

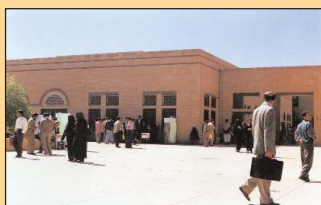
Hertz
Take A Break From Your Work
Load and Take
Hertz
Along with you.....
Universal Rent a Car
Sana'a Tel: (01) 440309, Aden (02) 245625
Sheraton Branch (01) 545985

YEMEN TIMES

DHL
EXPRESS
we move the world
Sana'a: Hadda St. (01) 441099/87/6, Zubairi St. 249878
Aden: (02) 245627/8, Taiz (04) 252455
Hodeidah: (03) 208689, Mutalla: (05) 354844
Seiyoun: (05) 404288, Ibb: (04) 407418

Monday, 30 October 2006 • Issue No. 994 • Price 30 Yemeni Riyals • Founded in 1991 by Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf www.yementimes.com

Inside:



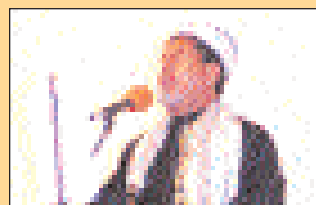
5

In universities,
chance surmounts
planning



7

A newspaper that
wants to educate
Yemen



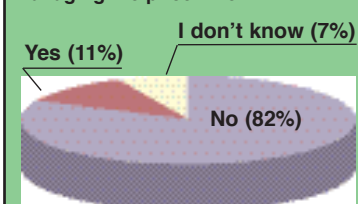
10

Qasim Zobaida:
"My door is never
closed for those
who are talented"

Education
Along with this issue,
your free copy of
**Education
Supplement**

Readers' Voice

Last edition's question:
Because many merchants lost money in their support of the presidential campaigns, merchants raised the prices of various foodstuffs, or so many Yemenis think. However, the government has announced that it will take measures to ensure stable prices. Do you think the government is serious in managing the price hike?



This edition's question:

It has been announced in Yemen that Yemeni Security Authorities arrested 8 Al-Qaida-linked elements trying to smuggle weapons to Somalia. Do you think that Islamic Charity Societies use Al-Qaida members to supply Islamic Courts in Somalia with weapons.
- Yes
- No
- I don't know

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

Yemen labelled among 20 worst press freedom countries

By: Yemen Times Staff

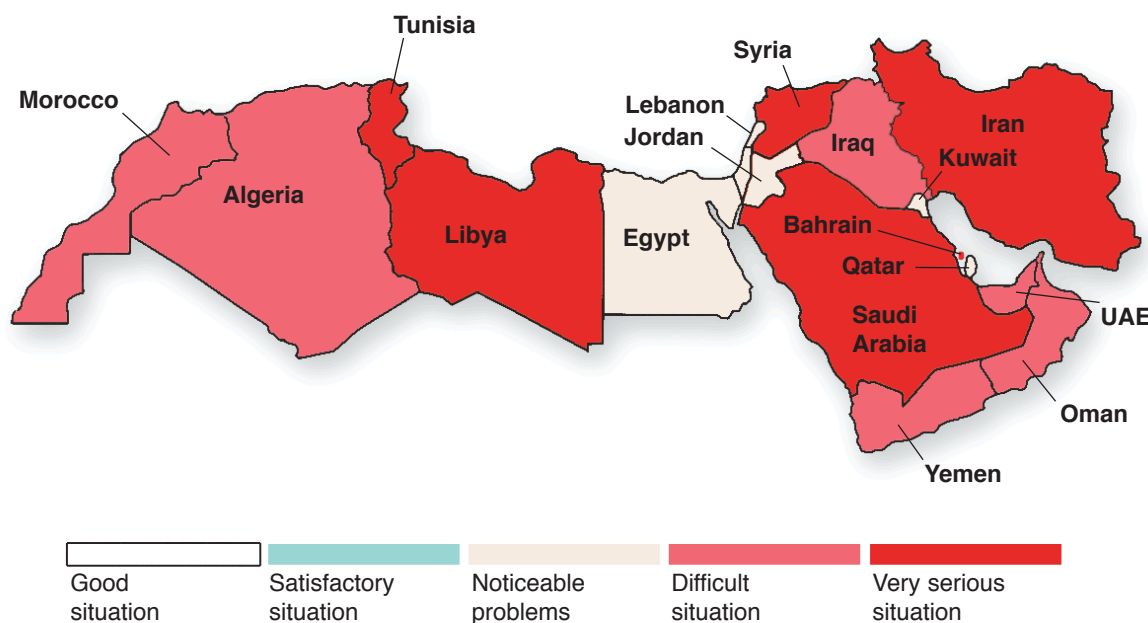
SANA'A, Oct. 28 — Yemen ranked 149 of 168 countries and one of the 20 worst countries in the world, according to a report released by Paris-based media organization Reporters Without Borders.

Yemen drops in the ladder of press freedoms falling behind countries such as Russia and Tunisia, said Reporters Without Borders. However, the organization released a report in 2002 with Yemen ranking 103 of 139 countries where freedom of the press was assessed.

The report, issued last Wednesday, said freedom of the press in the Arabian Peninsula with the exception of Yemen and Saudi Arabia.

In its 2006 annual report, Reporters Without Borders said Yemen is at the edge of falling to the rank of "Enemies of the Press," which includes 15 countries: North Korea, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Libya, Russia, China, Syria, Tunisia, Cuba, Vietnam, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal and Uzbekistan.

They said the most recent harassments and attacks the Yemeni authorities practice against journalists, coupled with the closure of some newspapers for republishing the prophet cartoons constitute the primary reasons behind



Yemen's falling ranking. Yemen is only one rank ahead to be labelled an enemy.

Publishing the prophet cartoons made Denmark drop to the rank No. 19 in press freedom for the first time in the country's history, as the authors of the cartoons faced serious threats.

The organization recorded arbitrary

practices and obstacles posed to journalists in Algeria, Jordan, Indonesia and India. It considered Kuwait the best Arab country in press freedom, as it ranked 73 internationally, followed by U.A.E. and Qatar.

Somalia is only one rank ahead of Yemen, according to the report, which

covered the time period from September 2005 to September 2006. Yemen dropped four ranks from the previous ranks.

Many journalists expressed their concern about the press in Yemen, pointing out Yemen needs political will to stop such deterioration in press freedom.

"Over the last few years, freedom of the press in Yemen terribly deteriorated due to harassment, imprisonment and intimidation of journalists, in addition to the closure and cloning of newspapers, and monitoring papers before going to the press," commented a number of journalists who gathered in the late journalist Hamid Shuhrah funeral on Saturday, who died in a car accident on Wednesday Oct. 25.

Members of the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate agreed that the procedures taken by the Ministry of Information against press institutions and journalists are the primary factors behind deterioration of the press in Yemen.

"All these harassments and attacks against journalists and newspapers targeted partial freedoms and not all the freedoms because Yemen has other visual and auditory media means," said the journalists.

These journalists called on Yemeni Journalists Syndicate to confront such violations of the press rules so that the situation of the press in the country can improve.

"The Ministry of Information is not only the party involved in the issue, but there are other parties that commit such crimes against journalists and journalism," Said Thabet deputy chairperson of the Syndicate said.

European nationals and an African arrested

By: Mohammad Bin Sallam

SANA'A, Oct. 29 — The Yemeni Political Security Apparatus arrested mid October eight international citizens with suspected links to Al-Qaida according to a security official at the Ministry of Interior. The arrested men are 3 Australians, a German, a Brit, a Danish and a Somali in addition to an eighth European citizen whose nation-

ality is yet to be identified are facing accusation of smuggling weapons to the Religious Courts in Somalia. So far they are under interrogation at the security apparatus which did not confirm any charges officially as yet.

Specials sources to the Yemen Times said the accused are students of Al-Eman Religious University chaired by Sheikh Abdulmagid Al-Zindani and that those students have smuggled weapons to the Islamic Courts in Somalia. However, Mr. Ismael Al-Suhaili director's office manager of Al-Eman University has strongly denied the connection between the accused

and the university. He also denied any involvement of the university with the Islamic Courts in Somalia. "I emphasize the university's activities are purely educational and operates within the Yemeni constitution and laws." He said to the Yemen Times.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs in a statement to the Yemen Times also denied to have communicated with the Danish Foreign Ministry regarding the arrested Danish-Yemeni citizen. A clerk at the Minister's office said: "we heard about this news in the news just like the rest of you. We have no relation to this news and you should contact the Ministry of Interior in this regard".

Upon contacting the ministry of interior, they said in an official press statement on September Net, the Army's website: "The Yemeni security arrested a group of eight men from various European and African nationalities on charges of smuggling weapons to Somalia. They were arrested on the 16th of this month and are currently in custody in preparation to be sent to trial during the coming few days."

It is worth mentioning that the United States of America had accused the Yemeni government previously of smuggling weapons to Somali opposition. An accusation which found a strong denial by the Foreign Minister Dr. Abu Bakr Al-Qirbi, who confirmed that the weapons sent to Somalia were directed to the Somali government and not anywhere else.

Al-Nass editor dies in traffic accident

By: Yemen Times Staff

SANA'A, Oct. 27 — Thousands of citizens, journalists, party leaders and MPs attended the funeral of Hamid Shuhrah, Editor-in-Chief of Al-Nass weekly newspaper and Nasspress Net, who died in a traffic accident as he was on his way back to Yemen from Saudi Arabia.

The journalist died in a traffic accident last Wednesday in Al-Khasham Area, Hodeidah governorate, only a few hundred meters from Haradh's Customs Point situating near the Yemeni-Saudi borders.

The back wheel of Shuhrah's car blew up as the journalist was driving back to Yemen from Mecca after performing Omrah.

The accident instantly killed Shuhrah and injured his wife and four children, Malek, Mohamed, Ahmad and Mustafa, who were transferred to a Hodeida hospital.

Shuhrah was born in 1973 in Ba'adan District, Ibb governorate and obtained a diploma in Islamic Education from the General Teachers Institute in Ibb.

Shuhrah is a youthful Yemeni journalists. He joined journalism in the late 80's and issued many local publications in Ibb, which had been supervised and supported by Yemeni Teachers Syndicate and Yemen Students Union. He had been an editor-in-chief of Al-Nihar newspaper, run by the Islah Party in Ibb governorate.

At that time, Shuhrah was a freelancer for the state-run Al-Thawrah daily, as well as a reporter for Al-Sahwah, mouthpiece of the Islamist Islah Party before moving to the capital in 1994.

In Sana'a he started work for Al-Sahwah in the political, intellectual and social department and at the same time a correspondent for the London based Al-Mustaqila Newspaper. Later on, Shuhrah worked as a researcher and secretary for the Yemeni Center for Strategic Studies, affiliated with the Islah Party, and then a chief editor of the center's monthly magazine "Nawafedh."

During his work at the center, Shuhrah published his famous book, Masra'a Al-Elbesama "Demise of the Smile", about the 1948 Revolution and the role of Muslim Brothers Movement in the revolution.

Shuhrah has various researches and writings in the areas of drama, stories and criticism, in addition to his political, intellectual and social writings.

In 2000 he crowned his journalistic achievements by establishing Al-Nass weekly newspaper.

Unfortunately Shuhrah never got the chance to see Al-Nass become a daily newspaper — new printing press is on the way to Yemen and the plan is set.

The journalist passed away before seeing his newborn from his second wife Maisa'a Shuja'a Al-Din, a journalist, who was in Cairo at the time of the accident.



Hamid Shuhrah

Al-Nass released a statement expressing sadness and sorrow over the loss of its chief editor, who turned the simple paper a media force — along with magazines and supplements.

The statement acknowledged the prominent role played by the Shuhrah, who was famous for his open criticism and abiding by standards of the profession.

Concluding the statement, Al-Nass staff members said: "Yemeni journalism lost one of its prominent figures, despite his young age, who took a new path in the course of Yemeni media toward independence, neutrality and objectivity."

Want service and value?
Budget
Car Rental
National and International Reservations
Now Open
Reservation Tel. 309618 - 506372,
Reservation Fax. 240958,
Hadda, Reservation Tel. 411727
24 hours (Hot Line) 733652317

Onyx
for Trading and Services
Sole agency for DAITEC products
Computers and their Parts
Networks
Preservation
Discounts in DAITEC Computers prices
A gift given for every buyer
Sana'a - Algeria St. - beside Al-Mokhtar station for gas services
Tel.: 465054
Fax.: 534585
E-mail: onyx@yemen.net.ye

ALSAEED TRADING CO. LTD.
Yemen's Major Exporter of FMCG products.
Yemen, Taiz - P.O. Box 5351
Tel: +967 (4) 232727 (10 Lines)
Fax: +967 (4) 223851 / 231642 / 219112
E-mail: alsaeed@alsaeed.com.ye
Website: www.alsaeedtrading.com

الوطنية للتأمين
AL-WATANIA INSURANCE
Sana'a, Tel. (01) 272713, 272874, Fax. (01) 272924, G.M. (01) 276745,
Hodeidah: (03) 219941/44, Fax. (03) 219945

Now Alon In Yemen
the grandest Bookshop containing all your needs under one roof
Visit The New Branch For Aljeel Aljadeed You Will Find All Modern Products
أكبر صرح ثقافي وتعليمي خاص في اليمن يضم أكثر من 100.000 عنوان كتاب والألاف من أصناف القرطاسية والأدوات المدرسية والهندسية والمكتبية والتحف والهدايا تمت سق راجر
زوروا الفرع الجديد للجيل الجديد تجدوا كل جديد
West - circular St. after kentaki Circuit The United Nations St. cross Nowaksh St. In front of Al-motaher Building
Tel: 473940-1 Fax: 473842
الحظ الدائري القرى - بعد جولة كننكي شارع الأمم المتحدة تقاطع شارع نواكشوط امام عمارة الظهر
ت: ٤٧٣٩٤٠-١ فاكس: ٤٧٣٨٤٢
www.aljeel-aljadeed.com

Yemen Commercial Bank YCB البنك التجاري اليمني
Wherever you are, in Yemen or abroad
Whenever you need, 24/7/365
خدمة الإنترنت المصرفي
Internet Banking
Free For Individuals and Companies
www.ycb.com.ye
Head Office: Sana'a, AlZubairi St., Al-Rowaishan Building
Tel: 00967 -1-277224-Fax: 00967-1-277291-P.O.Box: 19845, -Swift: YECOYESA

Amana
تأجير أمانة
الأمريكية المنزلية
محلات الحقيق التجارية
عن شارع ٢١ سبلور نهر - الجمهورية اليمنية
هاتف: ٤٦٥٥٨٥ - ٤٦٥٥٨٤
فاكس: ٥٣٤٥٨٥
نشرة إلكترونية تجارية مجانية
www.alamanat.com

In brief

Aden

Two drowned and two lost in Aden

Oct. 28 — A 17 year-old boy from taiz and a women, 35, from Dar Saad have drowned on the Golemdor beach and Al Braighah's beach during Eid. Another two children are still missing after they drown in the Golemdor beach. A source said people are continuing to search for the two missing people.

Guide book on Aden's beauty

Oct. 28 — The General Assembly for Tourism Development is in the last stages of preparing tourism guid book. It should be available the beginning of 2007. The guide book will highlight the attractive and famous places and guideposts in Aden and it will indicate books, films and maps for the archeological places in Aden in both Arabic and English.

