi

#### D

BY MOHAMMED AL-QADHI YEMEN TIMES STAFF

> Palestinian Authority Foreign Minister, Farooq Qaddomi strongly criticized Arab

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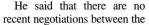
regimes, describing them as totalitarian and dictatorial and said there is no democracy in the Arab countries at all.

Qaddomi told Yemen Times that "democracy in the Arab world does not exist because of the totalitarian political regimes and absolute monarchies." He said democracy does not mean election only and that democracy is practiced in Lebanon and Palestine where people have the Faroog Qaddomi right to express their own views and the newspapers can criticize.

He observed that newspapers in other countries just praise the rulers who are far away even from self-criticism, adding that these countries have nice constitutions but they are not followed and that these regimes are concerned with how they can control the people, mainly through the intelligence offices which are "watching the people rather than the enemies of these countries." He said that the only way to get rid of these dictatorships is not by ousting them by the U.S. like Saddam but through the continuous struggle of the people ,which will of course need time.

He said that his participation in the Inter-Governmental Regional Conference on Democracy, Human Rights and the role of the International Criminal Court which was held in Sana'a during 11-12 January was meant to "convey an actual picture of what is happening

inside the occupied territories and to tell the participants that there is an absence of respect for human rights there." He pointed out that he wanted to convey this situation to the Europeans who are friends of Israel and they ,with the U.S., support it. He demanded that their attitude towards Israel should be changed and support the just cause of the Palestinians, establishing democracy in the Palestinian territories.

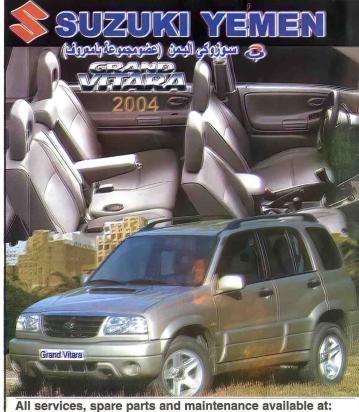


Palestinian Authority and Israeli government as the Israelis, to him, have no credibility. He asserted that resistance will continue. "Our resistance is continuing as we do not trust the Israelis; they have no credibility as they sign agreements and do not fulfill their decisions; they continue their atrocities against the Palestinian people; they kill, arrest and destroy houses on a daily basis. We try to deal with them openly and truly. Unfortunately, they continue their acts of assassinations. Instead of building confidence measures, they build new settlements and finally they started constructing the separation wall," he said. He claimed that the Palestinians accepted the Road Map endorsed by the U.S., EU, UN and Russia but it has been frozen as the Israelis refused to implement it.

Continued on page 3



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## Local News



# Yemen insists it is qualified to join GCC

A Yemeni government official criticized the statement of Emirate's Information Minister Abdullah bin Zayed al-Nahayan who said that Yemen is not qualified to join the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

In a statement to Al-Wahda weekly, a senior official at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said that "Yemen, with its historical heritage, its political strength and its strategic importance to security and stability on the Arabian peninsula and in the GCC countries, is qualified to join."

The official voiced "astonishment" at the Emirati statement, which clearly mentioned that in the short term Yemen was not ready to stand alongside Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates as a member of the GCC that was set up in 1981. "I don't think Yemen could join

after a year or two because it would not be in the interest of Yemen or the said Sheikh GCC countries," Abdullah. "The European Union spent hun-

dreds of millions of dollars to prepare countries like Greece and Spain to join. It took a dozen years for some countries to join." he said

It is worth noting that Yemen has repeatedly sought to enter the club of rich oil countries. In December 2001, GCC leaders

decided in a summit to allow Yemen to join the GCC in areas of health, education, labour and social affairs and participate in the Gulf football cup as part of a gradual integration.

Indeed, Yemen has recently participated in the recent GCC football club and came out in the last spot with only one point from a draw in its team's opening match with Oman.

# **Report reveals scary number of** accidental deaths by small arms

According to a recent report released by the Ministry of Interior, carrying arms and tampering with them during 2003 continued to be one of the most prevalent problems in Yemen, especially as many victims were reported last year because of the misuse or criminal use of weapons. Many of the victims were women and children.

The competent security bodies have observed last year sad incidents due to fiddling with small arms in various parts of the country. In some incidents fathers killed their sons, in others sons killed their mothers and there were incidents where a brother, a friend, and in rare cases a passerby were killed. However, most of the victims are usually close relatives, not to mention retaliatory incidents and the settlement of accounts using violent means

It was also unveiled that the denominator of all these incidents was a result of negligence and fiddling with arms by

Those crimes have covered different

aspects of society where grave crimes

amounted to 11,563, non-grave crimes

amounted to 7,117 whilst the uncov-

ered crimes amounted to 15,536 of the

As for the crimes which are still

under investigation they amounted to

3,144 crimes. Statistical indicators

refer to the deterrence of 2,303 poten-

tial crimes during the year 2003.

Ministry.

same year.

novices and children, and sometimes by experienced adults.

However, the government is still to blame for the disregard of this issue and its dillydallying in issuing a law for the regulation of carrying arms by the people, not to mention the absence of security, fair judiciary and other factors which cannot be mentioned here.

If we review the statistical indicators prepared by the security apparatuses at the Interior Ministry during last year, we shall find that the Capital Mayoralty Jurisdiction came at the top in terms of

## **Activities of Children's** Parliament for 2004 announced The Children's Parliament, which is

crimes perpetration

1 257 incidents

According to those indicators the num-

ber of gunfire related attacks committed

in the capital city has risen to 7,372 form-

ing a percentage of 39.46% of the gener-

al total of all crimes committed in Yemen

during the same year, followed by Aden

governorate which recoded 1,382 crimes

while Ibb Governorate came third with

Al-Mahra Governorate came at the bot-

tom of the list where during the same year

copied out from a regular French practice,

was evolved out of the idea that the avail-

able democratic margin should be utilized

so that children could learn how to prac-

tice their rights to vote by electing whom

they see best fit to represent them. The

project targeted preliminary class stu-

only 75 incidents were recorded.

According to those statistical indicators

Ismail Al-Ghabiri Yemen Times Staff

Plans have been announced to hold the upcoming elections for the Children's Parliament in the Republic of Yemen with a total number of voters amounting to 30,000. The elections are to be held from 28 February 2004 to 27 April 2004 during which children shall register themselves, declare their election programs, and present their candidates.

The first session of the parliament shall be 15 days following announcement of the results

The elections of the Children's Parliament for the year 2004 is supposed to cover all the Republic as per population density and the number of constituencies. The parliament's tenure shall be two years and the allowed number of elected children parliamentarians will be specified.

that they can avoid the impending dan-

## **Insulin medicine absent** from public pharmacies

The Poor and needy Diabetics of Taiz inability to purchase the medicine from have raised complaints to the health the market.

ger on their lives.

The patience had requested from the authorities in the city for the absence of Minister of Health and Population as Insulin medicine, namely Mixtard. Poor patients used to be dispensed well as the International Health Organizations in order to resume the through monthly cards in Taiz before the distribution was delayed and halted, distribution of the medicine for the poor and needy on monthly and regularly so

resulting in the suffering of hundreds of patients, who are under the threat of impending death because of their

## Verdict in favor of deaf-mute society in Taiz

The Chairman of Western Taiz First Instance court has sent a memorandum to Taiz Security Director last week in order to enforce a verdict in favor of a death-mute board, who won their case against a board appointed by the

an illegitimate board to take over the

Society's Headquarters.

cedures.

#### The project started in 2000 by allowing 20,000 children to participate in the election of a parliament constituted of 31 children of both sexes. The first session was held on 27 April 2000. The parliament's most important activities were meeting high-ranking officials, and in the forefront was the President of the

dents.

Republic Disregarding the negativities, the experience was considered successful by many interested people.

## **Readers'** Voice

Yemen Times is reintroducing a popular feature "Readers' Voice" - formerly known as YT **Opinion Poll.** 

This is your opportunity to have a say on world and local affairs.

## This edition's question:

Do you believe that the claim that Yemen is not fit to join the GCC in present is realistic? Yes, and there is no need to be angry Yes, but it should not have been said so bluntly No, Yemen is more or less fit to join the GCC I cannot tell

## last edition's question:

#### What do you expect would the response of the public be to the expected hike in prices?

- No demonstrations and things will 35%
- continue normally Let's wait and see 33%
- Violent demonstrations leading to
- victims 23% Peaceful demonstrations 9%

Go to our website at: yementimes.com/#poll and have your voice heard!

Hadramaut journalists call for release of colleague

Journalists in Hadramaut governorate called for the immediate release of their colleague journalist Mr. Fuwad Rashid last week. The Yemen Journalists Syndicate member was imprisoned based on orders by the prosecution in Al-Manwara jail in Mukalla where he is still detained till date without any charges filed against him. Journalists complained that the authorities disregarded the verdict issued by Al-Mukalla First Instance Court, which refused the prosecution's request to extend the detention of the journalist.

#### According to the protesting journalists, the insistence by the prosecution to keep Rashid in prison is considered a serious precedent and a challenge to the judiciary and an attempt to undermine the justice system in the country.

The syndicate's branch in Hadramawt as well as protesting journalists expressed their solidarity with Rashid, demanded his immediate release and requested from authorities to hold the prosecutors responsible for any consequences of the arrest, indicating that the health of their colleague has already started to deteriorate.

# **Employment Opportunities**

Two full-time positions available with American non-governmental organization in Sana'a

## **Position #1: Education Officer**

The Education Officer administers scholarship programs, conducts local and in-country outreach programs, administers a library and information/reception activities, and offers on-site advising sessions and training workshops.

# Huge losses due to crimes in 2003

Premeditated Murder: Such crimes

In a recent report by the Yemeni Interior Ministry, the crimes committed during the past year 2003 had led to huge human and material losses in which 15,500 people were killed in different areas of the republic, 152 of which were females and the rest were males.

This number of people killed last year was relatively similar to that of 2002 with the difference in the number of the injured as 5,913 were injured in 2003 and that is a little bit more than that of the year 2002 which amounted to 5.680.

With regard to material losses resulted from crimes during past year 2003, their value amounted to more than YR 1.3 billion.

## Crime rate for 2003

The daily rate in crimes committed all over the governorates of the Republic of Yemen during the year 2003 according to statistics by the security competent bodies amounted to 51, whilst the weekly rate during the same year amounted to 359. As for grave crimes the time rate was as fol-

# **Biological safety** introduced

BY ISMAIL AL-GHABIRI YEMEN TIMES STAFF

General Authority for The Protection of the Environment at the Ministry of Water and Environment is planning to organize next Tuesday

are committed in Yemen in the rate of 3 crimes per day, 19 per week and 82 per month.

lows:

Murder Attempts Crimes: They happen at the rate of six per day, 41 per week and 179 per month.

Cars Theft Crimes: The theft of cars takes place at the rate of 2 per day, 14 per week and 63 per month.

House Burglaries: House burglaries take place at the rate of 2 per day, 14 per week and 70 per month.

Banditry Crimes: The weekly rate of banditry is 6 and amount to 27 per month.

In another report by the Yemeni Interior Ministry, it is mentioned that the rate of committed crimes in Yemen is relatively constant and that uncovering such crimes has risen significantly in the year 2003.

The report also mentioned that crimes committed during the year 2003 amounted to 18,680 crimes all over the Republic and that is according to statistics prepared by the competent bodies in the Yemeni Interior

Ministry of Social Affairs.

It is worth mentioning that "The Ambition Society for Care and Protection of the Deaf-mutes" through its legitimate board has filed a case against the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor Bureau in Taiz for enabling

The verdict was duly legalized by

the supreme court in their favor, fol-

lowing another verdict by the same

court legalized by the court of Appeal

and ordering the Ministry of Social

Affairs and Labor Bureau in Taiz to pay YR 200,000 and annul all the

already implemented illegitimate pro-

January 20, 2004 an Informational Introductory Workshop and Carthaginian Protocol on Biological Safety.

The working papers to be presented in the workshop will touch upon the biological diversity in the Republic

Carthagena Protocol as well as the impact of genetic engineering on the agricultural diversity in Yemen will also be tackled

and the concepts of biological technol-

ogy as well as the legal organization of

Biological Safety in addition to a pré-

cis about the National Program for

Biological Safety and the Role of

Media in Environmental Public

Awareness. The presentation of the

The Workshop shall bring together a number of specialists in the domain of biological diversity and the media.

## **Course on security** measures at seaports

BY RIDWAN AL-SAQQAF YT ADEN BUREAU CHIEF

A Training Course shall be held on Monday 19 January 2004 at the Yemeni Ports Authority Naval Training Center in Aden devoted to organization of security measures at Yemeni seaports and ships.

The course is attended by 45 participants from the various seaports of Aden, Mukalla, Aden Refinery, Coast Guard and the Navy Force.

Mr. Mayad Saeed Al-Yafie, the course coordinator says that the purpose of this course is to raise the level of security capabilities working at the seaports and also to train the participants on the latest ways used for organizing security measures for seaports and ships.

He indicated also that Hudson Trident, a pioneering International Company in security qualifying of international seaports would also inspect the security preparedness at the Yemeni seaports, affirming that this

course comes as part of the security measures being carried out by the Yemeni Government to qualify Yemeni seaports in implementation of the ISPS Code issued by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) of which Yemen is a member. The ISPS Code shall be obligatory in all seaports worldwide as of next July 2004 and hence Yemen is counted amongst the first in the region in starting to qualify its seaports in application of the IMO resolutions. He has further added that this course shall be contributing to develop performance level of all the participants, hoping that this shall contribute also to persuade Insurance Companies to end the war risks premiums and return them to Zero.

It is also meant that other bodies can benefit from this course, including the participants from the Coast Guard, The Maritime Police, The Navy Force, in addition to Yemeni Seaports Authority underlings working in Aden, the Aden Refinery Company and Mukalla Seaport.

**<u>Al-Saeed Foundation For</u>** Sciences and Culture Showki A. Hayel supports the **Documentation of Cultural Heritage** 

In a statement to Yemen Times, Mr. Faisal Saeed Farie, the General Manager of the Al-Saeed Foundation for Sciences and Culture in Taiz affirmed that prominent figure and active Taiz-based businessman Mr. Showki Ahmed Hayel Saeed has supported the Oral and Material Documentation of Cultural Heritage project, facilitating the implementation of the project by the foundation.

Mr. Faisal added that the project is of great importance for preserving the heritage of the country, and that the assistance of Mr. Showki has played a significance role in this respect.

The project is being implemented within the framework of the Program of Al-Saeed Foundation for Sciences and Culture for the year 2004 and is currently occupying a crucial status amongst many other activities sponsored by the Foundation.

Qualifications for the Education Officer include the ability to travel throughout the country; the ability to work with men and women from high school age to the senior university level; strong English/Arabic skills; and familiarity with common computer applications (Word, Outlook, PowerPoint, Access). The officer must have also studied at the university level in North America.

## **Position #2: Testing and Language Officer**

The Testing and Language Officer provides testing information to the public; markets examinations and related preparation programs and services including test preparation resources; and monitors testing administration. In addition the officer administers English language programs for young learners and testing registrants.

Experience with the TOEFL® exam is required as is experience with young learners. Other qualifications include the ability to travel in Sana'a, marketing skills, the ability to work with different groups of people from young students to professionals, strong English/Arabic skills, and familiarity with common computer applications (Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint, Access).

All interested applicants must submit the following: a resume with salary history, a cover letter indicating the position being applied for; and two letters of recommendation in English (official translations acceptable). A TOEFL score report is optional; however, language certificates or other materials should <u>not</u> be submitted. Please deliver materials by fax, in person, or by email to:

## AMIDEAST, Algiers Street #66, P.O. Box 15508, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen. Fax: 206-222. E-mail: yemen@amideast.org attn: Human Resources Director.

These positions are open to all qualified applicants. Applications that do not meet specified criteria will not be considered. Applications are due Monday at 5 P.M., February 9, 2004. NO inquiries accepted; finalists will be contacted directly for interviews.

## Community

# **GWCC's Skills Development Program Training for human rights**

BY FAHMIA AL-FOTIH FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

irls World Communication Center (GWCC) is using Endowment support to train 40 female activists in the promotion of human rights in Yemen with extended educational program that will give them skills in computer, internet, human rights training and networking. Thus, under the auspice of Human Rights Ministry, GWCC with the cooperation of NED (National Endowment for Democracy) and UNIFEM organized at the Media Center on Thursday 15 January the opening ceremony for Human Rights Skills Development Program.

Amat AL-Aleem AL-Sosowa. Minister of Human Rights, attended the ceremony along with host number represents various organizations and human rights activists. Al-Soswa delivered speech in which she thanked GWCC and its administration and expressed her happiness about the activities that GWCC has been adopting particularly the Youth Leader Program "Human rights become one of the important aspects that we have to concentrate on. The person has to know his own rights. So it comes the necessity of training the human rights employees and trying to make it tangi-

She further said, "We in human right ministry have a plan also to train our employees. We also seek to make human rights a main subject taught in schools and universities'

She finally wished all the best and success for GWCC and trainees and to come with fruitful results in future.

Ms. Gabool AL-Mautawakel, GWCC managing Director, said " Adopting the saying 'Don't give me the fish, teach me how to fish' Girls World Communication Center was established by voluntary and individual efforts that aimed to achieve three main goals namely: to train and qualify the Yemeni girls to enable them to work and depend on themselves, in order to help them improve their economic and social status

Besides, to upgrade women's participation in developing the societies as well as to introduce more opportunities for the underprivileged girls.

She added "We are so keen to deliver important messages that reflect strongly to our society, through the language. We focus at the present on three topics; health, water and environment and human rights that was recently added to our agenda. Through the five years we have been working, we have realized that a nation can never be developed as long as its rights are violated. The people cannot do anything, as they are not aware of these rights and the means by which these rights can be demanded. If want to reach the high principle of humanity as dignity, justice and freedom, then we should get the knowledge. With all the challenges we face in the globalization, we have to communicate with the other worlds, not only to learn but to interact and influence them too." She further said "Skills Development Program, the program that gathered us



Ms. Amat Al-Aleem Sosowa chairs panel of GWCC program

today aims to provide trainees with two kinds of knowledge. First to let trainees acquire the communication skills to enlarge and exchange the information and knowledge. Second to know skills in the form workshop courses about human rights which will last a year."

She concluded "I'd like to assure that working on human rights field is an obligation from Almighty to all the people and it is not he responsibility of only the human right ministry and the organizations working on that field"

Mr. Shawki AL-Qadhi, the wellknown parliamentary member and one of the trainers, said " I am honored by being one of the trainers. This program comes to provide the dire need of the human rights activists. The trainees are provided with English language, computer and Internet through which have essay access to the glob and exchange information with others around the world. We nowadays witness a number of organizations work on the field of human rights and we ask them to work well and play their roles as it should be

to have our support." Ms. Aisha Al-haimi, delivered speech on behalf of the trainees, " The process of choosing the female trainees was highly successful since there were honesty and justice in choosing them. All trainees highly appreciate this opportunity to gain experience in the field of human rights. Looking through the training scheme we see that it provides us with a magnificent overview about the

nature of this program and its aims.' She further said, "After finishing this program we will be most grateful to GWCC and to the highly qualified trainers, like Dr. Mohammed Al-Mutwakel and Mr. Shawki Al-Qadhi and all the other teachers who have lightened our way and provided us with a great deal of information related to human rights."

