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300,000 Yemeni protest, foreign embassies closes

## War fever

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF AND REUTERS

More than 300,000 Yemenis took to the streets on Saturday to denounce the United States and Israel as part of an "axis of evil" and urge Arab leaders meeting in Egypt to deny Washington any help in a war against

Iraq. In one of the biggest anti-war protests in the Middle East, Yemenis of different affiliations and backgrounds gathered in the capital, Sana'a, for the demonstration, and called on Arab states to kick out from their countries any U.S. forces poised to attack Iraq.

The United States and Britain have now massed about 200,000 troops in the Gulf in preparation for war. "America and Israel are an axis of evil," banners read, recalling the words U.S. President George W. Bush used to describe Iraq, Iran and North Korea.

Continued on page 3



Anti-war protesters march in Sana'a to show their displeasure about a U.S. led war on Iraq. An estimated 300,000 protested in Sana'a Saturday.. Inset photo: Flying the flags of Palestine. (Yemen Times photos)

Will Iraq war postpone April 27 vote?

## Election woes

BY NEWS SERVICES AND YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Elections scheduled for April 27 in Yemen appear as shaky as ever.

While recent splits among the opposition have appeared, the question is also now being asked if the parliamentary elections may be postponed due to a U.S. led war on Iraq.

Ali Al Sarari, writer and political analyst, said: If war breaks out in Iraq it would not end there.

Al Sarari told the Gulf News recently that a political crisis in Yemen will be the result of elections that are adjourned.

"The situation will be so difficult that the parliamentary elections might be postponed. The authorities will use the war as a

strong pretext saying that the circumstances are not suitable for conducting general elections which will lead to a political crisis," he added.

Mohammed Al Ghabri, an academic researcher, said a war's impact will vary from country to country. But he insisted that the elections must take place on time even if war breaks out.

"There are some people in power who are deeply worried about the elections and they will try to find some pretext to postpone it.

Mohammed Al Sabri, university professor, said: "Yemen will definitely be affected if war breaks out; we have experienced it during the second Gulf war."

President Ali Abdullah Saleh had called the opposition parties to focus on "national

alignment."

The president's call stresses adhering to the law, rejecting violence, a peaceful transfer of power, and national unity.

Saleh ordered the formation of a committee to formulate the "the document of national alignment and cooperation in elections". Abdul Kareem Al Iryani, secretary general of the ruling People's General Congress, is the head of the committee.

Sheikh Abdul Majeed Al Zandani, chairman of the Islah Shura Council was appointed a member in the committee along with the assistant secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP), secretary general of the Nasserite Unionist Party, and secretary general of the Baath Socialist Party.

Continued on page 3

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**Two hostages held in his absence**

# Al-Qaeda suspect released

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A breakthrough has been made in the military siege to Waset City Hospital in Marib where Mohammed Ali Ali Azaidi received treatment.

Azaidi has been suspected of having links to al-Qaeda organization.

The son of the Naji Ali Azaidi, a staff general and a brother of Azaidi along with his little brother have been taken as hostages in return for allowing Mohammed Azaidi to receive treatment abroad and then hand himself over to the authorities.

Mohammed Ali Azaidi's family

accused the authorities of making Azaidi's health conditions worse.

Health reports indicated that Azaidi has a hemiplegia as a result of being injured in the spinal column.

The authorities haven't allowed him to receive treatment in a hospital outside of Yemen. His life now at risk as a result of being seriously shot in his spine. Azaidi came back from Afghanistan five years ago. He stayed in Afghanistan for about two years.

He's accused of kidnapping a German commercial attaché in 2001.

Azaidi was injured by Brigade 25 in a shootout.

**Caught at security**

# Man with pistol arrested at Jibla Hospital

By NEWS SERVICES

Yemeni authorities have detained a suspected Muslim fundamentalist because he was trying to carry a gun into a hospital where three U.S. missionaries were shot dead last year, a security official said Wednesday.

The official said the suspect, identified as Ahmed Abdullah, was carrying a pistol and tried to enter the Baptist-run hospital last Thursday in the southern town of Jibla.

He was frisked and arrested by security guards at the hospital's gate after walking through a metal detector, the official said, on condition of anonymity. The suspect was being held for questioning about why he was trying to carry a weapon into the hospital.

The hospital has strengthened security measures, including installing two metal detectors sent by the U.S.

Embassy, after a suspected Muslim militant entered the complex on Dec. 30 and shot to death three American missionaries, seriously wounding another.

The alleged gunman, Abed Abdul Razak Kamel, passed a security checkpoint by concealing his weapon under loose-fitting clothes and making it look as if he were carrying a child. Yemeni security officials arrested Kamel and said he may belong to a terrorist cell linked to al-Qaida.

Many in the region fear that anti-Western sentiment could increase as momentum builds for a U.S.-led strike against Iraq.

Yemen's government has cooperated with the United States in its global war on terror, but anti-American sentiment is high because of U.S. support for Israel and its standoff over Iraq's weapons programs.

# Limburg mastermind is still on the run

Yemeni sources disclosed Wednesday that Abdulkareem Batheeb, al-Qaeda suspect, is the mastermind of the terrorist attack on the French tanker Limburg last October.

Investigations with five suspects indicated that Batheeb received the finances for the attack from Yemeni citizens living in Saudi Arabia.

Two detained suspects said they put

the explosive on a boat that hit the Limburg.

The explosive expert behind the attack is still on the run.

The Yemeni government tried to arrest Batheeb last December in Hadramout. However, he managed to escape after a gunfight with security people. Batheeb and his men killed two security officers and injured four

soldiers.

Security are still seeking Batheeb and two of his followers. Batheeb is known one of the extremists in Hadramout.

The Limburg attack caused the death of one Bulgarian sailor on the tanker as well as the leaking of 90,000 tons of oil, causing serious environmental damage.

**American-Yemeni feels shaken up**

# Coming home to Yemen

By NEWS SERVICES

DETROIT, USA — A man caught in a post-Sept. 11 terror sweep — but quickly cleared of fraud charges — said he's lost his job, never received an apology from the government and now plans to return to his native Yemen.

On Saturday, Mohamed Nasser Alajji, 31, will head to the airport in Detroit, where an FBI agent will give him his passport so he can leave on a Royal Jordanian flight to Yemen, the U.S. Attorney's Office said.

"I don't feel safe anymore," Alajji told The Detroit News in an interview published Wednesday. "I think all Muslims are under suspicion. These accusations are totally false."

Though Alajji has had a green card allowing him to live in United States legally since 1995 — and had applied for U.S. citizenship in October — he said he's had enough.

"I don't plan to come back to the United States until the laws change," he said.

State police and federal agents

arrested Alajji on Dec. 19 at a truck stop near Springfield, about 120 miles west of Detroit, charging him with providing false information to obtain a Social Security card.

New York police had gotten a call two days earlier from a man identifying himself as Alajji's ex-brother-in-law, and alleging Alajji was a terrorist plotting a "bin Laden al-Qaida" terror attack.

On Dec. 27, U.S. Magistrate Judge Steven Pepe ruled the government failed to build a sufficient case, terrorism or otherwise, against Alajji. Pepe said he had to look past the pressures of the post-Sept. 11 environment when making his decision.

"Some of the darkest chapters in this country's history have happened when we've let our fears blind us," Pepe said. "This is a serious complaint, and it would be quite easy for me to let it go forward and let this government investigation continue."

One of Alajji's lawyers, Nabih Ayad, said the terrorist accusation stemmed from a bitter divorce and custody battle between Alajji and his

ex-wife. The former in-law recanted his allegation the week Alajji was released.

Ayad also called the dismissal of charges a victory for Arab Americans, who he said have been unfairly targeted since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

But the head of the U.S. Attorney's anti-terrorism task force in Detroit said he and his colleagues do not owe Alajji an apology. "That's a ridiculous question. We do our duty," Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert Cares said.

# Shooting death

A citizen named Saleh Mobarak Hamoud was shot dead last Wednesday by Yemen's mechanized brigade 25 in Sirwah area, one of the main military checkpoints.

His family has demanded that the defense ministry bring killers to justice otherwise they will restore to take revenge.

**An effort to rediscover one of the most ancient sites in Yemen**

# Italy to bring Baraqish to life

An Italian delegation composed of experts in excavation of ancient sites held a press conference in the National Museum in Sana'a last Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2002 on one of the most important projects of Italy in the country, the revival of the Baraqish site.

Italian Ambassador Mr. Giacomo Sanfelice Di Monteforte emphasized during the conference on the importance of bilateral relations between Yemen and Italy and their reflection on the project of Baraqish. He said that the continuity of Italian delegation's activities concerning the revival of historical and ancient sites in the country are a major step forward in enhancing those relations. He said that an agreement was reached between the two countries in 1998 according to which an Italian monuments research center would be established in the National Museum,

and also confirmed that the delegation's work in the historical city of Baraqish is a success.

He also stated that this center would be a starting point for the delegation, which would carry out scientific research and explorations.

He also said that the resumption of the exploration in ancient Baraqish city came after nearly 10 years during which security was not well-established.

On his part, Professor Alessandro de Maigret, head of the Italian exploration delegation emphasized the great importance of the currently ongoing activities in terms of revealing the marvelous past of ancient civilizations. He said that the delegation has been working in Yemen since 1988 and that their role is not only to explore monuments and ancient sites, but to also train Yemeni cadres to gain experience in the field of excavation

and ancient site explorations to ultimately turn the sites into tourism attractions that would be appealing for thousands of tourists all over the world.

The delegation is currently working in three sectors, the historical center, renovation of Baraqish ancient Temple and the exploration in Tamn'e capital of Qataban. All those are implemented as one project jointly with a French delegation.



# Arabic Sisters meet in Spain

The Sisters Arabic Forum for Human Rights participated last month in a peace conference in Cordova, Spain.

The conference aimed at discussing the American threat of waging war against Iraq, that consequently threatens the security and stability of the region.

A number of European, American and Arabic human rights organizations participated in the conference that came up with strict stance in refusing war and choosing peace instead.

Ms. Amal al-Basha, head of SAF, said "British and European civil society institutions have a respectable

stance related to the peace issues in the Arabia region unlike the official stance that supports war especially, the official British government stance.

Arab civil society organizations are also active. Human rights groups gathered in Cairo last month and issued an announcement condemning the American stance inviting war.

"Regrettably, this announcement was not mentioned in the different mass media.

The millions of people who marched recently against war did so as result of efforts of the civil and international society institutions," she added.

# Eid has 38 traffic deaths

By ISMAEL AL-GHABERI  
YEMEN TIME STAFF

More than 200 traffic incidents took place during the Greater Barium, (Eid al-Adha) this year, killing 38.

Statistical reports issued by the General Traffic Authority indicated that around 69 traffic incidents took place in the Capital Secretariat from February 9 to 15.

Taiz city is ranked the second most dangerous city, where the number of traffic incidents have reached 39 incidents.

More than 150 people were seriously injured and around 320 were slightly injured in those accidents.

The General Traffic Authority report attributed 70 percent of those accidents to break-neck speed, negligence, traffic violations, bad weather, lack of continuous technical check ups and bad conditions of roads.



Report attributed 70 percent of those accidents to break-neck speed

**Workshop held**

# Decentralization needs a plan

By: YASSER AL-MAYSSI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A workshop about supporting decentralization and the local authority wrapped up its introductory activities on Feb. 26.

The workshop aimed to prepare a strategic plan to raise the quality of the local authority that is supposed to be exposed in front of the National Conference for Supporting Decentralization and the developmental role of the local authority next April.

It was attended by Abualkader Bajamal, the Prime Minister, and James Rolly, the UN resident representative in Sana'a, along with a number

of officials.

The main aim is to organize a strategic plan and implement mechanisms through 2003-2005.

The workshop handled a number of important experiences and workpapers as German experience in the local authority, and financial and administrative decentralization, and the German role in supporting Yemen in decentralization operation.

A plan for supporting the local authority was formed on analyzing the weakness and powerful areas with determining the priorities of decentralization and local authority support. It focuses on harmony between the different efforts and the supported proj-

# Readers' Voice

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

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

**THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:**

What were the benefits of the Arab summit held on Saturday?

- It brought a strong stand opposing the war.
- It supported the anti-war movement, but will not be enough to stop war.
- Divisions among Arabs, and other ideas brought in the meeting weakened it, and helped pro-war US efforts.
- The summit did nothing at all. It was merely waste of time.

**LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:**

**Why do you think Arab leaders fear the potential war against Iraq?**

They fear for the lives that would be killed in the war. (%10)

They fear the possible distabilization in the region. (%24)

They fear closer US interference into Arab affairs (%22)

They fear a democratic Iraq could be a threat to their regimes or could cause the US to topple them in the future. (%34)

They don't care about the war anyway. (%6)

Another reason. (%3)

**Go to our website at: [yementimes.com/#poll](http://yementimes.com/#poll) and have your voice heard!**



## Yemeni radio in a lecture

A lecture on the Yemeni radio over the recent decades was delivered on 26 January 2003 by Mr. Ali Saleh al-Jamra, the Information Ministry consultant. The lecture was delivered at the Media Center affiliated to the Ministry of Information.

The lecture was focused on the woman's role in media particularly, Sana'a broadcasting during pre-revolution period.

In his lecture, Dr. al-Jamra dealt with the different stages the Yemeni broadcasting had gone through. This had manifested itself, during al-Eriani's reign in 1970s, when Germany wanted

to erect a radio station in Tihama and the southern regions with a view of reaching these areas. It was totally rejected, despite the fact that it was for the benefit of the country.

In his lecture, Dr. al-Jamra mentioned that during 1970s, the Prime Minister attempted to declare the independence of the southern Yemen from the British colonization. In this regard, the radio role was indispensable. The southern part of Yemen was an integral part of entire Yemen.

An emphasis has been accentuated by al-Jamra to establish links between the radio bodies and the citizen.

The link is for raising the citizen's worries and problems.

Mr. Jamra demanded for establishing a local radio transmitting to the capital Sana'a and other cities through the use of local dialects.

Al-Jamra further revealed that the Information Ministry lost 125 million francs allocated for radio coverage throughout Yemen, particularly, Marib, al-Jawf, Hadhramout and other remote areas.

Mr. al-Jamra used to work as director for the Sana'a Radio Station from 1975 to 1997 and now as consultant for the Information Ministry.

## Fifth Horsemanship Championship

The General Union for Horsemanship held the Fifth Championship for Horsemanship on Feb. 24.

Held in the Horsemanship Club jumping locations, dozens of horsemen took part.

Joiner horsemen who had surpassed the jumping locations without mistakes totaled just five.

Mohammed Abdu al-Kader al-Mutwakel, with his distinguishably and high-delicacy, took the title of joiner championship for the second time suc-

cessively.

The initiative participation of Zabeed horsemen was a wonderful step to be praised as Zabeed City would be the headquarters for Horsemanship City. The president gave his order for it to be established there.

Hassan Lutf al-Rasas, a horseman in military academy, won the senior championship, committing just four mistakes.

The General Union for Horsemanship honored the winners and the Zabeed City horsemen.



## Continued from page 1

### War fever

Other placards read "No' to military bases in Arab land" and "No' to blood for oil".

The protest was held as Arab leaders began a summit in Egypt's Sharm el-Sheikh resort to agree a unified policy on Iraq they hope can prevent a U.S.-led war in the volatile region.

Yemen's senior presidential adviser, Abdul Karim al-Iryani, read a statement to the crowd which urged Arab leaders to prevent any "aggression" against fellow Arab nation Iraq.

Yemen, whose parliament last week passed a law requiring advance permission for protests, has seen some of the largest peaceful anti-U.S. demonstrations in the region over the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and Iraq.

Anti-U.S. sentiments have been on the rise in the Arab world as the United States pours troops and arms into the Gulf region ahead of a possible attack on Iraq over its alleged weapons of mass destruction. Baghdad denies it has such arms.

Some Gulf Arab states, such as Kuwait, Qatar and Bahrain, host U.S. forces and may be springboards for a war. Saudi Arabia has also been home to U.S. forces since the 1991 Gulf War.

Saturday's protest followed one in Yemen on Friday by around 7,000 people calling for a jihad (holy war) against Americans and urged Arab states to expel their U.S. and British envoys.

Protesters waved banners saying "Death to America" and "Death to Israel."

The Iraqi and Palestinian ambassadors in Yemen were to address the crowd. Protesters called for a jihad (holy war) against Americans and urged Arab countries to expel their American and British ambassadors and end sanctions against Iraq.

Elsewhere in Yemen, thousands also staged a demonstration earlier in the week, Wednesday, in Taiz, 250 km south of the capital.

They demanded that Arab leaders in their summit support Iraq and activate the Arab Defense Joint Agreement. They also called them to boycotting Israeli and US products.

Dr. Abdullah al-Dhaifani, the Chairman of the Peoples Committee for Supporting the Arab and Islamic

Nations told the Yemen Times that the march aimed to show Arab anger against the US practices and its insistence to invade Iraq.

"Those marches are an expression of the Arabs desire for peace and its total rejection for war in the region under the pretext of weak excuses," he said.

Political parties leaders, syndicates, organizations, human rights activists, and students of the Taiz university took part in the demonstration.

In Bahrain on Friday, headquarters of the U.S. Navy's Fifth Fleet and a key ally of Washington in the Gulf region, More than 4,000 people, some waving Iraqi flags, marched through the capital Manama in the biggest protest in the kingdom so far against U.S. plans to attack Baghdad.

"No to aggression and war," read one banner carried by protesters. "No to facilities to U.S. troops in the region," read another. Some marchers pinned an Israeli flag to the street for others to trample.

The U.S. embassy warned Americans to avoid the path of the march from a Shi'ite Muslim mosque to the U.N. office, near the U.S. navy base.

"The (U.S.) government wants war but not the people in the United States. We're not against the people but against Bush," said Dina Jassim, marching with her seven-year-old daughter.

Politicians and Islamic clerics led the march after Friday prayers. "The Bahraini people will continue to support the Iraqi people against America's aggression plans," activist Rasool al-Jishi told Reuters.

"The plan does not only aim at controlling Iraq but also the whole region. It aims at controlling its oil and economies."

In Bahrain, influential Shi'ite cleric Sheikh Ali Salman said there was no justification for an attack on Iraq.

"Controlling oil is only one reason for an attack on Iraq," he said. "The United States wants to control the world... so it appoints or dismisses governments according to its interest."

In the heart of Cairo, about 5,000 worshippers protested amid tight security inside the grounds of al-Azhar

mosque after Friday noon prayers.

Some urged Arab leaders to prevent a conflict or shouted: "Where are the Arab armies?" Others expressed a widespread Arab belief that Iraq is only the first step of a U.S. plan to dominate the region, chanting: "George Bush is a pirate of this age. After Iraq he will turn to Egypt."

Egypt's government is opposed to war, but has increasingly put the onus on Baghdad to prove it is complying with U.N. resolutions in order to avert attack.

Meanwhile, amid fears of deteriorating security, Britain has closed its embassy in Yemen to the public and withdrawn most of its staff.

It said the consulate general in Aden and the embassy in Sana'a would close to the public from March 1 and renewed its advice to Britons to consider leaving the country.

The statement, posted on its website (www.fco.gov.uk), also repeated advice that Britons avoid travel to Yemen.

Francis Guy told the Yemen Times that the measure has been taken because of the tense situation in the region.

She said most of the fifty diplomats that work at the embassy are already left the country. The ambassador and one other worker will stay in the country, for now, but won't work out of the embassy building.

She said the regular staff won't return until the Iraq crisis is settled.

The Dutch embassy in Sana'a has also advised its citizens and some diplomats to leave Yemen.

Information attache, Janet Alberda said that the foreign ministry issued this advice February 20th as a precautionary measure due to the "increasing tension in the region and the risk of terrorist activities against western targets in Yemen."

About 95 Dutch citizens and diplomats were asked to leave.

Alberada said eight diplomats would remain in the embassy that the consulate section would remain open as the embassy will try to keep its projects working.

The Netherlands, is one of the biggest donors to Yemen. Donations for 2003 are put at \$45.7 million.

### Press conference:

## Women facing war

Under the auspices of HE the Minister of Information, Hussein Dhaifallah Al-Awadhi, and on the occasion of the Woman's International Day, March 8, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Sana'a, will hold a press conference to launch the "Women Facing War" study in Arabic, on March 6, at Mercure Hotel - Sana'a.

The study is about women's suffering in situations of armed conflicts stressing that women are not only victims, but also exposed to attacks and threats, and sometimes especially targeted. The study gives a deep analysis mainly about International Humanitarian Law (IHL), also about Human Rights and Refugees Law as a tool to evaluate the protection offered by these laws to women. It contains a general view on the ICRC's practical response to women's need as victims of armed conflicts. The study stresses that it is important that the general and special protection provided by International Humanitarian Law (IHL) is becoming a reality, assuring that the problem lies not in the international laws themselves but in implementing and respecting these laws.

Beside this conference, there will be a photo exhibition showing women's suffering during armed conflicts all over the world - from March 6 to 8, at Mercure Hotel - Sana'a.

### Correction

An error has appeared on issue 624, page 3 titled *Photos shown in Aden* that the artist has collected photos from historical and museums.

The correct sentence is that the French artist Hugues Fontaine has taken those photos during a 1-year mission on photography.

Those photographs taken from Aden harbors and Djibouti.

Our apology for the readers and the people concerned!

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## Archiving course finishes

Under the motto, *Documentation is the Nation's Memory*, the 3rd training course in documentation and archiving concluded at the Yemeni Club for Information & Technical Education, recently.

Waleed Mosleh a trainee for the Arab Bank, told the Yemen Times that "although the content of the course was not of direct benefit to my current job, the contents were indeed of great benefit. Designing your own data base and browsing the world of the internet were among the beneficial aspects of the course."

"I deeply recommend all those who are interested in archiving to attend such a course," he said.



Waleed Mosleh

## Tender Announcement

### Implementing and Establishing the Radio Complex, Sana'a, (2, 2003)

The General Corporation for Radio & Television invites contractors, classified as (A) class building contractors to apply for the tender of implementing and establishing Sana'a Radio Complex.

Interested companies and contractors can apply to the General Corporation for Radio & Television's head office, Al-Hasaba area for receiving the tender documents against a non-refundable fee of YR. 250,000.

### Bidders should meet the following conditions:

1. Primary insurance at 2.5 percent out of the total bids valid for 120 days since the date of opening envelopes.
2. Tax card (renewal for the year 2003).
3. A copy of the commercial registration for the year 2003.
4. Bids should be submitted in a red-wax sealed envelopes.
5. Bids' envelopes will be opened at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, May 7, 2003.

### Address

General Corporation for Radio & Television,  
Engineering Sector -  
General Department of Projects  
Sana'a al-Hasaba area, near the Ministry of  
Public Health & Population.



## Election woes

The six main opposition parties (Islamic party, Islah, Socialist Party, Nasserite Party and three other minor parties) call themselves The Joint Meeting Parties (JMP) signed what they called "the accord of principles" to coordinating their action in the elections.

They're trying to win seats in the parliament, and prevent the ruling party from obtaining an overwhelming majority as it did in 1993 and 1997 elections.

Dr Qassem Salam, secretary general of the Baath party said any candidate, unanimously agreed upon, will represent the JMP in his or her constituency and all efforts will directed ensure the candidate's victory.

But the JMP could not reach an agreement on how to tackle the parliamentary elections.

Nomination of women is the first sticking point. Islah has not clear vision on women candidates. It will

nominate women in this elections at least.

Mohammed Qahtan, chairman of the political circle of Islah said: "We need two years to reach a clear position on women candidates."

The YSP, however, is determined to give women as much chances as possible to win elections. "The list of YSP candidates will include as many women as possible," said Ali Saleh Obad, secretary general of the YSP.

The second issue is over the YSP headquarters. Islah took over some of the headquarters in southern governorates after the 1994 civil war. Now the YSP leaders in these governorates have refused to coordinate with Islah until headquarters are returned.

Moreover, the YSP has been demanding Islah to renounce the fatwa issued in 1994 by some Islah leaders.

Discord has surfaced also because

all JMP parties want to retain their constituencies. But Islah won in most of the YSP constituencies in 1997 elections that were boycotted by YSP.

Also, Islah seems to have three different candidate lists - the tribal wing led by Sheikh Abdullah Al Ahmar has its own list, Muslim brotherhood led Abdul Majeed Al Zandani is preparing another list, and the political organizational wing, represented by Mohammed Al Yadoomi, secretary general, is also making a different list which includes intellectuals and highly educated people.

The Rabetat Abna Al Yaman party (RAY), minor party not represented in the parliament, has decided to boycott the elections saying it "will only be used to strengthen the non-democratic means".

Women form 45 per cent of some 8 million voters in the April 27 elections in which 20 political parties will vie for 301 seats in parliament.