Al-Mahra

Tourists via Al-Mahra passage increase ever more

Oct. 28 — Al-Mahra Customs' Outlets has a continuous flow of tourists coming to Yemen. Abdul-Latif Radman, Director of Passports and Emigrations Office in Harfit outlet, near the Sultanate of Oman, said the outlet is witnessing many tourists and expatriates. He said the outlet received 2932 Yemeni expatriates, 20,180 Arab visitors and 216 foreign tourists so far this year. He said the governorate is rich with its natural, tourist and historic sights which attract tourists and visitors.

Beida'a

Development projects in Rada'a

Oct. 28 — There were 64 developmental and service projects were implemented in Rada'a city of Beidha Governorate during the last decade. Al-Beidha Deputy governor for Rada'a affairs, Abdullah Ali Nasher Al-Ahmar, said these projects were on education, roads, public works, health, electricity, water, agriculture, sanitation and communication fields.

Sana'a

Second democracy forum for women in Yemen

Oct. 29 — Sisters' Arab Forum for Human Rights arranges the second democracy forum for women under banner "Two years for achievement and missing opportunities" from Nov. 3 to 5. Many international organizations will support the workshop. A group of active women on the women's issues and human rights from twenty Arab and Islamic countries will participate in the forum.

1st annual conference on fighting corruption in China

Oct. 28 — Yemen took part in the International Cooperation for Fighting Corruption held in Beijing, China during 22 - 26 October. Upon his departure, Dr. Abdullah al-Sana'fi, Chairman of Central Organization for Controlling and Auditing and head of the Yemeni delegation to the conference, said the conference would discuss a set of issues associated with corruption. He said the conference enlightened the concerned bodies on combating corruption in cooperation with media and NGOs in accordance with the UN Convention on corruption.

Dhamr

Trainees on labor for equality

Oct 28 — There were 15 training courses and activities during the first six month of this year for 580 trainees in Dhamr. The courses highlighted different fields on health, building up the women abilities on the syndicated work campaigns on the danger of children's smuggling and increasing the awareness level of the civil social organizations in Dhamr. The courses aimed to end child smuggling and demonstrat Yemeni and international laws relating to children's rights.

67 died and 262 injured in car accidents during Eid

SANA'A, Oct 29 — There were 67 people reported dead and 262 others injured in car accidents during the Eid Al-Fitr holiday in various areas of Yemen. The Traffic Department states there were 339 car accidents in the different governorates of Yemen. The accidents include 170 car collisions; 41 rollover accidents, in addition to other accidents resulting from high speed.

The report points out that most of the accidents that occurred from driver negligence.

The damages of the incidents have been estimated at YR142,452,000, according to the report, higher than last year. Last Eid, 207 car accidents claimed the lives of 100 people and injured 400 others.

In Ramadan, 883 car accidents occurred throughout Yemen, claiming 166 people and injuring 908 people. The damages were estimated at more than one million riyals.

Official figures show that every year more than 2,000 people die in traffic



Avie of a car accident in Sana'a. Official figures show that every year more than 2,000 people die in traffic accidents in Yemen.

accidents in Yemen.

Two years ago there were 2005 accidents claiming 2510 lives and critically wounded 7030 people, compared to 2249 deaths and 5443 major injuries.

Worldwide an estimated 1.2 million

people are killed in road crashes each year and as many as 50 million are injured, according to the world report on road traffic injury prevention released by World Health Organization in 2004.

Yemeni wins religious singer award

By: Nisreen Shadad

SHARJAH, Oct. 26 — The first day of Eid became an extraordinary day for Yemeni singers as the results of the Sharjah Religious Singer competition were released with Ammar Al-Azaki taking the top prize.

Upon receiving the award his pleasure couldn't make him forget to thank Allah as he asked for a minute to prostrate in thanks to Allah. Abdul Rahman Bohbela from Algeria came second and Ali Bobar from Oman came third.

Al-Azaki beat out 12 other contestants from several Arab countries to win the competition Sharjah Satellite Channel.

Al-Azaki is a recent high school graduate from Mahweet and although he is only 17 he has been religious chanting since his childhood.

"He has never received any professional training, but he was encouraged by his teachers in school especially his religion teacher Khaled Al-Wosabi," said his mother.

During his childhood, Al-Azaki was influenced by his two sisters who were religious singers, but his father was opposed to this trend because he saw Ammar was attending to his singing practice more than his studies, as commented by his mother.

But the singing practice helped Ammar in Sharjah and to get there.

To qualify for he competition there were 3000 competitors from all the Arab countries with more than 120 from Yemen. Ammar was selected from all Yemeni participants and his family decided to send him to Sharjah for the second level of competition at the Sharja Religious Singers Festival.

Sheikh Mohammed bin Saqr Al-Qassimi, Director-General of the Sharjah Medical Zone and Sheikh Meshari Al-Efasy, a famous religious singer and the owner of Al-Efasy religious Satellite Channel, attended the festival.

The first prize was 100,000 U.A.E. Dirhams (over YR 5 million) and a contract with a recording company to produce his own album and video clip.



Ammar asked for a minute to prostrate in thanks to Allah(Above). Before recieving his award right).

Directors of this program traveled to most of Arab countries to choose the participants for the Sharjah Religious Singer Festival. They select thirteen contestants from 3000 candidates. They were Mohamed Riyadh from Iraq, Badr Al-Harethi from Oman, Bandar Ashour from Saudi Arabia, Mo'tasim Billah and Adnan Al-Hallaq from Syria, Salem Al-Toraifi from Sharjah, Ahmed Fathi and Taher Wajdi from Egypt, Mohammed Zaki from Jordon, in addition to winners of the first three places.

"The festival aimed to present the religious songs in the proper way. The 13 religious singers were prepared to revive the religious songs that can be an alternative of the meaningless songs of nowadays," said the festival's presenter Mohammad Khalaf.

An committee consisting of three famous religious singers in the Arab world was formed to select the title winner: Mohammed Sermeni (Abu Al-Jod), Mohammed Mustafa (Abu Ratib) and Ahmed bu Khater. And the audience from all around the world voted via SMS texts. The competition began in the first week of Ramadan and continued until Eid day. Contestants received training during Ramadan to be able to sharpen their talents and to present at their best. Two



religious singers every week had to leave the competition until there were only five contestants on the final day. Ammar Al-Azaki sang first. Then Abdul Rahman Bohbela sang, Mo'tasim Billah, Adnan Al-Hallaq and lastly Ali Bubar. After that each judge sang.

All the judges songs centered around one theme: The importance of religious singers in promoting the true message of Islam. Abu Al-Jud sang about the corruption of media and the status of Muslims. In his song he assured Muslims the only way to hoist Islam's flag is to implement Islamic principles. Abu Khater as well called religious singers to spread right and constructive thoughts and Abu Ratib sang a special song of farewell to all singers whom he loved for the sake of Allah. He said they might depart physically, but the love for Allah established a strong bond among them so they will never depart in heart. Al-Efasy concluded the festival with two religious songs.

Sana'a Congregation States to meet in Addis Ababa

SANA'A, Oct. 29 — The Yemen-Ethiopian Joint Committee is due to hold a summit in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa in the final days of December.

The meeting will be chaired by the two countries foreign ministers in order to discuss creating more cooperation between the two countries.

The committee indicated the meeting is expected to discuss the necessary arrangements for establishing the Free Trade Zone between Sana'a Congregation States in light of decisions reached by Aden Summit.

The meeting is to set mechanisms

for enhancing security coordination to fight terrorism and trafficking operations across borders. The Yemen-Ethiopian Joint Committee said the discussions will concentrate on implementing decisions reached by Sana'a Congregation Countries Summit in political, economic and security areas.

The committee noted the discussions plan to include other areas related with forming a permanent secretary for Sana'a Congregation to be in charge of following up agreements and protocols of cooperation between Sana'a Congregation member states.

French oil company's attackers arrested

SHABWA, Oct. 29 — Security authorities in Shabwa governorate have arrested two people in connection with attacking the French oil company C.G.G., which operates in the governorate. The arrest operation took place after tribesmen from Bani Al-Hareth, Al-Nasiatin and Al Isehaq tribes attacked the French company and opened fire on its workers killing three and injuring six.

Brig. Abdurrahman Hanash, Chief of Shabwa Security Department, said police are hunting other suspects involved in the attack. The department intensified security measures around the company and put a stop to the tribal masses that assembled last Thursday. Hanash said security authorities in the

governorate took firm security procedures to prevent reoccurrence of such attacks.

Chief of Shawba Security Department said the incident occurred because Bani Al-Hareth, Al-Nasiatin and Al Isehaq tribes insisted the company workers have to be from their tribes. The tribesmen ignore the fact there are technicians from different areas, but they assembled at the company and attacked, but security guards prevented them from storming the company.

As the tribesmen opened fire security guards returned fire. Different media reported that the deaths include one of the attackers, a company worker and one of those applying for work in the company.

Regional meeting on literacy programs

SANA'A, Oct. 29 — The National Committee for Education, Culture and Science in cooperation with Islamic Organization for Education, Science and Culture, will hold a conference with 11 Arab nations in November to enhance capacities of human resources to improve the funding of illiteracy eradication programs in Yemen.

Mohamed Abdulbari Al-Qawsi, Secretary-General of the committee, said they want to strengthen the role of civil communities to participate in eradicating illiteracy and upgrading the skills of human resources.

He added the most important issues, due to be discussed in the meeting, are represented by the means of training illiteracy workers and ensuring effective partnership with the private sector and civil community organizations. Other issues of top priority are those concerned with funding illiteracy erad-

ication programs and activating the role of Islamic endowment foundations, as well as involving universities in scientific research on community education.

According to Al-Qawsi, the meeting is due to discuss the role of media and modern technology in improving activities related to funding illiteracy eradication and adult education programs. The meeting is expected to benefit from the experience of participating countries.

Al-Qawsi said developing the means of profiting from different funding sources and spending them on illiteracy eradication programs are due to be the most prominent results the meeting is expected to reach.

The regional meeting is due to include Jordan, Qatar, U.A.E., Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Iraq, Oman, Palestine, Kuwait and Yemen.

Let Your Creativity Speak!
You see Yemen today, and you dream about the Yemen it could be.

CALGARY, Oct 29 — Shabab Yemeni (SY) has launched its first youth contest, Let Your Creativity Speak! This contest was launched to recognize and appreciate talented Yemeni youth of ages between 16 and 28, and provide them with a medium to share their talents. There are two ways in which Yemeni youth can participate in Let Your Creativity Speak! One is through an article entry where the theme for the writing component is The Yemen it could be. Details about the theme, entry and participation guidelines, and how you can submit your work is found in the contest package found in the Shabab Yemeni website www.shababyemeni.com.

The contest encourages participants to dreaming about various aspects of improvement. Such as a better education system, a poverty-less nation, a flourishing film and art industry, a competing economy, homemade technology, a nationalized health care system or even preserving the environment. The article should propose a solution to improve one area, which will make Yemen the country it could be. Let Your Creativity Speak also includes a photo entry contest where motion is the theme for the photo entries. The candidate is required to focus their camera on anything in motion and send it to us. Any photo capturing movement fits the criteria of the motion theme.

For each of those two components the first prize is for this contest is \$300



CDN and the second prize is \$150 CDN. The deadline for all entries is January 20th, 2006.

Shabab Yemeni is a pure youth effort formulating a youth newsletter established in May 2004. SY is a non-political, independent newsletter with a goal to share knowledge, experiences, and resources among Yemeni youth. The vision of this initiative is to help establish a solid base for Yemeni Youth from which inert powers can be triggered and actuated to build a better future. It aims at doing so through increasing awareness among Yemeni youth and share knowledge and experiences, highlighting and bringing attention to youth activities inside and outside Yemen, and installing confidence in Yemeni youth to create positive change in their society.

Yemen needs billions to reach goals

SANA'A, Oct. 29 — Yemen will need US \$48 billion to reach the Millennium Development Goals, says Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Abdul-Karim Ismael Al-Arhabi. The financial gap to reach the goals amounts to US \$17 billion.

Al-Arhabi said Yemen is determined to join the Millennium Challenge Account. It's an mechanism proposed by President Bush to implement a new model for providing foreign aid to the world's developing nations.

Last year, the Millennium Challenge Account suspended Yemen from the

program for 2006 because of shortcomings in Yemen's reform indexes.

Al-Arhabi made it clear the financial gap with regard to the implementation of the investment program in the plan of economic and social development for poverty alleviation 2006-2010 is not more than US \$10 billion, especially as poverty decreased by 35.5 percent compared to recession by 11 percent in the previous years.

The size of the investment program in the plan amounts to US \$25 billion, of which US \$16 billion will be used for building new projects, he added.

US and Iraq seek to heal strains

President Bush has held talks by video link with Iraqi PM Nouri al-Maliki. The link-up follows several days of public disagreement between US and Iraqi officials, who blamed each other for Iraq's deepening crisis. Mr Maliki said they agreed to speed up training of security forces, to accelerate the handover from US and other forces to the Iraqis. The meeting follows his remarks on Friday that he was a friend of the US but not America's man in Iraq.

The Iraqi prime minister has blamed the US for the deteriorating security situation, saying they had failed to provide adequate equipment and training to the Iraqi forces. US officials, meanwhile, have said Mr Maliki was not taking tough enough action against sectarian militias.

'Very happy'

In a joint statement issued after the 50-minute video conference, the two leaders said they were "committed to the partnership" and would work in every way possible for a stable, democratic Iraq. White House spokesman Tony Snow said there were no strains in the



The US wants Iraqi security forces to take charge of security duties.

US-Iraq relationship. "The president is very happy, actually, with the way the prime minister is working," he said. Mr Bush and Mr Maliki outlined three goals:

- Speeding up the training of Iraq's armed forces
- Moving ahead with Iraq's control of

its own forces

- Making the Iraqi government responsible for the country's security

Mr Maliki said a committee had been set up to deal with training, whose members would include the Iraqi defence, interior and security ministers as well as US forces commander Gen

George Casey.

The video conference followed a rare joint statement on Friday by Mr Maliki and US ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad, in which they stressed the need to work together to end the bloodshed.

Timetables

Divisions had emerged between the two countries earlier in the week after Mr Khalilzad outlined initiatives to try to stabilise Iraq, including a plan to reform Iraqi security ministries.

He said the Iraqi government had agreed to develop a timeline for progress by the end of the year.

At a joint news conference, the top US military commander in Iraq, Gen George Casey, said Iraqi security forces could be able to assume responsibility for the whole country within 18 months.

Mr Maliki said at a news conference on Wednesday that no-one had the right to impose a timetable on his government.

US involvement in Iraq and the ongoing violence there have become key issues ahead of US mid-term elections, which take place next month.

Source: BBC NEWS

Fidel Castro shown on Cuban TV, walking, reading

By: Anthony Boadle

Cuban leader Fidel Castro defiantly dismissed rumors that he was dead on Saturday in television images showing him walking, talking on the telephone and reading the day's newspapers.

In the first images of him issued in six weeks, Castro said he was taking part in government decisions, following the news, and making regular phone calls as he recovers from emergency intestinal surgery in late July.

"Now that our enemies have prematurely declared me dying or dead, I am happy to send my compatriots and friends around the world this short film material," Castro said.

"Now let's see what they say. They will have to resurrect me," the gray-bearded leftist firebrand said.

The images showed a gaunt-looking Castro browsing through Saturday's ruling Communist Party daily Granma, walking slowly out of a lift in a track-suit and talking on a telephone in a loud, clear voice.