It is worthy mentioning that upon the completion of the project, GWCC will organize a monthly round-table meeting as a forum for course graduates to share their experience, coordinate human rights initiatives, and develop civic networking

Continued from page 1 Price rise's causes external: cabinet

Role of grain silos in price hike

Moreover the ministry of communications has been asked to present a comprehensive report on conditions of the sea ports quays and storing capacity of companies working in grains silos, along with emphasizing on opening the way for investment in this field at al-Mukalla port and to expand this area more and more before investors with the aim of creating competition in the trade of foodstuffs and preventing monopoly operations.

The council of ministers also stressed on the operation of collecting duties pertaining to dual transportation of food commodities by all sides as well as respecting regulations and laws related to this matter provided that those violating those rules should be subject to accountability immediately.

**Public surprised** 

Various society segments interviewed by Yemen Times have expressed their surprise and shock to the government's statements on the price rise and their attribution to external factors, reminding the government that vegetables and fruits could not be affected by such foreign factors. Other commodities have also had their prices rise at rates ranging between 50 to 70% including eggs. whose prices jumped to 200% its original price

By excluding wheat, flour, rice, sugar, milk and other food commodities, observers say that the situation in its present state calls for resentment and worry especially on part of civil and military employees, workers and those of limited incomes whose incomes have not witnessed any improvement.

Fear about possible rise in fuel prices

On he other hand a reliable economic source mentioned that the government is intended to raise prices of oil products in the coming few days in response to demand by the World Bank in a bid to tackle dangerous economic congestion. The source also told the media that the rate of price rise would exceed 100% for the diesel, to be 40 rials per liter and the refined benzene price would be 50 rials per liter. The source quoted the World Bank as mentioning that realization of a rapid and sustainable economic growth is a necessary question for alleviation of poverty but would be a great challenge requiring effecting of courageous changes in the general environment of businesses activity, structure of good

rule and elimination of growth hin drances

Yemeni economists have warned that an increase in diesel and other oil products prices the government intends to introduce the beginning of the second half of this year, would create a real disaster in Yemen. Once more, rise in prices would make the citizen unable to bear new expenses and would result in doubling the percentage of the poor and needy in Yemen.

Observers believe that this state would also increase the volume of unemployment and may lead to a declared resentment among the society's segments and may even have seri ous consequences on the social, economic and political stability in the coun

mentality," he said.





## Vacancy Announcement

A multi national oil field chemical Co. plans to recruit two Yemeni nationals ambitious to work as chemical engineers at oil fields on a rotational basis.

## **Qualifications:**

- 1. University degree in chemical engineering or chemistry.
- 2. Fluent English and Arabic languages both verbal and writing.
- 3. Good computer skills, Microsoft office (Word, excel), Internet...etc.

## **Experience**:

Thorough experience in oil field

## What do they get :

- Good career prospects.
- Extensive training in oil field chemistry.
- **Opportunities to travel.**

Interested and eligible applicants can deliver their applications and detailed CV's in English to P.O. Box: 19202, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen

Yemen safer than before but Qaeda threat remains

The last major attack in Yemen was the bombing of the French supertanker Limburg in 2002, which occurred two vears after al- Qaeda suspects killed 17 American sailors in a suicide attack on the U.S. destroyer Cole.

Last year passed without incident. despite fears of a surge in violence due to the U.S -led war on Irag, and officials

leader Osama bin Laden is of Yemeni descent.

Some clerics still preach hatred for the United States and the West and almost every male who lives outside the capital Sana'a bears arms

"Weapons remain a big problem, as you can easily buy anything from surface-to-air missiles to hand grenades and walk around with them here," an Arab diplomat said. Yemen's proximity to bin Laden's birthplace Saudi Arabia, which is battling a surge of al- Qaeda attacks, also makes it difficult to stem the stream of funds and extremist ideology from the kingdom, analysts said. "Saudi Arabia remains a model for Yemeni militants and they receive a lot of funding from there," said one Western

diplomat. "Many of these militants are a product of the Saudi education system, which breeds extremism.

Yemen and Saudi Arabia have in the last year tightened security at their border a traditional route for militants, their money and weapons. Officials say security cooperation has improved but privately concede the border is too long and porous to patrol properly.

pects, they agree that Hitar has probably succeeded in preventing low-level militant attacks.

But Hitar himself said the programme, launched in 2002, will have little effect on die-hard bin Laden supporters. "So fai we've had a positive experience, but the problem is those with the al- Qaeda

are patting themselves on the back.

"Yemen has done a lot to restore security and stability and we have expended a lot of effort in counter-terrorism," Foreign Minister Abubakr al-Qirbi told Reuters.

### Saudi influence

Security experts, however, say Yemen remains a place that al- Qaeda operatives see as home - the network's

Trying to fight militancy at its roots, Yemen has appointed a leading judge to correct fanatic beliefs through a better understanding of the Koran and Islam. Judge Hamood al-Hitar heads a com-

mittee dedicated to holding dialogues with detained militants to "reform" their thoughts.

While some diplomats criticize Yemen for indiscriminately rounding up sus-

Yemen may be safer today than a few years ago, analysts say, but in the minds of many people it remains a place where tribesmen kidnap foreigners and Islamist fundamentalists slay missionaries and Western employees.

Yemen has go to do more to be seen as less of a threat," said a Yemeni official who declined to be named. "Things are better, but they certainly are not excellent.

## No democracy but totalitarian regimes exist in Arab World: Qaddomi

He indicated that the U.S. instead of curbing such practices of the Israelis, it is extending its assistance, as it recently provided Israel with around \$USD 8 billion.

Concerning on the recent initiative made by Israel to resume negotiations with Syria, Qaddomi said that Israel is not serious about this as they want the negotiations to start from zero or first square. "This initiative is meant to cheat the public oninion as the Israelis want to show they are ready for peace. If they are ready, why are they building new settlements at Golan Heights and continue to threaten Syria?" he observed.

He confirmed that Syria is not at all in a fix but he said the Syrians are facing difficulties because of the Iraqi resistance against the U.S. occupation which, to him, is refused by the Iragi people who want the U.S. to leave their country as soon as possible so that they can run elections and elect their own rulers. He said the U.S. is sending warnings to Syria to stop the infiltration of resistance militants from Syria to Iraq which, to him, is already not permitted by the Syrian government and that the Iraqi resistance has nothing to do with the strangers claimed to be infiltrated from Syria. He expressed his full support for such resistance and fighting against the occupying forces in Iraq. When I asked him if there is a possibility for some other

Arab rulers to face the same end of Saddam Hussein, he dismissed the idea by saying "at this specific time, I do not think so, as the U.S. was blamed by the

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international community when attacking Irad, putting itself as the policeman of the world. What they have done is contrary to what they have claimed to do; they occu-

pied Iraq and did not combat terrorism. The same thing took place in Afghanistan. The main purpose of their occupation is to control oil producing countries.

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## Community

# Aptech promotes computer education

By Yasser Al-Mayassi Yemen Times Staff

YEMEN

n a remarkable initiative representing the private sector contribution to human resources development, Group of (Aptech-Yemen based institutes) supported the celebration of computer education promotion at the stadium of IT & Telecom. Technology City attended by Minister of Telecom. & IT, Minister of Culture & Tourism, Minister of Technical Education and Vocational Training and Staff Col./ Mohammed Abdullah Saleh in addition to a host of IT & Computer Education in Yemen fans.

During the gathering, Mr. Khalil Al-Jabel- General Manager of Al-Jabel IT Company -for (Aptech-Yemen based institutes) stressed in his address that (Aptech-Yemen based institutes) have been contributing within the last four years in providing specialized quality education in the field of computer cleared the room for the youth to exploit their abilities and rehabilitated them towards the overall development in Yemen and according to the update requirements in IT market.

Eng./ Abdul Melik Al-Mualimi – Minister of Telecomm. & IT – highly appreciated in his word and highlighted the contribution of the civil society organizations and public sector in serving the developments objectives . Meanwhile, he extended his great acknowledgement to Al-Dali Center for Development, which organized this celebration and Group of (Aptech-Yemen based institutes )for their support in this activity.

He further emphasized that the number of Internet subscribers in Yemen has



Mr. Khalil Al-Jabel- General Manager of Al-Jabel IT Company

reached up to September 27th thirty five, two hundred . Mr. Al-Mualimi stated that the Ministry is currently finalizing the formalities of the project of the President of the Republic for circulation of computer education . Simultaneously, equipment are being furnished for establishing a computer-assembly plant in Yemen as the abilities are secured –according to the Minister- and it is going to be inaugurated during next July.

The Minister of Culture & Tourism , in his turn , demonstrated that Yemen is characterized from other countries in the region with two merits:

Abundance of Internet cafes & shops in Yemen streets plus telecom. Centers with lowers prices compared with other Arab countries-According to the Minister of Telecom. & IT.

On his part, Mr. Abdul Salam Al-Dali – Principal of Al-Dali Center for Development, outlined that the juncture of his center and group of Aptech institutes efforts with those of the ministry of Telecom. Is deemed a practical parameter of the attention in eradication of computer illiteracy in the circles of public servants and among Yemeni community. He also added that the Ministry initiatives have become incentive in the training process considering that the first supporter thereto is the project of the President of the Republic for circulation of computer education in that a citizen could receive a computer set by installment.

Mr. Al-Dali added that according to a field survey conducted by the center on computer training for the public servants showed that more than (77%) of them is computer illiterate and they are waiting for a chance to join computer training courses.

The promotion celebration for computer education had been held in the conclusion of planning training workshop organized by Al-Dali Center for Development supported and contributed by Group of (Aptech-Yemen institutes ) and sponsored by Eng. Abdul Melik Al-Mualimi – Minister of Telecom. & IT, attended by the majority of those in charge of training, development of human resources during tenure in different public institutions in addition to some training –related authorities.

The workshop targeted developing and cultivating the participants abilities in realizing the dimensions of training process, analyzing the training needs as well as evaluating offers, training authorities and implementing the training programs for computer education. In this regard, Dr. Mohammed Al-Sa'di submitted a paper on methodology of training planning . In his turn, the Indian expert, Dr. Rajaram elaborated on the training methods matching with the accelerant development in IT and the strategy of the training process based on future perspectives for different technological trends to which we would have an access within three years. The last paper in the workshop was presented by Mr. Mustafa Al-Barakani- Aptech Manager of Sana'a branch on :

Mode of Integral Planning for Carrying out Computer Education Course . The program of the workshop also included the discussions whose favorable effect became clear in exchange of views and experiences and reflected the reaction and interest of participants in this workshop.

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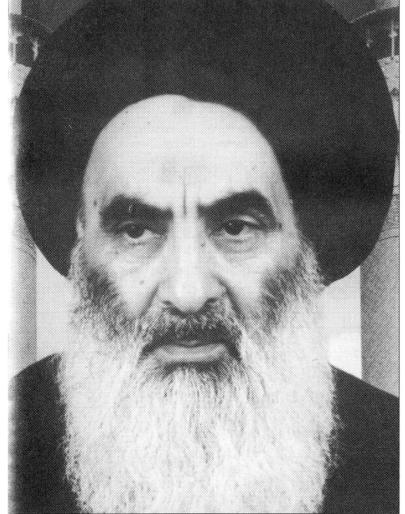
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## **Arab/Middle East**

# U.S. may shift Iraq handover plans to appease cleric

17 (Reuters) - The United States is willing to adjust plans for handing over power in Iraq to appease the country's top Shi'ite cleric but, officials said, is unlikely to meet his key demand for

WASHINGTON/BAGHDAD, Jan elections this year. The U.S. governor of Iraq, Paul Bremer, announced the shift after talks with President George W. Bush on Friday but stressed that the June 30 deadline for transferring power to an Iraqi government would not be



Undated file photo of Iraq's most revered Shi'ite cleric, Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, who has refused to support the U.S. plan for regional caucuses to select a transitional assembly that will pick an interim government for sovereignty by July and demandeddirect elections. Iraq's U.S. Governor Paul Bremer consulted with President Bush on Friday as the United States acted to smooth over a dispute with Iraq's top Shi'ite Muslim cleric on Friday, saying it was willing to make changes to its plan to hand political power to Iraqis REUTERS

A team of Japanese soldiers on their way to Iraq, Tokyo's most controversial military deployment since World War Two, landed in Kuwait on Saturday and are expected to move into Iraq next week.

"We are making history today. It is the first time that we have Japanese troops going into a combat zone since World War Two," U.S. forces spokesman Captain Randall Baucom told reporters after the Japanese troops' plane arrived in Kuwait.

Bremer expressed "doubts" about Shi'ite demands for direct elections before the transfer of power, but added: "These are questions that, obviously, need to be looked at."

He said Washington may alter the way a transitional Iraqi assembly is selected and make other "clarifications", but gave few details.

Bremer's comments are unlikely to impress Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, one of the most revered men in Iraq, who has demanded that the transitional assembly be elected, instead of being chosen by regional caucuses under current U.S. plans

Aides have said he could issue a fatwa, or edict, banning his followers from cooperating with the U.S. authority in Iraq if his demands were not met.

Shi'ite Muslims are a majority in Iraq and any such move would be a huge setback for Washington, which is battling Saddam Hussein loyalists in areas dominated by his minority Sunni sect.

'We're intending to stick to the timeline that we've laid out" - for the transfer of power on June 30 and direct elections in 2005, Bremer told reporters. **OPEN TO CHANGES** 

But senior administration officials said they were open to changes - within that timeline - to address Iraqi concerns. "We are willing to discuss refinements or improvements," White House spokesman Scott McClellan said.

Bremer added "We are prepared to see clarifications in the process, ... the ways in which the selection of the transitional assembly is carried forward."

That appeared to indicate changes in the way the caucuses are chosen, rather holding elections, which than Washington has said is difficult because of the lack of a census and electoral laws

Bremer will meet U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan on Monday and is expected to press him to send a U.N. team to Iraq to convince Shi'ites that direct elections are not feasible or suggest a workable compromise.

"We have doubts — as does the secretary-general - that elections can in fact be called in the time frame of the return of sovereignty to the Iraqi people on June 30," Bremer said.

Annan withdrew all international staff from Iraq in October after attacks on relief workers and the bombing of the U.N. headquarters in Baghdad on August 19 that killed 22 people, including the mission chief, Sergio Vieira de Mello.

But Annan, who will also meet representatives from Iraq's U.S.-appointed governing council on Monday, has also wanted the U.N. role in Iraq clarified, clearly wanting to avoid merely rubberstamping U.S. policy.

Sistani, a reclusive cleric who lives in the Shi'ite holy city of Najaf south of Baghdad, has refused to meet any U.S. official to discuss the transfer of power. He has met members of the governing council, but has not budged from his demand for elections.

On Friday, as he met tribal chiefs to discuss his opposition to the U.S. plan, his followers expressed support for his demands after weekly prayers at the gold tombed shrine to Imam Ali, the most revered figure in the Shi'ite sect.

"It's natural to have a Shi'ite government because we are the majority," said Turk Abbas, an elderly blanket seller.

Shi'ites, who make up about 15 percent of the world's one billion Muslims, have not been in power in an Arab nation for over 800 years.

Saddam sidelined Shi'ites, and cracked down brutally on an uprising in the Shi'ite heartland of South Iraq after the 1991 Gulf War.

# **Bomb kills** three US soldiers, two Iraqis



Iraqis view a bomb crater on a rural road north of Baghdad, nearthe town of Taji, after a fatal blast destroyed a U.S. Army Bradley fighting vehicle January 17. In the attack, a huge roadside bomb near the town of Taji, 30 km (19 miles) north of Baghdad, set a Bradley armored vehicle on fire and killed five inside, said Lieutenant Colonel William Macdonald of the U.S. Army's4th Infantry REUTERS Division.

TIKRIT, Iraq, Jan 17 (Reuters) -Three U.S. soldiers and two Iraqi civil defence officials were killed on Saturday in a bomb attack on their patrol north of Baghdad, the U.S. military said.

Colonel William Lieutenant Macdonald of the 4th Infantry division said a Bradley armoured vehicle was hit by a roadside bomb near the town of Taji, 30 km (19 miles) north of Baghdad.

Five people, including three U.S. soldiers and two Iraqi civil defence officials, were killed and two soldiers were wounded, he said.

CNN had earlier reported that all five dead were U.S. soldiers.

Macdonald said three Iraqi men travelling in a truck in the area were arrested after troops found bomb-making material in their vehicle.

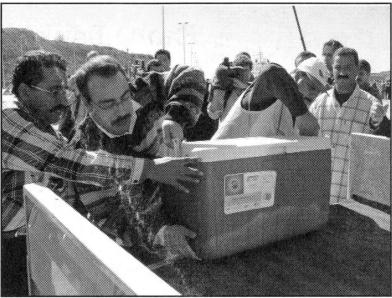
The Bradley, with its caterpillar tracks and swivelling gun barrel, resembles a small tank, suggesting the bomb was very powerful. Previous attacks on U.S. convoys have tended to cause casualties aboard lighter vehicles like trucks and Humvee four-seater cars.

The deaths within the "Sunni triangle" north and west of Baghdad, where resistance to U.S. forces has been fiercest, take the number of U.S. soldiers killed in Iraq since the war began to 499, including 153 killed in accidents.

## "Black box" from Red Sea crash site heads to Cairo

SHARM EL-SHEIKH. Egypt/PARIS, Jan 17 (Reuters) - A French salvage team gave Egypt on Saturday the data recorder from a Boeing 737 that crashed into the Red Sea killing 148 people, and Egyptian officials said it was going to

Cairo for analysis. The office of French Prime Minister



VACANCY

The office of the UN refugee agency in Yemen invite applications for the post of

**ASSOCIATE COMMUNITY SERVICES OFFICER** (In UNHCR Aden)

## DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Provide individual counseling to refugees needing such assistance.

Jean-Pierre Raffarin said the salvage team had also located the second "black box", which records cockpit conversations, and was trying to retrieve it from the bottom of the Red Sea.

Search and rescue experts detected a weak signal from the second flight recorder four days after the plane, carrying 133 French tourists and 15 other people, plunged into the sea minutes after take-off from Sharm el-Sheikh on January 3.

But so far they have not been able to retrieve it from the sea bed with their submersible robots.

In Cairo, Egyptian Civil Aviation Minister Ahmed Mohamed Shafiq Zaki told reporters that Egypt had the technical means to download and analyse the data from the flight recorder, while personnel from the U.S. plane manufacturer Boeing would take part in the investigation as observers.

If the Egyptians need any help from France, they will ask for it "without embarrassment", the minister added.

Egypt has asserted its sovereign right to take the lead in the investigation and has defended its air safety record against allegations that Switzerland banned the operating company, Flash Airlines, from its air space because of safety violations.

Zaki said: "If it turns out there was a flaw in the plane, we will announce that straight away without any embarrassment.'

#### Laboratory analysis

He said that the Swiss ambassador in Cairo had admitted to him that a Swiss official made a mistake when she told reporters that Switzerland had taken steps against the airline.

Egyptian officials put the Black box of the plane that crashedoff the coast of the Egyptian Red sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikhon a pickup truck January 17, 2004. The Black box was recovered in a joint operation between the French and Egyptian Navy experts. The Egyptian Boeing 737 crashed into the sea on January 3 killing all 148 people on board, 133 of whom were French tourists. REUTERS

The ambassador, Raimund Kunz, told Reuters he had told the minister that he personally felt that it was "not the best moment" to make such a statement so soon after the crash.