# Final touches for elections

BY MOHAMMED BIN SALLAM  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Mr. Abdulh Mohammed al-Janadi, head of the information division of the Supreme Committee for Election and Referendum (SCER) confirmed that the final stages in the technical and executive arrangements for the upcoming parliamentary elections, to be held on April 27, have been completed.

According to al-Janadi, the committee has fully completed all technical procedures needed for various election-related issues including those related to voting, vote counting, ballot boxes, red wax and light devices, etc. He also made clear that the final electoral lists

are ready.

"Those lists are a complete database of voter names, photos, documents, electoral symbols as well as electoral cards," he said.

Al-Janadi believes that the advanced technical means applied in preparing for this election will make the coming period a transition towards a more democratic experience with far more efficient elections.

He further indicated that the SCER has already started setting up field committees, which will be entrusted with administering casting votes, delivering of boxes, and registering voters.

He further emphasized the firmness of the SCER in not going into previ-

ously settled issues, and in trying to avoid all obstacles that may hinder the electoral process.

A n awareness campaign is to be associated with the pre-elections period starting in the month of March, hoping that they could lead to fruitful results in urging citizens to practice their constitutional rights.



Mr. Abdulh al-Janadi

# Symposium on human rights wraps up

BY YASSER AL-MAYASI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Organized by the Supreme National Committee for Human Rights, the 1st National Symposium for human rights concluded its activities on February 27 and 28, 2003.

The 2-day symposium was organized in collaboration with the Dutch Embassy.

On his part, the prime minister, Dr. Abdulqader Bajammal delivered a speech stressing that inevitable consequences will erupt as a result of war globalization policy on human rights and rights of nations to peace and development.

In his speech the PM expressed his total refusal of war for its being against human rights and democratic principles.

He said that the culture of justice, peace rights, equality and tolerance are the central core of life. "The culture of violence grows quickly due to the ignorance of human rights."

He further highlighted that human rights are an applicable process closely related to the culture of society, its political system, and the individual relations and their legal awareness.

On her part, Dr. Waheeba Fara'e, the Human Rights State Minister placed



From right to left, PM, Abdulqader Ba Jammal and the Human Rights State Minister in a symposium held recently on human rights.

great stress on the future vision of human rights in Yemen on the role of democratic issue and that civil society organizations have to be taken into consideration. This could be achieved in accordance with the international charters signed by our country for enhancing the human rights notions.

In her speech, Dr. Waheeba Fara'e deals with the current developments in the Mideast region including her total

rejection for war on Iraq.

Participants have recommended that deepening the notions of human rights for social classes with a view of raising awareness among them and to demand them.

They also recommend holding dialogues among civil society institutions which will help in creating a clear-cut future vision for the human rights notion in Yemen.

# Discussions on Islamic law

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The activities of the International Gathering for Islamic Scientist entitled: "Gauge of dealing with supporters and the unfavorable to balance and justice in Islamic Law" concluded today in Dar Al-Mustafa for Islamic Studies in Tareem, Hadramout.

A number of Islamic scholars from Yemen and other Islamic countries participated in the gathering, mostly were Sufi scholars.

The gathering lasted for four days and was organized by Dar Al-Mustafa for Islamic Studies on the occasion of the sixth anniversary of establishing the center. In the gathering, 9 main topics were discussed around the agreement and disagreement rules and

measurements in Islam and the importance of holy references in such dealings, and the need for moral manners, and applying intellect in these matters, especially that the Yemeni man is known for his sensitivity and high morals in all fields.

Of the main participants in the gathering is Professor Aqeel Bin Hussain Al-Munor minister of Religious Affairs in Indonesia, and Dr. Hamdan Al-Mazroe'i assistant deputy of Islamic Affairs in UAE, and of the Yemeni side Judge Ismael Al-Haji deputy of head of the Supreme Judiciary Council, and a number of Yemeni scholars. Scholar Omar Mohammed Bin Hafeez Dean of Dar Al-Mustafa for Islamic Studies chaired the forum meetings.



Omar Bin Hafeez

## On the history of Yemen

# New book published

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

That Is The History of Yemen is a name of the new book that has been published recently as a reference for historians, researchers and geographers.

The book has been written by Dr. Abdullah Ali Al-Kumaim. The book consists of several chapters.

The first is related to Yemen's location through history. The second one deals with Yemen's different names and the third one is related to gratitude to Yemen.

The second chapter focuses on references in the Old Testament to Yemen.

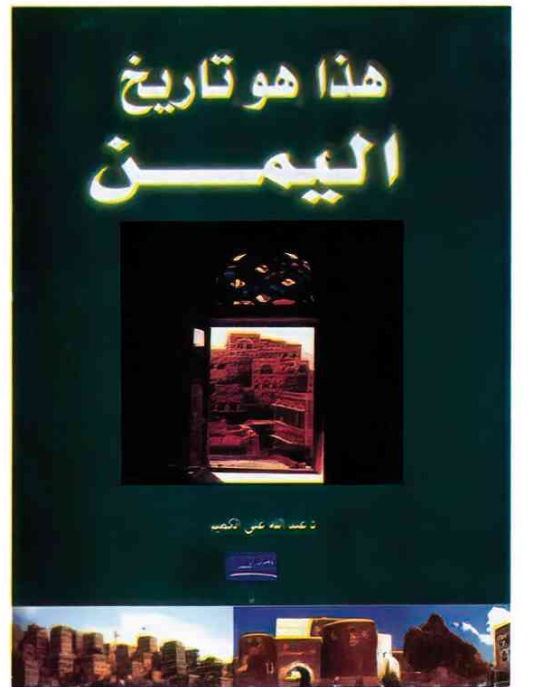
The new book indicated that Yemenis were leaders in agriculture, domesticating animals, inventing handicrafts, erecting palaces and forts.

A number of scattered palaces in Yemen are described by the author. They were miraculously built by Yemenis.

Building palaces had come in a time where other non-Yemenis lived in cottages and small caves. Yemeni are considered to be among the first people in the world to erecting skyscrapers.

Depicting the throne of Belqees, Allah said: "I found a woman ruling over them: she has been given all things that could be possessed by any ruler of the earth, and she has a great throne," Surat Annaml, 26.

The book also centers around erecting of dams including the Great Marib Dam and other dams in other cities in the Yemen.



The cover of the book

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Friendly relations started with Canadian wheat coming 40 years ago

# Canadians make impact in Yemen

**Y**emeni-Canadian relationships have been firmly established since they started during the 26 September Revolution when wheat came from the Canadian government.

In 1989, Canadian Nexen came to Yemen and that has positively affected both Yemen and the company. It represents a good investment and is good for the standing relationships between Yemen and Canada.

That has been obvious in the visit to Canada by President Saleh in March 2000 to strengthen the bilateral relationship and open new and wide skylines for tangible development in investments in Yemen.

To know more about the Yemeni-Canadian relationship and the lives of Yemeni in Canada, along with the possibility of opening a full Canadian embassy in Yemen (at this time, there is a consulate office), Mohammed al-Masani, of The Yemen Times, interviewed Abdu al-Malik Zabara, Canada honorary consul and the chairman of Yemeni-Canadian Friendship Association.



Abdu al-Malik Zabara

**Q. Could you give us a brief view on the Yemeni-Canadian relationship?**

**A.** The Yemeni-Canadian relationship has dated back to 26 September 1962 and formed after the aid the Canadian government gave. Thus, Canadian wheat has gained a good reputation.

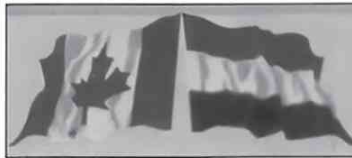
Later, Canadian companies started coming to work in Yemen. The first company was Canadian Oxy whose name changed to Canadian Nexen. It was first in the south of Yemen for along time and another company also came.

Canadian Nexen has had a great effect on the relations as it is very cooperative with the government and the society in which they work in (al-Maseila-Hadramout). That's represented in the support, assistance, employee training and job priority given to Yemenis, as well as its strong relationship with the Yemenis and landowners, either during the digging or pumping.

**Q. What's your evaluation of the level of the Yemeni-Canadian relations and the size of Canadian aid?**

**A.** The relations are very excellent and continuously developed, especially after the visit of President Ali Abdullah Saleh. That has made Canadians think of opening an embassy in Yemen, and give more aid and external support also.

Canada has rendered many aid



Canadian & Yemeni flags

deals through many channels in different fields. One of the most important ones is the one submitted by the Canadian ambassador.

Canada has also an office for aid in Sana'a that has been annually spending about \$500,000 in various fields; in health care and education, for women and handicapped associations.

Sometimes Canada give aid through UN or the Canadian International Developmental Agency.

**Q. What about Yemeni immigrants in Canada especially after 11 September?**

**A.** The number of Yemeni immigrants is so few compared with the immigrants from other Arabic countries. But as I have known they are in a good situation and Canada welcomes any Yemeni. According to consulate information no Yemeni who has submitted for exams has been rejected until now.

Canada usually submits a limited number for every country and not restricting to one class or sex. They are trying to have many nationalities in Canada. Few Yemenis submit to live in Canada. It is worthy mention-

ing that Yemeni students who are in America moved to study in Canada after 11 September attack.

**Q. What are the important fields of Canadian investments in Yemen? And what are the obstacles of investments in Yemen?**

**A.** The biggest Canadian investment fields are in oil. Canadian Nexen is considered the biggest oil company in Yemen and there is a new company which is Encana that is considered the biggest Canadian oil company. It is working now in two fields and they appear to have bright future.

Regarding to the investment impediments, they are the same that any investor faces in any country. However, the Yemeni government tries to submit more facilities as the government realizes that Canadians love the field they work in without interference in the policy and internal affairs of the country.

**Q. How do you find Canadian tourism in Yemen and what are the effects of the USS Cole and Limburg incidents on Yemen's tourism?**

**A.** Canadians hope to tour in Yemen and any Canadian who has come to Yemen hopes to come again to Yemen. However, the country and the region circumstances probably prevent tourism prosperity. Certainly, if any problem happens in Yemen, its tourism gets hurt, not only from Canada but also from the rest of the world's countries.

Recently, a number of tourists have arrived Aden.

We in the Yemeni-Canadian Association has been working for four years to enhance relationships between the two countries through various activities of the association.

**Q. What's your vision for the future relationship between the two countries?**

**A.** The future, insha'allah, will be bright and the relationship will be stronger. I expect that other companies will come to Yemen. The only thing we want is regional stability and facilitating the procedures of the coming investor to Yemen.

A film on Prof. Ziad Rafiq Beydoun is possible

# Lebanese geologist was legend in Yemen

By Dr. Eng. Mohammed Darsi  
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

**T**his is about one of the most famous geologists, who gave his time and life to studying the geology of Yemen, the country in which he spent much of his early career, in its southern part and maintained a life-long interest in it.

In my opinion Ziad Rafiq Beydoun, is one of the most famous of all eastern geologists, who played a great role in the geological research history of the Republic of Yemen. So I regard him as the third stage of the geological research history of Yemen. (See Yemen Times Issue 2 (Jan. 10, 2000) Issue 10 (March 6, 2000) and Issue 15 (April 10, 2000))

Yemeni geologists are highly appreciative of him as a brilliant mind who wrote many books about Yemen, and rendered distinguished services to geological exploration and research. He was not only the major scientific figure in the Middle East during the second part of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century Yemen, but also held a leading position internationally.

## Biography

Beydoun was born in Beirut in 1924 and grew up in Haifa, Palestine, where he went to school. He took his first-class degree at the American University of Beirut (AUB) in political science and history and studied geology to doctorate level at St Peter's College, Oxford.

Beydoun joined the Iraqi Petroleum Company in 1948 and actively spent the next 15 years in surface and subsurface geology across the Middle East - mainly in the deserts of Arabia and Yemen. He earned his Oxford doctorate - awarded in 1961 for his thesis on the geology of Yemen - on the basis of his practical findings.

He played a key role in the discovery of oil in Oman.

In 1963 he returned to Lebanon, and held the posts of assistant professor at AUB- American University of Beirut and that of geological advisor in the ministry of national economy.

In 1966 he moved to London to take charge of Marathon Oil's Middle East and North African evaluation studies. When he returned to AUB in 1970 as professor of geology, he continued to advise Marathon, spending summers in its London office, frequently visiting its research centre in Colorado.

He married in 1983, and lived mainly in London between 1985 and 1993. He became a scientific director of a World Bank/UNDP project on hydrocarbons in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden in 1987, and was made professor emeritus in 1992.

His academic contacts were on a large scale, especially when he held consultancies for oil companies including ARCO, Bow Valley, Aran and Hunt Oil. He participated in over 40 leading international and regional congresses, and was an editorial board member of the Journal of Petroleum Geology.

He received the William Smith medal from the Geological Society of London in 1994 and was awarded the Order of the Cedars in 1995.

On March 7, 1998, Beydoun died in Beirut, at the age of 73.

## What his colleagues and friends said

"Despite pain and exhaustion, he continued to write and produce. At his hospital bed, he was surrounded by books and new articles," says his widow, Muntaha Saghih.

"Almost any paper on the geology of the Middle East refers to his books. He constructed a framework of regional geology that others will be building upon for the next hundred years," says his AUB colleague, Chris Walley.

"His knowledge was encyclopedic," says Walley. "You could bring up any part of the region, and he would remember that someone had drilled down to

3,000 meters and what they'd found. Ziad was a fast, accurate writer who set the standard in the region for writing science in English."

"He was a softly spoken, straightforward, honest man," says long-time friend, Nabeel Ashkar.

"I was always impressed and touched by his gentlemanly behavior," says Pierre Azoury, AUB professor of mechanical engineering.

"After all," noted Helga Seeden, "we stand on geology. Archaeology and all the rest are man-made extras."

I personally met him at the first congress of the Yemeni Geological Society and spoke with him for a short time. Really, professor Beydoun was a revolution in the science of geology with his studies on the Middle East and mainly on the geology of Yemen. It is known that many people today write more and more about less and less."

## Publications

Beydoun had a huge output of published work, including six books and over 40 papers in international journals. His most famous works and publications on Yemen are the following:

1. Synopsis of the Geology of the Eastern Aden Protectorate. Report 2/st. Int. Geol. Cong. Copenhagen, 21:131-149, 1960.

2. Contribution to the Geological Map of the Arabian Peninsula, Aden Protectorate. In: Geological Map of the Arabian Peninsula, USGS-Aramco, Miscell. Geol. Invest. Map 1-270a, USGS. 1:2,000,000 scale, 1963.

3. Geological Map of Eastern Aden Protectorate. Tolworth, England: British Directorate of Overseas Surveys. 1:1,000,000. (D.O.S. (Geol.) 1148). 1963.

4. The Stratigraphy and Structure of the Eastern Aden Protectorate. Overseas Geology and mineral Resources Supp. Ser., Bull. Supp. 5, 107p. HMSO London, 1964.

5. Eastern Aden Protectorate and part of Dhufar, In: Geology of the Arabian Peninsula, U.S.G.S. Profess. Paper 560H, 49 p. Washington D.C. 1966.

6. Aden Protectorate and Dhufar. In: Lexique Stratigraphique International, (Ed.) L.Dubert, Vol. III, fasc. 10b2, 126 p. CNRS Paris. (done with Greenwood, J.E.G.W.) 1968.

7. Note on the age of Hadramut Arch. Overseas Geology and mineral Resources, 10 (3): 236-240. 1969.

8. Southern Arabia and Northern Somalia: comparative geology. Phil. Trans. Roy. Soc. London, A 267: 267-292. 1970.

9. Geology of Socotra Island, Gulf of Aden. Quarterly Journal Geol. Soc. London, 125: 413-446. (done with Bichan, H.R.) 1970.

10. The Gulf of Aden and North West Arabian Sea. In: Ocean Basins and Marins, 6, The Indian Ocean, (eds) A.E.M. Narin and F.G.Stehli. Ch. 6: 253-313, Plenum Pub. Corp., New York, 1982.

11. The Petroleum Resources Of The Middle East: A Review. Journal of Petroleum Geology, 9: 5-28. 1986.

12. The Middle East: Regional Geology and Petroleum Resource. Scientific Press, Beaconsfield U.K., 292 p. 1988.

13. Hydrocarbon prospects of the Red Sea-Gulf of Aden: a review. J. Petrol. Geol., 12: 125-144. 1989a.

14. Hydrocarbon potential of the deep (pre-Mesozoic) formations in the Middle East Arab countries. Proceeding OAPC/ADNOC Seminar on Deep Formations in the Arab countries: Hydrocarbon Potential and Exploration Techniques. Abu Dhabi, Oct. 1989, 31-

84.

15. Arabian Plate Hydrocarbon Geology and Potential - a Plate Tectonic Approach. AAPG Studies in Geology No. 33, Tulsa, OK, 77p. 1990.

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17. Red Sea-Gulf of Aden: reassessment of hydrocarbon potential. Marine and Petroleum Geology, 9 (5): 478-485. (Done with and Sikander, A.H.) 1992.

18. The Red Sea-Gulf of Aden: Biostratigraphy, lithostratigraphy and paleoenvironments, J. Pet. Geol., 15, 135-156. (Done with Hughes, G.W.) 1992.

19. The Qishn Formation, Yemen: lithofacies and hydrocarbon habitat. Marine and Petroleum Geology, 10 (4): 364-372. (Done with Bamahmoud, M.O., and Nani, A.S.O.) 1993.

20. Geological evolution and hydrocarbon potential of the deep formations in The Middle East Arab countries. Proceeding to the Second Seminar on hydrocarbon potential of the Deep Formations in the Arab Countries. OAPC, Cairo, Oct. 1994. 52p. 1994.

21. Productive Middle East clastic reservoirs: their depositional settings and origin of their hydrocarbons. Sedimentary Facies Analysis, (ED.) A.G. Plint, Special Public. International Association of Sedimentologists, 22: 331-354. 1995.

22. As-Saruri, M.L., and Baraba, R.S., 1996.

Sedimentary basins of the Republic of Yemen: their structural evolution and geological characteristics. Revue l'Institut. Francais du Petrole, 51 (6): 763-775.

23. Rift sedimentation and tectonics in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden region. Journal of Petroleum Geology, 19: 235-245. 1996.

24. Introduction to the revised Mesozoic stratigraphy and nofor Yemen. Marine and Petroleum Geology, 14, special Issue on Yemen. 1997. As a conclusion, I would like to say that Ziad Rafiq Beydoun, is one of those individuals whose diverse activities defy neat categorization.

Also a stratigrapher

He was as much a geologist as a stratigrapher, an educator as well as an administrator, and a popular writer on the Middle East and Yemeni geological topics as well as the author of about 50 publications.

In this respect, I would like to invite all people, who are interested in Beydoun Z.R.'s life and works not just to write about him often, but also to introduce his work and life in the Middle East and mainly in Yemen to others in a scientific documentary film.

I am sure, this step is going to help others to understand, what kind of works and activities had been done during the main part of the third stage of the geological research history work of the Republic of Yemen or Beydoun Z.R. Stage.

As a result of this work the future petroleum exploration activities is going to be boosted up attracting many foreign exploration investment agencies to work in Yemen. This is the main reason, why Prof. Ziad Rafiq Beydoun's life story is must reading for anyone with oil and gas interest .. anywhere .. in the world.

Dr. Eng. Mohammed Darsi Abdulrahman Nedham, is a specialist in geology Petroleum Exploration and Production Board (Aden office), Republic of Yemen. He graduated from Jilin University (China) in 2002 as a Doctor of Science (Geologist).

# Family planning workshops wrap up

By ISMAEL AL-GHABERI  
YEMEN TIME STAFF

**T**hree workshops on using PROTEC techniques of family planning concluded successfully recently in Sana'a.

The workshops were held from Feb. 22 to 28.

The Yemeni Health and Family Planning program helped organize the three workshops with different Yemeni civil organizations.

The first workshop was held in coordination with the Women's National Committee. A total of 68 women participated in this training workshop that

concluded on Feb. 23.

The second workshop concluded on Feb. 25. About 100 women from the Islah Charitable Society took part in the workshop.

The third workshop concluded on Feb. 26 and was aimed at training chemists and chemist assistants using PROTEC techniques for family planning. Twenty-two chemists and chemist assistants participated in this workshop.

Dr. Bader B. Rashid,



The Women's National Committee meet.

chief of the Yemen family health and family planning program, said that the workshops succeeded in achieving their goals. He added that they aimed at training the participants on the new means and techniques of PROTEC, which are modern means for family planning that the project has been distributing.

He added that the

workshops focused on the great health benefits of these techniques for material and child health, such as birth spacing and other family planning means.

The workshops also provided the right consultations and information on this concern to the participants and trained them to be able to understand family planning means, said Dr. Rashid.



The Islah Charitable Society.



Dr. Bader B. Rashid, Chief of Party



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| Mukalla                                                             | YR 22.500 | YR 29.000 | Holiday Inn   | 3days/2 nights | Note: group of 4 persons (adult) & more we offer the discount of YR4,000.                                                                          |
| Mukalla                                                             | YR 33.000 | YR 39.500 | Holiday Inn   | 5days/4 nights |                                                                                                                                                    |
| Mukalla                                                             | YR 44.000 | YR 52.000 | Holiday Inn   | 7days/6 nights |                                                                                                                                                    |
| Aden                                                                | YR 23.000 | YR 30.500 | Aden Hotel    | 3days/2 nights |                                                                                                                                                    |
| Aden                                                                | YR 24.800 | YR 38.000 | Sheraton Aden | 3days/2 nights |                                                                                                                                                    |
| Aden                                                                | YR 31.200 | YR 45.000 | Sheraton Aden | 4days/3 nights |                                                                                                                                                    |
| Seiyun                                                              | YR 15.500 | YR 31.900 | Samah Hotel   | 3days/2 nights |                                                                                                                                                    |



## Islamic scholar Jamal Al-Banna to the Yemen Times (Part II &amp; final)

## Jamal Al-Banna on the Qur'an, politics and renewing civilizations

BY BASSAM JAMEEL AL-SAQQAF  
AND NADIA AL-SAQQAF  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

**J**amal Al-Banna continues with us from last week in an interesting venture through religion, politics and culture. Al-Banna, brother of Martyr Hassan Al-Banna who founded the Ikhwan Al-Muslemeen movement in Egypt, came to visit Yemen for a few days earlier this month as a guest of Center of Studies and Research chaired by Mr. Faris Al-Saqqaf, an activist in various intellectual and cultural fields.

**Q: You preach that Islam is a religion of sense and logic, yet at the same time there are several strange sayings that not so logical in Islam. How do you explain that?**

**A:** To start with, let me emphasize the fact that Islam is a religion that ensured freedoms; freedom of mind, thoughts, speech and even freedom of religion. Like I said earlier there is no compulsion in Islam whatsoever.

On this base, the heart of Islam is built on rights to apply one's mind in his daily life. This means that a normal man must be able to judge according to his own sense and logic and behave accordingly, without need to refer to what the so many arguments and debates taking place at a higher level among the religious scholars and so on.

Although what I just said may sound very strange and in fact unheard of especially among the Islamic preachers themselves, and this is quite understood because it limits their authority and power over the common man, but I derived this from the essence of Islam itself. God says in his holy book An-Najm (the Star) Verse 32

*"Those who avoid enormities of sin and abominations, save the unwilling offenses / the small faults - (for them) lo! thy lord is of vast mercy. He is best Aware of you (from the time) when He created you from the earth, and when ye were hidden in the bellies of your mothers. Therefore ascribe not purity unto yourselves. He is best aware of him who wardth off (evil)"*

So it is clearly understood that god expects human beings to make mistakes and to err.

In fact Prophet Mohammed (pbuh) said "All of my people is forgiven but those who declare their sins with pride". And also he said: "If you were not to err, god would have done with you and brought new people who would err and repent; for them to ask his forgiveness and Him to forgive".

Which means that it is natural to sin, yet the right way to deal with this nature is to seek forgiveness and repent after sinning and not to continue.

However, there are two kinds of sins as classified in Islam. There are the major sins which are clearly specified in the Qur'an and their punishment whether on earth or left to God in the life hereafter is clearly dictated as well.

And there are the minor sins, and those are the ones which are the topics of dispute among the various sects of the religion and many Islamic scholars. This is what I am talking about when I say that Islam is a religion of logic.

The major commandments in Islam are ones of logic, not to kill, to steal, to lie, to commit adultery... etc. And these are common not only between religions of the book, but also all human philosophies and mythologies. There is no dispute among them all basically because they are natural logical principle of life. What is below that is what God called as "small offenses"

and should man is expected to err in his judgment in them and to be forgiven as long as he seeks forgiveness.

