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Violent protests in Saada, peaceful in other cities

Overwhelming anger

MOHAMMED AL-QADHI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

SANAA-Tens of thousands of Yemenis staged massive protests last Saturday against the potential US war against Iraq throughout the country.

A protest of thousands in Saada led to the outbreak of violence between protesters and police after some armed protesters approached the Political Security Organization (PSO) building in the city demanding the release of some people

who were detained after they protested some time ago a visit paid by the US ambassador to Yemen Edmund Hull to the mosque of Imam Al-Hadi bin al-Hussein. Initial statistics say that one protester died and injury of a dozen. In defense of the PSO building was the head of the PSO in Saada Yahya Al-Marrani whose efforts were instrumental in ending the conflict and preventing the protest from destroying the building. An eyewitness said that at least two people were wounded when police forces responded by firing at them.

Ten persons were arrested. In Sana'a the police fired at the protestors when they wanted to enter the UN office along with those political parties representatives who submitted a message of protest to the UN representative. No injuries were reported but one of the protestors was arrested but was later released.

Protests in the rest of the country were mostly peaceful. Protests staged in Sana'a and other governorates came as a result of president Saleh's call to his people last Wednesday to protest the war which he

described as unjust and terrorizing. Senior political parties' leaders including Dr. Abdulkareem al-Iryani, political advisor to the President, Sheikh Abdullah al-Ahmar, Sheikh Abdulmajeed al-Zindani and others took part in the demonstrations.

The protestors in Sana'a including school teachers and civil workers, who gathered at al-Tahreer Square in the city center. Al-Iryani addressed the crowd by condemning the war which he called an act of imperialism. He said that all Yemeni

people are against the war which threatens peace and stability worldwide. Al-Ahmar urged the Arab leaders to act in a responsible manner that reflects the wish and will of their people who oppose the war. On his part, Zindani called for Jihad (Islamic holy war) and demanded that military camps be opened to train young people who can take part in the war against the US. He also demanded that borders should be opened for those fighters to go to Iraq.

Continued on page 8



Tens of thousand of Yemenis stage nationwide massive rallies in protest of the possible US war against Iraq. Shown is part of a demonstration staged in Sana'a on Saturday. Yemen Times photo

Massive arrest campaign in two main cities:

Hunt for al-Qaeda

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Yemeni security forces launched last week a massive arrest campaign against al-Qaeda suspects in Ibb and Aden. The security arrested one al-Qaeda suspect in Ibb last Tuesday and over 20 others at different places in Aden. Reliable sources said that a suspect named al-Qasim was arrested in Ibb upon his return from a Gulf country. His family tried to get him released on bail but to no avail.

At the same time police in Aden arrested a number of people suspected of having links to al-Qaeda and Islamic Jihad. Among the arrestees were mosque preachers and religious personalities.

Some of the arrestees were released but others are still in jail and have been charged with being affiliated to some terrorist networks.

Meanwhile, over 50 detainees in al-Hodeidah governorate appealed to President Ali Abdullah Saleh and human rights organizations requesting them to interfere and get them released or at least presented to court. They were arrested more than a year and a half ago upon the launch of the war against terrorism campaign. They complained that there was no legal justification for their imprisonment.

According to official sources, there are currently 104 detainees in Yemeni prisons suspected of being members of al-Qaeda.

On the brink of a US war against Iraq

Postponement of elections resisted

BY MOHAMMED BIN SALLAM &
HASSAN AL-ZAEDI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Officials and members of parliament have revealed their fears of possible violence that could take place during the upcoming elections scheduled for the end of April 2003 amid regional tensions caused by the possible US war against Iraq. But the government has emphasized many times that there is currently no plan to cancel or postpone elections for any foreseen reason.

The leadership is clearly keen to make this year's elections another success that would add up

points to its overall performance in establishing democracy in the country. Hence, measures have been taken to enhance security in the country to arrest any suspects that could cause trouble to the security conditions in the country, and who could launch attacks against election centers.

In this respect, around 12,000 people have been recruited to join the armed forces and around YR 27 billion have been allocated to the interior ministry during 2003, Ali Abdullah Saleh, the president of the republic and the Chief Commander of the Armed Forces declared last week.

Continued on page 8



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While it announcing that it will nominate 5 female candidates:

YSP demands serious investigation into Jarallah's assassination

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP) demanded the government last Friday to conduct a serious, thorough and transparent investigation into the case of the assassination of its Assistant Secretary General, Jarallah Omar last December. The YSP said that the investigation should disclose the compliance of the assassin and those who would be proved involved in the crime should be tried and punished severely.

In a statement issued at the end of its fifth round of the central committee, the YSP called to end the impacts of the 1994 civil war and that the national rally which Saleh called for be achieved through national reconciliation, confrontation of violence and improving the deteriorating living conditions of the people. The YSP welcomed Saleh's call for elections and emphasized that it would continue working with other opposition parties

in their coalition.

The Yemen Times also learned from reliable sources that the party agreed to take part in the next parliamentary elections and that it would participate in around 60 constituencies out of 301. Among the candidates, the YSP revealed that it will have five females. This comes in a time the party suffers financial problems as the government continues to insist on not releasing its property since the 1994 civil war. The YSP female candidates are Shafiqah Murshed and Wahibah Sabrah who will run for the elections in Sana'a, Radhiyah Shamsheer and Khawlah Sharaf in Aden, and Salma al-Katheri, who will run in Hadramaut.

The government and the opposition reached last week an agreement in which they pledged to adhere to a fair, honest, free, and non-violent elections. It is expected that the political parties will debate the agreement and approve it soon.

Dr. al-Qubati wins awards...

By Yemen Times Staff

Dr. Al-Qubati won two prestigious awards last week. The first was the Shousha Prize, named after Dr. A. T. Shousha who was the first president of the World Health Organization in the Middle East.

Dr. Al-Qubati won the prize for his contribution to fighting leprosy in Yemen, and his outstanding medical record in fighting endemic diseases.

This is the 38th prize of its kind, since the first one in 1966. And this is the first time a Yemeni wins it. The rewarded is selected through research and consultation among the Arab Health Ministers during the annual meeting of the committee members.

Dr. Al-Qubati has dedicated his practical life for curing leprosy and worked in several foreign countries such as Indonesia, Libya, Bangladesh, India and Pakistan.

In 1998 he established the National Program for Eradicating Leprosy, then he worked as a consultant at the Ministry of Health since 2000.

This is not the first award that Dr. Al-Qubati received in his practical life, for he has won many prizes and awards; he won the Hael Saeed award in 1996, and Yemen Times Person of the Year in 1998.

And he will be receiving his prize in a special ceremony to be attended by the Arab Health Ministers in September 2003.

Saskawa prize for Yemen Society for Eradicating Leprosy

The Yemeni Society for Eradicating Leprosy, chaired by Dr. Ahmed Hael Saeed, its secretary-general Dr. Al-Qubati, has won the Shousha International Prize.

The Saskawa prize is named after a Japanese businessman who served against the English occupation in his country, and exerted efforts for fighting smallpox. The prize is awarded annually to any establishment that is active in fighting a particular disease. The \$ 80,000 worth prize will be awarded partially to Yemen, for the first time to an Arabian country, and partially to Philippines.

Dr. Ahmed Hael Saeed will be receiving the award on behalf of the society in Geneva next May.

In a statement to the Yemen Times, Dr. Al-Qubati praised the efforts of the Yemeni Society for Eradicating Leprosy, especially in field programs and training the local Yemeni cadre in this field.

He also praised the National Program for Eradicating Leprosy and its continuous efforts in fighting this disease especially Dr. Abdulraheem Al-Samiy.



Dr. Al-Qubati

...And new society established

In a meeting held in Sana'a at Mercure Hotel last Friday, the Yemen Doctors Society for the Skin and Venereal Diseases declared the establishment of Yemeni doctors society of skin and venereal diseases to be based in Sana'a.

In a statement to the Yemen Times Dr. Yaseen al-Qubati, member of the administrative board of Arab Doctors Skin Union and the Chairman of Yemen

Society for Eradicating Leprosy said the main objective of the society was to organize activities of skin and venereal medicine and update styles of work of this medical branch to cope with global scientific changes in this field.

He added that the newly established society would focus primarily on the pursuance of the skin diseases and epidemics in Yemen such as leprosy, tuberculosis, and others.

Animal epidemics discussed

BY HASSAN AZZAEDI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Organized by the Agriculture Ministry in collaboration with the Regional Animal Epidemics Office, a workshop on diseases of camels and wild animals was concluded last week in Sana'a.

The workshop aimed at assessing animal health in general and the health of camels and wild animals in particular.

The Ministry of Agriculture in this regard has taken a number of arrangements for the protection of public health from animal epidemics.

Among measures to be taken by the ministry is to form of a network for epidemics detection to curb the spread of diseases, taking speedy measures for treating them and conducting field surveys to assess the situation concerning rift valley and foot-and-mouth diseases and to set up necessary plans to combat them.

The ministry focused during the



workshop on camels' health and ways to monitor camels by inspecting imported livestock or their products by carrying out veterinary check-up.

Among the conclusions of the workshop was that immunization, as a precautionary measure, is considered the most important means for fighting of most animal diseases.

On his part, Dr. Ghaleb Fadhl al-Eriani, Animal Wealth Director at the Agriculture Ministry told Yemen Times that there are more than 180,000 camels in the desert areas.

The main aim is to make use of the participants' experiences in this regard

While awaiting her death by stoning: Laila's case needs to be reconsidered

BY MOHAMMED BIN SALLAM
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A number of human rights organizations and international anti-violence organizations have recently expressed their resentment over Laila Aesha, a Yemeni woman who was sentenced to death by throwing stones at her in public after being found of committing adultery.

A number of human rights organizations told Attaggmo'a newspaper last week that the final decision against Laila has ignored a number of facts regarding her case.

"We strictly adhere to the society's values and the justice of Sharia, (Islamic Law), but the final decision against Laila is unfair and will not be accepted by those who have a bit of conscience," the paper said.

Those organizations have demanded the president to interfere immediately considering the case as unfair. "She fell as a victim to adultery before even being 16 years old. She has been abandoned by her husband for about two year," the paper said.

A judicial source told Attaggmo'a that Laila's case hasn't gained a legal stance

and that her case has been unfairly finalized.

"She wasn't offered the opportunity to speak up and confess or even to speak about the conditions she was exposed to," the source said.

On its part, the Yemen Anti-violence Committee has stated earlier to al-Qistas Magazine, that Laila's case is simply a mere act and that the laws of the Islamic Sharia point out that Laila can repent of her sins.

It is not ruled out that the confession of Laila's case might be obtained under stress or by force.

When considering the case, the judge refused her the right to appeal and ordered to go on with the death sentence.

It is worth while mentioning that several human rights organizations have expressed their worries and concerns over human rights violations against woman and the vulnerable in the community. In Sharia, a married man or woman who commits adultery willingly and with eyewitnesses present is subject to death by stoning. The situation becomes too unjust when some judged are not well-qualified and simply implement such extreme sentences too hastily.

Symposium on bank marketing

YASSER AL-MAYASI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Organized by the Arab Bank Federation and the Yemeni Banks Association, a symposium on the practical applications of bank marketing in Yemen was successfully concluded on Wednesday March 12, 2003 in Sana'a.

Seventeen banks took part in the symposium.

The event basically aimed at introducing and explaining the new technologies concerning online and bank marketing and how to use technologically advanced electronic services in the Arab world in general and the Yemeni banks in particular to promote banking services. A great emphasis has been put on internet banks, mobile banking, tele-banking and other electronic banking services in Yemen.

The Secretary General of the Arab



A scene during certificates distribution

Banks Federation, Fuad Shakir said that the banking potentials in Yemen is relatively high and that there is interest by the federation's board of directors in assisting Yemeni banks to cope with the global modern technological

For the second time in Sana'a:

Same girl vanishes without trace

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Amid mysterious conditions, a secondary school girl has disappeared for the second time in Sana'a on February 23, 2003 at 6 clock p.m.

"She disappeared when she went buying school supplies from one of the stationery in Hale Street," her father said.

The same girl disappeared on July 24, 2002 amid similar mysterious conditions.

The father of the girl told the Yemen Times that the authorities were informed of the loss of his daughter along with the loss of four passports of his.

Photocopies of those passports were given to the people concerned. "No one knows the fate of the girl until now and how she disappears," the father said.

"My daughter is a girl with decent morals. She was raised in the best manner. She is well-educated and faithful to her religion and we are sure that she was kidnapped," her father added.

He then informed the security bodies about this incident and provided them with several clues to help them search for her.

Security bodies, according to the father, are not able to find the real kidnappers. That is because she has been kidnapped by an influential and powerful network.

"By sending a letter to the President, I am pointing to a dangerous phenomenon that is starting to spread all over the country and unless the President reacts quickly and firmly, we will witness more kidnappings of our innocent young daughters, whose fate will be unknown," he concluded.

He later sent a letter including the numbers of lost Yemeni passports: 00312771, 00311540, 00311548, and 00311570. All four passports were issued from Hodeidah in April 1999.

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:

Do you think the calls by President Saleh for protests reflect a sincere desire to oppose the US war, or is it just for local consumption?

- Yes he is sincere
- No it is only to relieve public opinion
- No, but for another reason
- I don't know

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you think that Sheikh Al-Moayad, who is accused of assisting Al-Qaeda financially, is innocent?

- | | |
|---------------|-----|
| Yes | 20% |
| No | 53% |
| I do not know | 27% |

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Accidents claim 38 lives

Thirty-eight had been killed in traffic accidents recorded in statistics published last week of this month by Traffic General Authority. There are 194 accidents which caused injury of 250 people, 111 of which are seriously injured.

The Traffic General Authority and its branches in the governorates have estimated material losses at YR 13,450,000 million finding that the breakneck speed and recklessness as well as violation traffic rules are main causes of these accidents.

To protect consumers and national industry "Whale Power" drink destroyed

Ministry of Industry and Commerce along with the Ministry of Health destroyed huge quantities of the "Whale Power" drink which is an imitation of the "Shark" drink whose agent is METCO, member of the Hayel Saeed Ana'am Group.

Information Manager of the Hael Saeed Ana'am Group, Mr. Zaid Al-Nahary said that this step taken by the government is a respectable move that indicates the government's concern and willingness to protect the Yemeni consumer and trademarks and copyrights of national industries. "These are important

issues in encouraging investment in the country," he said.

In conclusion of his statement, he called upon all the other organizations to combat smuggling and to protect the consumer health and copyrights for a healthier investment environment that guarantees the right of all companies, which eventually helps in driving the national economy forward.



Mr. Al-Nahary

Signaling German medical assistance to Yemen:

Seminar on health in Amran

BY TOWFEEQ AL-ABSI
AMRAN

Under the patronage of the Minister of Public Health and Population and the Governor of Amran, the seminar on 'Strategies for Strengthening Yemeni-German Cooperation for Health' was held in the town of Amran on Sunday March 9.

The Minister of Public Health and Population, Dr. Abdunassir al-Munaibari focused in his speech on the growing Yemeni-German relations particularly in the field of medicine. Those relations were firmly established since the early 1960s.

The health service sector in Yemen has always been the focus of the attention of the German support.

A statement was delivered by the German embassy during the event focusing on the German medical sup-

port to Yemen and the role of the GTZ in supporting this sector.

"That support come within the framework of alleviating poverty strategy," the statement said.

It is worth noting that Yemen is among the poorest countries of the world, resulting in the lack of adequate medical services for a large percentage of the population.

The Yemen-German Joint Meeting was attended by Taha Hajar, the Governor of Amran, the German Embassy's Deputy Head of Mission, health officials and a host of others.



A group photo of participants during a seminar on Strategies for Strengthening Yemeni-German cooperation for Health

Another successful workshop winds up towards

Reporting on women issues professionally

By FAHMA AL-FOTIH
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A three-day workshop organized by the Women Affairs Support Center (WASC) and The Civic Democratic Initiatives Support Foundation (CDF) held at the Central Statistic Authority wrapped up on Thursday 13 March after providing training to 25 journalists representing governmental and non-governmental newspapers, radio and TV.

The workshop trained the participants on how to conduct media reports and news analysis revolving on social issues in general and on women-related issues in particular plus refreshing the journalists' memory.

Various interesting lectures were given by Dr. Abdullah al-Zalab, the Dean of the Media Center for Training and Qualifying Institute.

The trainees were divided into groups and asked to submit a topic related to violence against women.

The trainees expressed their satisfaction of the overall organization of the event.

Ghamdan al-Usefi, one of trainees, said commenting on the workshop "Frankly speaking, I consider the work-

shop successful in all terms as it was professionally organized and included specialized academic trainers that we usually lacked in many another training workshops in the past."

He further added "The workshop helped us as journalists not only to write on issues related to women but also in all field imaginable and it opened our eyes to things we had no idea about even when we were students in the faculty of information. In addition I admire the level of awareness I found among participants."

Amal Ibraheem, another trainee commented "Actually, the workshop was really good and the level of training was fantastic. We really benefited tremendously from this workshop and the lecturer, Dr. al-Zalab was excellent. We became acquainted with the art of journalistic editing and ways through which we can serve, as media people, women issues in the press, radio and TV. I hope such workshops can be repeated in future."

Dua'a al-Qadari, another trainee said "In my opinion, the workshop is one of the most successful training workshops that NGOs ever held. It was really good in many ways. It was well-planned and



Group photo of the trainees on how to conduct media reports

organized and achieved all its goals. Moreover, the specialist cadre and the detailed explanation of all the issues related to violence brought by the trainer and discussed with journalists were comprehensive. Besides, the style of lecturing, which jumped from theoretical to

practical methods broke the old and dull routine witnessed in other workshops."

At the end of the workshop, representing the organizers, Ms. Sultana al-Jaham, Head of WASC along with trainer Dr. al-Zalab distributed completion certificates to all the participants.

Awareness raised among youths

The National Cultural Center will organize 'The Second Training Course On Human Rights and Democratic Participation for University Student in Taiz on 22nd to the 27th March 2003.

Supported for the second year, by Friedrich Ebert Foundation, the Training Course will gather 35 participants of both sexes from all universities in the country as well as the youth sector of the political parties in Taiz, and active members of civil society organizations.

Both lectures and workshops will focus on the human rights and their

application in the national laws.

The first objective of that training course is to raise awareness of human rights among youth, in order to encourage them to contribute to the democratic participation.

It also aims to engage young people in the political arena and to take part in the society's issue.

"The training course is one of our annual activities through which we consolidate our relationships with young people and so achieve one of our main objectives," Mr. Amin Al Dubai, the coordinator of the training course said.

New Osama Magazine published

Issue no. 69 of kids magazine 'Osama' has been published recently. The new release of the magazine basically aims to promote and raise the child's awareness and enlarge his intellect concerning negative habits in general, and widely spread negative phenomena in the Yemeni society in particular. Osama is the only Yemeni publication for children in Yemen.



3rd Annual Meeting on electricity held

By RIDWAN AL-SAQQA
ADEN BUREAU CHIEF
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Minister of Water and Electricity Engineer Yahya Al-Abiadh, along with Mr. Abdulaziz Mohammed Ahmed General Director of Aden Electricity Power, Engineer Abdulmuti Mohammed Al-Junaid General Director of Electricity, and Mr. Ahmad Al-Dhula'i, attended in Aden last Saturday the third annual meeting of the General Electricity Corporation. The meeting is scheduled to be expected to end today as it will last for three days.

The meeting aims at exchanging experience to improve the electrical and water networks as well as prevent illegal use of electricity. Future projects for the corporation were studied in the



meeting and mechanisms for identifying the required tariff from the consumer were presented for discussion.

In the meeting, a number of working papers had been discussed, out of which a working paper was presented about the central operations chamber activities regarding improving the network and reducing electricity loss during transmission.

A number of speeches have also been delivered in the meeting by Minister Al-Abiadh in which he praised the Corporation's employees and staff emphasizing the importance of their job and the services they provide to the community. He stated that this annual meeting carried in Aden approached many topics that are of significance to the development of electricity services in Yemen, and through such meetings opinions and views and experiences were exchanged so as to form a basis for the following meeting next year.

In a letter to G. Bush

A cry for justice

In a letter to former US President G. Bush, Sr., Ali Mushin Qalalah requested that US authorities release his son Hamdoon from prison.

In his letter, Qalalah reminds Bush that the Yemeni pilot, who received the Medal of Courage from President Saleh in recognition of courage when he risked his own life in saving former US Ambassador to Yemen Barbara Bodine in a local flight, is not linked to any terrorist organization.

The father recalled a time when he served G. Bush during his last visit to Yemen. "You may recall me as member of the detail assigned to your service during your brief stay in our country," he said.

"The [former] US Ambassador, will certainly remember the trauma, and she may even have some kind words to say on behalf of the man who championed the day," he said in his

letter.

"...the united States would never abandon its historical commitment to justice and human rights. Particularly, when the stakes include the freedom of a man whose sacrifice on behalf of the US and its citizens speaks more eloquently than words can ever do."

The letter ends with a plea to the G. Bush the father, "I appeal to you to use your good offices to release my son, for which act, I shall be ever grateful."

Qalalah said that the full letter was sent to the US embassy in hope of delivering it to G. Bush, Sr. and the White House.



Hamdoon Qalalah

Awareness campaign on landmines launched

An awareness campaign was inaugurated last Thursday in the governorate of Hadramout on the dangers of mines. A number of ambassadors, ministers and a large group of people attended the inauguration.

State Minister and Head of the Mine Extraction National Committee General Muhsen Al-Yousifi said in a statement to the Yemen Times that a branch of the executive committee for Mine Extraction has been opened in Hadramot. The branch's responsibilities cover 58 areas in Hadramout and 18 in Al-Mahara where landmines are thought to be. He also said that this inauguration would be a starting point for a large-

scale awareness campaign about mines and their dangers.

It is worth mentioning that Yemen has reached an advanced scale in landmine removal and extraction and a good cadre has been efficiently trained in this field especially post the 1994 war. Groups from Yemen would be sent to both Lebanon and Afghanistan in bilateral agreements to aid in extraction landmines in those countries.



Muhsen Al-Yousifi

Car for sale

An international organization intends to sell one 4 wheel drive X 4 doors Nissan Patrol car model 2001. Grey color with an international organization license plate no.1/1/7 (i.e. custom unpaid). On January 20, 2003, the car made an accident and it is available for inspection at the premises of the traffic police in Lahj. Total mileage covered is about 30,000 km.

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- School hours are from 7:55 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (noon) Saturday through Wednesday



Major operation succeeds in Kuwait Hospital

A vascular bi-bath graft aneurysm operation was successfully conducted last week in Kuwait Hospital in Sanaa on Abdulrahman Mohammed Ghanem al-Saqqa' who suffered from artery obstruction and other complications.