"But I could not admit that the Swiss authorities made a mistake," the ambassador added.

Shaker Qilada, the head of the Egyptian inquiry into the crash, took possession of the first recorder at the commercial port of Sharm el-Sheikh after the French navy-led search team retrieved it late on Friday night.

The "black box", still wet, was in fact orange with the words "flight recorder. do not open" written on its side.

'The box will now be moved to Cairo in a private plane. It will be taken to the laboratories of the civil aviation ministry where it will be analysed," Qilada told reporters at the port.

Qilada had said before the pinpointing of the second box that its evidence would be very valuable.

"If we find the second box we will get a much better picture of what happened," he said.

The first box lay at a depth of about 1,000 metres (3,000 ft), said the head of the Egyptian navy in Sharm el-Sheikh, Tareq el-Gamal.

The French navy said the second box lay at around 800 metres. The team used a remotely controlled robot on loan from France Telecom to retrieve the flight recorders and have been working 24 hours a day since Tuesday with the robot.

France has vowed to do all it can to find out why the plane crashed. The French Navy says it has contracted another robot, expected to arrive on Saturday, which can dive to a depth of 1,000 metres.

France says there is no reason to suspect an attack and gives little credence to a previously unknown Islamic group's claim to have brought down the plane shortly after take-off.

- 2. Organize together with the implementing partners programs for groups of refuges needing special care s well as children's activties.
- 3. Identify local resources for meeting the need of the refugees.
- Identify training needs for implementing partner's staff, identify local resources to 4. meet these needs through training needs and organize training program for staff.
- 5. Assist the refuge community to identify its own needs and establish priorities to meet these needs through development self-help group.
- Prepared monthly report on needs identified, activities conducted and services 6. rendered as well as plans for the future.
- 7. Brief protection in field office on psycho/Social needs of refugees and work closely in collaboration with the protection officers on issues pertaining to refugees particularly in regard to refugee women.
- 8. Develop income-generating activities and support other efforts at self- help among the community of refugees.
- 9. May be required for t supervise and coordinate the work of lower level staff.
- 10. Perform other duties as required.

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- 4. Excellent command of English and Arabic (written and Oral).

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## Asia/Africa



# Vietnam deaths from bird flu up by one to four

HANOI, Jan 17 (Reuters) - The number of Vietnam's confirmed bird flu deaths has risen by one to four, the World Health Organisation said, while a hospital in the country's south said on Saturday it had two very sick patients with bird flu symptoms.

The U.N. health agency, which is helping Vietnam battle the fast-spreading disease, said a five-year-old boy, from Nam Dinh province, died on January 8 from bird flu. Nam Dinh is about 100 km (60 miles) south of the capital, Hanoi.

"WHO now counts four confirmed cases of H5N1 in Vietnam," the agency said in a statement issued late on Friday.

Five children remain hospitalised in Hanoi as suspected avian flu cases, but only one is very sick, Peter Horby, WHO epidemiologist, told Reuters Television in an interview.

He said another seven adults suspected of having bird flu were being treated at Hanoi's Bach Mai hospital, but added it was difficult to assess the number of cases as the disease had symptoms similar to other ailments.

"It's not easy to distinguish it from any other severe respiratory disease," Horby said.

South Korea, Japan and Taiwan have also reported outbreaks of bird flu but Vietnam has been the hardest hit.

The cases have raised fears of a new deadly epidemic sweeping out of the region that saw an outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome spread around the world last year and kill about 800 people.

All of Vietnam's confirmed cases, plus eight other human flu deaths under investigation, were from the north. But a hospital in the southern province of Kien Giang said it was treating a woman and man, both in their twenties, for serious influenza infection with symptoms similar to the avian flu victims.

Vietnam has reported 18 suspected cases of bird flu in humans with 12



A Vietnamese woman waits for customers for her chickens at a market in Hanoi January 17. The World Health Organisation has raised the number of Vietnam's confirmed bird flu deaths by one to four, while a hospital in the south said it was treating two adults who were showing symptoms similar to confirmed cases. REUTERS

deaths suspected of being linked to it.

The type of avian flu virus that caused the four confirmed bird flu s deaths is similar to a variant that struck c Hong Kong in 1997, killing six people. s But the WHO said it had found no evidence of human-to-human transmission of the H5N1 virus.

There had been an increase in respiratory cases in Hanoi's hospitals but they had not been proven to be bird flu, the WHO said.

### Culls, ban

The virus emerged just ahead of the country's biggest celebration, Tet or the Lunar New Year which kicks off January 21 and usually features chicken

as a major dish.

The flu has resulted in the death or slaughter of more than two million chickens in Vietnam and bans on the sale of poultry in its biggest city, Ho Chi Minh City. Two other provinces near the city have also banned trade in fowl.

A check of several Ho Chi Minh City markets that would normally be teeming with chicken traders and shoppers found no signs of poultry on Saturday. "There's no business with the ban on

selling chicken. We're closing up," said one market worker.

Experts from the WHO and the Food and Agriculture Organisation will travel on Sunday to Ho Chi Minh City to assess the situation in the south, said Anton Rychener, FAO Vietnam representative.

Fifteen provinces in Vietnam have declared outbreaks of bird flu, eight in the north and seven in the south. The communist country has 64 provinces and major cities.

Vietnam has ordered that farms and villages reporting bird flu destroy all poultry in their vicinity, but has not sought mass destruction of fowl in the 15 provinces.

At one of the two biggest chicken and egg plants in Binh Chanh district, a Reuters journalist saw a farmer bundling chickens into sacks and burying them. He said he planned to destroy his stock of 60,000 birds.

# First Iraq-bound Japanese troops arrive in Kuwait

CAMP VIRGINIA, Kuwait, Jan 17 (Reuters) - A team of Japanese soldiers heading to Iraq in the Asian power's most controversial deployment since World War Two flew into Kuwait early on Saturday.

"We are making history today. It is the first time that we have Japanese troops going into a combat zone since World War Two," U.S. forces spokesman Captain Randall Baucom told reporters after the plane arrived.

The advance team of 35 soldiers will pave the way for the arrival of a force which may eventually number 1000 personnel.

Their dispatch marks a historic shift away from Japan's purely defensive post-war security policy and poses a political risk for Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi, whose government could be rocked if there are casualties.

The deployment was made possible by a law passed in July, but in line with Japan's pacifist constitution it limits the military's activity to "non-combat zones", a murky concept in Iraq, where there are almost daily attacks on U.S. forces and their allies.

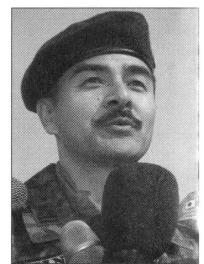
No member of Japan's military has fired a shot in combat or been killed in an overseas mission since World War Two, although Japanese forces have taken part in United Nations peacekeeping operations since a 1992 law made that possible.

The advance party of the Ground Self-Defence Force, as the Japanese army is called, arrived at Kuwait International Airport at 0345 GMT.

Baucom said the team would meet embassy officials and then head to Camp Virginia, 45 km (30 miles) northwest of Kuwait City.

The sprawling camp is used by thousands of U.S. troops and coalition forces.

The Japanese forces, who are set to travel overland to the southern Iraqi city of Samawa, will train in Kuwait until



Japanese commander Colonel Sato speaks with journalists on arrival at camp Virginia 46 kilometers south of the Iraqi border in northern Kuwait Jan. 17. A team of Japanese soldiers heading to Iraq in the Asian power's most controversial deployment since World War Two flew into Kuwait early on Saturday. REUTERS

their departure. Baucom did not say when this would be.

A small advance team from Japan's air force arrived in Kuwait in late December. They are staying at Ali al-Salem Air Base, south of Camp Virginia.

The main body of about 600 ground troops is expected to set off from Japan later this month. Their mission will be to provide humanitarian aid and help rebuild the country.

Koizumi has effectively staked his career on the dispatch in order to cement ties with Japan's most important security ally, the United States.

The advance party arrives amid a tussle between the United States and Iraq's most powerful cleric over U.S. plans to hand back sovereignty to Iraqis without first holding elections.

# VACANCY

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# Taiwan referendum seen milder after U.S. concern



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Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian (C) greets his supporters at the opening of his campaign headquarters in Taipei on Jan. 17<sup>t</sup> Chen outlined his plans on Friday for a referendum that has angered China and drawn a blunt warning from the United States, but set ballot issues that were less aggressive than expected.

TAIPEI, Jan 17 (Reuters) - Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian's toned-down referendum questions are aimed at soothing U.S. concerns and may ease tension with rival China, Taiwan newspaper editorials said on Saturday.

But newspapers were divided on whether the milder ballot issues indicated that Chen, who faces a tough presidential election in two months, was a responsible head of state or if they made the March 20 referendum a waste of time.

"We reserve judgement on whether it's necessary for Taiwan to spend T\$500 million (US\$15 million) on a referendum on issues that have no impact," the mass-circulation China Times said.

Chen has made the referendum a central plank of his re-election campaign. But China, which considers Taiwan a breakaway province that must be brought back to the fold, by force if necessary, has warned that any referendum

would be seen as a step towards independence that could lead to war.

Chen said on Friday Taiwan voters would be asked two questions whether the government should buy more anti-missile weapons if China refused to withdraw its missiles pointed at Taiwan, and whether Taipei should open talks with Beijing.

Analysts say he backed off from language that would assert Taiwan sovereignty, after a U.S. warning, issued by President Geroge W. Bush, against upsetting the delicate political status quo with the mainland.

The United States cautiously welcomed Chen's announcement.

U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell told Hong Kong-based Phoenix TV Chen had showed "a little flexibility".

The pro-independence Taiwan Daily praised Chen for addressing U.S. concerns and said he was sending China a "peace overture".

"The two ballot questions eliminate

unnecessary worry for the people belo.e the Lunar New Year, and is a benevolent response to the concerns of the United States, Japan and Europe," it said.

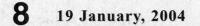
Washington switched diplomatic recognition from Taipei to Beijing in 1979, but remains Taiwan's main arms supplier.

Analysts said the referendum's question on bolstering defence echoed  $\bigcup S$ , advice that Taiwan should spend more on security in the wake of an arms build-up on the mainland.

"Taiwan people have extended their olive branch to China, they can't be seen as provocative or trouble-making," said the Liberty Times.

But critics said Chen had diluted his referendum into a meaningless opinion poll.

"He is making a last-ditch effort for re-election. He does not care about how the referendum content has been twisted and how its significance has changed," said the United Daily News.



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## **Business & Economy**

Businessman Mohammed Ahmed Jama'n narrates his life journey A story of success

#### I-Raie Al-A'am International House has honoured Haj Mohammed Ahmed Jama'n, chairman of the board of directors of Jam'm Establishment for Industrial Machines and Equipment for Agriculture. Al-Raie Al-A'am International House annually honours top winners of the House prize for leading personalities in the fields of journalism, literature, art, science, celebrities, pioneers in economy, industry and investment in addition to businessmen in the Arab world.

His potentials, willpower, the expansion of his comprehension and many initiatives, have created the private and general aspects in his life, also contributing to making that was the environment around him including economic and social circumstances. Also what those circumstances have produced of sweet and bitter tastes of life have together contributed to the making of his life. The one who makes history is not like he who writes it, and he who lives the pains and joys resulting from life and its events is not the same as he who hears about them.

When I review five decades of my life in which I placed all that I possess of material and moral potentials, beginning with will and determination for better life and honest living and the positive outcomes that I and my family and sons of the homeland have

achieved, there unfolds before my eves a long tape of painful images but motivating work and challenge and search for better life and other very

O: How did you perceive your

A: I cannot give you a detailed

future when first embarked on prac-

review of my practical life or present

an extensive research of the philosophy

of my businesses I had practiced. In

short the question has recalled to my

mind he many difficulties that inter-

ticing trade?

### joyful images of what has been achieved through the use of reason and action together and taking well-studied initiatives and calculations. Reason is what God invested the human with distinguishing him from other creatures and the road to success is to employ it in the way accepted by God and satisfying the people and the homeland. This has been the essential impetus in developing the work that extends from the year 1958 till now and by the will of God would be open along the future and that is what I recommend my children and grandchildren; the use of reason, openness and sincerity with God, the homeland and the human.

The first image is that of fourteen years old boy bearing the name of Mohammed Ahmed Jama'n deciding at that age to leave his kind family that was working in farming, to work with his uncle at a restaurant in Aden. No other one than himself can imagine the meaning of leaving the family towards the unknown and what does it mean for this child who did not have anything but his strength and decision to start a better life that he may or may not find. The child was equipped with some education confined to reading and writing acquired at institutes teaching the Koran, without scientific and practical skills except the love of science and knowledge and adventure for realizing a better life for a family living on agriculture with its primitive ways and limited production.

important commercial port of Aden situated at the communication route with India and world continents and the

Business

The second image was that of the

A: That's true. This ambition has created a burden in my life due to many factors. I think no one cane escape from however keen he was to avoid them. Life is full of surprises, contradictions and burdens. During the course of my practical life I have been faced with many burdens of which I suffered much, among which for instance the attempted desire for leapfrogging.

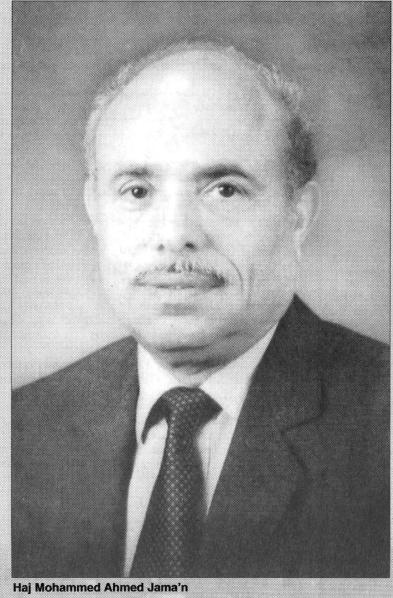
activities performed there by Indians, Arabs and Europeans. There was his decision to move to the trade business. He opened a small trade shop selling clothes and other things. It was an indescribable feeling that I lived by moving from working in a restaurant to business where there is dealing with the market and foreign currency; Indian rupees to the sterling pound and rial. From there started the commercial work with the northern part of the homeland where the first announcement of the company began in 1958.

In Aden where the British colonization, merchants of India and Europe and the Arabs, where he moved from a restaurant into commerce, from limited income to open income in the world of commerce, that child-man realized that the market was in need of importing goods from abroad to meet some needs of the market. He hired a translator for his foreign correspondence and started dealing with neighbouring countries and financial dealings with banks. He was among the pioneers who opened credits with foreign companies.

The third image is that of nowadays presenting a work extending for fifty years the strife was the guiding principle, seeking the help of God, the sincere work and serving the country. The other image of his is that he has sons and daughters, educated and graduated from the best universities of the United States of America.

Under sponsorship of SMART Advertising & Promotional Solutions, the business page staff of Yemen Times conducted this interview with this celebrity Yemeni businessman.

reach a stabilized conviction and deep faith that despite of various mentalities, those holding specialties, broad knowledge and creative talents can with their sophistication and wisdom can push the businesses they are managing into the right course with utmost accuracy and keenness and with sharp mentality believing in profit and loss.



factors leading the judgment on its aspects and results using the most

accurate scales.

Q: What are the results you have achieved?

A: Among results of this endeavor is the learning of facts that are ought to be characterised by distinguished mental, moral and cultural virtues which are

problems which he confronts to deal with them with all his physical and mental potentials.

19 January, 2004

### Q: What are the characteristics of the effective human?

A: Despite his outward simple features, the man was created in this world possessing much power with deep secrets. He keeps a long-term strong strife to catch the means of his living and ensuring his security and protection of himself and family. He tends to tackle overcoming the problems by unleashing his forces with all moments of pride and ignorance that haunt him, sometimes scoring success and failure in others in order to defeat his weakness and soar high with his individual life to the positions discovered by his mind and his soul that is looking for the good.

#### Q: How can you reconcile self strife and that of nature?

A: Both self and nature strife are not two separate factors. They are rather interconnected and interactive. This leads us in the end to say that the man who encounters the problems is the one who is free in his behaviour and aware of what is god for him with many options open before him. There is no work he may do without being preceded by freedom the individual entertains and uses in reaching resolutions serving his interests and actions. The free man is the one aware of his decisions and evaluating their results, be they positive or negative. The nature of ou decisions depends on the extent of our power in taking the conscious aut sound determination without ignc its, that life has limits and restraints.

#### Q: Do you assess your success as resulting from your courage and creativity in work?

at the limit of perception or thinking A: Any boldness leads to progress or about what is in his environment or produces creativity and success; neverpondering his past and present, rather theless they are not the outcome of only boldness. They should be accomhis abilities are embodied in thinking and them movement and work till his panied by faith, rightful distinction, suitable choice freedom and creative human effort. Life is a continuous dealing between thought and action and each pushes the other. The wiser the thought was the more creative and accurate the work was.

## Q: Ambitions could have negatives as well as positives; could you tell us about ambitions negatives?

cepted me during my long journey that ultimately ended with an asset of success and fruitful results. I find it my obligation to answer your questions about my business works and the stages they had gone through to be published on pages of your newspaper as I believe that words have role in building societies and to express the many contradictions that life bears and are basically useful lessons open before man new horizons for the future.

#### Q: Let's begin then a question about your education degree.

A: Concerning my education degree or scientific level, I dare say I am a graduate from the school of life that hat taught me a lot. It is the eternal school on which the community and individuals draw however high they reached and whatever knowledge they have acquired.

#### Q: What about your life and practical experience?

A: I have a large-scale practical experience in my life and I used to have my unique style on whose guidelines I used to follow the right path and make out of it an impetus drawing for me features of my future. This has led in consequence to motivate my ambition, making it extend and develop. It has worked actively from the inner part of my mind and interacted with mentalities of all those possessing knowledge and experience in business action and that ambition attracted me like a torrent towards m goals.

#### Q: How could you manage to overcome such desires?

A: I sought the guidance of practical and scientific development to tackle it. I adopted an administrative and financial system and employment of experienced cadres entertaining good scientific and mentality standards which resulted over stages in a better performance.

### O: Is the mentality fruitage the only effective role?

A: Mentality is in the first place. I daresay the one without mind has no knowledge, not that he without knowledge has any brain. Fruitage of brains is associated with human tendencies and hard work and what they imply of in? ambitious personal intentions aimed for achieving the best. The man can surmount the stages of negatives through learning from mistakes and taking sound stances to push his business and investment activities into the right direction.

#### Q: In your first experience, how could you form the vision?

A: It has become clear through the self-estimation and channeling it towards ambition. By using organized practical development the vision became clear before me and I could

Q: After you have attained the stage of success in your work, how do you assess it?

\*A: Economists say success comes out of correct comprehension that usher man to resort to active reason and good planning. The unique talent the man possesses can be a motive pushing us to make ambition we aim at on condition it is directed accurately heading through virtue and taking it as a launching point. Thus the loyalty would be that of principle connected to our values and morals. In this way the honest work is the principle of man as everyday he feels a new creativity culminating his activity and results of his effort. Correct realization begins with distinguishing between the good and the bad. Only in this way the person can feel happiness and taste the real flavor of success he has attained.

