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Has its own roadmap for Palestine Yemen ready for summit ... sti

By PETER WILLEMS YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Disputes about details of the upcoming Arab summit will soon be ironed out, says Yemeni Foreign Minister Abu Bakr Al-Qirbi

He's confident the date for the Arab summit will be agreed on when he attends the preliminary meetings of foreign ministers on May 8-9 in Cairo. "I think we will agree on a time, there is no question about that," Al-Qirbi told the Yemen Times. "There is

talk about it being held on May 22-23 which a number of countries have agreed on. When foreign ministers meet in Cairo, we should confirm the final date for the summit, which I hope will take place on the third week of this month.'

The summit was cancelled by the host country Tunisia right before it was supposed to begin on March 29-30. Arab leaders and Arab League Secretary General Amr Moussa scrambled to get the summit back on track. After days of talks, Arab countries agreed on holding the summit in Tunisia, but it is unclear when it will take place.

"I don't think the date is the prob-

lem," said Al-Qirbi. "I think the problem is what is to be presented, and I think we are giving this more importance than it deserves.'

Yemen is fully prepared for the summit. The government has put together its own initiative to bring stability to Iraq and end the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict and establish a Palestinian state.

The Yemeni initiative has gained significant support. A number of Arab countries have approved of Yemen's roadmap to peace and France and Russia have welcomed the plan. Moussa also hailed the Yemeni initiative by saying it was the only initiative that could deal with the Iraqi situation and could be the basis for a unified Arab stance.

The Yemeni government plans to present its initiative at the summit. "There are a number of issues in the

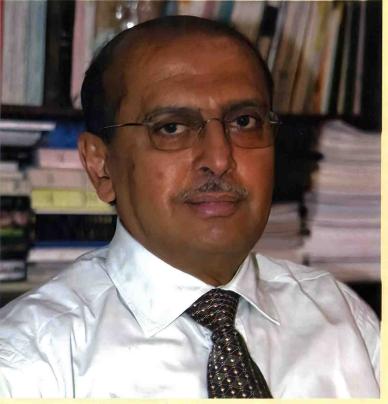
initiative, and there may be some different points of view on its mechanisms, but not on principles," said Al-Qirbi. The Minister also stressed that in the

initiative, the Arab community should become more involved in bringing solutions to Iraq and Palestine.

"What is important is that Arab countries agree that there is a guarantee for Iraqi unity, with ethnic and religious differences not becoming an element in defining Iraqi politics," said Al-Qirbi.

"Also important is the Arab role in establishing order and peace in Iraq along with the United Nations. As for Palestine, we feel the Quartet has been slow because it has not been directly involved in Palestinian issues. If the Arabs were represented in the Quartet, they would give momentum to speed up the process of implementing the roadmap.'

Continued on page 4



Yemeni Foreign Minister Abu Bakr Al-Qirbi discusses the upcoming summit with the Yemen Times (Yemen Times photo by Peter Willems)

Calls for addressing urgency of practical reforms steps needed: **Liberal Initiative** for reform unveiled

MOHAMMED AL-QADHI YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A number of political parties, intellectuals and politicians have stressed in a statement presented last week the urgency and need for substantial and serious reforms to address the real prob-



lems Yemen is going through. These

people warned against the collapse of the system if the government does not address these problems in transparent and open way that enable all the political forces contribute to finding a way out from the impasse. However, the ruling party and government were annoyed by such calls, considering people behind them as "secessionists" describing them as a mob. Prime Minister Abdulqader Bajamal accused the opposition's call for a political reform project of being selfish, considering the unification as the biggest project of reform in Yemen. He challenged that he would disclose the reality of terrorism in Yemen and people standing behind it, in a potential hint towards Islah. He shrugged his shoulders when talking to the 26 September weekly of the achievements of his government, dismissing the charges of the opposition for his government of being corrupt, mainly after the disclosure of the oil deal which was considered by MPs a scandal of sheer corruption.

State media criticizes Islah

The ruling party media has been ruthlessly criticizing the Islah party and the Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP) because parliament and because of their increasing demands for reforms.

Liberal initiative

Some intellectuals came up last this week with a "Liberal Initiative" for comprehensive reform so as to rescue the country from collapse. They demanded the political regime to deal with their "initiative very seriously and not only for the sake of decorating and beautifying its image abroad." The initiative said that the reforms target politics, economics, human rights, culture, education and media. It demanded that the tenure of presidential office should be decreased to 4 years while the parliamentary to 5 only to enlarge political participation. It also demanded the stopping of the rule succession steps under way and process of distribution of military and government positions based on family relationship, nepotism, favoritism and tribal or sectarian factors and political favoritism."

Reform steps identified

The opposition also said that the leadership of the military and judiciary should be taken from the person of the president, the consultative council and PSO should be abolished, women's

<u>New competition</u> **Tenders given** for oil projects

BY ABDUL OAWE AL-ODINEE FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

Minister of Oil and Minerals, Dr. Rasheed Baraba, has distributed tender envelopes to various competing companies, the first competitive measures since the exploration of oil in Yemen began.

It's aimed at granting the opportunity for all international companies to

The minister confirmed that the selecting operation is subjected to economic stipulations, the oil participation production agreement and transparent, transparent and conformed to international standards. It allows the selection of the best

offers. The Minister said that the tender

came following meeting certain conditions such as the embarking of

sectors 51 and Dams S1 increase the oil sectors to nine sectors.

He confirmed that support and assistance are provided to interested companies and that the tender's measures are conducted in accordance with normally followed procedures in such cases. He indicated that the last day to

submit tenders is May 23, 2004. He expressed his hope that the qualified companies would abide by

of their efforts to stop the deal by the





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presence in the parliament should be increased, amendments in the law of local authority should be conducted to nominate governors and districts direc-

Continued on page 4

Dicon

الإدارة العامة الحديدة تلفون/ ٢١١٧٩٨- ٢١٢٩٦٦

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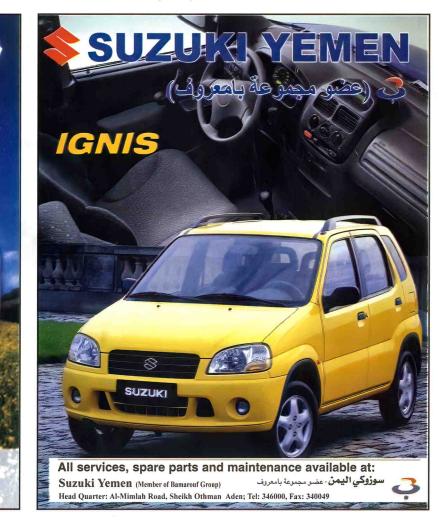
compete in oil investment.

Some 19 companies of 28 international candidates have been qualified to compete to invest at six oil sectors in Hadhramout and Shabwah Governorates.

invest in the promising six oil sectors.

Eng. Nabil Al-Qawse, Chairman of Oil Exploration and Production Board, pointed out that commercial discoveries of oil during last year in

many international companies to their committed conditions and to enter direct negotiations toward the partnership and production of oil agreement following the informing of each company of the scheduled date for that.



Local News



Yemen calls for an international conference to define terror

The Republic of Yemen, during the 110th Conference of International Parliamentary Union, concluded on Friday 23 April, at the Mexican capital, called on the International community to put an end to assassinations of the Palestinians and to enable them to establish their independent state with Jerusalem as their capital.

The speech of Yemen, delivered by Deputy Speaker of Parliament, Dr. Abdulwahab Mahmoud, head of Yemen delegation to the conference called for the return of sovereignty of Iraq and the departure of foreign occupation forces from its land. It also confirmed the importance to hold an international conference under the auspices of United Nations to define terrorism. to determine the means to combat it and to eliminate its motives and reasons. It also called for the adoption of principle of dialogue between cultures as the means to settle all disputes and political and ethnic conflicts.

The Speech of Yemen reviewed the transformations and developments taking place in Yemen in various economic and political aspects, in addition to the successes in the development operation and the comprehensive reforms operation. It called for the contribution of advanced countries to enhance emerging democracy and support the development in poor countries through the exemption of these countries from the accumulated debts on them. Yemen also asked to encourage and support the political and economic reforms in several countries of the Middle East without interfering in their internal affairs.

Three dead in a tribal fight

Tension remains high at Al-Mafer province, on the provinces of Taiz Governorate following the violent armed fight, which took place on last Wednesday leading to the death of three people, including the brother of Saeed Fara, Member of Parliament for the province.

Sources stated that the fight erupted over a piece of land recently leased by the Endowment Office to one citizen while it was leased several years ago to someone else, the matter which led to igniting the fight there. The sources said that supporters of the Member of Parliament are surrounding a village in order avenge the killings.

Society for Care & Qualifying Blinds

(YSCQB) organized the 12th blind

week that started on Wednesday 28

April and took place in the Researches

The vice president said that instruc-

tions were given to the ministry of

social affairs and the ministry of edu-

By FAHMIA AL-FOTIH

and Studies Center.

organization.

It seems the series of manufactured goods especially made for the Yemen market will not end soon.

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The problem seems to be that products are manufactured according to the specifications of the Yemeni importers and do not necessarily meet the stipulations, specifications and standards obliged by the manufacturers when they produce goods for markets at the country of origin or in other markets but in Yemen.

What is even worse than the bad quality of products, is the trade marks and forms which do not coincide with our values. The latest such products are the children's candies, which come in

The blind plead for more attention

the shape of shoe and foot.

Yemeni goods lack high standards

In a statement that the Yemen Times received a copy of, the Yemeni Society for Consumers' Protection called on the importers to be more sympathetic and at least import of goods, which take into consideration our values and ethics.

It called on the related competent authorities to put an end to the random importation of goods and to allow only for the import of goods, which meet specifications, standards and values and ethics of our society.

It called on the authorities to take deterrent legal measures against the violators and against those tampering with safety, health, values and ethics of the consumers.

Mr. Abdualkareem Al-Arhabi, the

Yemen and Saudi in border talks

Staff Col. Abdul Elah Atef, Commander of the Border Guards, is currently in Saudi for talks with his Saudi counterpart on the remaining locations connected with the demarcation of border signs between the two brotherly countries following the reluctance of some Yemeni tribes to the position of the signs.

The official sources said that the delegation would implement paragraph (a) of tribes.

Vehicle custom dues are extended to April 30

Chairman of Customs Authority, Ali Abdullah Al-Zabeidi, in a statement to the press, indicated that the generated revenues from the custom of 36,779 cars, throughout the Republic of Yemen, during the period March till 30 April 2004, are more than 12 billion

Customs Authority had The

Members of the British parliament visit Yemen

HASAN AL-ZAYEDI YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A delegation of the British parliament, headed by Mr. Keith Vaz Mp, is currently visiting Yemen. The delegation emphasized, during their meeting with president Saleh, the strong relationship UK enjoys with Yemen. They also expressed their admiration for the Yemeni effort in fighting terrorism, and meanwhile hoping that their visit will open new channels of communication between the two countries.

In an exclusive statement to Yemen Times, The delegation, which has also met with head of the Shoura Council, minister of foreign affairs and members of the parliament, stressed that partnership will be the base of the Yemeni-British- relationship. The team stated also their intention of asking the British

Trials for 25 of 41 terror suspects

Sources confirmed to Yemen Times that the trials of 25 suspects accused in terror related cases would begin early next week

Officials have changed a previous decision to begin the trials of 41 suspects accused in various terror related cases such as the bombing of French oil carrier Limburg, the shooting at a plane of Hunt Oil Company and others.

Yemen Times, according to some sources, has learned that the suspects in

stand before a trial at the present time due to rejection of US to the trial.

The sources have stated that preliminary court would commence court hearings following the completion of legal stipulations by the prosecution for 25 suspects.

It is worth mentioning that the Yemeni authorities have announced more than once the beginning of court hearings of terror elements to be later cancelled.

article (2) of Jeddah Borders Treaty. The head of Yemen delegation was suspended following the Saudi construction of barrier at the borders between the two countries.

The border tribes of Waelah reject the demarcation of borders on their land considering a confiscation of their lands previously agreed upon with Saudi Wabam

announced a grace period of one month, from March 13 - April 13, to allow owners of cars illegally entered the country to pay their custom with a discount of up to 80% for old model of cars up to 1994, and 25% for models up to 2003 models, but due to the big number of cars to be processed, the period is now extended until the end of April.

government to lift the sanctions on British citizen who want to visit Yemen. As to current affairs, the delegation

expressed the official British condemnation of the immoral treatment of Iraqi captives in Abu-Gharib prison, indicating the British government's intention of sending to military courts soldiers responsible for such acts.

Meanwhile, the team conveyed their hope that Yemen can assume leadership of the region, as a true democratic voice. pointing out to the fact that such leadership will grant Yemen the support of the British government.

The team said that on May 26th, a festival called "Yemen Festival" will be organized in the British Parliament and will be attended by 50 members of the parliament and 200 distinguished personalities of the Yemeni community in UK.

the bombing of USS Cole would not

Readers' Voice

Yemen Times features 'Readers' Voice" popular way for our readers to interact with us. This is your opportunity to have a say on world and local affairs.

This edition's question:

Do you think that the punishment of reducing rank or throwing out of service against the US soldiers accused of torture enough?

Yes, it is enough. - No, they need a more severe punishment.

last edition's question:

Do you the U.S. will apprpriately punish those responsible for the torture of prisoners in Iraq (as seen in recently-released photos by CBS)

- No, it likely will not be enough 59%
- Yes, punishment will be approriate 35%
- No, it likely will be too 6% much

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

FOR THE YEMEN TIMES efforts in serving and rehabilitating the Under auspices of Mr. Abdualrabo blind. Mr. Abduallah Ahmed Bobian, Mansour, the vice president, Yemeni

which he pointed to the attention the president renders to all the blind all over Yemen.

He also displayed the obstacles and impediments that hinder the YSCQB activities Various artistic sketches for talented blinds permeated the week.

The vice president honored the sponsors and distinguished people who

minister of social affairs, along with a cation to provide curriculum for handicapped and to pay more attention and helped to make the 12th blind week host of people attended the ceremony. The Embassy of The United States of America announces for an immediate job openings within its

successful

"English Language Instructor"

The position is located in the Yemen America Language Institute YALI, American Embassy. Employee will teach English as a Second Language courses at the Yemen-America Language Institute (YALI) under the direct supervision of the Director of Courses. Employee will prepare lessons, assign and correct homework, score classroom exams, evaluate student progress, and assign end of term grades to each student fairly and objectively. Employee will also attend all pre- and in-service workshops, prepare reports as required by YALI operating practice, work individually with students as needed and collaborate frequently and routinely with other teachers to ensure state-of-the-art teaching methodology and creative activities are used. Employee will perform other administrative tasks as assigned.

Required Qualifications:

Warning Announcemen

According to the Republican Decree No. 38, the year 1991 concerning the articles of association of Cable and Wireless Telecommunication and its amendments in Law no. 33, the year 1996, the Ministry of Telecommunication and Information Technique announces to all local and foreign companies and their affiliated branches and to all concerned individuals Not to pass any international call to and from the Republic of Yemen by any means whether it was through satellite stations (VSAT) or through the Internet etc.

take care of their societies. He also praised YSCQB for its

the head YSCQB, delivered a speech in

Education: An M.A. in English as a Second/Foreign Language (or Applied Linguistics) is desirable. A B.A/B.S. is normally required (but may be substituted for in cases where significant relevant teaching experience is in evidence).

Prior Work Experience: Minimum of one year of previous experience teaching EFL/ESL is required (except in the case of native speakers or of YALI non-teaching employees who demonstrate teaching capability during a demonstration lesson given at YALI and observed by the YALI DOC).

Language Proficiency: Level IV English (fluent ability) is required.

Knowledge: A high level of knowledge of language teaching methodology, a strong understanding of the English language and its syntactical features, and familiarity with American culture are required. Abilities: Strong interpersonal and leadership skills, the ability to exercise fairness, adaptability, flexibility, patience and creativity, and an ability to motivate students and to work cooperatively with colleagues.

Grade/Salary: EFM/MOH/Non Ordinarily Resident: FP-07 or FP-6 (to be confirmed by Washington). Ordinarily Resident: FSN-7 or FSN-8 (depending on qualifications)

"Warehouse Man"

The position is located in the Warehouse, of the General Services Office, American Embassy, under the direct supervision of the Supply supervisor, and the General Services Officer. Employee will be responsible for moving supplies, furniture and equipment between locations.

Required Qualifications:

Education: Completion of elementary school is required. Language Proficiency: Understandable English and Arabic is a required. Ability: Ability to work under pressure, and be tactful when dealing with personnel.

Grade/Salary: EFM/MOH/N on Ordinarily Resident: FP- CC (to be confirmed by Washington) Ordinarily Resident: FSN-2.