**Q: Is that what you are trying to convey through your new school of thought. Can you tell us about this school of thought?**

**A:** Any movement that does not relate to the humanitarian aspect of people would wind up to be just a theory and idealistic mottoes without effects. Unfortunately, human notions and intellectual thoughts are absent from the traditional Islamic concepts. Application of the Islamic constitution (sharee'a) with no regards to the human aspects will be wrong, and will invariably cause negative outcomes to spring in the process, such as fanatic beliefs and so on.

The school of thought I am preaching depends on the understanding of human nature while applying the commandments of God in the Qur'an.

**'The mistake that many people make today is that they consider the Qur'an as a source for knowledge, science and even philosophy. I totally disagree with this. If they seek knowledge they should learn it from books. If they want philosophies they should seek it from philosophers and not from the Qur'an.'**

**Q: You have written several books about the concepts of syndicates in Islam, can you tell us about that? And what is the relation between your movement and syndicates?**

**A:** I believe that since Islam is based in its essence on the concept of justice, and syndicates are only a mechanism in which justice is promoted, and enforced, that certainly there will be a strong relation between Islam and syndicates. You see, Islam is a religion that is based on freedoms, so it is naturally that it would encourage syndicates.

A syndicate is established, when a number of people with a common orientation gets together and form an organization through which they demand their rights. So they have the freedom to voice their opinion and complain about the injustice- if any- that had fallen onto them.

The European culture was established on two pillars, freedom and power; whereas the Islamic was built on justice. Ironically, through their

freedom the Europeans found justice, and we, could not establish justice because we didn't have the freedom to even live our religion.

What we are trying to do in our preaching is to instate the true faith and the true spirit of Islam, which is based on justice. Judaism is spirit is monotheism, Christianity's spirit is love and Islam is justice, we are trying to establish Islam through establishing justice.

**Q: "The Civilization Project - Frankly" is the name of one of your books in which you talked about the problem of today's Islamic world. Can you tell us about that?**

**A:** In its core, a civilization is nothing but a set of principles and ideals. For example, the Roman Empire civilization was established on the rule of law and authority. Yet the laws they dictated nevertheless were bias in favor of the Romans who stated them. The Greek civilization was established on the idea of democracy - rule by votes, yet they had their weak points and their philosophers invariably went through dark phases when this method was not the best in effect.

None of the man made civilizations was a complete one. A complete civilization is one where the great principles prevail over whatever is else, such as justice, freedom, equality, honesty, peace and so on.

A society that is rich and immoral is

tion could exist.

**Q: Speaking about Qur'an, you said something like revolutionizing the Qur'an. What did you mean by that?**

**A:** The Qur'an has come to people as it itself explained: to guide them from darkness to light, i.e. as a method of directing humanity from a situation they were in at that time, to the better creating ideal circumstances for humanity.

The Qur'anic verses contained revolutionary thoughts that were so apposed at that time in which it was sent 600 AD. It was simply a new set of norms and principles that were in the form of beautiful poetry like verses. In fact it is known that one of the most powerful point of the Qur'an is its ability to attract the listeners through its melody, while being recited.

A fact that was narrated more than once in the Qur'an about the disbelieves almost being persuaded by it exclaiming that it surely is magic. So as a concept, it was a tool through which people's mentality and souls were affected, and a kind of light, by which people are guided.

The mistake that many people make today is that they considered Qur'an as a source for knowledge, science and even philosophy. I totally disagree with this, if they should seek knowledge they should learn it from books and studies, if they want philosophies they should seek it from philosophers and the like not from the Qur'an.

Many scholars have committed great mistakes in their statements and decisions through this mistake, especially when the topic is a critical one regarding a sensitive issue that has not been clearly stated in the Qur'an.

Because this way, they are tearing a complete object into shreds, while they are trying to explain every word and every sentence in the Qur'an in independence to the other verses. Qur'an is a book that should be read as one piece, it loses its essence if it should be divided.

**Q: What do you think about today's political situation?**

**A:** What is happening today is an accumulation of a number of mistakes all together. It's like how a knot becomes so complicated that there is no solution to untie it and the only left solution is to cut. The nations were the victim of unwise leaderships, yet I think we deserve what is happening to us.

God says: "And fear a chastisement (an affliction and trial) which cannot fall exclusively on those of you who wrong-doers (but it may afflict all the good and the bad people), and know that Allah is sever in punishment" Al-Anfal (Spoils of War) Verse 25

Every cruel powerful person finds a more cruel and more powerful person, and that is what happened.

As for Palestine, it is a centuries-old issue, not one yesterday and not tomorrow shall the crises be solved. But it will someday I am sure, because putting Israel in the heart of Arabia is not natural. And no matter how much time it takes eventually it will be taken out from the Arabian land just like how France left Algeria after 120 years or the whites in South Africa.

Why I am saying that we as nations deserve the humiliation that has fallen onto us, is because we as Arabian nations did not do what we should have. We did not stand by our own rights, we did not defend ourselves against external misuse of our land and resources, and we do not even protest or show our objection towards what we think is unfair to us.

Other nations have gone out in millions in the streets and fought for their rights, they did not avail the rights they are enjoying today easily. But because they are alive and active they felt the injustice and revolted against it. Our people are not only sleeping, you can say that they are dead!

And if there was one thing the governments have succeeded in doing, it is busying the common man running after his daily meal.

**Q: After a long journey and more**



Islamist Jamal Al-Banna

than a hundred books and more than those articles, where did you finally reach?

**A:** After so long of hard work and research and studies I can say that I barely reached the starting point. But I can say that the seeds we planted years ago are finally seeing light now. I am not illudioned to think that any consequence could take effect now or even soon. Maybe it will take tens of years, in the coming generations, but isn't that the way philosophies work? After all, a concrete structure for such revolutionary thoughts can not take place over night, I know.

**Q: What is the role of media instruments like Yemen Times in today's world?**

**A:** Your role is quite important, for you have the ability to convey to the external world. You can correct or at least help correct the perception that the English speaking world has of Islam, especially in a world where Muslims are something and Islam is something else.

Muslims of today have gone under several types of pressure that caused them to be what they are today, but Islam which is Qura'n and assured authenthised Sunna, (sayings of the prophet (pbuh).

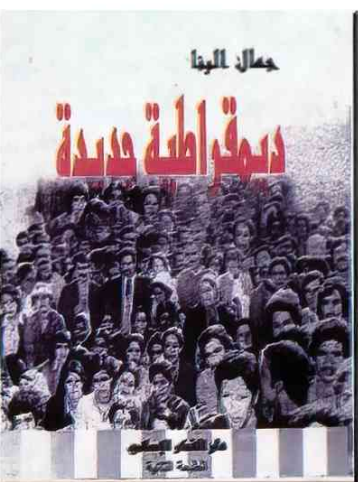
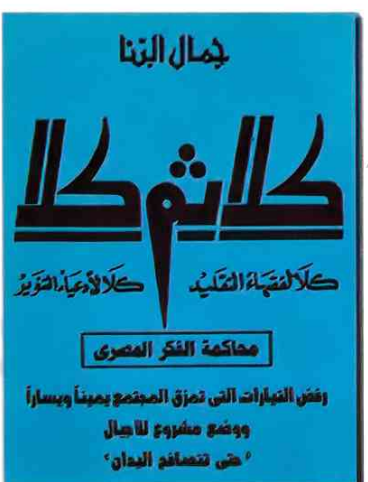
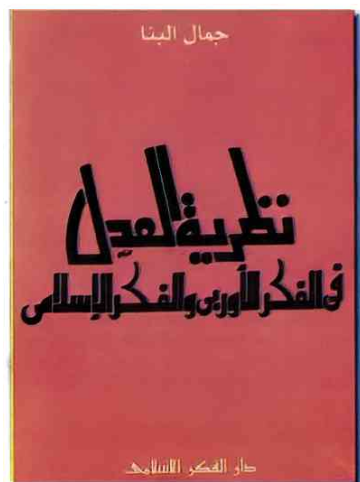
Just tell the world that Islam is a religion that respects and protects all freedoms and acknowledges all religions

**'We as nations deserve the humiliation that has fallen onto us. We as Arabian nations did not do what we should have. We did not stand by our own rights.'**

and faiths.

Al-Hajj ( the Pilgrimage) Verse 17  
"Lo! Those who believe (this Revelation), and those who are Jews, and those Sabaens and the Christians and the Magians and the idolaters - Lo! Allah will decide between them on the Day of Resurrection, Lo! Allah is Witness over all things."

Any dispute in this matter is left entirely to Allah and not to man.



Covers of some of Al-Banna's books.

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## Expressing his resentment

# Man with petrol bomb held at Kuwait hotel

KUWAIT, March 1 (Reuters) - A Kuwaiti man with petrol bombs was arrested on Saturday after trying to enter a hotel housing the main U.S. and British military press centre in the Gulf state, an Interior Ministry spokesman said. Security officials had initially said several men with petrol bombs had been detained but the ministry spokesman said only one man had been arrested.

"It was one Kuwaiti," Colonel Ahmed Al-Sharkawi told Reuters. Tens of thousands of U.S. and British troops are massing in Kuwait to prepare for a possible war against neighbouring Iraq.

Although many Kuwaitis are grateful to the United States for leading an alliance to drive occupying Iraqi forces out of their country in 1991, some harbour anti-American sentiment and U.S. soldiers and other citizens have been targets of fatal attacks in recent months.

The press centre at the Hilton Hotel, situated on the Gulf coast south of Kuwait City, is the focal point for contact between U.S. and British military officials and the media.

Both military officials and foreign journalists are staying at the hotel. Military personnel at the hotel, contacted soon after the arrest, said they were not aware of the incident.



Kuwait police check vehicles on a road leading to the Hilton hotel Mar. 1. A Kuwaiti man with a mortar was arrested on Saturday after trying to enter a hotel housing the main U.S. and British military press centre in the Gulf State, an interior ministry spokesman said.

REUTERS

## Nigeria voter list for key poll goes on display

LAGOS, Mar 1 (Reuters) - The voters' list for Nigeria's crucial April presidential and legislative polls has gone on display to allow people to make objections, election officials said on Saturday.

The registration of voters, a politically sensitive issue in Africa's most populous nation, has been dogged by widespread complaints of violent intimidation and fraud.

Monitors said last year millions of names had been left off.

The polls are Nigeria's first since 15 years of army rule ended in 1999 with the election of President Olusegun Obasanjo.

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) said the register

would be displayed for a week in 9,000 centres across the country so that people who have been excluded can appeal.

Voters can also check to make sure the list does not include the names of people who have died or are under age.

Nigeria hopes the poll between April 12 and May 3 will see its first successful transfer of power from one elected government to another since independence from Britain in 1960.

Two previous efforts in the 1960s and 1983 ended in violence and army coups.

"The register will be on display between now and March 8 for registrants to check and see if their names and other details are correctly entered, and if the list contains underaged or dead people," INEC spokesman Steve

Osemeke told Reuters.

"It is a process of sanitisation, to make the register credible and acceptable to all," he said. The commission hopes the process will lead to Nigeria's first computerised voters' roll.

The registration of voters last September was dogged by allegations of fraud, intimidation and inefficiency.

Monitoring groups said afterwards a third of Nigeria's estimated 60 million eligible voters were not listed.

They said a second registration round held in January was unlikely to have resolved the problems.

The runup to the elections, the first to be supervised by civilians in over 20 years, has been overshadowed by violence.

## Saudi warns of US casualties in "messy" Iraq war

DUBAI, March 1 (Reuters) - Key U.S. ally Saudi Arabia has warned a U.S.-led invasion of Iraq would plunge the Gulf region into chaos and do nothing but harm to all parties involved, including the United States.

Foreign Minister Prince Saud al-Faisal, in remarks to CNN broadcast on Saturday, also questioned U.S. intentions to help introduce democracy in Iraq and elsewhere in the Middle East.

"We would hate to see American soldiers paying the price for an occupation that will do nothing but bring terrible consequences to everybody," Prince Saud said.

"An occupation of Iraq is not simple. How (are) 250,000 troops going to maintain order in a country like that? Especially if war leads to the instability we think it will lead to, if it leads to chaos we think it will lead to. If the social order breaks down, who is going to be fighting who? It is going to be a mess we think," he added.

Prince Saud was speaking a day before Arab leaders started a crisis summit in Egypt to chart a unified policy on Iraq they hope can prevent war in the region, where anti-U.S. sentiment is on the rise over the Iraq crisis and perceived U.S. support for Israel against the Palestinians.

Washington is pouring troops and arms into the region ahead of a possible attack on Iraq over its alleged weapons of mass destruction. Baghdad denies it has such arms.

Top Saudi officials have repeatedly said they oppose a U.S. attack on Iraq and will not let the desert kingdom, the birthplace of Islam, be used as a launch pad in the way it was in the 1991 Gulf

War, that drove Iraqi troops from Kuwait.

The Sunni Muslim kingdom fears any attack on Iraq would split its neighbour along ethnic and religious lines, creating a Shi'ite power base that could foment discord among its own Shi'ite minority.

President George W. Bush has expressed the aim of "liberating" Iraqis and also of using Iraq as a bridgehead from which democratic ideas could be spread through the Arab world.

Asked about the U.S. aim, Prince Saud said: "If you get chaos in Iraq, how will democracy flower in Iraq? If you achieve victory and there is somebody occupying Baghdad...just imagine what the reaction could be in the Arab and Muslim world to that fact alone."

Prince Saud also challenged Bush's assertion that the removal of Saddam from power could create an opportunity for peace in the Middle East, saying Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon was an obstacle to peace and not the Iraqi leader.

"I think (that) removal of Mr. Sharon will be more apt to bring a solution to the question of the Palestinians than the removal of Saddam Hussein. He (Sharon) is the obstacle to peace," Prince Saud said.

The Saudi prince said Baghdad needed to cooperate with U.N. arms inspectors and prove it did not have weapons of mass destruction in order to avert a U.S.-led attack.

"Iraq should do what they ask them to do and quickly. If they have weapons of mass destruction, show them. If they don't have weapons of mass destruction, account for them," he said.

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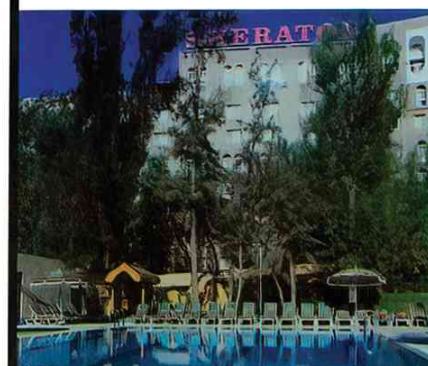
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# Arab Summit

## War on Iraq opposed

SHARM EL-SHEIKH, Egypt, March 1 (Reuters) - Arab leaders on Saturday said they opposed an attack on Iraq as a threat against Arab national security, and said their countries would not participate in any war, a final communique said.

At the end of a one-day summit in the Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh, the Arab leaders agreed on "the complete rejection of a strike against Iraq, or threatening the security and safety of any Arab country, as a threat to the Arab national security", said the communique read out by Arab League chief Amr Moussa.

The leaders called for the crisis over Iraq's alleged weapons of mass destruction to be resolved peacefully under the umbrella of the United Nations, and asked that weapons inspectors be given enough time to complete their mission.

"They stressed that their countries refrain from participating in any military action that aims at the security, safety and territorial integrity of Iraq," the final communique said.

Arab public opinion is firmly opposed to war against Iraq.

Though the summit rejected a war on Iraq, the position was complicated by the fact that several of the region's states, such as Kuwait, Qatar and Bahrain, host U.S. forces and may be used as launchpads for any U.S.-led attack on Iraq.

The U.N. Security Council is deeply divided over whether to approve an early attack on Iraq for failing to disarm voluntarily, or to give U.N. weapons inspectors more time to find and destroy any weapons of mass destruction.



Izzat Ibrahim, second in command of the Iraqi Baath ruling party (C) talks to Taha Yaseen Ramadan, Iraqi Vice-President minutes before the closing session of an Arab League summit Mar. 1. in Sharm el-Sheikh. Arab foreign ministers dismissed on Friday U.S. pressure to urge President Saddam Hussein to resign, as Arab leaders meet for talks on bridging long-standing rifts and averting war. REUTERS

## In refugee camp

### Car bomb kills Egyptian Islamist in Lebanon camp

AIN EL-HILWEH, Lebanon, March 1 (Reuters) - A car bomb exploded inside Lebanon's largest Palestinian refugee camp on Saturday, killing an Egyptian Islamist who was heading to a mosque to pray, camp security sources said.

The sources said the man identified as Abu Mohammad al-Masri, an Afghan war veteran who came to Ain el-Hilweh six years ago and has never left, was killed as he left his bean shop to walk to the mosque to pray.

The mosque was frequented by members of Osbat al-Ansar, a militant group on Washington's list of "terrorist" organisations suspected of links to Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda network.

"The dead man was targeted personally," said Sheikh Jamal Khattab, an Islamist leader in the southern Ain el-Hilweh camp, although he could not say if the man was a member of Osbat al-Ansar.

Palestinian security sources said the attacker had driven a Beirut-registered explosives-laden car into the camp in the



An undated picture of Egyptian Islamist of Abu Mohammad al-Masri, an Afghan war veteran. REUTERS

middle of the night. They said they believed the device was timed to explode as Masri arrived to pray.

## U.N. experts start scrapping Iraq's banned missiles

BAGHDAD, March 1 (Reuters) - U.N. arms inspectors began destroying four al-Samoud missiles on Saturday after Iraq agreed at the last minute to meet a deadline set by chief weapons inspector Hans Blix.

Iraq allowed its most advanced surface-to-surface missile to be scrapped in the hope it could avert a U.S.-led invasion to disarm it by force of weapons of mass destruction Washington says it possesses.

"The destruction of al-Samoud missiles has started," the Iraqi Information Ministry's senior official Uday al-Taei said. Iraq is believed to have produced around 120 al-Samoud 2 missiles, deploying about 50 in military bases around Baghdad.

Hiro Ueki, the spokesman for the U.N. inspectors, said he could only issue details once the inspectors returned to base. He had earlier confirmed the process was about to start.

The inspection team was led by senior inspector Dimitri Perreos, who earlier in the day held technical talks with a top Iraqi official on the methods and timetable of the destruction.

U.N. experts say the missile range exceeds



An Iraqi soldier guards the al-Qaqa missiles site, 60kms south of Baghdad, as U.N. weapons inspectors searched the site Mar. 1. REUTERS

the 150-km (93-mile) limit set in U.N. resolutions. Blix gave Iraq until Saturday to start destroying the rockets and associated hardware.

Journalists at Taji site, some 40 km (25 miles) north of Baghdad, said the inspectors drove into the missile facility where preparations for the destruction were taking place. The reporters were not immediately allowed inside.

In another concession to avoid military action, an Iraqi biologist and a missile expert went ahead with private interviews with the weapons inspectors on Friday night in the first private meetings in three weeks, Ueki told Reuters. He gave no further details.

Private interviews had been a major sticking point between the inspectors and Iraq. The U.N. Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) experts had interviewed three scientists on February 6-7 but no one since.

Blix complained in a report to the U.N. Security Council this week that his team was not being granted more access to individuals involved in Iraq's previous weapons of mass destruction programmes.

# Turks march against US troop deployment

ANKARA, March 1 (Reuters) - Thousands of protesters marched through Turkey's capital on Saturday, urging parliament to reject a U.S. request to use the country as a launch pad for an attack on Iraq.

Hundreds of riot police and several armoured cars blocked a main road leading to the parliament where

deputies were debating a motion to allow U.S. troops into Turkey for a possible war.

Ankara is torn between widespread public opposition to a war against a fellow Muslim state and intense pressure from NATO-ally Washington, which is dangling a multi-billion dollar aid package to shore up Turkey's

frail economy.

Around 20,000 chanting protesters gathered in a central Ankara square, about a kilometre away, for a demonstration organised by trade unions.

It was the first major public show of opposition to a war most Turks see as an unjustified and potentially disastrous attack on a neighbour.

"No to war, don't let people die," the crowd chanted in front of a stage where a large banner read, "The people will stop this war."

"Deputies, do not give your support to the murderer Bush. Don't play a part in killing innocent children," said a placard carried by one woman demonstrator.

Washington is pressing the government to authorise the deployment of some 62,000 U.S. troops in Turkey to open a "northern front" which experts say might shorten a war.

U.S. warships, loaded with troops and armaments from the Fourth Infantry Division are waiting off the Mediterranean coast for permission to dock at Turkish ports.

The ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP) first set a vote for February 18 and then postponed it a second time on Thursday amid concerns about the impact of

war on Turkey's borders, further delaying U.S. military preparations.

Turkey's parliament speaker said on Saturday a motion to allow U.S. troops into the country for a possible war in Iraq had been rejected, a member of parliament told reporters.

The issue is crucial to U.S. military plans and Turkey's relations with Washington.

The vote, carried out behind closed doors, ended with 264 votes for and 251 votes against with 19 abstentions — an apparent slim victory for the government.

But the opposition Republican People's Party (CHP) challenged the result on the grounds that the government had not won the 267 votes needed to represent a majority of the 534 lawmakers present in the assembly.

The government must now decide whether to try to present a similar resolution to the assembly again and gather the few votes it needs.

The resolution, which would also have cleared the way for dispatching Turkish troops to Iraq in case of war, had drawn widespread opposition in Turkey.

Fearing the economic and political impact of any conflict on its borders, Ankara had been reluctant to agree to



Turkish anti-war protesters march against a U.S. led war against Iraq, in Ankara Mar. 1. REUTERS

any role in the war. Rejection of Washington's request will however deprive Turkey of U.S. financial sup-

port and a say in the future of northern Iraq, where Turkey has key interests.



Turkey's main opposition People's Republic Party (CHP) MPs protest against the Turkish government and the ruling Justice and Development Party MPs before a special debate in the Turkish Parliament, in Ankara, Mar. 1. REUTERS



## Infrastructure still needs rebuilding

# Afghanistan urges Iran to speed up projects

KABUL, March 1 (Reuters) - Afghanistan sent a high-level delegation to Iran on Saturday to urge its neighbour to accelerate work on several re-construction projects Tehran has undertaken in the war-ravaged country.

The despatch of the team led by the powerful governor of the western province of Herat is the latest effort by Afghanistan's transitional administration to drum up international support for faster progress in rebuilding the nation.

Afghan President Hamid Karzai this week urged the United States for more funding to help him disarm powerful private militia groups, seen as the biggest threat to his authority and peace in the country.

Governor Ismael Khan, who leads the team, will discuss with Iranian President Mohammad Khatami and his cabinet colleagues various projects

which have made slow progress in western Afghanistan, an official from Herat said.

These include rebuilding two highways linking Iran with Herat, a 500-bed hospital, as well as construction of an electricity project and a bridge connecting Iran with the south western Afghan province of Nimroz.

"He (Khan) is carrying Mr. Karzai's message to Mr. Khatami which mainly calls for faster work on these projects," Herat's chief of foreign department Mohammadullah told Reuters.

Iran has pledged \$550 million in aid over a five-year period to help Afghanistan back on its feet after 23 years of conflict.

Officials say uncertain security conditions in large parts of Afghanistan may have hampered progress, although the western part of the country has been relatively peaceful.



General Abdul Rashid Dostum (L), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Ruud Lubbers (2nd L), Afghanistan's Minister of Refugees and Repatriation Inayatullah Nazeri (2nd R) and northern warlord Atta Mohammed pose for a photo after their meeting in Mazar-e-Sharif, Afghanistan, on Feb. 28.

REUTERS

## Taiwan tourist train derails, at least 7 killed

TAIPEI, March 1 (Reuters) - At least seven holidaymakers were killed after one of the world's few alpine trains derailed on Saturday midway up Taiwan's Alishan mountain, among the island's best known tourist spots, officials said.

While officials said only seven were confirmed dead, local television stations quoted a witness as saying he saw 15 bodies covered with white sheets.

More than 30 passengers were injured when the four-car train carrying about 100 people derailed while on a bridge and one of the cars tumbled into a ravine, said the Council of Agriculture, the cabinet agency in charge of forestry.

"Our focus is on rescue right now," the council's vice chairman, Lee Jen-chyuan told a news conference. "As for the reason for the accident, we still cannot be sure."

Lee said two of the cars were hanging off the bridge in mid-air, and five helicopters had been dispatched to evacuate victims from the remote mountain site.

The historic narrow-gauge line is one of the world's three remaining alpine trains, and was built to haul lumber from the mountain when Taiwan was a colony of Japan before World War Two, according to Taiwan's tourism bureau.

Alishan is known throughout the Chinese-speaking world through the words of a popular folk song about the beauty of the mountain's aborigine maidens and the strength of its youth.

## North Korea says

# U.S. spy flights prepare for war

SEOUL, March 1 (Reuters) - North Korea accused the United States on Saturday of stepping up spy flights as a preparation for war as South Korea's new president vowed to work for a swift, peaceful end to the nuclear crisis on the peninsula.