## Q: What are the stands you believe

A: The stands I believe in are not the ones motivating an act beneficial for the present and future if that does not lead us to rise over the level of selfjudgment that obliges us to be keen on and protect. Our understanding of the past is not a sole way for gaining awareness about the present or is an easy shortcut. It is rather one way stemming from the effort for recalling the events of the past to the comprehensive thinking that connects between the past and the present then the future. It probes its depths as one event directing man to the attempt to discover the

the end of the mental effort whose fruitage is represented by the success achieved through this endeavor.

activity becomes a tangible form and his efforts can be of clear impact. Man is the only creature that suffers from the gift of thinking that does not stop at giving only, but transcends sometimes

within the then available culture?

A: The human is not only a reason-

able creature, but rather an active

worker whose capabilities do not stop

Q: How could you attain success to suffering and facing the multiple



## BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

number of small investors have considered the development of private sector in Yemen as a joint national responsibility and that necessitates heading for encouragement and supporting small enterprises, vocational training and offering loans to small producers.

Minister of industry and trade of Yemen Dr Khalid Rajih has confirmed the necessity of embarking on a project for development and growth of the private sector and creating opportunities of jobs in the bid for alleviating the amount and sharpness of poverty.

At a workshop held for that pur-

implementing the project must be accomplished with the spirit of a unified team in the way ensuring its continuation and expansion the base of beneficiaries from it in all governorates.

The project includes preliminary activities for development of small enterprises, among which the conducting of a field survey aimed at trading sector, economic structure of medium and small industries and forming the Yemeni working team beside the German team that is carrying out implementation of the project in favour of the private sector.

The project is receiving attention of the Yemeni government with the help of donor parties according to a program aiming at developing productive

pose in Sanaía the minister added that skills and the increase of their marketing production.

The program would rehabilitate small enterprises and getting acquainted with volume of their commercial components and the extent of possibility for developing to increase national exports and developing national income from non-oil sources Owners of medium and small industries ascribe the recession of their products in the Yemeni market to the intensive competition before them in imported food and other commodities. Those demand for not flooding the local market with imported goods which are of low grade in quality, specifications and standardizations and also of low prices. Those factors would expose their goods to be unsaleable and cause them losses.

## **10** 19 January, 2004

## Opinion

## Words of Wisdom



TIMES

The atmosphere in Yemen is ripe for change - real change. The country needs reform, and the political leadership seems willing and able to introduce the needed change. Political, economical and military changes have taken place & on a massive scale. But the acid test for the transformation will only come if & when economic change occurs. Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, (1951 - 1999)



Conferences do not mean "achievements"

was annoyed to see that many articles came in the official media in Yemen mentioning the achievement of the Sana'a Inter-Governmental Conference on Human Rights, Democracy and the International Criminal Court during 11-12 of this month.

It is amazing to see the exaggeration made up by the official media to the conference, giving a whole new dimension and naming it sometimes as the 'achievement of the year'

In my opinion, such claims give no further importance to the conference. On the contrary, they undermine the conference and its meaning. It may be true that the organization of such a conference was a good step, but the achievement in my view is not to hold the conference, the real achievement is to implement its resolutions.

No conference can be a goal by itself. It is a mere tool, which is to be used by participants and decision-makers to form and enforce decisions based on its outcome.

The conference has come out with a beautifully formulated declaration in support of human rights and democracy. It also came out with resolutions in various aspects and fields

Among those clear declaration articles, was the one defining the importance of "separating three powers", i.e., legislative, executive, and judicial. Will the government act be based on this conference and show us a real achievement in separating those three authorities?

The declaration also stressed on the need to privatize and liberate the media in all its forms, i.e., TV, radio, press. Will the government show us some solid steps in allowing the private sector to open its own TV and radio channels?

If the answer to any of the two above questions is "no", or "we'll see" then we are far, real far from any achievement.

An achievement is something that people sense in their lives. It is the people's utmost desire to see the three powers separated because it would serve to enhance the legal system and bring greater independence for the legislators.

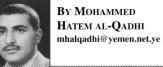
It is in the public's interest to have a free media that would focus on their sufferings and concentrate on their domestic issues in health, education, and civil services, rather than just bring about official news items about the President's visits and meetings.

It is important to bring about 'real' achievement that we can touch and see instead of claiming that the conference in itself was the achievement.

It is now up to the decision-makers to start implementing the declaration formulated by the organizers, who are the same people who committed themselves to the conference.

Will the President become a leading example in

# **Supporting Arab** democrats networking



t is really good to see people from all Arab countries and the world group together to discuss their concerns and fears over democracy in their countries. Meetings like that of the National Democratic Institute's Gulf Forum for Political Action held last year in Sana'a and the recent Inter-Governmental Regional Conference on Democracy, Human Rights and the role of the ICC open up the way for democrats and human rights activists in the Arab world to share their views and voice their concerns over future of democracy in their countries. It is interesting that such networking of democrats is beginning to shape up despite of taboos and hurdles set up by Arab tyrannical regimes which still consider democracy a kind luxury. I believe that these totalitarian Arab political regimes have started to lose control over democracy fighters, mainly because they are under pressure of the democratic world and they should, therefore, understand well that they can no longer play the same old game with their opponents as democracy has now become a global dogma of the time that nobody, and no country, can deny or ignore. It has proved to be the only key to real and sustainable development. In fact, there is no development without democracy. It is a good and laudable step that the Americans and Europeans have started focusing on networking advocates of such values in the Arab world. These people should no more be put down and must get a free room to come together and discuss their problems, concerns and how they can participate in the overall welfare of their peoples. They should be able to voice their ideas at least like the extremists and fundamentalists who

could communicate and build up their

**Uncle Sam** 

& 'Union of

Strength'

BARKATULLAH MARWAT

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KUWAIT

extremist networks all over the Arab and Islamic world without any harassment from ruling dictatorial regimes. On the contrary, they facilitated and supported their task as a part of coalition between the two parties. These groups have been able to operate and proliferate their fanatic ideas in return for giving a religious legitimacy and approval from the religious institution for the rule of these dictators who are still in power for decades.

Arab political regimes believe in their hearts, even if they now try to show the opposite, that democracy is a real threat and challenge to their rule and thus, they are ready to harass democrats, dubbing them as agents or traitors.

This tyrannical culture, having religious grounds, has produced fanatics and extremists who still believe that democracy means infidelity and is an idea the West is trying to impose on us so as to defeat us as Muslims and Islam at large. Religious edicts or fatwas have even been issued accusing democracy of being a means to demolish Islamic values. It is even surprising to hear people saying that we do not need the democracy of the West and that we should start our own democracy based on our traditions. It is a stupid argument as democracy can not be but a global value that has nothing to do with religions or races. Democracy means respect of human rights, freedoms and above all, the governance of the people. It is, in short, a protection of human dignity.

Democracy is for our interests and a major drive for development and prosperity. Some people have started talking about a democracy imposed from outside and that we do not need this kind of democracy. I do not think that this is the problem; if the U.S. wants to democratize the Arab world, that is fine as long as democracy means our welfare. The initiative made by Colin Powell to democratize the region is warmly welcomed as we need it more than the U.S. and should work to make end.

this initiative materialize as we have failed throughout decades to achieve this objective. It is also good that our school curriculum preaching violence and extremism should be changed. Let me ask, what is our alternative for Powell's initiative? Nothing! Yes, nothing! We have failed and we always tend to blame this failure on sometimes the U.S. or Israel. It is their interests and they have the right to defend them. But, what are supposed to do to come out of our impasse? We badly need to get rid of our tribalism in the Arab world. We need to establish institutionalized societies ruled by law and order rather than tribe or one man show. This culture has to be challenged now.

To drive the point home, I would like to say that it is now time for democrats and human rights activists in the Arab and Muslim countries to network and build a structure that can influence decision makers and work for a better tomorrow. The US and Europe should strongly support such networks so as these countries ruled by dictators and absolute monarchies can democratize. However, only real democracy and human rights fighters, not the clown ones or government-affiliated people or NGOs, should be supported and networked as these political regimes know well how to spoil any good idea that does not fall in line with their interests. In other words, democracy should not be just a tolerance given by the rulers as Arab regimes like their people to understand democracy. But, it is not like that. This is because tolerance of the rulers is different from democratic rights ensured by the law and constitution. The first can be usurped; it is like a gift. Arab people do not want this gift as democracy is a basic human right that can not mean only elections but it has other social and economic aspects. It is equality, accountability and freedom and above all, the rule of law. Our fight for democracy is actually now a matter of life and death and this networking of democracy fighters will help reach this



# Sharon's big holiday

or all intents and purposes we can safely assume that as long as George W. Bush remains President of he United States, the region, or for that matter the world will just have to forget about peace, prosperity and all those wonderful things that are supposed to come with wealth stability. There is a point to be made in believing that there is just no way to know when George Bush will direct the awesome power of the United States towards real common sense type of leadership. Mr. Bush thinks that the United States has an excuse in 9/11 to carry on without regard to the values, rights and normal human desires of minds at rest. Of course, 9/11 was a dreadful act by all statutes, religions and human cultural finesse. God only knows that most Moslems dread such a tragedy and see no justifications for it, no matter what befalls Moslems. One should not however forget that since then, all the noise and efforts of the United States have yet to relieve the American victims and us by the apprehension of the alleged perpetrators. It seems to the observer that indeed the alleged perpetrator may have not outlived his usefulness, for one finds it difficult to believe that Saddam Hussein, who had far more considerable power than Osama Bin Laden, was not able to escape the Americans, while bearing in mind that Saddam Hussein really had nothing to do with 9/11, nor did he threaten or even posed any danger to the United States. Yet Bin Laden is still at large, sending his corny tapes and with the invasion of Iraq, may have been given a new operations theater in which to play his personality cult.

More important, the fact that the United States is so openly on the side of Ariel Sharon and his Likud establishment cannot be a sign that the White House is not letting his people down and doing all he can to avoid the excuses by which terrorists have a chance to cling to in their one-on-one against the United States. Moreover, Mr. Bush wishes us to believe that a butcher like Ariel Sharon is a good friend of the United States. Mr. Bush may not be well cultured in world history and the background of the Middle East, but it goes without saying that Mr. Bush's pat on the back to Ariel Sharon could never be of help to the "War on Terror". Many emails have come trying to picture the Israelis as being close partners to the United States on its War on Terror, but one can easily detect the same kind of mentality in those who write in blind support of a man who sees himself as the man who holds the front line against "Islamic terrorists". Anyone who listens to Sharon speak cannot fail to see his obvious anti Moslem attitude. He never fails to mention Islam whenever referring to "terrorists" as if to Sharon the tow words are synonymous. The truth of the matter is that people who defend Israel never present a viable case in human justice, nor do they fail to realize that the creation of Israel was at a heavy price. One has asked many of these blind defenders of Israel, what would they do if someone drove them out of their homes and killed a couple of kids along the way? They never respond back because the answer is obvious. That is the story of the creation of Israel and if there is anything else being aired about the fascinating history of Zionism, it is a deception. That is why most observers in the Middle East are quick to point out that there is a case that the Palestinians have. and no one wants to listen. Because the overwhelming populations of the Arab and Moslem World rightly sympathize with their brothers in the Holy Land, the extremists amongst them tend to get carried away. An important point to make is that terrorists are not the products of normal upbringing but a scientific program of brainwash, that takes very young children and rears them into a culture that defies reason and compassion - even for their own souls. It is not a healthy culture and it is far from being what Islam is all about. This kind of culture needs to be understood and fought with heavy doses of sound human thinking. Its roots are as mysterious as its modus operandi. Yet Bin Ladin is not seriously hunted by the United States, nor is there a genuine social effort to erase this culture from this world in a pragmatic and reasonable way. Mr. Wesley Clark was right in saying that it seems that Mr. Bush is not seriously going after Bin Ladin. One is willing to even suggest that for all practical purposes Bin Laden and his likes may have done more to bring the holiday that Ariel Sharon is enjoying in the West Bank and Gaza. For this reason, one should not think it ridiculous that Sharon and his likes are saying keep Bin Laden around. He is giving us a good alibi for our ugly agenda and taking him away might put an end to the agenda we have under implementation. Of course the same goes for the military industrial complex that is also having a holiday in the United States as the wars that Bush is waging are producing the catalyst that energizes their greedy ambitions. If money can be made out of war then let the climate suggest that America and Israel must remain on the alert. The truth of the matter is that the rest of humanity must remain on the alert from the disturbing knack for blood that has come to prevail in the American and Israeli right.

enforcing those declarations? Are we destined to see 'real' achievements based on such conferences? Or will this be mere talk and propaganda?

It all remains to be seen.

Let's keep our fingers crossed and hope for the best.





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

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at school and punished those students who failed to learn it by heart. Let me refer it to the unity of West against East on the pretext of war on terrorism. In fact, those Eastern countries that were firing in the air, pretending to be harassing the West finally surrendered. For example, Iran has principally agreed to do whatever it is asked for. Likewise, Libya also followed the same path. While India and Pakistan seem to have to stand united to fight off the undue pressure by Uncle Sam for signing the NPT and dismantling their decades -long nuke

programme. But in the entire episode I believe t's North Korea that is feeling itself quite insecure and keeps assuring of halting its nuke programme as well as allowing IAEA watchdog for thorough inspection. But I think it miserably failed to strike the opportunity at right time. Because it was the right moment when Uncle Sam asked North Korea to cooperate with IAEA but the latter flatly refused, giving threats of hitting the former's interests around the globe. Yes, that time it earned a big clap, but now? Why is it offering unconditional inspection? Where have its so-called threats gone? Surely, those who had admired its boldness are now laughing at its cowardliness.

Let's see what happens next to the axis of evil' termed by the Uncle

Yemeni government intention to enter the GCC, we will easily see that the Yemeni government is trying to improve Yemen economy by having softer procedures that allow Yemeni workers to work in the GCC countries.

lands council.

If we try to find the reason behind the

emen has applied to join the

GCC and has been given a

partial and a very limited

membership to the dream-

BY AHMED AL THAMRI

ATHAMARI@YAHOO.COM

is

nion

strength" is

an old story

having been

taught to us

However, The GCC countries do not want to have what they describe as unskilled laborers swamp their countries and they prefer to keep Yemenis along with their unsolvable problems behind the bars (boundaries). The gulf states think and believe that allowing Yemen to join the GCC will be a one direction relationship, where the gulf states has to allow Yemeni workers to their countries, having moral commitment to provide economical aid to Yemen and to tackle Yemen's'

them and once Yemen has an important and valuable qualification it will be invited rather than begging the GCC membership

The Yemeni government should not

lean and depend in solving their unem-

ployment and economical problems by

trying to throw these issues to the GCC

For an equal relationship, Yemen has to

think first what it is going to offer to the

GCC rather than what the GCC will give

social and security problems.

countries shoulder.

Yemen government has to solve Yemen security, unemployment, illiteracy, law informant issues along with improving the living standard of its people its self with the assistance of the international community. None of GCC country will accept to left the responsibility of the Yemeni government on its behalf.

Blaming the GCC for not accepting Yemen is not going to solve the Yemenis problems. What we need is a government that has one goal, that is improving the terrible living situation of the Yemenis by using the available resources.

rage over the statement by

In my opinion, Yemen

We will need to tie our

belts be honest with God

Council



Yemen and GCC: Full

membership not foreseen

About YT's

opinion poll

Tagree with your reader who wrote a letter complaining that opinion poll results express the opinion of non-Yemenis reading Yemen Times.

Fortunately, many foreigners read the Yemen Times, which means that more and more foreigners learn a little about Yemen, which can't be bad.

Those who have never been to Yemen will have little understanding of the country, but taking part in

bad

Times.

a poll gives them some small feeling of connection with the country, which once again can't be

For those of us who Mr. Abduallah bin Zayed have been lucky enough that Yemen is not qualified to join the Gulf to have traveled in Yemen, the opinions of Cooperation Yemenis are important, (GCC). Such statements even if only a very tiny reflect arrogance and indicate that GCC decision proportion of Yemenis ever read the Yemen makers should do better in the test of modesty by God and people.

Ultimately, of course, the only poll that counts is your own election of a should not join the GCC Government. any more. In fact, Yemen Michel Dignand can do it on its own.

michel.dignand@yahoo. com

> and our people and we Yemen can do will prevail. without the GCC Mosad Al-Montaser s a Yemeni national,

Brooklyn, New York **A** I am burning up with Hayaf21@aol.com



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## **Op-Ed**

# I believe in conspiracies

BY JOHN LAUGHLAND FOR THE SPECTATOR

TEMENS

elieving in conspiracy theories is rather like having been to a grammar school: both are rather socially awkward to admit. Although I once sat next to a sister-in-law of the Duke of Norfolk who agreed that you can't believe everything you read in the newspapers, conspiracy theories are generally considered a rather repellent form of intellectual low-life, and their theorists rightfully the object of scorn and snobbery. Writing in the Daily Mail last week, the columnist Melanie Phillips even attacked conspiracy theories as the consequence of a special pathology, of the collapse in religious belief, and of a 'descent into the irrational'. The implication is that those who oppose 'the West', or who think that governments are secretive and dishonest, might need psychiatric treatment.

In fact, it is the other way round. British and American foreign policy is itself based on a series of highly improbable conspiracy theories, the biggest of which is that an evil Saudi millionaire genius in a cave in the Hindu Kush controls a secret worldwide network of 'tens of thousands of terrorists' 'in more than 60 countries' (George Bush). News reports frequently tell us that terrorist organisations, such as those which have attacked Bali or Istanbul, have 'links' to al-Qa'eda, but we never learn quite what those 'links' are. According to two terrorism experts in California, Adam Dolnik and Kimberly McCloud, this is because they do not exist. 'In the quest to define the enemy, the US and its allies have helped to blow al-Qa'eda out of proportion,' they write. They argue that the name 'al-Qa'eda' was invented in the West to designate what is, in reality, a highly disparate collection of otherwise independent groups with no central command structure and not even a logo. They claim that some terrorist organisations say they are affiliated to bin Laden simply to gain kudos and name-

recognition for their entirely local grievances.

By the same token, the US-led invasion of Iraq was based on a fantasy that Saddam Hussein was in, or might one day enter into, a conspiracy with Osama bin Laden. This is as verifiable as the claim that MI6 used mind control to make Henri Paul crash Princess Diana's car into the 13th pillar of the tunnel under the Place de l'Alma. With similar mystic gnosis, Donald Rumsfeld has alleged that the failure to find 'weapons of mass distraction', as Tony Blair likes to call them, shows that they once existed but were destroyed. Indeed, London and Washington have shamelessly exploited people's fear of the unknown to get public opinion to believe their claim that Iraq had masses of anthrax and botulism. This played on a deep and ancient seam of fear about poison conspiracies which, in the Middle Ages, led to pogroms against Jews. And yet it is the anti-war people who continue to be branded paranoid, even though the British Prime Minister himself, his eyes staring wildly, said in September 2002, 'Saddam has got all these weapons ... and they're pointing at us!'