How to apply: All Interested nationals should complete OF-612 or submit a current C.V. (with awards, recommendation letters, copies of degrees earned) that addresses the qualifications and requirements of the position, as listed above, and send it to the Embassy Personnel Office, American Embassy, Dhahr Himyar Street, P.O. Box 22347, Sanaa. Yemen, Tel: 303-155, no later than May 17, 2004.

NOTE: ALL ORDINARILY RESIDENT APPLICANTS MUST BE RESIDING IN COUNTRY AND HAVE THE REQUIRED WORK AND RESIDENCY PERMITS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR CONSIDERATION.

The Ministry warns all the above of any violation otherwise, the stations or any means used in this purpose will be confiscated and the Ministry will take all legal deterrent measures toward the viola-tors.

This warning announcement is considered to be the final notification.

Community

Dr. Gerhard Knies to YT: "If the transition to renewable energies is not started in time, Yemen may face a grand collapse"

r. Gerhard Knies, born 1937 in Germany, is a scientist in elementary particle and renewable energy physics. Jointly with the Club of Rome, he found the helped "Trans-Mediterranean Renewable Energy Cooperation" (TREC), an international sustainability collaboration of scientists, engineers and politicians from countries around the Mediterranean Sea. TREC tries to create awareness for the potential and for the benefits of solar energy for the MENA countries. Further it aims at joining forces with Europe to initiate projects to exploit solar energy resources with the goals of global climate stabilization and of creating a community for water and energy security in the EU-MENA region. Following are excerpts from an interview Dr. Knies gave Ismail Al-Ghaberi, of the Yemen Times.

Q. What is your impression about Yemen, its people, the conference and the local landscape??

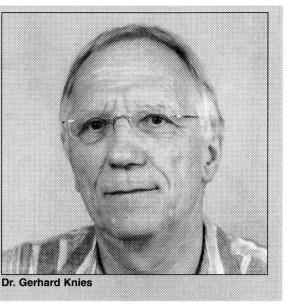
A. The people are very friendly, open and helpful. The streets are full of men, almost no women. Women very visibly have reduced freedom. This may turn out as a severe problem for the development of Yemen.

The MENAREC conference was a strong contrast to the normal life in the country which seems to be coined by the struggle for daily survival. It was very interesting to see at the conference that the Arab world is also concerned with problems of the future of energy and water supply, and of stability of the global climate. I can imagine that these concerns will bring Europe, the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) closer together in the coming years.

I saw the landscape of Yemen between Sana'a and the Red Sea. It is spectacular and very scenic. But unfortunately, most of the country is very dry.

Q. How do you see the future of energy and water in Yemen?

A. Thanks to fossil, not renewable reserves of water and oil and gas Yemen's population and economy can grow rapidly. But these water and energy reserves are going to be depleted within this century. If the transition to renewable energies is not started in time, Yemen may face a grand collapse. The excellent solar energy conditions of Yemen offer a way to a sustainable future. Solar thermal power plants and desalination plants can produce from



solar light and from sea water electricity and fresh water in co-generation for any demand. Therefore Yemen should begin now to introduce these solar technologies to organize a smooth transition from the finite fossil resources of energy and water to the sustainable solar generation. This way Yemen can also develop a solar technology industry.

Q. How do you see the Standard of living in Yemen?

A. It is much lower than in Germany. Many people still live in simple huts. With the restricted educational level of most Yemenite people, it will be a difficult task to raise the standard of living except for a few.

Q. What's your idea about the Yemeni

A. I could read Sana'a Observer and Yemen Times. Both journals present critical views. It seems that there is a free press. For a democracy it is very important to have an independent and free press, that also dares to criticize the government, and in particular the large corruption that is destructive for the country.

Q. Did you discuss projects with the Yemenite authorities?

A. I am pursuing three projects: Firstly, exploring the possibility of making use of solar cooking in a village. Even thou this project is having a slow start, it shows the interest of the EPA to make solar energy to a developmental factor in rural areas.

Secondly, my organization Trans-Mediterranean Renewable Energy Cooperation TREC will inform the PEC on the possibilities of producing electricity from sunlight in Solar Thermal Power plants and consult the PEC on a first possible solar power plant project of 20 Megawatt in the region of Saywun.

Thirdly, it is technically possible to build a solar powered water supply system for Sana'a with desalinated water from the Read Sea. Solar thermal power plants at the shoreline of the Read Sea, close to Al Hudaydah, could generate electricity from sun light, and power with their exit thermal energy desalination plants converting sea water to fresh water.

The generated electrical power is sufficient to pump the water up to Sana'a. Enough water for 2 - 3 million people could be produced. The Trans-Mediterranean Renewable Energy

participation and the holding of the

elections irrespective of the partisan preferences, aiming at finding a uni-

He confirmed that the university

would recognize any elections con-

ducted away from the involvement of

the university and under the supervi-

sion of Ministry of Social Affairs and

of Students' Union to be unified and

elected by all students" said Baserah.

ovation of the university's buildings,

there have been calls calling for com-

prehensive reforms starting with the

demand to modernize the curriculum

and the reforms of the administrative

apparatus in the university and its fac-

Still, while the president has been paying attention to issues like the ren-

"The university seeks the elections

fied entity for the students.

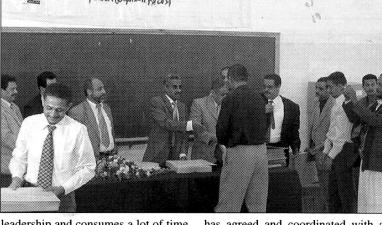
President of Sana'a University is under pressure "If I don't bring reform, I'll resign:" Baserah

BY MOHAMED BIN SALLAM YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Saleh Baserah, President of Sana'a University held a press conference during which he reviewed the controversy inside the university over the preparation for elections of Federation of Yemeni Students.

He confirmed that the preparatory committee for the elections, which represents all political parties, would continue its preparation according to the timetable and where the elections would be held before the end of second semester for this year.

Baserah reaffirmed that the issue of students' activities and finding a unified entity remain the most complex issue facing the university and its



leadership and consumes a lot of time and efforts.

The president expressed his regrets towards the violations by some political parties at the time the university has agreed and coordinated with all parties to the formation of the elections preparatory committee.

He pointed out that all elections' laws and legislations guarantee the

ulties.

Labor.

Cooperation is ready to make, together with the Ministries for Electricity and for Water and Environment, a case study on the feasibility of a Sana'a Solar Power and Water (SANPOWA) project, to come to an assessment of the costs, and the ways for implementation.

To my knowledge, Sana'a is more than 2000 years old. If Sana'a wants to exist as a flourishing place and not as a ghost town in the coming centuries, it needs to have an inexhaustible and reliable source of water. Solar desalination at the read sea and solar electricity can fulfill these criteria. Such a solar water source will cost some money, but the costs will be small as compared to incalculable value of Sana'a. The technology can then be applied to many other places in the world. Yemen and the world community should support this project as a light house project for a sustainable future.

6 May, 2004 **3**

Q. What do you think about the most important thing for Yemeni people?

A. The most important task for Yemen is to raise the education in Yemen. In particular, girls should receive the same education as boys. Ignorance is incalculably more expensive than an ambitious educational system. The next most important task is to radically eliminate corruption, the largest enemy of development. And number three: to develop an economy that is based on human skills rather than on limited natural resources like cheap natural gas.



حصلت شركة آرتكس التابعة للشركة، مما أهلها التسويق للعام ٢٠٠٤م وهي قام بتسليم الجائزة رئيس جائزة سنوية تمنح للمبدعين مجلس إدارة رفاه الأستاذ رائد في مجال التسويق حيث عبدالمولى السقاف وإستلمها إستطاعت شركة آرتكس من عن شركة آرتكس الدكتور الوصول إلى مستوى كبريات عصام عبادي الحيقى مدير عام الشركات العالمية المتواجدة الشركة وبحضور مدير عام فى اليمن وفي زمن قياسى رفاه الأستاذ/ إيهاب أمين

التجارية على جائزة الإبداع في للحصول على هذه الجائزة. وإستطاعت الترويج للوكالات السقاف.

Vacancy

Siemens ICM Yemen Branch Company is seeking high

<u>A societal cancer</u> **Revenge is killing us**

BY NAWAL ZAID FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

he issue of revenge is one that hurts our society, environment and future generations. It sometimes reaches the extent of disasters and brutal wars, which take place all the time and in every part of the country, especially in villages and rural areas. We have seen and heard of this negative phenomenon to have victimized thousands of people due to the lack of education, and social and cultural awareness.

The motives behind revenge in Yemen are many, but the most apparent ones are those related to and generated from the break up of families, swayed by greed, the desire to have dominance over others' properties and lands and not having strong faith in God.

Many people end up dying unnecessarily just because some other people want to confiscate their lands by force. The rightful owners die and the perpetrators end up fugitives, afraid of the retaliation of family members of deceased ones.

Consequently, it's a vicious circle. In many cases, the state is even unable to settle some of revenge cases and disputes, which have erupted between families or sometimes between tribes over a misdemeanor committed by one.

The wrong approach to settling it leads the problem to get out of hand, because the concerned persons to settle it resort in the heat of the moment to the use of violence and sometimes, the problem would escalate to an all out war.

The factors of education and awareness could also play apart in exacerbating or in reducing the extent of the problem. Illiteracy leads many to commit crimes of revenge even if laws and the judiciary would have met the needs for revenge legally.

Although, many illiterate citizens do not resort to the choice of taking the law on their own hands in vengeance for retaliation to the loss of loved ones killed unlawfully. They would allow the laws and judiciary to take its course.

Ironically, some fathers do not even think about their own children before they commit a crime of revenge because they themselves fall victims to wrong indoctrination at the hands of illminded heads of tribes or notorious friends to commit crimes.

Following their crime, they either end up getting caught by the security forces or fugitive or killed by relatives of the killed ones. In all cases, they end up abandoning their young children only to grow up to be revenge seekers and therefore premeditated criminals.

One of the reasons leading to revenge is the unintentionally killing of someone and the slow legal process to settle the issue briskly. Another reason would be the involvement of more than one person in the killing of another person.

The unanimity of the real killer leads the two fighting families or tribes to waste more lives through the individual acts by members of two families or tribes to eliminate each other randomly.

Each day to revenge the killing of some one new. The ramification of such a case becomes even difficult for the state to resolve.

Many people in our urban cities, villages and rural areas in our society always carry arms with them. And as soon as a small problem arises, one would choose his rifle or pistol to end this problem thinking that the killing of his enemy would decisively end the problem.

The role of media and the information could play an important role in shedding light on the serious consequences of revenge and in the spreading of awareness on the importance to let the laws and the judiciary to take its path and that justice definitely and always prevails.

The students complain, parents complain and the whole society complains that the future of our boys and girls.

Baserah said that it is uneasy to determine who is the bad employee from the good one in a short period of time since I came to the university. They are major obstacles hindering the work of the university headed by the student's affairs and elections.

He added that here is a genuine intention to reform the infamous administrative body of the university, "but if I failed to reform it, I would resign as president of the university and go back to my academic activity. I would not die of hunger."

The university has more than 2000 administrative workers, which according to some academics, is an obstacle standing against any reforms.

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Hotel Names	City	07 nights 08 days	14 night 15 days	Accommodation bed & breakfast
Istana hotel	Kuala Lumpur/Malaysia	\$680	\$910	Category *****
Corus Hotel	Kuala Lumpur / Malaysia	\$630	\$810	Category ****
Park Inn International	Kuala Lumpur / Malaysia	\$595	\$695	Category ***
Jakarta Hilton International	Jakarta / Indonesia	\$695	\$930	Category *****
Agent Commission 5% on the tol Conditions: Price per person on twin sharing			Bazara Trave Al-Zubairy St Sanag	

Infant 10% of the package fair. Round trip ticket Sanaa Kuala Lumpur Sanaa - Sanaa Jakarta Sanaa Accommodation at the hotel mentioned above on bed & breakfast. Transfer airport hotel or V.V. \$30 sedan car. (2 adult + 1 child)

Phone: 286364 - 285865 - 279235 - 295699 289568 Fax: email: bazara@y.net.ye

4 6 May, 2004

Community

Tennis Championship to open next week

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

On the playfields of Police Officers Club, a tennis championship is scheduled to open next week. Sponsored by Arab Bank, the championship is considered to be the most important even in the Yemeni tennis sport.

Some of the best classified tennis players in the republic will participate

Continued from page 1

in this championship. Aiming mainly at improving the game and players' skills, organizers didn't base the championship on "the looser leave" rule and, therefore, players will have to meet each others eventually.

Organizing such championship was the idea of Coach Nabeel Frood, who has also organized and coordinated many championships in the country.

A closed session for leaders of scouts

TAIZ BUREAU

Taiz- 4 May -The Boys and Girls Scout Association organized during 4-5 of this month, an indoor training session held at the Youths House at Al-Houban, Taiz governorate aiming at the training of leaders of scouts teams.

The session consisted of various activities related to rehabilitation of scout teams leaders of all ages to be qualified to bear the responsibility to lead scouts teams in all the schools of Taiz Governorate.



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emenia

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Yemenia Mit Pilla

Yemen ready for summit . . . still

Tunisia claimed that it called off the summit due to Arab countries having different positions on political reform that was planned to be discussed. The US Greater Middle East Initiative (GMEI) has raised a stir among Arab governments, demanding that democratic reform must be carried out with no outside interference.

Moussa recently said that GMEI will not be discussed at the summit. But Al-Qirbi noted that political reform, without GMEI included, should be part of the agenda.

"I think it will be included because a lot of countries would like to hear what the Arab position is on this issue," said Al-Qirbi. "Most Arab countries, either directly or indirectly, have expressed their positions on it, and most, if not all, Arab countries have already taken steps towards reform. Therefore, I don't find any reason why the summit should not address the issue and come up with an Arab point of view."

Some believe that Tunisia cancelled the summit because a handful of leaders decided not to attend. Al-Qirbi holds that if some leaders don't plan to attend, the summit should be held.

"As long as all Arab governments are represented, each government will state their position, and we will hold to the resolutions coming from the summit," said Al-Qirbi.

But many have expressed frustration of the summit's delay. With battles between US troops and different groups in Iraq intensified and Israel carrying out an assassination policy of targeting Palestinian leaders, many Arabs have expected a unified Arab position to face these issues. "With so many problems arising in leaders to act on them," said a political analyst based in Yemen. "But with the summit being cancelled and arguments over when and where it should be held, confidence among the people has dropped." But Al-Qirbi believes that now is the

the Middle East, Arab people want their

time for countries to pull together and come up with solutions.

"There is now a willingness among Arab countries to forge a new relationship between the countries in the region and with the rest of the world." said Al-Qirbi. "This willingness should be taken now as an opportunity for all of us to sit together at a round table and see what our responsibilities are, what are our commitments to implement our responsibilities and make them a reality without any imposition from the outside."

Liberal Initiative for reform unveiled

The initiative also demanded that that budget of the ministry of defense should be cut short, withdrawing the military camps from cities, abolishing the law of protests and private prisons, press and publication prosecution, allowing the electronic media to emerge, and guaranteeing the freedom of faith and the rights of women and children.

In the field of media, the initiative stressed on the importance of allowing electronic media ownership, the need to improve the situation of information technology, mainly the internet by ending censorship and abolishing the ministry of information. The initiative also contained some suggestions and demands to carry out economic and educational reforms.

Foreigners supportive

Several foreigners acquainted with Yemen supported the initiative and expressed concern over the deterioration of the living standards of the people dramatically where the middle class has shrank to a great extent. Some told Yemen Times that reforms should be addressed urgently to avoid a sad ending. However, the government and the ruling party believe such a talk is a sort of hallucination and that things are going in the right direction and that Yemen is doing well. The people concerned believe too that the unconcern of the people in charge about the urgency of reforms is in itself the main dilemma.



www.yemenia.com





Arab / Middle East

6 May, 2004 5

Soldiers in Iraqi abuse case are scapegoats -wife

WASHINGTON, May 4 (Reuters) -U.S. soldiers accused of abusing Iraqi prisoners were following orders and are being used as scapegoats to protect their superiors, the wife of one of the soldiers and the lawyer for another said on Tuesday.

TEMEN

Martha Frederick defended her husband, a soldier who faces prosecution for the abuse of Iraqis at the Abu Ghraib prison near Baghdad.

"He was told to do these things and when he did them he thought that he was doing them in the sense of national security," Frederick said.

The U.S. military has brought charges of assault, cruelty and maltreatment against six soldiers, members of a military police battalion.

It has also reprimanded six officers in connection with abuses at the Abu Ghraib prison after photographs were broadcast around the world showing naked Iraqi prisoners stacked in a pyramid or positioned to simulate sex acts.