The operation is considered one of the rare operations usually performed by highly experienced doctors

including Prof. Abdulghafour al-Azazi, Dr. Yaseen Abdulmoghni, Dr. Loai al-Qubati, Dr. Sulaiman al-Masri, Dr. Akram al-Saqqa', Dr. Hanan Mansour

Now the patient is in a very good and stable condition and has praised the staff of Kuwait hospital for rendering such excellent health services.

Human rights winners

The Yemeni network of civil society organizations for fighting violence against women (Shaima) celebrated on Tuesday 11 March held a ceremony for granting encouraging prizes to 9 winners in the first national competition of human rights. The celebration came as

one of activities on occasion of International Women's Day.

The National Competition focused on human rights topics in different fields as in art, Literature, media, story, poetry, theatre, photography and caricature.

Bushra Al-Maqtari's collection stories

'Stories of Pain' released

The first publication for the young writer Bushra Al-Maqtari, has recently become available in the market. The collection consists of 10 short stories of 80 pages in total; most of them reflect a sad theme, such as: Descending from Heaven, Foolishness, Smoke, and Fear Stages. The collection carries the name of one of the stories: Stories of Pain, and is published by Yemeni Writers and Authors Union and Obadi Center.

The Author is one of the new rising voices in short stories, and is characterized by beautiful poetic language in her writings. She is working at the Yemeni Intellectuals and Authors Union as a cultural administrator in Taiz Branch, and is currently doing her masters at Sana'a University in Yemen's ancient history.



Pakistan School Sana'a

Preparations for students' week in full swing

The Pakistan School in Sana'a started its pre students' week activities last week.

The students have been grouped into four houses namely Jinnah House, Iqbal House, al-Zubairi House and Al-Qais House.

The principal of the school, Mr. Khalid Mehmud, inaugurated the pre students' week activities.

While addressing the students, the principal said that after achieving an academic excellence, the institute is looking forward to providing an opportunity for students to enhance their abilities in sports. He stated that curricular and extra curricular activities are indeed an essential part of education. "Such events provide an opportunity to dig out hidden talent of the students," he said.

The students and the housemasters

have enthusiastically started the preparation for the event. The students are showing a great deal of willingness to make the event as enjoyable as possible.

The first event held in this connection was the "Qirat competition". The real students' week is starting on 29th March 2003.

This is an annual important and colorful event celebrated with zeal and zest. This year, the week comprises sports activities, painting, arts and craft competition, stage shows, a variety program and science exhibition.

At the end of these events, a colorful prize distribution ceremony will be arranged. High-ranking government officials, diplomats, dignitaries and parents will be invited to grace the occasion.

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**JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN DNO YEMEN**

DNO Yemen is currently seeking the following experienced personnel to work in the Tasour oil field in Block 32, Hadramaut.

Maintenance and Materials Supervisor**Major Responsibilities**

- Responsible for maintenance planning for the central processing facility (CPF), camp, well sites and roads in the Tasour field.
- Develops and maintains preventive maintenance schedules for all equipment and wells at the CPF and ensures that they are followed.
- Responsible for maintenance planning, including all routine maintenance and overhauls of all equipment as per manufacturer's recommendation and any modifications suggested by the field staff. The scope of work includes identification of all resources required including manpower, materials and tools.
- Maintains the history of all equipment, including breakdowns, and the remedial actions taken using DNO's non-conformance reporting system.
- Monitors the spare part inventory and makes recommendations regarding any changes in the number of spares required.
- Responsible for the materials and maintenance module in DNO's computer based Materials and Maintenance Information System (MAISY).

Materials Coordinator**Major Responsibilities**

- Registers and maintains files of all purchase orders, material order forms, delivery notes and loading notes.
- Responsible for maintenance and safekeeping of the materials and spares in the yards and warehouse.
- Receives materials at site as per instructions from the functional head and issues them to the appropriate person upon receipt of material issue requests (MIRs) approved by the Site Supervisor.
- Verifies the type and quantity of goods received and that the goods and quantity is in accordance with the purchase order (PO), materials order form (MOF) and packing lists.
- Prepares goods received notes (GRNs) in which any discrepancies are noted.
- Tags and bins the received materials.
- Assists the Maintenance and Materials Supervisor with stock checks and maintenance of the inventory list.
- Maintains and operates the materials module in DNO's computer based Maintenance and Materials Information System (MAISY).

Minimum Experience Requirements

The successful candidates must have minimum five years relevant experience in the petroleum industry. A university degree is preferable, but not a must. Fluency in both written and spoken English and Arabic, as well as good computer skills in Microsoft Word and Excel is essential. Experience with a computer based materials and maintenance system is required for the Maintenance and Materials Supervisor.

Qualified candidates should send their CVs to the Executive Secretary, DNO Yemen, on fax: +967 1 440590; deadline is 31 March, 2003. Please specify the position you are applying for.

While women continue to strive for being equalized as men

Male chauvinism still dominates

ABDUL M. ASSABRI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF
abdo@yementimes.com

The whole world celebrated the Women International Day, (March 8) and Yemen is among those countries. Women in advanced countries have been given an easy access to all walks of life. Allowing women to participate in all issues relating to life, is a signalling achievement of progress towards a full equality among all citizens in any community.

In a country like Yemen, women have actually made laudable strides in economic, social, political and cultural fields.

Women's increasingly active participation despite the considerable difficulties and obstacles of the past two decades is certainly attributable to the increase in educational facilities. That is, women are not simply restricted to housework but have started taking up roles in economic, political and cultural life of our society.

However women's increased contact with the outside world has created some difficulties for them which may, at many times, lead to their encountering with the law, either as a violator of the law or as a victim of crime.

In both cases, women are subjected a law which is written and implemented by men.

The following are some viewpoints on the women's parts and how do men in particular perceive them at work or as a housewife.

Dr. Mohammed Mohammed M. Arrajehi, a physician

Women in our country are perceived as inferior and sometimes they are treated scornfully. "People see that women should stay at home and to bring chil-

Hamdi Ali bin Ali, a university student, said that women are pampered creatures that have to be taken care of before anything else. "Women by nature have stubborn streak and tend to be more severe. If they are given carte blanche, they take down their noses at anything they face and that is why men should show passionate and tender heart towards them," he said.

Perhaps Hamdi has strict point of view towards women and seems to be a male chauvinist because he is totally against woman's work outside. "Nowadays terms such as, men-women and women-men equality have come into existence. Man is a man and women is a woman and there is no room for talking," he further noted.

"She is the housekeeper, housewife and that her duty is restricted to nurture, educate, cherish and bring her children up," he said.

Hamdi has expressed his resentment towards some women and girls these days. "Nowadays, it a real eye-opener when the culture of tobacco pipes, cafe and mobile fashion have widely spread among women, particularly, in a conservative society like Yemen," he said.

He further give pieces of advises to such kind of women to discard being overindulged in unwanted things or panting after setting the fashion. "Don't believe it. It is all rubbish," he further commented.

"Make yourself a good example of a true mother and a true woman who has a vital role in educating children and bringing them up in a good manner based on the true Islamic principles," he concluded.

Abdullah Abduh Qaed, an artist, said that women by nature are shier than men and above all, she is loquacious and you can not get a word in the edgways. "If she couldn't find a companion

shown when female students got the best if compared to her classmates of male students."

During recent years, the learning percentage of both male and female students have been ranging from 60 percent to 40 percent.

This is an indication of the good progress on the part of the girl students at the university. This is a clear testimony of the democratic tendency taken by the leadership towards enlarging the women's horizons in all aspects of life.

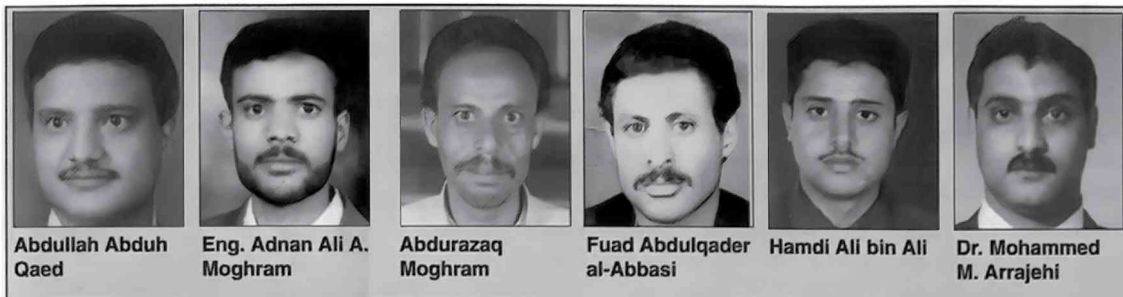
They have an access to practice their democratic freedom freely and go for election whether in parliament or the

"One man's violence against one woman results from his individual psychological problems, sexual frustration, unbearable life pressures, or some innate urge toward aggression."

local councils and some port folios.

Abdurazaq Moghram, information ministry employee, said that if a woman is good, she could generate a good society. It is because she is the one who can greatly nurture the young generation, because she is closer to them more than man.

Women's role is not confined to the



house, she should help man in every aspect of life whether in politics or in giving opinions. This will prepare the way for women to participate in build-

don't we establish girls universities, or hospitals? Why don't we seek for better alternatives where Islam is innocent and away from this?

Fahd in this regard sees that women in cities are exposed to the state-of-the-art technologies and immoral urbanization. "Women in villages are not affected by the latest fashions as that in the urban areas," he said.

"But I want to suggest here that some of those women are indulgently diving in the new technology and this has negatively affected their way of life," he said.

Those who consider women as a matter of satisfying desires are without a shadow of doubt, beasts of burden and mentally backward.

"To conclude, I want to point a significant point which is crucial and easy to be accepted by women. That is, they are exposed to the intellectual invasion because they are by nature docile creatures. This clearly manifests itself when the entire world has become a mini-village under such nomenclatures, as that of globalization," he highlighted further.

Eng. Adnan Ali A. Moghram, Geological Survey and Mineral Resources Board, placed great stress on that women have a leading role in building up societies and civilizations.

"More in sorrow than in anger is that some male employees are swarming around the female ones, which in away or another have greatly distorted their manhood," he said. "We in this case don't oppose women to be sociable but it should be within acceptable limits," he further noted.

That is not only enough, we have heard and perhaps seen that women are perceived as inferior as Dr. Mohammed has mentioned earlier. This is a tangled problem where our society has become unaware of. Efforts to deal with the crisis of male chauvinism or violence

against women, in its many forms, have been fragmented by the boundaries of academic disciplines and professional allegiances. Academicians and clinicians are speaking to those most like themselves in relatively closed groups, not hearing the numerous voices that need to be heard if we are to develop a full understanding of the problem and a comprehensive strategy for addressing it.

Physiological studies indicate that one man's violence against one woman may seem to result from his individual psychological problems, sexual frustration, unbearable life pressures, or some innate urge toward aggression.

Though each of these "reasons" has been used to explain and even justify male chauvinism, they oversimplify a complex reality: Men have been taught to relate to the world in terms of dominance and control, and they have been taught that male dominance is an acceptable method of maintaining control, resolving conflicts, and expressing anger. When a boss harasses an employee, he exerts his power to restrict her freedom to work and improve her position.

When a batterer husband uses beatings to confine his wife to home and to prevent her from seeing friends and family or from pursuing outside work, he exerts dominance and control. Whether or not an individual man who commits an act of violence views it as an expression of power is not the point. The fact that so many individual men feel entitled to express their frustration or anger by being violent to so many individual women shows how deeply these lessons of dominance and violence have been learned. Countless daily acts of violence create a climate of fear and powerlessness that limit women's freedom of action and control many of the movements of our lives.



dren up and working outside is an unacceptable behavior," Arrajehi said.

As for women working in the health sector as a doctor or a nurse, the society has a different point of view. This manifests itself when a women for instance offers medication services to a woman. "In this case a woman doctor should in receiving treatment should depend on women," he added further.

Fuad Abdulqader al-Abbasi, Student's Affairs Director, College of Education, Sana'a University

It is noticeable that most of the Yemeni universities whether private or public, girl students have gained the attention focus by the state.

This has been done with a view of raising a healthy competition with her class-mates. All learning facilities at the universities are readily accessible starting from her entering classes till her graduation. "She is given more privileges, more than her male classmates," he said.

The Yemeni universities have also encouraged women's candidates in order to compete with their male candidates in the student's elections.

Undoubtedly, those privileges greatly encourage women to be creative and productive. This has been statistically

to talk to, she talks to the mirror," he said.

They are faultfinders and on the verge of tears.

As for the society and how they perceive women Abdullah said that woman by nature is weak, unable to face difficulties boldly as that of man.

Fuad Abdulqader al-Abbasi, Student's Affairs Director, College of Education, Sana'a University

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Undoubtedly, those privileges greatly encourage women to be creative and productive. This has been statistically

ing the society efficiently. But one thing should be taken into consideration is that her duty at home should be given priority. Throughout history women have pioneering role in building up societies and prominent figures.

Fahd Hamoud Ahmed Sultan, English teacher, like Abdurazaq, shares the same idea that women through history have played a vital role since the beginning of man's civilizations and the creation of the universe. The first seeds of the man-women relationship was successfully represented by the father of mankind Adam and Eve.

There has been a great controversy upon the role of women's attitude in building human civilization and information technology. This has represented itself by whether should women stay at home or go to work, studying at the university. Several questions pose themselves and in need of urgent solutions.

Since time immemorial, specifically during the Islamic era, women performed the role of a doctor and a nurse. She was entitled to bandaging up the injured warriors. This role is similar to the role of a nurse today.

Women's work outside doesn't constitute a problem if we do still adhere to the Islamic principles. She is the active half of community. It is shameful to deprive her of coping with every thing new. She has the talent and perhaps exceeds man in this respect. She is as sharp-witted as man. Why do we make her frustrated under pretext of being mixed with man. If the matter is so, why



UN report Yemen's growth inflames poverty

BY YASSER AL-MAYASI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The latest UNFPA annual report for 2002 discussed several important population issues that were considered vital in order to answer development objectives put further for the century.

These objectives are: decreasing the rates of poverty and hunger to the half by 2015, the reduction of mother and/or child death by birth, combating AIDS, reaching equality between the two genders and finally enforcing sustained development.

In the light of these objectives, Yemen produced its equivalent report but on a national level in September 2002. It was the first Arabian country to do so. The report contained statis-

tics and costs in order to comply with the universal report of the United Nations.

This meant that Yemen should reduce the poverty and hunger rate by 50%, achieve primary education for all, decrease the gap between the two genders and aspiring for equality, reducing the death rate due to birth by 75% of what it was in 1990, combat AIDS and other contagious diseases, increase the access rate to pure water by 50%, and finally increase world partnership for development.

Therefore, the solution for population problems is a significant point that should be addressed seriously. Understanding this, the National Conference for Population was carried out end of October 2002 to revise the development which the country has reached so far and also to study the

future challenges the country would be facing in order to reach the international standards set forth by the UNFPA.

Several strategies have been affirmed, of which are, the Strategic Vision 2025 and Poverty Reduction Strategy 2003-2005.

However, the massive rate (3.3) at which the population is growing in Yemen is aggravating the poverty problem, where studies link family size and level of poverty saying that poverty level could go below 1% for families consisting of 10 persons or more.

Another problem is the rate of non productive people in the country, more than 50%, making it difficult to provide essential services to all, especially women. Women are more liable to being poor due to their minute contri-

bution in economics and the influence of traditions and social norms that prevent women from contributing in the market share.

As for the health sector, Yemen still suffers from various contagious diseases that hamper the public health. In spite of the many programs and health projects, the situation is still critical and these diseases pose as a threat to many lives or disabilities in many cases.

They include malaria which infects 21% of the general population, Hepatitis B which infects 28% of children below 5 years of age, along with typhoid, and digestive worms and infections.

More than that, deaths due to birth or even pregnancy was reported by Ministry of Public Health to reach 800 case for every 100,000 births.

Interview

Media needs development

Media Center for Training & Qualifying Institute (MCTQI) is a scientific institution that aims at conducting professional training and rehabilitation of employees in all media; governmental and non-governmental institutions and benefits from the scientific studies and field researches that the institute does, using curriculum of communication sciences.

Thus, MCTQI enables employees in all different mass media to raise their abilities and develop their professional and creative skills.

Mr. Ismael al-Ghabri, Yemen Times reporter, has an interview with the Dean of the MCTQI Dr. Abdullah Ali al-Zalab who has talked about the MCTQI policy, its capabilities and the nature of the program it renders as well as a number of issues.



Dr. Abdullah al-Zalab

Q: What prompted the establishment of the MCTQI, what stages it has passed through?

A: The institute was founded upon a decree in 1999 in which Khalifa institute for broadcasting and TV in Sana'a and the Media Training institute were incorporated.

Regarding the reasons behind establishing the MCTQI, there are many, however, but mainly the extensive speedy development in communication world and technology have greatly had effect on the mass media, generally, as it has created more power and more effect. So because of special channels and in the swift delivering and exchange the information via new means such as Internet, that helped media to be one of the main bases for any country development and progress.

Yemen has been experiencing many big changes, and democracy is one of the most important one. Democracy in any country needs efficient media in all political, social and economic fields. The media to become more efficient and effective does not need perpetration only, but also efficient minds having glamorous abilities to run the media work as well as to respond to updating

wants and to development needs in the country. Man is development-maker and its aim and the most investments in any country seeks progress in all fields is to pay attention to human. Thus, it has been necessary to establish the institute to train and rehabilitate all employees in official and private-sector media institutions, as it is high cost for training abroad.

Mechanisms

Q: What is the mechanism and policy that the training workshops for employees in media field based on and how do you choose the trainees?

A: The institute always cherishes to work on studied plans responding to reality needs as well as the media institutions'. So there is annual plan to meet the requirements, besides we respond to urgent requirements that media institutions need throughout the year.

Of course, the institute is open to all media institutions in the country as it is national institute receiving all the people without taking into account their political and party affiliations and rehabilitates all the interested, either in private or in governmental and non-gov-

ernmental organizations and parties. The institute trains all workers in the media without exception.

Regarding the criteria of choosing trainees it is left up to the institutions but in special workshops we ask that the trainee has to have previous experiences and skills as the training is for a short time. And the goal of training is meant to acquire new and additional experiences. We do not accept anybody who does not fit, even his or her institute has nominated him or her. Because she/he will impede the training course so we address the institutions in advance about our conditions.

Q: Is the institute open for only institutions or individuals as well?

A: We do it for institutions and now we study the possibility of giving opportunity to individuals, but we haven't enough capability at the time being. However, we are looking forward to achieving this goal in future. That's certainly requires approval from the premiership and the ministry of finance.

Capabilities

Q: What capabilities and techno-

logical equipment do you have?

A: We have a training studio for broadcasting and TV and modern monitoring and montage units. In addition, we have two halls for distant training via Internet and satellites as well as there is a hall for electronic training and computer lab. Now we seek to prepare languages lab and training in press lab as well.

Q: It is known that training courses only would not create successful media men, to what extent they can serve him as a media man?

A: The goal is to refresh those employees memory and get them acquainted with the latest information and upgrade their personal abilities with the skills, experiences and new techniques. Working in media field is renewable world having no limit. The institute tries to get hold of the latest information and experiences. The training is not limited to certain category, it's continuous activity. There is the training targeting employees possessing previous experiences. This is called activating training. Another type of training is related to teaching new abilities and skills, technical, press or information. There are also programs set up employees fresh at mass media field.

Distant education

Q: Recently, We have read that the institute is going to establish workshops in media field titled distant training. Could you elaborate on this topic?

A: The distant training comes as result of an agreement between the Yemeni government and the Arab organization for education and culture and science and the Arab countries broadcasting union. The distant training is starting in March. This agreement Yemen signed along with 15 Arab countries aims to benefit from this kind of training.

The training aims at to reduce the high costs for training outside those 15 countries. Therefore, workshops will be done in a certain country and the signatory countries will benefit at the same time via the Internet and satellites

that would enable trainees to ask the trainer or the lecturer who is in another country.

Q: What are the fields that training will handle?

A: The distant training is theoretical and has wide ranges. Fields of training are requested by member states. Coordinators will be selected from those states and through them various kinds of fields wanted will be specified.

Taking care of human

Q: Many of our media institutions suffer from professional deficiencies, how can this be fixed?

A: The ideal solution is to pay attention to the human. We have to invest and develop the human mind as well as equipment and institutional construction. It is necessary to pay them due attention and benefit from others' experiences and experiments. It is not necessary to begin from scratch or go through all failing experiments they had experienced. We have to learn from and overcome them.

Equipment expiry date has to be checked as there are some with one or two years expiry duration. We know that there is a better technology to come. So we have to buy only high-tech equipment. The important thing is developing the human mind that can give generously and continuously in different fields. The ultimate goal of development in any society is the human. Without developing and training of human mind, it will be impossible to develop the media work or any other activity.

Future plans

Q: What are your future plans and

ambitions? A

A: Our ambitions are limitless. But the capabilities are always impediment. However, the ambition is still existent. We are looking for meeting the needs of media institutions for raising media employees abilities technologically and professionally. We are ambitious that institute will open for all media employees in the Peninsula, Gulf and Horn of Africa to benefit from institute capabilities. What we are looking for is to develop and improve the media work throughout making evaluation studies on which plans and programs are put to raise the abilities of the employees in media institutions. We are looking forward to modernizing special diploma after the university or a year for a number of media specialists.

Q: What workshops do you intend to hold in the coming months?

A: The training programs in institute are divided into three branches; press, TV and radio. There are special programs and workshops devoted for press will be held next months. For instance, news analysis, the importance of advertisements in newspapers, press production, press writing forms and news sources etc. In the field of radio there is a workshop to be held for preparing and presenting radio programs as well as production, montage, course in language and presentation and digital broadcasting, programs in coordinating and preparing foreign programs as well. In the Television field there are courses such as conducting TV interviews, producing programs and TV montage, decoration design, lighting, photographing and computer using in directing TV production centers.

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New Turkey PM dashes U.S. hope of swift troop move

ANKARA, March 15 (Reuters) - Turkish Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan dashed any remaining U.S. hopes of a rapid decision to deploy U.S. troops in Turkey for an Iraq war when he said his government will not consider it until it wins a confidence vote.

Erdogan's comments on Friday evening came hours after he presented a cabinet list to President Ahmet Necdet Sezer, who approved the cabinet lineup and appointed him prime minister. He formally took office at a ceremony on Saturday.

U.S. officials have already indicated they had little hope of Ankara approving a request to station 62,000 American troops on Turkish soil in time for any conflict with Iraq, which could be just days away. Opposition to a war is widespread in Turkey.

Parliament rejected a first resolution on the deployment -- which U.S. military planners say could speed a victory over Baghdad by forcing it to fight on two fronts -- two weeks ago.