A television presenter said the images, aimed to quell rumors of Castro's death started by Cuban exiles in the United States, were recorded on Saturday afternoon.

Castro's prolonged absence from

public view set off rumors in recent weeks that the 80-year-old leader was dead and change imminent in Cuba, one of the world's last communist-run nations.

The rumor mill was fueled last week by Brazil's President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva when he inadvertently implied Castro was dead and by a Caracas newspaper report that said Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, Cuba's main ally, had visited Havana secretly to say good-bye to Castro.

Castro was forced to relinquish power temporarily for the first time since his 1959 revolution to his younger brother Raul on July 31 after undergoing surgery to stop intestinal bleeding.

Earlier this month, Time magazine quoted an unnamed U.S. official saying that Castro had terminal cancer.

Cuban officials have denied Castro has stomach cancer and insist he is recovering gradually and will return to lead the country. But they have given no details of his illness, which are a closely guarded state secret.

Raul Castro, 75, has not been seen in public for three weeks. Camera-shy and less charismatic than his brother, Raul hosted a summit of the Non-Aligned Movement of developing



man watches television footage of convalescing leader Fidel Castro in Havana October 28, 2006. Cuban television showed images on Saturday of Castro walking, reading the day's newspapers and speaking on the phone.

nations in September when the president failed to appear.

Cuba has remained calm in Castro's absence. Most Cubans expect their leader to appear in uniform on December 2 for a military parade marking the 50th anniversary of his landing with a handful of guerrillas to start an armed uprising in the Sierra

Maestra mountains of eastern Cuba.

Castro called the rumors of his death "foolish" and said they stimulated him to continue "working and fighting."

He ended his video message with his usual slogan "Patria o muerte, venceremos!" (Fatherland or death, to victory).

Source: Reuters

Palestinian battles to study in Israel

By: Martin Patience

Sawsan Salameh should have spent this week in the laboratories at Hebrew university starting to work on her PhD in theoretical chemistry. But instead the 29-year-old Palestinian from the West Bank has carried on working as a science teacher at a local high school.

Despite being given a full scholarship by the Hebrew University to pursue her studies, Ms Salameh has fallen foul of new Israeli army regulations preventing Palestinian students from entering Israel on security grounds. "It's been my dream since I was 16 to get a doctorate," says Ms Salameh sitting in her family's apartment in Anata.

From the end of her road you can see the university in the distance but a dusty Israeli checkpoint stands between Ms Salameh and further study. "It's my dream to become a professor of chemistry," she says. "But now I feel my whole future is on hold."

Supreme Court

Ms Salameh's position is reflects that of many Palestinians who have lived with severe restrictions on their movement since the start of the second Palestinian uprising in 2000. She says that she has applied to the Israeli authorities eight times to get the neces-



Sawsan Salameh is adamant that she will achieve her dream of getting a PhD

sary permit to study in Israel but all requests were refused. Her case has now been taken to the Israeli Supreme Court by the Israeli human rights group Gisha. "Allowing Palestinians to get an education in Israel is in our long-term benefit," says Sari Bashi, the director of the group. "It will foster better relations between the two sides."

On Wednesday, the Israeli authorities asked the Supreme Court for a further two weeks to prepare their case against the student. Since the Palestinian militant group Hamas took over the Palestinian authority in March, Israel has enforced severe trav-

el restrictions on Palestinians to prevent attacks on Israeli civilians, say government officials.

Studying Abroad

The new blanket ban on Palestinian students entering Israel dates from this October - the start of the academic year.

Previously Palestinian students saw their cases judged on an individual basis but that is no longer the case, says Lieutenant Adam Avidan, a spokesman for the civil administration in the West Bank.

In support of Ms Salameh and others like her, seven Israeli universities have called for an end to the sweeping ban and demanded that Palestinian students who get security clearance should be admitted into the country.

With none of the Palestinian universities offering PhD programmes, students from the West Bank and Gaza either study in Israel or go abroad.

But access to Israeli universities for Palestinian students from Gaza and the West Bank is almost non-existent, with only 14 students enrolled in Israeli uni-

versities, according to the Israel authorities.

Ms Salameh says that studying in Israel is her only chance to get a PhD as she must remain at home.

Non Judgemental

Her father died last year and she provides for her mother and her sister. Ms Salameh - who wears a headscarf - says coming from a traditional Muslim home means that it would be unacceptable for her to travel abroad alone.

Encouraged by friends studying at Israeli institutions, Ms Salameh applied to Hebrew university and says she was delighted when they accepted her.

"I was so happy," she says, "because I felt I was judged on my academic record and not on the grounds of what religion I belong to or what nationality I am."

Ms Salameh has nothing but praise for the Hebrew University authorities who have encouraged her throughout the nine months she has been trying to get the permits that would allow her to get through the checkpoint.

She is adamant that she will achieve her dream of getting a PhD. "I have to do this," she says. "I have to prove something and I will not give up."

Source: BBC NEWS

SANAA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



PROVIDING A HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION FOR 35 YEARS

A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

Beautiful purpose-built facilities on a spacious 34 acre site in a countryside setting. Sports facilities include soccer and softball fields, basketball and tennis courts. Large indoor multi-purpose area for volleyball, basketball, badminton, gymnastics, table tennis, musical and dramatic productions. Bus service available.

Main Campus

- ❖ Performance-Based curriculum for 5 years of age through secondary school
- ❖ Personalized education/small class sizes run by highly qualified & experienced teachers
- ❖ Over 40 computers available for student use, and computer instruction for all ages
- ❖ Extensive after school activity program involving music, art, craft, drama, & sports
- ❖ Advanced Placement (AP) college level courses available for qualified students
- ❖ Graduates attend American, Canadian, European, and Middle Eastern universities

SIS Pre-School

- ❖ Specific age appropriate experiences for 2, 3 and 4 year olds
- ❖ Attractive premises near the French Embassy including a garden and play area
- ❖ Certified experienced British teacher assisted by paraprofessionals
- ❖ School hours are from 7:55 a.m. to 12:00 noon (Saturday through Wednesday)
- ❖ Arabic program from 12:00 noon - 2:30 p.m.

Box 2002, Sanaa, Yemen Phone: 370 191-2 Fax: 370 193
Email: gordonblackie@qsi.org Web site: http://yem.qsi.org



Accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (MSA)
Member of Quality Schools International

Egypt sends troops to Gaza border

Egypt has deployed at least 3,000 extra security forces near the border with the Gaza strip, according to officials.

The move comes a day after an Israeli newspaper reported that the Israeli government planned to attack the border region with precision-guided rockets. Maariv reported Israeli troops would try to destroy tunnels allegedly used by Palestinian militants to smuggle arms from Egypt into the Gaza Strip. Egypt says the possible Israeli mission could threaten 20,000 of its civilians. The men from the police's central security force will join a 750 border guards already deployed in the area known as the Philadelphi Corridor.

'Smart' bombs

An Egyptian official told Reuters news agency in Cairo that reinforcements were requested after the Israeli

report and over "fears of Palestinian militants breaching the border wall between the Gaza Strip and Egypt".

The Israeli newspaper reported on Friday that precision-guided weapons would be used to penetrate underground and destroy the tunnel network that Israel says honeycombs the area, which is 11km (6.5 miles) long and about 100m (330ft) wide.

The decision to use "smart" bombs may be a substitute to reoccupying the region, the newspaper said.

Israel says it has been unable to control weapons smuggling into Gaza since it withdrew its forces from the Gaza Strip last year.

Israel says huge amounts of munitions have been smuggled into Gaza via the tunnels. However, little evidence has been presented to support the use of such weaponry by Palestinian militants in Gaza.

Source: BBC NEWS

North Korea food shortages 'critical'



North Koreans have been dependent on foreign aid for food.

By: Laura Trevelyan

North Korean food shortages have grown worse after its recent nuclear test led donors to withdraw aid, the UN says.

The UN official monitoring human rights in North Korea, Vitit Muntarbhorn, said the food shortage was critical.

North Korea is already short of food and this year floods have damaged the harvest, making matters even worse.

President Kim Jong-il's nuclear test has led to international condemnation of the secretive regime and sanctions against its nuclear programme.

Pyeongyang was due to receive 100,000 tonnes of food aid but will now get less than that, Mr Muntarbhorn said.

"Matters became ultra-complicated because of the missile test in July as well as the nuclear test recently, which prodded various potential contributors to reconsider giving the aid," he said.

"So there has been this sad and regrettable linkage between the various tests and the impact on the food situation."

His report says there are major concerns about basic issues like the right to life, the right to food and freedom of expression and religion.

Although Mr Muntarbhorn credits the regime for reforming its criminal law, he says there are still what he calls many transgressions and discrepancies of an egregious nature when it comes to the fundamental rights of North Korea's people.

Source: BBC NEWS

Sex traffickers target women in war-torn Iraq

Mariam, 16, relives the day her father in Baghdad sold her off as a domestic worker in one of the prosperous Gulf nations. Instead, she was forced into the sex trade.

"I was a virgin and didn't understand what sex was. I was told that they [the traffickers] were going to get good money for my first night with an old local man who paid for my virginity. He was aggressive and hit me all the time," Mariam, who refused to reveal her real name, told IRIN.

Thousands of Iraqi women are being taken advantage of by unscrupulous sex worker traffickers seeking to exploit young girls' desperate socio-economic situation for profit, United Nations agencies have reported.

In Mariam's case, she was taken to Dubai in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and kept in a house with 20 young girls, all of them sex workers, she said.

Before she left Iraq, she and her three sisters were being cared for by her father. Their mother was killed during the US-led invasion of the country in 2003.

Mariam said her father couldn't cope with looking after the children on his own and wanted her to go abroad, particularly given the increasing insecurity and daily violence in Iraq.

In November 2005, a member of a trafficking ring offered Mariam's father an advance payment of US \$6,000 for her, saying she would work for a family in Dubai. He was promised that his daughter would be returned to Iraq after finishing a one-year contract.

Mariam said she faced daily threats in Dubai from the traffickers, warning her not to try to leave. However, she managed to escape and is now back in Baghdad being looked after by a local NGO, the Organisation for Women's Freedom.

Thousands traded for sex work

The teenager's story is not uncommon.

While accurate statistics are hard to come by, the Women's Freedom NGO estimates that nearly 3,500 Iraqi women have gone missing since the US-led occupation of Iraq began in 2003 and that there is a high chance many have been traded for sex work. It says 25 percent of these women have been trafficked abroad since the start of 2006, many unaware of their fate.

"People are desperate to get money to support their families ... just to have something to eat. If the government does not act on this issue, more women will be abused outside Iraq," Nuha Salim, spokeswoman for the NGO, said.

The Iraqi government says it is investigating cases of women being trafficked and has arrested some traffickers, but tackling insecurity in the country is its main priority.

Apart from the need for government action, women's-rights activists say that as long as there is a market for women abroad, the problem will continue and worsen. They call for more action against countries that turn a blind eye to the sex trade.

"Women are being taken outside of Iraq and are losing what is most precious to them - their dignity," Salim said.

Trafficking and prostitution are illegal in the six nations of the Gulf, although the region is a popular and common destination for trafficked women. An estimated 10,000 women from sub-Saharan Africa, eastern Europe, Asia and parts of the Middle East may be victims of sex trafficking in the UAE, according to a US State Department report entitled 'Trafficking in Persons', published in June.

Gulf gangs

Sharla Musabih is a human-rights activist in Dubai who runs a shelter for abused and trafficked women. She says sex workers in the UAE operate predominantly from hotels and organised gangs are behind much of the trade.

"It's not organised in the UAE but there is an organised mafia outside [the

country] that owns hotels in the UAE and they organise it ... But, on the other hand, the big guys [Emirati nationals] involved in immigration are really concerned and are trying to do something about it and they care about it."

Musabih said it was common for girls to be promised domestic work and be forced into sex work. "I've heard the girls pay \$10,000 initially to come to the UAE. They get paid anything from 20 dirhams [\$6] to 20,000 [\$6,000] a night, depending on the client."

According to the US State Department report, the UAE government has failed to address the problem adequately, although inroads have been made.

"Instead, many victims [of trafficking] are jailed along with criminals and deported," the report reads. "Prosecutions for sex trafficking are extremely low relative to the scope of the problem."

The report states that despite 100 reported complaints of trafficking for sexual exploitation in 2005, the UAE government reported only 22 convictions for sex-trafficking crimes.

However, the report praised UAE authorities for the closer screening of visa applications by its embassies in source countries; for having set up a human-trafficking division to investigate trafficking crimes; and for training police, prosecutors, judges, and other government officials in combating trafficking.

No one was available from the Dubai immigration and police department to comment on this issue.

Trafficked to Syria

The UAE is not the only destination for trafficked Iraqi women. Syria is increasingly becoming a popular destination for traffickers, according to humanitarian agencies.

A report released in May by the United Nations refugee agency (UNHCR), the UN's Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Food

Programme (WFP) spoke of "organised networks dealing with the sex trade" in Syria. It made a correlation between the deteriorating conditions of Iraqi citizens and an increase in prostitution and trafficking of Iraqi sex workers.

"It is not possible to say how big the trafficking problem from Iraq to Syria is but we know it does exist," said Ann Maymann, a protection officer with UNHCR in Damascus. "It is something that has been kept quiet because people are afraid to talk about it."

Local activists in Syria say much more needs to be done to protect this vulnerable and increasingly exploited community.

Last September, the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) co-hosted a workshop with the Ministry of Interior to raise awareness on counter-trafficking.

Maria Rumman, IOM chief of mission in Damascus, said the organisation was assisting a Syrian government committee established to draft a counter-trafficking law, and was waiting for international donor funds for a proposed shelter to assist victims of trafficking. Without such a facility, she said, sur-

veying the number of people trafficked into Syria was impossible.

"The government agrees there is a need for new legislation and for a shelter," said Rumman. "But we have not

received any reply from donors, including the US, for a year. The minute we have any donor commitment we will begin."

Source: IRIN



Mariam, 16, escaped life as a sex worker in Dubai to return to Baghdad.



اليوبيل الفضي
SILVER JUBILEE

25 عاماً من الريادة

بعض الخدمات التأمينية المتميزة التي تقدمها الشركة:-

- تأمين السفر الفردي والجماعي والعائلي.
- تأمين الحياة الفردي والجماعي.
- تأمين الحوادث الشخصية الفردي والجماعي.
- التأمين الصحي الفردي والجماعي.
- تأمين إصابات العمل ومسئولية أرباب العمل.
- تأمين المعلم البعدي.
- تأمين النقل البحري والجوي والبحري.
- تأمين هياكل السفن.
- تأمين الحريق والسرقة وتأمين فقدان الرياح.
- النسخ عن الحريق.
- تأمين المسئولية المدنية.
- تأمين نقل النقود وتأمين النقدية في الخزينة.
- تأمين الحجاج والمعتمرين.
- التأمين الهندسي (أخطار المقاولين).
- تأمين الطاقة (النقطة والغاز).
- تأمين المعدات الثقيلة.
- تأمين إنشجار الغلايات.
- التأمين المصرفي الشامل.
- تأمين تعطيل الآلات (عطب المكان).
- وفقدان الرياح الناتج عنها.
- تأمين ألواح الزجاج.
- تأمين حيازة الأمانة.
- تأمين السيارات.
- تأمين كافة أخطار الحاسب الآلي.
- تأمين المسئولية المهنية (الأطباء والمحاسبون القانونيون).