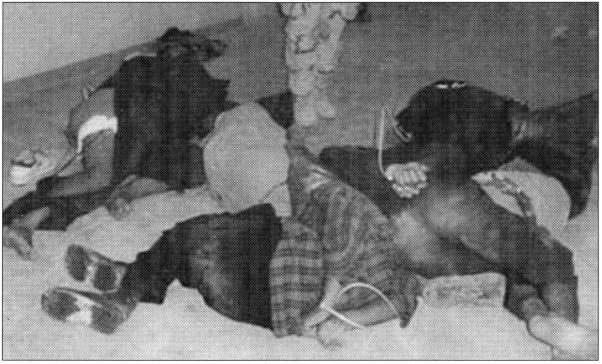
In e-mails to his wife, Staff Sgt. Ivan Frederick questioned some of the abuses he witnessed, such as leaving inmates naked in their cells or making them wear female underwear and handcuffing them to the doors of their cells.

"He questioned it from my understanding and he even tried to come up with some rules knowing that pretty much this was something he did not normally do," said his wife in an interview on NBC's "Today" show.

She complained her husband was being thrust into the limelight while others were protected. "Those who are responsible are standing behind the curtain and watching him take the fall for it. It's almost like being a pawn in a chess game," she said.

'STAGED PICTURES'

Houston lawyer Guy Womack, who is representing reservist Charles



A U.S. soldier surveys a group of bound Iraqi prisoners in this undated photo inside the Abu Ghraib prison near Baghdad in Iraq. The U.S. military has reprimanded six senior commissioned and non-commissioned officers in connection with the abuse of prisoners, a senior U.S. military official said May 3, 2004. The alleged abuses were said to have involved around 20 prisoners and took place in November and December last year. The reprimands, the most serious written punishment the U.S. army hands down, are private and no details would be released on the names or ranks of those punished, the U.S. official said. REUTERS

Graner in the abuse case, said his client his client was told to smile for the camshould not be court-martialed and that pictures taken of him abusing Iraqi prisoners were staged.

"You court-martial the right person. You don't court-martial the soldier who is following orders. He was under the command and the direction of intelligence officers, both military and civilian," Womack told NBC's "Today" show.

Graner, who was a corrections officer at a North Carolina prison, was on duty in Iraq for a military police unit.

Womack said the pictures were staged and part of the psychological manipulation of prisoners, adding that

era along with a female soldier who was pointing at a prisoner's genitals.

"These pictures themselves are abhorrent, but you have to put them in context," Womack said.

Reserve Brig. Gen. Janis Karpinski, who oversaw prison facilities in Iraq, said she took responsibility for some of what had happened but pointed out military intelligence was in charge of interrogations — not the military police under her command.

Her lawyer, Neal Puckett, told CNN, "What's clear in all of this and what's apparently yet to be investigated is that the military intelligence personnel

were the folks that had complete, exclusive control over what went on in the interrogation rooms.'

Democratic Sen. Jeff Bingaman called for a congressional investigation into the abuse and asked when U.S. military leaders had become aware of what was going on at the prison.

"Clearly we need to know what the secretary of defense knew at what point and what he did about it; the same with the head of the Joint Chiefs; the same with the president. We need to know what was the response of our government to this horrendous set of facts once they got them," said the New Mexico senator.

Iraqi Shi'ite militia, U.S. forces clash near Kufa

NAJAF, Iraq, May 4 (Reuters) -Guerrillas loyal to Shi'ite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr clashed with U.S. forces overnight near the Iraqi city of Kufa, witnesses said on Tuesday.

They had no immediate information on casualties

A clash on Monday in neighbouring Najaf, south of Baghdad, between U.S. forces and members of Sadr's Mehdi Army killed five Iraqis and wounded 15, a hospital director said.

Sadr militiamen also spread out in Amara, 365 km (230 miles) southwest of Baghad in the British zone of control, witnesses said. There was no immediate comment from the British military

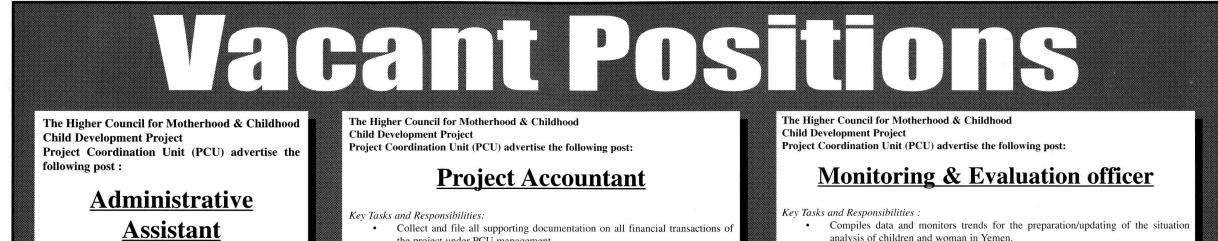
Sadr's militiamen and U.S. troops have fought in and around Najaf in recent days.

U.S. forces have vowed to capture or kill 30-year-old Sadr, a member of one of the most respected families in Najaf, the theological centre of many Shi'ites worldwide.

His Mehdi Army militia controls Najaf, nearby Kufa and Kerbala and maintains a presence in many other towns including Baghdad.



An Iragi man injured during clashes between U.S. forces and Mehdi army militiamen waits to be treated in the holy city of Najaf, May 3, 2004. U.S. troops in Najaf fired on suspected supporters of an anti-American Shi'ite cleric who attacked their base with mortars and rocket-propelled grenades. Two Iraqis, including a policeman, were killed and 15 were wounded outside the walls of the U.S. base, local medics said. REUTERS



Key Tasks and Responsibilities:

- Provide administrative and secretarial support to the project manager and PCU staff including verbal and written communication, documentation and archiving.
- Ensure highly quality and appropriateness of outgoing correspondenc, communications and other related documents / paperwork.
- Maintains general office files.
- Schedule appointments of the project manger and PCU staff.
- Write the minutes of meetings of PCU meetings or other meetings as required by the Manager.

Qualifications :

- Bachelor degree in management, business administration, secretarial or related field of study.
- At least five years of relevant work experience.
- Proficiency in speaking and writing in English and Arabic.
- Good computer skills.

Those who are interested to apply, please send a copy of your CV along with copies of your certificates to the following address: **Project Manager**

Higher Council for Motherhood & Childhood P.O Box : 16939- Sana'a ROY

Closing Date: May 27th, 2004. Interested applicants must be Yemeni nationality. Only people in the short list will be contacted for interview.

- the project under PCU management.
- Record on a daily basis all the financial transactions after ensuring that they have been properly authorized and in accordance with the budget and the PCU procedures of internal control.
- Prepare bank reconciliation between the Bank's accountant and the special Accountant (SA) withdrawals on a monthly basis to reflect the monthly receipts and disbursements from the SA.
- Prepare quarterly project financial statements under PCU direct management. and liaise with the procurement officer, to include quarterly procurement results and project's physical progress of activities as measured by project indicators. Prepare based on the above, the Project Management Report (PMR) to be submitted to the SC and then to the Bank.
- Consolidate the information contained in both PCU-PMR section and that is received from UNICEF on a quarterly basis to present a project PMR to the SC which in turn will be submitted to the IDA for replenishment of funds as needed.
- Prepare quarterly withdrawal applications to be submitted to the Bank, along with the consolidated project PMR specifying the amounts to be transferred to the PCU SA and that to the UNICEF account.
- Assist the external auditors in performing their annual audit of the project by providing necessary documentation, written procedures, and annual financial statements.
- Any other tasks as required by the PFO.

Qualifications :

- A minimum of five years of private sector accounting experience preferably with an auditing or accounting firm.
- A minimum of Bachelor's degree in accounting or auditing.
- A good knowledge of and ability to use the generally accepted accounting principles.
- The ability to operate accounting software, keep updated accounting records and books of accounts, and generate project financial statements and other reports as needed by the CDP's management.
- Proficiency in both Arabic and English.

Those who are interested to apply, please send a copy of your CV along with copies of your certificates to the following address: **Project Manager** Higher Council for Motherhood & Childhood P.O Box: 16939 - Sana'a ROY

Closing Date: May. 27th, 2004. Interested applicants must be Yemeni nationality. Only people in the short list will be contacted for interview

- Maintains a database of indicators on the situation of children and woman in Yemen. Including those relating to children and woman in the areas covered by the Child Development Project.
- Designs data collection methodologies and research protocol related to components of the Child Development Project.
- Prepares and revises the country programme integrated Monitoring and Evaluation

This includes monitoring and evaluation arrangements for the Child Development Project.

- Assists the Program Coordinator and Project Officers in the Preparation of work plans and progress reports.
- Analyses and evaluates data to ensure the achievement of objectives and recommend corrective action, when necessary.
- Provide technical advice to other program staff, government and other partners on data collection.
- Participate in the design of all project evaluation.
- Set up methodologies for social assessments and district-level situation analyses relevant to the Child Development Project.
- Assist the government in setting up and maintaining data base on child rights indicators and assist the council on monitoring child rights using such indicators.
- Assist the Information/ Communication Section of the office in disseminating relevant statistical information on children and woman in Yemen, including information on children and woman in areas covered by the Child Development Project.

Qualifications :

- Advanced university degree in Social sciences, demography, development planning, statistics or related field.
- Strong statistical, analytical, quantitative and qualitative research skills.
- Excellent Knowledge of computer management and applications.
- Some training in statistics.
- Ability to organize and implement training.
- At least 8 years of relevant work experience.
- Experience in community-based monitoring and evaluation/research.

Those who are interested to apply, please send a copy of your CV along with copies of your certificates to the following address :

Project Manager Higher Council for Motherhood & Childhood P.O Box: 16939 - Sana'a ROY

Closing Date: May. 27th, 2004. Interested applicants must be Yemeni nationality. Only people in the short list will be contacted for interview.

6 May, 2004

Asia / Africa



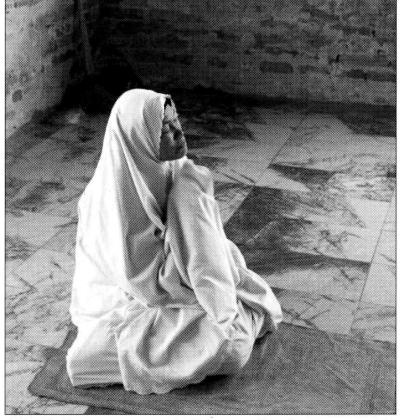
BANGKOK, May 4 (Reuters) -Thailand appointed an independent commission on Tuesday to investigate last week's shootout at a southern mosque that left more than 30 Muslim militants dead and relations with neighbouring Malaysia severely bruised.

As a high-ranking Kuala Lumpur delegation met Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra to stress good relations after last Wednesday's violence, Bangkok said the seven-member commission, made up mostly of Muslim judges, lawyers and academics, would question police, security officials and witnesses to clash.

"Even though this incident was unavoidable, the government wants related facts to be established by people knowledgeable in gathering information, religion, and foreign relations," spokesman Jakrapob Penkhair told reporters.

The storming by Thai troops of the centuries-old Krue Se mosque in the southern town of Pattani was the bloodiest incident in a day of carnage in which 108 Muslim militants and five members of the security forces were killed.

The general in charge has defended using rocket-propelled grenades and other heavy weapons to end the siege, saying he feared his soldiers would be attacked by an angry mob.



A Thai Muslim woman prays at the 17th century Krue Se mosque where 34 militants were killed last week in Pattani, 1200 km (750 miles) south of Bangkok in the country's restive south May 4.

Three foreigners killed in Philippine resort: Police

MANILA, May 4 (Reuters) - Three foreign men, including at least one German and one Swiss, were found stabbed to death in a house on the Philippine tourist island of Boracay, apparently the victims of robbers, police said on Tuesday.

The German embassy in Manila said it was waiting for more information from police and was not sure how many of its nationals had been killed.

"There are Germans involved one, maybe two - but I have no

details," said Roland Grafe, the deputy head of mission.

"This is an act of criminality, proba-

bly." A friend of the German owner of the house found the bodies of the three men and the maid on Monday afternoon, police said.

Police identified the victims as the 69-year-old German owner of the house, a Swiss guest and a maid. Another Caucasian man had yet to be identified and his nationality was not immediately known.

Tourist officials were trying to reassure worried foreigners and residents that the holiday island, the country's most popular tourist destination, was safe, a police officer on Boracay said.

However, both local Muslims and those across the nearby border in Malaysia have expressed outrage.

FOREIGN FIGHTERS?

Mystery still surrounds the machetewielding attackers, who launched a series of dawn raids on army and police posts across Thailand's restive and predominantly Muslim deep south, home to a separatist rebellion in the 1970s and 1980s.

The government says they were drugcrazed youths manipulated by local criminals. Analysts say the attacks look more like a revival of a centuries-old Muslim insurgency with a dream of a distinct Islamic state between Thailand and Malaysia.

However, police have started to zero in on several slain militants whose bodies remained unclaimed, leading investigators to conclude they might have been foreign fighters.

Proof of outside participation would stoke fears that international networks, such as Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda or its suspected southeast Asian affiliate Jemaah Islamiah, had a hand in the unrest that has simmered since January.

"So far there are three unknown bodies," a police investigator, who declined to be identified, told Reuters. "We suspect that these three bodies are non-

n't know what happened last night. They found out from TV and radio and because of that, a lot of people, especially foreigners, have come to us to ask what was going on," police officer Rezie Bulanon told Reuters.

Boracay, in the central Philippines, is a short plane and boat journey from Manila. It is known for its pristine beaches, scuba diving and nightlife.

Several countries warn their citizens against travel to the Philippines, whose tourism industry has suffered from crime as well as insurgencies by Muslim and communist rebels.

Zimbabwe forces schools to shut over fees row

HARARE, May 4 (Reuters) -Zimbabwe police prevented some private schools from opening for the new term on Tuesday, after President Robert Mugabe's government accused school authorities of sharply raising fees without state approval.

The official Herald newspaper said police had deployed officers to 45 private schools to ensure they did not open, disrupting classes for about 30,000 students.

In the past the government has repeatedly warned private schools, which were the preserve of whites before independence from Britain in 1980, against pushing their fees beyond the reach of ordinary black people.

Some schools have proposed raising fees by about 50 percent for the coming term to four million Zimbabwean dollars (\$750) to counter the impact of the current 580 percent inflation rate.

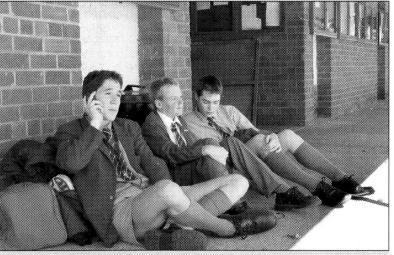
A notice posted on Tuesday at a school in Harare's affluent Borrowdale suburb said the education ministry "has requested that (the school) close until further notice". No explanation was given

A teacher at another private school told Reuters the headmaster had instructed his staff not to come to work this week. A police officer blocked the school's entrance.

Zimbabwe's Education Act bars private schools from raising fees by more than 10 percent without government approval, but authorities say most schools have exceeded the limit in recent years.

Private schools argue that the government, which does not provide them financial support, has been slow to approve fee increases, which they say are needed to maintain standards as costs rise amid Zimbabwe's economic crisis

Critics say the government has allowed the country's education system to decline, reversing gains made after independence when Mugabe embarked on a drive to provide free basic education for all Zimbabweans.



Students from Zimbabwe's oldest school, St Georges College, wait for their parents to collect them after most private schools in the country were closed on the first day of the new term in Harare, May 4. The schools had been ordered closed by the Education Ministry and enforced by the police over the fees charged. Due to the hyperinflationary economic crisis in the country, fees are increased on a term-by-term basis. REUTERS

Tender

Announcement

Tender No. 1/2004 For Supply, Installation Supervision, Commissioning, hand-over and Guarantee of

Republic of Yemen Ministry of Public Health and Population (MOPHP) Health Reform Support Project (HRSP)

Request for Expression of Interest Consultancy Services for Baseline and Needs Assessment Health Facility Survey

This request for expressions of interest follows the general procurement notice of the Health Reform Support Project that appeared in the United Nations Development Business (UNDB) issue number 607 on 16th May 2003, Al-Thawra newspaper issue number 13944 on 28th May 2003, and Yemen Times issue number 641 on 12th June 2003.

The government of the Republic of Yemen has received a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) towards the cost of its Health Reform Support Project (HRSP), and intends to apply the proceeds of this credit for the payment of goods, civil works, and consultancy services. This project includes three components; strengthening health service delivery, strengthening public health programmes; and improving health systems management.