Asked when a new motion might be submitted to parliament, Erdogan was quoted by the state-run Anatolian news agency as saying: "At the moment there is no such thing on our agenda. All of that (comes) after the vote of confidence."

Parliament ruled that the government programme would be read in parliament on Tuesday, with a debate

expected two days later and a confidence vote after another day, pushing any new motion on the troop deployment back to the following week.

Barring a last-minute reversal on the issue, Washington has said a multi-billion dollar aid package vital to shielding Turkey against the economic impact of war is off the table.

The United States is still pushing for overflight rights in any conflict but officials are increasingly pessimistic. In a Friday evening briefing at party headquarters, Erdogan said it was up to parliament to decide on the overflight request.

Widespread opposition to war

In a ceremony at the prime minister's office on Saturday, Erdogan formally took over the premiership from ally Abdullah Gul, who resigned this week to make way for his party leader.

Erdogan led the Justice and Development Party to victory in November polls but was barred from the premiership until last weekend because of a conviction for Islamist sedition. He made Gul foreign minister in the new government.

Widespread Turkish opposition to an attack on a neighbouring Muslim state played a role in parliament's rejection of the initial troop resolution on March 1. More than a quarter of Erdogan's own deputies voted against the motion.



Turkish Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan addresses the media flanked by some of his ministers and Justice and Development Party politicians in Ankara, Mar. 15. REUTERS

Iraq hands VX report

BAGHDAD, March 15 (Reuters) - Iraq destroyed three more banned ballistic missiles on Saturday, a day after handing the United Nations a promised report on the deadly nerve gas VX.

"Three al-Samoud 2 missiles, one launcher and some parts of warheads and tank components were destroyed today," Hiro Ueki, spokesman for the U.N. Monitoring and Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) told Reuters.

The destruction of the missiles, which the United Nations says violate a 150 km (93 mile) maximum range imposed after Iraq's defeat in the 1991 Gulf War, took place at the Taji base, 25 miles (40 km) north of Baghdad.

A total of 68 al-Samoud missiles and 42 warheads have been destroyed since Iraq, facing a possible U.S. and British invasion, started dismantling

the missiles this month to meet a March 1 deadline set by chief U.N. weapons inspector Hans Blix.

Iraq submitted a new 25-page report, half in English and half in Arabic, to the United Nations on Friday on VX, and whether it was able to produce it in sizable quantities, U.N. officials said.

Iraqi U.N. Ambassador Mohammed Aldouri told Reuters the report "will show reliable evidence that we have no more of these materials and that they have been destroyed."

"We are trying now our best to convince UNMOVIC that everything has been destroyed," Aldouri said.

UNMOVIC says there are many open questions concerning Iraq's VX production capability, including significant amounts in Iraq's past accounts of precursors for the gas.

Vowing to defend President Saddam

Iraqis march in defence of Saddam

KERBALA, Iraq, March 15 (Reuters) - Thousands of Iraqis took to the streets in state-organised marches on Saturday, vowing to defend President Saddam Hussein from a U.S. invasion as the clock ticked towards war.

From the Shi'ite Muslim cities of southern Iraq, which rose up against Baghdad after the 1991 Gulf War, to Saddam's stronghold of Tikrit, men, women and children marched and chanted support for the Iraqi leader.

In Baghdad, the crowd burned a U.S. flag.

"We are your soldiers, Saddam, where will America get through?" youths chanted in Kerbala, home of the Shi'ite shrine of Hussein, a grandson of the prophet Mohammad who died in battle fighting overwhelming odds.

"Lead on Saddam -- quitting is not an option" said a banner carried by one of the 3,000 or 4,000 marchers in Kerbala, which has a population of about three quarters of a million people. "Saddam is Iraq...Iraq is Saddam," said another.

Waving AK-47 assault rifles, chequered keffiyehs, Iraqi flags, tribal banners and pictures of Saddam, they paraded past Kerbala's governor, General Latif Mahal Humoud.

"These are the Shi'ite people," Humoud told Reuters. "If the evil (Americans) invade Iraqi territory, the children, women and men of Kerbala will fight them."

In a Kerbala cafe, religion rather than politics appeared the driving force behind opposition to the United States.

"America is the enemy of Islam, not the enemy of the government," said Ahmed, a shopkeeper sipping a cup of tea.

"If the Americans come they will take the abaya (veil) off our women. We will not accept this. Death would be better," said Ghazi Hussein.

"We love Saddam"

Iraqi officials said marchers also took to the streets of Tikrit, Saddam's hometown, and the southern city of Basra. U.S. President George W. Bush's threat of force against Iraq sparked demonstrations in many nations on Saturday.

In Baghdad, a few thousand people, many carrying AK-47 assault rifles,



Iraqi soldiers hold rifles during protest at Saddam city in Baghdad Mar. 15. Thousands of Iraqis took part in government-organised nationwide marches to show support to President Saddam Hussein on Saturday, as the clock ticked towards a military showdown with the United States. REUTERS

chanted "with our blood and souls we redeem you Saddam". The crowd hoisted Iraqi and Palestinian flags as well as pictures of Saddam.

"Bush, Bush listen well, we all love Saddam Hussein," they chanted.

"By God, I am willing to be martyred in defence of Iraq, the sacred land of Iraq and our beloved leader," said

Mohammad Jassem, who wore a white cloth on his chest proclaiming himself ready to be a suicide fighter.

On the road to Kerbala, about 100 km (60 miles) south of Baghdad, several batches of anti-aircraft artillery could be seen, all pointing south. At one site, what appeared to be tanks had been dug in, surrounded by banks of earth.

Sandbags were piled on top of mounds of earth every few kilometres (miles), but seemed to be largely unmanned.

More than 250,000 U.S. and British troops are poised to invade Iraq. Washington and London accuse Saddam of maintaining weapons of mass destruction in defiance of the United Nations. Saddam denies the charges.

Hizbollah fires at Israeli planes

BEIRUT, March 15 (Reuters) - Lebanon's Hizbollah guerrillas fired anti-aircraft rounds at Israeli planes over south Lebanon on Saturday, and a dud shell landed in a street in a northern Israeli border town, security sources said.

"There was anti-aircraft fire, about 15 or 16 rounds," a spokesman for the U.N. peacekeeping force in south Lebanon said.

Security sources in south Lebanon said Hizbollah had fired the rounds at Israeli warplanes that roared over south Lebanon and the Bekaa valley. But one source said the fire may have been directed at an Israeli pilotless reconnaissance drone.

Israeli security sources said a dud shell had landed in a street in the northern Israeli border town of Kiryat Shmona. No one was reported to have been hurt.

The United Nations said last month it was concerned at an increase in flights by Israeli warplanes, and worried that it could escalate into a more serious conflict.

Overflights slowed following the warning, but residents in south Lebanon have reported sighting Israeli reconnaissance drones overhead in recent weeks.

Prior to the warning, Israeli overflights were among the most frequent since Hizbollah helped expel Israel from south Lebanon in 2000 after a 22-year occupation.

Since the pullout, Israeli jets have often flown over towns across Lebanon drawing retaliatory fire from Hizbollah and the Lebanese army.

The United Nations views both the overflights and the retaliatory fire as violations of the terms of Israel's pull-out.



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Embassy of India Sana'a (Republic of Yemen)

For the benefit and service to the Indian community in Yemen, Embassy of India, Sana'a, in association with Yemen-German Hospital, is organising a Workshop on Thursday, 20th March, 2003 at 10.00 A.M. at the Auditorium of the Embassy, 12, Djibouti Street, Off Hadda Road, Sana'a (ROY), Tel: 441251/2, Fax: 441257 on cardiovascular and heart diseases.

Following will be the programme:

- 10.10 A.M.** Welcome of Doctors of the Yemen German Hospital by Charge d'Affaires of India
- 10.15 A.M.** Talk by Professor Dr. Eberhard Struck, Head of the Department of Cardiovascular Surgery, Yemen German Hospital, Sana'a on possibilities for cardiac surgery in Yemen.
- 10.30 A.M.** Talk by Dr. Abdul Kader Abbas, Head of the Department of Cardiology, Yemen German Hospital on cardiac catheterisation and interventional cardiology experience in Yemen.
- 10.45 A.M.** Talk by Dr. Ganesh Jayadev, Head of the Department of Cardiac Anaesthesia, Yemen German Hospital on risk factors for coronary artery diseases.
- 11.00 A.M.** Question / Answer Session
- 11.30 A.M.** Refreshments

The Diagnostic Health Camp, which may include **Echocardiography, ECG, Blood Pressure measurements, Blood Glucose analysis** etc. will be conducted by doctors (Dr. Ganesh Jayadev, Dr. Vargeese K.A., Prof. Dr. Eberhard Struck, Prof. Dr. Ali Raboi, Dr. Abdul Kader Abbas, Dr. Khalled Al-Kudaimi, Prof. Dr. Abdul Kareem Hager, Dr. Mohammed Meklafi) of Yemen German Hospital, at the **Indian Embassy School and Cultural Centre on 27th March from 09.00 A.M. to 01.00 P.M.** on first-come-first-served basis.

All Indian nationals and Persons of Indian Origin are cordially invited.

Continued from Page 1

More protest, greater anger

Police imposed strict security measures on protestors who carried banners reading phrases condemning the war and both the US and the UK. These mottos indicated that the main purpose of the war is to support the state of Israel. Among the slogans were "death to US and Israel". They also carried photos of Saddam Hussein and Hassan Nasr Allah despite the fact that the organizing committee requested them not carry any pictures except those of President Saleh.

Other protests took place in Taiz, Amran and other cities. In a unique move in Hajjah, thousands of people who protested the war there declared their readiness to donate their own guns and ammunition to support the Iraqi people.

greatly provoked by the current international developments amid fears of performing external intelligence activities in Yemen following or during the war against Iraq.

Such security procedures have been adopted to prevent possible terror activities, which may target US or foreign interests in Yemen when the war breaks out.

Elections to be held on time

Meanwhile, the closing ceremony of the registration process for elections wrapped up last week in the presence of president Ali Abdullah Saleh. The president emphasized the will to go with elections without any delay regardless of international events in the region.

During the ceremony, a speech was delivered by the president focusing on some key internal issues as well as external ones.

As for internal issues, the president called upon all political forces and Yemenis to gather together to bear the responsibility for the forth-coming parliamentary elections to be successfully performed.

"The negative practices, chaos, causing trouble to the security will not be repeated whether by candidates, political parties or social figures. We have to be civilized and bear the responsibility under such difficult circumstances," the president said.

He further noted that the parliamentary election committees selected the Supreme Committee for Election and Referendum (SCER) in coordination with the groups representing various parties to work together to make the elections a success.

"The significant point in this matter is that the supervision election committee is considered to be an unbiased national institution by all parties.

In order to carry out healthy competitive elections without bigotry, this supervision election committee has been set up," he added.

Worries about war

As for the regional as well as international key issues, the president has expressed his concerns and worries over the war against Iraq. "The Arab

and Islamic nations are anxiously awaiting the unknown because preparations are in full swing on the war-path," the president said.

He hoped that the war would not break out because it is "unjust" and will bring despotism and an absence of international justice.

Protests against old MPs

On the other hand, an incensed atmosphere was raised in some constituencies over the return of former MPs who had won in the last elections but failed to meet their promises. Around 3,000 protesters gathered in the capital of Sana'a last Tuesday demanding the president and the General People's Congress (GPC) not to allow those members to be nominated again because they were unable to render social services to their areas.

Challenge to the GPC

In this regard, some political observers see that the upcoming parliamentary elections will be a nail-biting phase for the GPC due to the relatively unified stance of the opposition bloc. In the same context, informed sources told Yemen Times that both the Islah party - the second largest party after the GPC - and the

GPC itself will avoid returning some of their old candidates to be re-elected during the upcoming elections.

Despite the success those members will probably achieve in the coming elections, they will not be nominated because most of them have been known to have links with Islamic fundamentalist elements in Yemen.

On his part, Sheikh Abdullah bin Hussien al-Ahmar, speaker of the parliament, the leader of Islah, confirmed that the inclusion of all the political parties for the upcoming elections will enhance peace and security in Yemen.

In an interview to Al-Sahwah, organ of the Islah Party, the Sheikh has expressed his pessimistic point of view over the coming elections due to possible US-led war against Iraq.

He further demanded for carrying out healthy competitive elections without violations which might lead to inevitable political disturbances.



WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME OF THE UNITED NATIONS (WFP)

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

WFP is seeking to fill following vacancy in its Offices in Sana'a.

PROGRAMME ASSISTANT - SANA'A OFFICE

The Programme Assistant will work under the guidance of Country Director and Deputy Country Director of the WFP office in Yemen. The Programme Assistant will be in charge of the management of WFP-assisted Project in the health sector. This essentially consists of working closely with project counterparts and other implementing partners to ensure smooth implementation of project activities, including beneficiary targeting, commodities allocations, distribution modalities, monitoring evaluation and detailed reporting on all aspects of the project.

Specifically the Programme Assistant will be responsible for:

- Record keeping of all project related transactions, commodity tracking; and reporting as per WFP procedures and consequently will ensure proper and timely preparation of relevant monthly quarterly and annual reports;
- Preparation of annual work plans of health related activities in connection with commodities call forward and allocation of agreed sites, beneficiary targeting and monitoring;
- Overseeing and follow up on matters pertaining to logistics, financial and administrative arrangements for the discharge, reception transport, storage, distribution and accounting of WFP commodities and will regularly visit and, inspect warehouses/ distribution centers, in cooperation with concerned project authorities and liaising with WFP logistics unit. Initiate necessary action for improvement in commodity handling and distributions;
- Monitoring of Project activities related to health centers and direct beneficiaries; to analyze output indicators and to collect statistical data and conduct surveys regularly and as required, to process the data/information and prepare analytical reports and evaluation studies accordingly;
- Appraisal and initiation of small scale community based preventive health activities for women and children with focus on nutrition/health education and advocacy promotion of health/nutrition awareness;
- Performing any other duties as and when requested.

Qualifications:

- University degree in public administration, social sciences and/or public health.
- Very good writing skills in English and Arabic.
- Thorough knowledge of computer/Word processing and Excel and modern office experience.

Experience: 3 to 4 years work experience in management and implementation of human development projects in Yemen. Social research is desirable.

- WFP is an equal employment opportunity organization, female candidates meeting the requirements of the post, are encouraged to apply.
- This post is reserved for Yemeni nationals. It requires extensive field trips to distant rural areas in the country, often with prolonged absence from duty station.
- Interested applicants should deliver their applications along with their detailed CV's in English.

All applications to be submitted to the Representative of the World Food Programme within 10 days from the date of advertisement in closed envelope clearly marked from the top of the outside (**APPLICATION-PROGRAMME ASSISTANT**), at the following address:

**UNDP/WFP Building, Off 60 Meter Road, Sana'a
or PO Box 7181 Sana'a, Republic of Yemen.**

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

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Indonesia sets April 2004 parliamentary election

JAKARTA, March 15 (Reuters) - Indonesia, the world's fourth most populous nation, has set April 5, 2004 as the date for its next parliamentary elections, Ramlan Surbakti, the deputy chairman of the General Elections Commission, said on Saturday.

The run-up to the first such vote since 1999 is being closely watched in Indonesia, plagued by political turbulence since strongman president Suharto stepped down in 1998.

Surbakti told Reuters the April 5 date had been selected taking into account "technical reasons...candidate filing, verification (procedures), etc."

He also said that based on a new law the date would be a legal holiday.

The country's first direct presidential and vice presidential elections are due within six months of the parlia-

mentary vote, he said, but a precise date has yet to be set.

"For the presidential elections we are still waiting for the presidential general elections law" to be finished by parliament, Surbakti said.

Major parties want only those that win 20 percent or more of the vote in the parliamentary ballot to be able to field candidates in the presidential race.

No party won an outright majority in parliament the last time and more than 20 secured seats, ranging from secular liberal to Muslim conservative. President Megawati Sukarnoputri governs through a coalition, which some say limits her effectiveness.

Despite criticism over that and other issues, analysts generally view the moderate and secular-oriented

U.S. carrier arrives at South Korea North Korea voices war

ABOARD CARL VINSON, PUSAN, SOUTH KOREA, March 15 (Reuters) - A U.S. aircraft carrier prepared to take part in U.S.-South Korean war games on Saturday, which North Korea described as a rehearsal for a nuclear attack, ratcheting up tensions over the reclusive communist state's nuclear programme.

Impoverished North Korea, which has taken a series of provocative steps on the Cold War's last flashpoint over the past few months in its campaign for direct talks with Washington, took a dire view of the annual month-long exercises.

"The U.S. seeks to round off its preparations for a nuclear war against the DPRK (North Korea) at its final phase and mount a pre-emptive nuclear attack on it any time," Pyongyang's state-run newspaper Rodong Shinmun said on Saturday.

American military muscle has gone on full display in the South as the aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson was sent to the western Pacific after U.S. forces deployed six F-117A "Stealth" warplanes in the region this week. The U.S. air force also prepared to resume spy flights off the coast of North Korea.

The Carl Vinson, moored just outside

the breakwater of Pusan harbour for a few days with 70 aircraft and eight squadrons, will go to sea to support U.S.-South Korean forces.

"Our primary mission is deterrence and influence," Navy Captain Richard B. Wren, the ship's commanding officer told a pool of reporters.

"Our presence in the region is not in direct response on North Korea, but certainly our presence can also be an influence," Wren said.

The crisis on the Korean peninsula has been simmering since October, when U.S. officials said North Korea had admitted to a nuclear weapons pro-

gramme.

Tensions have escalated since then. Over the last month, North Korea has intercepted a U.S. reconnaissance plane patrolling international airspace and test-fired two short-range missiles, while a Japanese report said the North may soon test-fire a longer-range missile that could reach Japan.

The North's suspected atomic arms programme was frozen in a bilateral U.S.-North Korean deal in 1994, and Washington says Pyongyang's violation of that pact several years later is the reason multilateral diplomacy is needed to disarm the North this time.

As Singapore tightens border Malaysia nabs militant

KUALA LUMPUR, March 15 (Reuters) - Malaysia said on Saturday it had arrested another suspected militant, a day after Singapore tightened border checks as a precaution against any threat from Islamic radicals crossing the causeway from its Muslim neighbour.

With a possible war looming in Iraq, Singapore, a staunch U.S. ally, fears it could be a target for militants.

Malaysia has kept a close eye on its borders and police have arrested nearly 80 suspected members of the Jemaah Islamiyah (JI), a shadowy Southeast Asian militant group, whose top leaders are said to have links with Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda network.

A Malaysian security official told Reuters another JI suspect was arrested on Friday. He said the man was

detained in Muar, a small town in Johor -- the southern state across the causeway from Singapore -- and is being held under the Internal Security Act allowing detention without trial.

Singapore said on Friday it would check all trucks, cars and motorcycles making the short road crossing across the narrow waterway from the southern tip of the Malaysian Peninsula.

"They probably feel worried and afraid and they want to ensure the nation's security," Malaysia's Deputy Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi told a news conference on Saturday.

Singapore's police arrested more than 30 JI suspects after uncovering a plot to attack the U.S. and other western embassies with truck bombs over a year ago.

Pakistan arrests top al Qaeda member al-Jaziri

ISLAMABAD, March 15 (Reuters) - Pakistani authorities arrested a leading al Qaeda member, Moroccan national Yasir al-Jaziri, in the eastern city of Lahore on Saturday, the state APP news agency reported.

The arrest followed two weeks after the capture of another senior al Qaeda figure, Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, in the northern city of Rawalpindi.

Mohammed was a suspected mastermind of the September 11, 2001 attacks on the United States and authorities have said his arrest brought useful leads in their efforts to track down al Qaeda members in Pakistan.

APP quoted a spokesman for Pakistan's interior ministry as saying al-Jaziri was in the custody of Pakistan's law enforcement agencies.

On the other hand, Pakistan on

Saturday welcomed Washington's decision to waive economic sanctions imposed after General Pervez Musharraf's 1999 coup, a move that clears the way for about \$250 million in aid already approved by Congress.

"We feel this was overdue by a few months," Information Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmed said. "This should have come through in October when Pakistan was returned to democracy."

October elections restored civilian government after a three-year break, although Musharraf still holds sweeping powers as president, including the ability to sack parliament.

Pakistan, a key ally in the U.S. war on terror, is a member of the U.N. Security Council whose vote on a second resolution setting the stage for a war in Iraq has been hotly courted by the United States.

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Republic of Yemen Invitation for Bids

Education Sector Investment Project (Credit No. 2570-YEM)

Procurement, Delivery and Installation of School & Office Furniture, Lab. Equipment, and Library Books

for 50 Rural Female Secondary Schools

- The Republic of Yemen has received a credit from the *International Development Association* toward the cost of The Education Sector Investment Project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this *Credit* to payments under the contract for Procurement, Delivery and Installation of Furniture, Lab. Equipment, and Books for 50 Rural Female Secondary Schools.
- The Credit Administration Unit now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for Procurement, Delivery and Installation of Furniture, Lab. Equipment, and Books for 50 Rural Female Secondary Schools as follows:

Lot No. 1: School & Office Furniture for 50 Rural Female Secondary Schools

Lot No. 2: Lab. Equipment for 50 Rural Female Secondary Schools

Lot No. 3: Library Books for 50 Rural Female Secondary Schools

Bids can be submitted for individual or several substantially completed lots only. Bid will be evaluated simultaneously, lot by lot, followed by combinations of lots offering the lowest evaluated costs to the purchaser. Discounts offered in the bids for combination of more than one lot will be accepted.

- Bidding will be conducted through the international competitive bidding procedures specified in the World Bank's Guidelines: *Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits*, and is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the Guidelines.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from The Credit Administration Unit and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below from 08:30 to 03:00 hours (Saturday-Wednesday).
- A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of US\$50 by Lot. The method of payment will be by cash, check or bank transfer in favor of: The Credit Administration Unit, Bank Account no. (10190010033) at Yemen Central Bank. The documents can be sent by courier services against an amount of US\$50.
- Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before 10:00 am of April 30, 2003.

All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of not less than 2.5% of the total bidder's price. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders representatives who choose to attend at the address below at for 10:00 am of April 30, 2003.

The Credit Administration Unit

Basic Education Expansion Project & Education Sector Investment Project

Projects Sector Building

Baghdad-Zubairi Street, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen

Telefax: +967 1 200472

Email: director@beep.edu.ye

Gathering from all over USA Anti-war protesters to surround White House

WASHINGTON, March 15 (Reuters) - Buses packed with thousands of protesters from more than 100 U.S. cities arrived in Washington on Saturday for what could be the last chance to dissuade the Bush administration from invading Iraq.