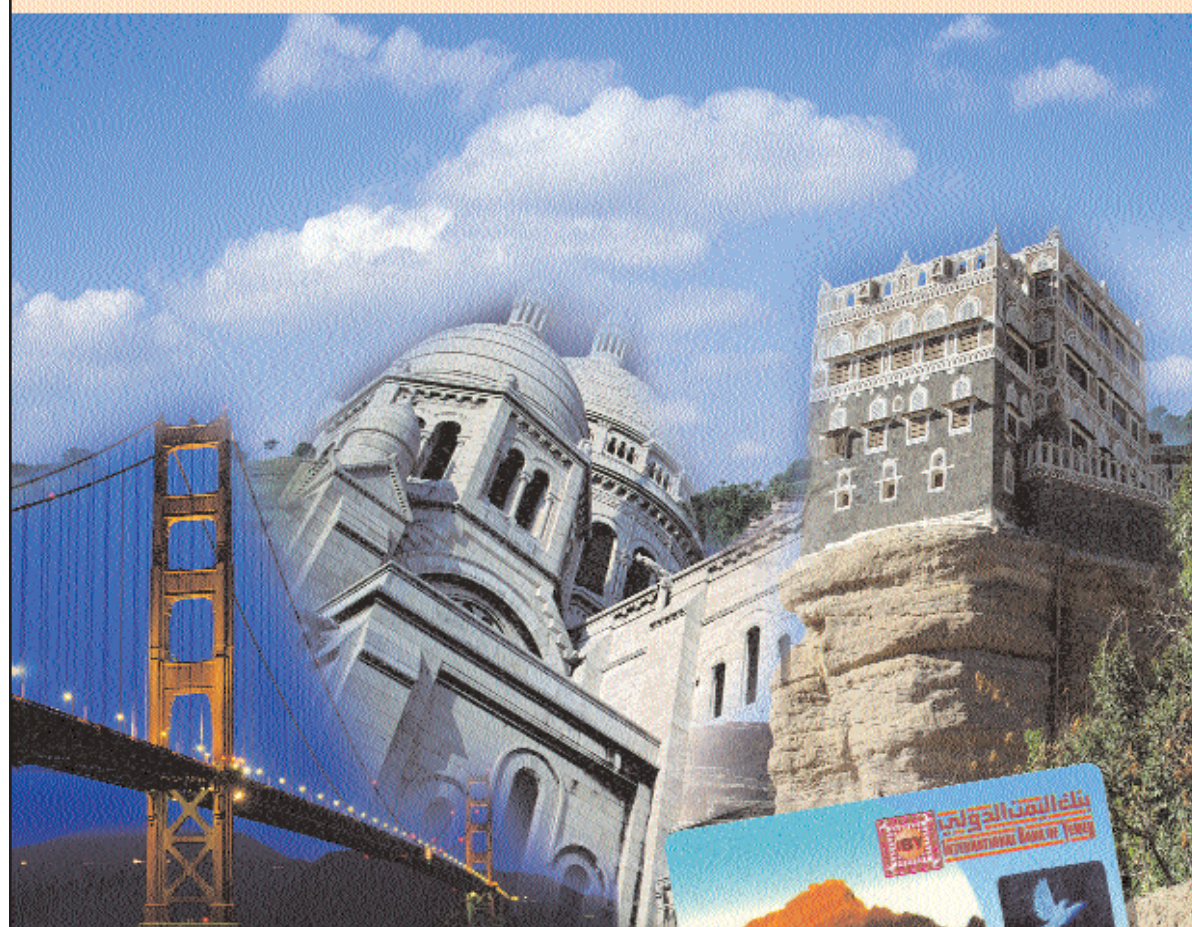


المركز الرئيسي: صنعاء : ص.ب. 1883 - تلفون 555 555 - فاكس 214012
تعز: ص.ب. 6295 - تلفون 215825/215012 - فاكس 215145
عدن: ص.ب. 80169 - تلفون 240971/248010 - فاكس 240972
الحدادية: ص.ب. 3876 - تلفون 219969/2 - فاكس 206485
المكلا: ص.ب. 50644 - تلفون 305051 - فاكس 304845
البريد الإلكتروني: uicyemen@uicyemen.com
الموقع على الإنترنت: www.uicyemen.com

INTERNATIONAL BANK OF YEMEN



بنك اليمن الدولي



IBY VISA ELECTRON

IBY Visa Electron .. Wherever You Are.. Your account with you
one Card Could Facilitate Your Local & International Transactions

Ask for your card today ... Absolutely Free

For more information, Please Contact us on: 01-407030 - or visit our site: www.lbyemen.com

In universities, chance surmounts planning

By: Shaima Mahmoud

What indicates a country's progress toward development and prosperity is a high rate of university graduates, particularly in practical and scientific areas as such majors meet demands of the labour markets. Within the labour markets, graduates can invest their skills and abilities in industry, agriculture and economy.

Training students in university needs to be seen in terms of quantity and quality and the provision of professors within different specializations, the reality of higher studies in this respect doesn't indicate that students are trained in compliance with future plans. Graduates must meet needs and requirements of development.

If the university education reveals that students in human sciences outnumber those in practical areas, the case is similar with those attending M.A and Ph.D. courses. The problem is nobody draws attention to the situation or says not to it, but feeling the necessity of surmounting the situation can create balance between graduates in both areas.

Yemen doesn't live in seclusion from the Arab World. It suffers the same education-related problems experienced in other Arab countries. But in Yemen situations look worse as a study prepared by Dr. Abdullah Al-Dhaifani, a professor at Taiz University, argues that interaction of higher education with the surrounding environment is weak.

Al-Dhaifani says higher education in Yemen is in seclusion from the community requirements of development and the changing environment. He says such educational institutions have no real role in serving development and the society.

The educational expert, Al-Dhaifani, presented his study at a symposium on economic and social reform and development in Yemen, which was organized by the Arab Center for Strategic Studies and the UN Economic and Social Committee for West Asia in Beirut.

Al-Dhaibani pointed out the large numbers of students enrolled in government and private universities in Yemen, but in contrast with the population these numbers are not high as there are only 50 students per 100,000 potential students, according to numbers released in 1990. But in 1998, the rate of university students rose to 800 per 100,000.

The university professors added that in 2002 and 2003, students enrolled in

government and private universities numbered up to 193,242 of whom 181,350 students are enrolled in government universities and 11,892 students in private universities. According to Al-Dhaibani, students enrolled in universities constitute only 21 percent of male population and 6 percent of female population.

5.9 percent of male population and 1.1 percent of female at age 21 – 44 continue the postgraduate studies.

He indicated that 5.9 percent of male population and 1.1 percent of female at age 21 – 44 continue the postgraduate studies. University students constitute less than 2.3 percent of population in their twenties.

The researcher confirmed that the number of university graduates increased over time, but only a few of them can find jobs, and this affects the plan of administrative and financial reform and causes problems to the Yemeni society. He remarked that the number of university graduates rose from 2100 in 1990 to 20,000 in 1999 and the number is expected to reach 150,000 by 2015.

For his part, Dr. Ahmad Al-Kibsi, Vice Rector of Sana'a University for Academic Affairs, states that there is high tendency toward human sciences, saying "I think this phenomenon has to be limited and that students should be encouraged to join the modern and scientific areas such as computer, information technology."

The problem is the Yemeni students avoid learning a foreign language and this is a point of weakness on the part of students, he added.

"Those who escape learning the foreign language prefer to study in Arab universities than universities in the U.S., Britain, German and France,"

said Al-Kibsi.

According to Al-Kibsi, the problem is not due to a lack of qualified teachers.

"For us, Sana'a University has qualified teaching staff and facilities, but it lacks high tendency of learners toward majors needed by development and the society. We have a surplus of students attending courses on Islamic Education, Law, Literature and Economics," Al-Kibsi stated. "I think the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, with its new leadership, has new policies to make education outputs cope with demands of the time."

Asked whether the labour market suffer the lack of graduates specializing in scientific and practical areas, Al-Kibsi explained: "It is a mistake if you say that there is no labour markets for practical colleges' graduates, and therefore graduates of these colleges favor working in neighboring countries."

Dr. Tawfiq Sefyan, Vice Rector of Sana'a University for Higher Studies and Scientific Research, says, "Yemen, with its population estimated at 20 million, there are only seven government universities and eight private universities. If we compare this number to the number of universities in western countries like Germany, France or Britain, with its 65 million strong population, one can find that there are more than one hundred universities in average in each of these countries, in addition to two fold this number of higher institutes. Such numbers of high educational institutions cannot meet the rising demand of population in these countries, either in human sciences or practical areas."

"In Yemen, it is strange to see people complaining that the country is fed up with graduates specializing in human studies, however we hire teachers in these majors from abroad. Let us correct the concept; if we continue graduating students in these majors for 20 years, this is impossible to meet the growing demand of learners," Sefyan continued. "We at Sana'a University never receive applications for Ph D courses in many faculties because we lack professors to supervise students. The Department of Islamic Studies, which, some say, is

As most of the university faculties rely on the theoretical subjects, students graduate from university but still lack the skills required by the labour market.

sible to meet the growing demand of learners," Sefyan continued. "We at Sana'a University never receive applications for Ph D courses in many faculties because we lack professors to supervise students. The Department of Islamic Studies, which, some say, is



In 2002 and 2003, students enrolled in government and private universities. Above, students and professors going about their business in a college of Sana'a University.

overloaded with students, lacks the required number of teaching staff."

Sefyan added, "Really, we need large numbers of qualified professors to teach in different specializations; theoretical and practical."

But the problem might also be a lack of enthusiasm by all parties. Abdullah Al-Zawm, Professor of French Language at the Faculty of Arts, thinks students are the source of the issues.

"The new students each year don't seem to be as enthusiastic as students of the former batches, and the fact is attributed to new approaches to knowledge other than the university studies such as the Internet and media. Information has become available in different means other than the university education," he said.

According to Al-Zawm, the university was thought as a new horizon to get rid of the routine of schools and students joining the university hope to enter a new phase in their lives. Applicants usually join the faculty selected by their relatives and friends and not the ones that suit them, and after a while it becomes clear that some students can't succeed in their studies.

As most of the university faculties

rely on the theoretical subjects, students graduate from university but still lack the skills required by the labour market.

Ammar Abduljawad, a first year student at the Faculty of Agriculture, says high school graduates keep thinking of ways to enter university, particularly those with low scores.

"I haven't thought to join the Faculty of Agriculture, but it is the chance that forced me to apply for this faculty," he said.

Some students planned on which faculty and major to take, but sometimes it doesn't work. Abdullah Al-Faqeeh, a graduate from the Faculty of Arts, could not get a job and this forced him to continue his postgraduate studies. "Really, I did not think enough at the time of enrolling in the university, as thinking of the future kills human beings, particularly in the shadow of current conditions, and therefore we see those who graduated before us staying idle without any work."

Amani Yahya agrees with Al-Faqeeh. She graduated from the

Laboratory Department, the Faculty of Medicine.

"Had I but thought shortly in what will happen after graduation, I wouldn't have joined the Laboratory Department. I studied for four years to seek a job that suits me for another four years. Now, I don't know what to do," she explains.

Dr. Walayah Qaied, human resource expert, pointed out that students have to be aware of the majors needed by the labour market. With regard to this, there are two points, the first of which is that the school plays a good role in spreading awareness of students about the real-life situations and the demands of the labour market. The school should guide students to the required specializations. The other point is shared by the Ministry of Education and the labour market, as there should be planning and mutual coordination between both parties.

Qaied emphasizes the necessity of planning in the lives of youth, as the goals of youth have to be reached in favor of the society. Youths have to be encouraged to formulate their own goals, in addition to the plans that help them reach these goals.

Education as a strategic deterrent in a backward society (Yemen as a case) (Part 1)

By: Mohammed Al-Maitami

The American-British invasion of Iraq and the quick collapse of the Iraqi regime have revealed the failure of the Arab state to defend and protect its people and even defend its existence and assert its usefulness. It is clear today that there is no single country in the Arab and Muslim world whose national security is safe from international or regional powers.

These threats are a reality that could readily lead to direct colonization in the interests of superpower geopolitical goals, but at the moment the critical question is how to cope with these threats: what are the means and institutions on which Arab countries can rely to repel these threats from the external world. Currently the Arab world has no strategy to deter external aggression. This is a result of a long accumulation of undemocratic and unpatriotic political systems which have generated profound chasms in the internal structure of the state and which are not capable of reform. Poverty, hunger, unemployment, misery, desperation and other social and political sicknesses prevailing in these countries are products of these political systems. The failure of the nation-state in many MENA countries is readily apparent. Local violence and conflicts, social and political exclusion, civil wars, poverty and famines, illiteracy and unemployment, prevalence of contagious diseases, absence of real democracy and human rights, absence of equitable and independent judiciary, absence of security and equality, tyranny, despotism and covetous-

ness and so forth are all prevalent in the MENA countries despite some variance between countries. Such circumstances and situations always provide - in any time and any place - a prime opportunity for outside intervention to exploit. As the local Yemeni saying goes, "those who make themselves into a bone, dogs will not hesitate to eat."

Education here is the key variable in the formula for a modern strategic deterrent. There is no single country in the contemporary world that has achieved real development, welfare and security without effective, generous and planned investment in education. Investment in human resources will not only bring fruits in increasing individual ability to get or create a job and generate a household's income, to decrease poverty and increase aggregate economic resources of the nation, but also to enhance and strengthen the defensive capability of the nation in an effective and constructive manner.

Americans have realized the importance of education in the international competition for progress, well-being and world leadership as evidenced in the report entitled "Nation at Risk" published in 1983 by the commission of education and edited by David Gardner. This report, written two decades ago, aimed to bring the attention of the American people - politicians, scientists, intellectuals, businessmen and the common people - to the harm the deterioration of education might cause. The writers of this report issued a call for help: "our nation is losing a carelessness war". This carelessness was manifest, in the view of the authors, in the deteriorating level of education in the

United States compared to the educational achievements of other advanced industrial countries. People who were in childcare in 1983 are after two decades high school graduate students. Half of them are enrolled in universities and institutes or working in remunerative jobs, whereas the other half are either unqualified, working at low wage jobs, unemployed, or depend upon governmental subsidies. Many of them are vagrants and many are involved in crime. All this happened because they did not get a good education. The danger warning sounded by the nation-at-risk report marks a relative danger to which the American nation, sitting at the peak of modern civilization, might be exposed. Hence, the type of danger which the report describes is only a relative danger, meaning that the American nation might lose its leading position in the international race of nations. It is not comparable to the threat that the Yemeni nation faces, a threat of destruction so complete that it will make such a great and deep rooted civilization as Yemen's and its people no more than stories in a history textbook and CDs.

After four decades of reversing the long and dark isolation imposed by Imams' theocratic regime, illiteracy in Yemen is still shackling almost half of the population. The number of illiterates today is more than nine million out of a total population of twenty million and more than 70% of education-aged women remain at home and do not receive any education. In spite of the expansion of the number of schools and the increase in the budget for education, 41 children out of every 100 do not

receive basic education. Among those who are lucky to be enrolled in schools, a large percentage of them are compelled by economic and social reasons to leave school. School dropout rates are highest among females: 70% of women do not complete basic education.