"The U.S. imperialists committed over 180 cases of aerial espionage against the DPRK in February by mobilising strategic and tactical reconnaissance planes on different missions," the North's official KCNA news agency said, quoting military sources.

DPRK is an acronym for Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the state's official name.

The agency said an RC-135 strategic reconnaissance aircraft — the plane used to probe Soviet air defences during the Cold War — "illegally intruded into the air above the territorial waters in the East Sea (Sea of Japan)... almost every day from February 21 and made shuttle

flights in the air for hours to spy on major targets in its east coastal area".

KCNA said other spy flights were carried out by a U-2 high-altitude plane and an EP-3 electronic reconnaissance aircraft.

The U.S. military had also mobilised at least 130 warplanes on February 25 alone for attack drills in South Korea, it said, concluding:

"All these espionage flights and air war games clearly indicate the desperate efforts of the U.S. to start a war against the DPRK."

The U.S. military command in Seoul, the South Korean capital, could not be reached for comment.

Tensions over North Korea's suspected nuclear weapons plans spiked on Wednesday after Washington, citing satellite photographs, said North Korean scientists had fired up a reactor moth-balled since 1994 at the Yongbyon complex north of Pyongyang.

U.S. officials and congressional sources said later scientists were also readying a plutonium reprocessing plant at the same complex, and could have it operating as a source of weapons-grade material within a month.

South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun told his country of 48 million on Saturday he "firmly opposed" the North's suspected drive to build nuclear weapons, adding: "North Korea's nuclear issue is the task we should resolve immediately."

### PEACEFUL OUTCOME

He stressed, however, that he would seek a peaceful resolution, saying keeping South Koreans safe was the biggest duty of his government, inaugurated on Tuesday.

"If peace on the Korean peninsula is broken, we cannot afford the huge disaster it would trigger," he said.

The liberal new president has been at odds with the United States over how to cope with the four-month-old nuclear crisis

which North Korea has escalated step by step as Washington tried to focus its attention on disarming and possibly attacking Iraq.

Washington says it has no plans to invade the North but adds that prudence requires keeping all options open.

In Beijing, a European Parliament member fresh from a visit to the isolated communist state said officials there had

told him North Korea wanted to avoid a conflict but any sanctions or any U.S. attack on its nuclear facilities would trigger a war.

British Labour parliamentarian Glyn Ford said the officials had insisted they planned to use the Yongbyon reactor for energy purposes only despite Washington's fears it is part of a weapons programme.

## Suspect in US Consulate attack appears in Karachi court

KARACHI, March 1 (Reuters) - A man accused of killing two policemen and wounding six others outside the U.S. consulate in the Pakistani city of Karachi, was remanded in custody by an anti-terrorism court on Saturday.

Habib Ahmed, Assistant Advocate-General of southern Sindh province, told reporters formal charges against the accused would be brought later after the investigation was completed.

The man was alleged to have shot and wounded a policeman with a pistol before snatching his sub-machine-gun and using it to shoot the others on Friday. He was arrested when he ran out of ammunition, police said.

Four policemen, a paramilitary ranger and a Pakistani civilian were wounded in the shooting.

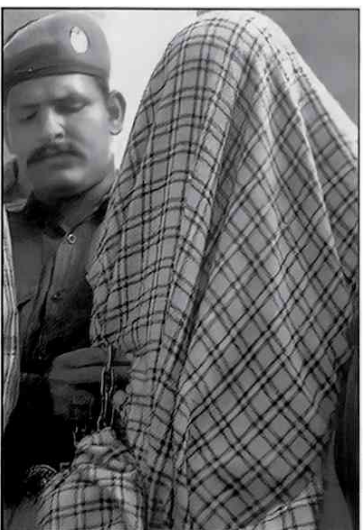
"We are investigating him for murder, attempt to murder, arms snatching and terrorism," Ahmed said outside the court, which ordered the accused held for a week for further interrogation.

Witnesses said the 30-year-old man was brought to the court building under tight security with his face covered with a piece of cloth. He did not speak to reporters.

Investigators said they found a map of the U.S. consulate area in Karachi from the man at the time of his arrest. Police deputy inspector-general

Fayyaz Leghari, told Reuters police had identified the man and were investigating if he had any links to Muslim militants.

No consulate staff were wounded in the attack, the first on a U.S. target in Pakistan since June, when a car bomb exploded outside the same building in southern Karachi's business district, killing 12 Pakistanis and wounding another 20.



Pakistani police escort a suspect covered with a blanket to an anti-terrorist court in Karachi March 1.

REUTERS

The consulate had not been open to the public for several months, but had continued to function, U.S. officials say.

The attack on the consulate last year was blamed on Muslim militants opposed to President Pervez Musharraf's decision to back the U.S.-led war on terror in neighbouring Afghanistan.

The shooting was just the latest act of militant violence in Karachi, a teeming port city of 14 million people.

On Thursday, gunmen shot dead two Shi'ite Muslims in the centre of the city, just days after a hit-and-run attack outside a Shi'ite mosque in which nine people were killed.

Those two incidents came after a relative lull in sectarian attacks in the past several months.

Last year, Karachi saw several bloody attacks on Western targets, the worst being the killing of 11 French naval engineers and three Pakistanis in a car bombing outside a major hotel in May.

In December, police arrested three men they suspected of planning to kill U.S. diplomats in the city by ramming their car with another packed with explosives.

In November, five militants pleaded not guilty at a trial in connection with the June attack on the U.S. consulate.

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## 'Brutal dictator' to go

# Bush looks to future without Saddam

WASHINGTON, March 1 (Reuters) - U.S. President George W. Bush kept up pressure on Iraq on Saturday, threatening military action while promising a brighter future for the Iraqi people once their "brutal dictator," Saddam Hussein, is gone.

Although the White House insists Bush has yet to make up his mind to disarm Iraq by force, he is already laying out detailed plans for what would come after a U.S.-led invasion.

"The United States has no intention of determining the precise form of Iraq's new government. That choice belongs to the Iraqi people. Yet we will ensure that one brutal dictator is not replaced by another," Bush said in his weekly radio address, reprising a speech he gave to conservative supporters earlier this week.

Bush, Secretary of State Colin Powell and national security adviser Condoleezza Rice are engaged in an intensive diplomatic effort to win support from skeptical U.N. Security Council members for a new resolution that could pave the way for war.

Bush is seeking a show of international unity to destroy Iraq's alleged weapons of mass destruction and topple Saddam, the Iraqi president. Baghdad denies it has any banned arms. But Bush has said a new U.N. resolution, while desirable, is not necessary for Washington to justify a U.S.-led attack, and he has assembled a large military force in the Gulf region to carry one out.

"America is determined to enforce the demands of the United Nations Security Council by confronting the grave and growing danger of Saddam Hussein and



Traders work in the oil trading pit at the New York Mercantile Exchange on February 28 as jumpy oil prices paused for breath after a rollercoaster ride that saw U.S. crude brush \$40 per gallon on February 27. REUTERS

his weapons of mass destruction," Bush said.

"This dictator will not be allowed to intimidate and blackmail the civilized world, or to supply his terrible weapons to terrorist groups, who would not hesitate to use them against us. The safety of the American people depends on ending this threat," he added.

Bush softened his war rhetoric by devoting most of his radio address to U.S. plans to take care of the Iraqi people and reconstruct their country after the shooting stops.

"The United States and our coalition partners stand ready to provide vital help," Bush said, promising to provide medicine and to ensure that 55,000 food

distribution sites were "stocked and open as soon as possible."

While humanitarian groups fan out across Iraq with food, blankets, water and other relief supplies, Bush said U.S. forces would carry out the "urgent and dangerous work" of destroying Iraq's alleged chemical and biological weapons.

## Chirac holds firm

# France still opposes war

PARIS, March 1 (Reuters) - France remains opposed to a second United Nations resolution on disarming Iraq, believing it would open the door to war and instability in the Middle East, French President Jacques Chirac was quoted on Saturday as saying.

In interviews with Algerian newspapers ahead of a historic visit to France's former colony, Chirac did not say if France planned to use its veto to block any U.S.-backed resolution authorising force but reiterated war should be a last resort.

France has been a leading opponent of a draft Security Council resolution authorising military action in Iraq — tabled by the United States, Britain and Spain — arguing that weapons inspections in Iraq should continue for another four months.

"The inspections strategy has not been carried out in full and it can provide an effective response to the requirement to disarm Iraq," Chirac told El Watan and El Khabar newspapers, according to a text released ahead of his visit.

"Secondly we are convinced that the use of force would have heavy consequences for people, the region and for international stability and that it should only be considered as an absolutely last resort, as we have always said," Chirac said.

"We are therefore opposed to a second resolution, which is tantamount to opening the door to war. This approach is very widely shared throughout the world," he added.

Chirac is due to leave on Sunday for a three-day visit to Algeria, the first

state visit by a French president since the North African country's independence from France in 1962.

A poll on Friday showed seven out of 10 French people want Paris to use its veto in the United Nations Security Council to block any resolution authorising military action in Iraq.

Despite an increasingly strident dispute with the United States and Britain, France has not so far said explicitly whether it will use a veto to block the resolution, which would lay the groundwork for war without setting a specific deadline.

A follow-up resolution to Security Council Resolution 1441, which urged Iraq to disarm and cooperate with inspectors, requires nine votes of support from among the council's 15 members and no veto from any of the five permanent council members — the United States, Britain, France, Russia and China.

U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell on Saturday meanwhile dismissed an oblique suggestion from French Foreign Minister Dominique de Villepin that Washington was interested in imposing a new diplomatic model on the Middle East by force.

"I completely disagree...Resolution 1441 only had one aim: disarming Iraq and its weapons of mass destruction," Powell told international French-language radio station RFI.

Villepin had said on Friday the international community should stick to the logic of resolution 1441, but that "remodelling" the region through force presented major risks.

# Pope to send peace envoy to U. S.

VATICAN CITY, March 1 (Reuters) - Pope John Paul will send a senior cardinal to Washington on a personal peace mission to try to avert a war in Iraq, the Vatican said on Saturday.

Cardinal Pio Laghi, for many years the Vatican's ambassador to the United States, will leave in the next few days and will deliver a letter from the Pope to U.S. President George W. Bush.

"The cardinal...will illustrate the position and the initiatives taken by the Holy See to contribute to disarmament and peace in the Middle East," the Vatican said in a statement.

The Vatican does not believe an attack on Iraq could be considered a "just war", opposes U.N. economic sanctions against Iraq and argues that diplomacy is the only way to settle the dispute.

Last month the 82-year-old Pontiff sent a special envoy to Baghdad to try to persuade Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to cooperate with United Nations weapons inspectors.

Cardinal Roger Etchegaray, a Frenchman who has carried out sensitive papal missions in the past, met Saddam in February for 90 minutes



Pope John Paul II

REUTERS

and handed him a message from the Holy See.

The Pope has become increasingly involved in diplomatic efforts aimed at averting a U.S.-led attack on Iraq, and has received a long line of foreign leaders.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair,

Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz, Spanish Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar, German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer, Iran's deputy parliamentary speaker Mohammad Reza Khatami and U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan have all met the Pontiff in the last month.

World War Two.

The unions are demanding pay hikes of five percent over 12 months. Deutsche Bahn is offering annual increases equivalent to inflation, currently running at just under 1.5 percent, for the next three years. The stoppages could affect up to 160,000 of Deutsche Bahn's 211,000 employees and hit both passenger and freight traffic.

val celebrations, leading to the cancellation of some local services and delays to a few inter-city expresses.

Unions plan a rolling series of brief regional stoppages causing disruption across the country before a third round of talks scheduled for March 6. They say a failure to reach a deal over the next few weeks could result in Germany's first all-out nationwide rail strike since

# German railworkers launch stoppages in wage dispute

BERLIN, March 1 (Reuters) - German railway workers launched the first of a series of strikes on Saturday designed to cripple parts of the country and force state-owned Deutsche Bahn into accepting their wage demands.

Workers of rail unions Transnet and GDBA took industrial action in North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany's industrial heartland and venue of weekend carnivals

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# YT Business



## Helping Yemen fight poverty

# UN and donors offer loans to help micro-businesses

By ABDUH M. ASSABRI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF  
abdusabri@yahoo.com

The second phase of Yemen's micro-financing project was signed Feb. 24 with total financing of \$2.63 million over the next three years.

The UNDP contribution is \$537,908 while \$800,000 comes from the Netherlands, \$100,000 from the government of Yemen, plus parallel financing of \$1.2 million from the Social Fund for Development (SDF).

The project is expected to start in March and last to 2005.

Micro financing is one of the most important poverty alleviation programs led by UNDP and the government of Yemen.

Based on the successes of Phase 1, which included 8,775 beneficiaries, there has been capacity building for the executing NGOs via the Ministry of Social Affairs.

"The UNDP has been working very closely with the government of Yemen, the Ministry of Labor & Social Affairs and also very closely with the our part-

ners, the Netherlands government and the World Bank," said James Rawley, UN resident co-ordinator for development in Yemen.

This project is a follow-up of the 1st phase of micro-financing initiative under Yemen's poverty alleviation and employment generation program.

"Over the last few years to introduce a model of micro-finance in Yemen, the 1st Phase of our support which began roughly two years ago, and is finishing now, was targeted to transforming non-governmental organizations into micro-finance institutions through directly providing assistance to the poor in urban areas, particularly women," said Rawley.

The second phase will provide a tailored package of technical assistance funding to three high-performing micro-financing institutions, to help them meet their intermediate growth and transformation objectives.

The UN capital development fund will provide technical backstopping to the project.

"This is very important because it is directly benefiting the lives of the poor people. But the very important aspect of this program is not just directly reaching the poor, but building up the institutional



Mr. James W. Rawley

capacity," he noted further.

The third dimension of this program is to work with the policy level.

"For us we really want to maximize the potential impact of the program. We want to review with the government's policies and areas of micro-finance and make sure that the government policies are very conducive to extend micro-finance to the population," he said.

So those three levels, the people level, the institutional level and the policy level are to be carried during Phase 2.

During the 1st Phase for collaboration,

the total amount reached \$1.2 million.

The main objectives of the UNDP is to benefit poor people, build up the capacity of four NGOs and improve the policy environment in Yemen.

"If we are able to achieve that, I think the UNDP will be able to exit from this area and allow external donors such as, the German government and the World Bank, which have much more resources than we do, take full advantage of the combined years of experiences between Phase 1 and 2," Rawley said.

Khaled Abdol-Magead, the UNDP Program Associate and micro-start project supervisor indicated that the micro-start project was adopted by the United Nations Capital Development Fund, (UNCDF) which focuses on the developmental issues.

About 25 countries depend on the UN's micro-start project.

It was supposed to start in 1998, but for a number of reasons, the project was postponed to 2000," Khaled said.

Thorough experiences of countries, loans which are ranging from \$ 1000 to \$2000 have caused problems, while loans ranging from \$50 to \$100 are handled better.

Khaled stressed that the project depends on the human factor. Those who have professions can sell their products in the local market without any complications.

"This will prepare the way for employing a large number of unemployed working classes along with training them directly or indirectly and encouraging them to direct their capitals towards productive-related issues," he noted.

The UNDP aims at introducing new concepts to help local institutions, whether governmental or non-governmental, in order to be able to apply the concept of the micro projects properly.

The UNDP's main task is not to conduct field work.



Mr. Khaled Abdul-Magead

Its main task as Khaled indicated is to grant financial and technical support along with raising awareness of the significance of those programs.

The UNDP's work involves the Women Association for Sustainable Development, the Islah Charitable Society, and the Social Organization for Family Development.

The Yemeni Women's Union in Taiz led to a breakaway of the micro finance unit, which now as an independent project.

The beneficiaries during the previous phase didn't exceed 3,000 people, but now the number has reached 8775.

In the present time, we are working with 4,000 people in the micro-start loan project.

This experience is considered to be one of the pioneering experiences in poverty alleviation among the poor and the needy.

The document was signed by HE Vice Minister of planning & Development Abdul Rahman Tarmoom on behalf of the government of Yemen; HE. Dr. AbdulKarim Al-Arhabi, on behalf of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, Rawley on behalf of UNDP, and B. J., Ronhaar on behalf of the Royal Netherlands Embassy in Sana'a.



Officials sign the document of Yemen's micro-finance project.

## Under construction: Yemen's social security system

By MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Yemen has recently adopted a plan to increase its level of social security.

The number now totals 55,128 persons to the end of Dec. 2002. The establishment wants to increase the number of those beneficiaries by 100 per cent by the end of 2003.

The number and firms registered under the securities system is about 2,485 and this is 334 more compared to the year 2001. The number of firms that are continuing in following the securities system is 1,320.

So far the revenues gained by the establishment for social securities amounted to YR 3.47 billion. The amount covers YR 2.4 billion as security revenues and YR 1.4 billion in investment revenues.

Total number of beneficiaries from social securities during the past year amounted to 2,799 cases.

The volume of the establishment's investments has exceeded YR 14 billion, distributed on various fields, financial, real estate and companies.

Part of these investments is an amount of over YR 4 billion as treasury bonds and YR 9.27 billion as financial deposits.

The establishment also invests in the Islamic Bank, Yemen and Gulf Bank, the Yemeni-Libyan company and the Red Sea company with a financial contribution of about YR 297 million and 775 thousand.

The securities establishment has also offered around YR 37 million in trade loans in addition to investment in real estate with a sum of money of over YR 285 million.

The establishment's investment revenues in 2002 amounted to around YR 1 billion, with a drop of 22 percent due to the decision by the Yemeni Central Bank to transfer the money invested in treasury bonds when they are due and restricting completion to the new amounts of money.

Nevertheless, the level of social securities in Yemen are still low.

Therefore the concerned parties are still making legal amendments for developing performance of the services and adding new security branches, insurance against unemployment, security in favor of family benefits as well as expanding securities coverage to include the whole country.

## New money laundering law

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The government of Yemen has begun taking legal steps against money laundering. This move falls within the government's efforts for fighting terrorism and its origins in compatibility with efforts exerted against financial and administrative corruption.

Although the Central Bank of Yemen confirms that the country is free from any phenomena of money laundering, the government has prepared a precautionary draft law in cooperation with a specialized committee set inside the bank.

The law, expected to be passed by the parliament, explains money laundering r hiding the actual source of revenues gained from illegitimate activities or hiding their real source.

The Yemeni government has made up its mind to implement the law with the aim of providing practical protection for investment process against businesses that are unparalleled to competition and to prevent speculation with value of the national currency.

The law identifies the illegitimate properties as all revenues connected to one of the following crimes:

- crimes stipulated in the law on combating kidnapping and highway robberies,

- stealing or embezzlement of public properties or laying hand on them by trickery means or bribery,
- seizing private properties punishable according to the criminal law,
- money forgery,
- legally punishable smuggling,
- illegal trading with weapons,
- growing, manufacturing or dealing with drugs.

The law considers a money launderer anyone who helped or encouraged or began or hid information on perpetrating any of the mentioned acts.

Also, all the acts that lead to confound the state and broaden the scope of corruption are deemed among the causes leading to incriminate their perpetrator. The government has warned, in its remarks to parliament, against worldwide spread of money laundering particularly with the development of communication technology and electronic transfers.

The law has defined in one of its articles duties of financial institutions and made it incumbent on them to open accounts to be certain of names of persons and documents concerning accounts and also to inform competent authorities on any operation suspected to be of money laundering.

The law stipulated the formation of a committee on money laundering, the set-

ting up of which should be under a decree by the prime minister proposed by the Central Bank.

The committee should comprise representatives from the ministries of justice, finance, interior and foreign affairs. The committee is responsible for preparing regulations for action against money laundering and to be referred to the prime minister to be endorsed.

The committee would also facilitate the exchange of information and coordination with parties represented in the committee as well as holding symposiums and workshops on the issue of money laundering.

The law also allowed receiving and handing over the criminals in accordance with international valid laws and agreements which Yemen has approved. The law permits the committee to carry out the exchange of information and measures with the concerned sides in foreign countries regarding this subject.

The law named the punishments pertaining to this issue with issuing a sentence of an imprisonment not exceeding five years and confiscating properties in question on whoever committed or took part of hid information on the crime of money laundering.

Convicted persons would have properties confiscated and licenses abolished as well as suspending his activities.

## The Road Ahead

### How to kill your brand

By RAIDAN A. AL-SAQQAF  
r\_saqqaf@hotmail.com

In today's highly competitive world, it is becoming more and more difficult to build a strong brand. It requires time, money, lots of strategic thinking and much more.

Nonetheless, if a strong brand was built, it becomes hard to wipe out. But I have a shortcut for you. Lie and exaggerate!

I'm not serious.

Businesses can easily lose their credibility and damage their brand names by over promising what they can actually deliver. You don't build a strong brand by failing to deliver, but you can definitely ruin a good brand name that way.

The point is, don't make promises to your customers you can't keep. Yet many businesses continue to violate this principle resulting in big damage for the business' reputation, goodwill and negative word of mouth in public. This results in the death of the brand. And when that happens no advertising or other communication with the customers can result in favorable response easily.

Over promising might stimulate trials, but those trials won't be followed by repeat purchases if customers can't experience what has been communicated in the advertising. Disappointment will strike creating negative impressions about the brand.

They say, success is the next worst thing after failure. After success businessmen sometimes push themselves into fat targets exceeding their capacities and then breakdown.

The same thing happens to brands. Successful brands that are advertised in such a way that shows them very superior, way beyond their limits may result in their failure.

Look at the Power Drinks for example. In Yemen there are four to five new brands that filled the market with great promises that those drinks provide energy and power way beyond what they actually provide. Now these drinks are stimulating more suspicion than enthusiasm.

History is full of losers who would've been winners if they knew when to stop. Everything has a limit; a power drink won't make you a superhero, and a brand that says something like that is a suspicious element that customers try to avoid.

For example, the extensive advertising and free sampling about power drinks helped gave birth to rumors in the market that these drinks are Israeli products and can cause cancer.

On the other hand, some businesses intend to make promises they can't keep. They know where they want to go, they have defined the customer experience they'd like to provide, but what they have in mind may not be a brand-building strategy.

It could be only short-term goals or making sacrifices in brand name in order to achieve some other objectives.

**Remember:** If a business wants to create and maintain a strong brand name, it has to boost customer confidence in its brands without stimulating suspicion through exaggeration. Customers are now smarter than ever.



## Words of Wisdom



"I think the final arbiter of a real democracy is the ability of society to achieve a peaceful transfer of power from one ruler to another, through direct and free public elections. The rule of law and accountability are part and parcel of every civil society."

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

## OUR OPINION

### Kids protest 'Just for fun!'

It is always a healthy process to demonstrate and to make voices heard. The demonstrations that took place all over the world against the possible war on Iraq have resembled a healthy way for people to describe their ideas peacefully in large numbers.

However, part of what happened on Saturday in Sana'a was a mere disaster. Children as young as 9 years old were taken out of their school classes to the street. They along with government employees were driven to the street to carry out anti-war demonstrations. The kids were given flags of Palestine and Iraq, and the ruling party (GPC), along with photos of President Saleh and signs condemning the US administration.

One's first impression of the protest was of little children with their school costumes running around, joking, jumping here and there, bugging drivers and others, and making ridiculous noises.

Children who are nine, ten or eleven years old cannot have a broad understanding of what is going on and cannot present the public's opinion. Those kids were taught how to say slogans but don't know their meaning.

I asked one of those kids when I was on my way to work that day "Why are you here protesting?" I expected an answer like "We do not want war" or "We protest the US", but what I got was a straight-forward innocent and clear answer: "To just have fun!"

Observers know that President Saleh's position is anti-war, but why get students out of their classes to supposedly claim that we have massive protests and anger against the possible US war?

My opinion is that those students should have benefited from their day in class while letting their parents protest based on their own will. They may accompany their parents, but they shouldn't protest alone. Protests are useless unless they are driven from the free will of the protestors. You cannot claim to have demonstrations and public anger when you are forcing children out of school to take part.

It is also not logical to give them GPC flags or the president's photos to carry. Is the demonstration against war or in support of the president and his party?

What happened simply reiterates the editorial I wrote recently concerning the lack of free and independent public protests in the Arab world, because most protests are organized by the state.

Yemenis are against the war, but the government should allow people to speak for themselves instead of pushing them around telling them what to do.

Freedom to protest does not mean taking people out of work. What it means is to allow them to demonstrate when they want and the where they want.

That it is real freedom.

The Editor



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## Cross-cultural experience

# Teenagers sow seeds of peace



By AMR AL-ZAIN, 15,  
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GRADE 10TH,  
PAKISTAN SCHOOL SANA'A

Why is it that some people are full of intolerance and ignorance? One reason is that ignorance is caused by the misinterpretation of others – or better to say the 'other side,' the so-called 'enemies.'