Thais.' REUTERS "Most of the people and tourists did-

The strengthening health service component includes two subcomponents; decentralising operational management, and the provision of a package of integrated maternal and child health (PIMAC) services. The later of the two subcomponents involves the rehabilitation of a total of approximately 8 district hospitals and 16 health centres. Phase I of the project will target 5 district hospitals and 17 health centres in 8 districts. The selected districts in phase I of the project are Bajil, Bayt Al-Faqeeh, and Al-Marawia'ah in Al-Hodeidah governorate, Al-Haima Al-Kharijiya, Manakha, and Khawlan in Sanaa governorate; and Yareem and Dhi Al-Sufal in Ibb governorate.

The MOPHP now invites eligible consultancy firms to express their interest in providing consultancy services to conduct a baseline health facility and needs assessment survey in the targeted health facilities of the project.

The activities/responsibilities of the consulting firm will be as follows:

- Collect, compile, analyse and review all previous questionnaires relevant to needs assessment and baseline health facility surveys at the MOPHP, and subsequently design and pilot a needs assessment questionnaire for district health facilities.
- Design and implement a needs assessment survey in the targeted health facilities in the 8 selected districts of phase I of the project.

Interested consultancy firms must provide information indicating they are qualified to perform the required services, have the relevant experience and have performed needs assessment previously. Consultants may associate to enhance their qualifications.

Consultancy firms will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank guidelines; Selection and Employment of Consultants be World Bank Borrowers, January 1997 (revised September 1997, January 1999, and May 2000).

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours from 9:00 a.m. - 3 p.m. Expressions of interest must be delivered to the address below by 23rd May 2004.

> **Credit Administration Unit Health Reform Support Project Ministry of Public Health and Population** P.O. Box 1330 - Al-Hasabah - Sanaa - Republic of Yemen Tel: +967 1 252224 Fax: +967 1 251622 Email: hrsp@y.net.ye

600KW-MW Transmitter with all accessories

Yemen General Radio & TV Corporation invites Radio transmitter manufacturing companies to supply, supervise installation, test, commission, hand-over and guarantee Medium Wave 600KW Transmitters with all its accessories and auxiliaries.

Interested eligible manufacturers may contact Yemen General Radio & TV Corporation at the address: YEMEN GENERAL RADIO & TV CORP, **Project department**

P.O. Box (2182), Al-Hasaba, Beside the Ministry of Public Health & Population, Sana'a, YEMEN Telephones: (00967-1-230654/231184/250018) Fax: (00967-1-230761/250018) E-mail: yertv@y.net.ye

To obtain bidding documents upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of US\$500. Bidders who wish to get bidding documents by mail shall pay an additional US\$100 as mailing and handling costs.

Bidding documents include all relevant information, instructions, conditions and specifications.

Bid opening will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, the 16th of June 2004, in the corporation headquarter, in the presence of bidders or their representatives.



World



6 May, 2004 7

Georgia rebel area's head says to tighten rule

TBILISI, May 4 (Reuters) - The strongman head of Georgia's rebel Adzhara region promised on Tuesday to tighten his hold on the territory, defying central government threats to depose him if he does not recognise its authority.

Aslan Abashidze has declared a state of emergency and curfew in the Black Sea region of Adzhara, which includes the important oil exporting port of Batumi, while Tbilisi has given him until May 12 to reform.

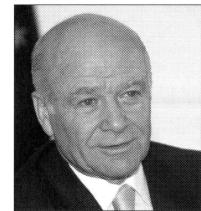
He has cracked down on opposition movements that support Georgian President Mikhail Saakashvili, and police broke up an anti-Abashidze rally with truncheons late last week.

Saakashvili has promised not to use force to crush the region's autonomy but militias blasted bridges linking Adzhara to the Georgian heartland on Sunday, saying they feared invasion.

"The humane approach that the autonomous republic's leadership has followed has not brought results," Abashidze told local television.

"Any criminal acts, actions or slogans will be treated with the utmost severity...No one will be forgiven for attempts to create a hotbed of disorder.'

Saakashvili came to power in a bloodless revolution in November, promising to end corruption and sweep

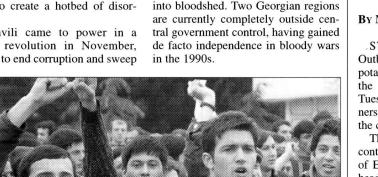


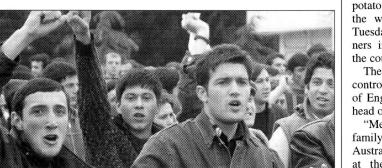
Aslan Abashidze, leader of Georgia's REUTERS rebel Adzhara region.

away figures such as Abashidze who have held office since Soviet times.

Washington is watching the standoff with concern, fearing for stability in a country that will be part of the route for a major pipeline taking oil from the Caspian sea to a Turkish port. It has called on Abashidze to disarm local militias.

Moscow has also called for calm, fearing that the crisis could descend





Adzharan students, supporters of Georgian President Mikhail Saakashvili, shout slogans as they protest against Adzhara region leader Aslan Abashidze during a rally in central Batumi, May 4. Abashidze on Tuesday defied central government threats to depose him and promised to tighten his hold on the territory, while his followers crushed an opposition demonstration. REUTERS

Britain's Blair hit by loss of trust - poll

LONDON, May 4 (Reuters) -Britain's main opposition leader has become the first to achieve the same popularity rating as Tony Blair since Blair became Labour Party leader almost 10 years ago, according to an opinion poll published on Tuesday.

Some 29 percent of voters now think Conservative Party leader Michael Howard would make the best prime minister, the same rating as Prime Minister Blair, the YouGov poll for the Daily Telegraph newspaper showed.

Six months after he took over from Iain Duncan Smith, Howard has become the first Conservative leader to match Blair's rating, the Telegraph said.

The Conservatives have been ahead of Blair's ruling Labour Party for several months. In Tuesday's poll some 39 percent said they would vote Conservative, while 35 percent would vote Labour.

The poll suggests Blair is no longer the huge electoral asset he once was for the Labour Party. Many voters see him as untrustworthy and many of his personal ratings have turned negative.

The poll comes after a turbulent few weeks for Blair, whose popularity has suffered in the wake of the Iraq war. He has faced criticism for making a U-turn to grant a referendum on the European Union constitution and over problems with Britain's immigration system.

Blair was given a -39 percent rating on trustworthiness, compared to the +37 percent he polled in 1997. He was also seen as uncaring, indecisive, ineffective and a poor listener. However, he was given a +17 percent rating for likeability.

Some 63 percent of respondents said they disapproved of the government's record to date, while just 25 percent approved. And 68 percent said they did not think that on balance the government had been honest and trustworthy.

Some 34 percent thought the Conservatives would be best able to steer Britain out of economic difficulties, compared to 31 percent for Labour.

Australia's premier cattle state

Queensland, with four cattle stations

Menegazzo declined on Tuesday to

disclose his purchase price for the

remaining 50 percent in Stanbroke, but

agreed with a reporter's estimate that

Stanbroke as a whole was worth "at

were terribly pleased with the amount

of money they received," Menegazzo

Menegazzo said he would soon start

examining the entire portfolio to decide

on possible acquisitions or sales, but

added one property, Helen Springs in

the Northern Territory, was already

being sold to pastoral giant S. Kidman

However, Stanbroke would remain a

major part of the Australian beef indus-

try, with the Menegazzo family contin-

uing to operate as global beef traders,

said the stocky cattleman.

"We paid a lot of money. The partners

around the Gulf of Carpentaria.

least" A\$700 million.

said.

and Co.

Blair will launch his party's campaign on Tuesday for local council and European parliament elections next month. The ballots are seen as a good gauge of public opinion ahead of a general election expected in 2005.

YouGov questioned 2,026 voters across Britain between April 27 and 29 for the poll.

Amnesty slams Romania's mental health services

BUCHAREST, May 4 (Reuters) -Rights group Amnesty International deplored conditions in Romania's psychiatric hospitals, blamed for the deaths of at least 18 people so far this year.

Amnesty said on Tuesday that Romania, which hopes to join the European Union in 2007, had denied people the right to a fair trial by forcing them into psychiatric care or placing them in hospitals on nonmedical grounds.

"Today we appeal to the Romanian government to act with utmost urgency to protect the lives, dignity and well-being of all patients and residents in psychiatric hospitals in the entire country," Amnesty Secretary-General Irene Khan said in a statement released in Brussels. Amnesty urged the European Union to provide Romania with funding to reform mental health services.

The rights group said people had died of malnutrition and hypothermia while in care, and that psychiatric hospitals were in some cases used inappropriately for youths from state institutions that had been closed.

Shy Australian now world's biggest cattle baron

BY MICHAEL BYRNES

SYDNEY, May 4 (Reuters) -Outback Australian rancher and expotato farmer Peter Menegazzo became the world's biggest cattle baron on Tuesday when he bought out his partners in Stanbroke Pastoral Company, the country's biggest beef producer.

The publicity shy 60-year-old now controls a cattle empire almost the size of England with almost half a million head of cattle.

"Menegazzo Holdings is the largest family landholder and cattle producer in Australia. That's about all I'd like to say at the moment," said Menegazzo, flanked by his three sons Brendan, Mark and David, in Brisbane, the capital of Queensland state.

Stanbroke has 24 cattle properties covering 10 million hectares (24 million acres) and carrying 435,000 head of cattle.

Whoever controls Stanbroke is the

world's biggest cattleman, Australian cattle industry officials said.

Menegazzo's buy-out for an undisclosed figure comes eight months after he and two partners paid A\$490 million (US\$353 million) to buy Stanbroke from AMP Life Ltd, the life insurance arm of fund manager and insurer AMP Ltd <AMP.AX>.

Menegazzo bought 50 percent of Stanbroke last September, while Hungry Jacks hamburger chain owner Jack Cowin took 25 percent and an Australian rural family headed by Peter Hughes the last 25 percent.

Potato farmers

The Menegazzos were not always cattle ranchers.

Menegazzo's grandfather was an Italian migrant who came to Australia with nothing and the family became potato farmers.

But Peter Menegazzo ventured into beef, becoming a big landholder in

Important Announcement The Ministry of Telecommunications & IT announces that it has

taken steps to prevent international calls from passing illegally via the fixed and the GSM telephone networks as they are in breach telecommunications law. Therefore, citizens who receive of the international calls which appear as local numbers on their fixed or **GSM** telephones are requested to cooperate with the Ministry and notify the call center on free access number 170 at any time. The information required by the call center is purely the local or GSM number that appears on the customer's telephone display. The call center handling calls to 170 is available 24 hours a day, 7 days per week.

The Ministry would like to thank the public for their cooperation.

8 6 May, 2004

Opinion

Greeks reject Annan's UN plan

Words of Wisdom



One of the main problems in building a modern state in Yemen is that three blocks of our society perceive themselves above accountability. The sooner we see this and address it, the easier it will be to build a meaningful government based on law and order, and modern values. Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, (1951-1999) Founder of Yemen Times



Building a prosperous Yemen starts here

emen Times launched an initiative recently through a campaign targeting all intellectuals, thinkers, politicians, businessmen, academicians and all other Yemeni citizens to participate in the formation of a first-of-its-kind initiative to focus on the goal of building the modern Yemen we are all dreaming of.

For thousands of intellectuals and Yemeni personalities who have been abroad and continue to visit countries in the region and the world, it is saddening to see that Yemen is so far behind. The agony of seeing that the country is not in the level they anticipate it to be and the feeling that much more should and in fact can be done, makes them in many ways feel frustrated and helpless.

However, this is now changing.

As local and international pressure is mounting in favor of enabling the civil society to participate in decision-making and building of nations, Yemen now is drawing greater attention to the possibility of getting the assistance of intellects and potential contributors to Yemen's development.

Our initiative involves forming a committee to assist President Saleh in his attempts to bring about development in the real sense in all walks of life. This committee will start its first step in issuing the first guide to President Saleh in which they express their commitment to working hard with the president to help in developing the country and making it one of the leading and advanced countries in the region and the world

Malaysia is a good example that it is possible for such a vision to be formulated to become the basis of a country rapidly growing and expected to become an advanced country in all aspects.

If they can do it why can't we?

I believe throwing the ball in the president's court is not enough. We, as the civil society, must take on our duty of playing a role in the country's development. But eventually. it is a must for our leader to respond positively to our hand that is being extended.

I know he will value this initiative and welcome this step with appreciation.

In the coming few weeks, I am sure our efforts will be more widely observed and appreciated, as people will be convinced that we are doing this on the basis of our love to our country and our desire to make the country a better place, where the standard of living is high and where prosperity and progress are everywhere.

Being one of the pioneer media establishments in Yemen with a profound objective to work hard in establishing a modern Yemen, where civil liberties, education, civil values, and development are well-established, Yemen Times sparked the initiative to integrate with decision makers for a better

This initiative is very basic and simple in idea, but of massive importance and influence in objective. It is a step towards bringing together the rulers and the ruled, and bridging the gap between the president and his people.

We are today living in a world of quick changes, where developments in various aspects from technology to governance techniques, from education to businesses are taking the world by storm. Hence, we felt that this is the right time to bring about the change that we always desired.

Looking at hardships around us and complaining of deteriorations in various aspects of life will certainly not be of use in making the country a better place.

On a personal level, it hurts me a lot to see other countries in the region and the world much more advanced in Yemen. me that the level of development and pr the country, although notable, is simply far from satisfactory when it comes to the pace the world is moving in today. That is why I decided that there is no reason for us in Yemen Times to not start a humble step, with the cooperation and support of many good people and institutions around us, who all have the same goal in mind, i.e., participating in building the modern Yemen.



The Turkish and Greek communities in Cyprus went to the polls on April 24, to vote on the UN Secretary General Kofi Annan's plan designed to bring a comprehensive and permanent settlement to the

For the Yemen Times

Cyprus issue. The results were clear: while an impressive majority of the Turkish Cypriots showed that they approve the Annan Plan, the Greek side overwhelmingly rejected it. The outcome will definitely have further ramifications for the future of the island and its peoples.

The United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan initiated efforts in 1999 for a comprehensive settlement for the Cyprus problem. The plan stipulated that two politically equal constituent states would form a united Cyprus. The plan received substantial support from the United States and the European Union as well as from many other countries.

The immediate ramification of the rejection by the Greek side was the annulment of the Annan Plan. The plan is now off the table in accordance with its stipulation that both sides had to give their approval before it could become a legally binding document.

As a result of the Greek Cypriot vote against the plan, an opportunity for a comprehensive and permanent settlement on the island is now lost.

With this, the Greek Cypriots have shown that they are not ready to form a partnership with their Turkish counter-

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parts. The rejection has created a highly paradoxical situation for the EU. On one hand the EU has admitted the party which has voted against a solution and unification of the island, while on the other leaving out in the open the party that worked hard towards the goal of permanent peace and settlement

The Turkish Cypriots have expressed their will to live peacefully in a unified Cyprus that would become a member to the EU and have effectively proven wrong those who, for years, contended that the Turkish side was an obstacle to peace on the island.

With the results, it has become clear that the Greek Cypriot policy of blaming the Turkish side through distortion of facts, as well as accusing Turkey with intransigence, has now gone bankrupt. With their support to the plan, the Turkish Cypriots also demonstrated their orientation as a European entity, declaring that they want to break free of the isolation imposed on them with long years of sanctions and embargos.

The Turkish side has expressed that they respect the will of both peoples but regret that the UN Secretary General's proposal for a comprehensive settlement was rejected by the Greek Cypriot side. The Turkish side has always been in favor of a just and lasting solution in Cyprus. The Turkish Cypriots and Turkey worked very hard to come to a compromise on the final version of the plan during the last rounds of negotiations held in Switzerland in late March.

In sum, the results of the referenda –

May 3 & plight of

press freedom in Yemen

the first in the island after the negotiation process of almost 30 years backed by the UN - have created a new situation in Cyprus. The international community should analyze and assess this situation accurately. The peoples of the island must draw the necessary conclusions from this new situation and live side by side in peace and security.

Ideas, such as renegotiating the plan or submitting it to a new referendum in the Greek side, are not on the agenda. However, the plight of the Turkish Cypriots who have been living for decades under international embargos should be effectively dealt with. The international community needs to think about how to assist the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus to boost their economy and how to close the gap between the two economies of the South and the North.

Achieving these objectives are now of utmost importance and should constitute priorities for the international community - especially for Britain, the US and the EU - to facilitate the realization of these objectives.

Working towards integrating the Turkish Cypriots with the world, ending their isolation, and granting their long deserved rights as a people is not a difficult task. Turkish Cypriots have showed their courage by voting in support of the Annan Plan. Their sincere efforts must not be reciprocated by continuing the unjust and illegitimate sanctions and embargoes imposed on the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus and its people.