The educational institutions in Yemen from kindergarten to universities are jammed with students. The curriculum, teaching methods and philosophy of education are so miserable and backward that education in Yemen is almost a complete farce. The university professor in Yemen may find in their class students who are not able to write their own names. Many of them graduate from the university without real skills, they are neither able to join the labor market nor create a job for themselves and then their fate is to join the army of unemployed, which is already huge and accounts for 35-40% of the labor force. The unemployment rate among university graduates is more than 50%. As majority of university students prefer enrolling in liberal arts and humanities due to the poor education they receive from basic and secondary education (90% of university students are enrolled in the faculty of arts and humanities which provides a poor quality of education), the contribution of Yemeni education in general and university in particular to economic development and social advancement is almost nonexistent.

Mohammed Al-Maitami is Professor of Economics, Sana'a University and a visiting Professor at Georgetown University.



British Embassy

Sana'a

SALE

- The British Embassy has 7 used generators to sell as one lot. All FG Wilson generators are in super silencer enclosures and two include automatic transfer switches,
- All units have been serviced in accordance with manufactures schedule.
- Units are sold as seen with no warranty.

Details as follows:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Manufacture: FG Wilson Model No: P22
Year of Manufacture: 1996
KVA: 22
Hours Run: 2427 | 5. Manufacture: FG Wilson Model No: P25SP
Year of Manufacture: 1997
KVA: 25
Hours Run: 2217 |
| 2. Manufacture: FG Wilson Model No: P18SP
Year of Manufacture: 1996
KVA: 18
Hours Run: 1249 | 6. Manufacture: FG Wilson Model No: P18SP
Year of Manufacture: 1996
KVA: 18
Hours Run: 1550 |
| 3. Manufacture: FG Wilson Model No: P60
Year of Manufacture: 1996
KVA: 60
Hours Run: 2982 | 7. Manufacture: Lister Plant No: 61317 LB
Year of Manufacture: 1973
KVA: 15
Hours Run: 1132 |
| 4. Manufacture: FG Wilson Model No: P27
Year of Manufacture: 1995
KVA: 27
Hours Run: 2042 | |

- Please note that the buyer will be liable to pay the customs duty.

Contact number: 00967 1 264081/2/3/4

Announcement

Implementation of Local Council Decision Regarding Tourism Fees to Enter the Historical Site of Shibam, Hadhramawt

The Department of Tourism in the District of Shibam announces the beginning of the implementation of Local Council Decision No. 1 of March 2006 regarding the collection of tourism fees stipulated in the Prime-Ministerial Decree No. 283, year 2001. The said decree stipulates a fee of /500/ Yemeni Riyal for foreign tourist to enter historical sites.

Therefore, operators of tourist functions are requested to take the above mentioned fee into consideration when organizing tourist-groups visits to the Historical City of Shibam, Hadhramawt. The revenues of these fees Shall be allocated exclusively for rehabilitation programs to preserve the historic monuments of the City.

The implementation of the fee shall begin as of the first of November 2006. Tickets are available for pre-sale at the office of the Department of Tourism in the District of Shibam. Tickets are available in the form of booklets, each containing 50 tickets for the price of /25,000/ only twenty five thousand Yemeni Riyals. For more information please contact us during office hours to:

For Arabic enquiries
(05) 420024
77272545
For English enquiries
(05) 420052

Printed with Support from the Yemeni-German Shibam Urban Development Project



International Finance Corporation (IFC), a member of the World Bank Group, promotes sustainable private sector investment in developing countries as a way to reduce poverty and improve people's lives. To complement its growing investment, technical assistance and advisory activities, the IFC invites applications for the following position in Sana'a, Yemen.

Project Officer-Mining Policy Reform (PO-Yemen)

Managed by PEP-MENA, IFC's technical assistance facility in the Middle East and North Africa, the **Mining Policy Reform in Yemen** project will help review and reform Yemen's mining laws, regulations, and fiscal regime. The project team will also map and redesign the sector's administrative procedures, develop a National Mining Policy, and review Yemen's Minerals Resources Board.

Objectives: Based on the information resulting from the initial fact-finders efforts in the Review and Reform of Yemen's Mining Laws, Regulations and Fiscal Regime, IFC would assist in drafting a National Mining Policy and Strategy, and would review the mandate, functions and structure of Yemen's Mineral Resource Board with the aim of strengthening the agency's ability to effectively promote and attract investments.

Responsibilities of the Project Officer:

Primary responsibility of the Project Officer would be to implement all components of the Mining Policy Reform Yemen Project. Specific tasks would include:

- Hire the project analyst and work closely with the Business Enabling Environment Operations team to launch the project in a timely manner.
- Provide input to the project design, manage the project on a day-to-day basis, and conduct the project's exit strategy.
- Deliver top-quality work on time, and meet tight deadlines and targets in a difficult external environment, assuring that all project activities exemplify internationally accepted best practice in mining policy reform.
- Regularly report to the Senior Operations Manager on project implementation, including procurement, budget management, quality control and service delivery.
- Assist the Business Enabling Environment Operations team in building strong relationships with senior government officials; including the Ministry of Oil and Minerals and all relevant authorities.
- Coordinate on all areas of TA delivery with hired local and international consultants.
- Undertake field missions on an as-needed basis.
- Collaborate with PEP-MENA's M&E expert to define and monitor impact indicators from the outset of the program and until its finalization.

Qualifications

- Advanced degree in Business Administration, Economics, Law, or equivalent
- Five to eight years work experience in development, preferably in the field of regulatory reform as well as experience in project management
- Excellent oral and written communication and presentational skills
- Fluency in English and Arabic
- Knowledge of regulatory approaches
- Proven planning, organizational and leadership skills
- Excellent interpersonal skills with a willingness to work in a team environment
- Exceptional ability to operate under pressure and tight deadlines with accuracy and professionalism

Interested applicants are requested to send their Curriculum Vitae (indicating in the subject line the position for which they are applying) to **WBYemen@worldbank.org** by November 10, 2006.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted



Executive Secretary

Safer Exploration & Production Operations Co. (SEPOC) is considering hiring an Executive Secretary to work in it's Sana'a Office.

Minimum Requirements:

- A bachelor's degree in Business Administration, English Literature or English Language from a recognized and a reputed university.
- Must have minimum of 5 years experience as Secretary.
- Must have good computer skills, with particular emphasis in word and Excel.
- Must be committed to the work.

All candidates must be **YEMENI NATIONALS**
Deadline for the application: **November 30, 2006.**

If you meet the above requirements, please forward your resume only to:

Safer Exploration & Production
Attn: Human Resources Department
P.O.Box 481
Fax 1- 415 730
Sana'a Republic of Yemen
or
E-mail saferhr@y.net.ye

Please do not phone us. We will call you for an interview if you are a successful candidate.



Yemeni Nationals Only

Canadian Nexen Petroleum East Al-Hajr Ltd. announces the following vacancies:

Sr Production Operator	Field
Snr Mechanical Inspector	Field
ESP Technician	Field
Scada / Comms Technician	Field
Mechanical Technician	Field
Electrical / Instrumentation Technician	Field
Access Control Coordinator	Field
Safety, Environment & Social Responsibility	Field

For further information or to apply for this position please visit our website:

<http://www.nexeninc.com/Careers/Yemen/>

Application Criteria:

- All applications **must be submitted** through our online application system.
- Online Applications must be submitted **NO later than November 7, 2006.**
- A member of our recruitment team will call you if you are selected for a test and interview.
- Selection will be **based on the most qualified applicants.**
- Applicants can check the status of their application online using the above URL.
- Please make sure that your Application contains all the needed personal, **contact** and **qualification** information.
- Faxed or Handed-In CV's will **NOT be considered.**

Female Editor-in-Chief Nadia Al-Saqqaf about the Yemen Times

A newspaper that wants to educate Yemen

The Yemeni Nadia al-Saqqaf is Editor-in-Chief and a woman. This makes her a rare exception in the Arab world. Although repression in Yemen is increasing, she remains optimistic.

Her father died in 1999 in a car accident. Since her brother wanted to continue his studies, Nadia al-Saqqaf was left to run the family business. She became one of the few female editors-in-chief in the Arab

world, publishing the bi-weekly Yemen Times, an independent English-language newspaper in the capital Sana'a. "A newspaper with a mission," says al-Saqqaf (29) "accurate and constructive":

a newspaper that is not only criticizing the government, but also furnishes solutions. "My father founded the Yemen Times to raise Yemen into becoming a good world citizen."

In June 2006, Al-Saqqaf was in The Hague, the Netherlands by invitation of Free Voice to attend the launch of a program for journalists in the Middle East and North Africa: Investing in the Future. According to Al-Saqqaf it is not possible to reform societies in a short period of time. "But we can ensure that journalists work more professionally."

Free Media award

In May 2006, the Yemen Times was awarded the Free Media Award by the International Press Institute (IPI) in Vienna. According to the jury, the

newspaper is functioning in a part of the world where governments prohibit independent media that offer a platform for the opposition. In doing so, a climate of fear and self-censorship is created. Nonetheless, the Yemen Times, says IPI, succeeds to report "accurate and timely about the devel-

"Yemen Times has a far-reaching influence. Its readership includes policymakers, activists and potential activists."

opments in Yemen".

The Yemen Times, says al-Saqqaf, "is patriotic when it comes to issues concerning the promotion of tourism and investments, the development of the country." At the same time, the newspaper does not back away from issues like corruption amongst the public authorities, "but in a constructive way".

As an example al-Saqqaf mentions the upcoming presidential elections.

"Last year the president [Ali Abdullah Saleh] said he would not participate.

We believe this decision to be wise one given the fact that the president has been at the political helm for 28 years; in a lead article we said it was time for a breath of fresh air. Other newspapers, however, stated that the country would go to ruins if the president left. The opposition adopted an aggressive tone: go to hell, president, if you don't go yourself we will force you to."

Far-reaching influence

The Yemen Times has a circulation of 9,000. This seems low, but al-Saqqaf points out that sixty per cent, out of a total of twenty million Yemenis, is illiterate and seventy per cent of the population lives in rural areas where it is difficult to "access practically anything". As such, the newspaper has a far-reaching influence, since its readership includes policymakers, activists and potential activists, that is to say students. Within a couple of years al-Saqqaf aims to publish a daily newspaper, next to an additional monthly or weekly issue, with enough room for investigative journalism. Last year, al-Saqqaf complained that the Yemeni press was curbed by the government. "The last couple of years, especially since 9/11 in the United States, the situation has worsened", she said. Now, however, she is much more optimistic.

This more cheerful tone is not based on Yemeni authorities granting more freedom to journalists. On the contrary, newspapers are forbidden, journalists are arrested and imprisoned and often

subject to violence. Al-Saqqaf's hopes are based on her belief that the government is simply no longer capable of controlling the stream of information. Important political discussions are being held also in Yemen via weblogs, she says. Foremost, she says, the people are not satisfied; they demand a higher standard of living from the government. And they demands the media to cover it." The government is becoming hysterical, as journalists are doing their job, says al-Saqqaf. "It realises that it no longer can hide its mistakes."

Laborious tolerance

As a female editor-in-chief, al-Saqqaf has an extraordinary position in the Arab world. With Arab newspapers in Yemen it is not possible yet to have a woman in charge, she admits, as the atmosphere in the country is still fairly conservative. In general, individual women in Yemen are developing at a faster pace than the conservative society they live in. "The tolerance showing signs of fatigue." She herself is not married to a Yemeni, but to a Jordanian, who, at her request, works for the newspaper.

They have a baby daughter, which her husband is taking care of while al-Saqqaf is in The Hague. "A Yemeni husband would not have been such a great support." "This laborious tolerance is", underlines al-Saqqaf, "not the result of islamisation". She herself wears the veil, but

"Important political discussions are being held via weblogs"



Nadia al-Saqqaf: "The government is simply no longer capable of controlling the stream of information."

"the veil is not all-important", and she will never force her seven female employees to wear it. "In Islam, the public has no right to judge others or to handle matters on those grounds", she says.

"Even in the case of a murder I have no right to execute the murderer." But "the difficulty is that some people in my country take the right into their own hands." At the same time, her Danish trainee did not find it any problem while covering a protest against

the Danish cartoons on the prophet Muhammad earlier this year in Yemen.

Al-Saqqaf is optimistic: "It is impossible to have no progress." And what about the series of gloomy Arab Human Development Reports over the past few years, that mention a stiffening attitude in the Arab world regarding several areas? "The fact that these reports, written and made by Arab experts, were published, is already an improvement."

This article was published in the Dutch daily NRC Handelsblad on June 21, 2006. Authors are Carolien Roelants and Froukje Santing. Translation: Nicolien Zuidgeest

Media and democracy in the Middle East and North Africa

Mass media are the way to disseminate ideas. In the Arab region, communication for democracy is a risk communication where perception is reality. The better people perceive democracy in terms of significance and practices, the better democracy is to go at a good pace in the region.

By: Hamdy Hassan

"Due to the absence of real democratic institutions and activities the great majority of Arab people rely heavily on mass media for their ideas about democracy. As such, mass media will always

be the queen of the hill to disseminate ideas, concepts, as well as democratic practices¹. However, Arab media is not able to play such role in an efficient way because of various types of control, pressure, and manipulation, not only by governments, but also by a conservative power of the culture. This is not the case in pluralistic societies, as these do have access to independent media.

For the past decade, new independent media have begun to emerge in different Arab countries making democracy a symbolic reality in the political life of the area. However, it might take time to transfer democracy into concrete and realistic issues and practices. Pluralistic societies can be found

only through independent media. Such pluralism is vital for any democracy to grow. In one way or another, Arab media are still governmental. An average of 92 percent of newspaper circulation in the Arab region is covered by government and semi governmental newspapers. An average of 90 per cent of television transmitting hours goes to channels that are subject to governmental or semigovernmental control, pressures, or manipulation.

Audience needs

Different characteristics of Arab media industry these days can be traced back to the early 1990s, right after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. Governments and peoples learned many lessons since each side has exploited opportunities that were provided by new technology and recent political developments in the region. It seems that the audience is winning as, for the first time in the region media history, it has led of a

change in the media industry. Governments are obliged now to consider audiences' needs and satisfactions. We have had an obstinate, active audience that really needs great support to magnify what it gained.

In Egypt, state-owned radio stations, TV channels, and official newspapers had to adopt new policies, and to approach more professional standards due to severe competitions coming from local independent newspapers and foreign satellite channels.

Independent newspapers were much more successful than others in telling people what to think about. Independent newspapers more than governmental ones are setting the political agenda now. Correlation between media agenda and audience agenda is higher for independent newspapers than official ones although penetration is higher for the latter. The significant point is that independent newspapers are produced largely by official newspaper journalists. They

"Professionalism is a master key for media development"

resort to independent ones for different reasons including professional environment, higher compensation, popularity and reputation, and less pressure and barriers.

Training professionalism

There are two ways to activate the role of the media in order to disseminate democracy and economic reform in Egypt, as well as in some other Arab countries. The first means is to help restructure present national media to be become more independent by providing support to improve management and economic viability of print and broadcast sectors. The second way is to help new independent media outlets to emerge, using the latest state-of-the-art tools and professionalism. Those outlets must be published in regional urban centers other than capitals.

Yet, no matter which method you choose, training is of high priority. The current prevailing media standards have been developed under non-democratic conditions. There are plenty of

enthusiastic journalists, but what is lacking is required skills, as democracy is a cultivated culture, not a by-product. Practices of independent media imply misconducts that tempted other social and political forces to defend or call for governmental actions. Professionalism is a turning point for any kind of media development. It is a master key. The agenda for training sessions must be based on real domestic needs. For the past five years no less than 20 training sessions were conducted by different foreign organizations in Al-Ahram

Regional Press Institute (ARPI) covering human rights, press freedom, NGO's and gender-related issues. Yet such training areas usually lead to skepticism among journalists. As a result, these practices did not have the desired effect. The training strategy Investing in the Future, developed by Free Voice and CDFJ is a step in the right direction, with an emphasis on professionalism and legal awareness.