They are full of stereotypes which will, therefore, lead them to have hatred for each other. I hereby refer to it as 'intolerance' and 'blindness' as well.

Problems between countries cause conflicts where different sides begin struggling and fighting, and afterwards people transfer their feelings, subsequently, to hatred for the other side. They live with big condemnation and resentment for each other.

They avoid any peace resolution and negotiations or any reconciliation between each other while they turn to war and fighting. A cycle of violence goes on between them, which becomes an act apt to be "revenging" for what the first side did.

And so this struggle is likely to become endless.

Such a struggle is an example of the current situation of the Arab-Israeli conflict. It is an act of vicious destructiveness and fatality where innocents are the victims of this struggle, while others are waiting for their unknown fate.

While this situation is going on, a step has been taken by a peace organization called "Seeds of Peace" to bring awareness about sacrosanct falsehoods and misconceptions. Set in the woods of Otisfield, Maine, USA, Seeds of Peace brings youngsters from different conflict areas to negotiate and co-exist together in the peaceful environment of a summer camp for about a month.

This organization was founded in 1993 by the late American journalist, John Wallach, who hosted 46 teenagers from three countries from the Middle-east: Palestine, Israel and Egypt.

The program has extended ever since, and now hosts several conflict areas; the Middle East (Palestinians, Israelis, Egyptians, Jordanians, Moroccans, Tunisians, Qataris and Yemenis), Cyprus (North and South Cypriots), Greece and Turkey, Balkans (Macedonians, Albanians, Bosnians, Croats and Kosovars), Indians and

Pakistanis, Afghans, and Americans.

In the summer of 2002, Seeds of Peace hosted the participation of over 450 teenagers from the above delegations. There are more than 2000 graduates from Seeds of Peace, so far.

It has gained the recognition of many world leaders, including President George W. Bush, former President Clinton and Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton, the late King Hussein, King Abdullah and Queen Noor of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, former Prime Minister Shimon Peres, Prime Minister Barak, President Arafat, former Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Mousa, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan and US Secretary of State Colin Powell, among others.

I had the greatest opportunity, last summer, along with other two Yemenis, to participate in this camp. I have seen a big difference about how our lives were before.

At camp, we used to do many activities, such as sports and co-existence. Discussions were held daily by well trained facilitators. We shared our bunks, shared our opinions, ate with each other and played with each other.

There wasn't any means of hatred, but rather feelings of love. The aim of discussion sessions was not to show one side is right and other is wrong, but they were for the campers to justify their position from the current conflict and articulate their own points of view to campers from the other side.

In the small rooms, which were called names like "Chipmunk" or "Loon", etc., discussions were used, regardless where we are from and what religion we believe in, but rather for who we are. Some were hard enough that they were ended with tears, but all was under the control of the facilitators.

Although there used to be disagreements between our opinions and theirs, we respected each others' and got to know that everyone has their own justification and articulation. We had the opportunity to empathize with the other side; we used to show each other how it is to be what we are now and where we are from.

It wasn't easy at first to meet them and to accept the fact that we are same and alike. It all came ultimately as we have listened to and seen them closely.

I came to know about others' realities and about mine. When I compared them with each other, I found that in the first place we are all people and humans being equal in dignity and rights. That's how it will be at last as well.

People are born alike; they eat alike, live alike. There are no differences between people, but we people are the ones who make artificial distinctions between each other; whether it's regarding the race, origin, sex, religion, beliefs or whatever it is. We are full of prejudices which make us carry this hatred for each other, which has no existence at all.

That is what I learned in my three and half weeks stay at camp.

Before I went to camp, I had such a fear of being condemned by my own people for staying with those so-called enemies. This fear vanished as I got there, and I happened to know that there is nothing wrong that I was doing. Is it wrong to know about others and to realize the deep misperceptions one was living in?

Many years of hatred have now actually washed away, which has been due to the living between those fierce denunciations and stereotypes that filled people around me. But what's my mission now? It's to spread this word of peace, and convey what I learned there to my community; tolerance and reality. That's the real aim of Seeds of Peace.

This acknowledgement didn't come to me as something I heard from someone, or something that I saw in the "lying" media, which in fact reflects the opposite, but it was something I saw in real life and heard from those people who are being prejudiced by my own, coming to the realization about their real side, that they do have a face.

I came to realize that nothing is impossible to achieve, but its achievement even comes with the little tiny hope that one has. This hope has come to me by Seeds of Peace and it grows bigger everyday, until one day it may become a truth. It's a glowing light that will flash one day, and that's my faith which my hope lies on.

My hope now is for the world to reach a settlement and stop these struggles, in order to gain an ever-lasting peace, which can be gained by the desire and the will to achieve it and by the conviction which brings courage to do so.

That can only be by the understanding which leads to enlightenment and gaining knowledge. It's an example of those motivated groups of teenagers, whom I'm one of them, who met at Seeds of Peace and faced their realities.

*"It is difficult to say what is impossible, for the dream of yesterday is the hope of today and the reality of tomorrow."*

—Robert H. Goddard

## Letters to the Editor

**Local colonialism**  
I read your viewpoint in last week's issue of the Yemen Times. Yes, we have become mere puppets without any feelings. It is really appalling to see how quiet and weak we have become.

To compare the situation now in a country like Egypt with the situation in the pre-revolution era one can see the difference. Now the British and the Americans do not need to use their forces to suppress us, as the leaders in the region are doing the job perfectly.

It is really heartbreaking to see demonstrations against war taking place in London and New York in spite of the extensive campaigns of the two leaders Blair and Bush to convince their people that war is justified. Moreover, people took to the streets of Tel Aviv to say no to war while we watch silently.

I can not see any difference between the former British Empire occupation of the parts of the Arab world in the last century and the regimes of today.

No doubt that after half a century of fake independence, many Arab countries have come again under the yoke of colonialism. What is worse is that they are doing

their best to drag other countries to the same trap.

But there is an essential difference between the last occupation and this one. In the past, our forefathers resisted the British and fought against them. So far, there is no indication that the present generation will do the same against the local colonialism.

Abdul Rahman Alhuthaifi  
arahmanhezam@yahoo.com

**You're missing the point**  
After reading your editorial Oppressive Leaders, Weak Nations it seems there is a contradiction in your argument. Nations that are free of oppression have no need to harbor weapons of mass destruction. If Iraq was a free nation that traded openly and freely and wasn't led by a ruthless dictator there would be no need for military action and the world would be a better place.

Kipp Cozad  
kcozad1@kc.rr.com

**Pity on Arabs!**  
As an American reader of your paper, I sympathize with your people who can not gather peacefully in public to express their views without fear of arrest. That is embarrassing!  
But isn't it just as embar-

## Letters to the Editor

rassing that the Arab world has not protested against an Iraqi dictator who so ruthlessly oppresses his people? I hold this view not from reading American newspapers, but from speaking with a number of my students whose parents fled the country to save their lives.

George R. Johnson  
gjohnson@epd.engr.wisc.edu

**Changing mindsets**  
I read your article for this week, and I agree with you about a few points, and also have some comments on others.

Yes, we, our countrymen, our presidents, our nations, we all suck! As al-qathafe said, being beneath the ground is better than being alive for us; we are a disgrace for our great nation's history.

However, there are many stories about people who were born and raised in cultures and societies like ours, frustrated and downhearted, but still, those were able to change their habits and mindsets and are capable of changing the mindsets of people around them.

Such people empower and build nations, even though their leaders don't want. But as al-Thulaya damned his people whom described as

people whom I wanted life for, but who wanted death for me!

But what if our leaders helped in the process? This will guarantee that those who can change mindsets are in points of authority, and in turn can help our country revive.

In the end I would like to say show me a good country I will show you a good leader, show me a reviving country and I will show you an even better one.

R. Abdulaziz  
r\_sagqaf@hotmail.com

**Yemen — wake-up**  
I am a Yemeni student studying in the UK. I urge anyone who is reading this letter to wake up and start doing something influential about the Iraqi crisis. Some of you should be ashamed of yourselves.  
One million people protested against war against Iraq in the UK of which the Arab community was so little, most of the Muslims protesting were of Pakistani or Indian origin.

If we remain like this then within a few years the whole Middle East would be called 'The United Emirates of America.'

Awsan A.  
awsan@fsmail.net, UK



## COMMON SENSE

By Hassan Al-Haifi

# The Yanks are coming

"You can't be serious that the Americans are just going to give the Iraqis all that they have got!" said Mahmoud to his boss at the car repair shop, as they sat during a small coffee break looking at all the cars they have to finish repairing.

"What, do you think the Americans are going to be afraid that the Arab armies will pull out all their massive military hardware they have been accumulating all these years to defend their helpless brethren in Iraq, or they will close the faucet of the oil that turn the wheels in the American industrial citadels?" remarked Foad sarcastically to Foad's other colleague at work, before their boss had a chance to answer him.

"Come on you guys, I am sure the United States is keen on making sure that 22 Arab nations are not upset, after all twenty states are a lot of countries to worry about." Ali, the workshop owner was trying to get his employees worried about the inventory of cars they had to complete rather than what happens out in the Fertile Crescent.

"Ali, we have an American president whose only relish in life is to see 'bombs away' at anything that moves with a Moslem, or particularly an Arab scent to it in this world. He doesn't take care who gets upset or frowns upon his heroic action to avenge the death of all those helpless souls, who died on 9/11. Yet, all you want us to worry about is all those junky cars we have to keep running, even though most of them are begging us to tell their owners to retire them, as they have had it running around our terrible roads!" said Mahmoud. Mahmoud had a flare for chiding at his boss, without getting him angry.

Ali replied to his employee: "Look, Mahmoud. I'm just as concerned as anybody in these streets is about the poor fate that is about to hit our brothers in Iraq. I really feel sorry for those Iraqis. They have had to endure so much tragedy over the past 30 years. Just imagine; three wars in three years for nothing that they have to be punished for. First that ferocious war with Iran, that drained the life out of not just the Iraqis, but also the entire Gulf region, including the Iranians, who did nothing to bring this war upon them. Then came the senseless war over the miscalculated invasion of Kuwait, which the Iraqis were railroaded by, God only knows what to carry out. Not even the Iraqis seem to understand why such actions could bring them an ongoing state of tragedy for more than a decade after that. Then, a continuous undeclared war on them began, as American and British pilots have a field day for target practice for more than 12 years after that. Now they are threatened by a force of some 200,000 + American and British troops ready to go on a witch hunt in Iraq for the Iraqi leader, who surprisingly seems to be the least stirred by all the events unfolding before him so dramatically!"

"Yeah, Ali, you just about summed the whole situation up" said Foad, not wanting to be left out of the talk that has the whole Arab world busy in conversation continuing, "I have a feeling that the whole matter is a continuing conspiracy to give the Zionists a free hand in the Holy Land to do whatever they like with our Arab brothers in Palestine, while everybody is busy watching what will happen in the Gulf. Look at Sharon carry on in Palestine as if he has a free license to unleash his bigotry and hatred at the Palestinians, thanks to our deadbeat Arab leaders, who have lost all sense of national affinity or Islamic cohesiveness."

"Foad, you really should not expect much of our Arab leaders, for they have their own worries to think about, just wondering which one of them will follow Saddam. The American president and his war mongering administration staff have just declared that they are going to 'clean up' the whole region from the Atlantic to the Khyber Pass. Iraq will be the launching pad of the biggest sanitation project since our great Mayor of Sana'a went to really show the world how clean Sana'a could be if somebody really cared." Mahmoud went on one of his famous knack for giving outrageous similes to describe events.

"Hay, you guys, I think it is time we get back to work on these jalopies sitting there in the yard. War seems to be as imminent as it could be, and our Arab Summit is about to give its stamp of approval to it in their meeting in Cairo. Judging by our customers' pressure, it seems that everyone knows that war is imminent and nobody has the faintest idea how it will end". The entrepreneur remembered that he has to meet his deadlines for his customer, no matter what Uncle Sam does in the Gulf.

Mahmoud started to rise, following his boss toward the work yard and then said: "The way I see it, things are going on with our destiny controlled by others, while we have nothing to do with deciding how it all should be heading."

"What does it matter?" asked Foad, we are all going to the pit anyway, even George W. Bush and Saddam Hussein! I just don't want to be there to see when both of them meet."



U.S diplomat says policy opposes America's values

# 'I resign'

The following is the text of John Brady Kiesling's letter of resignation to Secretary of State Colin L. Powell. Mr. Kiesling is a career diplomat who has served in United States embassies from Tel Aviv to Casablanca to Yerevan.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am writing you to submit my resignation from the Foreign Service of the United States and from my position as Political Counselor in U.S. Embassy Athens, effective March 7. I do so with a heavy heart. The baggage of my upbringing included a felt obligation to give something back to my country. Service as a U.S. diplomat was a dream job. I was paid to understand foreign languages and cultures, to seek out diplomats, politicians, scholars and journalists, and to persuade them that U.S. interests and theirs fundamentally coincided. My faith in my country and its values was the most powerful weapon in my diplomatic arsenal.

It is inevitable that during twenty years with the State Department I would become more sophisticated and cynical about the narrow and selfish bureaucratic motives that sometimes shaped our policies. Human nature is what it is, and I was rewarded and promoted for understanding human nature. But until this Administration it had been possible to believe that by upholding the policies of my president I was also upholding the interests of the American people and the world. I believe it no longer.

The policies we are now asked to advance are incompatible not only with American values but also with American interests. Our fervent pursuit of war with Iraq is driving us to squander the international legitimacy that has been America's most potent weapon of both offense and defense since the days of Woodrow Wilson. We have begun to dismantle the largest and most effective web of international relationships the world has ever known. Our current course will bring instability and danger, not security.

The sacrifice of global interests to domestic politics and to bureaucratic self-interest is nothing new, and it is certainly not a uniquely American problem. Still, we have not seen such systematic distortion of intelligence, such systematic manipulation of American opinion, since the war in Vietnam. The September 11 tragedy left us stronger than before, rallying around us a vast international coalition to cooperate for the first time in a systematic way against the threat of terrorism. But rather than take credit for those successes and build on them, this Administration has chosen to make terrorism a domestic political tool, enlisting a scattered and largely defeated Al Qaeda as its bureaucratic ally. We spread disproportionate terror and confusion in the public mind, arbitrarily linking the unrelated problems of terrorism and Iraq. The result, and perhaps the motive, is to justify

a vast misallocation of shrinking public wealth to the military and to weaken the safeguards that protect American citizens from the heavy hand of government. September 11 did not do as much damage to the fabric of American society as we seem determined to do to ourselves. Is the Russia of the late Romanovs really our model, a selfish, superstitious empire thrashing toward self-destruction in the name of a doomed status quo?

We should ask ourselves why we have failed to persuade more of the world that a war with Iraq is necessary. We have over the past two years done too much to assert to our world partners that narrow and mercenary U.S. interests override the cherished values of our partners. Even where our aims were not in question, our consistency is at issue. The model of Afghanistan is little comfort to allies wondering on what basis we plan to rebuild the Middle East, and in whose image and interests. Have we indeed become blind, as Russia is blind in Chechnya, as Israel is blind in the Occupied Territories, to our own advice, that overwhelming military power is not the answer to terrorism? After the shambles of post-war Iraq joins the shambles in Grozny and Ramallah, it will be a brave foreigner who forms ranks with Micronesia to follow where we lead.

We have a coalition still, a good one. The loyalty of many of our friends is impressive, a tribute to American moral capital built up over a century. But our closest allies are persuaded less that war is justified than that it would be perilous to allow the U.S. to drift into complete solipsism. Loyalty should be reciprocal. Why does our President condone the swaggering and contemptuous approach to our friends and allies this Administration is fostering, including among its most senior officials. Has "oderint dum metuant" really become our motto?

I urge you to listen to America's friends around the world. Even here in Greece, purported hotbed of European anti-Americanism, we have more and closer friends than the American newspaper reader can possibly imagine. Even when they complain about American arrogance, Greeks know that the world is a difficult and dangerous place, and they want a strong international system, with the U.S. and EU in close partnership. When our friends are afraid of us rather than for us, it is time to worry. And now they are afraid. Who will tell them convincingly that the United States is as it was, a beacon of liberty, security, and justice for the planet?

Mr. Secretary, I have enormous respect for your character and ability. You have preserved more international credibility for us than our policy deserves, and salvaged something positive from the excesses of an ideological and self-serving Administration. But your loyalty to the President goes too far. We are straining beyond its limits an international system

we built with such toil and treasure, a web of laws, treaties, organizations, and shared values that sets limits on our foes far more effectively than it ever constrained America's ability to defend its interests.

I am resigning because I have tried and failed to reconcile my conscience with my ability to represent the current U.S. Administration. I have confidence that our democratic process is ultimately self-correcting, and hope that in a small way I can contribute from outside to shaping policies that better serve the security and prosperity of the American people and the world we share.

MARTIN DANSKY  
admiral9@sprint.ca

As a youngster I had admired the show of non-violence demonstrated by Mahatma Gandhi when he was faced with imprisonment and when he warned Hindu demonstrators of forceful retaliations against their desire for self-determination. Writers such as Eric Ericson touched on the significance of non-violence and on its power in the face of tremendous odds. Violence begets more violence was another theme.

Sadly to say history is again repeating itself, and non-violence is still a dream. There doesn't seem to be any turning back from the flow of events leading to an armed confrontation in Mid-East. The real solution to the struggles there are even further away. Sadly to say that the leaders who could have proposed a more peaceful solution, keep focusing on the use of arms as a solution, while they know very well that weapons have never sealed long term peace, especially in this region.

The US has been hoping to sway the UN into supporting their endeavors at destroying the Iraqi regime while anti-war movements have pointed to the necessity of considering the plight of the local Iraqi. That Iraqi does not care to see his livelihood destroyed but at

SKETCHED  
OPINION



## Governments simply don't listen

# Non-violence is nothing but a dream

the same time will defend his territory should that be bombarded. Numerous anti-war demonstrations have had their effect, at least in polarizing Canadian public opinion about the conflict in the region and about the backing Chretien 'has given his American counterpart in the event of war.

But anti-war movements haven't really had the clout they wanted to divert armed conflict. The anti-Vietnam war sentiment took years before America bowed to public sentiment, or did US soldiers just leave because of the tremendous odds involved in maintaining a permanent presence overseas. I'm afraid a permanent presence would be what America has considered in the Persian Gulf...and that does not mean a real and lasting solution.

So far no substantial links have been made between Al-Qaeda and the Iraqi regime. So America is losing face on that account too. News has it that Bin Laden considers Hussein to be somewhat of socialist power pusher, so is their any alliance there? America points to an organization present in the country headed by a Bin Laden disciple as proof of a link. Skeptics have dismissed any link at all. And the Israeli-Palestinian conflict continues with no solution in sight. Sources say removal of Hussein would not solve that conflict either. It would only remove a large source of weapon funding but would not reduce the friction in that region.

As the Bush administration is adamant of a "deadline", other western countries are not so convinced. I am leery of America's stance on a unilateral intervention should it not have a consensus of its former allies and from a majority of the world's population. At the same time, the American leadership appears skeptical about the efficiency of the role of the UN.

Another worry I have is the division of public opinion on the problem of containing Saddam's threat to world security. Some countries like France would like to have UN inspections continue without a deadline. Why then has the US been so eager to resort to an armed conflict before inspectors have been allowed to complete their tasks. Meanwhile public opinion is divided between those that think the Iraqis are complying to the rules of the inspections and others who say Iraq is merely playing a game of hide and seek, hiding much of its missiles in neighboring Iran.

It seems that Iraq is not taking the UN resolutions seriously because of the manufacture of missiles that go beyond the allotted range established by the peacemaking body. UN inspections have found missiles that go beyond the allotted firing range. So the UN has proposed they be dismantled.

There are still two possible solutions: either through an armed invasion of the country, or by eliminating the embargo

so that the Iraqi economy can improve and the Iraqis given a chance to oppose Saddam if they so desire. The armed solution would create tremendous animosity in the region not only among Moslem countries towards the west but from other nonaligned nations calling the American armed presence, "an American design to dominate non-white speaking peoples." That Americans think they can go far by throwing around their economic power is a narrow viewpoint, as those nations will also harbor resentment towards further collaboration with America.

Personally I'm in favor of the peaceful solution yet that may be less popular. Proponents of another Desert War say that Saddam has purposely avoided any disarmament efforts and continues to manufacture weapons of mass destruction and hideous biological and chemical toxins. Those proposing a "peaceful" solution state that even so Saddam has such a background, he would be better removed from power by returning the country's populace to the standard of living they had before they were forced to go on rations. Bombarding the country would only worsen their condition, they say. So who knows whether public opinion will be strong enough to dissuade the use of force and encourage the 16 million impoverished Iraqis to recover their independence and dignity and determine their own future.

# The American fox and the Arab rabbit

SALAH MUSA  
Coordinator, Jerusalem Defense Committee

Once upon a time there was a Fox and a Rabbit who shared a stream of water. One day the Fox complained to the Jungle Council about the Rabbit muddying the stream when it drinks and hence it ruined the Fox's drink. The Fox cleverly demanded that may be the Rabbit should be de-clawed so that it will help reduce muddying the water. So the Jungle Council agreed and the Rabbit was de-clawed. Next, the Fox again complained to the Jungle Council about the Rabbit muddying the Water. He cleverly suggested that may be if most the rabbit Teeth that were not really need could be removed so that it could not muddy the water as much which upsets the Fox's delicate stomach. Again the Jungle Council agreed and most the Rabbit teeth were removed. The next day the Fox still complained to the UN (ops I mean JC) about the same issue. So the Jungle Council came up with a solution and ordered that the Rabbit drink from down stream and the Fox from upstream. The Rabbit accepted and started drinking from down stream. But the Fox had his dubious intentions and wanted to have the Rabbit for lunch. Soon enough and with empty stomach, the Fox came to drink from the stream and found the Rabbit drinking and accused it of muddying the stream again. To which the

Rabbit responded But, But, But how can I muddy your drink when I am drinking from down stream and you are drinking from Upstream. The Fox jumped the Rabbit without even suffering a scratch. Well, the Rabbit lived a very tortured and humiliated time and eventually it ended up the Fox's lunch any way. There was no way to satisfy the Fox's complaints unless it offered itself as lunch.

### To the Iraqi regime

The American Fox is at your stream and it is there for lunch regardless of what weapons you have or destroy. You are being de-clawed and de-toothed to make you an easy prey. So stop this humiliated charade and if you must die, die standing up and not kneeling before the Fox. Yes France and Germany are making noise but can they stop the American and the Zionist. NO. However, they do serve an excellent role of making the fight not against Arabs and Muslims which in fact it is. They also can use their current leverage with having Iraq further disarmed to become an easier prey for what is coming. I have been living in the west for 25 years. I trust the people but not their governments including France and Germany not mention Russia.

### To the Arab regimes (and their apologists)

How much more humiliation do we have to suffer! Are your chairs really worth so much humiliation to yourself, "your" people, your children, their future,

your civilization, your history, your forefathers, your religion, your integrity, your pride, your humanity. When will you stop!!! or do you have to be stopped if not by your masters, for your irrelevance, then by the masses. The American Fox will be coming to your streams in time.

To the Palestinian Authority I ask:

Are you that mindless or do you enjoy acting the role. How many times have the American promised to resolve the "Palestinian issue". Have you not noticed that every time things heat up in the Middle East, the West or America promise to resolve the "Palestinians problem". There has been more than two dozen plans that surface and then quickly disappear as soon as their undeclared western (or Arab regimes) objective are achieved. Only since the peace theatrics of Oslo (1993) there has been several unfulfilled promises, visions, plans and accords. First it was George W. Bush (sr) and Madrid track, then Clinton came and made few useless promises and accords timed with the 2<sup>nd</sup> major bombing of Iraq in 1998 and culminating in the fiasco of Camp David II, then George Bush (Jr.) came and there was Michelle Plan, then the Tenet and last the Promise of the Road Map. Do you know what a road map means. It is a road map to no where. Can anyone or thing be so mindless. I think NOT. It is the old defeated, decayed, corrupted and empty heads clamoring to the seat of the PA "Power" that do very little beside championing whatever comes out of Washington and complying with Sharon

and Zionist wishes. The latest to quit things up while they are doing their dirty deed on Iraq.

To the Arab masses who ultimately count at the end:

To the so called financially poor of the Arab and Muslim world, I ask does clothing your children and putting food on their table ends your responsibility, fulfill your role as a parent? I think NOT. What are you doing to provide your children with pride of who they are, equality and the right to live free from fear and humiliation in their own country by their own regime and the dictates of foreign powers. What will you answer Allah (Subhannau W Talla) on Judgment day when you are asked about what have you done on that?