Oh, you naughty boy!

hat was how the Government of the great and morally driven United States dealt with the criminals who are working so hard to win the minds and hearts of the Iraqi people, by exposing several innocent Iraqis to the worst kind of humiliating tortures that one can conceive of. That was also how the Israeli Government dealt with Ariel Sharon after condemning him for his responsibility of the massacre of over 2,000 Palestinians in the Sabra and Shatilla massacres. Maybe later, the people "reprimanded and admonished" for their inhumane treatment of Iraqi prisoners will also be given the opportunity to be elected to the highest political offices as well, since Ariel Sharon eventually became the Prime Minister of Israel and went on to carry out his thirst for blood for more than three years now in the West Bank and Gaza. Most likely, as the American "war of liberation continues in the Middle East and the rest of the Islamic world, these reprimanded and admonished military personnel will be given positions as proconsuls in the newly liberated zones of Central Asia or North Africa.

Of course, the observer did not really expect much further than that from the masterminds of all this torture and insanity that occurred and, it is almost for certain, continues to occur in all the prisons where helpless Iraqis are dragged into, without so much as verification of name let alone due process. As for the "contractors", it has been said that the Pentagon legal wizards are at a loss to find the appropriate legal framework by which to "reprimand" the actual perpetrators and to "admonish" their superiors, and for all intents and purposes, any law that might be found or put in place will only be effective once the appropriate authority is put in place to enforce it. The legal manipulations will simply go and on, until the public is calmed down from the outrage that has surely been created by the exposure of the sadistic nature of the whole Iraqi WMD and then later "liberation" campaign. In the meantime the contracts are ongoing and hundreds of millions of US Dollars are being dished out to any bounty hunters and money and blood suckers who wish to have a stake in the bloody marathon that Iraq is turning out to be. After all, wasn't that the gist of the whole melodrama that has been unfolding in the region since George W. Bush took the helms in the White House.

Over the past week, the whole world was talking about the great free for all that has been exposed at the Abu Ghreib and other prisons in Iraq and even the President of the Untied States and the Prime Minister of Great Britain were ready to offer their "disgust". But where are the authors and designers of the bloody ferociousness that has characterized the prison system in Iraq, which has, as most Iragis contend, even surpassed what their former infamous benevolent dictator carried out throughout his 30 years of bloodletting! Donald Rumsfeld, the play on words Minister of Defense of the United States would be ready to scream and shout at the Aljazeera satellite channel and even issue his invisible orders to liquidate some of its staff, at the slightest deviation from what the Bushies accept as "proper media handling" of the Iraqi fiasco. But to this date, we have not heard any comments from him or any of his right wing "Defense Policy Committee" members, who are the masterminds of all that is unraveling in Iraq, and who were heretofore never abashed about letting the world know what is in their mind? We are not surprised of course, because these people surely knew what was going on in cellblock A-1 in Abu Ghrieb, as this was the work of "military intelligence" and they initialed on the requisition forms for the torture equipment that was contracted out to elements in the war machine of the military-industrial complex. Iraq has simply become a vast field for the war merchants to use their genius to sponge the vast sums of money that is gladly authorized by the US Congress for these war maniacs to draw on as they please. So now the demand is for more armor plating of the Humvees and more troops and supplies and security apparatus to make up for the security vacuum created after the complete deletion of the security apparatus of the previous Iraqi regime. Why didn't they just let Iraq alone and they would have spared the American taxpavers the waste of billions of their hard earned money and spared us the filthy ugliness of their moronic prison officials, who wanted fresh new blood to work on. It seems that San Quentin and Alcatraz were not proving enough for these prison wardens to release their frustrations and what better way to revenge the deaths of 9/11 then to release these morons on helpless Arab prisoners, who haven't the faintest idea what the hell the Americans are doing in Iraq in the first place! The media handling of the prison revelations is another case in point, just to show where the United States stands and where the rest of the world is. Even the British press was more keen on highlighting the moral and ethical implications of their lesser volume of tortures - though nevertheless just as horrendous. However the American press was acting as though they were bound by loyalty to the flag "not to expose our soldiers to any harm" as a result of being too explicit about the ramifications surrounding such ugly official behavior. Thus, one will find that Americans will mostly never get the gist of the awful violations to human rights that their government has sanctified in the Fertile Crescent. Moreover, the tie-up of the Pentagon team and their Likudinik friends would be unnecessarily exposed, for it is obvious that much of the flavoring of the Iraqi "liberation" and anti terror campaign stems from the Zionist friends of Mr. Perle and Feith and of course Mr. Dick Cheney, who has yet to make his feelings felt about all this ugliness, he has been overseeing.

he world observes the third of May as the International Press Freedom Day. This

observation is a recognition of the importance of journalists and their mission of reporting the truth to people. As a reflection of a free and democratic society; free press plays a significant role in informing the people, and in enabling them to take the right decisions related to their lives and development of their societies.

The third of May is also a good time to recall the obstacles facing this profession and our colleagues who paid their lives as price for conveying the truth

Despite the fact that Yemen is considered an emerging democracy where press should work freely, we find that journalists continue to face many problems and different sorts of harassment. The government continued last year and this year to detain journalists for expressing their opinions critical to its work. The most important violation of the press freedom this year was the kidnapping and arresting of Saeed Thabet on charges of allegedly "spreading false information on the attempted assassination against Ahmad Ali Abdullah Saleh". Those claims were denied very strongly by the president's son. To add insult into injury, the court verdict was unjust in sentencing the man into six months of suspension from practicing

his profession plus a fine.

These violations and discriminations against non-government media people continue. On another level, and although the law stipulates that court trials should be made public, the authorities refused to allow journalists, except those working for government media, to attend some of the trial hearings of the assassin of Jarallah Omar. Police officers deal with journalists in an insulting manner. Not only this. But some officials and ministers refuse to talk to the media if it is not state-run while some still think of foreign media correspondents as agents for the institutions they work for.

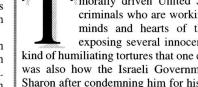
Such misunderstanding should be corrected so that media can operate freely and professionally.

The government continues to control electronic media which represents a very important source of information for most of Yemeni people, mainly in the countryside where print media is not available and most of the people are illiterate. Opposition parties have no chance to address the public only during election period. While writing this column, I have been informed that Abdulkareem al-Khaiwani, the editor-in-chief of al-Shoura weekly has been summoned by the PSO without knowing the reason. But according to some sources in the paper, it was because of publishing articles and reports critical to the government and the political regime mainly a report published last week exposing common problem of the rule succession

of military and government positions by the son and relatives of the big guys at the decision-making core.

The paper published some of the names of the sons and relatives of the high ranking officials who have been given important positions allegedly for nothing but favoritism, nepotism and close relationship criteria while other good qualified people are jobless. The editor of the paper told the Yemen Journalists Syndicate he received call threats after publishing the report, warning him that "touching national interests and security" will not go unpunished.

Yemeni journalists said they would lead a campaign demanding the abolition of the article from the law related to the imprisonment of journalists. And, I believe it the right time to do that as well as demand for the stop of abuse of media people.



The Editor

TIMES

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In fact, the fight for press freedom should never stop.

In this occasion, we would urge the international community and donors to pay attention to the vitality of supporting and strengthening media, improving the professionalism of media people so that they can have a role in development. We believe that media is dynamic factor in the development process and a must for any democratization drive to take place.

Media can also be a good fighter against corruption if it is well run, and can contribute positively to the stability, growth, and prosperity of its nation.

A message to Arab and Muslim leaders

Ali Saeed abumohamad2004@yahoo.com

am sure that Arab and Muslim leaders are no longer living, they are dead or dying. They are bodies without souls, feelings, emotion, sentiments, they are senseless. We aren't exaggerating to say that

they are not animals but rocks. What is going on in Palestine and Iraq especially in Fallujah, makes us cry not tears but blood. What does it mean to Arab and

Muslim leaders, when the people of Fallujah, children, men, women, old people are being slaughtered by an American f 16, 18, or 20 artillery, mortar, or machine-guns. What does it mean when the injured and wounded of

Fallujah are prevented from being medically-treated and the media from reporting the massive massacres committed against defenseless Iraqis even preventing the dead bodies from being buried.

Who is responsible for those carnage, crimes, massacres, atrocities, barbaric aggression in Iraq in general and in Fallujah in particular, America or Arab and Muslim leaders?

In my point of view the Arab and Muslim leaders are entirely responsible, not America or Bush.

Without the permission of our heroic leaders and presidents, Bush will and can not even think of invading Iraq

Arab and Muslim leaders can simply prevent Bush from committing any massacres and killing a single Iraqi citizen, by unanimously carrying out several things, such as expelling the American ambassadors, stopping petrol to America, sending Arab and Muslim troops to Iraq to replace the American and British ones. Then and only then America will think thousands of times about the matter .

Once again, Bush is not a killer nor a criminal, rather he is a hero because he is serving Americans and doing everything for the sake of America, for the sake of the interests of American people, he is invading Iraq accordingly. However, our presidents and leaders are the real killers and criminals because they are only watching to what is going on in Iraq and doing nothing, even not denouncing and condemning. I wonder when the Arab and Muslim arsenals are going to be used.

Business & Economy

Expansions among the projects discussed Mukalla, Wadi Hajar water systems get attention



Ву Мануоив AL-KAMALI YEMEN TIMES STAFF

recent meeting of officials from the customs authority and the deputy of Hadramout, governor Umair MUbarak, recommended solutions be found to the problem of random fishing, and preparing the port of Mukalla and expanding it with necessary infrastructure to receive large ships.

Also, an agreement was signed at the ministry of agriculture and irrigation according to which there would be study on the economic feasibility of rural development in Wadi Hajar and districts of Hadramout coast at a cost of KD 70 thousand and to be executed by

Khatib and World Lebanese company. The study aims at preparing practical studies on requirements of development in the Wadi and districts of the coast from which around 125 families would benefit.

According to the agreement funded by the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, the Lebanese company would gather and process quantitative and qualitative data that would be obtained during the period of study.

The ministry of agriculture would implement the study of economic feasibility to develop the Wadi Hajar and districts of the coast of Hadramout, through improving agricultural and animal production as well as building water barriers and dams and activation of agricultural guidance in the Wadi. It also aims at developing the rural woman role in supporting small and

handicraft projects.

Business

All that comes within the context of the government's strategy for combating poverty in rural regions, and taking interest in paying attention to improving income of poor families. The aim is also to qualify the woman to take part in local development and securing circumstances of her living and preserving woman's professional and popular activities in various Yemeni governorates.

At the same time, the authority of customs in Mukalla has discussed issues of customs exempts of some subsidized commodities and charitable goods, especially foodstuffs and electric appliances.

It has shown willingness for offering necessary facilities and tackling customs issues through coordination with concerned parties in the local authority and the ministry of finance.



A scene of Mukalla port expansion projects are to be implemented

In Sana'a, capital of Arab culture, **Many investment** opportunities squandered

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

capital of Arab culture has to be taken cultural and artistic weeks with an care of and to set up an artistic and investing and marketing sense yield-

Federal Express pushes for growth

By PETER WILLEMS YEMEN TIMES STAFF

ederal Express Yemen announced that it is using new strategies to continue to grow and become the largest courier service company in the local market.

We are now developing and using new and innovative ways to attract more customers and grab a larger part of the market," said Ismail Al-Baidani, Business Development Manager of Federal Express in Yemen.

Since the beginning of 2004, Federal Express has established new shipping centers where customers can easily drop off packages to have them shipped.

The FedEx Authorized Ship Centers uses a variety of locations, such as hotels, travel agencies and shopping centers, and there are up to 20 new locations in Sana'a and 10 in Aden. The goal of Federal Express is to have 40 drop-off locations by the end of the year.

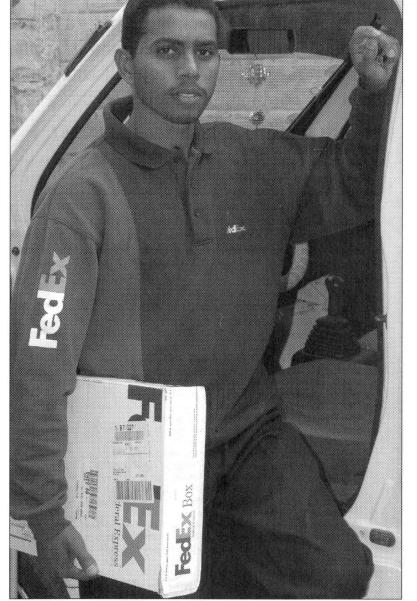
"This strategy is to let different businesses ship for Federal Express and make life easier for customers," said Al-Baidani. "In the last few years, we focused heavily on corporate clients. After succeeding in capturing a large number of businesses, we are now focusing more on targeting walk-in, individual customers.'

Recently, Federal Express in Yemen, under the licensee of Federal Express Corporation, Falcon Aviation, Inc., developed new technology to offer more efficiency to its customers. The FedEx Ship Manager program allows customers to prepare shipping packages on the Internet instead of traveling to a Federal Express location and filling out forms manually.

Federal Express also established Customer Experience Management that offers special care and services to customers and Executive Club Program designed for business clients.

"We have tried to differentiate ourselves from our competitors by developing added value to our products and services," said Al-Baidani.

Federal Express in Yemen, part of the largest courier service company in the world which pulled in over \$22 billion in revenue in 2003, has also increased



A Federal Express employee delivering a package in Sana'a, Yemen. (Yemen Times photo by Peter Willems)

its marketing budget by 200% and doubled its sales force in the last year-anda-half. In the same period, Federal Express opened new offices in Mukalla, Seyoun and Shabwa: It now has offices in eight major Yemeni cities.

But the courier company has to face stiff competition in Yemen. DHL is the leader in the local market, which established its presence in the early eighties and held around 45% of the market, both inbound and outbound packages, at the end of 2003.

Federal Express didn't enter the market until the mid-nineties. But, according to Federal Express, its new products and services have helped increase its market share, up from 20% in 2002 to 27% last year.

6 May, 2004

And while implementing new strategies, Federal Express expects to grab more of the market.

"I believe that Federal Express will take over and be the number one courier business in Yemen by the end of this year," said Al-Baidani.

t is to be noted that the activities related to programs implemented in depicting the image of Sana'a, capital of Arab Culture 2004, are performed in a randomly way despite of the importance of their significance as investment projects. Those projects can be marketed in tourist and artistic way and to promote through them for tourist products, religious and historical landmarks and also the folklore arts and dances that accompany those activities.

Specialized persons in investment sector many of those activities are implemented as if transient, without a sense of art or investment dealing with what it could be marketed and getting from it proceeds in hard currency. For instance many European, Arab and American arts ensembles have been visiting Yemen to take part in activities of the Sana'a capital of Arab culture 2004 but their performances have not been recorded on a basis of well-studied methods. Those specialists have also made it clear that those in charge of the activities consider them just as singing parties and that the participation of those teams are for entertainment purposes and in celebration of the capital only. They do not think that there is a possibility of exporting that artistic production and music abroad and accompanied by images representing certain tourist landmarks and portions of old Sana'a with its historical treasures.

They also stress that the investment dimension of celebrating Sana'a as

information team to help promote the activities with possible ways which are many, requiring accuracy in organisation and best selection. What calls the attention is the activities are held without enthusiasm by the private sector and such negligence is attributed to non-confidence between the official side that supervises the activities and private sector capitals seeking for rapid profits and would not care about what could be gained of achievements if they had participated in artistic production and marketing for Sana'a.

It seems the need is much wanted for engaging the local private sector in investing tourist activities and dealing with Yemeni, Arab and foreign

Exchange Rate for the Yemeni Rial					
Currency	Buying	Selling			
US Dollar	184.4100	184.6300			
Sterling Pound	327.4600	327.8500			
Euro	220.6700	220.9300			
Saudi Rial	49.1700	49.2300			
Kuwaiti Dinar	625.5400	626.2900			
UAE Dirhem	50.2100	50.2700			
Egyptian Pound	29.7400	29.7800			
Bahraini Dinar	489.1600	489.7400			
Qatari Rial	50.6500	50.7100			
Jordanian Dinar	260.1000	260.4100			
Omani Rial	479.0100	479.5800			
Swiss Franc	142.0700	142.2400			
Swedish Crown	24.1400	24.1700			
Japanese Yen	1.6755	1.6775			

ing benefit to the national economy

Advertisement

ترغب سفارة الهند بصنعاء، الجمهورية اليمنية، في بيع ممتلكاتها في منطقة كريتر في عدن وفقا -The Embassy of India, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen, wishes to dispose of its prop erty at Crater in Aden, as per details given below:

A rectangular plot measuring 19,436.81 Square feet, be the same a little more or less, situated at Front Bay, Crater, Aden, and known as plot No. 10, lease No. 4348 قدم مربع، تزيد أو تنقص قليلا، وتقع على واجهة less, situated at Front Bay, Crater, Aden, and known as plot No. 10, lease No. 4348

The terms & conditions of the sale are as under:-

a) Property would be sold on "as and where is basis".

b) Purchaser is welcome to see the original document of the plot to satisfy himself/her-SG DA

- c) Purchaser may attach an irrevocable bank guarantee valid for two years from any International Bank, i.e., Indo Suez Bank or Arab Bank and the guarantee should be in favour of Embassy of India, Sana'a, for a minimum amount of US Dollar 2000/-.
- to pay for the plot, as well as the structure on the plot without any repairs/renovation by the Embassy.
- of External Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi, for their approval and decision.

late the conditions for payment of the amount which would be in US\$.

g) It would be the discretion of the Ministry of External Affairs to sell the plot to any DELEN

h) Purchasing party would have to pay all the expenses for the transfer of the property.

i) After sale process has been completed, the Embassy of India Sana'a would release the Bank guarantees to unsuccessful bidders.

office, bank or any other use party may like to make use of it.