Students from as far as Wisconsin, Maine and Florida streamed to the Washington Monument on a sunny but crisp morning for a midday rally before their march to the White House and the Justice Department. They plan to surround the buildings in a peaceful "sea of humanity," organizers said.

Organizers at International ANSWER, a coalition of groups that have banded together to oppose a possible war, estimated that tens of thousands of people would take part in the events.

"Instead of a last-gasp effort before the bombs start to fall, we think there's still a possibility of affecting policy and stopping them altogether," said International ANSWER spokesman Chuck Kaufman.

First-time demonstrator Patty Crotau, 28, left her home in upstate New York on Friday afternoon and came to Washington by bus. The mother of two said she came because she believes the Bush administration's current stance is hypocritical.

"We're keeping everything we have in terms of weapons of mass destruction," she said. "I would hate to see it come to a point where this might come back to the U.S. and affect my children."

President George W. Bush was to spend Saturday away from Washington at the Camp David presidential retreat in Maryland.

On Sunday morning, he heads to Portugal's Azores island territory for an emergency summit with the leaders of Britain and Spain in a final pursuit of a U.N. resolution on Iraq that would overcome opposition in the Security Council. The three countries are sponsors of a



Fatma Salama (L) and Tala Mohammad (R) walk to a protest for peace at the Washington Monument in Washington, March 15. Tens of thousands of anti-war protesters worldwide took to the streets on Saturday in the biggest such demonstration since millions of people joined a global march for peace last month.

Security Council resolution that would set the stage for war against Iraq over its alleged weapons of mass destruction programs. That resolution is the subject of a bitter fight among council members.

Religious leaders have also planned a Sunday evening prayer vigil at Washington's Lincoln Memorial that will coincide with thousands of other candle-light vigils across the world.

Hundreds of thousands pays last respect to PM

BELGRADE, March 15 (Reuters) - Hundreds of thousands followed the funeral procession on Saturday of Serbian Prime Minister Zoran Djindjic, assassinated by a sniper believed to be acting on the orders of gangster bosses.

It was the biggest crowd Serbia had seen since a mass uprising led by Djindjic and other reformers toppled Slobodan Milosevic in October 2000, after a decade of Balkan wars and international ostracism for the impoverished republic.

The mourners joined the slow procession of the slain leader's body through chilly streets from Saint Sava cathedral to Belgrade's New Cemetery, where it was laid to rest with military honours in the Alley of the Great Men.

Western leaders including European Commission President Romano Prodi and German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer were among those who paid last respects, under tight security, to the man they credit with ending Milosevic's authoritarian rule.

A funeral ceremony was held earlier on Saturday in Saint

Sava's, with black-clad anti-terrorist troops on guard outside.

Djindjic's widow and their two children, government ministers, black-robed religious leaders, army top brass and other dignitaries filed by his coffin, which lay in the huge church draped in the red, blue and white Serbian flag.

It was the biggest funeral in Belgrade since Communist dictator Josip Broz Tito died in 1980.

Serbian Orthodox bishop Amfilohije said the reformist Djindjic had begun a renewal of Serbia and "reached out a hand of reconciliation and peace" to Europe and the world. "But he was killed by a brother's blind hatred," he told the congregation in the cathedral.

Djindjic, gunned down in the courtyard of the government building on Wednesday, was hailed by the West as a pro-democracy reformer but was a hate figure for hardline Serb nationalists.

Milosevic-era police accused

The government imposed a state of emergency after Djindjic, 50, was killed. Authorities have pointed the finger at a powerful Belgrade criminal gang and at Milosevic-era police.

Djindjic played a key role in the overthrow of ex-Yugoslav President Milosevic in 2000. He later enraged nationalists by sending Milosevic to the U.N. tribunal in The Hague to face charges of war crimes in Croatia, Bosnia and Kosovo.

The reformist leader had promised to crush the crime gangs that flourished during Milosevic's bloodstained rule, and which were allegedly linked to his secret service.

Police said late on Friday they had detained more than 180 people and seized large amounts of weapons and drugs but that key figures remained at large.

The force issued a public appeal for information about eight suspects, including an ex-commander of a special police unit that fought in the Balkan wars of the 1990s.



Hundreds of thousands of people walk in a silent procession towards Belgrade's New Cemetery March 15, where slain Serbian Prime Minister Zoran Djindjic will be laid to rest. Djindjic was assassinated on March 12 by a sniper. The funeral was the biggest in Belgrade since Communist dictator Josip Broz Tito died in 1980.

REUTERS

Amid Iraq gloom

EU, defence policy drive

ATHENS, March 15 (Reuters) - The European Union trumpeted the advances of its defence ambitions on Saturday as it stood on the verge of a debut peacekeeping mission, setting its sights on a common arms agency and even a satellite surveillance programme.

Despite glaring differences over Iraq and a growing conviction that a U.S.-led strike on Baghdad is imminent, the bloc's defence ministers emerged upbeat from a two-day meeting at a sea-side resort hotel on the outskirts of Athens.

Greek Defence Minister Yannis Papandoniου conceded that disunity over how to deal with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein had shown the elusiveness of a common EU foreign policy, but he said common defence could come as easily as a common currency.

"After the euro comes defence, and political union will follow defence," he said.

The EU is putting the final touches to a plan to take over NATO's peacekeeping mission in Macedonia by March 31.

Although tiny, with just 320 lightly armed troops, the mission will be a symbolic triumph for the 15-nation bloc and is being seen as a trial run for a takeover of NATO's much bigger peacekeeping force of some 12,000 in Bosnia early next year.

The EU had hoped to take the reins in Macedonia last year, but was delayed because of a standoff over a pact guaranteeing access to NATO assets for crisis management operations.

One of the last pieces in a complex jigsaw of relations between NATO and the EU fell into place before the Athens meeting, with a security agreement making exchanges of classified infor-

mation between the two institutions automatic.

"Fiction becomes fact"

The EU's goal this year is to create a Rapid Reaction Force of 60,000 troops with air and maritime support to deal with hotspots on the continent's fringes, although some ministers, heartened by progress, suggested it should also look for crisis management roles in Africa.

"The Rapid Reaction Force, which was in the domain of fiction, now becomes fact," said Papandoniου, whose country currently holds the presidency of the EU. "The defence integration of Europe is moving ahead despite crises."

For all the optimism, there was no word in Athens of concrete initiatives to plug gaps in military kit that the EU needs, particularly for risky missions, including transport aircraft, command-and-control, helicopters and communications.

Papandoniου, apparently introducing a new item on the defence menu, said the EU also needed to develop satellite surveillance capabilities as part of its space ambitions.

Critics say that, with defence budgets stagnant or even declining in most of the bloc, the drive for a European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP) — ardently championed by France — has generated more paperwork than weapons.

"We want to see it working," British Armed Forces Minister Adam Ingram told Reuters late on Friday. "But we will not deliver capabilities into the field on the back of committees. We have put a lot of capabilities on the table... We expect others to be moving along with



A protester holds a red flag behind a huge banner with a U.S. flag on it during anti-war rally in Athens March 15.

REUTERS

us."

Not only does the EU as a whole spend less than half of what the United States spends on defence, officials say its military capability amounts to only about 10 percent of what America gets for its money because of kit duplication and incompatibility.

The defence ministers discussed innovative ways to make the best use of their limited budgets through multinational projects and leasing rather than buying equipment.

They also talked about Iraq European Commission proposal last week to forge a common EU arms industry to bolster ESDP.

Vacancies

Health Sector Reform Support Project (MoPHP/EC)

1) Project Management Assistant

Terms of Reference

The Project requires the services of a full-time **Project Management Assistant (PMA)**. The tasks of the PMA are defined as follows:

- Assist project management in all technical and administrative issues as required
- Follow up on the project's work plan and implementation schedules
- Support project management in the collection and summarizing of data for progress reporting
- Preparation of purchase and service contracts based on standard models
- Maintenance of lists of service providers
- Monitoring of fixed assets, maintenance of project inventories
- Supervise the project's financial management and secretarial staff, report to project management on their performance
- Make all arrangements for training abroad, and for international study tours and project visits (including travel arrangement, booking for accommodation and maintaining communication with trainees and study tour members)
- Management of international mail and courier communication

The PMA will prepare monthly written reports on project status to the Project Director.

The PMA will accompany project teams during visits to governorates and districts as needed

Applicants should have a professional background in health or public health sciences. They must have master degree level professional training equivalent. Previous working experience with national or international development projects is required. Applicants must have excellent command of English (spoken, reading and writing), and good computer skills (office software). Applicants should also be able to show that they have good team working capabilities.

2) Project Financial Manager

Terms of Reference

The Project requires the services of a full-time **Financial Manager (FM)**. The tasks of the FM are defined as follows:

The FM assists project management in accounting, payments, procurement and logistics:

- Logistics and supplies arrangement: management of quotations, procurement, follow-up on orders and delivery
- Responsible for all cash and cheque payments
- Follow up on all payments, and clearance of advances
- Financial control of the use of district and governorate health funds, including bookkeeping and financial report
- Maintenance of project financial documentation (vouchers, invoices), bank account information, and account books
- Collection, management and filling of bank statements and bank documents
- Establishment of end-of-month balances for bank and cash accounts
- Prepare project financial documents for further transaction by external accountants, if required
- Prepare all necessary documentation for auditors
- Any other bookkeeping and financial issues as requested by project management

Applicants should have professional training and respective degrees in commerce, accounting and financial management. A minimum of three years professional experience in the field is required.

Good command of English (spoken, reading and writing) is necessary, as is standard knowledge of computer systems and office software. Applicants should be able to accompany project teams during field visits occasionally.

3) Project Secretary

Terms of Reference

The Project requires the services of a full-time **Project Secretary (PS)**. The tasks of the PS are defined as follows:

Document processing and translations

- Typing of English and Arabic documents
- Translations from and into Arabic

Communications

- making arrangements for, and follow up on appointments, invitations, secretarial aspects of workshops and seminars
- manage telephone, fax, email and mail communications for the project

Travel

- Make all arrangement for field visit (accommodation, transport, flight reservations)
- All other secretarial work as designated by project management

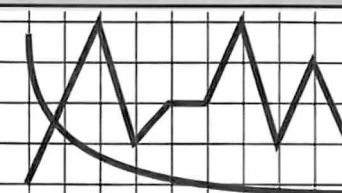
Applicants must have appropriate qualifications and experience as project secretary, and solid knowledge of all aspects of office operations (including record keeping, filing, communications and management of office supplies).

Applicants must have very good command of English (spoken, reading and writing), as well as standard knowledge of computer systems and office software.

Employment will start on 1 April 2003 The contract period will be for one year initially, to be extended under mutual agreement. Interested persons are requested to submit their CVs and supporting document immediately to the following contact address:

Health Policy & Technical Support Unit, Ministry of Public Health & Population
Tel: 01220592
Fax: 01220593

YT Business



Multi-billion anti-poverty campaign Government moves

By MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Other than its war on terror the Yemeni government is launching another kind of war, i.e. a war on poverty through implementation of a strategy receiving support by donor countries. The campaign which is designed to take a duration extending over the period 2003-2005 is estimated to be costing around YR 413.4 billion. The strategy is aimed at reducing the present proportion of poverty by 13.1 per cent and by 35.9 at the end of the implementation of the plan.

Figures derived from the strategy indicate that the size of poverty among the population falling under the poverty line amounts to 6.9 million people. The plan on the other hand aims at raising the rate of those joining the primary education to 69.3 per cent at the end of 2005.

The strategy expects to raise the number of cases benefiting from the social care fund to 600610 cases at the of the targeted period and expanding the umbrella of social securities to cover 1529 thousand workers, in addition to training 5430 of the disabled at the centers for training the handicapped.

The plan has also given attention to rehabilitation of the handicapped by providing 4190 job opportunities and the accommodation of around 6750



Slums dwellers are waiting for the government to take care of them

orphans at care-offering houses and also accommodation for 2500 homeless and beggar children.

As regards facing the water crisis the plan seeks to develop services of the network to cover about 69 per cent of urban population and 65 per cent of countryside people along with increasing sewage services and raising the proportion of covering power services extended to 22 per cent of countryside population. The plan also intends to combat poverty by expansion in build-

ing paved roads to enhance traffic movement in addition to maintaining 3194-long km of existing paved roads.

Cost of implementing the strategy is estimated at YR 413.4 billion. YR 18.9 billion for the new projects and 394 billion for programs and projects under construction.

Proportion of local funding for the total cost is estimated at about 73 per cent while the remainder would be covered by foreign funding sources. The strategy considers development of

human element as the most significant of its goals, giving priority to education, health and services projects.

Requisites for improvement of health services are defined by allocations of 2.2 per cent of Gross Domestic Product and by 6.6 per cent of the total general expenditure. The strategy expects a big increase in investment sector estimated at around 11.5 per cent. In dependence on the general lines of the plan the government seeks to achieve economic growth in order to tackle the real causes

of poverty and provide ways of living and strengthening the poor capability and increasing their income as well as improving the social, economic and social circumstances around them.

The strategy seems to be ambitious despite that poverty is in a state of spiralling up in the Yemeni society. It is feared that some sides would manipulate in the implementation of projects designed for combating poverty, a matter that would increase the people suffering.

Expected war against Iraq leads to a drop in Yemeni expatriates remittances

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Economic sources in Yemen have said the eruption of war against Iraq would impact on Yemeni expatriates volume of remittances and lower it drastically, specifically from the expatriates in the Gulf states. It would have a detrimental effect on the economic crisis and living conditions of the Yemenis as well as leading to reduction in investment activity in the country.

Sources expect the drop in volume of money transfers by no less than 30 per cent. They say that it is expected that Yemeni expatriates living in the GCC countries, especially in the UAE, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait would most of them prefer to leave their jobs and return to their country, fleeing the atmospheres of war and its consequences.

According to official sources the value of present investments in Yemen is basically dependent on the expatriates in the Gulf countries and it is considered the most important resource of capitals flowing into Yemen for investment especially in the Free Zone in Aden or in other areas and ports. The government interest in Yemeni expatriates has increased after the September 11 events in the United States. The events have led to abstention by businessmen from investing in projects and abolishing some licenses by the investors. The official sources also confirm that the efforts for attracting expatriates to bring their properties for investment in vital projects have contributed to reduction of negative impact of 11 September events on the Yemeni economy because they came at a difficult time.

Despite that the number of expatri-

ates living in the GCC countries is not fully known up till now, estimates point out that there are around 900 thousand of them working at financial, trade, contracting and other private sector works. Official sources put the volume of Yemeni money in the Gulf countries at about 75 per cent of total money of Yemeni expatriate all over the world.

With the aggravation of prospects of the U.S.-British war against Iraq, Yemen fears that it would cause the expulsion of Yemeni expatriates in the Gulf states, a consequence that would deprive them of their activities and jobs and would in the end affect the rate of gross domestic product due to drop in financial remittances.

In the aftermath of the Gulf war in 1991, Yemen's economy was hit with a setback it did not recover from it till now. About one million and a half Yemeni workers in the Gulf countries returned to their country and the government has so far not been able to solve their problems or alleviate their suffering while their money transfers dropped from two billion dollars to 300 millions. The same official sources say the expected American war on Iraq would have economic disaster on Yemen's economy. Its effects would exceed the issue of reducing money transfers to causing heavy losses to tourist sector, sea navigation, export-import movement in addition to investment in the country.

Fears have motivated the Council of National Defence, the highest authority in the country, to convene and take a number of decisions. Among these decisions are offering new facilities to local, Arab and foreign investors and containment of consequences of the war on economy, security and development.

Government & opposition

Elections marathon

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

There are numbered days to go before the beginning of electoral campaigns for the parliamentary elections scheduled to be held in several weeks. Political parties, both in power and opposition, are competing, particularly with regard to the economic situation, the voters' living standard, treatment by government of implemented structural failures since 1995, as well as Yemen's opposition vision concerning the economic crisis, which the opposition ascribe to a package of economic reforms the government has been implementing.

While the government, led by the general people's congress party, confirms it has been able, during the past seven years, to curb inflation and keep stability of exchange rate of the national currency, opposition parties say the policy of economic reform has led to an increase in poverty proportion by around 28 per cent, and rates of prices by over 187 percent. The parties say the increase-included electricity, water and telephone bill by 53, 15 and 32 percent respectively. Political parties' election forums are distributed according to these two opposing visions over several orientations. Most important of these directions are:

1- Program of the GPC ruling party which enumerates achievements of its government, covering

infrastructure, accomplishments of social security net, and educational, health, vocational and technical training, in addition to other services.

2- Programs of the 6 member Joint Meeting Parties as being meeting at one vision, i.e., that the official policy of economic reforms has led to aggravation of problems in social life with increased poverty rates and rise of unemployment by 35 percent of work force.

Election programs of opposition parties are unanimous that social services, like health, education, water and electricity have retreated and their prices shot up. The program stress that in the health area, people have only services without medication offered by nominal hospitals. In the political context of the elections scheduled on 27 April, the 6-member opposition parties have demanded, in a memorandum to the National Alignment Committee, for halting the program of economic reform and creating other alternatives to deal with the crisis. The memo also called for critical revision of all attempts for economic, administrative and financial reform. The memorandum also emphasized the necessity of treating the economic crisis in a scientific objective way depending on understanding reality, addressing the causes, fighting corruption and its sources and passing a law on financial accountability.

These demands seem to be part of

the propaganda campaign accompanying the elections directed against the ruling party. They are difficult to realize demands, if not impossible, especially regarding the issue of financial accountability, because there is confusion between jobs and commercial businesses. Therefore, the opposition parties, by this vision, are aimed at politically winning the voters who feel tangible bitterness and deterioration of living conditions.

Between these two parties of the government which boasts of accomplishments of the ruling party, and of the opposition that accuses the government of dereliction and deterioration of economy, there is a third party's programs enter the race. The third party's programs are characterized by ambiguity because they criticize the governments reforms policy in certain areas and support them in others.

This third party represents a group of programs adopted by small political parties, some are independent and the other some works under an alliance called the National Grouping of opposition, consisting of five parties.

The voters are to be the judge between the elections race rivals, in addition to a fourth group whose programs are represented by the independent. The programs of these independents would derive from their local constituencies' woes. The question of who would win the race would be answered by the voters themselves.

The Road Ahead

Be prepared!

By RAIDAN A. AL-SAQQAF
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To succeed, you need to have constant optimism along with uncanny analysis. The constant optimism is important in ensuring that every thing around you gets some of your attention. Uncanny analysis, however, increases the number of opportunities for doing business, the trick is to know how to foresee these opportunities around you and be prepared for seizing them. Some people call it a 'Naseeb' or good fate while some others call it luck.

Either way, it is one of the topics management people in business avoid talking about, sometimes they feel that it offends their sense of self-worth and causes doubt to develop when they least expect it, and hence reduces their confidence in their abilities; was it being smart or I just got lucky this time? If you ask most executives frankly if they believe in luck, I bet they will change the subject or fall back on a version of the old saying that "chance favors the prepared mind".

The truth about luck that it is the opportunities and breaks everybody gets, but some are blessed with real good ones. However, in order to get lucky you have to know what to do with such opportunities. In business, it is not dumb luck that seizes the opportunities; it's our preparations and reactions to it, and that's what makes some people in business become successful while others don't.

Doing business is not a completely rational activity; there are factors that are beyond our control, out of which only some we can be aware of, and luck is one of these factors. Sometimes it can help you succeed regardless of other factors but on the other hand it can fail you. Nevertheless, the role luck plays is always of reduced importance, but you can never completely eliminate it as a factor.

What you can do is be prepared, watch your gross margins, preserve your capital, monitor your cash flow, and keep an eye on the market. Although doing such things may improve your chances, there are situations where a decision has to be made involving big risks. In such a situation, have confidence in your self and follow your instincts. After all, you might be lucky.

On the other hand, things don't always work in your favor; accidents happen, and when they do that is not merely bad luck, in fact, you have to watch out for your self and your business and always have a plan B to help you avoid them or reduce their impact. For example if you have some work to do and the power goes off, or how a gust of wind can blow over a power pole shorting a factory or causing fire, so be prepared!

Endnote: Seizing opportunities depend to a great extent on your ability to take advantage of them. Conversely, be prepared for possible threats.

Words of Wisdom



For those who are aware and for those who are not aware, it is absolutely crucial that we all prepare ourselves for the next century. The main source of power and wealth in the next century is going to be knowledge and the ability to organize and use it optimally. There are two dimensions to knowledge education as an overall base and informatics as a tool for its use is a specialized sense. Therefore, for those who want to prepare themselves, they better address those two issues.

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



OUR OPINION

Despite efforts by the US, UK, and Spain:

Case for war not made!

Today, Arabs and Muslims throughout the world are starting to talk about a new 'axis of evil'. In a story broadcast on one of the Arab TV channels, a protestor held a sign saying 'US-UK-Spain: The true axis of evil.'

I am not saying that the protestor may have a point there. But nevertheless, common sense suggests that it is the right of those protestors to reveal what they see as the true axis of evil, just like G. W. Bush thought that Iran, N. Korea and Iraq were the axis of evil.

If for any reason the three countries continue to insist on military action against Iraq without the clear approval of the international community represented in the UN, then they may indeed deserve to be called the axis of evil. Not because they attacked Iraq, but because they did not take the proper route, which is the UN.

Even if Iraq indeed violated resolution 1441, and even if it did not promptly cooperate as the resolution stated, taking this as a pretext for war and trying to convince the whole world that Iraq deserves to be destroyed because it didn't declare a drone, or didn't cooperate fully, is as ridiculous as trying to sweep the sea with a broom.

Even the Chilean proposal of offering three more weeks to Iraq's full compliance was rejected by the US. The US cannot wait for more than one week saying that the Iraqi threat is eminent and that it should be stopped before it is too late.

If so, I want to ask:

- Is the world too naïve and stupid to believe that Iraq, in its current conditions, will attack the US with its 5km range drone and threaten the very existence of the superpower of the world within one week?

- Does the US administration think it could make the case when it had put itself in a position of attacking another country because of drones, or sentences like 'there was no immediate cooperation'?

- Does the Bush administration realize that it is waging a war without the approval of the UN and against the will of the world?

- Doesn't it think that its hastiness in starting the war right now makes US citizens wonder suspiciously about the true reasons behind this war?

- If it is to disarm Iraq, then Blix had clearly said that it could happen within months. We waited 12 years. Can't we wait for a few months? Why now?

- Is waiting for a few months so catastrophic that it is better to wage this war now, killing thousands of people, destroying cities, and causing chaos in the whole region?

Statistics say that support for the war is dropping in the US, making the issue of waiting for a longer period a disaster for the Bush administration because by then, public opinion could be overwhelmingly against the war.

Some Americans seem to have been brainwashed by Bush's statements and some war maniac media networks. But sooner or later, they would realize that it is unlike what they thought.