To the middle class of the Arab and Muslim world, if any left, I ask you, is catching up with the rich class and racing after luxury and pretence is your mission in life? I think NOT. The vast majority of people on this live without luxury. What are you doing to provide values, integrity and pride. Do you think that on your death you will be regretting that you have not left a newer or classier car, bigger and more money to spend in night clubs.

To those rich and "powerful" in the Arab and Muslim world including those cling to the agent regimes, I ask you, does providing the latest luxury or another Million or Billion will make them more respectable. I think NOT. You and them will still be under the boot of Americans and Zionists. Not much of a power or respect is it.

## Vacancy

# Announcement

### Position:

Office Manager/Secretary (based in Sana'a)

### Main Duties:

Receptionist for telephone and visitors, keep directories and diaries, correspondence and file management, translations, organize meetings and workshops, use and maintenance of office equipment, manage office supplies and organize staff movement.

### Qualifications:

- Secondary education or higher with training as secretary or in administration and over 5 years experience in a similar position
- Fluency in Arabic and English (speaking, reading, writing, typing)
- Ability to work with different office equipment and computer (Windows, Excel and Word)

Please send your CV, before 15 march 2003, to the following address: P. O. Box 19404, Sana'a or fax: 01-510010



## Two successful women show their paintings

# Yemen's spirit captured in art

BY ABDUH M. ASSABRI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF  
abduasabri@yahoo.com

**A**rt is the soul of human life. It is the only language that can travel across distances and go beyond all barriers. Further, it can be understood by all people in the world. Artists have a distinguished outlook to express the meaning of life.

This is why the world has given this kind of art a wide scope. It is an influx of deep emotional feelings, a portrait through which the artist can express his inner feelings. They can embody these emotions in drawings which can be either real or imaginary.

Among those talented artists is Maisoon Hussein Bin Yahya.

She was born in Sana'a in 1978 and at present she is a demonstrator at the University of Science & Technology.

She is a dentistry technician.

She inclined to paintings when she was young, specifically when she was in preparatory school.

Her portraits were at first seen by her parents and therefore they spur her on to continue on that art.

Little by little, she could shape her creativity and capability in paintings.

She also could form a new style of her own and select other color technicalities



Maisoon Hussein

where no other artist can do so.

### Bint Yahya's main contributions

- Egypt In Others' Eyes', Cairo, 1999.
- First place in the RAINBOW Competition, Hungary, 1996.
- Golden Medal and a Diploma in the Plastic Art, Hungary, 1996.
- Participated in the President's Prize, Sana'a, 2000.
- Held exhibition at the headquarters of the Yemeni Writers & Authors Union, Sana'a, 2001.

Bint Yahya's first art exhibition was at the Yemeni Writer's and Authors Union. "It was a very simple exhibition. To me, it was also a humble beginning," Maisoon said.

At first sight, when a viewer have a look on Maisoon's paintings, he could see that a black background is the most prevailing factor on her paintings. Why so that?

"My selection for the black color is my own. Therefore people see that the black color conveys sad and depressing atmosphere. It is true that I used the black color in most of my paintings, but this doesn't mean that they convey a sad atmosphere. Despite that my paintings have a black background, multi-colored paintings and beautiful natural scenes are there also," she explained.

"I want to use the black color as a special style in my paintings and I hope could succeed in that," she added.

Does this mean that the black color is an indication to woman's reality in the Yemen?

"I never use the black color for that reason," she said.

"It is true that women are symbolized with the black color in a 'A Yemeni Woman', But I incorporate other natural scenes such as, sea and landscapes," Maisoon further commented.

The art in Yemen has occupied the minds of the concerned bodies at the culture Ministry. This has come, when preparations are in full swing to



Moon of Sana'a portrait.

announce Sana'a as the Cultural Capital for 2004.

Maisoon's assessment to the reality of the art in Yemen before a couple of years ago was that no interest was showed at all.

It was simple and restricted only to schools.

Maisoon's first participation was in Hungary through an invitation to Arwa School.

She only participated in three paintings. After her entering class at the University, an interest to the plastic art was felt at simple institutions. There was a high attendance to such exhibition.

When asked that women are more attracted to such kind of art more than men. "I am totally against this," she disagreed.

Art is that kind which entails sensitivity and transparency by both men and women. "Women seem to be more romantic, and this could be reflected

upon her paintings, which are by no means, tranquil and calm," she said.

"When I started painting, I always do my best to reveal the beautiful picture of the Yemeni architecture," she added.

Maisoon's paintings "The Moon of



Aamal Ahmed

Sana'a", she selects the white and black colors. Moon with its lights has added a special effect upon the Yemeni original architecture. This new style of painting is invented by her in contrary to other artists where their paintings are confined only to show this kind of art as it is.

In the "Sadness of Women", women appear to be clothed with black gowns and their facial expressions haven't been showed.

The portrait includes jars beside women's gowns which is an indication of their suppression. They are treated as workers.

"I intentionally paint their gown with

black without any facial expressions," she noted.

"At the end, I thank those who give their hands and making tremendous success of this exhibition, such as, Abdulrahman al-Akwa Khaled al-Rowaishan, Zaid al-Faqeeh and others," she concluded.

**Aamal Ahmed al-Qadhi, born in Sana'a in 1979, studied Faculty of Commerce, Accounting Department, Sana'a University.**

### al-Qadhi's main contributions

- A workshop titled, 'Art & Heritage' supported by the DIA organization, Sana'a 2001.

- A workshop titled, 'Health & Environment' also supported by the DIA organization, Sana'a, 2001.

- Got the second in the Cultural Competition in the plastic art, Sana'a University, 2002.

- Participated in an exhibition at the Faculty of Commerce & Industry.

- A member at Ebhar Foundation for Childhood & Creativity.

Al-Qadhi's humble beginnings in paintings have risen and she is now ranked as one of the best well-known female artists in Yemen.

She was at first dissatisfied with her first painting, she didn't lose hope, because she was fully convinced that it still had had a meaningful content.

As a budding talent she was inclined to the blue color, but with the passage of time, a tendency began to shape itself within herself and could use all colors.

Al-Qadhi has been greatly influenced by Maisoon's paintings. She always shows her paintings to Maisoon and at length they decided to hold a joint plastic art exhibition.

There is a considerable increase by women towards the plastic art in Yemen.

Al-Qadhi like Maisoon share the same ideas in that the plastic art in Yemen was different from that of today. That is because of people have become more aware and more extrovert.

Al-Qadhi has a number of portraits such as 'Tafreta' i.e. to spend time together with women chatting, laughing, and chewing Qat.

"In this, portrait, I was on a holiday in Sana'a and by chance, I saw a woman, I took a photograph for her. What attracted my attention was the cloth she covered herself with," Al-Qadhi said further.

'Flutist' is another portrait loved by Al-

Qadhi and 'A Terrified World' where she sees faces and feels that each one has a world of his own.

"Seydana" is another portrait of a person. It used to be called by Al-Qadhi as "Uncle Saleh" and later on it was named Seydana by her father.

Al-Qadhi sees that restoring to painting sometimes is a relief of suppression or subduing inner feelings.

"When a man is for instance angry, frustrated or when something freighting, worrying or painful occurs, I restore to paintings and it is a comfort. Even I draw a simple one," Al-Qadhi noted.

"At the end, I'd like to thank the Culture House represented by Khaled al-Rowaishan, and Zaid al-Faqeeh for making success in the exhibition," she concluded.

Now new artists are promising of better times to come. Now we witness more exhibitions organized in schools, universities and cultural centers.

There is a criticism movement in newspapers, magazines, writings and TVs, etc. Media can help improve the understanding of people to art.

I advise new artists to go on painting and there will be one day when people would understand the meaning of art and how important it is for the society.



Sana'ani woman clothed in a traditional costume

## MUS'ID & MUS'IDA

First Ever Yemeni Radio Series published in a newspaper

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Written by  
Abdulrahman Mutaahhar

Translated by  
Janet Watson

## Marrying children

**Ma** - What's up with you today? You're totally in a world of your own. What on earth are you thinking about?

**M** - You tell me what I might be thinking about. What do you think might put me into a this sort of state?

**Ma** - I've no idea what's going on in your head, but the only things I know to put people in a dream world like this are debts and love.

**M** - Thank God I haven't got any debts on my plate, and the only thing I know about love is what other people tell me. But you know what the world is like, Mus'ida. No one can ever be totally at peace.

**Ma** - You haven't been arguing with your brother about our daughter again, have you?

**M** - Mus'ida, my brother's been going on about he was the only one who looked after me properly and fed and clothed me after my father died.

**Ma** - Just listen here! Don't believe a word of it, even if he does say how much he did for you! The only one who fed and watered you and feeds and waters us is God Almighty. And the other thing is that he didn't give you a single riyal from his own pocket. The only money he ever spent on you came from the money your father left you, which he also helped himself to. In the end, he said there was nothing left, and kicked you out of the house without a penny!

**M** - Well he'll suffer for it in the end, Mus'ida. If anyone ever told you that someone could take someone else's money and not have to account for it

on the Day of Judgement, don't you believe it!

**Ma** - You don't have to tell me that! But I really can't get over your brother's cheek. Firstly he confiscates the money that's due to you and feeds himself and his children on money that's not his. Then he goes and tells you how grateful you should be, because he's the only one who's looked after you and fed you since your father died! The only thing that's missing is for him to say he's your maker! And on top of all he's got the gall to threaten you if you don't hand over your daughter!

**M** - God forgive us! If that was all just a fairy tale, it wouldn't be so bad! He wants me to give my daughter in marriage to his son.

**Ma** - Look, there's no point in hiding behind defences, you need to go and face him man to man!

**M** - I don't think it calls for that. There isn't really any problem. She's our daughter and we've got the right to say, 'No'.

**Ma** - That isn't what I mean. Your brother has got it into his head that he'll get the girl engaged, draw up the marriage contract, and take her off with him, and you seem to be incapable of standing up to him because he's had you under his thumb since you were a lad. The only thing that'll make him listen is someone standing up to him man to man.

**M** - But I did stand up to him, Mus'ida! I told him that the girl is still very young, and everything should be in its own good time. Then I'll be prepared to do

what he wants.

**Ma** - Mus'id!

**M** - What?

**Ma** - If you're really so much under your brother's thumb, so be it. But if you ever agree to him coming and taking our daughter in marriage to his son, he's going to find he's got Mus'ida in his way! Our daughter's only nine years old! She still wants to play with other children. Listen to me, will you!

**M** - Did I say okay to him? Did I say okay he could come and take our daughter whenever he wanted, Mus'ida? I've still got some wits about me, you know!

**Ma** - And just where are these wits you talk about? Your brother's wife phoned me up yesterday to congratulate me. She said I shouldn't worry about my daughter because the groom is still only fourteen himself. She said they'd come and have the engagement and draw up the wedding contract, then they'd take the girl away with them, and she'd keep a good eye on her.

**M** - Go on! What did you say to her then? You can be pretty tough in this sort of situation!

**Ma** - Why should I be tough? I simply said to her perfectly politely that if they were looking for somewhere for their son to play, take him to the park or to the youth sports club. And if they were looking for something to entertain him, there are plenty of toys in the market place. They can get a bear that plays the drum and dances. Once the foreign cartoons show us children getting married, we'll do likewise!

## A short story

# Only a day

BY HAYAT ALI ABDO  
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

*The sun rises everyday,  
Smiling and living say,  
Get a hope from my ray,  
And throw your sorrows away,*

**T**hese optimistic songs came out desperately and bitterly from John Smith, thirty-four years old, followed with a long time of silence and thinking.

He remembers that he used to sing it happily and cheerfully with his size-year friends. But he now wants a day to sing it again with them.

He realizes now that childhood is a period when all we know is innocence and truthfulness. He wants only a day to rebuild what he had destroyed previously. Inside himself is a strong feeling of getting this sole day and his desire for it is stronger than his desire for a glass of water if he was in a deadly desert for a week.

Whereupon, if he were allowed to have this day, he would, first of all, go to his poor mother and tell her that the song was for her. For hurting her a lot, he would listen to her and go immedi-

ately to work in the little store which his father has left after he died, and he would express his regard and say that he would never let her down again.

He remembers precisely how much she used to suffer from him running away from school at the age of ten, discovering her all along. He went further into his disobedience, he left her struggling alone.

He can't believe how cruel he was, for he never thought of visiting her again. Ah! How could he have thought of this and he was lazy with stealing, bribing, and cheating?

That was his job, actually, that was the only thing he was good at. He remembers also that he happened to know from a friend of his that she spent a day and a night searching for him, but unfortunately the first moment he knew, it was the very second he forgot.

He doesn't know now whether she's still alive or if loneliness and strife have killed her. All he knows now that regrets is a very painful feeling.

Only 24 hours and if the hour were longer than 60 minutes, he would ask only for 3 hours because he would run as rapidly as possible to achieve all these things after realizing that he was running over nothing.

Only 1,440 minutes to prevent and stop that damn accident which made him kill a 10-year-old beautiful girl. All she did was cross the road. He did not see the traffic light or the girl, for he was very happy with the money he has just received after robbing the center bank.

He couldn't run away as usually because all people in the street saw the accident and then he knew that was the end.

He kept thinking and dreaming until the jailer opened the door of his prison, and he heard him saying "John Smith it's the time for your execution."

He felt as if the jailer pushed him to fall down from a building of 20 floors. But he went with him silently, hopelessly and anxiously. None knew that he was already suffocating before the jailer put the rope around his neck. None also knew that all he felt was pain, regret and suffering.

But it no use declaring his feelings. He was watching fearfully and with wide open eyes the jailer approaching the chair that he was standing on, in order to kick it.

The jailer did kick the chair. And that buried the unimaginable truth of John's, and his only day.



**5,000 Yemeni die each year**

# Yemen faces malaria

**F**or a long time Yemen has been facing a problem of malaria. Statistics point out that the cases of malaria infected annually are around 1.5 million, of which 5,000 die.

The National Malaria Control Program has announced recently a warning of Yemenis negligence towards this disease confirming that Yemen has been facing the worst health problem for decades, pointing out that 30% of malaria deaths in the Middle East are in Yemen.

The specialists doctors have said that the Plasmodium Falciparum is the most dangerous kind which settles in Yemen.

Moreover the annual report that the Ministry of Health and Population has submitted points out that malaria is one of the biggest and health problem in Yemen for decades.

Ismail al-Ghabri, Yemen Times reporter, met Dr. Shawqi Abdullah al-Mawari, the general manager of the National Malaria Control Program for Malaria to learn more.

**Q: How is the ministry fighting malaria?**

A: "The real activity for fighting malaria in Yemen started in 2001 when the NMCP was announced. Yemen has strategies based on those of the World Health Organization. The program concentrates on areas such as the Tehama coast; from al-Malaheet to al-Barah in the Tehama center. In the mountains there is al-Kafer and al-Udian in Ibb governorate as well in Ens, Gabal al-Sharq, Hamam Ali, Anas, al-Haima and Socotra Island as well.

The program also supports and strengthens the proper diagnosis and appropriate treatment through health institutions spreading over the republic.

A committee for fighting malaria was established in 2002 by the Minister of Health and Population as



Dr. Shawqi A. al-Mawari,

well as the Supreme Committee for fighting malaria in 2000.

Submitting free medical check-ups and medicines in health institutions is one of the goals that program wants to achieve.

Other goals will be achieved by efficient support by the WHO Organization and the international donors, collaborating with different governmental sectors and civil society. That is considered one of the adopted strategies of WHO to face epidemics.

**Q: What are the main strategies for the Fifth Plan?**

A: The strategies of the Fifth Plan represent developing human resources and raising its quality in planning and implementing these strategies and the early and proper diagnosis for appropriate treatment. It also deals with fighting and protecting pregnant women with well-preparation and enhancing the information system and build awareness among the citizens and paying attention to applicable studies and researches in malaria field.

**Q: A Ministry of Health and Population report indicates that malaria infects 1.5 million people a year. How do you respond to this?**

A: All the world's developing countries suffer from this epidemic and Yemen has exerted great and real efforts with WHO and donor countries to eradicate this disease. It is indicated that by 2005 there will be control of malaria in Yemen. Generally, the program has put various activities in different governorates for fighting malaria. Moreover eradication strategy has been started just for Socotra Island.

The program also has found out multilateral cooperation between Yemen and Saudi Arabia and Oman for fighting the malaria on borders aiming to find shared programs.

The program has implement strategic stages, which mainly aims at reduction of malaria infection to 50% in 2010.

According to the WHO report for the malaria high-infect countries, Yemen is among of the highest-infected countries.

**Q: Is there any collaboration between you and the sides interested in malaria problem?**

A: The problem has concerned all and resulted of environmental, economical and developmental reflections. It is necessary to exert more efforts from all the sectors and governmental institutions in the country to face this epidemic and defeat it.

The ministry of agriculture has responded positively. We hope that the sides related to have such positive stance and cooperate more because we in the national program suffer a lot from the insufficiency of the transports means and the difficulty of reaching the remote areas. As well, we have a shortage of abilities to have epidemically, entomologist and geographical studies to determine the best means of fighting it.

**Q: How the activities can be activated for this epidemic?**

A: The real activity for the program to remove malaria started in 2001 and

exactly taken attention after the wave of Rift Valley Fever. The program has had politically strong support and the foundation of the program is announced to be implemented under direct supervision of the public health minister.

Consequently, that helps to enhance and modernize the activities of fighting and collecting information and surveys. Thanks for God that the program has achieved exceptional and successful results in a short time in which most international organizations that interested in health issues are polarized aiming to support the program and the fighting operation in large areas.

For example in Socotra Island the percentage of malaria settlement was 95% and now is 13% and in Tehama the percentage of malaria was more

than 49% and now it is 13%.

The program has started in areas based on realizing the mistakes and reduction the costs. We are now, after the WHO evaluation in which it has exalted the program exerted efforts, activating the program activities in most parts of Yemen through proper expanding and exact stages and axes.

We adopt the whole strategy of fighting operations in Aden and Hadramout centers and the guidance coverage in Tehama and Socotra besides adopting entomologist epidemic mechanism in all infected areas like Tehama coast that stretched from Haradh to Bab al-Mandab containing seven governorates.

We depend on the efficient activities of fighting through taking the supported axes plan and not relying on the governorate itself as the plan is

speedy and able to provide the required cars and the available abilities to the program. Although there is just one organizer for malaria in each governorate, we could determine the malaria problem in Yemen knowing its settlement and season for multiplying in coasts, hills and valleys.

To be informed, Yemen is nominated between the countries that submits the support and assistance for fighting and eradicating malaria as it's achieved special successes in that field.

**Q: Any final word?**

A: Without a doubt, the Yemeni government is exerting great efforts to control the malaria epidemic and eradicate it. It gives he national program a large sum of money besides using international assistance.



A man sprays anti-malaria fog.

**Consultative meeting held**

## GCC good for Yemen's health

BY MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

**A** meeting held by Ministers of Health of the GCC has recommended training Yemen's medical cadre and improving health centers and hospitals in Yemen.

The consultative meeting, the first of its kind in Yemen before the last the Gulf Summit held in Masqat, concluded Feb. 18.

Participants recommended making legal changes to health legislation of the GCC, and exchanging information about diseases and epidemics in Yemen and the Gulf States.

**Doctors approve**

Yemeni doctors have approved of the changes, which will help Yemen to integrate with the GCC in health aspects and work hand in hand to develop medical services.

A joint Yemeni-Gulf study is to be done on plants that contain medical properties found in some Yemeni regions and islands. This will also help the private sector to establish an investment partnership. The deal will also help Yemeni

hospitals update new medical equipment and it will facilitate cooperation between ministers of health in the Gulf, and between medical companies and plants in the region.

The consultative meeting therefore helped activate Yemen's membership in the GCC and helped it get acquainted with health conditions and legislation.

**Plants**

In Yemen, there are a number of medicinal plants, especially in Socatra Island.

More than 130 different botanical plants are found there. Those plants have potential to treat diseases such as, diseases of the heart, kidney and liver, gastric ulcers, coughs, cancers and other skin diseases.

Use and development of the plants, however, needs financial resources.

A specialized Yemeni medical team has warned against the random utilization and excessive use of those plants by some patients.

Activating Yemen's role in the GCC membership will prepare the way for the possibility of investing in the plants for the medicine industry.

**A 'monster' that hits the young**

## Fighting cancer

BY NAJLA TALAL SALIM  
MEMBER OF CPHT  
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**"T**he only way to avoid cancer is not to be born", says the most famous lad who used the rest of his life fighting cancer for the sake of the whole world; Canadian Terry Fox.

He managed to run, with one good leg and one fake, thousands of miles across part of Canada, and collect money to support cancer patients.

After his death an international foundation was established, the Terry Fox Foundation. Terry lost his leg due to an osteosarcoma; (cancer of the bone), and later died due to a metastasis to the lungs.

This one-legged young man managed to leave an achievement like this behind him. It is quite a challenge to every youth. It's worth asking yourself 'what could I do to help?'

Now the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, at University of Aden has founded a group called the Cancer Patients Help Team. This team came up under the guidance of Cancer Registry Center and is under the management of medical students.

Since the year 2000, CPHT has been able to organize different activities for the sake of combating cancer in the society. So far, most of the activities are in Aden.

Since cancer is a disease whose curability is highly based on early diagnosis, the team has exerted so much efforts in boosting public awareness on this issue. Several sub groups have been created and each group is playing a role:

**Educational Troupes**

This group is responsible for visiting high schools in Aden and educating the younger generation on risk factors of cancer in relation to lifestyle. Smoking being one of the major contributing factors, it has been given special attention. Lectures on 'Not starting to smoke is easier than stopping' have been given and have proved quite effective.

Different healthy ways of passing time have been suggested on open discussions with the high school students so as to avoid the temptations of picking up smoking. Taking the advantage of having some members in Sana'a at the moment, some schools will be visited between the 2nd and 3rd of March where students will be advised on healthy lifestyles.

**The Tobacco Combating Team**

This group is also converging its efforts towards smoking. The pioneer of the group has dug in to various ways of reducing use of tobacco, as it is the major cause of bronchogenic carcinomas (cancer of the lungs). Researches will be applied on what are the main reasons that make teenagers take up smoking in Aden and how to help young smokers quit. Lectures on the influence of the media towards smoking have being given.

In the future maybe we shall be in a position to restrict smoking and have No Smoking Zones in public places so as to limit the adverse effects to the smokers only. On the same token, congratulations to Air Yemenia for introducing No Smoking on their flights. Keep it up!

**Breast self-exams**

In most developed countries every woman examines her breasts every time she takes a bath. In our case this point has been neglected and in most patients breast cancers are noticed when its already too late or when metastasis have been already sent to different parts of the body.

CPHT has made this group where the members will be trained on how to perform self assessment for any breast mass. These students will be expected to pass on this knowledge to the female society and train them on physical examination and advise on seeking medical attention immediately if there is a suspected swelling.

This will improve early medical diagnosis and in turn saving lives of many. The first workshop on 'Self Assessment for Breast Cancer' will be held on the 20th of March at faculty of Medicine and Health Science, Aden University.

**Psychology of cancer patients**

These members are trained on the psychological well being of any cancer patient or a patient with a terminal disease. They are expected to visit the cancer patients and give them hope and

encouragement in both spiritual and social aspects. The families of the patients are also advised on how to deal with the patients without stressing them further.

**Charity group**

This group is responsible for raising money in different ways in order to help patients who cannot afford the medication. Food bazaars have been held where quite a reasonable amount was collected. We also thank the individuals who have come up with handsome donations. May Allah reward you in bounty.

**Infancy**

This is just briefly the activity of CPHT in its infancy. We do hope to see the group grow and hope that other institutions will come up with similar associations that could help Yemen deal with this monster, cancer, which has claimed lives of many.

It's a pity that cancer is mostly a disease of the aged in many countries but it is a disease of the active young population in Yemen, therefore there's no doubt it eventually hurts the economy.

We would appreciate ideas or comments on how we can develop CPHT further. Please contact us as Cancer Registry Centre, P.O.Box 3663 Tel. 02 230 734 Aden Yemen or [canctr-aden@y.et.ye](mailto:canctr-aden@y.et.ye).

I take this opportunity to thank everyone who has participated in helping the cancer patients in whichever way, with special regards to the members for their voluntary work whom without their efforts CPHT would not be possible.



# Local Press

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr



**Al-Sahwa weekly,**  
27 Feb.2003.

## Main Headlines:

- JMP demands national alignment proceeding from the citizen need, homeland interest
- Nasserite organization SG: President's concept of national alignment more comprehensive than GPC's working paper
- Outdated army helicopter causes killing 8 military men
- Parliament passes demonstration bill
- Opposition parties stick to their electoral demands

In a front-page stories, editor in chief says all demand Iraq to implement international resolutions and dismantle its weapons.