In contrast to such imaginings, it is perfectly reasonable to raise questions about the power of the secret services and armed forces of the world's most powerful states, especially those of the USA. These are not 'theories' at all; they are based on fact. The Central Intelligence Agency, the National Security Agency, the Office of Naval Intelligence, the National Reconnaissance Office, the Defense Intelligence Agency and other US secret services spend more than \$30,000,000,000 a year on espionage and covert operations. Do opponents of conspiracy theories think that this money is given to the Langley, Virginia Cats' Home? It would also be churlish to deny that the American military industry plays a very major role in the economics and politics of the US. Every day at 5 p.m., the Pentagon announces hundreds of millions of dollars in contracts to arms manufacturers all over America - click on the

Department of Defense's website for details - who in turn peddle influence through donations to politicians and opinion-formers

It is also odd that opponents of conspiracy theories often allow that conspiracies have occurred in the past, but refuse to contemplate their existence in the present. For some reason, you are bordering on the bonkers if you wonder about the truth behind events like 9/11, when it is established as fact that in 1962 the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Lyman L. Lemnitzer, tried to convince President Kennedy to authorise an attack on John Glenn's rocket, or on a US navy vessel, to provide a pretext for invading Cuba. Two years later, a similar strategy was deployed in the faked Gulf of Tonkin incident, when US engagement in Vietnam was justified in the light of the false allegation that the North Vietnamese had launched an unprovoked attack on a US destroyer. Are such tactics confined to history? Paul O'Neill, George Bush's former Treasury Secretary, has just revealed that the White House decided to get rid of Saddam eight months before 9/11.

Indeed, one ought to speak of a 'conspir- acy of silence' about the role of secret services in politics. This is especially true of the events in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. It is the height of irresponsibility to discuss the post-communist transition without extensive reference to the role of the spooks, yet our media stick doggedly to the myth that their role is irrelevant. During the overthrow of the Georgian president, Eduard Shevardnadze, on 22 November 2003, the world's news outlets peddled a wonderful fairy-tale about a spontaneous uprising - 'the revolution of roses', CNN shlockily dubbed it - even though all the key actors have subsequently bragged that they were covertly funded and organised by the US.

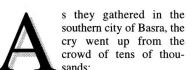
Similarly, it is a matter of public record that the Americans pumped at least \$100 million into Serbia in order to get rid of Slobodan Milosevic in 2000, and huge sums in the years before. (An election in

Britain, whose population is eight times bigger than Yugoslavia's, costs about two thirds of this.) This money was used to fund and equip the Kosovo Liberation Army; to stuff international observer missions in Kosovo with hundreds of military intelligence officers; to pay off the opposition and the so-called 'independent' media; and to buy heavily-armed Mafia gangsters to come and smash up central Belgrade, so that the world's cameras could show a 'people's revolution'.

At every stage, the covert aid and organisation provided by the US and British intelligence agencies were decisive, as they had been on many occasions before and since, all over the world. Yet for some reason, it is acceptable to say, 'The CIA organised the overthrow of Prime Minister Mossadeq in Iran in 1953', but not that it did it again in Belgrade in 2000 or Tbilisi in 2003. And in spite of the well-known subterfuge and deception practised, for instance, in the Iran-Contra scandal in the mid-1980s, people experience an enormous psychological reluctance to accept that the British and American governments knowingly lied us into war in 2002 and 2003. To be sure, some conspiracy theories may be outlandish or wrong. But it seems to me that anyone who refuses to make simple empirical deductions ought to have his head examined.



BY JUSTIN RAIMONDO FOR ANTIWAR.COM



## Some "liberation"!

This malarkey about the lack of a reliable census is laughable. The Americans refused to cooperate with a plan by the Iraqis to take a census: Nuha Yousef, the cry went up from the Iraqi census director, guaranteed a count crowd of tens of thou- by December. But, as the New York Times reported, the occupation authori-

sidelines, waiting for the chance to take advantage of their majority status and impose an Islamic "republic" on the rest of the country. Centered in the south, which has not seen, up until now, the kind of guerrilla violence that regularly erupts in the infamous "Sunni Triangle," groups as the pro-Iranian Badr Brigade and the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq (SCIRI), have been patient, and so far refrained from violence – except against Christian merchants who sell alcohol and other un-Islamic consumer items. The occupiers, up to this point, have had no serious trouble from SCIRI and allied groups. That could change rapidly, and dramatically, as the Ayatollah Sistani has pointed out, if the Americans insist on their caucus plan. In a Sunday meeting with Sistani, American officials and their Iraqi protégés ran up against a brick wall. The Ayatollah is holding fast to his demands that a direct election be held – and that the provisional government which results should have the power to rule on the question of a continuing U.S. military presence. And his position has popular support. Sistani scotched an earlier move for a made-in-the-USA Constitution, and the Americans, for all their firepower, can't stop him from sabotaging this one. Their neat plan to hand over fake "sovereignty" to their favored collaborators on July 1, all the while settling comfortably into permanent military bases on Iraqi soil, is running into some serious problems, even as the insurgency reaches into the previously peaceful Shi'ite south. Short of pulverizing the country, or sending all the Ayatollahs off to Guantanamo – neither of which is an option - Bremer is stymied, and that's why he's counting on the United Nations and the Arab League to give the American plan at least a modicum of legitimacy.

professional bureaucrats, so loudly disdained by the "unilateralists" in Washington who, at the time of the invasion, gloried in the Security Council's alleged irrelevance. Secretary General Annan is cited as saying that he's sure a census is impossible under the present circumstances, but the idea that the UN has any legitimacy in Iraq seems rather odd. After all, isn't this the same organization that enforced a draconian regime of sanctions on Iraq for over a decade? And now this same UN is saying it's too early to have a free election. As Jeffrey Record, a professor at the Strategic Studies Institute, writes in a U.S. War College monograph, in Iraq we face "irregular enemies who refuse to quit precisely because they cannot be decisively defeated." Neither, for the moment, can the occupiers be defeated, as long as they're willing to expend the troops and treasure. But the balance of forces could be radically shifting, and when they do, the U.S. had better be prepared for a fight. So far, the Americans have come up against those they call "Saddamists" by which term is meant followers of Saddam Hussein, not Oscar Wilde, These "holdouts" and "dead enders" are the "remnants" of the Ba'athist Party, we are confidently assured, as if the insurgency is petering out along with the effects of Saddam's reign. Yet attacks on occupation forces, in terms of ferocity, numbers, and geographical reach, are increasing. It hardly takes a strategic genius to see that the fuel of Shi'ite fury spread over this smoldering rebellion will stoke the fires of resistance - and quite possibly flare up into a regional conflagration that could bring in Iran, and possibly others. It was long ago emphatically pointed out in this space that the decision to go to war with Iraq and occupy the country effectively delivered Mesopotamia into the hands of the Iranians. Or. at least, ensured the rise of an Iranian-style Shi'ite fundamentalist regime, settling the longstanding Iraq-Iran regional tug-



# A taste of our own poison

BY LAWRENCE LESSIG FOR WIRED MAGAZINE

hen America was poor, its citizens 'stole." We took the intellectual property of Dickens and other foreign artists without paying for it. We didn't call it stealing, but they did. We called it a sensible way for a developing nation to develop. Eventually, we saw it was better to protect their rights as well as ours - better because we had rights to protect elsewhere, too. But we only imposed this burden on ourselves when it made sense to do so. Until 1891, we were a pirate nation.

Things have changed. Now that we're the world's leading exporter of intellectual property, we're also the most self-righteous about the importance of protecting it globally. Indeed, we can be vicious in our self-righteousness - threatening trade wars with developing nations for the crime of being just like us. Recently, through a series of trade agreements, we have demanded stricter protection for intellectual property internationally than US law would allow domestically. (Fair use, for example, is mandated by our constitution but invisible in these agreements.)

This push to protect intellectual property is defended as just one aspect of free trade - the aspect that benefits Hollywood. Since Adam Smith penned The Wealth of Nations, we've understood that borders are best when opened Americans would get if the piracy and when property from one country is respected in another. Free trade so enabled is the promised elixir for the woes of developing nations. Open your borders, protect property rights, and prosperity, the Smithies say, will quickly follow. The dirty little secret, however, is that we don't respect the free trade rules that we impose on others. While the US sings the virtues of free trade to defend maximalist intellectual property regulation, we poison the free trade that developing nations care about most - agriculture - by subsidizing farming in the industrialized world to the tune of \$300 billion annually. Rhetoric about family farmers aside, most of that money passes quickly to agribusiness. This is not Adam Smith; it is corporate welfare par excellence.

because agribusiness subsidies were not on the table. Others are openly discussing ways to get US attention.

What developing nations need is better lobbyists. In particular, advocates as persuasive as Hollywood's lobbvists. who've managed to defend the entertainment industry's intellectual property rights extremely well. Here's one way to get power (or the Man) on their side.

A block of powerful developing nations should first take a page from the US Copyright Act of 1790 and enact national laws that explicitly protect their own rights only. It would not protect foreigners. Second, these nations should add a provision that would relax this exemption to the extent that developed nations really opened their borders. If we reduce, for example, the subsidy to agribusiness by 10 percent, then they would permit 10 percent of our copyrights to be enforced (say, copyrights from the period 1923 to 1931). Reduce the subsidy by another 10 percent, then another 10 percent could be enforced. And so on.

The mechanism is clumsy, but the message is clear: Both the subsidy of agribusiness and the subsidy of local culture and science violate the principles of free trade by ignoring American intellectual property laws. Both violations are bad. But the two bads should be resolved together. Indeed, if anything, American subsidies should be ended first. The actual loss to US firms from piracy worldwide is not terribly high - if "actual loss" means the amount ended. (Would Microsoft be better off if China ended its piracy of Windows and instead used GNU/Linux - the only OS they could then afford?) But when crops grown by farmers in Peru rot in the field because the US House of Representatives cares more about agribusinesses than about Adam Smith, then there is real harm. The resentment and anger at this American hypocrisy festers as poisonously as moldering crops in the hot sun. Of course, this solution won't work unless enough developing nations join together. But if they do, their message will have meaning. A principle is a principle. And a content industry keen to defend its "property" on the basis of that principle would then have an interest in defending principle more general-

"No, no to America! Yes, yes to al-Sistani!"

Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Husseini al-Sistani, the leader of Iraq's Shi'ites, isn't happy about the Coalition Provisional Authority plan to hold provincial "caucuses" of their handpicked stooges, who would then organize a government. Last summer the Ayatollah, spiritual leader of Iraq's 60-70% majority Shi'ites, issued a fatwa calling for direct, democratic elections to a constituent assembly, torpedoing an American scheme to write a Constitution first. Imperial proconsul Paul Bremer then came up with his caucus plan, which is now effectively blocked by the Ayatollah's veto.

Undeterred by prudence, Bremer is now launching a campaign to get Sistani to change his mind, mobilizing his amen corner in the Iraqi Governing Council and even pushing Kofi Annan to lobby for the caucus plan. Annan has cited numerous "experts," who all claim that a census couldn't possibly be taken in time, the security situation is too tenuous, and giving half a dozen other reasons why the "liberation" of Iraq just can't mean one person, one vote.

So let's see if I get this straight: the U.S., which went to war to export "democracy" to Iraq (and the entire Middle East), in defiance of the UN, is telling the Iraqis that they aren't ready for self-government - and is now seeking the UN Secretary General's imprimatur for what amounts to a policy of brazen imperialism. Instead of elections, a series of elite "caucus" meetings will be held, in which the neocons, er, um, I mean, the Americans, handpick the voters - and predetermine the results.

ties nixed the plan. CPA spokesman Charles Heatly opined:

"Rushing into a census in this time frame with the security environment that we have would not give the result that people want."

Translated into plain English, what Heatly means is that a direct election would yield results that certain people in Washington don't want. And we can't have that!

It would be funny, but for the tragedy of it: here we have the pretend-"liberators" of Iraq, preening and posturing as the great teachers of democratic governance, being taught a lesson in the real meaning of the principles they supposedly espouse.

For comic relief, we have the "Iraqi Governing Council," appointed by Imperial Viceroy Bremer, whose role in all this is to make themselves look like sock-puppets at a carnival show. As the Times reported:

"Informed of the [census] proposal this week, several members of the governing council who advocated a direct national ballot next June 30 said they were upset that they had not seen it. The Census Bureau said it had delivered the plan to the Governing Council on Nov. 1, but apparently it was lost in the bureaucracy."

Odoops! Sorry about that. I guess this just means the elections will have to be delayed for sometime in the indefinite future, oh, say around 2005. But I wouldn't count on it. By that time, if this keeps up, the insurgency will have the members of the "Governing Council" on a deck of cards, and on the run. Iraq's Shi'ite majority is on the march - and this means big trouble for the occupiers. So far, the Shi'ites have stood on the

Yes, that's right, the UN! You remember those guys, a supposedly "anti-American" assembly of ingrates and

There's little developing nations can do about this - individually. But increasingly they are acting together. One group recently walked out of trade talks

of-war decisively in favor of the latter. The "caucus" farce Bremer unsuccessfully tried to impose on the Iraqis is a desperate attempt to stave off this result, at least temporarily, and subordinate the Shia majority to a multi-cultural "federal" entity presided over by American and British overseers, a Potemkin Village of Middle Eastern "democracy," neocon-style.

The revolt of the Shi'ites threatens to upend the decorative façade of the New Iraq, elaborately painted by the War Party's public relations flacks both in and out of government. The whole edifice is slated to come crashing down just as the curtain opens on "Race for the White House, 2004." It serves the Grand Old Party right (not that the Democrats

The world is already skeptical enough about Adam Smith's magic. Throwing hypocrisy into the bargain can't help.

would have done it any differently). They sold their souls to the neocons, who then sold the White House a bill of goods labeled "Weapons of Mass Destruction," and "Niger Uranium," outing CIA agents and smearing their enemies as traitors. Now let the Republicans suffer the consequences of their Faustian bargain.

What is happening today in Iraq is proof positive of Joshua Marshall's fascinating thesis, that the whole idea behind the neocons' postwar plan for Iraq is that there wasn't one. As the subhead of his Washington Monthly piece put it:

"Chaos in the Middle East is not the Bush hawks' nightmare scenario - it's their plan."

## Culture

# Yemen's capital Sana'a unchanged by test of time

#### **By MIRAL FAHMY**

estled in the southern tip of the Arabian peninsula is a city where time seems to have stood still.

19 January, 2004

Sana'a, capital of the Arab state of Yemen, is home to unique mud-brick architecture and over a million inhabitants who still cherish their forebears' customs — an island of tradition in a region where western influences have become the norm.

The contrast is greatest when Sana'a is compared with the capital cities of its wealthy Gulf Arab neighbours, with their glittering skyscrapers, wide boulevards and shopping malls.

"Sanaa is an open-air museum," said Italian Marco Livadiotti, who has lived in the city since 1960 and is now a heritage consultant who runs one of the country's biggest and oldest tour operators.

"It is like Venice, a place whose history is an integral part of its present and future. It's a very special place."

Historians say Sanaa's ancient quarter, declared a world heritage site by the United Nations, is one of the best-preserved Arab medinas or cities in the world

Some of the buildings in the walled area are 1,000 years old and its residents go about their daily lives in much the same way as they have done for hundreds of years.

Once through the main entrance, known as the Bab or Gate of Yemen, visitors feel they have slipped into the past. The area remains the city's main souk

or market where men in colourful sarongs, daggers strapped to their waists, hawk the frankincense and myrrh that Yemen once exported to the world.

The souk is still divided into specialised districts, with tiny shops clustered together along cobbled alleyways selling everything from coffee, spices and silver to modern necessities such as mobile telephones and electronic appliances.

"Every one that passed through Yemen passed through here and left something behind so it's got everything," said 11-year-old Mohammed, who takes visitors around the area after school.

Most of Sana'a's residents come from conservative tribes located in the mountains that loom over the city and women still dress in tie-dyed robes that reveal only the eyes.

Old Sana'a is currently undergoing a state-sponsored restoration of the caravanserai hotels and homes that are built from clay in keeping with centuries-old traditions. Almost all buildings boast elaborate, stained-glass windows known as kamariyat in reference to their halfmoon shape.

Hammams or communal bathhouses also abound in the city and many are still operational. Most districts have their own garden where sheep graze and women cultivate salad vegetables.

When Sanaa became the capital of the Republic of Yemen in 1962, it was a city

of lush fields and some 34,000 inhabitants.

Rather than espouse modern traditions, Sanaanites chose to expand the city in the same style as before but with modern twists such as satellite dishes and air conditioning.

Sana'a's tallest buildings are about nine-storeys high and only a few along the downtown Tahrir square are the squat concrete and aluminium structures common in most Arab cities.

#### Living history

Sanaa's relatively unspoilt splendour makes a walk in the city akin to a history lesson.

According to Yemeni lore, Sanaa is one of the oldest sites of human settlement and was founded by Noah's son Shem.

Legend has it that Shem travelled down the Arabian peninsula until a bird took the lead of his horse and dropped it when he reached a fertile plain ringed by mountains. He then laid the foundations of Sanaa, which means a fortified city.

Inscriptions from the first century AD refer to Sana'a as an important post along the ancient trade routes between Africa and Asia. It served as the capital for several Himyarite kings as well as the Ethiopian and Persian conquerors of Yemen in the fourth and fifth centuries. Some buildings still bear the Star of David, a testament to the city's once vibrant Jewish community. The Jews were once the city's powerful merchants until a 1950 exodus to Israel took most of them away. Only 200 Jews remain in

According to Yemeni lore, Sana'a is one of the oldest sites of human settlement and was founded by Noah's son Shem. Osama bin Laden and the government

Yemen, living on the outskirts of Sana'a. Sanaa is one of Yemen's biggest

attractions, but fears of militant attacks and kidnappings by disgruntled tribesmen have kept the tourists and their much-needed cash away. Yemen is the ancestral home of

has launched a huge crackdown on his al Qaeda network in an attempt to clean up its image as a haven for militants. Despite the tighter security measures,

shootings and stabbings are not uncommon. Policemen often accompany the few tourists who brave the old city.

"It's a shame Sanaa is still seen as unsafe," said Ahmed Haj, who sells silver daggers in the souk. "We live in the cradle of one of the oldest civilisations in the world yet nobody visits us to appreciate it.' Reuters



BY IMAD AL-SAQQAF Y T BUREAU CHIEF TAIZ & HODIEDAH

aiz- Under the sponsorship of the Taiz gover-Mr. Ahmed nor. Abduhllah al-Hajri, the Al-Saeed Foundation for Culture & Sciences concluded its child festival activities on drawing titled "Children Portray Their Dreams" in Taiz on January 15.

The Children Drawing Festival started on January 4. The festival was financed by the General Industry & Packaging Company, (Konouz) and attended by the general directors of the executive offices at the governorate and Mr. Faisal Saeed Fara'e, the General Manager of Al-Saeed Foundation for Culture & Sciences. The Children Drawing Festival is considered to be the first of its kind at the national level which has been recently hosted by the Al-Saeed Foundation for Culture & Sciences. It is an exceptional annual childrelated event in a time in which Sana'a has been declared as the 2004 Arab Culture Capital and Taiz is the Yemen's tourist and culture capital. The children drawing fair was a clear testimony of children's genius to express their feelings freely through those drawings their dreams, their existing reality, as well as interweave their abstract ideas into tangible por-

Discovering talents During the

closing ceremony, a number of speeches were delivered and among those speeches was by the General Manager of the Al-Saeed Foundation for Culture & Sciences, Mr. Faisal Saeed Fara'e. In his speech, Mr. Fara'e welcomed the chief guests, media men, attendees and said that crowning such progress with the world of childhood and dream was a humble endeavor from his foundation in order to draw a smile on the childnood visage "Honoring them might have left a wonderful impression upon them which will in turn motivate those budding talents to continue their progress in order to polish their intellectual talents," the General Manager of the Al-Saeed Foundation for Culture & Sciences remarked. In his speech, Mr. Fara'e expressed his hope that the discovery of talents would not end in such activity where both the foundation as well as children talented have taken part. "This is because those promising budding talents are in dire need to polish that valuable gem which is lodged in their inner selves. This can not be achieved through taking an interest by the people to such childrelated events," Mr. Faisal said. "The achievement has been great and it has been achieved through mobilizing efforts made by the General Industry

believed in the child's dreams and supported the idea with everything it has. This manifests itself by its General Manager, Mr. Faez Saeed Abduh Saeed," Mr. Fara'e noted.