Only time will tell what the real reasons behind this war are.

It is only a matter of time.
So, let's just wait and see...

The Editor



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Question that lingers

Where are we?

By NAWAR AHMED AL- HADDAD

Everyone, belongs to the region called Arab World, should ask oneself this question, where are we the Arabs? Are we here, or are we sleeping? Do we exist on the world map? Or we don't want to see or know what happens around us, and hear what is said!

The entire world at everyday's moment sees how the American policy acts and treats wickedly the Arab world, and every day hears American strategic plans about our area.

Reshaping and rebuilding?

These plans show clearly the haughtiness and boasting of U.S.A (The patron of the human rights and the freedoms). We can see this through the speech of American foreign minister lately when he brazenly and shamelessly said that they will rebuild and reshape the area of Middle East according to their benefits and interests. Also we know through the fiery statements, which are sent by the president of U.S.A everyday and how he is adhering to disinfect the area from terrorists, as if this area is the focus of terrorism and he is the trustee, charged with cleaning it. He may dream that this area/the Middle East/ became American protectorate or state. What is funny this man can't change any president of one state in U.S.A itself. These provocative and disgusting statements are sent not only by the president, his secretary of state and also by most of American officials in administration whoever they are (important or not).

Doves for ever

On the opposite side there is not any worth mentioning reaction from our

brave leaders. I think this is because they are peaceful even more than the peace itself. Our lionhearted leaders hope, wish tactfully talk (not to hurt the feelings of the patron of the peace), and philosophize only nothing else. Oh I am sorry they also exchange the formal visits and convene sessions, meetings but all these great deeds don't equal anything in the American considerations and haven't any meaning in the American dictionary. This is because the effects of all these hard actions always come to nothing.

Nowadays, what is going on shows the real value of the Arab leaders (not the Arab people) in the American policy. U.S.A takes no heed of what they say or do. Our leaders before TV screens say one thing but at the back-stage they say something else, (this comment is said by known foreign persons). Simply the Arab presidents say what they don't do)

Motives

The American military concentrations to invade Iraq under the very nose of world without any acceptable reasons demonstrate frankly how the U.S.A disparages generally the world and specially the Arab world. This action has aroused stands opposing the American policy manifested at various places in the world though they are based on various motives. On the contrary the Arab reaction is not worth mentioning in comparison with situations. Regarding the formal level as the following: one says that the diplomatic solutions in respect of Iraq case are impossible (I want to ask this Arab president are the diplomatic solutions also impossible in respect of the Palestinians' case or they are possible?).

Other says none can stop or delay this

war except U.S.A or UN. The leaders of some Arab countries, which became American military bases, can't at all prevent U.S.A from waging war against Iraq. Here I want to ask our heroic leaders if you can't now prevent anything wrong, dangerous and it surely affects our future and on your lands, so when and where can you do so? And through this shameful attitude do you think that your opinions will be valuable and important in other official or political circles yet? I'm sure the answer is no because a man can do no more than he can. I have a small suggestion, that is, our religious scholars, who don't fear any one except Allah, meet with our leaders to give them too strong religious charge to wake them up. This may return them to the right way that removes the dimness in their eyes to enable them to say frankly and without any hesitation no to anything detriment to Islam or its values.

Deal with reality

Undoubtedly we restore our true and correct position among other nations, our voice will be heard and every word or behavior will be respected. But those who claim that they are realistic, (they are realistic more than the reality itself), and say we must deal with reality as it is, even if it is wrong; in fact, they spread destructive ideas under the pretext that it is the reality. I think those realistic persons are either hirelings or they may be from those who close one eye and put a finger before or on the other one.

Finally, I want to say that the only solution for all of our problems is Islam and nothing else at all, simply because we tried all other solutions but these led and would still lead us to loss our real identity.

Letters to the Editor

Congratulations Yemen Times

Congratulations to you, Yemen Times on your 12th anniversary. Your paper is the best English speaking newspaper in the Arab World, especially your comments and opinions are excellent.

I'm a German reader and I'm quite interested in the Arab World, especially in Yemen. For about one year I have been reading your newspaper quite regularly. I really think Yemen Times is the best English speaking newspaper and one of the best newspapers in the Arab world at large. Yemen Times informs its readers substantial and independently. Yemen Times' independence makes it important and worth reading. Yemen should be glad for such a newspaper. There are not many newspapers in the Arab world like the Yemen Times. Once again, congratulations.

Now some comments to some of your recent "Our Viewpoint" statements. In the recent weeks Yemen Times has published some "Our Viewpoint" articles concerning Germany and Europe. I got really proud when I read them. Proud about what Germany and Europe have reached after the destructive World War II. Our project "Europe" is still "under construction", but the young European generation (which I belong to) feels more and more European. We hope, we will be able finish the "European project" soon and successfully in about 10 to 20 years. The EU is our answer to war, hate, power, nationalism, poverty and corruption. We hope this "new" Europe will help us cope with problems and challenges of the 21st century.

I also support the Yemeni efforts to join the GCC. I hope the GCC will become the Arabian "EU". This would help the whole region in its further development. But I think that the leaders of the GCC currently try to solve the most difficult problems at first. Economical issues can be solved much easier than political ones. Moreover the solution of economical issues will help the people of the GCC-countries.

In the end, I want to say that Arabs and Yemenis should learn from Europeans problems and solutions, but they should not copy the EU. That is not the solution. Arabia needs an Arab solution. And I hope, they'll find it soon.

Markus Rogler
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Wake up Yemenis!

While visiting Yemen last year, I realized the good at I have to point out the secret of Yemen. I think it is better for you to close this web site and

declare your country as a one of the poorest country in the world. You have no policy, no government enforcing laws on the public. Poverty is hunting your people. Shame on your officials and leaders for bring the country to such conditions. I am damn sure you can make it one of the best and amazing countries in the world. But look at your conditions today. What good news can you write about now except the day-to-day deteriorating conditions.

I am asking myself, why are your people having so much patience and endurance abilities to withstand your government's policies? Or is it because of illiteracy that dominates your country. Wake up, be realistic, be logical. If you are sincere with your own people, help them get off the streets that they are lying and sleeping on. Stop beggars by improving their conditions. Do something to save your country from collapse if you are truly loyal to it. But if you cannot, then just stop, it's all over.

Lunder Borge
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Arab & Islamic 'submits'

I think that the recently held Arab and Islamic submits should be called 'Arab submits'. As for Arab submits, that is obvious because Arab leaders have submitted themselves to the US and you don't need to have a PhD to figure this out.

Concerning Islamic summit, please don't call them so because Islam is a noble religion, and a true Muslim will not sell his body and soul to the US. How dare we call ourselves Muslims when:

We have freely and willingly given bases to the US, and from those bases the attack on Iraq will be launched and millions of innocent Muslims will be killed.

We have created an army not to defend your country but to oppress our people.

Please don't call yourselves Muslims when what you practice is totally against Islamic teachings.

I have been to a number of Arab countries and I have seen Muslims by name and without true Islam. I have seen corruption and discrimination as Muslims are discriminated against other Muslims. And the list goes on.

Please wake up.... People are not fools and they are aware of your game but to my regret are too weak to revolt and replace their leaders with true Muslims.

Mark my word, the Americans have a big agenda for you people, Iraq first and

it will be followed by Syria, Lebanon, Iran and the list go on until the Americans have fulfilled the Zionist dream.

You all have been colonized either the British or the French and you have not learnt your lesson.

We all know that Saddam Hussein is not an angel, and we know that in order for the Americans to fulfill their plan, they have supported Saddam and his regime to start the war against Iran, and we know that he was fooled into attacking Kuwait. This was part of the plan and part of the American dream to have a foothold in the Middle East.

I am an Australian second generation Arab, and can tell you that I can freely write such letters and have it published in Australia. I dare and challenge any paper in the Middle East region to print my article.

I bet that an Arab in any Arabic Country will not dare write such a letter and no paper or any other media will dare publish such letter for him... Then where is the freedom?

Where is Islam?

Susan Murray
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Your self-contradictions!

You, the editor, contradict yourself when you lament the oppression and fear delivered by the Arab leadership then scolds these very same leaders for being silent when a 'brotherly country' is on the verge of being attacked.

Your 'brotherly country' is the exemplar of oppression and fear, why would you wish to protect and defend the leading tyrant of all that you lament? Your brotherly leader would've executed you after submitting you and your family to some wholesome torture for the essay you've penned. What may be a problem in Arab society is the automatic assumption that all actions of the accused 'infidels' is the work of Satan, while the most heinous crimes committed by 'believers' are laudable. Osama bin Laden is free to boast without a single contradiction by his 'brothers' of saving the Muslims in Bosnia when in fact they were being slaughtered until the 'Great Satan' himself stepped in and stopped the Serbs. Did one of the 'brothers' thank us, no! In fact they refused to even acknowledge what was in fact genocide until we stopped it, and seconded the boasts by the rich Osama. By the way, did you notice that the great Satan has paid you for every drop of oil it took, or is that just another sign of weakness suitable for your scorn rather than a sign of respect?

Scott Wood
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COMMON SENSE

By Hassan Al-Haifi

USA...

The end of whom?

"I've got to hand it to this Mr. Bushwacker running the United States. He really knows that all that really matters in this world is muscle and everything else can just be thrown out the window", said Mujahid to his friend Murshid, as they sat in the parking lot outside Central Bank of Yemen, waiting to sign out of work.

"No, my friend, in the modern age of globalization and rapid communications, it is public opinion that will really begin to shape the course of events in the world. The problem with Mr. Bush is the same problem that most arrogant world leaders, especially the leaders of Third World countries, are facing. They are still living with the attitude of the "public be damned" and they can carry out any of their whimsical chauvinistic drives. It is clearly a marked revelation to find that European democracies have been able to catch on with the stream that globalization gave rise to." Murshid was getting into one of his long discourses on political development, for which he was famous for, before Mujahid cut in to cut his discourse short.

"Do you really believe that America could fall behind the times and let nations like France and Germany take over as movers of political opinion and human conscience? After all America is the birthplace of modern democratic society."

"Don't corrupt history. It was France that started the tide of real democratic progress and institutionalized protest as a fact of life in human society. Moreover, the American Revolution was the product of the established social elite, who felt deprived of political participation, although they were taxed by the Crown of England. The French Revolution however was the product of intellectuals, who really saw no reason for the existence of human suffering, political oppression, and other forms of social injustice. Therefore, it only seems fitting that France should stand to lead in standing up to world public opinion and defy the weak morals of arrogance and down to earth chauvinism, which a new world order in the era of globalization, should just never accept." Mujahid was setting things straight for Murshid.

But Murshid paid him no mind: "Don't give me all this idealism jive, you know and I know that in the end it is rockets and bombs that will prevail amidst all this passing wind of popular resentment."

Murshid remarked excitedly: "You call it passive resentment! Do you know that never has world opinion been united against anything, as it has been today against American persistent intransigence. It is really refreshing to see all those millions of faces telling the Goliath of the world, 'Look Gringo, we have had enough of your bullying around in this world. It is time that we start to look at the real concrete issues of the world. There are millions of starving people in the world. The environment is being annihilated by your factories and cars. AIDS is literally taking the life out of most of the populations of the world. There is oppression, dictatorship, and economic exploitation that are preventing the majority of the people of this planet from achieving any meaningful human development with a big chunk of them on the verge of starvation. Yet, a man like Mr. Bush, is ready to spend hundreds of billions of his people's hard earned money on meaningless adventures that serve only the desires of Zionist ideologues, whose chauvinism is sending America down the road of dead and forgotten nations, that used to be once called 'great nations'."

Mujahid looked at his watch and the CBY hall to see if the staff were beginning to sign out and then said: "Don't get carried away with your thoughts, there is still a lot of America to see, before we can start to think about its collapse. There is also a lot of conscience being stirred up in America, which is saying that their leadership is just wrong. I have heard distinguished Senators, writers, artists, intellectuals and even American gung-ho conservatives, say to Mr. Bush: 'you are putting us on the wrong way ride Mr. President!' I just can't see America going in one direction and the rest of the world going in another."

Murshid started to get up saying: "It is comforting and disturbing at the same time to see that there is vigor in international public opinion while in the nation, where all this matters the most-the Arab World-protestors are only allowed to express their opinion inside barricaded yards, by the forces that continue to maintain dictatorial control of all their lives. When will these Arab leaders ever see the light?"

Mujahid also got up and said: "When will they all just pack up their bags and get out. After all, they are the reason for all our headaches. Don't ever expect them to see any light!"

A critique Peace and war in Islam

BY MOHAMMAD SAEED
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

The spectacular collapse of the twin towers on Sept. 11, 2001 in America highlighted the difference of opinion between the hawks of war and doves of peace (or the American version of it) in that country.

It created a polarization between the two groups. But the military invasion of Afghanistan, and now the planned invasion of Iraq indicated beyond doubt the supremacy of war mentality among the ruling elitists in America.

In the Muslim world, a similar, but a much sharper, polarization exists between those calling for war, and those pleading for peace. Not surprisingly, the Muslim hawks, and doves for this matter, are different from their American counterparts.

In America, both groups belong to the ruling elite. In the Muslim world, the doves are the ruling elite themselves. Included in this elitist class are the religious clerics. The hawks do not belong to this class.

They are mostly religious clerics who have a young following. They claim no association with the ruling class; in fact they strongly oppose it. Their followers are young lay people with some degree of secular and religious education. But they tend to propagate radical interpretation of Islam.

They are non-conformists with an obsession of opposing everything said or done by their secular opponents - rulers or the religious leaders. Because of their unorthodox ideas they were persecuted.

Unabated by persecution, they engaged in under-ground operations against their local as well as international opponents. So far, they have kept their differences at an intellectual level with the religious elite among the doves.

Until now, the hawks have refrained from any violent or bloody confrontation with them. But, they managed, nevertheless, to differentiate themselves.

The two groups emerged with varying degrees of prominence in the Muslim world and internationally. What differentiates them from each other is the contradiction between them in almost everything: in their strategies and methods; in their understanding of Islam and interpretation of its teachings; in their reading of its history and their writing of its present; in their desire for moulding its future and influencing the opinion of the "other" about it.

In the following lines I shall only focus on the doves. I shall analyze their argument that the Qur'an promotes only peace, and 'war' is resorted to only for self-defence.

I shall, however, refer occasionally to the hawks, and briefly discuss their counter-argument. The reason I do it is that the hawks' argument is more practical than the doves'. They prefer action to words. But their action, with its disastrous consequences, proves beyond doubt that they have got it wrong too. Another reason is that the doves have spent more than enough ink in refuting their opponents' argument and watering down what they have achieved through their actions.

The differences

Throughout history of Islam, the two groups existed side by side. Their existence, however, was initially marred with intellectual conflict and theological differences. Later on, their sour relation took rather a violent and bloody turn. The persecutor always tend to be the group that sides with the ruling regime making them the only legitimate interpreters of religion, legitimizers of the regime and justifiers of his actions. Although both groups shared alternatively phases of power and weakness, it can still be safely claimed that the hawks of war enjoyed longer periods of power and influence than their opponents.

This was the case during all the successive powerful Islamic states right from the First Caliphate to the Ottoman Empire. These states spent most of their military and political years in taking Islam further afield.

They militarily spread its authority, and expanded geographically its territory, thus fulfilling the prophetic promise of conquering the metropolises of the world. The last powerful Islamic state was the

Ottoman Empire, which collapsed in the beginning of the last century. Its collapse marked the end of the military expansion, as well as the end of the happy marriage between the hawks and their masters.

Since then a period of multi-sided weakness has started, militarily, economically etc. The ruling elitists have divorced the mentality of war against Dar Al-harb (the house of war - the hostile forces of Muslim State), and have embraced instead the philosophy of pacifism (towards them). Doves of [peace thus have become powerful.

Put briefly, the doves become powerful in time of political and military weakness, whereas the hawks become powerful in time of strength.

The unique phenomenon, unprecedented in Islamic history, lays in the emergence of the hawks, both in the Muslim world as well as globally, during the present time - the time of total powerlessness of Muslims worldwide. Unsurprisingly, their emergence was smeared with blood and violence; as if they emerged in the wrong time. Their untimely emergence lead them to head-collide with the ruling regimes and their Doves of Peace.

Pacifist Attitude

Despite the fact that the emergence of the two groups in the recent times seemed to take place concurrently, the emergence of the doves came about as a reaction and indeed an opposition to the actions of the hawks. The doves' apologetic explanation of Islam and compromising interpretation of its teachings on one hand, and their tactics of excluding and excommunicating the war promoters on the other, reflect this fact.

The doves' pacifist rhetoric can also be seen clearly in the way they interact with the 'other', namely the victims of the 9/11 attacks and those who expect to be next in the Islamic hit-list of vengeance!

So whenever an expulsion is heard, their love and peace-filled pleas can also be heard. The majority of these pleas can be heard coming loudly from the official Islamic media, notably "The Muslim World" a widely-read and respected Islamic newspaper published by the World Muslim League in Mecca. A dove of peace writes in this paper about the holy mission of his fellow pacifists as "...correcting and polishing the image of Islam" (Issue 1771). "There is nothing at all [sic] in Islam that causes fear or terror" he continues, "its teachings are free from any seeds of violence, terror, conflict, or confrontation.

On the contrary, they promote peace, security, cooperation, and co-existence." (ibid) The writer, with stroke of a pen, namely the use of one word "at all", tried to abolish a long history of wars, expansions, occupations, and colonization by Islamic states throughout the history of Islam that lasted more than ten centuries.

The Expansion of Muslim Empire

The issue of how the rule of Islam spread over the three continents of Asia, Africa, and Europe in such a relatively short time has never been a contentious issue as it's nowadays. In this time of utter weakness the apologetic tone and defensive rhetoric is gaining the upper hand.

The heroes of this trend are the doves taking upon themselves the holy task of diluting the harsh teachings of Islam that relate to war (Jihad). Jihad is being re-defined by them and made to mean self-defence only. In the same newspaper of the Muslim World League, Grand Sheikh of Al-Azhar in Cairo, Sayid Tantawi, embarks on re-defining Jihad as "Self-defence to protect Muslims' lives, their dignity, and their land" (Issue 1752).

In the perspective of events, such trend is only expected from a movement propagating extreme pacifist views because itself was born as a reaction of another extreme violent-oriented movement - the hawks. To serve their agenda, the hawks opted for over-emphasizing the Quranic verses commanding war and commanding self-initiated jihad, while ignoring or re-interpreting those ones promoting peace. The Quran, therefore, was reduced to only few verses to support war or peace. The most quoted war verses are:

"Against them make ready your strength to the utmost of your power, including steeds of war, to strike terror into (the hearts of) the enemies of God and

your enemies..." (8:6, Y. Ali translation); and

"Fight those who believe not in God nor the Last Day, nor hold that forbidden which hath been forbidden by God and His Apostle, nor acknowledge the Religion of Truth (even if they are) of the People of the Book, until they pay the Jizyah (poll-tax) with willing submission, and feel themselves subdued" (9:29, Y. Ali).

Doves, on the other hand, quote only selected verses commanding tolerance and peace, for example:

"Let there be no compulsion in religion: Truth stands out clear from Error" (2:256, Y. Ali); and

"Say: O ye that reject Faith...to you be your Way, and to me mine" (109:1 & 6, Y. Ali)

Verse selectiveness is a preferable tactic used by both groups to validate their version of the concept of peace and war in Islam.

The tactic of selectiveness by the two groups when quoting the Quran, and the Sunnah, refutes their claims of representing the true teachings of Islam, or the authentic version of Islam. It is a tactic used only to serve their self-serving agendas and vested self-interests. The hawks' agenda is to revive, through violence, the militant past and relive its glories. In order to fulfill their agenda they have withdrawn from the present and tried to live in the past. They live in a self-denial of the reality of Muslims, their defeatedness and their sheer inability for any military confrontation or conflict.

The doves, on the other hand, are attempting to ignore and deny the past militarism of Muslims and re-interpreting the Islamic history. Present status of Muslims is taken for granted and status quo is being maintained. Sufferings of Muslims worldwide is explained, and even justified, theologically. They argue that it's what God wills for them because of their collective impiety.

According to them, local tyranny and foreign oppression should not be taken for their face value. They should be taken as an expression of Allah's wrath against Muslims. Tyranny and oppression, therefore, must not be fought by the sword (used here as a symbol of war only). It must only be fought by appeasing God through attaining the prophet's and his companions' level of righteousness! Fighting is out of question for them.

Ironically, the doves, like non-Muslims, especially the critics of Islam, tend to confuse, through ignorance or arrogance, the two distinct aspects of the Islamic concept of war and peace. The aspect of expanding the political and geographical boundaries of Islam, and the aspect of the forcing it on the conquered peoples. History, backed up by reality, confirms the occurrence of the political and the military expansion of Islam. But history and present really refutes the taking place of the forced mass conversion. The first is a historical fact, the second is a mythical fiction.

Although these two aspects are well connected, they are distinct and far apart. Territorial expansion of Islam should always be separated from its imposition on the inhabitants of the conquered lands.

If the Quran commands its believers to conquer and rule the un-believers, as hawks may claim, it prohibits, in the same time, the compulsory conversion of non-believers, specially "the People of the Book, namely the Jews and the Christians.

But in their zeal of defending Islam against the accusations of those who suffered in these attacks; and protecting it from those who caused, or hailed, these attacks, the doves either overlooked this distinction, or confused the two aspects and fused them into one.

The two aspects of the concept of Jihad forms the equation of war and peace in Islam. And as Quran is unambiguous on the aspect of prohibition of imposing the faith, it is equally so on the aspect of imposing its rule on the followers of other religion.

Islam, nonetheless, regulates the way of it being the dominant religion on earth, and all lands should be under the dominion of its followers. According to Islam, there are three rules governing the application of this command.

The first: the dominion should be sought peacefully, mainly through the voluntary mass conversion of the ruled; the

SKETCHED OPINION



second: the total submission and involuntary surrender, but no conversion, of the ruled demonstrated by their paying the toll-tax (or jizyah in Arabic); the third: full scale war.

Regardless of which rule is followed in ruling other lands, the rulers, under no circumstances, should force the ruled, particularly Christians or Jews, to abandon their own religion in order to embrace the victorious religion. A delicate balance not always achieved.

Although the concept of military expansion is non-applicable nowadays, the geographical spread of Muslims over the old world proves that this was once the rule of thumb. A rule followed vigorously by Muslim rulers right from the Prophet (pbuh) and his Caliphs, through Umayyads, Abbasids, and finally to the Ottoman emperors. A historical fact and a factual reality too real for the doves to defy or deny.

Based on what's been said, it becomes obvious that the doves' rhetoric is lacking

all integrity, factuality and credibility on both historical and theological levels.