Systematic approach

Investing in the Future seems to be the first systematic ambitious attempt to address media training in the region. We expect a lot to come out of this program. We are all willing to cooperate in a way that makes training a real future investment. While paving the way to more professional media practices and more protection, other efforts are required to address media management and structure in the region.

In general, training sessions must be accompanied with sustainable sources of knowledge and skills.

In ARPI we are preparing for a professional periodical or journal that is to be published quarterly to provide translated articles, media experiments, new trends of coverage, and to be a window to look at the changing media environment around us. Such periodicals can help build a professional background that affects practices for years to come.

Economic management

Audience research is a new concept that must be introduced to the Arab media industry. Media planning is now completely based on speculations, and



Newspapers in Yemen wrote articles about the arrest of journalist Saeed Thabet in 2004.

largely ignores or misses the real needs of audiences.

European experience is a great help in that field. Using audience research results may bridge the gap between media content, news mix and audience expectations. By all means, audience research is a valid area for media men and audience to practice a democratic relationship.

Other concepts are needed in any training strategies. One of them is to work hard to remove obstacles set up by senior journalists who do not always welcome new ideas, new concepts and new skills. Neither should we ignore the aspect of media manage-

ment in our training strategies. Economic management affects every aspect of the industry, a vision we lack in the region. The milestone of our journey is to help turn our societies into pluralistic communities that enrich and support our endeavors toward democracy. Pluralistic communities can be found only when we have independent media that reflect all political spectrums in a way that help eliminate skepticism and mistrust."

Hamdy Hassan (PhD) is dean of faculty of mass communication and acting Director of Al-Ahram Regional Press Institute (ARPI).



Training sessions must be accompanied with sustainable sources of knowledge and skills. Trainees receive practical training in the Al Jazeera Edit-room.



People burning and throwing stones at a poster of Saddam Hussein in April 2003 in Baghdad, Iraq.

Words of Wisdom



One of the main problems in building a modern state in Yemen is that three blocks of our society perceive themselves above accountability. The sooner we see this and address it, the easier it will be to build a meaningful government based on law and order, and modern values.

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

OUR
OPINIONHamid
Shuhra, until
we meet again

Hamid was one of the few bright and promising journalists in Yemen. I met him on several occasions and had a long interview with him in 2001 for the Yemen Times. He spoke of his ambitions for Yemen and how he hoped to promote freedom of press and democracy in this country "peacefully yet persistently."

That day, he talked about his dream to leave a legacy behind. He was an admirer of my father, late Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf who died in a car accident in 1999.

"This is my first book, and I hope fate will give me a chance to write more," he said while dedicating a copy of his book: "Masra Al-Ibtisama" (Demise of the smile). In his book he talked about the 1948 revolution and the role of the Muslim brotherhood. Hamid was generally inclined to the religious school of thought, but this did not keep him from being friends with people from all sectors of life.

Sadly he was still a young when he passed away last Wednesday. The 33 year-old was one of the shining stars in Yemeni media. He established the opposition newspaper Al-Nass in 2000 and since then, the newspaper has grown rapidly. Before he died, he has purchased an offset printer, which is on its way to Yemen. Unfortunately, he will not be here to witness this addition to the newspaper.

The first thought to come to my mind when I heard about his death is that he was assassinated. He died in a car accident just like my father. However, the circumstances indicate that it was likely an unlucky act of fate. It is quite sad to see him leaving at this stage, when so much is yet to be done.

Hamid Shuhra has left behind a media legacy and a good book through which he will definitely be remembered. We hope the Al-Nass newspaper will continue Hamid's mission in the hands of his successor and we will not spare an effort to help ensure this happens. His loss is a great for all of us, may mercy be on his soul.

Nadia Al-Sakkaf
Editor-in-Chief

Yemen: Democracy without minority rights

Yemen extracts benefits from the West, notably the US, in return for its cooperation in global anti-terror efforts. Likewise Yemen's efforts at democratization, especially the improved conduct of September's presidential election, should result in an increase in badly needed donor funds. However, in the aftermath of the election, the Yemeni regime has begun discrediting, arresting and harassing opposition leaders, activists and voters. In one bizarre case, the regime has alleged a human rights activist is linked to al-Qaeda, casting doubt on the sincerity of both Yemen's democracy promotion and its efforts against terrorism.

The Election: Some votes counted

Yemen's recent election was hailed as a break through by many. U.S. President Bush congratulated Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh on the beginning of Saleh's 29th year in office, saying the vote itself is a victory for Yemen because it was an election that international observers called free and fair and will set an example for the region. Indeed, according to the European Union Election Observation Mission's preliminary report, the vote was "an open and genuine contest" and "[a] positive development in Yemen's democratization process."

The regionally unique feature of the election was the inclusion of an authentic opposition candidate, Faisal Bin Shamlan, who received nearly a quarter of the vote. In another break with tradition, the government controlled national TV broadcast each candidate's rallies. For the thirty day election period, there was a vibrant national debate on the issues and open criticism of some government policies. The voters, in only their second direction presidential election, displayed a political maturity unexpected by some, and voting day was relatively peaceful and violence free. While these are "positive developments," some aspects of the election were not free and fair.

European Union (E.U.) election monitors visited about 20% of polling centers and evaluated voting procedures as good or very good in 82% of the cases. However, the observers also reported a variety of infractions that would never be tolerated in any developed democracy. President Saleh's powerful ruling party, the General People's Congress (G.P.C.), engaged in ille-



By: Jane Novak

gal campaigning at nearly a third of the observed polling centers. The E.U. observers also noted the breach of the secrecy of the vote in 19 percent of polling centers, among many other violations. President Saleh acknowledged some mistakes were made. Al-Motamar, the G.P.C.'s website, estimated the vote tally for Bin Shamlan was understated by not more than ten percent.

Bin Shamlan was endorsed by the Islamic reform party, Islah, the Nasserite Party, The Popular Forces Union, al-Haq and the Yemeni Socialist Party which ruled the former South Yemen. However, some Southerners boycotted the election in protest of what they describe as belligerent Northern hegemony dating back to the 1994 civil war and such continuous practices as land confiscation, discrimination, and the militarization of the former South Yemen. In a 2004 interview with the Yemen Times, Dr. Mohammed Masdos, a member of the General Secretariat of the Yemeni Socialist Party, asserted that in the decade following the civil war, Southerners faced employment discrimination, targeted harassment, massive lay-offs, and the exclusion from civil society organizations and political power sharing. He described the "erasing" of Southern history and identity, a northern monopoly of wealth and power, and the resulting fear, poverty and humiliation among Southerners.

Those citizens who did participate in the electoral process faced difficulties beyond what was noted by the international monitors. Voter registration for the 2006 presidential election was seriously flawed. Statistics indicate several hundred thousand more male voters than voting aged men in Yemen. The International Freedom of Expression Exchange reported that some news and political websites were blocked. Yemen's electoral constituencies are required by law remain within a five percent deviance; however their sizes range from 25,000 to 50,000. Opposition activists were harassed and forty seven were kidnapped by security forces; several are still incarcerated without charge. The opposition leadership charged the government with seizing polling stations, vote buying, evicting candidates representatives, and destroying and stealing ballot boxes. Hamid al-Ahmar, a progressive young sheik who was among the most prominent of Bin Shamlan supporters, said that military and security institutions, intelligence apparatuses, public media and officials had changed into "operations rooms" in favor of GPC. Exiled oppositionist Mr. Ahmed al-Hasani stated on the London based Al-Mustakilla television channel that the regime received a shipment of ink remover for distribution to the military in advance of the election in order to facilitate multiple voting.

However, the international observers deemed an approximate vote count good enough. Paul Salem, from the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace said, "What is unfortunate is that a largely free and fair election could be clouded by doubts over percentage points or accusations of fraud, particularly at a time when virtually all parties agree that the basic outcome was that Saleh and the GPC did win."

State power and funds overwhelmingly supported President Saleh. Prior to the election, President Saleh promised government workers in the drastically poor country an extra month's salary to be received after the election. Unlike other oil firms in Yemen, the Canadian firm Nexen refused to pay the bonus, correctly calling it "corruption" and "hush money." Although fear mongering is not an electoral infraction, President Saleh raised the bar to new heights by predicting (or perhaps promising) a civil war if the opposition candidate was elected. Saleh was supported by Yemen's Salafi community, and a leading Salafi scholar issued a fatwa (at a campaign rally, along side Saleh and broadcast on national TV) declaring voting against President Saleh was against Islamic precepts. Saleh himself frequently referred to the opposition as apostates. Along with the religion card, Saleh also played the terrorism card.

The Terrorism Show

President Saleh's regime has a history of exploiting the terror issue for political gain and the election season was no different. After what officials described as two thwarted terror attacks on oil facilities, President Saleh accused his rival Bin Shamlan of instigating the attacks with his rhetoric against corruption in the oil industry.

On the eve of the election, President Saleh went further, directly tying the attacks to Bin Shamlan. On national TV, Saleh alleged that one of Bin Shamlan's bodyguards, Hussein Dharhani, was an Al-Qaeda linked terrorist and had masterminded the thwarted suicide bombings. Saleh brandished a photo for reporters of Dharhani standing behind Bin Shamlan at a campaign rally. Al-Motamar ran the story with the headline, "JMP involved in Terror Attacks: Saleh." The opposition quickly pointed out that Dharhani was fired after a week on suspicion of being a regime intelligence agent and that he is married to President Saleh's cousin.

Some in the opposition have gone so far as to suggest the thwarted terrorist attacks may have been staged. "The ruling party have fabricated these operations with the aim of accusing the opposition parties of being behind these terrorist acts," said Sultan al-Atwani, General-Secretary of Nasserite Party. Abdul-Wahab al-Anesi, General-Secretary of the Islah Party said, "I do not have perfect evidence about what al-Atwani alleged, but the way the government has exploited these acts casts doubt on their veracity, especially given that GPC accused the opposition of backing the operation."

In truth, Saleh's regime is quite apt at devising propaganda, and some of its anti-terror cooperation with the U.S. is appearance without substance. For example, in a recent interview published by the Yemen Observer, Yahya al-Raibee, whose son Abu Bakr was convicted on terror charges, stated that his son who received a ten year prison

sentence never spent a day in jail, although U.S. officials thought he did. "The security would only take him from my house to appear in the court, and then bring him back after the court hearings," Mr. al-Raibee said.

Opposition Targets

The regime has continued using the terrorist label after the election to target its political opposition. The Popular Forces Union Party reported the arrest of party member Ali Hussain Al-Dailami, director of the Yemeni Organization for the Defense of Public Rights and Liberties. Yemen's Ministry of Defense announced on its website, 26 September (sic), that al-Dailami has "has suspicious relations with a terrorist cell." A number of opposition parties, civil society organizations and human rights groups including Amnesty International have denounced the arrest. The Yemeni Civil Society Organizations Coalition held a march in solidarity with Al-Dailami, and the Arab Sisters Forum for Human Rights called al-Dailami's detention illegal. The smear by association tactic was also used against opposition parliamentarian Hamid al-Ahmar, who was accused in a published report of employing a relative of Dharhani at his telecommunications corporation, SabaFon. Al-Ahmar, who in May stated, "It is impossible for the nation to tolerate the totalitarian regime and its failed policies," in October is having difficulties clearing a shipment of equipment for SabaFon.

That's not the only trouble al-Ahmar is facing. The G.P.C. is supporting a request from the Ministry of Justice to lift Al-Ahmar's parliamentary immunity in order to prosecute him under the banner of protection of journalists. Along with other oppositionists, Al-Ahmar is facing an onslaught of insults in the governmental media, par for the course in Yemen. The Defense Ministry's newspaper, The 26 September (sic) published a derogatory poem insulting al-Ahmar. In response, Al-Ahmar called General Ali Al-Shater, the editor in chief of The 26 September (sic), who reportedly has his own private prison. The General claims Al-Ahmar issued a death threat during the call. In a politicized use of the judiciary, the case has been referred to the prosecutor.

In 2005 over fifty violations against non-governmental journalists in Yemen were recorded. Non-governmental journalists were harassed, kidnapped, beaten, stabbed, shot at, and threatened. The Committee to Protect Journalists noted, "The Yemeni government failed to conduct serious investigations or bring perpetrators to justice, and its leaders conspicuously failed to denounce the assaults. Witnesses and evidence point to involvement by government forces and suspected state agents in a number of assaults." In light of the regimes previous lack of prosecutions for physical attacks on journalists, the prosecution of Al-Ahmar appears related to his politics not his phone manners.

Also in the aftermath of the election, many teachers reported being transferred to distant assignments, which they believe is retribution for their support of the opposition candidate. Employment in Yemen is politicized, and teachers in Yemen have faced sustained governmental harassment before. In response to a March strike for

compensation due under Law 43 of the 2005 Wages Strategy, teachers and union heads were arrested, followed by security forces, suspended and their salaries were withheld. The April edition of Islamic Affair Analyst published by the U.K. based Jane's Information Group, quotes Ahmed Al-Ribahi, chairman of the Yemen teachers union, "Teachers have been laid off, insulted, harassed, and accused of terrorism and of being separatists and stooges for the US. Our teachers have been threatened in all governorates. They say we are only working by the agenda of the opposition parties. The multi-party system became a dagger to jab anyone who asked for his rights."

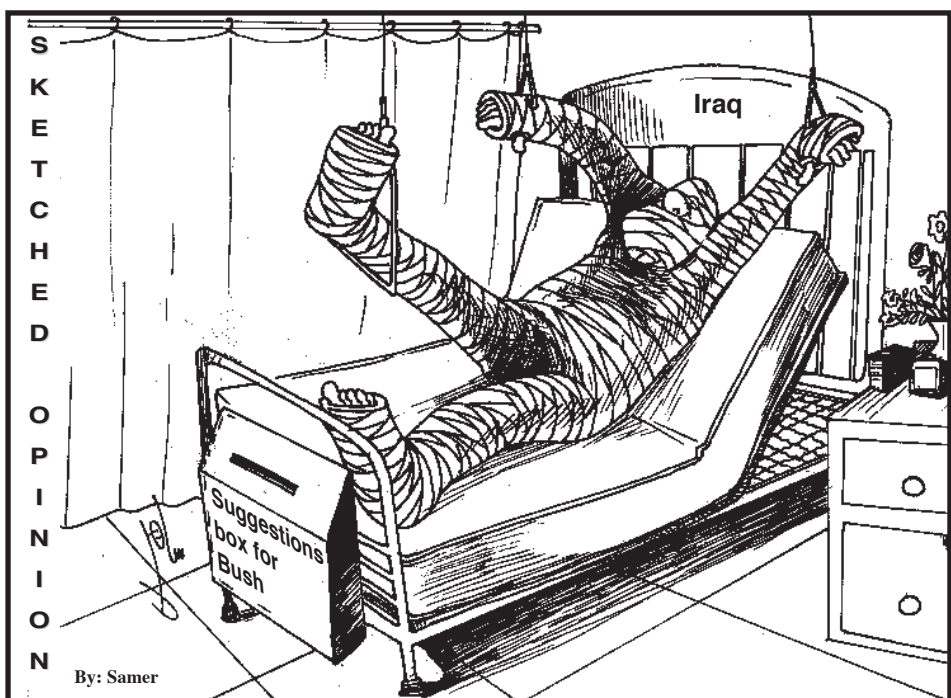
Tyranny of the Majority

The multi-party system continues to jab those who challenge the ruling party's hegemony. The Yemeni opposition should be commended for its bravery in contesting the election, as the targeting that followed was predictable. The Yemeni opposition parties overcame enormous obstacles and created a new regional political paradigm. They unified despite disparate ideologies and intense regime pressures. Through that unity, they forced some concessions from the regime and mobilized a significant number of voters after years of authoritarian rule. However, some of Yemen's opposition parties do not fully practice the democracy they advocate at a national level, and thus the development of a new generation of political leaders is stymied. A climate of egalitarianism is not fully evolved. The leadership often directs the membership and not visa versa.