The General Manager of the al-Saeed Foundation for Culture & Science highly spoke of efforts made by the Education Office affiliated to the Taiz governorate for playing a pivotal role in supporting the Children Drawing Festival.

The General Manager of the Alneed Foundation for Culture Sciences has highly appreciated the role of the media means in this regard which has in turn taken part and published about the children-related events. He also expressed his deep thanks and admiration to Mr. Ahmed Abdullah al-Hajri, the Taiz governor and the Chairman of the Local Council for sponsoring such events as well as Mr. Ali Mohammed Saeed and Mr. Ahmed Hael Saeed, top businessmen affiliated to the Hael Saeed Ana'am Group of companies. Child's credibility conveyed On his part, Mr. Abdullah Abduh Saeed delivered a speech on behalf of Al-Saeed Foundation Board of Directors expressed his deep gratitude for the active role played by the Taiz governor for making the Children Drawing Festival a great success through his continuous sponsorship. "We are delighted and happy to celebrate creativities of our budding talents and as a result, 26 of those children who have made a distinguished work have been honored. The foundation has selected this activity in order to inaugurate its 2004 Exceptional Program which is aptly chosen," Mr. Abdullah Saeed "Through their drawing and said. portraits which have embodied their dreams and ambitions, children have made us to stop before their portraits with high esteem. This is because, their portraits express their innocence and credibility of their feelings in a beautiful technical style," he noted. He also expressed his happiness for honoring the young talents because, they constitute the first seeds and hoped for

& Packaging Company which has such child-related events to be followed in different form of arts such as, literature, poetry, theatre, and culture.

Priorities in such fields should be given by the education ministry in order to create young generation which possess multifarious talents in the Yemen's cultural arena.

At the end of his speech, Mr. Abdullah Abduh Saeed congratulated the budding talented winners in drawings. He also expressed his deep thanks to the General Industry &





Al-Saeed Foundation honoring Yemen Times Est.



Attendees of child activities festival

Packing Company, schools taking part in the event, the organizing committee and every one who has positively contributed in the event in order to make a success of it. Existing reality portrayed On his part, Mr. Ahmed Abdullah al-Hairi, the Taiz governor and the Children Drawing Festival Sponsor expressed his deep happiness for holding cultural activities particularly during the previous period.

There are a lot of surprises in the Children Drawing Festival where we are inattentive to. It is true that suffering exists, but we could discover that there are potential capabilities possessed by those children," the governor highlighted.

"We haven't received deep messages from press or books, but, we could receive messages from our children through the Children Drawing Festival and we seriously

reconsider their matter," he said.

As for letters received by the governor regarding the high cost of living where a meeting was held with the local council. In the meeting, a number of decisions and recommendations were made and lodged to the cabinet for discussion. Mr. al-Hajri in his speech indicated that the children's portraits signify a real dream of the city to be clean and tranquil.

"This has helped a lot to increase our determination to adopt exceptional procedures and steps to launch tree-planning campaign in the city and preserving its our environment at the level of the city.

"We hope for the children's dreams to come true and we found that children themselves have been preoccupied with the nation's issues.

We found that the children's portraits convey symbolic connotations for the Palestinian resistance and the

The panel (L-R) Mr.Faez Saeed A. Saeed, Mr. Abdullah Abduh Saeed, Mr. Ahmed A. al-Hajri, & Mr. Faisal S. Fara'e. The photo views the governor honoring one of the children

Zionist obstinacy and the US superciliousness. "We hope that the elderly people have to abate our children's worries and concerns.

We think that our children are not young. They are the elder ones and this is the only hope we have to pin on. We could also become conscious for the children's portraits to transmit bad the parents' habits such as, smoking and chewing Qat," the governor commented. During the closing ceremony, the top budding talents in the field of drawing were honored as well as a number of distinguished media means which have played a significant role in supporting the Children Drawing Festival were also honored at the presence of the Mr. Ahmed Abdullah Al-Hajri, the Taiz governor and Mr. Faisal Saeed Fara'e, the General Manager of the Al-Saeed Foundation for Culture & Sciences and Mr. Abdullah Abduh Saeed.

Yemen Times Establishment for Press, Printing and Publication was honored during the closing ceremony. On its part, cash prizes were distributed to the top children winners in drawing by the Development & Family Magazine published by the Yemen Times for Press, Printing, and Publication.



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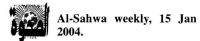
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## **14** 19 January, 2004

## Press



Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr

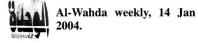


#### Main headlines:

- Commenting on Sana'a conference resolutions, opposition: Backing off embarrassing for regimes
- Mauritanian authorities arrest Islamic leader Bin Mansoura
- Doha dialogue for bridging the gap between Islamic world and the United States

Columnist Zaid al-Shami says in his article the conference on democracy and human rights held in Sana'a last week is considered an addition to the theoretical asset supporting human rights respect. The conference reflexes the situation of human rights in the third world that is endeavouring to attain his rights to live in dignity, safe and free, expressing his opinion without fear from being accounted or chased or imprisoned.

Political parties and civil society organisations had spelled out their complaint for being marginalized and not invited to take part in preparing for the conference or attending it. It seems that that was rectified at the last moments Though the conference has discussed vital issues an called for respect for general rights of humankind and condemned occupation and domination of the powerful over the weak, the problem lies in how to convince the decisionmakers to allow the human to entertain his rights fully and to live free, having a pressurizing opinion deterring the unjust, questioning the ruler and obliging the authority to deal with resources and destinies in a good manner and making popular watching over the government performance effective? How the human find a chance inn education, work and production, enjoying wealth of life hat should not be kept at the hands of an oligarchy of exploiters and parasites at the expense of the weak majority?



Main headlines:

- Foreign ministry senior source: UAE Information minister arouse astonishments
- Qassem al-Ajam: Minesweeping the central parts of the country begins this year
- YSP politburo member Abdulghani Abdulqader: Success of world dialogue in Sana'a calls for a national dialogue
- Sudanese foreign minister: Establishment of holding company, free zone and businessmen council of the Sana'a grouping countries

- Construction of strategic power projects worth \$423 million this year Columnist Abdulla al-Qadhi writes in

his article that the democracy conference that Sana'a embraced lately with a an extensive regional and international participation has come in harmony with the democratic pursuit that Yemen has followed since the 1990 as a support for achieving the unity on 2 May of the same year. This is the second conference of its kind to be held in Yemen after the conference of emerging democracy held in Sana'a in 1990. despite of whatever said about the Yemeni democratic experiment the election of Sana'a a venue for holding the conference is considered a confirmation of our country=s adherence to the democratic approach and its efforts for improving human rights conditions and an international appreciation of our country in following this direction as part of the dictates of international changes after the end of the cold war and 11 September events in the United States in 2001.

Nevertheless we can exact that democracy and human rights as an integrated system could not be achieved in one dose or as a ready-made recipe or an imitation of an example here and there. This system also cannot be realized by a higher decision from an influential authority or as a dictate by an external power, but rather through a long struggle, democratic education and a longterm accumulative building.



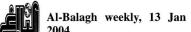
## Al-Wahdawi weekly, 13 Jun 2004.

## Main headlines:

- In response to World Bank, a rise in fuel prices
- Local Governance ministry demands for punishing against judiciary because it ruled against it
- Physicians and pharmacists union confiscated by government
   AAl-Wahdawi stands before press
- prosecution The political editor of the newspaper

wrote saying no doubt the Sana=a declaration has resulted from an international demonstration in which it has expressed its dissatisfaction of issues and crises of the age. But that attitude was expressed rather shyly and coolly as if it does not realize the seriousness and dangers of these crises and their reflections of violations and brutality on humanity. This is the savage American power standing against humanity was it not of democracy to ponder long before this tyranny that is grinding the world, annihilating the peoples of Palestine, Iraq and Afghanistan and endeavors to eliminate other peoples, and to condemn it?

The writer also queries whether it is not of democracy to stand for long before disarming the Arab and Muslims of the right to nuclear armament with keeping the same right for the Israeli occupation, and isn=t it a clear argument and a just demand towards establishment of peace and security in the region? If this democratic international conference does not even with one word in the face of violations of the forces of tyranny and aggression America to condemn and expose the weapons of its culture of aggression against the world, it would not be able to do anything for others because violations and aggressiveness of the powerful would result in similar attitudes by the smaller ones.



# Main headlines

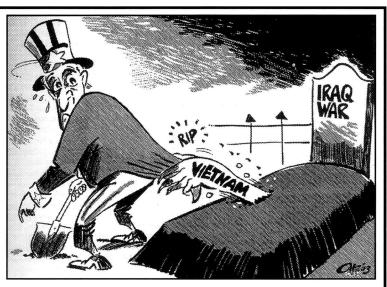
- UN Assistant Secretary-General says Sana'a conference revealed extensively the concepts of democracy
- President Saleh: Opposition is the other face of rule, not rival to the ruler
- Sana'a conference: Independent media necessity for supporting democracy
- Arab and International Journalists Unions joint delegation visit Baghdad
- President Saleh: Looking forward to free democratic world free from injustice, oppression and occupation,
- Sana'a conference does not condemn any political regime; regimes should listen to others= opinions
- One of biggest Sana'a hotels to be sold for \$26 million
- Pressures at Sane=a conference for ignoring
   American brutality
- New government price dose to begin with oil products
- AIDS in a hospital in Sa'da
- U.S. occupying forces violate worshipping houses in Iraq
- Number of health ministry officials sent to public property court
- Abuhaliqa: There are no pressures on Yemen, Rome agreement before parliament soon
- Cabinet affirms the present rise in prices an extraordinary state with external causes
- Popular query on possibility of implementing Sana'a conference resolutions and recommendations on the ground
- Teachers Union demands real change in the undemocratic behaviour the government practices
- Sana'a declaration: No democracy without elected legislative bodies
- Addressed a letter to Sana'a conference, Hadramout sit-in demands dismantle of oil monopoly and stop of cancellation
- Trade unionists: Trade Unions law unconstitutional, others demand increase in their salaries
- Bomb went off in the car of court president in Makras, Baidha governorate
- Solidarity committee appeals to democracy conference to release al-Mouyad

lifeboat for third world regimes The political editor of the newspaper says the delay of the American announcement officially of her taking part in the democracy conference in Sana=a has aroused a large-scale discussion inside the political circles and representatives of participating international organisations. A number of participants explained that of the American announcement reflects the White House fear from that the conference is essen-

would make it obliged to whatever r issued by the conference of recommendations and decisions devoted for returng ing the American policy to the international fold and driving pillars of international legitimacy.

Attariq weekly, 13 Jan 2004.

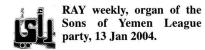
- Main headlines:



The World & I - Jan.2004

We have been calling for founding a balance between wages and prices through a national strategy. Undoubtedly he imbalance between wages and prices implies a sign of weakness in the national economy and pushes workers to look for extra jobs for the realization of balance that increases their wages at the expense of their original production and work and consequently decreases their production, affects the social justice and hinders the problem of population.

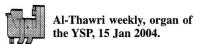
We would expect the government to implement goals of the balance between wages and prices through new measures and encouragement of investment to add new job opportunities, increase in rates of investment in industrial and agricultural areas and building bid national projects and restricted to small enterprises. The issue of wages and prices is of the main issues the government and parliament should always discuss and study because there is a full connection between wages and prices on the one hand and the building the national economy on the other.



Columnist Khalid al-Harwaji says in his article the regional conference for democracy and human rights that was concluded in Sana'a on Monday 12 January, was not the only forum that demanded for those human values and the emphasis on the necessity of practicing them. But he only thing is that this conference there was no one objecting its intentions and goals.

More than 660 participants have over two days talked about principles of

ruling regimes. Simply, democracy and human rights in our region and the third world countries are still slogans repeated by the regimes whenever it is needed and would remain like that.

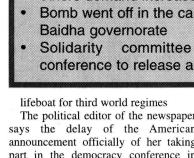


### Main headlines:

- Interrogation of the YSP student sector at Sana'a University
- Health ministry sends AIDS patients to charlatans
- Bar Association presents al-Jifri deformities of judiciary

Under a title "The British Troops kill Iraqis with Shoes", columnist Hashim Abdulaziz writes an article saying that during his last Sunday visit to the British soldiers in the Iraqi city of Basra, and Prime Minister Tony Blair said that the world was being threatened by the virus of Islamic extremism. Blair=s statement was not something new and did not surprise but Tony Blair himself. This does not mean that the prime minister was frank and clear before the "pioneers of the new soldiery in the 21st century", as he had described the British soldiers but rather was impudent not only in the racism of his words, because extremism and terror have no race or religion, but also in the acts of the "pioneers of the new colonialist soldiery" that they deserved from him the risk of visiting them and praising their acts that represent the ugliest colonialist crimes in

retaliation from the Iraqis. Among the main acts reported by the media especially the British newspaper The Independent to which the Amnesty International urged its members to directly protest with the British prime minister and the demand for holding an investigation in them were the acts of torture of the Iraqi prisoners in Basra by British troops. The report mentioned that British soldiers in Basra attacked eight Iraqi young men and kicked them with shoes after their being arrested and that led to the death of one of them of the severity of kicking and that young Iraqi man was called Baha Mousa, son of an Iraqi police officer. Through its correspondent in Basra the British newspaper presented a talking picture of the ugly incident with all the meanings and indications of the Amoral message and "humanitarian message of the British and Americans for delivering" the Iragis.



### 

#### Main headlines:

- Teachers union asks the government not to interfere in unions affairs
- Election of a new chairman for the handicapped society in Dhalie failed
  Honouring ceremony for the ten top graduates from secondary school stage, scientific branch
- President Saleh says democracy is the age option of all peoples and a

tially targeted against the American expansionist policy geographically or the destruction of international legitimacy. And that it comes from its no longer caring for international laws and charters, behaving in unilateral pole manner without consulting the international community. This makes some to say that the United States see in this conference as a European attempt to disclose its policy. Some others on the other hand see that the American official presence

- The genera managers relieved of their posts in Lahj
- Arab parliamentarian: Problem of rule in the Arab homeland led to its backwardness
- Difference of the Yemeni regime does not prevent our joining the GCC Columnist Ahmed Abdraba Alawi

says for a long time we have been hearing of an orientation of concerned authorities to draw up a new policy for wages and salaries. Talks of officials

democracy, freedom, justice and equality, confirming they are the only way of survival for regimes and peoples. The strange thing was that even the most dictatorial regimes were among the most admirers of democracy and demanding for safeguarding democracy and public freedoms.

As for the real application of those humanitarian values and noble activities it is still far-fetched because they are still inapplicable in the viewpoints of the





## I. What to Say Situations and expressions (60): Good wishes for success in Exam (III)

**x**am is an acid-test which brings out the best in a student. It is a time of stock-I taking, a time of reckoning, a time of looking ahead when a student is required to put his best foot forward. As such a student needs a strong power of concentration and an indomitable will to go that extra mile to prove his mettle.

- Emerge a winner. For a positive attitude can take you to the heights of glory. May your belief in your capabilities, coupled with goodluck, bring your way a world of success. With best wishes for your Exams.
- This comes to inspire you to scale great heights of success in your exams where you can achieve whatever you want to. Just bring out the special something from deep within you Best of luck in your exams.
- Exams are here. It's time to prove your intelligence, dear! Show that you're the best and this wish will help you in your quest. Wishing you success in your exams.
- Look to the future and set your sights high ---that big world out there can be yours if you try. Tomorrow is waiting --- It's boundless and new - And the future belongs to any one who has the courage to pull through.
- You can if you believe you can.
- There is a lot of pride in every thought of you and lots of love behind this wish for you. Best of luck for your exams.
- Wish you success. Some one who is as graceful and gracious as you always are, deserves a fair measure of success so that you may win contentment and pleasure day by day, hour after hour.

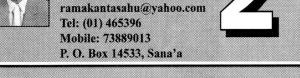
### II. How to Say it Correctly

Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences

- 1. There are one hundred eight students in Level Four.
- 2. Basam and Ramzi's computer skills are praiseworthy.
- Those news were broadcasted from BBC vesterday.
- Both Radi as well as Abdu are intelligent.
- 5. All my family members are in India.
- Suggested answers to last week's questions 1. The young man denied having stolen the watch.
- 2. We met yesterday, but he didn't tell me about this.
- This room is much too small for six persons. 4. Why should the rich look down upon the
- poor? 5. This house is as bad as, if not worse than the other.

## **III. Increase Your Word Power**

- (A) How to express it in one word
- The other side of the globe. 2. A person guilty of the criminal act of setting
- fire to property.



Dr. Ramakanta Sahu Associate Professor

College of Education,

Mahweet

(B) Foreign phrases and idioms

5. marriage the convenance

2. lingua franca

4. magnum opus

ibidem (Lat.): in the same place, thing or case

Bring out differences in meaning of the following

2. foist, hoist

Suggested answers to last week's questions

5. flogging, flagging

Suggested answers to last week's questions

in camera (Lat,): in a private room

5. In memoriam (Lat.): to the memory of

in toto (Lat.): in its entirety

(C) Words Commonly Confused

impasse (Fr.): a deadlock

following:

4.

1. inter alia

3. locus standi

pairs of words:

1 fist feast

4. fog, mist

during an epidemic.

Education

- Most doctors agree that it is better to -diseases than to cure it. People with infectious diseases should try and
- Give the source of origin and the meaning of the 3. contact with other people. 4.
  - She was so frightened of injections that she kept ----- going to see the doctor.
  - The vaccination will ----- you from catching 5. cholera.
  - 6. The government is trying very hard to chickenpox from spreading.

## Suggested answers to last week's questions

- 1. My uncle lived in India until he was 35 and then came to England.
- 2. I hope that the meeting will have finished by 11.30.
- I think I'll wait until she gets here, but if she 3 hasn't come by nine o'clock, I'll get a taxi.
- In the film, the detective knows who the 4. murderer is by about half way through, but he doesn't reveal the killer's identity until right at the end. Make sure that this work is completed by 5.
- Monday at the latest. The children are usually home by four o'clock.
- I'm going to the States for a holiday and I'll stay there until the end of September.
- You've been in Yemen for five years! You ought to know how to make simple
- conversation in Arabic by now. 9 He won't be able to move into the new house by the end of March, so he'll be staying with friends until then.
- 10. It was such an awful film I'm surprised you stayed until the end.