All Parties are requested to send their bids earliest possible but not later than June 30, 2004.

للتقاصيل المبينية ادناه

ics, situated at Front buy, Crites Reverses as "Joshi building" and it bears house No. 303 الخليج، كريتر، عدن، وتعرف الأرضية برقم 10، عقد رقم 4348 (مقابل بيتزا هت كريتر)، والمعروفة إسم "مبنى جوشي" ويقع عليها البيت رقم 303 A.

شروط وهالات البيع مبيغة كالآتي:

ا) ستباع الممتلكات على أساس الزمان والمكان.

) لمزيد من الإطمئنان يمكن للشاري/ الشارية أن يرى الوثيقة الأصلية للأرضية.

ج) بمكن للشارى إرفاق ضمانة بنكية قابلة الدفع وصالحة لمدة عامين من أي بنك دولي مثل بنك أندوسويس أو البنك العربي وتكون الضمانة لأمر السفارة الهندية بمبلغ 2000 دولار أمريكي كحد أدني. د) بإمكان الشاري/ الشارية أن يعرض أكبر مبلغ باللـولار الأمريكي سوف يدفعه قيمة للأرضية وكذلك – Purchaser may indicate the highest amount in US Dollars which he/she is willing البناء الذي على الأرضية بدون أي إصلاحات / تجديدات تقوم بها السفارة.

ه) ترسل كافة العطاءات في ظرف مختوم والتي سوف ترسل إلى وزارة الشئون الخارجية بحكومة الهند. - All bids should be sent in a sealed cover which would be forwarded to the Ministry نيودلهي، وذلك للموافقة وأخذ القرار.

و) قرار وزارة الشئون الخارجية يعتبر نهائيا وسوف يحددون شروط دفع المبلغ والذي سيكون بالدولار ... Decision of the Ministry of External Affairs would be final and they would stipu. لأمريكي.

ز) سيكون من حق وزارة الشئون الخارجية بيع الأرضية لأي جهة.

-) الجهة التي سوف تشتري سيكون عليها دفع كافة نفقات نقل الملكية.

ط) بعد إتمام عملية البيع. سوف تقوم السفارة الهندية بإطلاق الضمانات البنكية للمزايدين الذين لم تحالفهم الحظ

متبر الموقع مناسباً للبعثات الديلوباسية، نزل، مكتب شركة، ينك أو أي شئ آخر قد يرغب 🛛 The site is suitable for diplomatic missions. guest house, corporate هد في إستعماله فيه

يرجى بن كل الراغبين إرسال عطاءاتنهم بأسرع فرصة ممكنة تبل تاريح ٢٠ يونيو ٢٠٠٤م.



REPUBLIC OF YEMEN - MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT SANA'A BASIN WATER MANAGEMENT PROJECT (SBWMP) VACANCIES ANNOUNCEMENT (INTERNATIONAL/REGIONAL)

The Republic of Yemen has received a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) toward the costs of Sana'a Basin Water Management Project and it is intended that a portion of the proceeds of the credit will be used to cover the eligible payments against the cost of the Project Management and Monitoring and the Information and Public Awareness Campaign (IPAC). Now the Project Coordination Unit (PCU) invites Qualified and experienced international/regional experts to apply for the following posts.

1- INSTITUTIONAL TRAINING SPECIALIST/EXPERT (International /Regional)

Working with the TS-SBC's institutional development specialist and with the TS-SBC's social development / WUA specialist, the ITS will help the TS-SBC to oversee the institutional development and capacity building component (Component 3). This will require him/her to work in close collaboration with the relevant existing and projected water management institutions, in particular (i) the National Water Resources Authority (NWRA) and the NWRA Sana'a Branch (NWRA/SB), (ii) the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (MAI) and its sub-agencies including the MAI General Directorate for Irrigation (MAI/GDI), and including the MAI Sana'a Office (MAI/SO) and/or to the Northern Development Authority (NDA or SSHADA), and (iii) the Sana'a basin stakeholder organizations including water user associations (WUAs), water user federations (WUFs) and the SBC. More specifically, the PCU institutional Training specialist would be responsible for:

- General Overview and Direction of all training programs in collaboration with PCU's Sociologist/ Social Development Specialist, and line agency engineers
- In collaboration with all project staff, define the population concerned by the training program
- Design and coordinate the carrying out of a training needs assessment (this would be conducted as early in the cycle as possible)
- Define the training needs and the scope, type and source of training, in collaboration with the project management team
- Develop the various comprehensive training programs for each component including: -
 - Training in Water Management for Irrigated Agriculture
 - Training in Water Control and Recharge Systems O&M
 - Training for Social Mobilization Teams
 - Training for Basin Water Resources management Training for the Information and Public Awareness Campaign
 - Training for the TS-SBC and Line Agencies
- Define and cost the needed consultancy and education program, write terms of reference and prepare and advise on the procurement process
- Design quality control mechanisms, including post training evaluations and follow up reviews
- Design and help implement a training programming and monitoring system
- Help supervise training and report on quality and effectiveness
- (at the end of the project) prepare a full report on training effectiveness and cost effectiveness

Qualifications and Required Experiences

- At least MSc Degree in Administration / Sociology/ Economics/ Business/ Public Information or any related field, Business Administration/Economics, Public awareness, or related field of study
- Ten years experience of designing and conducting training programs, of which five in projects related to natural resource management

Duration: The ITS will be recruited for intermittent consultancy assignments totaling nine months over five years (2004-8) (3/2/1/1/2).

2- INFORMATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS SPECIALIST / **EXPERT (International)**

Under the overall supervision of the PCU Director, and in collaboration with the national and international project staff, the IPAC Expert is required to:

- Work with the NWRA/SB to identify, select, recruit and train the members of the IPAC team and then initiate and supervise the IPAC program, acting on a part-time basis either as an IPAC adviser or as an IPAC team director;
 - Supervise, monitor and evaluate the work of the IPAC team, the effecti

Qualifications and Required Experiences

At least MSc Degree in media, sociology or related discipline with15 years of which at least seven in a job involving design and execution monitoring and evaluation of a mass media or public awareness campaign. Previous experience in a project influencing behavior in natural resource management an advantage.

Duration: A contract of up to eighteen months over four years. Six months of services would be required in Year One, and about four months annually for the next three years. (2004-8) (6/4/4/4/)

3- MONITORING & EVALUATION SPECIALIST

(International /Regional)

The internationally recruited specialist will work with the national M+E specialist in the TS-SBC and will report to the Director of the Project Coordination Unit. The primary function of the specialist will be to provide methodological guidance and management support to the national M+E specialist in setting up and managing the M+E function in the project. In particular, the M&O specialist will help the national M+E specialist in the TS-SBC to:

- (a) Plan, organize and operate the project's M&E system and design, run, report on, and draw useful lessons and recommendations for project monitoring from a Monitoring and Evaluation System based on the project description and performance parameters and Targets Provided in the PAD and PIM
- (b) Design and install a suitable M&E system and upgrade skills in the design of indicators and reporting systems, socio-economic data collection, data analysis design a management information system (MIS) for the project and train the counterparts for the operationalization of this system and to integrate relevant project procedures into regular administrative activities and operations.
- Design organize, direct, supervise and review M&E field works and (c) investigations including participatory socioeconomic and financial baseline and subsequent impact surveys, special water resource monitoring programs and investigations, regular performance monitoring and spot checks. consultations with key partners and beneficiaries through individual and group interviews and meetings, etc.;
- Analyze regularly the results from the M&E system, reporting major findings (d) to the project management and formulate options and recommendations for improvements
- prepare and Submit M&E reports to the Project Management, Financing (e) Agency and line Ministries and participate in the preparation of the progress reports at the prescribed reporting intervals.
- Monitor and perform evaluation of the cost-sharing arrangements adopted (f)under different project components.
- (g) Monitor all the financial aspects relating to disbursement from the credit, replenishment of special account and liaise with IDA in this regard.
- Advise his counterpart in regard to the data needed for the preparation of the (h) Mid-term review.
- Review the progress reports received from the related implementation (i) institutions/ units, and report to the management of any deviations from the annual work plan.
- Make frequent visits to the related implementation institutions/ units and (j) Project areas to monitor the progress achieved and the constraints which may retard the pace of implementation and report to the project management with suggestions to overcome the short comings.
- Provide on-the-Job training to national counterpart staff in the PCU.
- (m) Draw lessons from the project and formulate recommendations for improving the design and implementation modalities of the next project.

Qualifications and Required Experiences

The M & E Specialist shall have at least a MSc Degree in Agricultural Economist/ Economist or statistician with 10 years experience of which at least 5-10 years shall be in the field of M & E of Irrigation/agricultural/ rural development projects, which are externally financed. The M & E Specialist shall have managerial experiences, which enable him to advise and help the project management. Duration: The M&E Specialist will be recruited for intermittent consultancy assignments totaling fifteen months over five years (2004-8) (4/2/3/2/4).

of the preparation and execution of work plans, and definition of process adjustments from cycle to cycle in response to encountered constraints and difficulties;

- Oversee in particular the social and organizational development of the WUAs 11. for village wellfields management and dam and recharge systems operations and maintenance, including legal and organizational establishment, setup of financial and administrative procedures, and corresponding management training;
- 12. Contribute to definition and execution of community social, economic and institutional baseline, monitoring and evaluation exercises, assess from these the level of satisfaction of water users, WUGs and WUAs with projectsupported interventions and of the corresponding social benefits, and propose actions to be taken for needed improvements;
- 13. Mediate in and/or address as needed social difficulties that may arise as a result of project interventions, such as conflicts within and between WUGs and WUAs, between participating and non-participating WUGs and WUAs, between government agencies and local communities, etc.
- 14. Provide social and organizational development inputs to TS-SBC monitoring, reporting and decision-making related to Components 1 and 2.

Qualifications and Requirements

The Sociologist shall have at least MSc degree in Sociology or economics with specialization in Sociology with extensive experience of not less than 15 years in Socioeconomic surveys, social and institutional assessment related to water / agriculture and irrigation projects. The Sociologist shall have experience in poverty assessment of land tenure and land use, water rights, participatory water management, stockholders assessment, formation of Water Users Groups and Associations etc.

Duration: The SSDS will be recruited for intermittent consultancy assignments totaling nine months over five years (2004-8) (3/2/1/1/2)

5- WATER ENGINEER PROJECT MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST (International /Regional)

Under the overall supervision of the Project Coordination Unit Director, and in collaboration with the national and international project staff, the experienced Water Engineer Project Mgt Specialist (WEPMS) is required to perform the tasks listed below. The WEPMS's main duties will be to provide assistance in the following:-

- (a) To assist with the coordination of all project activities and liaison with other organizations and Ministries, and to help coordinate, liaise with, guide and supervise the line agencies particularly in respect of operational procedures that they should follow for procurement, financial management, monitoring and reporting;
- (b)The Engineer shall provide overall direction to the project's technical
 - interventions, and help ensure the overall technical quality of projectsupported physical intervention investments, through guidance and review of designs and specifications for works and equipment, particularly with a view to their compatibility with local demands and needs, and through participation in and overview of implementation contracts preparation, evaluation and administration. The WEPMS will provide guidance for the investigations, detailed selection of sites for Dams, Spate, Bank Protection and Water Harvesting Works, designs, specifications, preparation of tender documents, bidding and bid analysis, and procurement procedures. The Engineer shall carry out supervision tours of the various project sites and areas to check the general progress of works and provide technical back up. The Engineer shall assist in preparation of semi-annual and annual progress report giving details of implementation progress highlighting bottlenecks in implementation, in addition to giving summaries of stocks of materials purchased under the project and works implemented.
- (c) The WEPMS will help program, budget and oversee the implementation of project operations, and particularly of procurement of major works and services, contracting implementation partners for major tasks, principal monitoring and evaluation tasks, and TS-SBC and project financial management, record keeping and general administration. The WEPMS will assist PCU in the management of contracts and works and provide technical back up to the national teams. The Engineer shall also assist PCU in the general supervision of activities of consultants, contractors, departmental works and the Field Unit.

- of the IPAC messages and methods, and the IPAC results;
- With NWRA/SB, revise IPAC messages and methods as warranted, and adapt (iii) IPAC processes accordingly, from cycle to cycle;
- (iv) Provide inputs to TS-SBC monitoring, reporting and decision-making related to the IPAC program.
- Review and discuss with the relevant staff the strengths and a weakness of (v) planned public awareness program, and suggest a strategy to make this program more effective, including prioritization of various actions.
- (vi) Help develop a comprehensive program of TV and Radio messages, which should be disseminated during 2004-2008 under SBWMP. In this context, the expert should help describe the contents of the messages, pre-test these messages with the target audience, and ensure complete production of these messages with the help of existing public/private production institutions.
- (vii) Propose a strategy to disseminate TV and Radio messages. The expert should elaborate on the mechanisms and institutional arrangement, which must be made to secure smooth implementation of the program.
- (viii) Help the national IPAC team to organize and implement in major rural villages and towns, in collaboration with the respective NWRA Sana'a Branch, MAI /GDI and Northern FU of GSCP a series of community meetings to discuss possible water management solutions and water related events and competitions (workshops, meetings, and seminars)
- (ix) Recommend a series of actions to strengthen the public awareness department, including the steps, which should be followed by this department to assume increasing responsibilities over the project years- perhaps without the help of external assistance.
- The expert should provide assistance in setting-up the production unit with (x) necessary equipment facilities to ensure in-house production of public awareness messages, and materials (posters, leaflets and calendars) and Billboards (with water conservation messages) at prominent locations Moreover, the expert should provide assistance to the project in preparing technical specifications of the communication equipment; installation and testing of equipment procured by the project; and training of staff in utilizing the equipment.
- Provide an extensive on-the-iob training to the staff of the Public Awareness (xi) Campaign in order to enable them to perform their functions independently or under minimum supervision; and propose a training program for key staff of the campaign in the form of short-term study tours to learn form experiences of other countries.
- (xii) The expert should provide assistance to NWRA in the production of films on water management issues and prepare TOR for their production, dissemination and publicity.
- (xiii) Design a procedure for evaluation of awareness campaign impact.
- (xiv) Provide inputs to PCU monitoring, reporting and decision-making related to (IPAC).

Details of campaign design are available in the project and will be sent by e-mail to the interested specialists.

4- SOCIOLOGIST/ SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST (International /Regional)

The SSDS will work with the national social development/WUA specialist in the TS-SBC and will report to the manager of the TS-SBC. The primary function of the SSDS will be to provide methodological guidance and management support to the national social development/WUA specialist in overseeing the social mobilization function in the project. In particular the SSDS will help the national social development/WUA specialist in the TS-SBC to:

- 1. In collaboration with the national Sociologist and SMTs, conduct social assessment studies to assess the attitudes of the farmers towards implementation of Demand Management Component and Supply Management Component, and their impact on the traditional water rights to the beneficiaries located downstream of such structures in accordance with Article 27 to 45 of the Water Law and give his recommendation.
- 2. Conduct social assessment studies to assess the attitudes of the farmers and make recommendation for achieving stakeholders participation of farmers especially in the WUAs for management and conservation of groundwater and to encourage them not to expand the irrigation areas and not to increase cropping intensities in lieu of the subsidies on the modern irrigation systems to be provided to them.
- Design the overall community participatory approach for the management 3. and conservation of water
- 4 Review and assess the institutional structure at the community level (Stakeholders, Community relations with other local institutions, Water transfers and markets etc.).
- 5 Train National Consultant and Counterpart staff assigned to the PCU.
- Coordinate the various involved implementation partners and processes 6. involved in the social mobilization aspects of the project
- 7. Oversee and guide the process of identification, interview, selection, recruitment and assembly of the SMTs, and of their subsequent training.
- Review and refine the methodological approach to social mobilization, test it, and reflect results in a continuous process of improvement of the approach
- 9. Oversee the process of assessment and selection of participating communities through definition and application of criteria related to socioeconomic characteristics, social and organizational readiness, and willingness of communities and water user organizations to assume both benefits and responsibilities relating to project interventions;
- 10. Overview the social mobilization, training and extension support processes, including coordination of inputs by the various partners (SMTs and consultants, and community groups and individuals), review and supervision

(d)Providing on-the-Job training to National Counterpart staff assigned to the PCU.