This is the only important thing; the remaining is merely retouches. Nevertheless, the say there could be a role to be played by non-aligned states amidst a world dominated by one super power and one alliance. Our main problem as Arabs is that we have no regime giving opportunity to those capable of acting when the regime is enable to do as. There is a big gap between ambition and action. Iraq is not alone living the ordeal. Each Arab citizen sees Iraq an example in which he sees himself and future, but all do not possess what we can change the situation with. American cannot be able to do everything, but the enables add force to it with their incapability. A citizen trained by authority that the only way to keep his job and life is by keeping silent, could not be a soldier in battle for defending freedom.



**Al-Jamaheer weekly,**  
organ of the Arab Baath Socialist party, 23 Feb.2003.

## Main Headlines:

- Kuwait announces aggression on Iraq imminent, prince Bandar warns Arabs opposing the aggression
- American, Gulf fears from attacks by

- al-Qaeda on Naval targets in the Gulf
- Netherlands call its national to leave Yemen
- Hisbollah Secretary-General: Washington accomplice with Arab dictatorships' crimes
- Saudi security measures in precaution of any emergency

the editor in chief says in his opinion that many political analysts that the world is in the process of an economic geographic and political re-shaping. This situation would enforce bases and foundations depending on trends of singling out nature of the capitalist monopoly stage which refer to conflict of interests leading to changing the world into monopolistic zones of influence. It is dialectically conceded that the European-American conflict, taking Iraq as its façade, represents the beginning of the formation depicting characteristics of the New World order founded on monopolizing and plundering of people's riches. The process begins with the weak links, which represent the political structure of the Arab order, rendering the Arab countries the more exposed ones to plundering and fragmentation. According to this understanding, and after failure of the Arab political system at Arab foreign ministers conference in Cairo to raise to the level of responsibility for preventing the impending dangers against it, any other activity, whether a summit or other else, would effect more division and weakness. It is especially so if we take into account that the Arab summit on March 1 would be chaired by Bahrain whose king stated the necessity of rushing the attack on Iraq, when the king was on a visit to America. As the Arab people have lost hope in their political regimes, the Arab people's stand is still the hope of the nation on the bid for stopping the concerns monopoly advance on the nation. This stand can be realized by:

- National joining of forces in each Arab country, and adherence of the people's action to the political action to establish united leaderships from political parties, and mass organizations,
- Effecting pan-Arab alignment and formation of pan-Arab political leaderships to lead Arab masses' resistance to aggression targeting the entire Arab

- entity,
- Supporting Iraq with all available ways and means in the way strengthening its steadfast stands against the Zionist-American aggression.



**Al-Wahdawi weekly,**  
mouthpiece of the Nasserite Unionist Organization, 25 Feb.2003.

## Main Headlines:

- JMP demands judiciary committee to oversee elections
- Elections committee admits existence of a quarter million name under legal age
- Massive demonstration in Taiz against war in Iraq
- Voters registers, not allowed to be handed to political parties
- NUO secretary general; economic reform program destroyed revolution's gains
- JMP agrees on unified viewpoint
- Armed clashes between citizens and security troops in Bani Matar
- Fears from increase in Aids cases in Hodeida

Columnist Ali al-Saqqaf writes that although the U.S. failed to find one clue proving Iraq's possession of mass destruction weapons, and despite UN inspectors report refuting allegations of America & Britain, the U.S. is still talking about mass destruction weapons. It will continue talking about this even if the Iraqis have destroyed their personal pistols. America is looking for another type of weapons; its' the Iraqi oil, which according to an Arab oil expert, represents a question of life & death for America. Because the American oil is about to deplete, it will use all means to seize the Arab oil, which America considers as its right and must be its property, especially those U.S. oil companies control the decision-making power in the U.S. there companies believe existence of oil in the Arab region a geological mistake needed to be straightened by invasion and occupation. The present American administration would not hesitate from killing millions of Arabs to achieve its aims and to revive its ancestor's crimes who annihilated mil-

lions of red Indians. America's aggression would not be averted or stopped without a united Arab rejectionist attitude, provided it is a practical stand, not confined to statements of oral refusal and condemnation.



**Al-Balagh weekly,**  
25 Feb. 2003.

## Main Headlines:

- America declares the new ruler of Iraq
- A close associate to Sheikh al-Mouyad, a spy to America
- Threats to blast Yemen's Central Bank
- Al-Bakry disappeared in Bangkok, the FBI sends al-Shaiba file to the British police
- A security source denies the helicopter crash as an act of sabotage
- Diplomats expects release of al-Mouyad companion next few days
- False information to prime minister to detain al-Arousi
- GPC skeptical on JMP possible agreement on united list in the elections

In his weekly column, the editor in chief says maybe it is a bad omen that some of the political regimes do not correctly read the world situation and movement of some western countries. Concerning the French on the German stand with regard to Iraq it is a refusal of the use force without a resolution by the UN Security Council. It is a clear is in defense of international legitimacy, the UN, and the Security Council. It is a rejection of U.S. unilateral action leading to rendering the Security Council a nominal body and the "Veto" right ineffective. This stand is against the U.S. attempt to end the international legitimacy. The conflict centers on Europe's role in this world and on which controls which. The European unity is about to complete elements of its power and renaissance to become a pole parallel to the American pole. This is what America refuses and tries to act ahead of time before the European union could complete its power.

Oil is an important element of power and the axis of European-American conflict and dispute, and we the Arabs are the victims in between. The Arab dark tunnel would be illuminated only by return to building the people, the Arab-Islamic economy and drawing up strategies to acquire elements of power and independence.



**Al-Tagamou weekly,**  
organ of Yemen's Unionist congregation party, 24 Feb. 2003.

## Main Headlines:

- Implementers of Limburg operation, detected
- Al-Tagamou party stresses holding the elections on their date
- Al-Tagamou party calls for serious dialogue to surmount crisis
- List of al-Qaeda linked wanted, circulated
- World Insurance companies get informed on security measures before having agreement with Yemen
- No Yemeni facilities in the war against Iraq

On the Iraq crisis, Dr. Saudi Ali Ubaid lists a number of facts:

- It has become obvious to the world that Iraq is completely empty from weapons of mass destruction, and that since 1998 Iraq has not conducted any tests pertaining such weapons and has not developed them. This was reflected in the inspection teams' reports last November.
- The world has clearly seen the indefinite cooperation Iraq is offering to present inspection teams even at the expense of its sovereignty and dignity of its people, unlike the U.S. administration allegations.
- The world has become clearly certain that the American stand, along with that of Britain, has nothing at all to do with the issue of weapons of mass destruction and banned activities and consequently to get rid of them, because they do not exist in this country. This without any doubt confirms there are other declared and undeclared targets by this American administration.
- The world in general, and Europe in

particular, has realized the danger that the U.S. unilateral governing the Arab Gulf region for a long time if it were to achieve its goals.

Against all their evident facts and against the rally behind Iraq to stave off the war on it, there is a defeatist and intimidated Arab stand. This can be attributed to weakness of the Arab political system composed of a number of descriptions, which collectively from features of the current situation.



**RAY weekly,**  
organs of sons of Yemen league party, 25 Feb.2003.

## Main Headlines:

- Holland evacuates its subjects from Yemen
- Kuwait arrests 3 al-Qaeda linked persons
- Twenty-four million dollars, a World Bank loan to Yemen
- Preparations underway for holding Arab conference on mineral wealth in Sana'a, next October

The newspaper editorial says the RAY party decided not to take part in the coming parliamentary elections unless there is a change confirming that the parties of the political process are serious in the effort of getting out of the bottle neck of total absence of all components of stability and development. Change is the indicator to availability of elements of life and vitality in this society or that. Political change in the region and Yemen is an inevitably occurring issue. Many countries responded to it and managed it the way that realizes their interests and it is coming to Yemen inevitably. If outdated mechanisms and practices of elections are stabilized, it will be natural that expected results are a deformed copy. And this intercepts the scientific reading of the entire region's situations and Yemen's in particular. The RAY decision comes as a result of an objective reading of the region's situation which is experiencing one of the most complicated stages of its history. It comes to stress that development and charge must be guidance to our life.

# World Press

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

## Egypt

### Al Ahram

Leaders of 22 Arab countries will hold an urgent Arab summit in Egypt's Red Sea resort of Sharm el Sheikh on Saturday to discuss the Iraqi crisis and the dangerous consequences in the light of the US threat of war on Iraq.

### Al Akhbar

Arab League Secretary General Amr Moussa warned on Friday that the failure to adopt a unified stance by Arab countries to meet the wishes of the Arab people would threaten the Arab regimes.

### Al Gomhuria

Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Maher asserted on Friday that the Arab summit, which opens on Saturday, would send out a clear message calling for resolving the Iraqi crisis peacefully and sparing the Iraqi people the war evils.

### Egyptian Mail

Egypt welcomed on Friday an Iraqi decision to destroy its al-Samoud 2 missiles, while urging Iraq to do more to avoid a possible US-led war.

## Britain

### The Independent

British Prime Minister Tony Blair warned on Friday that the world would be "plunged into a living nightmare" unless it takes a stand to stop terrorist groups or rogue states using weapons of mass destruction.

### The Guardian

British Prime Minister Tony Blair brushed aside the massive anti-war demonstrations, the Commons revolt and concessions by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, and insisted on Friday that he would not be deflected from his determination to disarm Iraq.

### The Daily Telegraph

One in three asylum seekers entering the European Union in

2002 came to Britain and it cost the taxpayers almost 2 billion pounds (3 billion US dollars) to deal with them, official figures showed.

### Financial Times

The British government is preparing a large-scale public information campaign telling Britons what to do in the event of a chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear terrorist attack.

### The Times

The IRA (Irish Republican Army) leadership is preparing its rank and file for an important gesture that could allow British Prime Minister Tony Blair to revive the Stormont assembly, according to security sources on both sides of the Irish border.

## German

### Die Welt

The United States and Britain reject Iraq's decision to destroy Al-Samud 2 missiles.

### Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

Vaclav Klaus has been elected new Czech President to replace Vaclav Havel.

### Sueddeutsche Zeitung

The German government will put forward an economic program for communities and middle class this spring, which is said to cost 10 billion euros (10 billion US dollars).

## Pakistan

### Daily Times

President General Pervez Musharraf on Friday asked US President George W. Bush and Iraqi President Saddam Hussain to give peace a chance and avoid a war through a diplomatic solution, including Iraq's cooperation with the UN inspectors.

### The News

A lone gunman shot dead three policemen and injured seven others guarding the US consulate in Karachi on Friday.

### The Nation

Commerce Minister Humayun Akhtar on Friday warned that the export target of 10.4 billion US dollars could be affected if war against Iraq prolonged and war risk surcharge was imposed against Pakistani goods.

## Japan

### Yomiuri, Asahi, Mainichi

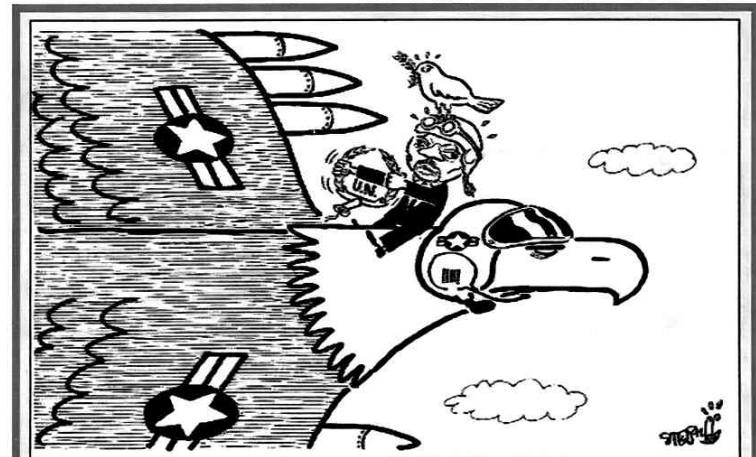
The Japanese Justice Ministry punished 11 officials for inmate abuse at a prefectural prison.

### Asahi

Japan may pass an education law amendment proposal which will not call for nurturing religious feelings.

### Nihon Keiza

Accounting Standards Board of Japan is to cast wider net in identifying impaired land assets.



Courtesy Stephane Peray (Stephff) Editorial Cartoonist - World News

## India

### The Times of India

On the face of it, Finance Jaswant Singh is giving it all on a platter in his budget tabled before the parliament on Friday: lower taxes, cheaper goodies like cars and air-conditioners, a rebate for educating your children, pension schemes and so on. His menu is long on promises but short on substance.

### Hindustan Times

Presenting his maiden budget, Finance Minister Jaswant Singh

### Manila Bulletin

Thousands of people prayed for peace and rejected the prospect of a US-led war against Iraq in a prayer rally in Manila on Friday. Vice President Teofisto Guingona joined the church-backed event.

### The Philippine Star

Presidential palace sources said Friday that the government has decided to postpone the holding of joint Philippine-US military exercises in the southern province of Sulu, dubbed Balikatan 03-1, until after the expected war in Iraq is over.

## Kenya

### Kenya Times

Tenders for the proposed rehabilitation of the Mombasa — Malaba road will be awarded in three months, Minister for Public Works and Housing Raila Odinga has said.

### East African Standard

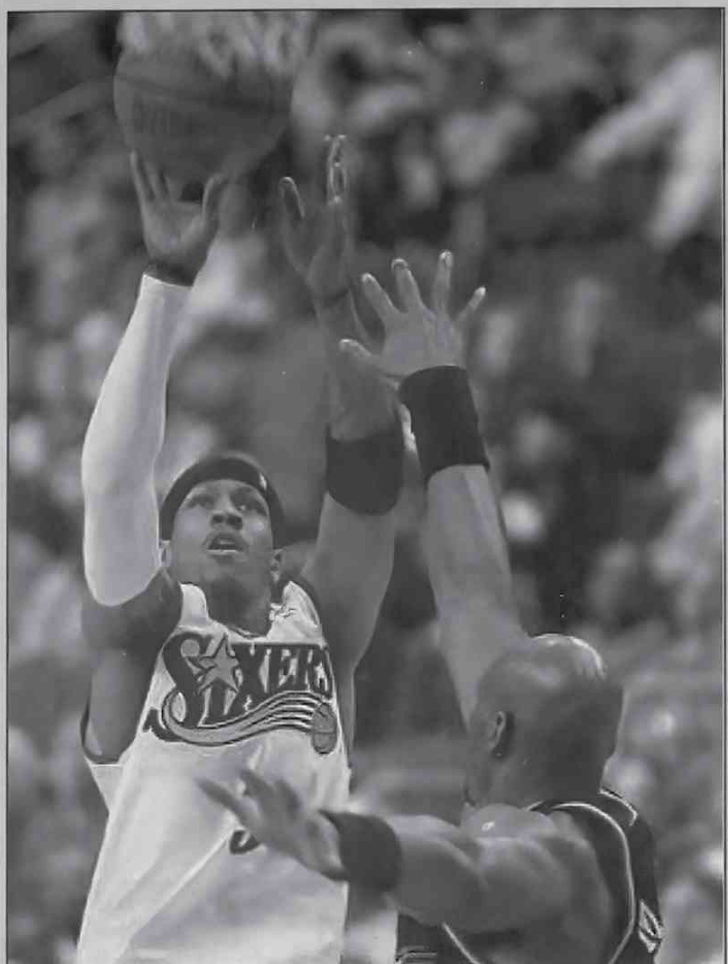
The Kenyan government will close down 53 primary schools which have been established in gazetted forest in Marakwet district in Rift Valley province in the ongoing crusade against forest destruction.

## Philippine

### Today

In the face of the controversy over the planned, though denied, combat participation of American soldiers in the hunt for the Abu Sayyaf, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo Friday gave the military 90 days to defeat the rebel group.





Philadelphia 76ers guard Allen Iverson (L) shoots over the hand of Utah Jazz forward Karl Malone (R) during second quarter NBA action in Philadelphia, February 28, 2003. Iverson led all scorers with 24 points as the 76ers defeated the Jazz 104-83. Photo by Tim Shaffer/Reuters



Hicham Arazi of Morocco hits a forehand returns to Roger Federer of Switzerland during Dubai Men's Open Championship quarterfinals at the Dubai Tennis Stadium on February 28. REUTERS/Anwar Mirza

# India hits back

After Inzamam mix-up

CENTURION, South Africa, March 1 (Reuters) - Abdul Razzaq and Inzamam-ul-Haq fell within eight runs of each other as India pegged Pakistan back to 114 for three after 25 overs in their World Cup Group A match on Saturday.

Razzaq was well caught by wicket-keeper Rahul Dravid off Ashish Nehra while Inzamam called for a single but was sent back by left-handed opener Anwar (57 not out) to be run out for six.

Earlier Anwar and Taufeeq Umar went for their shots, hitting Indian quicks Zaheer Khan and Nehra out of the attack in a 58-run opening stand.

The teams shook hands in a show of goodwill before the game. India and Pakistan have strained relations over the disputed region of Kashmir.

Pakistan ditched off spinner Saqlain Mushtaq, bringing in pinch-hitting all rounder Shahid Afridi while India replaced off spinner Harbhajan Singh with leg spinner Kumble.

including two wides, two no-balls.

\* Saurav Ganguly clearly exasperated as Khan bowled another wide and no-ball in his second over. Umar hit the first four in the 5th over, a cover-drive off a Khan half-volley. 27-0, 5 overs.

\* Nehra replaced Khan. Umar cut him for four first ball. Anwar then late-cut for four to third man as 11 came off the over. Umar drove Nehra through mid-on for four, then smashed another past point to bring up the 50. 8 off the over. 54-0, 10 overs.

\* Khan, back to replace Nehra after two overs costing 19, bowled Umar for 22 as he played back to a full-length inswinger. 58-1.

\* Anwar, on the front foot, adjusted his stroke to hook Khan for a square-leg four. He then drove Srinath for four through extra cover with a classical shot. Razzaq played as good a shot, a delayed drive for four off Nehra. Nehra took 6-23 against England in 10 overs, and gave away 0-23 in his first four overs against Pakistan. 72-1, 15 overs.

\* Kumble on in 16th over, Srinath bowled 7 overs for 27 to peg back the scoring. Nehra hit Anwar on the forearm, requiring attention in 19th over.

## Highlights

\* Pakistan won the toss. Seven off the first over from Khan — all extras,



Pakistan's Saeed Anwar hits a shot during a group A match of the cricket World Cup between India and Pakistan in Centurion, South Africa, March 1. REUTERS/Arko Datta

87-1, 20 overs.

\* Razzaq, looking to late-cut to third man, was snapped up one-handed by wicketkeeper Rahul Dravid for 12 off Nehra. 90-2, 21 overs. Inzamam-ul-Haq hit Kumble over his head first ball for four. Inzamam took three ball to

reach six, equalling his highest score of the tournament, then was sent back by Anwar and run out for six. 98-3. New batsman Yousuf Youhana.

\* Anwar reached his 50 with a clipped boundary through midwicket off Nehra.

## Life ban for certain doping, says FIFA

ZURICH, (Reuters) - World soccer's governing body FIFA wants flexibility to decide how to suspend players who test positive for banned substances and says a life ban should be considered for some doping offences.

FIFA outlined its position in a statement issued on Friday ahead of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) conference on doping to be held in Copenhagen from 3-5 March where the harmonised Anti-Doping Code (ADC) is set to be approved.

FIFA, WADA and experts from other international team sports federations held a series of meetings earlier this year to harmonise the ADC, but the sanctions to be imposed on players

and athletes who test positive has still to be discussed.

"It is FIFA's view that the proposed two-year ban cited in the ADC is more of a general indicator and world football's governing body wishes to have the flexibility to impose sanctions that may be less stringent or more than the proposal made in the ADC," said the FIFA statement.

"Depending on the gravity of the violation, even a life-long ban may be considered."

FIFA first introduced doping controls at the 1966 World Cup finals in England and has stepped up prevention, research and control efforts since in the fight against doping.



Ferrari's German driver Michael Schumacher takes a curve during a training session at Jerez racing track February 26. Several Formula One teams are here preparing for the upcoming Grand Prix season which gets underway in Melbourne on March 9. REUTERS/Marcelo del Pozo



## THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY BY Eugenia



**Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 19)**  
Forget the "poor me" attitude; make new friends and form new relationships. Open your mind to all sorts of possibilities.



**Taurus (Apr 20-May 20)**  
You may be feeling lucky, but don't take a financial risk. Be conservative and protect your assets. Real estate will be profitable.



**Gemini (May 21-June 20)**  
You'll be in the mood for love, but don't put yourself in too vulnerable a position. Your energy is high and groups you join will welcome your stamina and aggressive action.



**Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22)**  
Get busy making the necessary changes in your life that will make things easier for you at home and at work. If you believe in a cause, get involved by volunteering your time or your services.



**Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 22)**  
You're in the spotlight today. Your ability to delegate will give you an air of authority, but don't be too pushy.



**Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22)**  
You may end up having to juggle your bank accounts if you receive an unexpected expense today. Don't lend or borrow; go it alone and take care of your own financial problems.



**Libra (Sept 23 - Oct 22)**  
Focus on your health and well-being. Rest and don't be afraid to ask for help. Clear up important matters quickly.



**Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)**  
A chance to make money will develop, but don't get involved in a joint venture. Invest in yourself and your talent. Today's decision could change your life.



**Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)**  
Be careful how you handle loved ones. Travel and learning will be your best outlet, and if you can evade personal issues, do so today.



**Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)**  
Have some fun instead of working all the time. Someone you least expect will be able to help you achieve something that you thought was impossible.



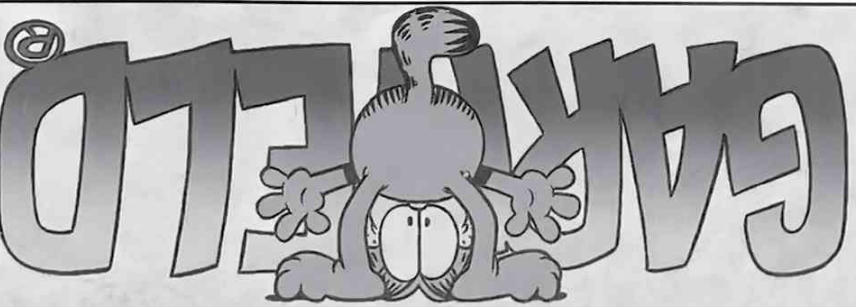
**Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)**  
Moneymaking opportunities are present so get moving in that direction. Push for a better position or pick up the skills needed to do what you really want.



**Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20)**  
You may be a little sensitive today, and if you let your emotions take over, you may not recognize the opportunities right in front of you. Don't be blind to what life has to offer you today.

## 7-Day Weather Forecast

| Day | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun | Day | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Hi  | 27  | 28  | 28  | 28  | 28  | 28  | 28  | Hi  | 30  | 29  | 30  | 29  | 31  | 30  | 31  |
| Lo  | 9   | 10  | 10  | 10  | 10  | 11  | 11  | Lo  | 22  | 22  | 22  | 22  | 22  | 22  | 21  |





# Video shows relaxed crew

The tape, which was shown earlier to



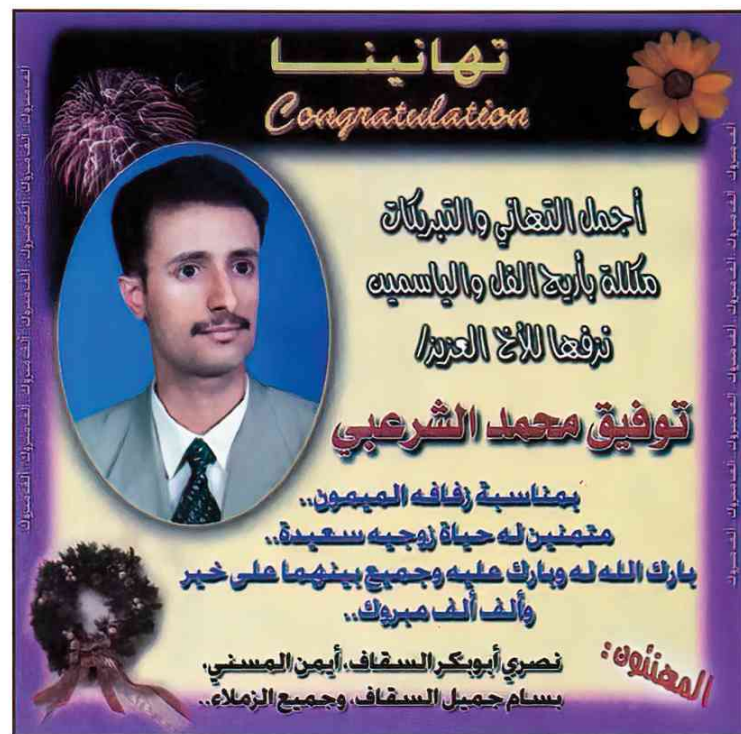
The video was shot by a small onboard camera mounted to the right of pilot Willie McCool, who at one point removed the camera and handed it to Laura Clark. McCool, Clark, shuttle commander Rick Husband and Kalpana Chawla are the only ones visible on the tape, which was made in the ship's flight deck.