The election itself did little beyond fortify the underlying concentration of power in the executive branch. Many reforms that President Saleh has instituted do little in practice to empower either the opposition or the people. The recently elected local councils have an overwhelming ruling party majority. Saleh announced that governors will be elected by these local councils, leaving little hope for the election of opposition or independent Governors. Saleh ordered the establishment of a second satellite channel under the supervision of the Ministry of Information, which historically has been a repressive institution. Although Saleh replaced himself with an appointed judge as head of the Supreme Judicial Council, the institution has little judicial independence from the executive branch. Saleh established The National Council for Fighting Corruption and appointed regime loyalists at its head. The body will most likely be used to target the opposition parties and leaders.

In Yemen the structures of democracy exist without its substance. The fundamental component of the principle of majority rule is the security and protection of the minority. Thus one indication of Saleh's limited commitment to democracy is the treatment of his political opposition after the election. Attaching the terrorist label to opposition leaders is no more than a propaganda ploy designed for consumption by the West.

Jane Novak
(jane.novak@gmail.com) is an American journalist and political analyst. She is a contributing editor at WorldPress.org and maintains the website



YEMEN TIMES
www.yementimes.com

First Political bi-weekly English Newspaper in Yemen. Founded in 1990 by Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

Tel: +967 (1) 268-661
Fax: +967 (1) 268-276
P.O. Box 2579, Sana'a, Yemen
E-mail: editor@yementimes.com
Advertisement: ads@yementimes.com
Letters: letters@yementimes.com

Publisher & Editor-in-Chief
Nadia Abdulaziz Al-Sakkaf

Managing Editor
Dr. Hamdan Zaid Dammag

Head of News Dept.
Mohamed bin Sallam

Head of Design Dept.
Ramzy Alawi Al-Saqqaf

Editorial Staff

Al-Ajel, Fatima
Al-Ariqi, Amel
Al-Ghabri, Ismail
Al-Jabri, Mohammed
Al-Khawlani, Adel
Al-Mayasi, Yasser

Interns

Al-Khaubari, Khalil
Goffin, Glyn
Shadad, Nisreen

Offices

Aden Bureau:
Ridhwan Alawi Ahmed
Tel: +967 (2) 347-057, 346596
Fax: +967 (2) 347056
Email: ytaden@y.net.ye

Taiz Bureau:
Imad Ahmed Abdullah
Tel: +967 (4) 217-156,
Telefax: +967 (4) 217157
P.O.Box: 5086, Taiz
Email: yttaz@y.net.ye

Ibb correspondent:
Nashwan Dammaj
Mobile: (+967) 773840609,
Email: naschuan2000@yahoo.com

Hadramout Correspondent:
Saeed Al-Batati
Mobile (+967) 77383733
Email: albatati88@yahoo.com
Fax: +967 (05) 360303

Policies:

- All opinion articles that have not been written by Yemen Times staff on the Opinion, Op-Ed and Youth pages do not necessarily represent the newspaper's opinion and hence YT could not be held accountable for their consequences.
- Letters to the Editor must include your name, mailing address, or email address. The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions for clarity, style, and length.
- Submissions will not be returned to the writer under any circumstance.
- For information on advertising, contact the advertising department at any of the Yemen Times' offices

Integrating Islam in Europe**Tolerance Cannot Be Based on Fear**

In order to successfully integrate Muslims, European societies have to demand that they embrace the principle of religious freedom. However, this also entails a strict separation of church and state in Europe, writes Paul Scheffer in his essay.

Relations between the West and the Islamic world have reached an impasse, partly due to our inability to develop a stable relationship between Islam and our own society. Clear-cut decisions must be made on this issue, yet these are only valid if they are based on the principle of equal treatment for all. Nothing fuels mistrust more than the suspicion that one group is judged according to a double standard.

At issue are three key questions. First, to what extent is the separation of church and state, which forms the foundation for religious freedom, actually a reality in Europe?

Second, only when we have achieved this separation can we ask Muslims – since they also claim the right to religious freedom – if they are also prepared to defend this freedom for other religions and non-believers.

Third, we have to ask Muslims if they are willing to grant this freedom, which they demand as a group, to members of their own religious communities.

No religious freedom without secularism

Let's take a closer look at these three questions. Without the separation of church and state there can be no religious freedom. There are many misconceptions surrounding this issue. The separation of church and state not only endeavors to protect the state from inappropriate pressure from the church, but also – and sometimes to an even greater degree – aims to protect the church from intervention by the state.

It is my impression that while embracing this separation, people are too often simply concerned with protecting the state. However, when speaking primarily of Islam, we cannot overemphasize the fact that no obstacles may be thrown in the path of Muslims seeking to freely practice their religion. This principle also protects mosques.

Religion is not a purely private matter

Another misconception is the notion that the separation of church and state means that religion is a purely private matter. The secular principle, however,

does not lead to a separation of church and society. Religious organizations and movements are part of democracy. Even in strictly secular France during the period between the two world wars, there were strong Catholic youth movements.

Since we stress the concept of equal treatment, we have to ask ourselves if we are actually living according to this principle in Europe. In many countries there are laws and practices that are hardly compatible with the separation of church and state, for instance, the church tax in Germany, the official status of the Anglican Church in the UK, state subsidized denominational schools in countries like the Netherlands and Germany, and crucifixes that hang in Italian classrooms and court rooms.

If we demand that Muslims accept religious freedom, then we have to take this step ourselves. A broad new social consensus can only be based on the separation of church and state. We need to complete the secularization of our institutions.

In some countries, including Germany, we can observe a tendency to transform the problem of Islamic integration into a dialogue between religions. A large number of Christian Democrats say that "we" – meaning the Christian nations of Europe – have to enter into a dialogue with representatives of Islam.

We welcome all initiatives to promote dialogue, but it is not up to secular authorities to identify themselves with a certain religious affiliation. Their job is to guarantee a basis for religious and ideological pluralism.

The principle of religious freedom

German and Dutch Christian Democrats apparently have serious problems with this. What's worse, these politicians even seem to be receptive to the arguments of certain Muslims who maintain that, due to the Islamic presence in Europe, Christians are increasingly rallying around their religion.

Nevertheless, based on the notion of equal treatment for all religions, we can and should create barriers to separate church and religion. We can only effectively counter political Islamic



If we demand that Muslims accept religious freedom, then we have to take this step ourselves. A broad new social consensus can only be based on the separation of church and state, writes Paul Scheffer.

movements if we practice the principle of religious freedom.

Once we have reached that stage, we can ask Muslims the key question: Does claiming the right to religious freedom not also automatically entail the obligation to defend this freedom for other religions and non-believers? Political Islam is combating this freedom not only with words, but also with threats and violence.

This radical interpretation of Islam did not come into existence in a vacuum. Far too often, Muslims divide the world in two: it is us against them, Muslims against non-Muslims. If religious freedom is used to spread scorn and hatred against non-Muslims, then it undermines the right upon which this very liberty is based. If this continues, sooner or later Muslims will themselves make it impossible to live in a democracy with religious pluralism.

In short, the right to freedom of worship also entails the obligation to defend that freedom for others. If the Muslim community is not willing to accept this, then it stigmatizes and marginalizes itself.

The imam only respects the religious state

A few months ago, I was invited to attend an interfaith discussion panel. As a non-believer, I was allowed to sit next to an imam, a bishop and a rabbi. Every dialogue must be based on a few common principles, and a dialogue among religions obviously requires that

everyone accept the principle of religious freedom as a starting point.

But the imam would have nothing of it. While he agreed that Dutch law allows for freedom of worship, he said that in other parts of the world this could be very different, and higher authorities should comment on that issue.

We could take a pragmatic approach to such statements – the imam accepts the principle of religious freedom in the Netherlands – but that would be the path of least resistance. When it comes to equal treatment, we should be able to expect greater loyalty to the basic principles that are the foundation of our society.

The integration of Islam in democracy will require major adjustments. Immigration has created a unique situation. For the first time in history, Muslims are the minority in a largely liberal and secular society.

This is a totally new experience and it would be premature to maintain that Islam, as it is practiced here, and the principles of democracy, are not compatible with each other. It remains to be seen whether the integration of Islam in Europe will succeed, and as there are no guarantees for this, it is extremely important that there is total clarity concerning all fundamental principles.

Paul Scheffer is a journalist and a sociologist at the University of Amsterdam.

Source: Qantara.de 2006.

SILVER LINING**Will Taiz be off the neglect now?!**

I have spent my Eid vacation in my home town Taiz. Every time I pay a visit to this city, I find it gradually falling into the neglect of the government and thus its situation goes from bad to worse.

The city is suffering a lot of problems like

shortage of water and electricity. The power disruption continues for over three hours a day, expect during the Eid vacation as the city was blessed by the presence of President Ali Abdullah Saleh who spent his Eid holiday this time in the city.

It is also polluted by the noise and fumes of the motor bikes; they are really terrible and maneuver in the streets without any control. At least their owners should be asked not to remove their silencers to avoid disturbing the people who complain a lot of the trouble caused by these motor bikes.

Another issue which remains a pain in the neck for the people of Taiz is that of the damaged and bumpy streets. I understand the project of protecting the city from the flash floods has been really wonderful and even helped creating new even and asphalted streets.

The outlets of the city have been made well. However, there are some main streets which have remained rough like that leading to Usaiferah, Wadi al-Kadi, and other zones in which the damaged roads have been neglected. Some of these streets have been recently built and asphalted but they were very quickly damaged because of bad construction. The city has expanded but this expansion has seen no government services introduced into these new areas.

Taiz should not sink again into the oblivion of the president; it is no more a disobedient city; it is no more an enlightening city as it used to be; its intellectuals have been controlled to the extent that even Taiz university professors took to the streets and shouted loudly "We sacrifice ourselves for the life of Ali" and to the extent that the university rector has to appease and exercise lip service to the intelligence chief on his son's graduation through running a congratulation advertisement in al-Jumhuriyah news-



By: Mohammed Al-Qadhi

paper which might be paid for from the university's budget; to the extent that the university professors exercise hypocrisy and talk to the media on the vital significance of Saleh's stay in Taiz during the Eid vacation. What a perversion and what hypocrisy!

Everything is now under control and Taiz has no more a soul of insurgence and self-esteem; it has been sold to the devil.

This governorate has been the source of enlightenment and elucidation throughout the country. It has been known of its civilized citizens who cherish pens instead of guns. Its schooling was the best and its students were always ranking first and high positions.

Now, I was really shocked to see a number of youngsters carrying Kalashnikovs and hanging around in the streets. Why does not the police ban this practice. The culture of revenge which was rare in Taiz has been encouraged to the extent that killings have been a daily routine in the outskirts and the countryside of Taiz.

Taiz which organized the biggest elections rally for president Saleh is waiting for him to pay this back as he promise. It needs an urgent move from him and his government to address its main problems and get back its glory which was put off on purpose. Taiz has been loyal to Saleh during the elections and he needs to demonstrate his gratitude through getting it off the disregard of his governments and governors which turned it into a village. It appeals to him to restore its brilliance. Will he do that?!

Last week, we lost another good journalist, Hamid Shihrah, the editor of Annass newspaper. He passed away in a car accident. Shihrah was a hard-working and ambitious journalist who was able to make his newspaper one of the best and biggest circulated papers all over the country. His death was a great shock to all of us and loss to the media community. May God rest his soul in paradise.

Mohammed Al-Qadhi is a Yemeni journalist and columnist.
(mhalqadhi@hotmail.com)

Wanted: More positive press on Iraq

By: Nicolien Zuijgeest

Media do not cover positive aspects of the Iraqi war. This is a major concern of US Defence Secretary Rumsfeld. Therefore, US military leaders in Baghdad have put out a bid for a two-year public relations contract that calls for extensive monitoring of US and Middle Eastern media.

The contract should help the coalition forces understand 'the communications environment'. It aims to assess the tone of selected news stories in order to provide public relations products that would improve coverage of the military command's performance. The ultimate goal is to effectively communicate Iraqi government and coalition goals, and build support among strategic audiences in achieving these goals. Bids were due September 6. The costs are estimated at USD 20m (EUR 15.6m).

According to an anonymous public relations practitioner quoted by The Washington Post the military commanders "are overwhelmed by the media out there and are trying to understand how to get their information out. They want the news to be received by audiences as it is transmitted. They don't like how it turns out," he said. Apparently, there have been complaints that reports from Iraq sometimes quote Shiite cleric and militia leaders more often than military commanders.

So if the-tenth-in-a-row report con-

cludes that journalists in Iraq are among the most targeted in the world, what messages will this newly yet to be assigned PR company transmit? "Death toll among journalists in Iraq exaggerated." When another colleague gets killed, will they advise the Iraqi ministry of Negation to state: "Look upon it from the sunny side: it creates job opportunities."

How is it possible to force a positive press when Iraq is a total mess and colleagues like Mohammad Abbas Mohammad (28, editor for Al-Bayannah Al-Jadida) and 30-year old journalist Ismail Amin Ali (freelancer for Al-Sabah and Al-Qarar) get murdered because of their jobs? How to write positive about the month-long ban imposed by the Iraqi government on Dubai-based satellite channel Al Arabiya for broadcasting too critically about a draft law that would allow Shiites to form their own autonomous region in the south?

Recently, a major US intelligence report found that the Iraq war had helped produce a new generation of Islamic radicals and had increased the threat of terrorism. Will this PR company come up with bright statements like: "The Iraqi radicals are just teenagers with domestic and authoritarian problems"?

In the meantime, top photographers like Bilal Hussein are held by the US military since five months without charges. Hussein is suspected of 'having close ties to Iraqi insurgents and having

access to insurgent activities outside the normal scope afforded to journalists conducting legitimate activities'. Where is the fair trial? In March, the US military promised to review cases of detained journalists within 36 hours, and 'not six or eight months' as major general Gardner stated. Will the PR agency produce headlines like "US military keeps promises: no journalists in jail longer than six months."

The United States wanted to introduce free press in Iraq, but now journalists have become an endangered species under the new government. In May, the American ambassador announced that the International Media Center would be transferred to the new Iraqi government in which "militias are bossing around and which equals media professionals to insurgents".

I am using Ali Fadhil's words, who worked as a journalist for the National Public Radio in Iraq and is currently Fullbright scholar at the New York University. He wrote in the International Herald Tribune that if militias keep running the show inside the Iraqi government, and if this government is seeking more rapprochement towards insurgents and Islamic extremists, then in a few months time there won't be any news at all from Iraq. Look upon it from the bright side of life: No news is good news!

Nicolien Zuijgeest, assistant program manager Middle East and North Africa.