#### (B) Composition: Paragraph Writing Expand the central idea embedded in the proverb **51: CHARITY BEGINS AT HOME**

### Last week's topic

**50: BEGGARS ARE NOT CHOOSERS** One who finds himself in the position of asking for help has to be content with what the donor is pleased to offer. A person at the receiving end has no right to grumble or complain about the magnitude of munificence, however meagre it may be. After all, something he receives is better than nothing, because his hopeless condition has left him at the mercy of the giver. But the donor should not be blind to the fact that the beggar or the person in distress and, consequently in need for help, has a basic sense of dignity and self-respect. The person in the position to offer a gesture of charity has no moral right to injure his self respect even though the unfortunate victim of destiny is in a destitute condition. We can never ignore the stark reality that very often men are forced to beg because of dire circumstances which, however, cannot rob them of the right to live with a sense of dignity. As such they shouldn't be dealt with sternly, cynically or inhumanly, but with empathy and compassion. A beggar may not have the right to choose, but he doesn't deserve to be subjected to humiliation and indignity.

V. Pearls from the Holy Quran

To make clear to you

And to guide you into

The ways of those

Before you; and (He

Doth wish to) turn to you

(In mercy): and Allah

Is All-knowing, All-wise."

"Love is life. And if you miss love,

you miss life."

S4:A26

—Leo Buscaglia

"Allah doth wish

EDD

VI. Words of Wisdom

926

## Dear Fellow teachers, lease don't jump to the conclu-

Presented by Dr. Ramakanta Sahu

sion that I am suggesting translation of English into Arabic wholesale in English classes. By translation here, I mean intralingual translation, which I will explain further below.

Translation experts talk about three kinds of translation: interlingual translation, which is the most common kind and which means translating from one language to another, say from English to Arabic; intralingual translation, which means translating the message from one form to another in the same language, say rewriting a long essay into its summary; and intersemiotic translation, which means translating the message from one form to another, say from a weather chart into a text.

Interlingual translation is what we normally use in our English classes, translating English words or sentences or texts into Arabic. I have already warned you against the rampant use of Arabic in English classes and have suggested the judicious use of it for the benefit of our learners. Translation is developing as a serious study and is being taught on higher courses in the universities with a view to producing efficient translators; these courses concentrate on interlingual translation.

One of the experts in the Hodeidah Conference highlighted the use of intralingual and intersemiotic translations as teaching strategies. Let's look closely at them and see how they can be used in our English classes. He quoted paraphrasing, note making and summarizing as examples of intralingual translation and turning a timetable or a weather chart into a text as an example of intersemiotic translation.

Paraphrasing and summarizing are useful teaching strategies, especially at a

higher level, say in secondary schools and colleges. They involve the learners and demand a lot of work from them; they will have to read the text to be paraphrased several times, refer to a dictionary for difficult words, if necessary, understand it, and rewrite it in their own words as they paraphrase it. The reading of the text in this case will be reading of a higher order, developing the necessary reading skills in the learner, and so is writing. Summarizing also demands higher order skills and a very useful technique in English classes.

19 January, 2004 **15** 

Our learners have to be trained to do these activities through practice. The texts for these activities should be carefully selected; the topics should be familiar and the language within the level of the learners. To begin with, the texts from books meant for lower classes can be used for practice, and later, passages from newspapers, magazines and other such sources can be used. I personally feel that passages in Arabic can also be used for these activities, for the skills needed for paraphrasing and summarizing are not language specific. But extreme caution should be taken while selecting Arabic passages to be used in English classes and it will be better if the Arabic passages are used occasionally in English classes. Alternatively, teachers of Arabic can be encouraged to use these activities in their classes and the teachers of English can refer to the learning strategies used in these activities while the learners engage themselves in such activities in their classes. Such interdisciplinary (between two disciplines of study) activities should be encouraged for the benefit of the learners, because learning should not be treated as a watertight compartment; it is only natural to encourage our learners to learn from all available sources.

There are a lot of exercises in the Crescent English Course books for intralingual and intersemiotic translations. I'll write about them in my next letter. Use them. Good luck.

> Yours fraternally, Dr.M.N.K.Bose

## Poetry Corner



Turbanned men in lungis chewing 'qat'

With one and only religion, Islam. Submitting to the will of God (Insha

Allah) The tall, pale hills of Sana'a Defiant like the upright Yemenis

Rocky sea-shores of Hadramout Harvests of Tuna, shark and pomfred The swarming markets of Mukalla Lustre of Arabian gold and scent of perfumes A land where there is no water

#### 1. relay (vt) (send out a broadcast program received from another station): The President's speech on the Unification day was relayed by all the radio stations. rely (vi) (depend upon with confidence): You

3. kill, keel

can rely on me for help in case of any difficulty. rally (vt) (come together in the face of threat

or danger to make new efforts): The troops rallied round their commander to devise new strategies. sense (n) (power to understand and make

judgments): He has a strong business sense. (delicate sensibility (n) emotional impressions): She is endowed with a fine artistic sensibility.

3. sensible (adj) (reasonable, having or showing good sense): It's a sensible opinion. sensitive (adj) (quick to show or feel the effect of a force): I am sensitive to cold.

- slide (vt) (slip along): He slid along the ice. skid (vi) (move or slip sideways of a car out of control): The car skidded off the road and fell into a gorge.
- poach (vt) (to catch or shoot animals, birds, or fish illegally): A man was caught poaching tuskers for ivory

pouch (n) (small bag carried in the pocket): He always carries a pouch of tobacco with him.

## (C) Idioms and phrases

- Illustrate the meanings of the following in sentences
- 1. to hang in the balance.
- to hit the nail on the head.
- to have the upper hand.
- 4. to hold water. to leave no stones unturned.

5.

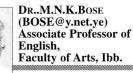
4.

## Suggested answers to last week's questions

- to cry over spilt milk (to feel sorry for what has already happened): There's no use crying over spilt milk.
- 2. to cut a sorry figure (to create a poor impression): The speaker could not answer the audience's questions and cut a sorry figure.
- to die in harness (to die while performin

5. Animals living in water: aquatic (adj)

# A letter to the teachers of English: 39 **Translation as a** useful strategy to teach English (1)



- Science of cultivation of frees of shrubs
- 4. Study of antiquities, especially of prehistoric period.
- 5. The mistake of placing something in the wrong period of time.

## Suggested answers to last week's questions

- 1. Allowance due to a wife from her husband on separation: alimony (n)
- 2. A person who considers the wellbeing and happiness of others first: altruist (n)
- A substance in the blood tending to neutralize 3. matter that is harmful: **antibody** (n)
- The science of cultivation and maintenance of beehives: epiculture (n)
- one's duty): The worker died in harness; so his son was given employment in the factory. to end in smoke (fail): All the government's schemes are bound to end in smoke due to the
- resource crunch. 5. to go to the dogs (to be ruined): Law and order will go to the dogs unless prompt action is taken to remedy the situation.

## **IV. Grammar and Composition**

- (A) Grammar Use 'avoid' or 'prevent' to complete the following
- sentences
- 1. It was difficult to ----- catching smallpox

## by DAVID OUELLET WONDERWORD

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.

			CL	UES		
	Agree	Dignity	Paces		Saint	Straddle
	Anonym	onym Elite			Saloon	Straight
	Beams	Endure	Party		Scores	Structure
	Bench	Erect	Pause		Screen	Strut
	Boudoir	Esteem	Pedest	al	Shoes	Support
	Carry	First	Perform	nance	Shop	Sweeping
	Caucus	Grief	Ploy		Singer	Teach
	Chair	Growing	Podiun	n	Sole	Telethon
	Charade	Hiking	Pools		Space	Theater
1	Cheers	Hips	Portrai	t	Speaker	Tolerate
	Child	Hobbies	Presen	ter	Speech	Vicar
	Clan	Host	Preside	ent	Splints	Voice
	Clerics	Hunter	Propos	sal Stable		Wait
	Collapse	Intact	Props		Stage	Work
	Composure	Note	Recess	5	Stamina	
	Confined	Obedience	Remaii	า	Stationary	
2	Court	Orate	Road		Steady	
	Cubicle	Ovation	Safety		Stove	
		ANSWER NEXT W	/EEK		Last Week's An	swer: Orders

IN	IN GOOD STANDING Solution: 7 letters																			
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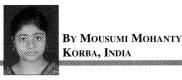
CQ 2797 No flowers, plants and trees No rivers, lakes and valleys No rain, dance and music No liquor, no hot movies No fashionable ladies or models No 'isms' and religions to fight Everywhere the bare mountains Vast, never ending stretches of sand Veiled women in black burkhas

From India to Yemen

A total uprooting

But petrol running like water. Still it gives me a space A smile and salute to the liberated Indian teacher.

## **Beholden to you!**



Every night I went to bed I reflect about you, What would my life really be just without you. As days roll by your skin may be drier.

But the face is as radiant, enriched by the inner glow.

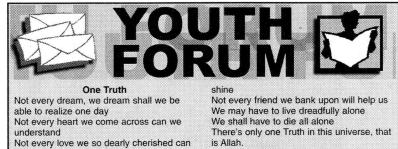
Not every road we traverse will the stars

come to fruition

So loving, so tender, so caring You are the God's most wonderful gift to us, especially to me. Many times I have hurt you, but you always bear it with a smile, That is most precious and pristine, without a guile How much I love you words cannot deliver

My humble prayers are to have you, my AAI\* by my side as ever.

\*AAI means grandma in Oriya, a language spoken in Eastern India



EIMAN SHARAF AL-WADHI AL-MAHWEET

## Sport / Fun Page

# World record holder in positive drug test

#### BY GENE CHERRY

16

RALEIGH, North Carolina (Reuters) -World indoor 1,500-metre record holder Regina Jacobs, 40, has tested positive for the previously undetectable steroid tetrahydrogestrinone (THG), the U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC) has announced.

The committee also said on Friday that Sydney Olympics 4x400 metres relay gold medallist Calvin Harrison had tested positive for the stimulant modafinil.

Both positives came at June's U.S. championships in Stanford, California, and both athletes are disputing their cases, the USOC said.

On Tuesday, U.S. women's hammer champion Melissa Price became the fourth American track and field athlete to test positive for THG.

Britain's European 100 meters champion Dwain Chambers has also tested positive for the steroid.

Price is married to British shot putter Carl Myerscough, who has served a twoyear ban for failing a drugs test.

Discovery of THG has touched off an international doping scandal that has involved not only track and field, but U.S. professional baseball and football.

A federal jury is investigating the BALCO laboratory in San Francisco which the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency believes to be the source of THG.

Jacobs set the world indoor record of 3:59.98 last February and a month later won the 1,500-metre title at the world indoor championships in England.

BARAKANI



World indoor 1,500-metre record holder Regina Jacobs, 40, has tested positive for the previously undetectable steroid tetrahydrogestrinone (THG), the U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC) has announced. Jacobs of the U.S. celebrates winning the 1500 Metres final at the 2003 Indoor Athletics World Championships in Birmingham in March 2003. REUTERS/Yves Herman

She would face a two-year ban if her positive is upheld but her lawyer Edward Williams has denied the athlete knowingly took banned substances.

Harrison admitted in October he had testified positive for modafinil, saying he had been told by a coach who gave him it that it would keep him from getting too fatigued.

World 100 and 200 metre champion Kelli White also tested positive for the stimulant. Her case is under review and she could be stripped of her titles. White has said she was prescribed

modafinil to treat a sleep disorder.

# Nalbandian shocks Agassi

BY OSSIAN SHINE

MELBOURNE (Reuters) - David Nalbandian shocked Andre Agassi in the final of the Kooyong International, denying the American a fourth title here in five years.

The Argentine was solid throughout his 6-2 6-3 victory, never allowing Agassi to get a grip on the match and thoroughly deserving the win.

Three times in the last four years Agassi has lifted the cup in Kooyong and on each occasion he has gone on to win the Australian Open.

This time, the Open champion will begin the defence of his crown next week with a defeat blotting his 2004 record.

"Sorry, I couldn't give a better final," Agassi told the crowd. "I could only manage five games...it was a tough day that's for sure.

"There's no question I felt pretty good. There was nothing to complain about except my opponent.

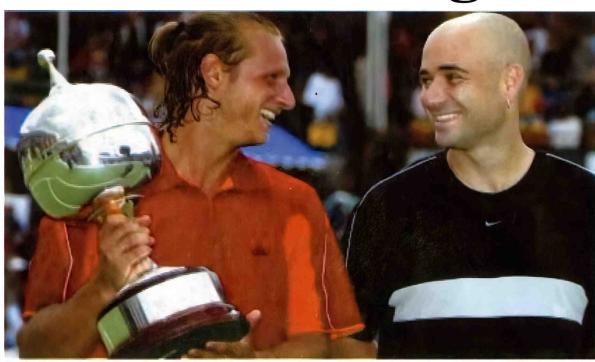
"Give him the full credit for playing a great match. He did a lot of things really well," the American told reporters.

"He played well on the big points, he came up with some great shots. I found myself appreciating his shots quite a bit out there.

"Today is a good example of how hard it is to win out here...today I came off worse."

**Real boost** 

For Nalbandian, who beat world



David Nalbandian (L) from Argentina holds the trophy as he stands next to Andre Agassi from the U.S. after the final of the Kooyong International tennis tournament in Melbourne on Saturday. Nalbandian won the match and tournament 6-2 6-3. REUTERS/David Gray

number one Andy Roddick here on Friday, the victory is a real boost ahead of next week's slam.

"Andre is a great player...I played really well today. Not every day you can beat an incredible, unbelievable player like this.

"Well, I think it was important to play these matches against these players...I am feeling very, very good at the moment and I hope to continue like

Agassi certainly Argentine's chances.

tennis and he moves really well," Agassi said. "He strikes the ball verv

do a lot with the ball. He has plenty of weapons to win.

for anybody.

this surface, no question."

at Melbourne Park.

now it is time to play."



Check in on a Wednesday OR Thursday Check out on Friday OR Saturday

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## **7-Day Weather Forecast**

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Day	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Day	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
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Lo	3	4	4	4	3	3	3	Lo	21	21	22	22	19	19	19

this the next two weeks." rates the

"Movement is the biggest weapon in

cleanly with a lot of control. "He counter-punches well and can

"He has a great fighting heart and

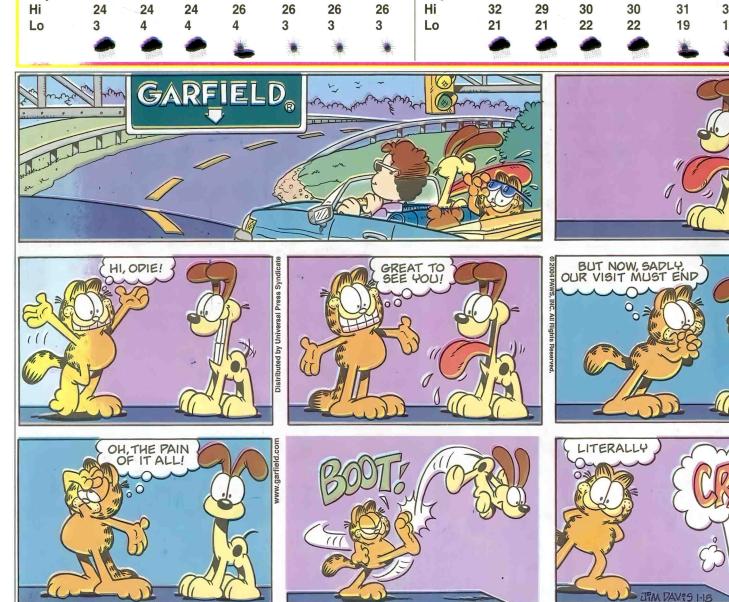
mind and that is going to be a problem

"This might be his best surface. He is very versatile...he is a workman and is prepared to go out there in all conditions. I think he can beat anybody on

But Agassi reflected on a solid week on the Rebound Ace hard court of Kooyong and said he was ready to hit the ground running on the same surface

"I know that I've done my work and

## THE LAST WORD **INASTROLOGY**





Libra (Sept 23 - Oct 22) You can get ahead if you do a little extra running around. Lend a helping hand to a group you believe in or to friends, relatives or a neighbor in need.

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21) Don't leave money matters to chance. Refrain from going to stores that are just too tempting for you. Don't take on other people's responsibilities.



Emotional matters will escalate if you are involved in a partnership. Today it will be impossible to steer clear of emotional issues, so face facts and accept change.



Don't let anyone sidetrack you today. Keep your intentions to yourself for now and focus on the little extras you can implement into your plans. Don't push your luck with an authority figure.



You will attract attention today. Partnership can begin if you want to share a business plan that you have been mulling over. Don't use your own money.



You may be put in an awkward position, especially if someone you are close to wants to borrow money. Be firm and offer advice not your hard-earned cash. This is not the day to trust others.

someone you are close to or live

with. Try to compromise.

01

(Feb 19-Mar 20)

TEMEN

. . . . .



## کو ہون اسٹنڈ و کم (۱۱)

البطاقة لشخصية / الجواز :	لسن: الجنسية: رقم	الإسم: ا
	المدينة / المحافظة:	التلفون: العنوان:

١/مشروب الطاقة والحيوية باورهورس يحتوي على 7/ اذكر أسماء ثلاثة أبواب لصنعاء القديمة؟
 عدةمواد منشطة وفيتامينات منهاالكافين ويوجد ٤/ ما هو الحدث الهام الذي شهدته العاصمة بنسبة : ٣٢ملغ ام ٣٠ ملغ أم ٣٠ ملغ؟
 ٢/ عبوة مشروب الطاقة والحيوية باورهورس تحتوي من مختلف دول العالم؟
 على ٢٥٠مل أم ١٥٠مل أم ٣٠٠مل؟

للمشاركة إقرأ التفاصيل:

على الراغبين في المشاركة في مسابقة الملايين الكبرى ٢٠٠٤ تعبئة المعلومات الشخصية في الكربون المرفق وقض الكربون ومن ثم عليهم ترقب عدد الخميس القادم للإجابة عن الأسئلة التي وردت في هذا العدد ثم جمع الكربونين معا وإرسالهما إلى مقر الصحيفة في صنعاء (شارع حده – خلف السفارة الفلسطينية) أن إلى مكاتب الصحيفة في عدن أو تعز أو الحديدة. كما يمكن للمشاركين إرسالها إلى بريد الصحيفة في صنعاء على عنوان (ص. ٢٥٧٩ ، صنعاء).

ستستمر المسابقة لعدة أشهر ويمكن للمشارك أن يشارك 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 ٢٦٨٦٦١ ((٠) في أوقات الدوام. حظاً موفقاً للجميع....

المصداقية هي شعارنا، وثقتكم هي غايتنا، شاركوا وترقبوا أسماكم من بين الفائزين......