# Beach volleyball, anyone?

"Beach Spikers" has largely been sold on its sex appeal. There are no men in this game, just good-looking women in bikinis who jump, spike and dive. The console eye candy is about as subtle as a swimsuit calendar, but once

The DOA series, until now consisting exclusively of fighting games, has been known for its spectacular graphics. The tradition continues here. The characters even have a tan that deepens as their two-week island vacation progresses. But consumers looking for

It's high-maintenance work for some verry high-maintenance women.



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Suzuki Yemen  
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**SUZUKI YEMEN**

Member of Bamarouf Group

Aden- Tel 02-346000-Fax340949



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# Improve Your English



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Email:  
ramakantasahu@yahoo.com  
Tel: 73889013

# 173

## I. What to Say

Situations and expressions (42):  
Making requests (II)

In continuation of our study of the expressions used for conveying requests, let's look at some more verbal strategies and language expressions used for this purpose.

### a) State the request obliquely or indirectly (using a negative expression)

- I **don't** suppose you could lend me \$200.
- I **don't** think it would be possible for you to spare your bike for an hour or so.
- It **doesn't** look nice, but I'm forced to ask you to lend me some money.
- I **can't** help requesting you to stand by me in this critical situation.
- You **don't** have \$100, do you?
- Oh! You are **not** going to smoke. Are you?
- Thanks for **not** smoking here.

### b) State the request through an apology

- Excuse me, would you mind not smoking please?
- Excuse me, I'd be most grateful if you don't smoke.
- Sorry sir, there is no smoking here.
- Please don't mind my asking you, I need your class notes for one day.
- I hope you don't mind my asking you for \$100.
- Would you mind closing the door?

### c) Through an indirect hint

- I love imagining that I have the money to buy a computer.
- I wish I had \$100 more to get the Music system.
- The 'Sale' is on at the 'Sony' wholesale shop; but where's the money?
- How nice it were to have the funds to go in for a PC!
- If someone helped me, I could enroll myself in the Multimedia course of APTECH. But, alas! I have a short fall of \$300.
- I would look ravishing in that new dress; but who would get it for me!
- It's really cold here and the door is left open.

- To cheat by pretending friendship.
- A deceiver or dishonest person who follows double standards.
- A bus with 2 floors.

### Answers to last week's questions

- A terrible fate, unavoidable destruction or death: **doom** (n)
- The last day of world's existence, when God will judge all men: **doomsday** (n)
- A person who guards the main door of a large building and lets people in and out: **door-keeper** (n)
- A large room containing a number of beds: **dormitory** (n)
- A measured amount of medicine to be taken at a time: **dose** (n)

### B) Foreign phrases and expressions

Use the following foreign words and phrases in sentences:

- bedlam;
- begum;
- belles-letters;
- bete-noire;
- bidet

### Answers to last week's questions

- avant garde** (Fr) (the people who produce the newest ideas, especially in the arts): They are a group of avant-garde painters.
- Ave maria** (Lat) ('Hail Mary'; opening words of a Christian prayer): The choir started with Ave maria.
- art moderne** (Fr) (modern art): Picasso is considered a precursor of art moderne.
- avant courier** (Fr.) (one who rides ahead, a precursor): John Donne is regarded as avant courier of the Metaphysical school of poetry.
- beau monde** (Fr) (the world of high society and fashion): The courtiers of Charles I were immersed in the French beau monde.

### B) Words commonly confused

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

- negation, abnegation;
- abode, aboard;
- abolish, prohibit;
- abound, rebound;
- abscess, obsess

### Answers to last week's questions

- annunciation** (n) (the festival that commemorates March 25th on which Angel Gabriel is believed to have revealed the Virgin Mary that she was to be the mother of Jesus Christ): The annunciation was observed with solemnity and grandeur.
- renunciation** (n) (the act of self-denial): The thrill of renunciation is realized by only a few.
- aberration** (n) (sudden forgetfulness): He stole the pen in a moment of aberration.
- anomaly** (n) (unusual irregularity): The anomaly of his position is that he is intelligent, but doesn't cultivate his mental powers.
- abatement** (n) (the act of something becoming less severe): The abatement of his pride is a result of repentance for his many mistakes.
- abetment** (n) (to encourage or give help to a crime or criminal): Abetment to crime is as serious as a crime.
- abdicate** (vt) (give up officially an official position or authority): Edward VIII abdicated the throne of England.
- renounce** (vt) (disown): He renounced his son because he went astray.
- abject** (adj) (wretched or miserable condition): The poor man is leading a miserable life in abject poverty.
- object** (n) (a material substance): Can you name the objects you had in your room?

### C) Idioms and phrases

Use the following phrases and idiomatic expressions in sentences so as to illustrate their meanings:

- spill the beans;
- on one's beam-ends;
- be-all and end-all;
- hold/keep at bay;

## II. How to say it Correctly

Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences

- You well organized that function.
- They're tomorrow leaving for India.
- He speaks well English.
- The two first chapters of this book are good.
- You have to work hardly.

### Answers to last week's questions

- His mother kept on **encouraging** him.  
**Note:** 'Keep on' is never followed by an infinitive. It is always followed by the -ing form of the verb.
- Is it any use **trying** to persuade him?  
**Note:** In expressions like these, 'use' is followed by an -ing form. The correct expression is: **It/There is no use + V-ing**
- He seldom or never goes to his village home.  
**Note:** 'Ever' usually means 'at any time'. It, therefore, cannot be used with 'seldom' which means 'not often, rarely'. The correct expression is: 'Seldom or never', or 'seldom, if ever.'
- It is nothing else **but** pride.
- Amani is **much** slower than Isra.  
**Note:** 'Very' is used with adjectives and adverbs in the positive degree and with present participles, whereas 'much' is used with adjectives and adverbs in the comparative degree, and with past participles.

## III. Increase your Word Power

### A) How to express it in one word

- To examine something twice for exactness or quality.
- A fold of loose skin between the face and neck, considered a sign of fatness.

# WONDERWORD®

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

### CLUES

|           |           |           |          |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Alarm     | Deep      | Restore   | Spent    |
| Alcove    | Doze      | Reverie   | Stage    |
| Awake     | Drained   | Robe      | Startle  |
| Bedroom   | Dream     | Scared    | Straw    |
| Bedtime   | Drowsy    | Seated    | Stretch  |
| Blanket   | Dusk      | Sedative  | Therapy  |
| Bodies    | Energy    | Serene    | Toss     |
| Brain     | Exhausted | Settle    | Trance   |
| Break     | Eyes      | Sheep     | Tranquil |
| Breathing | Fall      | Sheets    | Turning  |
| Camper    | Fetal     | Nocturnal | Twist    |
| Catnap    | Field     | Pairs     | Untied   |
| Comatose  | Flat      | Partner   | Sleeping |
| Cottage   | Garments  | Peace     | bag      |
| Couch     | Halt      | Pillow    | Slowly   |
| Cycle     | Heat      | Quiet     | Slumber  |
| Dark      | Hiding    | React     | Soothe   |
| Days      | Hospital  | Recline   | Spell    |

ANSWER NEXT WEEK

Last Week's Answer: Height

### SLEEPING

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

### Solution: 6 letters

by DAVID OUELLET

# Learning English

## It is not a joke



**ABDUL-HAMEED AL-NAMSHAH**  
UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE  
AND TECHNOLOGY,  
SANA'A

Going to university... Spending some hours listening to teachers; and studying a couple of books or some pages given by the teachers in the form of a small handout is **not** everything in the learning process of the English language. It is also not a matter of getting the highest marks in the exams or being one of the best students in the class. It is always said that **language is practice**. In other words, learning a language involves an endless process of acquiring the different skills of language which, in turn, can only be obtained

through consistent and purposeful practice. All that is done by teachers in the classrooms is nothing more than giving some guidelines to help the students improve their own abilities. All the courses and all the books taught at schools, language centers, or at universities can not provide everything needed for a sound base in learning. As a student of English, you should **read, write, speak, and listen** to English as often and as much as you can.

This is not only to meet the requirements of the courses you are studying, but also to be a good learner of English at the present time and a professional user of English in future.

Pray to Allah and seek His help and generous guidance.

Work hard...practice a lot...be patient and...

Never forget that learning a foreign language is **not** a joke.

## A LETTER TO THE TEACHERS OF ENGLISH: 15

# You are your own supervisor

Dear Fellow teachers, Some of you have the fortune of being visited by supervisors and some others don't. A supervisor is a friendly guide and his/her visits should be useful to your teaching for many reasons. First of all, you can share your classroom experiences with him/her. Secondly, you can clear your doubts in your materials and methodology of teaching. Thirdly, as a friendly guide he/she can observe your classes and offer suggestions for your improvement. In fact, these are the purposes for which the Ministry of Education has employed the supervisors for each subject. Unfortunately, sometimes, these purposes are not served due to many reasons. I don't want to elaborate the reasons, because that is not my purpose in writing this letter to you. On the other hand, I would like to make a few suggestions as to how you can be your own supervisor, in case you are not visited by the supervisors or your supervisor is not very helpful.

Whether there is a supervisor or not, you have to develop a system of observing your own teaching periodically for your improvement. There are several ways of doing it: you can ask one of your friendly colleagues to observe your class periodically and discuss the lesson with him/her; in turn you can observe his/her class. What is important is the discussion that follows the class. The discussion should not be merely highlighting the good points in your class, but pointing out the weaknesses also; that's why I suggested a friendly colleague, because a friend will definitely be interested in your improvement. Alternatively, you can record your classes occasionally and listen to the cassette later. This will be

difficult to begin with, because your students will be excited about the presence of the cassette recorder in the class and they may behave funnily. But this will be over if you go on using the recorder; after a few classes, they will get used to it and behave normally. After the class is over, you will listen to the cassette. While you listen, you can find whether you have taken more time talking in the class or you have allowed the students to talk, if your questions were too difficult and too many, whether you gave time for your students time to think and answer or you were in a hurry to answer the questions yourself, if you used the black-board enough, if your English was correct etc. Depending on what you have listened to, you can plan your future classes in a better way, avoiding the negative features and using the useful aspects more.

Another way of constantly monitoring your own classes is to 'reflect' on your class immediately after the class is over. Keeping the lesson plan before you, this reflection on how each step in the plan went on in the class will enable you to modify the techniques, that were not useful to the students, in the future classes. If this reflection or looking back takes place soon after the class is over, it is better, for you will remember what happened in the class easily.

So, don't wait for the supervisor to visit you to give you a feed back on your classes. You can be your own supervisor. Try my suggestions. Good luck.

Yours fraternally,

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

## Readers' Forum

Dear Sir,

I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation to you for publishing my daughter's work in your esteemed newspaper.

Your support encouraged her to write more and try to improve her talent. Not only that, it has also prompted other youths and given them hope that their work, too, can be published through your newspaper, which shows interest in supporting youth talents. We hope that Dr. Sahu will continue his support to youth and we wish that Yemen Times will forever be the best in Yemen.

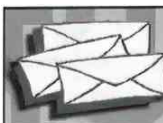


Thank you again for all your kind support.  
**Dr. Gahleb Al-Eryani**  
Director-General of Animal Resources  
Ministry of Agriculture

Dear Dr. Al-Eryani

It's heartening to note the response of conscious and conscientious parents like you who boost their kids' creativity by encouraging them. We provide a forum, an outlet to encourage budding, creative artists to help blossom their latent potential. Let's work together to provide further impetus and incentive to young artists like your daughter to creatively express themselves in English. Thanks once again for your very kind words.

— Dr. Sahu



### The Light Team

Some day, there were seven birds  
Beside the life's river,  
Their name was "The light team"  
They were always together  
But, alas, they have flown away  
Though they used to say "farewell" never  
But "see you in the near future"  
O Birds! When you become merrier and fly  
higher up  
Always us and our lovely days together  
Please, remember.

**Enas Ahmed Hubish**  
Dubai Institute, Sana'a

### The Hope

As I was sitting staring at the sky,  
I was thinking if I could fly,  
I wished one day I would try.

And fly if I had wings,  
And sing as the bird sings,  
But I thought these were the  
hardest things,  
Then I looked down the sea,  
I saw a picture of me,  
I wondered how could it be  
me?

She was sitting beside a tree,  
And was playing a nice tune,  
I wondered who she was,  
Suddenly, I realized she was gone!  
I asked myself: "where could she go?"  
"That girl I saw?"  
Maybe it wasn't true,  
Yet I don't have any clue...



**Aala'a Ghalib**  
Yemen International School,  
Sana'a



# QUESTIONNAIRE

## Yemen Times Readership Survey

### Dear reader, we need you help.

This week, the Yemen Times enters its 13th year. This is a milestone of which we are proud. Whoever, we want to use this occasion to better serve you, our reader. For that purpose, we are asking that you take a few minutes of your time and fill out the following questionnaire about the Yemen Times.

The questionnaire asks for your views on our news coverage, analysis, information, editorial, and format of Yemen Times, etc...

In addition, there are several questions about you. To improve the newspaper's service, it is essential for us to better know our readership profile, their interests, and what it is they are looking for.

I take this opportunity to thank you in advance for your time, patronage and cooperation.

*Editor-in-Chief*

| <p>1. Sex<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female</p> <p>2. Age<br/><input type="checkbox"/> 15-25 <input type="checkbox"/> 26-35<br/><input type="checkbox"/> 36-45 <input type="checkbox"/> 56-55 <input type="checkbox"/> 55 and above</p> <p>3. Nationality _____</p> <p>4. Educational level<br/><input type="checkbox"/> No formal education <input type="checkbox"/> High school<br/><input type="checkbox"/> University graduate <input type="checkbox"/> Post graduate</p> <p>5. Employment<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Private sector <input type="checkbox"/> Government employment<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Army/police <input type="checkbox"/> Student</p> <p>6. Line of Business<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> Academia <input type="checkbox"/> Oil/Gas<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Industry <input type="checkbox"/> Diplomacy<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Student <input type="checkbox"/> Banking insurance</p> <p>7. How often do you read foreign newspapers?<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Never <input type="checkbox"/> Often <input type="checkbox"/> Occasionally</p> <p>8. Which Yemeni newspaper/s do you read?<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Al Thawrah <input type="checkbox"/> Al Gumhuriyah <input type="checkbox"/> 26th September<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Al Hurras <input type="checkbox"/> 14th of October <input type="checkbox"/> 22 May<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Al-Wahdah <input type="checkbox"/> Al-Mithaq <input type="checkbox"/> Al-Tariq<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Al-Ayyam <input type="checkbox"/> Al Tagammu' <input type="checkbox"/> 14th of October<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Al Shoura <input type="checkbox"/> Al Thawri <input type="checkbox"/> Ray Al-Wahdawi<br/><input type="checkbox"/> A Sahwah</p> <p>9. How do you get your Yemen Times?<br/><input type="checkbox"/> From Newsstands or markets<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Borrow it<br/><input type="checkbox"/> From Hotel<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Aboard airplane<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: _____<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Subscription</p> <p>10. How often do you read the Yemen Times?<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Weekly <input type="checkbox"/> Once a month<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Randomly <input type="checkbox"/> See it only occasionally</p> <p>11. How many persons read your copy (at home, work, etc.)?<br/><input type="checkbox"/> One <input type="checkbox"/> Two <input type="checkbox"/> Three or more<br/><input type="checkbox"/> No one else <input type="checkbox"/> I don't know</p> <p>12. Where do you live?<br/><input type="checkbox"/> City/Province _____<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Country _____</p> <p>13. Why do you read Yemen Times? (More than one answer is possible)<br/><input type="checkbox"/> I respect the stand it takes on the issues<br/><input type="checkbox"/> I admire its writers and reporters<br/><input type="checkbox"/> I like the type of stories it presents<br/><input type="checkbox"/> I enjoy the variety of subjects.<br/><input type="checkbox"/> I like the cartoons it has<br/><input type="checkbox"/> I like its approach of the topics<br/><input type="checkbox"/> I appreciate the pictures with the articles<br/><input type="checkbox"/> I have a long relationship/association with it<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Its layout and format are attractive<br/><input type="checkbox"/> It carries lots of useful information<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Its frankness and honest appeal to me<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Other reason(s), please specify .....</p> <p>14. Do you think that the addition of 4 pages of international news was useful?<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>15. What are the major improvements you noticed in Yemen Times: Please describe briefly:<br/>_____<br/>_____<br/>_____</p> | <p>16. Please give your opinion on various selection of the paper</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Excellent</th> <th>Good</th> <th>Fair</th> <th>Poor</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>• Front Page</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr><td>• Editorial</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr><td>• Local News/Community</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr><td>• Opinion</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr><td>• Op-Ed</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr><td>• Cultural affairs</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr><td>• Business</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr><td>• Features/Reports</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr><td>• Press Scanner</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr><td>• Last page</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>17. Which writer/journalist is your favorite?<br/>_____<br/>_____</p> <p>18. Do you find your favorite columns or subjects missing in Yemen Times?<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br/>If yes, what are these columns and subjects?<br/>_____<br/>_____<br/>_____</p> <p>19. Do you find the number of pages of Yemen Times sufficient?<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Too many <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate <input type="checkbox"/> Too few</p> <p>20. How do you find the number of advertisements in Yemen Times?<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Too many <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate <input type="checkbox"/> Too few</p> <p>21. The standard of advertisements in the paper is<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Bad</p> <p>22. Can you do without newspapers by watching TV or listening to the radio?<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>23. What are the reasons for reading newspapers?<br/><input type="checkbox"/> They carry in-depth news on certain topics that are not presented on radio and TV<br/><input type="checkbox"/> They carry analysis on some topics that are not presented on radio/TV<br/><input type="checkbox"/> I can read my newspaper at any time in contrast to radio listening and watching TV<br/><input type="checkbox"/> I enjoy reading<br/><input type="checkbox"/> I am free to choose the subject I read<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Variety of paper's subjects<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Others</p> <p>24. What subjects are there on TV and radio that are generally not found in newspapers?<br/>Please specify:<br/>_____<br/>_____<br/>_____</p> <p>25. When do you usually buy your copy of the Yemen Times?<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Mornings <input type="checkbox"/> Afternoons <input type="checkbox"/> Evenings</p> <p>26. Where do you buy your copy of the Yemen Times?<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Bookstore/newsstand<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Street vendor<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Grocery store<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Borrow<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>27. Do you find difficulty in obtaining Yemen Times issues?<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> |                          | Excellent                | Good                     | Fair | Poor | • Front Page | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | • Editorial | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | • Local News/Community | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | • Opinion | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | • Op-Ed | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | • Cultural affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | • Business | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | • Features/Reports | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | • Press Scanner | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | • Last page | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <p>28. If there are any, what are these difficulties?<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Always unavailable<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Runs out quickly<br/><input type="checkbox"/> I live far away from distributors<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Does not reach distributors early<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Other difficulties<br/>Please specify: _____</p> <p>29. Where do you usually read Yemen Times?<br/><input type="checkbox"/> At home <input type="checkbox"/> At work <input type="checkbox"/> In public places<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Online (yementimes.com) <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>30. Do you read the whole paper at once or at intervals?<br/><input type="checkbox"/> At once <input type="checkbox"/> At intervals</p> <p>31. What is the first thing you read in the Yemen Times? What is the second thing? Please list using 1,2,3, etc.<br/>( ) First page<br/>( ) Last page<br/>( ) Local/Community pages<br/>( ) International news pages<br/>( ) Editorial<br/>( ) Health page<br/>( ) Culture page<br/>( ) Opinion/Letter page<br/>( ) Business page<br/>( ) Reports<br/>( ) Others</p> <p>32. How much time do you spend reading the Yemen Times?<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Less than 10 minutes <input type="checkbox"/> About 30 minutes<br/><input type="checkbox"/> About 60 minutes <input type="checkbox"/> Two hours<br/><input type="checkbox"/> More than 2 hours</p> <p>33. Have you ever heard of Yemen Times online (www.yementimes.com)?<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>34. If you had access to the web page of YT, would you continue buying the hard copy of the newspaper?<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>35. How do you evaluate the situation of Yemen Times after the death of its founder, Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf?<br/><input type="checkbox"/> It has become better in general terms<br/><input type="checkbox"/> It has become better in some areas and weaker in other<br/>If yes, please explain by writing suggestions below (Q No. 37)<br/><input type="checkbox"/> It has become worse in general terms<br/><input type="checkbox"/> I started reading the paper after the death of the founder</p> <p>36. What makes Yemen Times different (better / worse) than its closest competitor? Please specify<br/>_____<br/>_____<br/>_____</p> <p>37. What suggestions do you have for the improvement of the Yemen Times? Please specify<br/>_____<br/>_____<br/>_____<br/>_____<br/>_____<br/>_____<br/>_____<br/>_____<br/>_____<br/>_____</p> |
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## Named after a woman

# Mawza: a land, people & history

**"Mawza", the name is attributed to a lady called Mawza Bint Al-Qafae'a Bin Abd Shams Bin Wael.**

The town is situated south west of Taiz of about 97 kilometers away. According to Al-Akwa'e in his historical documentations of places narrated that the town exists in a vast inhabited area of land falling on a valley in which the various streams of rainwater (that is why Mawza's water is sweet) coming from Al-Ma'afir and Sabir pour into.

Consequently the land is quite fertile and is planted thrice in a year like all other Tihama valleys, which Mawza belongs to. The farmed area of the town is around 1,300 square km, filled with palm trees, banana and grapes.

The town is one of the oldest ports in Yemen, as confirmed in "Al-Tawaf," an historical publication, which stated that Mawza harbor south of Al-Makha is the oldest in the region and used to be crowded with sailor men, merchants

and laborers.

It said that the people of Mawza used to govern the South African coastline on behalf of Prince of Al-Maa'fir, sending to the African ports many ships filled with agents and sailors.

Among the famous people who belonged to the town is Abdulsamad Bin Ismaeel Al-Mozaaee author of "Al-Ihsan min dukhool Al-Yaman That Adalat Al Othman" (Well-doing in entering kingdom of Yemen under the Justice of Ottomans). Also the religious scholar Mohammed Bin Abdulallah Al-Mozaaee, author of "Taiseer Al-Bayan min Ahkam Al-Qur'an" (Rightful Explanation of Qur'an Commands) was from there.

### The people of Mawza

In spite of the high temperature and humidity of the land, what cools you and makes your stay bearable is the beautiful nature of the people of Mawza. Of course in the night time the climate is cooler, especially if you have an open place to sit and a chilled water bottle.

And when the natives greet you with their smiling faces and welcoming nature, all the days heat would disappear. Especially when you are invited to one of their feasts where rice, meat, Bint Al-Sahn (a sweet dish made of layers of dough baked and covered with honey), Mawzaan Cheese that is a specialty of the town never found anywhere else and beyond comparison.

Thursday is a special day in Mawza; because it is the time of the weekly market where men and women gather for trade, and numerous goods are bought and sold, such as clothes, cattle, agricultural products, fruit like melon and watermelon and of course the Mawzaan cheese. It's sold by old ladies sitting at the sides of the roads in the local market selling their home made cheese made of milk and dug-

gra.

### The history of Mawza

#### The Great Mosque

When you stand in front of the Great Mosque in Mawza you will unintentionally travel in time. Going back to the days when it was structured 771 Hijra as it is engraved on its Eastern gate.

The mosque as narrated in a survey published by the Ministry of Tourism, is considered one of the most beautiful and appreciated mosques in the country. It is a historical mosque made of red blocks and rocks, and it had two minarets. Only one of them exists today. It used to have three gates at one point of time only the eastern and western gates of which remain.

Abdulkareem Ahmed Hiqan, explained that the founding of the mosque took place around the same time as Al-Ashrafiya Mosque in Taiz, which was built by lady Jiha Bint Farhan Wife of Al-Ashraf Bin Al-Afdhal during ruling reign of the Rassulids' Kingdom.

The Great Mosque was renovated several times, last being in the times of Imam Yiha Hamid Al-Din who renovated the back side of the mosque.

However the interior was not altered, while the original minarate was said to be even taller than the Shadhili Mosque whose tower had 360 steps.

But as the natives say, that during the battles between the Ottomans and the locals, the later took refuge in the mosque causing the tower to be destroyed by an Ottomans Cannon. The present tower was built after the Ottomans left their post in the third Ottoman occupation.

The mosque consists of a front, center and backside. The back of the mosque is in an open style similar to that of Al-Mudhafar Mosque in Taiz, and internal arcs characterize the whole mosque. The mosque has three small domes and a large one, and each



dome is supported by four crescent shaped arcs. And the only tower with a square base narrows as it goes up to the peak of the tower.

To be continued next issue

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