- (e) Check and verify annual estimates made by the related implementation institutions and departments and Field Unit for quantities of materials required for the annual implementation program.
- (f) The Engineer shall assist PCU in reviewing all major project and consultancy reports, through delegation to and reporting from staff as needed, and in preparing the mid-term implementation assessment report for mid-term review of the project for submission to Government and IDA.
- (e) The Engineer shall assist PCU in setting up a M&E unit for the project.

Qualifications and Required Experiences

The Water Engineer Project Mgt Specialist Advisor shall be a Civil/ Irrigation Engineer with a minimum of 10 years of experience in planning design, implementation, and operation and maintenance of irrigation projects in arid and semi-arid regions. He shall have administrative and managerial experience to enable him to assist the Project Management in the implementation of all project works. He shall have had experience with the design and implementation of buried conduits for the convevance and distribution of irrigation water, in addition to spate improvement and water harvesting works.

Duration: The WEPMS will be recruited for intermittent consultancy assignments totaling twelve months over five years (2004-8). (3/2/2/2/3)

Competencies Required: - incumbents should have:

- Ability to produce quality outputs in a timely manner
- Ability to work under heavy pressure
- Excellent organizational skills and sound judgment
- Ability to communicate with different levels of targeted populations and Professionals
- Good knowledge of English language and knowledge of Arabic is an advantage.
- Computer Use: Windows, MS Office and related programs

Duty Station: Sana'a Basin area and in-country travel if necessary Applications accompanied by CVs and supporting documents shall be delivered to the project address as follow (SBWMP- P.O.BOX11014) Rabat Street, Sana'a ROY Tel (00967-1-469159 / 7/ 6) Fax (00967-1-469158) E-mail (SBWMP@y.net.ye) Latest Date is (May 23rd, 2004)

Culture

At Al-Saeed Foundation for Science and Culture

Top officials at AI-Saeed cultural festivities

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF YT TAIZ BUREAU

TEMENS

inister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Abo Al-Qirbi, Baker Deputy Speaker of Parliament, Mr. Yahya Al-Rae, Undersecretary of Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Mr. Hisham Ali Bin Ali, and Mr. Mohamed Ahmed Al-Haj, Vice Governor of Taiz attended the conclusion of recent activities of Al-Saeed Cultural Festival held on the occasion of presenting the wining prizes of Haj Hayel Saeed Anam on several fields of science and literature.

The ceremony was held at Hall of Al-Saeed Foundation for Sciences and Culture.

Dr. Ahmed Hayel Saeed Anam, Vice President of Al-Saeed Foundation, expressed his joy that the time of the celebrations at Al-Saeed Foundation coincides with the celebrations of the Republic of Yemen on the occasion of anniversary of the unification of the country under the leadership of H.E. Ali Abdullah Saleh, President of the Republic on May 22.

He pointed out that the occasion of presenting the wining prizes in science and literature is not merely to commemorate Haj Hayel Saeed, but also to push the wheel of development forward in the fields of science and cul-

ture. As it has motivated young writers, scientists and researchers to reach their limits in their fields of study and specialties.

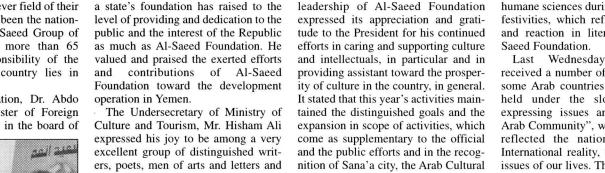
The competition for Al-Saeed's Prizes in its 7th round, has contributed in serving important issues of concern to the whole society through the researches and efforts of many excellent, creative and innovative writers, scientists and intellects in conducting their findings and researches. It has enriched the scientific and cultural production in Yemen. It provides the opportunity to seek and find solutions to overcome difficulties and obstacles standing against the development of the country in all the various fields.

Mr. Ali Mohamed Saeed, the chairman of the Foundation, on his part, pointed out that as the foundation concludes its celebration, the biggest annual cultural activity inside the country, it calls on everyone to commence preparation for next year's prizes. He urged everyone to seek further knowledge and education in whatever field of their convenience, as it has been the national message of Hayel Saeed Group of Companies, founded more than 65 years ago. The responsibility of the development of the country lies in every loyal citizen.

During the celebration, Dr. Abdo Baker Al-Qirbi, Minister of Foreign Affairs and a member in the board of



Dr. Mohammed Junaid received his prize for his research about diabetes disease



with the culture.

scientists. Mr. Mohamed Al-Haj, on his part, explained in his speech to the gathering that the distribution of the prizes of Hayel Saeed Anam on various fields of studies comes also within the frame of the activities on the occasion of Sana'a, the Arab Cultural Capital 2004, and a continuation of the effective and strong support and contributions of the private sector towards efforts of development and building of the country represented by Hayel Saeed Anam Group of Companies in order to overcome and to eliminate the deficiency in values, ideas, and understanding in dealing

Panel of the committee judging and distributing prizes

trustee of the Prizes expressed his hap-

piness to be part of this year's celebra-

tion. He confirmed that during the past

seven years, no other foundation, even

In a cable to H.E. Ali Abdullah Saleh, President of the Republic, the leadership of Al-Saeed Foundation Capital 2004.

The festivities of Al-Saeed Foundation for Science and Culture, consisting of the distribution of prizes, the holding of several lectures on sciences and arts and letters, and the inauguration of Taiz Book Exhibition participated by 10s of local, Arab and Foreign Publishing Houses had commenced last Sunday, 25 April in presence of Undersecretary of Taiz Governorate and Mr. Shawqi Ahmed Hayel and Mr. Faisel Saeed Fara, Director-General of Al-Saeed Foundation with the opening of the artistic exhibition by the creative artist

Rasha Ahmed Al-Moghales, held at Al-Saeed Gallery. While Al-Saeed Forum hosted a number of lectures in the fields of arts and letters, poem and humane sciences during the days of the festivities, which reflected the reality and reaction in literature inside Al-

يحفل السنوى لتوزيع جانزة المرحوم الحاج فانل سميد أنعم

للملوو والأداب

Last Wednesday, the Gallery received a number of cartoonists from some Arab countries in an exhibition held under the slogan, "Sketches expressing issues and hopes of the Arab Community", where the sketches reflected the national, Arabic and International reality, the concerns and issues of our lives. The Exhibition was inaugurated by Dr. Abo Baker Al-Qirbi, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and CEO of Al-Saeed Foundation Mr. Ali Mohamed Saeed, who also inaugurated Taiz Book Exhibition and Information Technique, participated by 75 Local, Arab and International Publishing Houses carrying more than 130 book titles.

These activities come within the frame of activities regularly carried out by Al-Saeed Foundation for Sciences and Culture annually and which accompanies the distribution of Haj Hayel Saeed Anam's Prizes on sciences and literature.



The United Nations Agencies in Yemen (UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, WFP and UNIC) are looking for a property in Sana'a to house their offices. The property should meet the following minimum requirements:

- One Office Building, maximum 4 floors, with a total office area of 5,600 square meters (M²) excluding lobby, hallways, passage and basement. If the total space is not available in one building, two buildings in one compound shall be acceptable. The building(s) should
 - be constructed with high quality materials and workmanship
 - b. be structurally sound, earthquake resistant, well ventilated and well lit
 - have good guality finishes
 - be equipped with plumbing system, and electrical wiring and telephone system for 100 lines of international standards d. have doors made from hard wood, and all windows and external doors on ground floor protected with iron grills

 - have floors and stair cases covered with local marble or mosaic
 - consist of rooms of size between 12 to 24 M². And, one conference room of 200-250 M² on the ground floor. Each room should have adequate number of windows. All windows should be double-glazed and provide a perfect shut be equipped with elevators and appropriate access for handicapped people



claims.

BY HASSAN AL-ZAIDI YEMEN TIMES STAFF

He pointed out that what is taking place in Fallujah is no different from rwa University conclud-ed its 7th cultural week occupation is an occupation, and the

CHANGE She Wrote A game of dominoes

BY SADAF SHAH MSADAFSHAH@VAHOO.CA FOR THE YEAMEN TIMES

The "coalition forces" are now under greater criticism than ever before for the alleged abuse of Iraqi prisoners. The recent pictures first published in the British tabloid newspaper, the Daily Mirror, have exposed the occupying forces as ruthlessly disgusting. According to Amnesty International, prisoner abuse is not an isolated phenomenon, but a systematic "pattern of torture" in Iraqi prisons. Former prisoners who are not related have corroborated abusive conditions such as beatings and sleep deprivation as common practices used by interrogators. One prisoner suspected of theft was shown in a picture with a rifle pointed to his head and being urinated on by a British soldier. He was beaten with his jaw broken and then later dumped out of a truck. The soldiers were not sure whether he survived or not. All of this for suspected theft! Is this incident not reminiscent of the treatment of prisoners at the infamous Alcatraz prison? Notwithstanding the fact that these pictures were released by British soldiers who themselves were sickened by the misconduct of their peers, the most senior soldier in the British army, General Sir Mike Jackson, said if guilty, the men were not fit to wear the uniform. It is truly amazing that the British authorities are actually treating this whole controversy as somewhat 'suspicious'. They accuse the photographs of being staged, rather than picturing the grim reality of bad British conduct. The question that comes to mind is who will go to such disgraceful means to disgrace the British army? Certainly, Iraqi 'insurgents' must not have thought about 'baring all' only to humiliate the British! Such an allegation would be utterly preposterous! Could it be the work of her allies? Impossible. It is time the British take responsibility of the misconduct of its army personnel. So far six soldiers have been reprimanded, but no apology to the Iraqi people has been offered. There is an investigation, however the British still refuse to admit their soldiers have committed such deplorable acts. The U.S. on the other hand, acknowledged the authenticity of the shameful pictures, but like its counterpart, offered only an investigation and harsh treatment for the perpetrators. No apology for the Iraqi people or a screening of the conditions at the Abu Ghraib prison. Since last year, Amnesty International has been researching and demanding an impartial and open enquiry into the abusive conditions at the prison. Now since the pictures are out, and the credibility of the coalition forces has been undermined, is the game being played on the international stage. A game of dominoes is being played with no concerns for who gets shot in the middle. Who can prove to be the most disgusting, torturous, disgraceful, and alarming with the highest number of body counts? The 'terrorists', 'insurgents', 'Islamic militants/jihadists' or the 'coalition forces' in Iraq fighting for the so-called democratic values for the Iraqi people and the Arab world in general. We, as the unwilling spectators of this game, watch, as innocent people are being murdered, tortured and humiliated for the sake of winning this game. The fundamentalists show pictures of their dead soldiers or kidnapped foreigners, and the U.S/U.K respond by carrying out collective punishment bombing raids over cities where ordinary people are killed in a vain attempt to dismantle insurgents. Both believe themselves to be in the ultimate right while ignoring the ultimate right to life and dignity of their victims.

- be equipped with pressurized water supply system consisting of one under ground water tank of 10.000 liters and one overhead tank of 2.000 liters
- be equipped with adequate number of wash rooms in each floor
- One (or two) Service Building, maximum two floors, to house: Cafeteria (kitchen 20 M², store 10 M², Dinning 50 M²); Recreation 2. room 50 M²; Bank (2 rooms of 15 M² each); and Travel Agency (one room of 15 M²), Drivers room 15 M² and separate wash rooms for men and women. This building should also meet the requirement mentioned in point a. to d. above, and be connected to the water supply system
- One Store consisting of four independent rooms of minimum 15 M² each 3.
- One underground storage for storing toxic materials consisting of 3 rooms of 10 $M^{\scriptscriptstyle 2}$ each 4.
- One Garage to be used as vehicle maintenance workshop 5.
- One Guard House near to the main entrance consisting of 2 rooms, kitchen and wash room 6.
- One Generator shed 15 M² located away from building(s) 7.
- All buildings should be fitted with smoke detectors and fire alarms 8.
- All buildings should have emergency escape 9.
- 10. The above buildings should be in one compound protected with reinforced concrete wall of 3 meter high including 0.5 meter of iron grill on top
- 11. There should be a minimum distance of 50 meters between the Office Building(s) and the compound wall on sides facing streets
- Building(s) should be in a location where there will be a possibility of blocking roads by the Government for security reasons and does not cause inconvenience to the neighborhood around
- 13 The compound should have two separate parking lots. Each parking lot should accommodate minimum 50 vehicles
- The un-built ground area in the compound should be either paved and/or green grass/garden 14
- The compound should have adequate provision of security and parking lights. Security lights should be placed every 10 meters 15. along the compound wall with flood lights every 50 meters facing externally.
- The property should be away from a factory that may have implication to human health
- The property should be located in an area close to diplomatic area and government ministries
- 18. The landlord should be ready to make some internal and external modifications to the building(s) at his own cost based on the requirement of specific agency
- The landlord should also be ready to make necessary upgrades/modifications to the entry and exit gates and parking areas to 19. ensure compliance with UN security requirement

Proposals are invited from perspective landlords (individuals and companies) who own a property that meets the above requirement and are willing to rent to the UN. Proposals should be submitted by 21 May 2004 and addressed to: Operations Officer, UNICEF, Sana'a, P.O.Box 725

The proposal should include:

- Description of the property, including confirmation that the property meets each of the above listed minimum requirements
- Photo of building(s)
- Location map and compound layout 3.
- Floor plan of building(s)
- Detailed electrical wiring plan 5.
- 6. Detailed structural design of building(s)
- Copy of ownership document
- Date when the property will be available for occupancy 8.
- 9 Annual rent for the property, and payment conditions (advance payment of rent for a period of more than 3 months will not be acceptable)

Any proposal that does not meet all of the conditions mentioned above will not be considered. Once the property is identified and agreed with the landlord, the UN agencies will initially enter into a lease agreement for a period of five years. This lease may be extended based on mutual agreement.

activities, April 29, held in cooperation with Al-Husaini Company.

Dr. Waheba Fara, the President of the University pointed out that the activities, which coincided with the celebration of Sana'a, the Arab Cultural Capital 2004, are in attempting to present the students' intellectual, creative and innovative abilities and acquainting the students with national and Arab issues of great importance.

She added that the activities are a form of expressing solidarity with the Palestinians who are encountering brutal treatment at the hands of the Israeli occupation forces.

On another dimension,, Mr. Yahya Mohamed Abdullah Saleh, Commander of the Central Security and Chairman of Kanan Palestinian Charity, confirmed that this activity assists in clearly showing the Arabic Palestinian civilization and their history in order to confront the Israelis'



military weapons are the same. The goal is to destroy the capability of the Arab and Muslim countries.

At the beginning of the activities, a film was played showing the struggle and cope of the Palestinian people and the suffering of the Palestinian children.

The activities also included several artistic exhibitions as well as political and scientific seminars where Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr. Abo Baker Al-Qirbi talked about the importance of the Yemeni initiative to reform the Arab League in confronting the US Big Middle East Project.

Saeed Thabit, Undersecretary of Yemeni Journalist Syndicate talked about the democratic experiment in the election of YJS.

Finally Qadri Ahmed Haider and Abdul Bary Taher talked bout the historic depth of Sana'a city, and the cultural role the phenomenon of the return of the folklore literature, respectively.



Main headlines

- performing Umrah o Mecca
- overshadow Yemen
- YSP denounces Damascus blasts
- Yemen a springing board for the liberal initiative
- Two Egyptians visited him and photocopied his passport,
- Preparations for internationalization the disappearance of Ahmed Salem - American apprehension for release Ubeid
- American massacres in Falluja and -Najaf
- Corruption devours millions of pub- lic property; GPC government imposes doses on the people
- Washington delivers the Great Middle East project to Arab capitals
- Syrian president Bashar al-Assad: -Iraqi resistance a legitimate right
- A state of alert in the south of the Red Sea in precaution of terrorist operations
- In a telephone conversation with president al-Assad, president Saleh emphasizes Yemen solidarity with Syria in facing terror
- FM al-Qirbi: proposed date for the Arab summit not final, the region states have not agreed on it yet

mit

nation

street

human rights

26 September weekly, organ of Yemen

Armed Forces, 29 Apr 2004.