Balancing of the War and Peace equation

Seeking to balance the equation of war and peace in Islam is a difficult task, but it is not unattainable. Any attempt of balancing war and peace must be based on three pre-requisites.

The first: to attain a high level of honesty, integrity and courage with selves and with the 'other'. The second is to abandon the tactic of selectiveness and instead take Islam as a whole and look into its teachings as complementary to each other and not as contradictory to each other. The third, and the last: to accept the past with all its facts, and to deal with the present with all its realities.

This will be futile without agreeing on a definition of both war and peace which is in line with Islamic tenets and teachings. The true and real Islamic definition of these two concepts must be sought and

made clear to both - Muslims and non-Muslims alike.

It's a better way than constructing arguments based on the definition of the 'other' for these two sensitive concepts. Such an endeavor should always be kept away from the political allegiances and the changes of politics.

In this way Muslim interlocutors will enjoy more freedom and independent to present the true teachings of Islam without feeling the need for apology, dilution or covering. The 'other' prefers this method and respects it because it forms part of their culture and psyche.

Muslim interlocutors must realize that they bear the responsibility of convincing, themselves first, and the 'other' with the credence of the Islamic ordinance that the ultimate goal of Islam is to establish peace (Salam) through peace (Salam), or, if necessary, through war (Jihad). The ultimate goal of Islam is to establish peace that is guarded by a canon and not by an olive branch."

Palestinian issue & 11 September incidents

Conspiracy against US & Palestinian peoples

BY ALI ABDULLAH AL-GHAIL
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FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

Contemplating key events and mulling over their dimensions, one can reach to different explicit conclusions which usually have a single objective.

Under the title of this article, I would like to share my ideas along with readers over the events in an attempt to link the Palestinian issue as a key issue to Islamic and Arab issues and what the September 11 incidents in Washington DC and New York.

First, immediately after the September 11, the Israeli prime minister appeared calm and didn't get affected by the horrible incidents and declared that "all of us realized who carried out such suicide attacks."

He said Israel was still suffering from such attacks continuously and that the world and the US will fully understand the impact of those attacks on Israel.

Second, the image has been still blurred and has gone in the same route.

The US president declared a crusade campaign between the Islam and Christianity.

At an earlier date he had mentioned that there must be an immediate solution to the Palestinian issue and above all he had committed himself to establish the Palestinian state.

(Of course, he doesn't intend to fulfill what he says, but he pointed the finger at Muslims in order to link between the September 11 attacks and the Palestinian issue."

The question which poses itself is, "Was that statement for the benefit of investigating and searching for the 11 September perpetrators?"

Third, to make the evil intentions of the US president Bush crystal clear, an Arab leader, who is never been known to have any opposing stand towards the US, and "What has happened in the US was due to a feeling of despair resulting from the US unjust policy towards the Mideast region." It was an unfamiliar courage, but rather greenlighted beforehand to indicate that attackers in the September events are from the Arabs and Muslims.

It is further regrettable is that the very same Arab leader was himself who

received a promises from Bush on solving the Palestinian issue after the September 11 attacks. The same Arab leader had also received the same promise from Bush for settling the Palestine cause, but after finishing the extermination of the people of Iraq. And finally it is no wonder to know that that leader asked for giving Sharon a chance for showing peace.

Fourth, after such hints and driving the issue towards the Arabs and Muslims, the September 11 events were attributed to Osama bin Laden, as a symbol of an extremist Arab Muslim, and all deserve to be punished because of him, from Iraq to Indonesia to Palestine.

Thus, in the name of September events and in retaliation from bin Laden, the actual blockade has already started against the Palestinian cause in particular and issues of the entire Arab and Islamic nations in general, labeling whoever supports the Arab national issues as, "terrorist" or "extremist" as those involved in the September 11 attacks, exactly as it was first declared by the former Israeli prime minister Barrack after those incidents.

Hamas movement, all Palestinian organizations and even merchants, princes, citizens and others have, in the eyes of the American judiciary, become terrorists deserve to be punished by imprisonment, killing and demolition of their houses on their heads without trial or constitutional and humanitarian rights.

Fifth, in one of the US festivals, the US president Bush asked the Americans to enjoy their time and saying the terrorists could not prevent them from enjoying their festivals. At the same time, an Egyptian citizen was killed under mysterious conditions and under the pretext of carrying a weapon and his attempt to kill an Israeli employees at the Israeli airways company.

Hence come analyses and attempts to convince the American people that targeting Israel at the American festival is targeting happiness of the Americans. The enemy is the same (Arabs & Muslims) and the victims are the same (US & Israel).

Sixth, In Yemen, a prominent Shiekh, Mohammed Ali al-Mouayad was arrested in Germany. He was charged with providing millions of dollars, weapons

and recruits to al-Qaeda and the militant Palestinian groups, including Hamas. And in the person of Ashcroft, the U.S. announces his arrest as a financier of Hamas and al-Qaeda. Just mull over this linkage, al-Qaeda and Hamas, for whom the benefit is it?

Seventh, one of the strangest Zionist links between Palestine and al-Qaeda has been fabricated by Israel when a bombing incident was performed in Haifa 5 March. A piece of paper was claimed to be found in the pocket of the attacker praising the September 11 attacks. The Israeli allegation means to send a message convincing the Americans and reminding them that those who target Israel also gloat over those killed in New York.

So, after the review of these sinister attempts, don't we have the right to doubt the big role played by Israel and the U.S. intelligence in the 11 September events, the victim of which have been the American people and the Muslim peoples at the same footing? Aren't such attempts of connection indicate the absence of pain felt by the American government towards what happened to the victims of September?

Is the deployment of the U.S. soldiers and huge military fleets around the world for just to track down the September 11 attackers or is it an execution for pre-planned strategy for events needing to provide justification to implement? Is possible for the US government to breach the peace agreements and overlook human rights violations, and turns its back to what is going on in the occupied land?

At last, does the world notice the monotonous and continuous pretenses of the September 11 attacks where the US government violates rights and freedoms?

What I want to suggest here is that the September 11 attacks have been committed to be used for more than one operation and from one side.

I will not get surprised if they are carried out against an Arab or Islamic state as that of Yemen, Syria, Libya or Saudi Arabia.

That is not only enough, it is probable to be performed against France, Germany, Belgium, and perhaps China.

I think it is a joint US-Israel terror operations performed jointly and not externally.

Khor Umaira lagoonHome to
special wildlife

By M. A. REHMAN
TOURISM AND ENVIRONMENT OFFICE
GOVERNORATE OF LAHEJ

Khor Umaira is located 60 km west Imran headlands (Ras Imran) and about 70km east of Jebba Swayda, in the entrance of the Gulf of Aden.

This lagoon is about 7 km from east to west and up to 3 km north to south, with an entrance width to the sea, at the western end of 700m. The southern area of the lagoon is of rock and coral outcrops of stable nature and unlikely to be overtopped by waves to any great extent the maximum water depth in the lagoon is of less than 3 m, according to Grinyer data, in the report prepared for the fishery development in the Gulf of Aden.

Khor Umaira enjoys high importance as a feeding ground of sea turtles, particularly the green turtle

(Chelonia mydas), and therefore, it is suggested, as one of sensitive areas along Yemen coast, to a special management and environment protection.

Marine Science Resources Research Center (MSRRC) reports 15 localities to be declared by the government as protectorate areas. This proposal is given in the results of the beach pollution study along Gulf of Aden Yemen coast, executed by MSRRC with the cooperation of Sana'a and Aden Universities and this study was funded by EPC/ our consult, the Netherlands in 1996.

Hirth, Klikoff and Harper, report the importance of Khor Umaira as feeding ground of grass in a large number. Results of their investigation were demonstrated in "Sea grass of Khor Umaira, people democratic Republic of Yemen with reference to their role in the diet of the green turtle Chelonia mydas.

Center of Environment manage-

ment and Planing of UK identify Khor Umaira as a sensitive area, important for green turtle feeding, where at least three species of sea grass occur. They are Cymodocea serulata, Halodule uninervis and Halophis ovalis.

A clear zonation pattern was evident as it was mentioned during the coastal habitats survey, in 1995; in deeper water (>1m). The assemblage was dominant by Cymodocea (70 per cent cover) while in water less than 1m the community was composed of Halodule uninervis and Halophia ovalis that them is considerable export of organic materials from Khor Umaira since sea grass little and detritus were observed on the strandlines up to Jebal Swadya.

The contribution of sea grass productivity to the marine ecology down stream of Khor Umaira may be considerable, particularly to detritus food chains and sea turtle population.

21st of March Day

A message to mother

MAYASA MOHAMMED GAWAD
YT STAFF- TAIZ BUREAU

Dearest mom

More precious than my own soul and blood, The kindest, the most affectionate, God bless you.

Would we, daughters and sons, sing for the love of our mothers? They express our beautiful feelings towards them.

Mother day, to the people, is the day of 21st of March when they celebrate their real love of their mothers, kissing their hands which feed and

bring them up and, acknowledging their rights of obedience and care. However, mother day to the mothers themselves is not a single day- when they see their children successful, their sons in high positions, daughters getting married...Etc.

Mother is a real school we enter where we learn how to give with no limitations. In this school, seeds of love are sown in our souls and we feel security, and sing greetings to all great moms who bring to birth, bring up, and teach, and who as they sow, so they reap.

I ask mercy to the dead mothers, obedience to all those alive, visit to

the lonely, strength to the weak, good health to the ill, and all the love to all the mothers. We really live on an earth which mothers and fathers from half pare of. We live on that earth getting warmth of its sun. They together participate in building up our future.

I'm indebted to you, mother and father.

With all I have of greatness
And all of success,
Which will remain the fruits of
your noble principles
And good morals.

Your daughter.

Cultural Hints from Yemen

By: ISMAIL AL GHABRI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Nabila Alzubair, a tender and soft female voice in the realm of poetry in Yemen, has become among the few pioneers among the Yemeni female writers known for their undoubting spirit in breaking through domains considered till quite recently sole receipts for men. She, among her peers, will be recorded in history books for leading the way apart from the closely traditional social life in Yemen. Reading one poem written by Nabila Alzubair that reveals her yearning, not to say her will, to overcome the hardships and uncertainties of life. This poem depicts the journey of life, the struggle and strife of the individual to make a meaning out of what is mostly perceived as absurd. The title of this poem, the waves, is so telling as waves stand for the stones that often obstruct ones journey through life.

The poem says:

It is the wave coming
It is the wave receding
So are the vagaries of life, my dear,
If life at times is harsh on us
Do not be sad my love
Smile to me tenderly
Oh, how sweet is your smile

It is the wave playing
It is the wave having fun
It will come and go and come and go again

So if today is harsh, perhaps tomorrow
Will be kinder
And if the beguiling glance is cast
your way today

Be not deceived my love, for tomorrow
It may become a fickle frown
But don't grieve my love
My music, my fragrance
Hand me the cup of love
Filled with sweet nectar
Soothe my parched soul
Never let my cup run dry
It is the world sweet and bitter
So why shall we despair?
My love, sister of the moon
But yet more beautiful
Fill the cup of love to the brim and let us drink

So that we may drown our lingering
sorrow
In its bowl

It is the wave playing
It is the wave billowing
Surging angrily, harshly
As though to welcome violence

But so long as your image
Sleeps in my eyelids
So long as my heart throbs with
yearning
So long as your heart flutters with
love

Then will our love never drown?
But forever rides the surf.

And if the waves could come,
They would dry up
In our hearts will always
Be the song of love
Despite everything.



WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT ASSOCIATION (WEEA) VACANCY (For Female Yemenis Only)

The Women's Economic Empowerment Association (WEEA) has been implementing a project titled *Towards Gender Sensitive Economy (GSEP)* supported by the Netherlands Ministry for Development Cooperation. The Project is being implemented in three main areas of Yemen: Sana'a, Lahj and Zabid.

Currently WEEA is looking for an experienced professional for the position of a **National Project Manager** based in Sana'a. The required qualification for the position is stipulated below:-

Minimum Requirements:-

1. M.A degree in business administration, economic or related fields.
2. 10 Years experience in management of which at least five years in the field of Social Development issue.
3. Must have experience of women's economic advancement programmes or poverty alleviation project with focus on micro credit/finance.
4. Financial & administrative skills are required.
5. Knowledge and experience of dealing with governmental institutions.
6. Knowledge and experience of the NGO regulations of the RoY.
7. Experience of participative development process (decision making and implementation).
8. Experience in dealing with donors agencies.
9. Must be proficient in English, both spoken and written.
10. Must be proficient in Microsoft Word & Excel use.
11. Ability to travel in rural areas.
12. Analytical report writing skills.

If you meet the a/m requirements send your application to P.O. Box 19175, Sana'a - Yemen. For further information contact us in 440507 - ext (115)

MUS'ID & MUS'IDA

First Ever Yemeni Radio Series published in a newspaper

48

Written by
Abdulrahman Mutaahhar

Translated by
Janet Watson

Weapons in the hands
of adolescents

M - Now tell me, Mus'ida, did you go to the market to buy the chicken and vegetables for lunch, or did you go to check the state of the street and watch other people as they went about their business?

Ma - I just went to buy the shopping. I haven't any interest in other people, and they haven't any interest in me. Don't you go looking for things to complain about!

M - So what's this that I heard then?

Ma - Let us seek refuge in God from all the devils! What on earth did you hear?

M - How can you let yourself talk about someone else's son?

Ma - And just who is this someone else's son I've been talking about?

M - Your son's friend.

Ma - Why should I want to talk about someone who's still got the mind of a child? What would make me want to talk about him? But I'll tell you what! When I came back from the market, I found him waiting by the door in a Toyota land cruiser. He said he was waiting for my son.

M - But Mus'ida, how on earth did our son get to know someone with a Toyota land cruiser, when all his other friends have nothing but second-hand bicycles and worn-out boots?

Ma - I must admit, I was rather surprised, too, when he opened the car door and came out wearing a pistol on his right hip, a pager on his left, with a mobile phone strung around his neck! The only thing missing was a lollipop stuck in his mouth then he would have

had all the gadgets and appliances anyone could ask for!

M - Look, that's nothing to do with us. We're not responsible for how other people behave or their stupidity, just get that into your head!

Ma - However, I am responsible for my son. When I saw the pistol on the lad's hip and a car that was bigger than him and more than he could manage, I was concerned about my son. Don't you know how dangerous guns and cars are in the hands of adolescents, Mus'id?

M - Of course I do! The one thing that worries people most is weapons, cars and satellite television in the hands of adolescent boys.

Ma - Exactly! When I saw that boy with all those gadgets I measured him up. I told him my son wasn't at home, he'd gone to the village to buy things for his father. He asked me the name of our village, so I told him Bayt Alal. He then asked where Bayt Alal was, and I told him next to Bayt al-Rabu'i. He asked how long ago it was since he'd left. I told him about half an hour. Then he asked what he'd gone to fetch, and I told him he'd gone to fetch stalks and hay for the calf we were fattening for Eid Arafah. Then he asked me what hay was, and I said it was like popcorn. He said, 'When your son comes back, ask him to leave me some hay to try.' I said I'd leave him some hay, and he could go and share it with the calf!

M - Oh Mus'ida! Why did you make fun of the poor boy like that! You're normally so considerate! It's not right, and you know how you should behave!

Ma - Oh yes! Now tell me who exactly is making fun of the lad, will you! Me who answers his questions, or his parents who obviously don't care less - giving him a pistol and a car, both dangerous weapons and either of which could kill! Also, I'm concerned about my son. According to the Yemeni proverb, 'He who gets near to the furnace will either get burnt or be covered in soot.'

M - Weapons and cars in the hands of adolescents are a danger to society as a whole. As the proverb goes, 'Calamities come at the end of the night'.

Ma - It isn't calamities at the end of the night that bother me! May God protect us from all evils! I'm talking to you about calamities which happen slap bang in the middle of the day! Sensible people, my dearest, make sure they provide their children with as much learning and culture as possible, to open their minds and raise their sense of awareness, and to embed in them a sense of higher principles and values. We, on the other hand, provide our children with the means to kill and be killed. And we let them be ignorant, snobbish, conceited and reckless, and tell them they can have whatever they want. The Yemeni proverbs go, 'Stupid people are contented', and, 'A wayward child will cause you distress'.

Al-Akwa', p. 1259; Qanun San'a, p. 6

Al-Akwa', p. 31.

Al-Akwa', p. 825.

Al-Akwa', p. 40

New destination to Marseille every Monday

We Are No Longer Willing To Sacrifice Health and Peace!

Open Letter by Matthias Rath, M.D.
to the American People and to the People of the World!



"As the physician and scientist who was privileged to contribute discoveries that make the eradication of cardiovascular disease by natural means possible and save millions of lives I raised my concerns in an Open Letter published in the New York Times on February 28. I raise my voice once again on behalf of millions of people who are deprived of life saving natural health information, which threatens the multi-trillion dollar pharmaceutical investment business of patented drugs.

PEACE NOT WAR

My Open Letter published in the New York Times one week ago revealed for the first time:

- **The largest corporate benefactor** of the September 11 tragedy was the multi-trillion dollar pharmaceutical industry. In August 2001 Bayer's Baycol scandal was the beginning of a 'domino effect' threatening the survival of this entire investment industry. Similarly to the tobacco industry, individuals and governments were beginning to sue drug companies for billions in damages. After September 11, all media attention shifted away.
- **The close connection** between the pharmaceutical/petrochemical industry as the single largest donors for the election campaigns of George Bush and his all out efforts to protect and promote the interests of this investment industry.
- **The main agenda** behind the war escalation is to regain control by the pharmaceutical industry and establish its long-term global monopoly for the "investment business with disease". This can only be achieved by eliminating civil rights - including freedom of information and free access to natural health. Wars - especially the use of weapons of mass destruction - can accomplish all that.

HEALTH NOT DISEASE

Unbeknown to most people, the very same industry has been leading another war for decades. According to the *Journal of the American Medical Association* (April 15, 1998) in this 'war' every year more than 100,000 people die and more than 1,500,000 are hospitalized from the side effects of harmful prescription drugs.

In this 'war at home' people are harmed in several ways. They are promised 'health' but they receive drugs that do not cure, only cover symptoms. Moreover, millions of patients and entire economies are financially ruined for the sake of the huge profit margins of this investment industry. All of this is no surprise, because the continued existence of diseases and their expansion is a precondition for further growth of the drug industry. Prevention and eradication of diseases undermines the investment nature of this business.

With its current 400 billion dollar 'Medicare' plan, the Bush Administration is making further concessions to the pharmaceutical 'investment business with disease' at the expense of millions of patients.

The cornerstones of a new patient-oriented, effective and affordable health care are available:

Effective, Safe and Affordable Health Care for the American People and the People of the World

1 Prevention and Eradication of Diseases Instead of Treatment of Symptoms.

Eighty percent of pharmaceutical drugs currently prescribed to patients have no proven efficacy - at the very best, they alleviate symptoms without addressing the root cause of the disease. Future health care systems will focus on prevention, treatment of root causes and eventually the eradication of diseases.

2 Healthy Body Cells Are a Precondition of Good Health.

Health and disease in the human body are determined at the level of cells. The main cause of cellular dysfunction is the insufficient intake of micronutrients essential for optimum cellular metabolism and their optimum daily intake is a precondition for health. This new understanding of Cellular Health can be summarized in three principles:

3 Cellular Health Principle #1: Optimum Supply of Cell Energy.

Essential nutrients are required for maintaining cellular energy metabolism. An optimum supply of these nutrients is a prerequisite for the prevention of irregular heartbeat (energy deficiency in myocardial cells responsible for regular heartbeat), heart failure (energy deficiency in myocardial cells responsible for contraction of the heart muscle and blood pumping), and similar conditions.

4 Cellular Health Principle #2 - Optimum Connective Tissue Stability of Soft Tissues.

Approximately one half of the body's proteins are composed of collagen, elastin, and other connective tissue molecules. Their production is regulated by vitamin C, and the amino acids lysine and proline, which are the main building blocks of these proteins. The human body does not produce vitamin C or lysine and, therefore, is dependent on an

optimum lifelong supply of these nutrients. The application of this basic knowledge will decrease the incidence of today's most common health problems such as heart attack, stroke, cancer and many other diseases to a fraction of their current rates.

5 Cellular Health Principle #3 - Optimum Connective Tissue Stability of Bone Tissue.

The stability of the skeletal system and our teeth is determined by the optimum production of collagen molecules (facilitated by vitamin C, lysine, and proline) and the proper introduction of essential minerals (such as calcium and magnesium) and trace elements. The systematic implementation of this knowledge will largely prevent widespread diseases such as osteoporosis (bones), caries (teeth), and periodontitis (gums).

6 Independent Health Information and Education Is the Key to Health.

Although we are at the beginning of the third millennium, it is still a little-known fact that the human body does not produce vitamin C or lysine, two key nutrients in determining human health and disease. This is the result of the pharmaceutical industry's ongoing efforts to suppress this information. The dissemination of basic health information and the implementation of health education from childhood to advanced age is the foundation of the new health care system.

7 Comprehensive Research in Natural Health Is a Cornerstone of a New Health Care System.

Currently, medical research is being driven by the share prices of drug companies, not the health needs of people. The implementation of natural health and Cellular Health principles saves billions in health care costs. These billions in savings should be reinvested into further research in natural health. It is a fact that many more diseases are connected to cel-

lular deficiencies in essential nutrients. The introduction of comprehensive natural health research programs as part of public health policies would greatly accelerate the elimination of diseases.

8 Implementation of the Scientific Principles of Cellular Health.

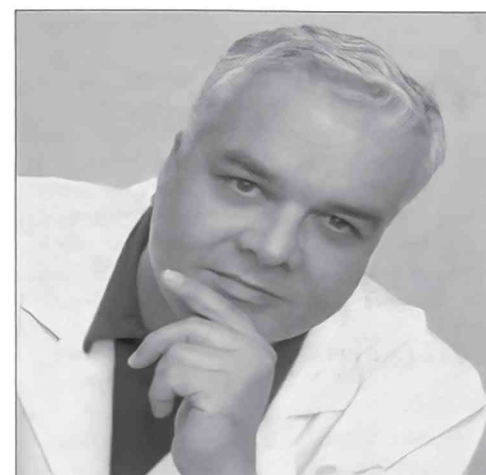
Each year, millions of people world wide die from diseases that can be prevented and controlled by natural means. The implementation of the scientific principles of Cellular Health into healthcare policies will save millions of lives and billions of dollars in public and private funds. These dollars could then be used to also address other basic needs of society.

9 Elect Politicians Who Defend the People's Right to Natural Health.

Politicians who continue to support legislation that restricts the dissemination of natural health information endanger the health and lives of the people who elected them. Politicians who continue to obstruct natural health rather than support it will be held accountable. All governments have a responsibility to protect the lives of their citizens and promote effective, safe and cost saving health measures in their countries.