# للمتتاركة عليكم الاجابة عن الأسئلة اعلاد في كوبون الاجابات في عدد يوم الخميس القادح وإرسال الكوبونين إلى الصحيفة

# **18** Classifieds

19 Juanuary, 2004



graduateinelectrical, English& computerproficiency, 2)ATechnician(Electical),Yemeni nationality,	proficiant incomputers (Female) Po box 3 8 9 8 e m a i 1 : whatacat@softhome.net ■ Required a civil engineer, well qualified in	contracting & Inv.Co, seeking for a female secretary 2-3 years experience, fluent in Arabic and English , expert in	contact :278325. Translation services . we *are offering quality, accuracy and authentic language (Arabic-English - Russian ) with special expertise in NGO and	email:a_del2000@hotmail.co Real Estate for rent: Furnished villa	TRAINING CENTEAPTECHSanaand garden ,excellentfinishing. monthly rent \$1, 600Haddah area.Please contactAhmed	Closed envelopes wit weeks as from the da publishing of this av	August 200945     Queen Arwa University Sana'a University     449971/2 230553/4/5       ge Institute titute (University Branch)     200945     200945       hin 2 Rom, prize \$250 not company P4, in a ver- te of ready for negotiation, good condition, 512 Ram d. to please contact Mr. 1.7 GHz, 30 GB har- ands Abdulla Ahmed, Mobile: disk, cd Rom, DVD, C
	Please contact at:	C.V. to Fax No. 01- 509059 Sana'a		for int . Personnel ,sitting ,dinning, Mafrag,maid and	venicies	421800.	tion: ■ For sale: A lap top Dell : 71286716.
440415 ■Requierd for a leader company :1)a contractar or	■ Required for a reputed company, a Tagalog speaking executive secretary (male/female)	Job Seekers Skilled young man on cars driving, good in	driving ability, looking for a job in a travel comapny pls contact:7386522.	<ul> <li>two Master bed rooms it is</li> <li>Safe . Contact Mustafa:</li> <li>73416400 .</li> <li>■ For sale:Building located at crater(ADEN),</li> </ul>	good condition full automatic, pls contact Dr.Shakeel 73812799.	C a m r y , StationWagon, in a very good condition	ACCOR
A excavation about water ,2) 3 secretaries (female) with english spoken	correspondence and Computers.Good salary. Please post CV to 3898 or email: whatacat@	:73630770	from the American inst, toefl, computer courses, 3 years experiance in	in front of tele_ yemen, next to Arwa cinema. pls	<ul> <li>(vitara) 1995, in a very good condition.pls contact:73580897</li> <li>■ For sale,Nissan petrol</li> </ul>	negotiable. Please contact Jamal: 73706820. Ford Expedition	Are you ready to progress in your career? Join Us!!!! Accor Hotels – Yemen (Sofisel Taiz Hotel & Mercure Sana'a Hotel) are looking to recruit a highly motivated Yemeni candidate (Male) for its Sales & Marketing Department.
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5 دير تجاري خبيرة في المراسلات للتواصل: ٠٤٢٤١٩٠٩، تعز. ي الماليةللتواصل : هاتف: ٢٧٩٨٢٢ -VIEVOTTV

۲) موزعین ۳)مهندسین ٤)أطبا، ۲۰۳۳، تلفون سیار ۷۳۸۰۰۲۶ email:hmssh77@yahoo.com )صيادلة ٦) ولاتأخذ أي رسوم للتواصل : على محمد على ∎شملان ناصر العواضي،بكالوريوس إدارة مع موقف للسيارات للتواصل . ٧١٦٥٢٧٠٧ VT7751V7 أعمال حاصل على توفل في اللغة الأنكليزية ،

على التواصل وبناء العلاقات مع الاطباء للتواصل :٧١٩٢٢، ٧١٩٢٨ صنعاء.

والصيادلة وذلك للعمل في شركة أدوية في المازن عبد الله ضوبائي، بكلوريوس لغة 🔳 مطلوب للأيجار: محل فتحة أو فتحتين مدينة الحديدة للتواصل: صنعاء:- تلفاكس أنكليزية، يرغب العمل في مجال التدريس في في شارع رذيسي أو في مكان مزدحم كأن TAVAVV

مطلوب:١)سكرتيرة تجيد الطباعة أستخدام الكومبيوتر، خبرة في العمل :سيار ٧١٨٢٦١٤٥ للعمل فترتين. ٢) طباع بخبرة سابقة ٤) والتفريغ، للتواصل: ٧٣٥٠٢٣٦٩ :للتواصّل :ت : ٤٤٩٩٩١، ٤٤٩٩٩٥

مطلوب:سكرتيرة بدوم كامل وتجيد الاثنين ، الاربعاء ، الخميس ، الجمعة ، هاتف: ١٨٨-١٧١٢١٩١، ١٢١٢٩١ الطباعة (عربي ، إنكليزي) للتواصل : فاكس لتواصل : هاتف ٢٥٦٢١١ ـــ ٢٠ فاكس ٢ مطوب للأيجار: أيجار محل على خط ۲۷۰۰٤۱، تلفون ۲۷۵۰٤۰، سیار ۷۱۲۰۲۳۷ ۲۲۱۷۲۹ ۲۰ ■ مطلوب:محاسب مالي لة خبرة في هذا 🔳 بدر فارع الأصبحي، حاصل على ويسعر:٨،٠٠٠ للعمل في مجال التكنولوجية

أنكليزية ومراسلات وكومبيوتر ٢) الأنكليزية ، يرغب العمل في أي مجال. ■ مطلوب للأيجار: بيت (٥–٦) غرف على أن يكون في شارع حدة مع خط هاتف

التجارية ٤)مدير مالي خبير في الأدارة الد. حسان مصطفى صبحي (طبيب عام) المتواصل زياض الذرحاني٧٣٨١٠٤٤٢. ٣٠٠٣ م خبرة في مجال التسويق ، نشيط 🔳 للإيجار:للأطباء وجميع التخصصات ومتحرك ولة علاقات مع الأطباء في عموم مجمع عيادات للأيجار اللتواصل ش٩ ، منفرع بالقرب من جولة القادسية مكونة من خمسة 🔳 للبيع: سيارة هوندا مرديل ٨٦ نوع أكورد مطلوب: مطلوب للعمل في المحافظات، يرغب العمل في وكالة أدوية، من شارع هايل، أمام سوق القات هاتف مع ■ مطلوب: مطلوب للعمل في المحافظات،يرغب العمل في وكالة أدوية، من شارع هايل، أمام سوق القات هاتف. ♦ السعودية بالمهن التالية ١) محاسبين المتواصل : اليمن ، عدن،خور مكسر، ص ب ١٤٨١ ٤ ، ٧٣٦٥٤٦٩٧ أبو بكر –صيدلية. البداية.

TVAT للإيجار:شقة مفروشة في الحي السياسي اللىدع: أرضىة مكونة من أربع لبنات على مطلوب: مندوب شرط ان يكون دبلوم كمبيوتر ، خبرة في الحسابات ، شارع ١٢ متر / الواقعة في عصر جوار مدينة حاصل على بكلوريوس صيدلة وقادر المشتريات ، مبيعات ، أدارة المبيعات ، الانسي وبسعر معقول للتواصل : أحمد العصري ٧١١٢٩٧٧٩

أى مدرسة خاصة أو غير وظيفة، يجيد يكون المحل على جولة للتواصل :عادل

وأستخدام الكومبيوتر٢)أمين مكتبة مستعد الملاحي والتعامل مع عمليات الشحن 🔳 للبيع: معمل حلويات متكامل عليك الأتصال على ت: ٧٢٨٨٧٧٠٢، إياد الاغبري. بكلوريوس لغة انكليزية لتدريس الانكليزي ٥) افتبال أحمد عبد الله، خبرة في التشجير ٢٢ اللبيع : محل ادوات ج س م ، مع عدد من مدرسي علوم . للعمل في جامعة الملكة أروى سنة ، مترجم يجيد ٤ لغات حية ، يرغب العمل خطوط الهاتف بأسعار مناسبة ، تخشيبة في فنادق مدينة عدن في الايام التلية: السبت ، بقالة مع ثلاجة بقالة للتواصل مع الاخ نبيل

سيارات رئيسي فتحة واحدة لايحتاج الى تجديد

للإيجار: شقة مكونة من ثلاث غرف + كلم بحالة ممتازة ، للتواصل : ت : ٧١١٤ ٥٨٨٧ مطبخ + حمامين، موقع ممتاز عند جولة هائل 🔳 للبيع: سيارة فيتارا جديدة، بأربعة أبواب، مع الرباط بجوار سور الجامعة الجديدة. كاملة المواصفات، موديل ٩٠ بدون جمرك + الرجاء التواصل على: ٧٢٨٧٦٤٣٠. أخرى موديل ٩٥، جديدة و مجمركة، بيضاء و للإيجار: توجد عمارة في شارع الرباط مقفص. للتواصل: فهمي العودي ٧١٦٦٦٦٥٢ طوابق حديثة البناء يمكن إستخدامها كجامعة (مواصفات خليجية)، لونها أبيض لولؤي، أو مستشفى. للتواصل: ٤٦٧٨٣١ - فاكس مجمركة بسعر ٣٠٠,٠٠٠ ثلاثمائة ألف ريال.

للتواصل: ٧٢٥٧٤٩٣٤(فهمي الأنسىي). للبيع: أراضي تجارية: ١) منطقة حدة، للبيع: سيارة سوزوكي موديل ٨٢ و بسعر تسع لبن على شارعين، مسفلت، واجهة تجارية مناسب. الرجاء الإتصال على : ٧١٧١٦٨٩٢ حوالي ٢٠ متر طولي، سعر اللبنة اللبيع: تويوتا، كامرى ١٩٨٩، بحالة جيدة، ۱٫۱۰۰,۰۰۰ مليون و مائة ألف ريال. ۲) ۲۲ السعر قابل للتفاوض. للتواصل: جمال: لبنة على شارعين ٢٢ متر مسفلت. سعر اللبنة ٧٢٧.٦٨٢.

على شارع حدة، سعر اللبنة .....٤ موديل ٢٠٠٠ ، اللون أبيض، لعداد ٢٥٠٠٠ أربعة ملايين ريال. للتواصل: أحمد محسن كيلو بسعر ممتاز و فر صة لا تعوض. الرجاء المريسى ٧٣٨٠٢٨٥٥. التواصل مع عبد الله أحمد محمد: للإيجار: عمارة مكونة منه ٢ شقة واسعة ٧١٧٣٩٧٦٨.

و يوجد في الطابق الأسفل بدروم و يوجد فيها 🔳 للبيع: سيا رة مرسيدس سوداء اللون دكاكين تجارية و يوجد بها مصعدين تصلح . E۲۳. مويل ۸۲ بحالة جيدة ونظيفة وبسعر أن تكون جامعة خاصة أو سكن طلابي أو معقول جداً. للتواصل: منصور ٧٢٧٠٧٢١١ مستشفى خاص أو وزارة. الموقع : الحصبة، EH۱۲ موديل البيع: رأس قاطرة قولڤو ۲۹۱۲ موديل شارع مازدا. للتواصل يرجى الإتصال بالأخ ٩٩، وشبول كاتريلر مستخدم ٧٠٠٠ كيلو فقط. شدى البعداني: ٧١١٠٣٠٦٦ حديث بمواصفات الشرق الأوسط ومجموعة هایلکسات مودیل من ۹۲ – ۹۸ ودینات دايهاتسو موديلات من ٩٨ – ٢٠٠١ وسيارات

أخرى. التواصل: عبدالله أحمد محمد VIVEAVIA



**البيع:** تلفون مستخدم مدمج ونغمات وكاميرة فيديو وعادة بس دولار ، للتواصل ۲۳۵۹۵ ، ۷۵۲۵۲ 🔳 للبيع: جهاز أسنان سوري مستعمل بحالة جيدة ، للتواصل: ص .1/11/17

🔳 للبيع؛ أثاث مدرسي جديد .VT712900

**للبيع:** ۱ ) كنب وكراسي ، مستخد

نظام فواتير ٣) هاتف نوكيا ٢٥٦٠ ملون جديد مع الشاحن بسعر ١٤٠ دولار ، ٤) تلفزيون مشترك (أنالوج مع ديجيتال). ٢) صحن ١٢ شارب جديد ٢١ بوصة ٥)خط سبيستل نظلم كروت ، للتواصل :٧٣٨١٠٤٤٢.

الأنحار :محركات كهربائية (ماطور) كبيرة وصغيرة وبجميع الأنواع للتواصل : جولة تعزعارف النزيلي : ٧٣٥٨٠٨٩٧. **للبيع**: تلفون سيار (نوكيا) موديل ٢٣١٠

صناعة فلندية بسعر(١١،٠٠٠) وقابل للتفاوض للتواصل: ٧٣٥٥٣٤٠٠ أيمن المسعودي أو ٢٤٥٣٢٦.

أمريكي. مصطفي الرفاعي: ٧٣٤١٦٤٠٠. VT01.19V

الله هاشم حجاف) . للبيع:ماطور كهربائي نوع ياماها (٥٠)كيلو
للبيع: جهاز نوكيا موديل ٦٢١٠ بحالة بحالة جيدة جدا للتواصل عارف النزيلي جيدة وبسعر معقول جداً للتواصل:

VTV.VTH للبيع: مكبر مع أدوات تحميض الأفلام كومبيوتر

للبيع: كوبيوتر بانتيوم (١) نوع كومباك مع ٧٢٥٦٩٩٣٠ صنعاء / شارع القاهرة.

مودم انترنت وبحالة جيدة بسعر ۲۵۰۰ ریال

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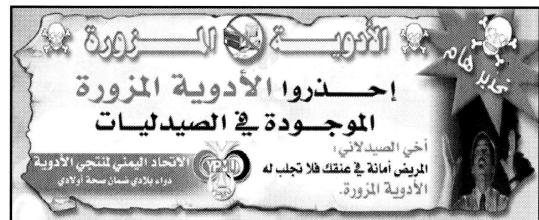
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į		
i		فية برامج سعر ۳۰۰
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77A.P//V ■ للبيع: ١) رسيفر عادي (أنالوج) مع \_\_\_\_\_

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الصحن ورأس متعدد المخارج. ٢) رسيفر (٦٥٠٠ ريال. ٢) مجموعة برامج CD. ٣) قابل للتفاوض للتواصل ٧٢٨١٠٤١٦ ديكور محل(سقف) + بترينات لون أبيض. 🔳 للبيع: كمبيوتر بانتيوم ٤مع الملحقات قدم متحرك مع الموتور (أوربيترون) الرجاء التواصل على: ٧١٤٧٥٢٥٢ (أحمد عبد والضمان بسعر ٥٥٠ دولار ، للتواصل VIEVOTOT, TTO901

مفقودات

🔳 فقدت أستمارة ثانوية عامة بأسم محمد قايد غالب عبد الغني ،من ثانوية تعز/ تعز سنة ٩٦ / ٩٧م لرقم جلوس ٢٢٢٣٧ ، للتواصل

# YEMEN (THE) TIMES

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# Bush Jr., Bin Laden, and Bill Gates: Who's running the world today?

By Yemen Times Staff

n a survey launched by a Polish magazine "POLITYKA", editors who participated in the survey from all over the world decided that the three most powerful individuals in the world are current US President George W. Bush, Al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden, and Microsoft founder and chairman Bill Gates.

#### Most powerful individuals of this time

The survey tried to answer the question of "Who's running the world today?" by sending a survey to editors of newspapers and magazines throughout the world. The initial survey included a list of names to choose from.

Even though survey results are not scientific and may not necessarily be reflecting reality,, the opinion of the voters is a direct reflection of the opinion about the individuals who have participated in framing the events happening during this specific era. The results clearly indicate that the USA's president is the sole individual who has more power than anyone else in the time being. On the other hand, many



**Bill Gates** 

believe that Osama bin Laden's role as the leader of al-Qaeda network, has changed the world especially after 9/11, and hence continues to have major influence on world events ever since.

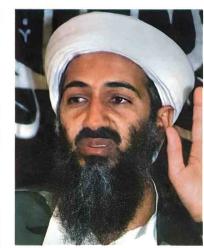
Meanwhile, Bill Gates is a person behind the scenes who owns the largest software company in the world.



George W. Bush

and who has the power through his Windows operating system that is running 90% of computers around the world to speed up globalization trends in a way never witnessed before.

More names in the top ten Among the top ten in the survey were Pope John P. II. Vladimir Putin, Annan



Osama bin Laden

Kofi. Saddam Hussein, and Tony Blair. Representatives of newspapers of more than 20 countries around the world participated in the survey, which is similar to many surveys carried out magazine by the polish (polityka.onet.pl) in an effort to get a feel of the opinion of editors around the world

# <u>Mounting pressure yields fruits:</u> **Kilroy resigns BBC post**

obert Kilroy-Silk has agreed to quit as presenter of the BBC's morning talkshow after 17 years just a week after the row blew up over his anti-Arab diatribe in the Sunday Express

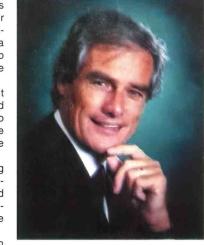
In a carefully worded statement agreed by both sides, Kilroy-Silk said he believed it was the right time to leave the programme and concentrate on other projects but it is clear that he was given no choice by BBC bosses.

After a marathon eight hour meeting with BBC bosses today, the corporation announced that Kilroy-Silk would leave the show but that his TV production company will continue to make the programme with a different host.

But the former MP is set to take on new roles at the BBC after the corporation paid warm tribute to his "authority and style" and called him "a substantial force in the media industry."

Kilroy-Silk said: "I believe this is the right moment to leave the programme and concentrate my energies in other directions. I will continue to lead the Kilroy Television Company Ltd and in addition to our existing commitments to the BBC, we will be bringing new ideas and programmes to the BBC and other broadcasters

He added that he had been "overwhelmed" by the support from the public, saying: "I continue to believe that it is my right to express my views, how-



### Mr. Robert Kilroy

my decision is the right way to resolve the situation."

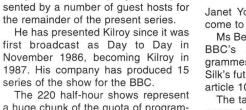
The BBC's director of television, Jana Bennett, said presenters of news and current affairs shows could not express "uncomfortable" views without their impartiality being compromised but was at pains to stress that the decision was not about freedom of speech.

"Presenters of this kind of programme have a responsibility to uphold the BBC's impartiality. This does not mean that people who express highly controversial views are not welcome on the BBC but they canstyle, and his programme is one that many have tried to emulate.

"We are very grateful to Robert for his contribution over the years, and we look forward to building on his achievements with the programme and wish to continue to work with Robert in other on-screen roles. He remains a substantial force in the media industry.'

The BBC is working on a new version of Kilroy-Silk's discussion programme which it hopes to begin broadcasting in the next few weeks. The programme, which will continue





a huge chunk of the quota of programming that the corporation must commission from independent producers.

to be produced by the team at the

Kilroy Television Company, will be pre-

bosses and the corporation's lawyer



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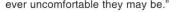
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think the decision by the BBC to take him off the air is absurd." he told BBC1's Question Time.

However the Commission for Racial Equality has referred the article to the police for investigation and its head, Trevor Phillips, said Kilroy-Silk should "learn something about Muslims and Arabs" and use some of his "vast earnings" to support a Muslim charity as recompense for his column.

(Source: Julia Day, the Guardian)





The row blew up after he described Arabs as "suicide bombers, limp amputators and women repressors" in a Sunday Express column.

While Kilroy-Silk is unrepentant about what he wrote, he admitted today that his column had put the BBC in a difficult position.

"However, I recognise the difficulties this has caused the BBC, and I believe

not be presenters of a news, current affairs or topical discussion programme," said Ms Bennett.

She went on to pay tribute to Kilroy-Silk's authoritative style, saying he "has ensured that BBC daytime viewers were better informed on almost every subject that affected their daily lives.

"He has done so with authority and







- شارع الزبيري (٦٠٠١ ٢٧٥)، مركز صنعاد الشجاري ((٤٠٥ ٤٤)، علان-). تعر - شارع جمال (١٧)

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