Main headlines

- Representatives of Qatari, Russian and Chinese companies discuss implementation of investment projects in Yemen
- President Saleh: America's bias to the Zionist entity would bring for it hatred of one billion Muslims and peoples of the third world
- Al-Aidaroos accuses leaders of Islah of conniving with terrorist acts

The newspaper editorial says the situ-

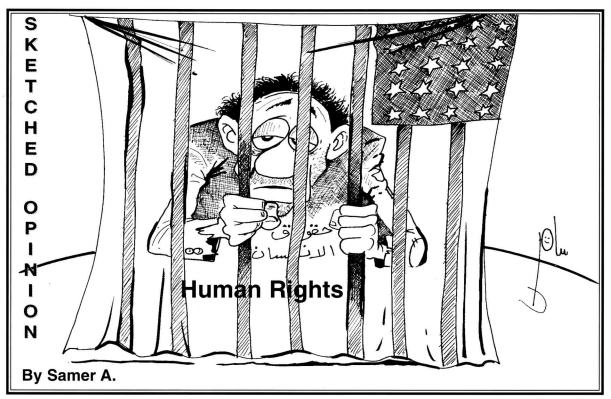
- Yemenis forcibly suspended from U.S. State Department praises Yemen's efforts for combating terror
- Terrorist operations in the region Yemeni Journalists Syndicate solidarity with Al-Jazeera TV. Satellite Channel
- Accumulation of authorities in Unsightly pictures expose crime of occupation in Iraq
 - Falluja celebrates the defeat of the American occupation
 - Liberal initiative for reform in Yemen
 - of extremists
 - 12 persons arrested for links with al-Qaeda
 - In response to invitation by GPC's secretary-general.
 - Mahathir Mohammed visits Sana'a. offers visions on investment projects in Yemen
 - PM Bajammal: Opposition parties unsuccessful and unable to offer the alternative
 - Yemeni-Egyptian supreme committee to convene in Sana'a this month, preparatory committee begins its meetings on 22 May
 - American pressures on Arab leaders ahead of their expected summit Open dialogue between Yemeni authorities and Islamic elements accused of terror

projects in Amran governorate

- Application of social securities on expatriate Yemenis in this month The Yemeni experiments at discussions in the 2nd Arab conference on
- Local Administration - Comprehensive national campaign of vaccination against measles next year Areas of parliamentary cooperation between Yemen and Britain

Titled "values of American liberation", columnist Ahmed al-Ashwal says in his article that it may not be by chance only what the satellite channels have reported of pictures of the flagrant violations of human rights practiced by the American occupying forces against the Iraqi detainees at Abu Ghraib prison

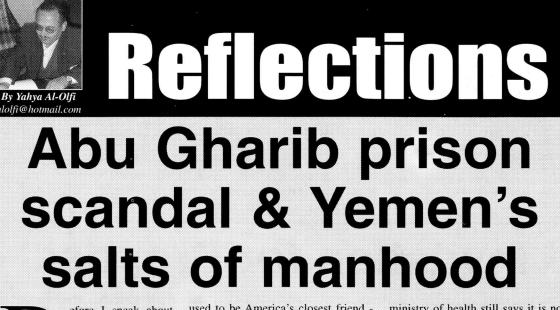
in Baghdad of which they said it was the



pretext of combating terror and another of protecting the Iraqis, raise the question on how long would America continue marketing its unsalable goods and for how long the would the cemetery

silence would continue? And the reaction of our rulers would continue for how long just confined to phrases of denunciation and condemnation? The record the sons of Falluja have written

as a deterrent force is the best proof on vitality of peoples in fighting for their freedom against occupation. The occupied people are the stronger because they derive strength from their right.



efore I speak about the Salts of Manhood I would like to refer to the recent uproar about the American scandal concerning the humiliating treatment of the Iraqi prisoners in Abu Gharib Prison and possibly in other Iraqi prisons. I extremely condemn such disgraceful acts which were monstrously committed by the

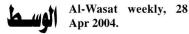
used to be America's closest friend as are many Arab leaders nowadays led many Iraqis to even look for the 'greater devil' - As Khomeini used to call the US - so as to get rid of a catastrophe named "Saddam" and now after the devil has replaced Saddam they are complaining from that whom they thought was their savior.

Many Iraqis were in fact coerced to welcome the Americans due to their thirty years of continued oppression. Pro-American Iraqis are now ashamed of what took place and cannot justify it to their followers. It would seem that the American occupation of Iraq has until now sent to the Arab leaders and their people three messages: 1) Obey us or you shall be doomed like Saddam. 2) Bribe us and kneel for us and we shall consider bygones be bygones as is the case with the Libyan Leader or 3) Let us occupy your land and we shall show you miracles, similar to those perpetrated in Abu Gharib and other prisons in Iraq. Having spoken about Iraq, I would like to speak a bit about unhealthy habits practiced in Yemen and how our government represented by the Health Ministry does not exert any efforts whatsoever to address them. Nowadays fierce campaigns are being waged against smoking due to the detrimental. The dangers included and are not limited to myocardial infarction, arteriosclerosis, high blood pressure, lung cancer, bronchitis, asthma, ulcer of the stomach, duodenal ulcer, a diabetes risk factor, brain damage, damage to the neurological system and to the whole body functions. Airline companies have stopped offering places for smokers. In most developed countries, smoking spaces in restaurants and public utilities have been largely cancelled. In Europe and North America, practical measures have been taken in order to limit and get rid of this bad habit. On the other hand in Yemen, our

ministry of health still says it is none of its business and hence most Yemenis gleefully smoke cigarettes, hubble-bubble, tobacco pipes, Sniffs, etc. Unfortunately this is not limited to men but women recently are taking up with men. Women tend to purchase small shaped ornamented hubble-bubbles (shisha) with lots of different flavored tobaccos. Smoking in Yemen is intensifying due to the habit of Chewing Qat, which is considered by most countries -Britain not one of them - of the world a narcotic herb. In order to have Qat always avail able, farmers are obliged to use different chemicals. The Chemicals used have been found to cause queasiness, nervousness, Mouth Rash, hyper secretion of Saliva, Colic, Diarrhea and headaches. Yet the Ministry of Health did little about it. Later on, after some years have passed, a new stage of fatal diseases appear in the form of Maxillo-facial Carcinomas. Gastric Cancers, Renal Failures, Cirrhosis and heart attacks. Popular culture in Yemen calls for more chewing and more smoking, as the more you chew Qat and the more you smoke, the more you are respected, to the extent that they call such bad habits "Salts of Manhood".

ations in Iraq are increasing every day in darkness and tragedy with the increase of violent acts and absence of security and stability. Added to that is the coincidence of acts of violence and the collective punishment perpetrated by the occupying forces against the people of Iraq. Almost more than a year elapsed on the occupation of Iraq by the coalition forces led by the United States and at the time the Iraqi resistance to occupation increases the occupying forces increase their acts against sons of the Iraqi people especially in Falluja, Kerbala, Najaf and Qaem in a feverish manner, using the most lethal weapons and armored vehicles and warplanes claiming the lives of numerous victims of women, children and innocent civilians.

No doubt those who are hanging on to the presence of the foreigner and seeking protection under its presence are doing so in defence of guarantees of their existence or gaining some self benefits. Those realize that their presence and destiny connected to the presence of the foreign occupier in Iraq. Such examples of five-star strugglers have many similar of them in history and it is natural for them to refuse any serious solutions that for the Iraqi problem that leads to enable the people of Iraq restore their freedom, independence and liberation from occupation.



Main headlines

- FM al-Qirbi confirms Yemen reservation on date of holding the Arab sum-

the situation in prisons whether regarding the suitability of the place as a reforming institution for the prisoners or the non-existing services and health care in many prisons. Added to that is what the prisoner is exposed to of humiliation and threats and offenses sometimes.

Al-Sa'wani threatens to disclose facts

in the case of Jarallah Omer assassi-

A woman maims the dead body of her

mother- in- law and throws it to the

Senates and Shoura League calls for

stabilization of democracy and

Health centers in the capital not qual-

Conditions in Yemeni prisons fla-

Faisal al-Safwani writes that the most

outstanding pictures of human rights

and the law violations are embodied by

ified for treatment of patients

grant violation of human rights

All that happens because those in charge of prisons deal with prisoners as persons stripped of their human characteristics. A prisoner's rights are violated the time he is put behind bas whatever the reasons were. Therefore is becomes unrealistic that the prisoner gets the simplest of his rights due to this look of the prisoner.

Despite that some of the view of the importance of amending some laws by entering some international criteria on local laws, all are unanimous that the problem lies in application and implementation of the laws. Members of parliament, judiciary men, prosecution and representatives of interior and security are unanimous that there are no clear problems so that one can put the blame on them. How and why violations of human rights happen at the stage of implementing the laws? The answer lies in absence of legal awareness among policemen and law-enforcing employees.

most notorious place where the former regime was practicing all kinds of torture against its opponents. Many observers rule out ay possibility of chance behind the leakage and the proof are the pictures snap-shot for the American officers and soldiers showing them elated with their scandalous act which politicians and leaders at the White House and in Iraq interpreted as an act committed by individuals in the American army ignorant of the international agreements prohibiting such con-

Some view the incident as being studied and intended to herald the American values that do not ignore any case of human rights violation even if it was an "Iraqi" terrorist although America does not recognize of any right of anyone if them as terrorist.

Al-Isbou weekly, 22 Apr 2004.

Main headlines

duct.

- Jamal Jameel found hanged on a post in Taiz
- WFRT's second course on women rights in Islam
- Inhabitants of Lauder district in Abyan say they would die of thirst

Mufeed Abdullah Dirham says in his article the follower of the Iraqi scene and course of events and disclosure of falsity of the American justification of perpetrating massacres one time under

American occupying soldiers, who by such acts have only offered free service and fuel for Bin Laden and his henchmen.

I do greet endlessly the American Media coverage despite the fact of being mostly pro-Israel, for their courage in the disclosure of such repulsive acts, which might lead hopefully to a George Bush eventual failure in the upcoming elections.

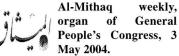
Such courage and professionalism cannot be rivaled nor seen any where in the Arab world where there are many political prisoners, who are being subjected to the same monstrous actions and even worse. Arab countries' prisons are brimming with such horrors. One must not be surprised to notice that all the Arab Media are merely referring to this American scandal without daring the least to mention any of such horrors in any of the Arab countries where most prisoners are annihilated or if they are ever lucky do get out after many years have past and they have already lost their wits.

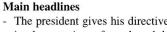
Saddam, for example, used to cut Iraqi men's ears, tongues and noses behind prison walls. If they were to speak, those prisoners would have told tales of horrible incidents.

Maybe this time, the Americans wanted to show Iraqis a different American version! Women prisoners at the time of Saddam for example were tortured and their labia majoris extirpated. Unfortunately, due to Saddam's policies who for a long time

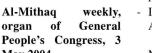
So in order to be a normal Yemeni Man you have to chew Oat and consume tobacco and in order to increase the effect of tobacco, the rooms where chewing and smoking takes place have their windows closed.

I am truly surprised why in Yemen, people tend to imitate bad habits such as smoking and do not try to imitate positive behaviors such as hard work honesty, transparency, perseverance. setting high goals and pursuing them, making the right choices, helping each other and most importantly to cease once and for all the ongoing pilferage of public funds in Authorities, Ministries and all governmental institutions without an exception.





- The president gives his directives for implementation of road and health





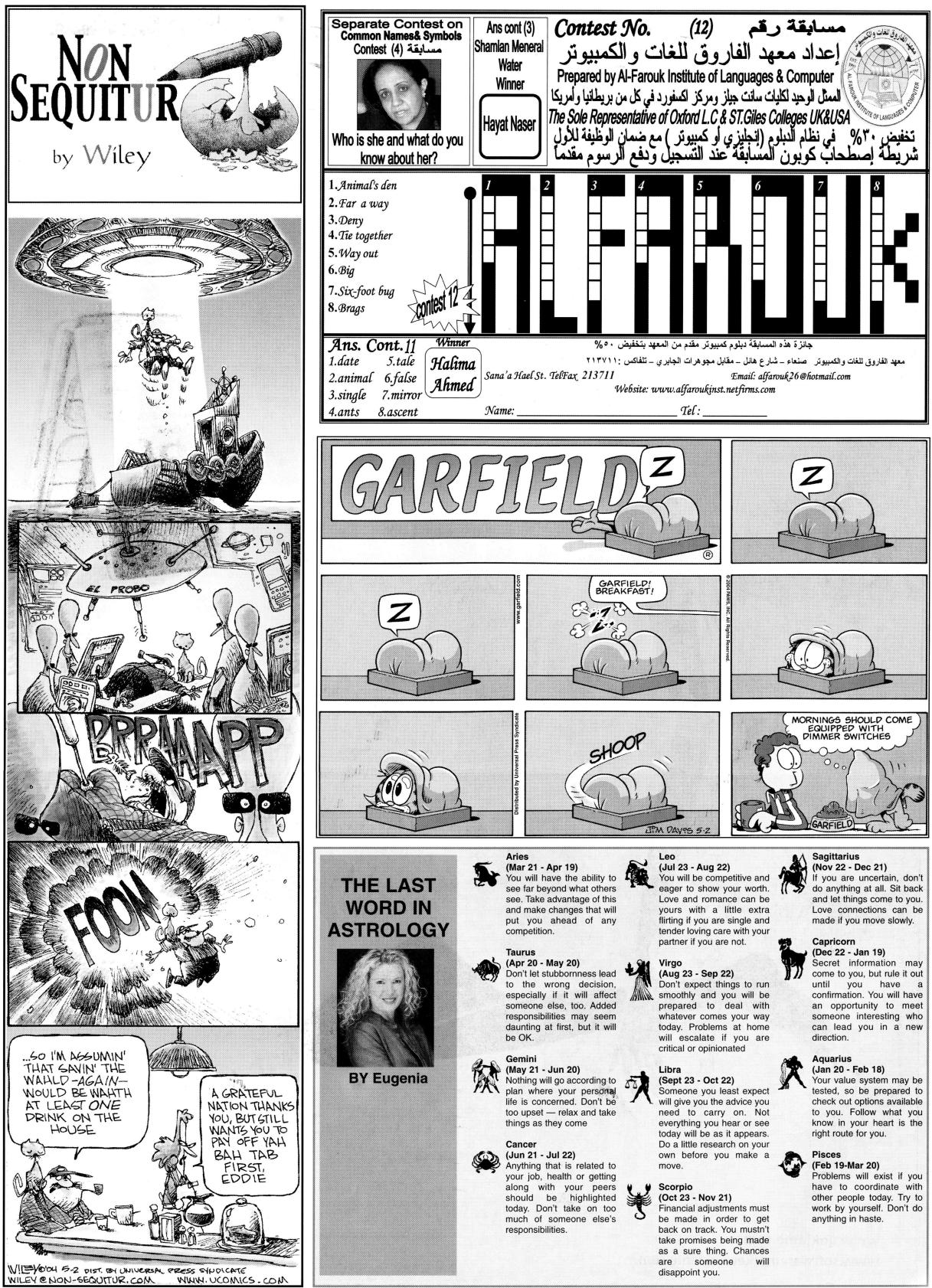




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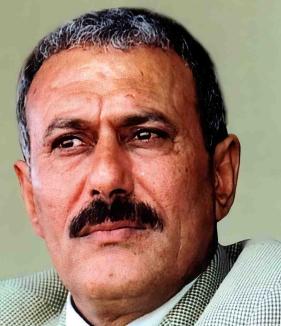


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وشخّصيات وطنية عديدة منّ أجلّ دعم تنَّمية الحركة في اليمن ومساندة

الأخ الرئيس في بناء يمن حديث

متابعة لمبادرة يمن تايمز في دعم توجهات فخامة الرئيس علي عبد الله صالح في بناء اليمن الحديث وتسريع عملية التنمية وانطلاقاً من شعار الحملة "لنكن يداً واحدة مع الأخ الرئيس" أعلنت صحيفة يمن تايمز رسمياً دعوة لتشكيل هيئة استشارية وطنية مشكلة من نخبة من المفكرين والاكاديميين ورجال الأعمال والشخصيات الوطنية وذلك من أجل تبادل المشورة والآراء في سبل تطوير اليمن ودعم عجلة التنمية في كافة المجالات.

وسيتم تدشين أعمال هذه الهيئة بإصدار الكتاب الأول من نوعه بمناسبة العيد الرابع عشر لذكرى الوحدة اليمنية المباركة ٢٢ مايو، تتبعها سلسلة من الخطوات العملية التي تصب في إتجاه دعم هذا التوجه الحكيم. لذا، فإن الصحيفة تدعو جميع المهتمين للانضمام لهذا الركب الذي قد يشكل نقلة نوعية في بناء اليمن الحديث عبر إشراك المثقفين والنخبة من أبناء اليمن في عملية البناء والتطوير...

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