10 Ban the Pharmaceutical Industry's 'Business With Disease,' Not the Dissemination of Natural Health Information.

To protect their billion-dollar market with largely ineffective drugs, pharmaceutical companies are trying to fight off their fiercest competition: effective, safe, and affordable essential nutrients. To that effect, the pharmaceutical lobby has been abusing the United Nation's "Codex Alimentarius" (Food Standard) Commission and many other national and international political bodies. Maintaining and expanding diseases, as the basis for the growth of the investment 'business with disease,' will be prohibited by law.



Dr. Matthias Rath is the physician and scientist who led the breakthrough in the natural treatment of cardiovascular disease and cancer. He is a member of the New York Academy of Sciences and other renowned scientific organizations. 10 years ago, the late Dr. Linus Pauling, recipient of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry and Peace stated: "Your discoveries are so important for millions of people that they threaten entire industries. One day there may even be wars just to prevent this breakthrough from being widely accepted. This is the time, when you need to stand up!" - This time is now!

LESSONS FROM HISTORY

Mankind is currently going through one of the greatest advances in its history. Two out of three of today's diseases can largely be eradicated if the scientific knowledge currently available in the area of natural non-patentable health is implemented in any health care system.

Over 400 years ago, a similar quantum leap took place in history. During medieval times 80% of the people living in Europe were illiterate. The invention of the printing press together with the translation of the bible into spoken languages allowed millions of common people to learn to read and write.



Knowledge was power and the rulers at that time did not want to share their power with the people. They wanted to preserve their feudal economic privileges and met the 'liberation from illiteracy' with utmost brutality. In the '30-Year War' (1618-1648) they destroyed half of Europe and killed millions of people in an attempt to bring back Medieval Times. All was in vain because the people no longer wanted to live in illiteracy and dependency.

Today we are facing a 'liberation' of similar magnitude - but global in its scope. The possibility to liberate mankind from cardiovascular disease, cancer and many other diseases by natural, non-patentable means threatens the very existence of the multi-trillion dollar pharmaceutical investment industry.

As we are all witnessing, today's 'economic rulers' are not willing to give up their economic privileges voluntarily. Just as they did 400 years ago they are willing to sacrifice the lives of thousands, even millions of people in their own decline.



There is one difference worth noting. Centuries ago, wars were fought with pitchforks and muskets. Today they are fought with weapons of mass destruction including nuclear weapons.

Millions of people living today in America and in every other country of the world have to make a decision: Do we really want this to happen? If not, the time to act is now!

With the multi-trillion dollar pharmaceutical investment industry as the largest corporate benefactor behind the current 'war on terrorism' revealed and in broad daylight for the world to see, what are the options left for this interest group? When the first nuclear or biological weapons detonate - who will be blamed? Who will accept the arguments that civil liberties need to be abandoned and press freedom abolished?

This interest group and its political stakeholders have to realize: Whatever they do now - including any military action - their goal is now publicly exposed and can no longer be achieved.

All of us, the people of America, the people of the world now have the great opportunity and responsibility to help build a healthier and more peaceful world. Now it's up to us!

"The Time to Protect Our Health and Our Lives Is Now!"

Matthias Rath, M.D.

More Information: www.dr-rath-health-foundation.org

This public information work is paid for by hundreds of thousands of patients who have already been helped by natural health programs.

Local Press

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr



Al-HAQ weekly, 9 March 2003.

Main headlines:

- \$160 billion, Arab countries debts
- Women hurl stones & shoes at a political security director
- Aden oil installation privatization
- Environment health seizes quantity of expired food in Taiz
- A colonel shot dead at the Free Zone in Aden

Columnist Najeeb Mohammed Yabelli says in his article that a legislative body in any society is measured by its power enacting laws in favor of the human, extent of its effectiveness in watching public property, monitoring the executive institutions. It should practice its authority of thoroughly examining feasibility for the homelands interests represented in all agreements. Our citizen expects that his representatives are fully aware of the international conventions, especially those related to human rights. Our country is member of several international bodies and institutions concerned with civil rights and economic, social and cultural rights. Our parliament tenure has been extended from four to six years to end on April 27, 2003. The question is whether this parliament was at the level of the confidence granted to it. Press has to exercise its role in urging the society to shoulder its responsibility for evaluating the parliament members during their tenure through a comprehensive evaluation of their practice. But the coming elections were held without carrying out an evaluation to the work of this parliament, it should denote that we are a society of obedience and silent majority. It would mean that the state of law and order we aspire for would not see the light and no one would respect us.



Al-Wahdah weekly, organ of the Nasserite Unionist organization, 11 March 2003.

Main headlines:

- Two children, 9 persons, victims of armed clashes in Thamar, Taiz, Dhahie
- JMP decides the question of elections coordination

- Ruling party organization in Aden collects voters cards for "food distribution"
- National alignment committee discusses political parties proposals
- Al-Mouayd: Americans are mad
- Demonstrations in 700 world cities against war Saturday
- Protest demonstration against A.S.P. layoff of containers workers in Aden
- Government ridicules woman issues
- Tribal fightings with light and medium weapons

Columnist Ahmed al-Ashwal writes on woes of pensioners in Yemen. He says retirement in our country adopts annoying ways contrary to the simplest civilized rules pursued even the most backward countries that have laid good traditions in this respect observing human rights of the persons who have spent the most of his years in serving his country in a way making them feel their human value.

This also includes providing assurance and satisfaction through an honoring celebration surrounding these aspects, giving material and moral estimation and consideration. Moreover, some of these countries would notify the civil servant about the measure of pension in a sufficient time before the ending of his service.

The concept of retirement in our country would not go beyond a step taken for forcing on the pensioned civil servant a state of "incapacitation". It is a kind of judgment sentencing the pensioned to a slow death through his incapacitation. Local press publish calls to the political leadership to pay a caring attention to this situation and tackle all problems related to it.



Al-Shoura weekly, organ of People's Forces Union in Yemen, 9 March 2003.

Main headlines:

- Intensive consultations on elections coordination, national alignment
- JMP discusses mechanism of implementing elections coordination
- Chairman of Woman Affairs Council foments women against political parties
- October 14 establishment journalists threaten with strike
- Arrest and chasing 14 Islah activists

in Aden

Columnist Abdulla al-Sabri says in a front-page article that Iraq's crisis in 2003 is similar to its crisis of 1995. In both crises the world is at a state watching issuance of a veto against the war. Russia's inability of taking that decision had led to laying piles of the new unipolar world order. Nowadays, the big powers are trying, through the UN Security Council to restore balance to the world. Through their rejection of war on Iraq the big powers are trying to establish a multi-polar New World order. In the short-run perspective, it is difficult to suppose emergence of another power matching and facing America. This world incapability could urge the United States to prefer wars for securing its interests, ambitions and individual action as superpower. This could realize the American dream of rendering the 21-century a purely American one, provided that the remainder international forces keep being incompetent and hand-folded. Observers of the crisis can feel a change in the European, Russian and Chinese stands. But to express desires is something and work to carry them out is something else. How much time does the world need to declare emergence of a new power say No to America? Would the American war on Iraq be the last of wars? Would this war lead to America's isolation with the world? And would this war stands as a tumbling stone against the American scheming towards Iran and North Korea and others? The answers to these questions would be left to the days.



Al-Balagh weekly, 11 March 2003.

Main headlines:

- A British MP: Bush & Blair plan to change the Arab leader and texts of the Qura'n
- In anti-terror effort: Interior ministry recruits 12 thousand personnel, budget raised to YR 27 billion
- Saudi Arabia official tells the story of storming Mulla Omar house
- Assassination of al-Harithi raked out dispute with the CIA
- The pentagon prepares to launch a spying net around the world
- Ambiguity still envelopes killing of

major al-Shakawi

- Saud al-Faisal reiterates his country's refusal to be a base for war on Iraq
- Khawlan tribes stage sit-in, demand return of al-Mouayad

In its editorial al-Balagh says the nation has reached a state of weakness made others underestimate her and play games with her destiny. This state of weakness has been only resulting from accumulated deviation from the right course and her being afflicted with weak leaders fighting for their seats and loving cult of personality, the nation could not be able to stand up to any aggression or restore her position without tackling corruption caused by the corrupt. This can be achieved only drawing up strategies for building the Arab and Muslim man. And that can be realized by education, enacting and implementing laws encouraging higher education, spreading the spirit of participation in building the homeland and fighting corruption.



Al-Wahdah weekly, 12 March 2003.

Main Headlines:

- Election controls document among parties, approved
- Endowments undersecretary calls on mosque preachers to enhance national alignment
- Elections Committee warns parties of acts of evidence
- Al-Azhar calls for Jihad
- Yemen participates in world conference on water
- 68 tourist investment sites, defined

Columnist Abdulla Abdulillah says the less-than-two-year-old local councils experiment proved that many of the councils may have not understood their tasks fully, or perhaps have misunderstood those tasks. The proof could be felt in their taking speedy incorrect decisions, or mixing between what is central and local councils members, have led to acting beyond their tasks, along with the little experience of some of them. This is manifested in little knowledge in drawing up the councils' annual plans, follow-up of budgets, follow-up of progress of projects and the relations with leaderships of administration units. All this happens in some districts and negatively reflected on activities of their

local councils. To overcome that misunderstanding could by spread of legal awareness, holding seminars a journal publishing successful local councils experiments and exchange of expertise in this field. The objective is to develop the experiment towards consolidation of decentralization in administration and development away from repeating any mistakes towards the citizen who elected the councils.



Annas weekly, 10 March 2003.

Main headlines:

- JMP aspires for majority
- PM expresses GPC's readiness to give 100 parliamentary seat to women
- New details on Sheikh Mouayad's life in imprisonment in Germany

Columnist Ali Serari says in his article I think it is impolite to accuse Yemen of hypocrisy and to turn all beautiful values into instruments to be used for false campaigns. It is also so disgraceful to deface great achievements by changing them into meaningless and hollow ones. If the country is really tainted with hypocrisy, thus it would lose its credibility and a lot of meaningful senses would be on the edge. The final stage of the electoral process is almost over, and preparations are underway for electing new candidates on 27 April 2003. Tongues wagging about the role of women, as voter and candidate in elections, were too much in the recent days. Parties should have hard willingness to spur the issue of women's participation forward in political and man dominated public fields. Al-lowing women enter electoral races means we let the door open for the half of the society to practice its role effectively and contribute to add something significant to the society. Yet this means that we women their role to play to build democratic societies. Therefore, a string of international organizations and agencies usually hold several symposiums on this matter, and launch a variety of awareness campaigns to expand women's involvement in political life.

Promises were given as a method to promote women's role. The ruling party, the GPC, as well as other parties promised to nominate a substantial number of

female candidates within 301 constituencies across the homeland. These promises almost indicate that the issue of women's issue was about to go into a new tunnel that may result in a qualitative turn.

Gradually, this campaign would become clear. We will discover, later on, that women were irresponsibly exploited. As the world's nations pay great attention to women's issue, we regretably notice here in Yemen that the case is absolutely different. It seems there are no real actions at all. It is just a deceptive mechanism to gain female votes as well as to mislead the public across the globe, which encourage women to enroll in political activities, and provide a lot of assistance, and always promise to do much in this respect.

Undoubtedly, women candidates are few, so it is impossible to have a next parliament with high female representation. Still, I am skeptic that there would a single woman candidate.



Al-Raie Al-A'am weekly, 11 March 2003.

Main headlines:

- Islah party nominates artist Ayoub Tarish at a coin Taiz
 - Large quantities of expired food & beverages seized in Mukala markets
 - Parliament exceeds its constitutional powers
 - YSP forces Islah to return the former's headquarters
 - France, China, Russia threaten with using veto against a decision on Iraq
- In its editorial the newspaper remarks that the government and opposition media have launched a heated campaign, similar to a war of statements. The most important aspect of the campaign is the came of disclosing secret documents exposing each side. The strange thing is that the opposition press is more capable of using this war of documents than that of the government.

All this campaign should not be thought that national and sovereignty issues of the country liable to political bidding. The homeland would always remain above all and it is not permissible to impinge upon any of its strategic and political issues, other than views and stands.

World Press

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

Egypt

Al Ahram

Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Maher on Friday received a telephone call from his Saudi counterpart Prince Saud Al-Faisal on the circumstances that led to the suspension of the proposed visit by the Arab ministerial committee to Iraq.

Al Akhbar

Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Maher will receive in Cairo Saturday the US ambassador to Egypt David Welch to discuss the latest developments in the region, especially the Iraqi crisis and developments of Palestinian-Israeli conflict as well as bilateral relations.

Al Gomhuria

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has exerted concerted efforts to spare the Iraqi people the scourge of a looming US-led war, said a senior Egyptian diplomat, adding that Egypt's policy on the Iraqi issue is clear-cut: force should not be used against Iraq while the latter should act in line with international legitimacy laws.

The Egyptian Mail

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Friday exchanged by phone with his US counterpart George W. Bush views on the Iraqi crisis and swift steps to end the deteriorating situation between Palestinians and Israelis.

Britain

The Guardian

British Prime Minister Tony Blair will fly to the Portuguese islands of the Azores Saturday for a meeting with US President George Bush to discuss plans for war as the British diplomatic push continues to flounder at the United Nations.

The Daily Telegraph

Blair and Bush will hold a council of war in the Azores Saturday amid growing signs that time has run out for diplomacy.

Financial Times

The International Energy Agency,

which coordinates oil stock releases, has indicated that its 26 members will tap into their strategic reserves in the event of war in Iraq.

The Times

The Prince of Wales is to help his former aide Michael Fawcett to buy his grace-and-favor home to spare him from eviction after his resignation for masterminding the sale of royal gifts.

The Independent

Britain took the first step on the road to taxing air travel for its contribution to global warming Friday when the Treasury published a document discussing the idea.

Japan

Asahi, Yomiuri, Nihon Keizai, Mainichi

Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi and Toshihiko Fukui, incoming governor of the Bank of Japan (BOJ), agreed Friday that the government and the central bank will work closely to stem deflation.

Yomiuri

The Japanese government and the ruling coalition are to postpone for two years limits on banks' shareholdings.

Mainichi

The World Water Forum will kick off Sunday in Japanese city of Kyoto.

Nihon Keizai

The Nikkei stock index recovered 8,000 level on Friday.

Germany

Die Welt

Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder wants to lead Germany out of the economic crisis with cuts of billions of euros in social welfare and structural reform.

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

United States, British and Spanish leaders will meet on Sunday in what is obviously the final attempt to push for a second UN resolution on the Iraq issue.

Sueddeutsche Zeitung

US President George W. Bush has called for a surprise summit with British and Spanish leaders after fruitless efforts for a new UN resolution authorizing war on Iraq.

Philippines

Manila Bulletin

Tens of thousands of residents joined a rally in the southern Philippine city of Davao on Friday to call for an end to terrorism, a week after a deadly airport bombing there killed 21 people.

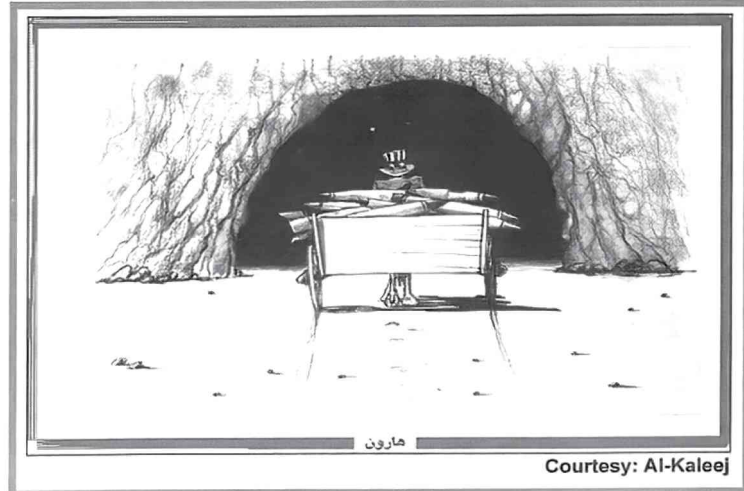
The Philippine Star

The Paris-based Financial Action Task Force said Friday that it had dropped plans to impose financial sanctions on the Philippines after

Manila passed a new law aimed at fighting money laundering.

Philippine Daily Inquirer

The Philippine peso gained more ground on Friday against the US dollar on the central bank's new foreign exchange rules to curb speculative demand for the greenback and a stern warning from President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo that currency speculation is "tantamount to economic sabotage."



Courtesy: Al-Kaleef

Kenya

The People

Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki has reaffirmed his commitment to the speedy completion of the constitutional review process, saying the review will be concluded within the shortest time possible, the presidential press service said.

Daily Nation

Kenya is no more vulnerable to terrorist threats than any other countries, Minister for National Security Chris Murungaru said. The minister assures Kenyans and foreigners in the country that the security organs are on high alert.

Kenya Times

A universal primary education fund will be established to support free primary program in Kenya, Minister for Education Gorge Saitoti disclosed on Friday.

Nigeria

This Day

The Nigerian federal government on Friday allayed the fears of the public over a possible increase in prices of petroleum products, saying it has no immediate plan to increase fuel price, said the Petroleum Pricing Monitoring and Regulatory Committee in a statement issued in the capital Abuja.

Saturday Vanguard

Seven persons, including two soldiers were feared dead in a fresh clash between security agents and local youths in Warri in Nigeria's state of Delta last Thursday evening while three policemen were being held hostage.



Liverpool's Senegalese striker El Hadji Diouf is patted on the head as he falls into Celtic supporters on Thursday. Diouf is being investigated by Scottish police after spitting into the crowd near the end of his side's 1-1 UEFA Cup quarter-final draw with Celtic. REUTERS/Chris Furlong



Los Angeles Kings goalie Cristobal Huet reaches for the puck against the Washington Capitals during third period NHL action at the MCI Center in Washington, March 14. The puck just got past the reach of Huet, but the goal was disallowed because the puck was knocked in by the hand of Capitals' Sergei Berezin. Los Angeles won the game, 3-1. Photo by Joe Giza/Reuters



Britain's former 500cc world motorbike champion Barry Sheene works as a television commentator at the Australian Motorcycle Grand Prix on Phillip Island October 20, 2002 died from cancer on Australia's Gold Coast March 10, 2003. Sheene was Britain's last motorcycling world champion winning the 500cc titles in 1976 and 1977. REUTERS/Mark Baker/Files

BY N. ANANTHANARAYANAN

CENTURION, South Africa (Reuters) - Middle-order batsmen Mohammad Kaif and Rahul Dravid shared an unbeaten century partnership to guide India to a comfortable seven wicket win over New Zealand.

After India had survived some early scares on Friday, Kaif scored 68 and Dravid 53, taking their side to victory with 9.2 overs to spare.

Left-arm fast bowler Zaheer Khan took four wickets in yet another inspired showing by India's pace bowlers as the New Zealanders stumbled to 146 all out from 45.1 overs.

Then fast bowler Shane Bond briefly raised New Zealand's hopes by reducing India to 21 for three.

But Kaif and Dravid shared in an unbeaten 129-run fourth wicket partnership to steer their side home after both were dropped before reaching double figures.

"We have done very well so far," said captain Saurav Ganguly. "We lost a couple of early wickets but we have quite a few matchwinners and it's obviously good that all of them are hitting the ball well."

New Zealand are still half a point ahead of Sri Lanka but will be eliminated if the latter beat Zimbabwe in their last Super Six match on Saturday.

Bond removed opener Virender Sehwag (1) and Ganguly (3) in his first two overs, the latter yorked by a 153 kms an hour (95 mph) delivery.

Daryl Tuffey, at the other end, sent back Sachin Tendulkar for 15 after he had hit three consecutive fours as India.

Wicketkeeper Brendon McCullum spilled a big opportunity one run later when he dropped Rahul Dravid after Bond had induced an edge through sheer pace.

Bond almost dismissed Mohammad Kaif for six but a leaping Chris Harris at point could only get his fingertips to the ball before it fled to the fence.

Early edge

Khan put India on top in the morning after captain Saurav Ganguly had asked New Zealand to bat on a good pitch at SuperSport Park.



India's Rahul Dravid (R) prepares to strike as New Zealand's wicketkeeper Brendon McCullum (L) watches during a Super Six match of the cricket World Cup between India and New Zealand in Centurion, South Africa, March 14. REUTERS/Arko Datta

The 24-year-old paceman struck twice with consecutive balls in the first over before New Zealand had scored a run. He finished with four for 42, including his 100th one-day international wicket.

New Zealand never recovered from the horrible start as Khan, fellow left-arm paceman Ashish Nehra and Javagal Srinath reduced New Zealand to 38 for three and 88 for six by the halfway mark.

The Kiwis recalled Craig McMillan to open the innings but Khan removed him for a second ball duck when he flicked a half-volley to Harbhajan

Singh at square-leg. He then trapped Nathan Astle leg before first ball to an uncertain forward defence shot.

Nehra, who bowled impeccably, then beat Scott Styris (15) with late seam movement to make it 38 for three in the ninth over. Styris, who hit Khan's hat-trick delivery for a couple down the ground and drove him through midwicket for his only four, was beaten by the bounce and movement to edge a catch to wicket-keeper Dravid.

Khan, whose opening three-over spell went for 28 runs, switched ends to bowl Brendon McCullum (4) between

bat and pad, his 100th one-day wicket. New Zealand were teetering at 47 for four in the 14th over as Nehra conceded just nine runs in his first six-over spell after starting with two consecutive maidens.

Only captain Stephen Fleming looked in control, top-scoring with 30, but he grew frustrated by the miserly bowling and sharp fielding to mis-hit Srinath to Tendulkar at mid-off to make it 60 for five.

"There was nothing in the pitch," Fleming said. "This is the disappointing factor. If anything it should have favoured us."

7-Day Weather Forecast

Sana'a	Day	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Aden	Day	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	Hi	29	29	28	28	29	29	29		Hi	33	33	33	33	33	31	31
	Lo	12	12	12	12	12	12	12		Lo	22	22	22	22	21	21	23



THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

BY Eugenia



Aries
(Mar 21 - Apr 19)
You are in a good position to go for interviews, start your own business or change direction. Keep your ideas to yourself for now.



Taurus
(Apr 20-May 20)
Earmark time for socializing today. Get out and try new things. Involvement with youngsters will be enlightening.



Gemini
(May 21-June 20)
This is not the best day to confront someone with whom you are having trouble. Consider talking to an outsider who can shed some light on your current situation.



Cancer
(Jun 21 - Jul 22)
Pick up a new hobby or take a trip that will allow you to view different cultures firsthand. You'll find a real bargain if you do a little shopping.



Leo
(Jul 23 - Aug 22)
Don't let an older relative put too many demands on you. Do what you can to help, but not at the expense of losing out in another area of your life. Be conservative when it comes to money matters.



Virgo
(Aug 23 - Sep 22)
You may be a little stressed out today, especially if you let personal matters get to you. It may be time to start thinking about the future and with whom you want to spend it.



Libra
(Sept 23 - Oct 22)
You are likely to be misinterpreted if you share your personal thoughts with a colleague. Minor accidents will prevail if you aren't cautious.



Scorpio
(Oct 23 - Nov 21)
You will have much to offer a group you belong to as well as to friends who ask for your assistance. This is a great day to talk to people about your ideas and your concerns.



Sagittarius
(Nov 22 - Dec 21)
Your reputation may be at risk if you become too chummy with one of your peers. Think twice before you make a mistake concerning your personal life.



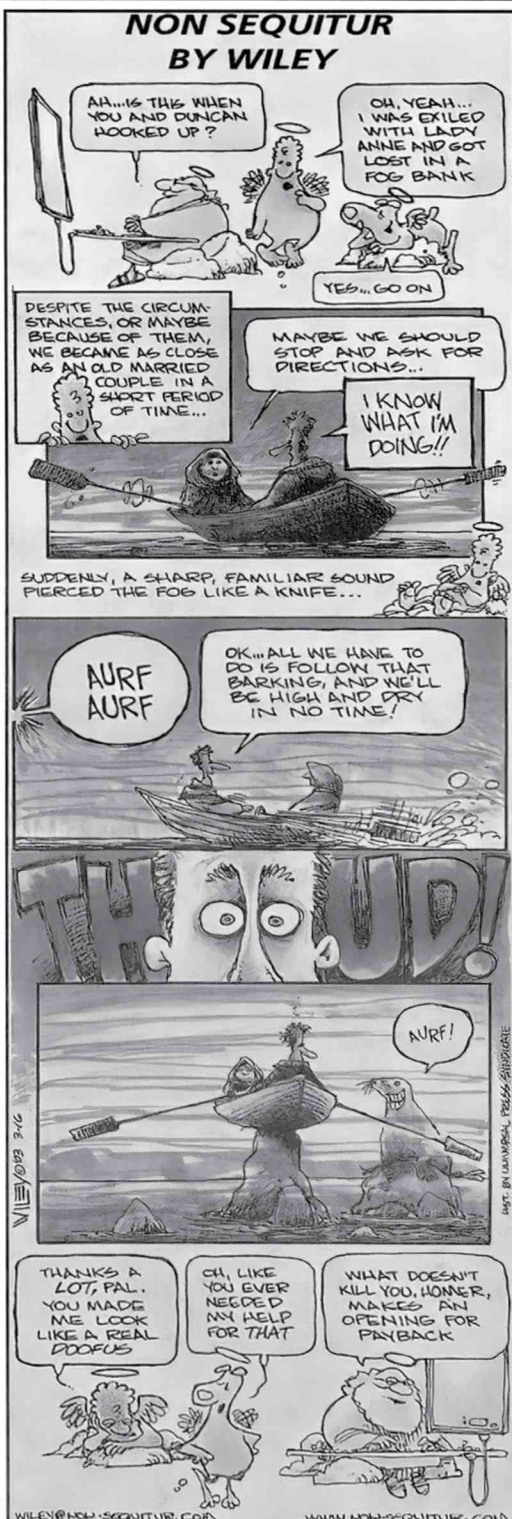
Capricorn
(Dec 22 - Jan 19)
Your involvement in a new subject that interests you will be groundbreaking. Your empathetic nature will enable you to help friends and relatives who are experiencing problems.



Aquarius
(Jan 20 - Feb 18)
Secondhand information may not be accurate; do not invest in something that sounds too good to be true.



Pisces
(Feb 19 - Mar 20)
Extravagance and overindulgence will be tempting, but certainly will not be the answer to your concerns. Don't make promises or expect someone else to honor his or hers today.



REPUBLIC OF YEMEN
MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND WATER
PUBLIC ELECTRICITY CORPORATION
INTERNATIONAL TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

The Public Electricity Corporation (PEC) invites internationally qualified, specialized and experienced companies to the following tender:

Tender No. (70) 2003

400KV Transmission Line – Marib / Sana'a, and Associated Substations

The project is financed by Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development and the Government of Yemen. The Yemeni Law No. (31) for the year (1991) adjusted by Presidential Decree of the law No. (12) for the year (1999) regarding Income Taxes shall apply for the Project.

Tenderers must be fully qualified and specialized and have **clear and proven experience** in similar previous projects.

The tender documents can be obtained from the PEC office of the Managing Director at the following address:

Republic of Yemen — Sana'a - Al-Juraf-Airport Road, P. O. Box 178 Tel: 00 967 1 328 163 Fax 00 967 1 328151/50 E-mail ypecnt@y.net.ye during office hours against payment of a **non-refundable fee of \$2,000**. The **closing date** for the submission of tenders is Wednesday 11/6/2003 at 11 a.m. Each tender has to be sealed and accompanied by **Tender Bond**, valid for 120 days from the tender closing date, in the amount \$2,000,000 for Lot A and \$2,500,000 for Lot B of the total tender sum issued by an acceptable first class bank operating in the Republic of Yemen.

Tenderers have the option to quote for either to the LOTS mentioned below or for both together:

LOT A: 400KV Transmission Line

LOT B: Substations

Tenders must be submitted in two sealed separate envelopes, one commercial and one technical, whereby the technical envelope will be opened and evaluated first.

Tenders submitted by agent company or contracting company must be accompanied by authorization from the Contractor and/or the manufacturers of the material & equipment mentioned in the tender document and confirmed by official authority in the country of the manufacturing company and tenders submitted by local tenders must be accompanied by copy of their Tax Certificate and Commercial Registration Certificate.

Tenders must visit the sites to acquaint themselves with all site particulars and information given in the tender document including the local laws.

Tender should be addressed to the Managing Director, Public Electricity Corporation, Sana'a – Al-Juraf-Airport Road, P.O. Box 178 Tel: 00 967 1 328 163 Fax 00 967 1 328151/50 E-mail ypecnt@y.net.ye

For any technical or financial clarification, Tenderers should submit their queries to the consultant address below, a copy of which is to be forwarded to PEC headquarters

The Kuljian Corporation
3700 Science Center
Philadelphia
Pennsylvania 19104
Tel: +1-2152431900
Fax: +1-2152431909
E-mail: prabhat@kuljian.com

REPUBLIC OF YEMEN
MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND WATER
PUBLIC ELECTRICITY CORPORATION
INTERNATIONAL TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

The public Electricity Corporation (PEC) invites internationally qualified, specialized and experienced companies to the following tender:

Tender No. (71) 2003
300MW GAS POWER STATION AT SAFER – MARIB GOVERNORATE

The project is financed by the Saudi Fund for Development, the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development and the Government of Yemen. The Yemeni law No. (31) for the Year (1991), adjusted by Presidential Decree of the Law No. (12) for the year (1999) regarding Income Taxes shall apply for the project.

Tenders must be fully qualified and specialized and have **clear and proven experience** in previous similar projects. The tender documents can be obtained from the PEC office of the **Managing Director Sana'a – Al-Juraf-Airport Road, P.O. Box 178 Tel: 00 967 1 328 163 Fax 00 967 1 328 150/50 e-mail ypecnt@y.net.ye** during office hours against payment of a **non-refundable fee of \$2,000**. The **closing date** for the submission of tenders is on Wednesday 11/6/2003 at 11 a.m. Each tender must be sealed and accompanied by **Tender Bond**, valid for 120 days from the tender closing date, in the amount of \$3,800,000 issued by an acceptable first class bank operating in the Republic of Yemen.

Tenders must be submitted in two sealed envelopes, one commercial and one technical, whereby the technical envelope will be opened and evaluated first.

Tenders submitted by agent company or contracting company must be accompanied by authorization from the manufacturing company of the material & equipment mentioned in the tender document and confirmed by official authority in the country of the manufacturing company and tenders submitted by local tenders must be accompanied by copy of their Tax Certificate and Commercial Registration Certificate.

Tenderers must visit the sites to acquaint themselves with all site particulars and information given in the tender document.

Tender should be addressed to the Managing Director, Public Electricity Corporation, Sana'a – Al-Juraf-Airport Road, P.O.Box 178

For any technical or financial clarification, Tenderers should submit their queries to the consultant address below, a copy of which is to be forwarded to PEC headquarters

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Improve Your English



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Tel: 73889013

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I. What to Say

Situations and expressions (44):
Making uncertain generalizations

Sometimes when the speaker assumes something, but is not sure about his hunch, he makes an uncertain generalization. Such statements are bound to be ad hoc or tentative and marked by such words as 'seem', 'appear', 'perhaps', 'probably', to show the speaker's mood of uncertainty. The simple infinitive TO DO/TO BE is used to describe fixed habits as well as unchanging habits or situations. However, the continuous infinitive TO BE DOING is used to describe changing habits or situations.

Fixed or unchanging habits or situations (TO DO/TO BE)

- People in developed countries **don't seem to** worry too much about the pollution of the environment.
- Yemenis, in general, **appear to** ignore the harmful effects of qat on the individual's health and family economy.
- University students are **supposed to give** the national interest top priority.
- The mass of intelligentsia of any society are **taken to be** the custodians of the public morals.
- The eldest member of the family is **expected to be** the torch bearer of the family traditions.
- Children **seem to be** conscious of their duties and responsibilities.
- Perhaps**, teachers fail to motivate the students to learn English in early years of schooling ('perhaps' in sentence-initial position)
- The EFL curriculum in Yemen, **perhaps**, doesn't address itself to the students' needs. ('perhaps' in sentence-medial position)
- If some one is not used to qat chewing, it is **likely to produce** mild reaction.
- Smoking too many cigars **may lead to** cancer of lungs.
- Thoughtless frittering away of time **probably** paved the way for his deterioration in standard.
- A rude culture shock, **in my opinion**, made him to **decide** to leave the country.
- Lack of adaptability to the environment is **believed to have** resulted in the extinction of many species from the face of the earth.
- His introvert nature **presumably** forces him to **keep away** from friends.
- In my opinion** he has to **blame** himself for his desperate condition, to none else.
- However people blame fate or destiny, I **believe** man's character guides his destiny.

II. How to Say it Correctly

Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences

- He hit the ball hardly.
- I am hardly pressed for time.
- This flower smells sweetly.
- I will see you later.
- If offered red or white shirt, I'd choose the later.

Answers to last week's questions

- Why **does** she **appear** so sad?
- I **owe** a great deal to my parents.
- I **am not** well today.
- He **adores** that political leader.
- I enjoy **travelling**.

III. Increase Your Word Power

A) How to express it in one word

- To use apparently serious language which is, in fact, mixture of sense and non-sense.
- To believe two opposing ideas at the same time.
- Double wages paid to people who work at weekends or on public holidays.
- A man who does not easily believe things.
- Flour mixed with water ready for baking.

Answers to last week's questions

- Speech or writing that one cannot understand: **double-dutch** (n)
- A person having a bad quality very strongly: **double-dye** (n)
- Having two purposes or meanings, quite different from each other: **double-edged** (adj)
- A cinema performance in which two main films are shown: **double feature** (n)
- To block a road by parking a vehicle beside a vehicle already parked: **double-park** (vt)

B) Foreign phrases

Use the following phrases in illustrative sentences

- bon voyage
- bonafides
- bourgeoisie
- boutique
- café ou lait

Answers to last week's questions

- bijou** (Fr) (Adj used only before a noun) (small and fashionable): He owns a bijou apartment near the sea beach.
- billet-doux** (Fr) (a love letter): When can he study? All his time is being spoilt in reading billet-doux.
- bon bon** (Fr) (a type of round sweet): Children are fond of bon bon.
- bon homie** (Fr) (a friendly feeling among a group of people): Consequent upon the sudden heated exchanges between the two friends the atmosphere of bon homie quickly disappeared.
- bon mot** (Fr) (a clever remark): A bon mot from my friend relieved the seriousness and monotony of the atmosphere.
- bon vivant** (Fr) (someone who enjoys good food and wine): A bon vivant as he is, he frequents fashionable star hotels.

C) Word commonly confused

Bring out differences in meaning of the following pairs of words

- accept, except
- exceptional, exceptionable
- access, excess
- accidence, accident
- acclaim, claim, reclaim

Answers to last week's questions

- abstention** (n) (not to vote either for or against some one): His abstention from voting created a deadlock for the party.
abstinence (n) (the practice of not doing something you enjoy because it is morally wrong): Abstinence is austere followed by all devout Muslims during the Holy Month of Ramadhan.
- abstraction** (n) (a general idea about a type of situation, thing or person, rather than a specific example from real life): How can one get a concrete idea about his intentions if he talks in abstraction?
obstruction (n) (act of blocking a road, passage, etc.): Obstruction of the highway is a cognizable offence.
- abstruse** (adj) (unnecessarily complicated way causing difficulty in understanding): The abstruse mode of presentation of the speaker made his arguments confusing and unclear.
obtuse (adj) (slow in understanding, stupid): It's no use making an obtuse fellow like him to understand the point.
- abysmal** (adj) (bottomless): In the abysmal depth of the ocean, many treasures lie hidden.
infinitesimal (adj) (extremely small): Some infinitesimal organisms floating in the air are responsible for air-borne diseases.
- accede** (vit) (agree to a request): The Dean acceded to our request to defer the exam by one week.

exceed (vt) (be greater than): His success exceeded all expectations.

D) idioms and phrases

Use the following phrases and idiomatic expression in illustrative sentences

- bargain's a bargain
- make the best of a bad bargain
- be called to the bar
- under the banner of
- jump on the band wagon

Answers to last week's questions

- as blind as a bat** (not able to see well): The old man has to be helped up the stairs because he is as blind as a bat.
- bask in** (enjoy someone's favor or approval): He is doing all he can to bask in his employer's favor.
- have a bash at** (to make an attempt at): I'm trying to have a bash at learning computer.
- base upon** (give a reason): You should base your comments upon facts.
- barter away** (bargain away): I'm not prepared to barter away my self-respect for some monetary gain.

IV. Grammar and Composition

A) Grammar

Frame compound words using the root words given below.

Power, Energy, Muscle, House, Looms, Oil, Steam, Giant

Answer to last week's questions

- Your bike is not running well.
Oh, yes. I **shall buy** a new one very soon.
- I have no time **to spare**.
- It would have been better if they **had not come**.
- He did an extremely foolish thing.
- He did not tell us how old he was. It is a **complex** sentence.

B) Composition

Expand the ideas contained in the saying

8. A LITTLE LEARNING IS A DANGEROUS THING

Answer to last week's question

7. NECESSITY IS THE MOTHER OF INVENTION

When we are in need we try hard to satisfy it. When we are faced with any challenge to our existence, we try our level best to overcome it. We devote all our energies to fulfill the demand and it is often seen that we succeed in our efforts. If one reads the story of inventions and discoveries, one will come across numerous examples to prove the truth of this saying. In fact, the history of civilization is the story of man's struggle to fulfill the basic needs of life such as food, shelter, security against enemies, protection against nature's fury and so forth. Being propelled by the compulsions of his need, his intelligence and ingenuity has led him to find out ways and means of meeting the needs which gave birth to various scientific inventions and discoveries.

IV. Pearls from the Holy Quran



V. Words of Wisdom

"Beauty is not caused, it is."
—Emily Dickinson

A LETTER TO THE TEACHERS OF ENGLISH: 17

Teacher differences and classroom teaching

Dear Fellow teachers,
In one of my earlier letters about the learner differences, I mentioned the teacher differences also. I pointed out that there are three kinds of teachers – the autocratic, the bureaucratic and the democratic. I will say more about these differences in this letter and discuss which of them will be more useful to the learners in your classes.

An autocratic teacher is one who follows his / her own ways of doing things without taking the learners into consideration; he/she may be an excellent teacher but most of what he/she does will not be useful to the students. A bureaucratic teacher is one who follows what is prescribed in the curriculum; he/she is a faithful follower of the curriculum 'in spirit and letter'; a slave to the textbook, even if it is not very useful to the learners in his/her class. A democratic teacher, on the other hand, is one who is sensitive to his/her learners' needs and gears his/her teaching to suit them; he adapts the textbook, if it is not suitable to the learners, by adding to and changing the content of the textbook; uses examples which are understood by them; modifies his/her language to suit them. In other words, he/she teaches the learners rather than the textbook.

What kind of teacher would you like to be? Obviously the third kind, because you teach the learners and your main objective is to teach English to meet their needs. You will have to adapt the textbook and workbook exercises to suit the learners' language level and also to meet their needs. I am sure all of you are aware of the basic needs of your learners of English – able to read and understand simple English texts and able to write with legibility simple English texts. In order to meet these needs, you will have to make changes in the Course books and

workbooks, whenever and wherever necessary. Do make these changes without hesitation, as long as your changes are necessary to suit your learners. For example, in Unit 1 in CECY Pupil's Book 5, there is information about the Department store, where gardening tools and cassettes are sold in the same store; this may not be true of the supermarket in your town; in which case you may change the things available in the store. Or if you think your students of the Preparatory class I may not find 'Anne' and 'Tom' comfortable in the very first lesson in English in CECY Pupil's Book 1, you can change the names to Ameen and Fowzia without any hesitation; after all the purpose of this lesson is to teach 'how to wish people in English when we meet each other' and not to introduce English names to Yemeni learners. These are just two examples; you can find more in the books.

The Faculties of Education should prepare you for this. The administration including the Supervisor should not discourage you from doing this. I am sure you will get necessary help from all the sources. But remember, what I am asking you to do need not get an official sanction; you are not changing the entire textbook nor are you throwing it out of the class. You are only adapting your textbook, by changing here and there for the benefit of your learners. You have to be sensitive to your learners' needs and be aware of their abilities and a bit imaginative. Your learners will find your classes useful and interesting; you will have greater satisfaction. Try your best. Good luck.

Yours fraternally,

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

The Ideals of the Education Page Vindicated

On the occasion of celebration of the 12th Anniversary of Yemen Times the Education Page presented by Dr. Ramakanta Sahu in cooperation with Mr. Ramzy Alawi was termed as a star attraction of the news paper. In this context the sustained efforts of the team for promoting among learners of English of Yemen and neighboring countries knowledge of appropriate use of English in different communicative contexts as well as disseminating among them useful information on a spectrum of highly relevant academic matters through the 174 issues of the page brought out so far was hailed by the Chief Editor. In his introductory remarks before presentation of a citation as a token of recognition of their invaluable contributions Mr. Walid Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, the Chief Editor expressed deep appreciation for the commitment and dedication of the team in maintaining the high standard of the page which is justifiably the flagship of the newspaper.



Chief Editor, Mr. Al-Saqqaf, conferring the honor on Dr. Sahu

be a part of the glorious legacy it inherited. He shared the spirit of jubilation and attributed the success of the Education page to excellent team work of the team members Ramzy Alawi, Abdu Assabri, Fahmia Al-Fotih, Bassam Ahmed and Bassam Jameel, not to forget the valuable contributions of Hisham Al-Qubati and Tawfeek Al-Sharabi during the formative stage of this modest endeavor which has eventually snowballed into a mass movements of sorts.

The team has also been privileged to receive many insightful suggestions from Mr. Mohammed Khidhr which has significantly contributed for the qualitative improvement of the page. He offered his sincere thanks and profound gratitude to his colleagues throughout Yemen who have enriched the page by their thoughtful articles and features in different fields of knowledge, to countless young writers for selecting the outlet provided by the Education page for manifesting their creative sparks, and, last but not least, to the discerning readers for their considered views. At the same time he hoped that their cooperation would continue ever after.

Dr. Sahu concluded by reiterating the team's resolve to rededicate themselves to further revitalize the page in terms of content and layout and welcomed constructive suggestions for qualitative improvement of the page.



A section of the audience present on the occasion

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

Activity	Excess	Inside	Safety	Storm
Airy	Fall	Jacket	Schedule	Streak
Alpine	February	January	Scuba	Teams
Annual	Flurry	Lacrosse	Seasonal	Terrace
Arena	Frost	Local	Shelter	Tournament
Athlete	Game	Luge	Shift	Travel
Buried	Gang	Mittens	Show	Tricks
Carnival	Garment	Mountain	Skating	Trips
Child	Gate	North	Skis	Vehicle
Clouds	Glide	Olympics	Slalom	Venue
Clubs	Gloves	Points	Sled	Vision
Coat	Goals	Protection	Sleet	Walk
Cold	Hike	Puck	Slide	Wall
Decem-ber	Hockey	Pull	Slopes	Weather
Deep	Hose	Quarter	Snow	White
Domes	Hosted	Rain	Soft	Zest
Dress	Idols	Recre-	Solo	
Duels	Individual	ational	Steep	
	Indoors	Risky	Stick	

ANSWER NEXT WEEK

Last Week's Answer: Pasteurized

by DAVID OUELLET

WINTER SPORTS

Solution: 7 letters

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

هل ترغب في الحصول على أفضل أداء في حملتكم الانتخابية ؟

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The blind four

BY BASSAM JAMEEL AL-SAQAF
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

We saw him whilst he was wandering through Al-Zubairi Street, almost trembling as he walked his uneven steps staring with vacant eyes into the bustling crowds around him. Actually it wouldn't have felt so strange if it wasn't for the four kids he was leading them to an unknown destination;

"Watch out there is a pole to the right!"

"Stick to the left, it's the main street ahead of you!"

"Move forward, watch the stairs!"

The four of them were blind!

We approached him, partially out of curiosity and partially out of sympathy, we wanted to know the story behind the mysterious family, so we took him to the Yemen Times where he told us his story, or more accurately; tragedy.

Hamood Ahmad Hassan is one of the million laborers who build this country and in turn doesn't even have a home. Those whose daily routine is struggling under the merciless sun, or the unforgiving cold for food, and yet most of the time not getting enough of it. Those who can't afford to be choosy about the circumstances of their work and living, the not by choice, danger riders for a couple of hundred rials, no privileges at all, and not even respect.

Hamood is one of 10 million Yemenis living under the poverty line, having 6 young children to take care out of which four can't see. While I was watching the situation I was thinking of how cruel the world is, and I remembered Omar bin Al-Khattab (May god be pleased with him) with his famous say: "If poverty was a man I would have killed him!"



Unknown future awaits the four blind children

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When I asked Hamood is something could be done for his kids, he said for the elder ones it's too late, but for the younger ones there is still a chance. The reason for the blindness was End-Stage Glaucoma, Corneal Edema and Corneal Opacity causing blindness. Yet the young ones Haifa and Haitham suffer from Optic Nerve Atrophy and total blindness, and all those reasons are hereditary. The young ones could still make it, if you care, and you think you can donate or help in anyway; please contact his neighbor Qaid Al-Maqtari at 408312, or Akram 73834128.

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