Behind the veil

By: Salama A Salama

In Egypt and the UK, controversy over Islamic dress for women has dominated the headlines of late. Pundits have been debating the ability of women wearing the niqab, or full-face veil, to remain part of public life. The niqab is a state of mind. Women who cover their faces usually cover their entire bodies, even the hands. The hijab, or headscarf, survived the controversy it once generated because it is a milder form of modesty. Allow me to mention that our mothers and sisters didn't feel the need to wrap their heads or cover their faces and still maintained their modesty in public. Alas, this time is now gone.

The niqab is the latest women's fashion and it is foisted upon religion with no valid reason. Women wearing the niqab cannot move, speak, eat or even see. And yet, some people insist that it is a religious duty to wear it.

In London, Jack Straw, leader of the House of Commons, urged Muslim women in his Blackburn constituency to abandon the niqab when they come to him with concerns, arguing that the full-face veil impedes communication. His remarks triggered angry demonstrations and ignited heated debate.

The British minister of education sided with Straw, saying that college professors feel uncomfortable lecturing to women wearing the niqab. The

minister said he supported the decision by the London Royal Academy to bar students wearing the face veil. At primary schools in the UK, students complained that they couldn't understand teachers who covered their faces.

A parallel surfaced in Helwan University in Egypt. The university's president barred women wearing the niqab from using the campus dormitories, citing security concerns as well as the women's own safety. Although he still allowed niqab-clad women onto campus and into lecture rooms, the university president came under fire. Some likened him to President Jacques Chirac of France who banned headscarves in schools.

Aside from the niqab controversy, Helwan and Blackburn are as different as night and day. In the UK, Straw was accused of using the niqab for political purposes. The same accusation makes no sense in Helwan. The niqab controversy is not about freedom of dress or faith, for niqab is neither an ordinary item of clothing nor a religious duty: it is a statement of modesty gone astray.

Women who wear the niqab stand out in public more than those who dress otherwise. Wearing the niqab to work or school is just as outrageous as wearing a bathing suit or pyjamas to the office.

Ours is a conservative society and no one can claim that critics of the niqab are politically motivated. It is a

fact that the niqab degrades women and restricts their opportunities. Women wearing the niqab become sexual objects by implication. They cannot function effectively as teachers or doctors, journalists or government employees. They cannot interact normally with the outside world. Women who take on the niqab forfeit their personal freedom for no good reason.

But what we have here is a problem that one cannot resolve through religious edicts or police action alone. We have to talk to these women. We have to learn more about them. In many cases, niqab-clad women come from rural backgrounds and are intimidated by big cities.

They are experiencing a cultural shock and they use the niqab as a defence against the outside world. If I am right in this assessment, then the logical conclusion is that we must offer them help and counsel before we rush into counter-measures, as we usually do. Let's help these young women overcome their fears. Let's make them feel that the world is a safe place. Once their fears are gone, chances are they won't feel the need to cover their faces.

Salama A Salama is a frequent contributor to the Egyptian newspaper Al Ahram. This article is distributed by the Common Ground News Service (CGNews) and can be accessed at www.commongroundnews.org.

Qasim Zobaida: "My door is never closed for those who are talented"

By: Nisreen Shadad

It's the first time I meet Qasim Zobaida face to face. A lot of second hand impressions went through my mind before the meeting that shaped him as a strict rigid man. But in reality I have found I couldn't be more mistaken. He startled me with his humorous behavior and witty jokes; he made me feel at ease instantly.

Yes... he is all that and more. He is a man who is deeply grateful to our country and has devoted his life to represent the Yemeni legacy by all possible means particularly traditional chants and folklore songs with special emphasis on the fact that Yemen has a unique and rich cultural heritage. Zobaida is 56 and his family is the largest singing family in Yemen, both male and female. He now has over 30 children and grandchildren. For his education he has received it before the revolution so he studied Arabic language and the Quran only in groups until intermediate level. Then he took training in management.

Qasim Zobaida is the founder of the Association of Yemeni Religious Singers; can you tell us about establishing the Association of Yemeni Singers?

Each person has a special gift he or she is born with and my gift is my sweet voice. In my childhood, I used to sing in the parties made for those who completed memorizing the Quran. In 1968, at the age of 18, I began to think of becoming a singer in social occasions, but I was in need of someone who expands my horizons and builds up on the gift I was born with. I was looking for someone to lend me a hand, but my search was in vain.

Not only that, but once I went seeking help to one of the singers he insulted me and kicked me out of his home. I was bitter but not undaunted by this rejection, and determined to succeed as a singer of my own. I promised Allah if I master this occupation, My door is never closed for those who are talented and in need of a trainer. Now and because of Allah's favor my dream comes true and I think my association is the most successful one in Yemen.

And this is why I established this association. To represent the Yemeni legacy by all possible means particularly traditional chants and folklore songs.

What are your activities inside Yemen and outside?

First of all, I have taught most of the singers in Yemen. When teaching, I give the Quran a lot of reference of Arabic language and it makes singers give each word its correct pronunciation.



Qasim Zobaida in one of his activities in Sharjah.

tion. Then I teach them prosody, grammar, morphology and rhetoric. After that, they begin to learn the sphere of the tune. I didn't convey the tunes as they are, but I renew them that don't break the tradition radically but show them clearly.

Outside Yemen, we made contributions in various ceremonies in opera in



Former Ambassador of Yemen to Egypt, Ahmed Loqman (5th left) and former director of Opera Aida (3rd left) awarding Qasim Zobaida for his achievements.

Egypt, Emirate, Shariqha, Abuthabi, France and America. In these parties I show how the love and loyalty to my cultural heritage have guided all my thoughts and actions.

Further, Shaikh Sultan bin Zaid Al-Nihyyan invited us to sing in his wedding party. He gave one million Yemeni Riyals and 600 grams of gold to each chanter. An honorary degree was conferred on us by Esmat Abdul Majeed, the previous Secretary General of Arab University, and by Amr Mosa, as well as by several Egyptian cultural officials.

How do you describe your audience?

We are in a good demand in Yemen since I am in each and every home. I am present when Yemeni's are happy and when they grieve. We participate also in national festivals. But outside our audience is much larger – especially in Egypt. I think that is so because here, I represent Yemeni heritage to Yemenis who already know about it, whereas abroad people are more interested. The other reason is the attitude of some Yemenis to their history and heritage. They feel ashamed of it and try to deny it.

From where do you derive your songs?

I am a poet so mostly I derive my songs from my own poems, and those of Al-Bowsari, Ahmed Shawqi and Al-Walid. Also, I make it a point to take one poem from every Yemeni poet, whether he is classical or popular.

Do you have a fixed number of singers working in your association and what are the conditions for admission to the Association of Yemeni Religious Singers?

The association welcomes anyone who is gifted and wishes to improve his talent.

What about women, are there female singers?

Sure, but not in my association. There are a lot of women who sing in wedding parties, on the Prophet's birthday and other occasions. I have taught my daughters and they have taught other women in turn.

Is chanting your main job?

No, it's mainly established for the sake of Allah. For me, my main job is a counselor of religious affairs for the capital city.

You said earlier that you're aim is to present Yemen's cultural heritage to the world, however, since you are no longer the head of the association, has this changed?

Today the association has become more politically oriented and not just a cultural association. While the idea of partisanship dominates some of its members, much of its association's

activities begin to go through in a bubble. They begin to work for representing their parties rather than Yemen.

What are the tools you normally use?

Our songs are not accompanied by music and the only tools we use are the loudspeakers and sometimes Al-Bar'a (a tambourine).

Who would you like to reach with your songs or your association?

A letter of pain that through your newspaper may reach the ears of the Cultural and Information Ministers.

In my letter I say, "Is this the way you deal with whom he affords Yemen his compassion and strength until his beard goes white. Then you shoot me down as the westerners do with the old horses. Thank you indeed."



Manager of Kaser Al-Amwaj Cultural Theater second from right, with Qasim Zobaida in Abu Dhabi.

سارم بالتسجيل

هل تريد الإبقاء بمهاراتك التوسيفية هل تريد الاستفادة من موارده الذاتية هل تريد تطوير مهاراتك الإدارية

تدريب استشارات تأهيل

خلال شهر نوفمبر تعقد في أيكته كلا من

دورة مهارات التسويق دورة إدارة الذات دورة إعداد وكتابة التقارير الإدارية

هذه الدورات يؤهلك للحصول على شهادة مركز أيكته للتدريب والتأهيل
يتمتع هذه الفرصة المتقدم مسبقاً بخدمات إلكترونية أخرى في الإنترنت
والإدارة الذاتية وإعداد وكتابة التقارير الإدارية

مع مدربين ذو كفاءة عالية وخبرات دولية

صنعاء - شارع جدة - أمام بوابة الأمن المركزي
Yemen - Sana'a - Hadda St. In Front of Alamm Almarkazy Gate
Tel: 2468339/19613 Fax: 255537 - P.O.Box:472
Web Site: ictechedu.com - Email: info@ictech-edu.com

Literary Corner

By: Abu Al-Kalmah Al-Tayyibah

Yemeni Annals (Hawliat Yamaniyah) part III

After Imam Al-Mansour's death in the middle of Ramadan 1224 AH (April 1, 1809), his son Ahmed took over at age 60. At this time, the Najdis were out spreading their Wahhabi creed and had reached Yemen, especially in the Tihama. They were confronted there by some Yemeni nobles, namely Al-Sharif Hamoud, who met them in a valley in Asir.

After seeing that the Wahhabis, or Najdis, and their Asir allies were a very large force, the author relates that Hamoud and his troops disguised themselves like Najdis, who were many, "and spread out like locusts." Thus they were able to infiltrate the Najdis easily until Hamoud reached Najdi leader Abu Noqta's tent.

The former immediately "drew his sword and struck him one (fatal) blow. Afterward, he and his men mounted their horses," dispersed the Najdis left and right and went to join the rest of his men at his base, where a large battle ensued. The author notes that Hamoud kept attacking the Najdis until "they couldn't arrive at anything (i.e., any progress in their conquest)."

In 1226, the Wahhabis were able to spread far and wide and Hamoud soon had no choice but to seek a truce with the Najdis and become their ally. Imam Al-Mutawakkil Ahmed Al-Mansour then turned to face the Najdis and sent his governor in lower "Yemen" to challenge the Najdis. The latter took Hais and Mokha from the Najdis and their new ally Hamoud, while the "rest of the country remained in the hands of Hamoud and the Najdis," as the author puts it.

In 1227 and "the following year," the imam sent "the tribes of Bakil to Tihama" to confront Sharif Hamoud and his Najdi allies. They reached Al-Mukhtara, a city "laid out and walled by Hamoud," in 1228 AH (1813). Bakil tribesmen "swore to themselves that they would return the Tihama to the imam, [but] they betrayed the imam, received money from Hamoud and returned to their home areas."

Attempts to confront the Najdis became futile, as every force the imam sent out backed away or got involved in mischief, thus forcing the imam to come to terms with the Wahhabis, especially after fresh reinforcements of "mutawa'ah," or religious zealots, for the latter, led by Prince Mohammed, came from the Wahhabi stronghold in Dir'iyah in the heart of Najd. So, the imam began corresponding with them and they answered that the imam must destroy all the domes of the mosques, especially those that served as ceilings for tombs of famous imams and religious leaders, which the imam dutifully acceded to doing in Sana'a and ordered the rest of his domain to do the same. "All the famous domes of Sana'a were destroyed then," except the Al-Mutawakkil dome,

which was used for prayer (not a tomb)."

In the year 1229, Mohammed Ali Pasha, the ruler of Egypt (ally of the Ottomans) sent a force to confront the Wahhabis and they were met by the Asiris (troops from Asir, now a part of Saudi Arabia, fighting with the Najdi Wahhabis), and "the victory was for the Asiris". The author continues to relate the outcome of the battle fought in a location "between the two cities" (Jedda and Mecca), "they (the Asiris) left the dead there like webbed baskets, because, between the two cities, there are no scavenging beasts or birds, which eat the dead, and the Turks retreated to Yanbu".

In 1330, the Turks attacked Mecca, with a larger force and after the Ashrafs "betrayed the Wahhabis" and fierce fighting, "victory was for the Turks, and the Najdis left the city and the Egyptians entered by force".

In this year, the Imam in Sana'a was faced with rebellions here and there and "betrayals", as the author puts it and his efforts to have full control of Tehama were unsuccessful, not to mention the insurrections of some of the northern tribal chiefs, and the Imam was able to restore his authority over many of these latter areas.

In the meantime, in addition to the Wahhabi threat, the Imam realized that he had to deal with the Ottoman threat and he corresponded with them "and the Imam sent them (the Sultan Abdul Hamid Bin Mahmud and his Minister, Mohammed Ali Pasha of Egypt) gifts of "Onyx stones, horse saddles, cups and great things of value", and requested his help for retuning Tehama to his rule. The Ottoman Sultan sent the Imam "strange gifts, including an elephant that was smaller than his (the Sultan's) elephants".

In that year the House of Gold was built, "which is one of the finest buildings and the Bridge over the Flood Wadi (Al-Sayilah), in Sana'a, which allowed people from Bir Al-Azab to enter Sana'a and to exit by passing over the bridge" (when the Wadi is full of floodwaters).

In the same year, the author explains how the Turks tried to attack the Wahhabis in their stronghold in Dir'iyah and besieged it and attacked it with "cannons and catapults, but were ineffective in breaking through their fortifications for many years". Then the Turks built trenches and from far away dug a tunnel that eventually led them to "under the house of Saud ". The story continues next week.

Subject book: Yemeni Annals (Hawliat Yamaniyah)
1224 - 1316 AH (1809 - 1898 A.D.)
Author: Muhsin Bin Ahmed Al-Harazi, et al
Checked and edited by Abdullah Mohammed Al-Hibshi
Language: Arabic
Publisher: Ministry of Information and Culture
Year published: 1400 AH/1980 A.D.
No. of pages: 661



DOVE ENERGY
LIMITED

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT SHARYOOF FIELD Senior Electrician

Dove Energy Limited invites *Yemeni Nationals only* to apply for the position of Senior Electrician. The position is based in Sharyoof Field.

Responsibilities

- Maintain the Sharyoof facilities electrical equipments in a safe and prudent operating condition so as to minimize the risk to personnel, company property and the environment.
- Plan and execute preventive maintenance schedule for existing plant equipment and new upgrading machineries and maintain in good operable conditions at all times.
- Should be conversant with used of diagnostic tools used with Caterpillar gensets and should have sound knowledge in understanding CAT schematics and should possess quick troubleshooting and repair skills. Clear and sound knowledge in parallel operation of cat gensets is must.
- Familiar with GE medium voltage vacuum contactor motor control center operation and maintenance and should have complete awareness of safe working habits in MV panels. Should be able to familiarize in plant operation philosophy with help of drawings and manuals.
- Should be able to troubleshoot REDA Variable speed drives and associated surface equipments powering the down hole pump. Conversant in wiring the protections and programming them according to operation criticality.
- Must work hands on and be Capable of executing installation and commissioning of electrical equipments and MV transformers.
- Report immediately to the maintenance Supervisor / Site Manager all safety issues, equipment malfunctions, and changes in well operating conditions that could potentially interfere with the safety of the on-site personnel, and/or crude export volumes.
- Work closely with the operation Team to optimize the efficiency and safety of the plant.
- Train Junior Electricians in the correct and safe maintenance practice followed in Sharyoof CPF and well facilities.
- Maintain a high level of environmental awareness to ensure company and government policies are adhered to.

Qualifications and Experience Preferred

- Minimum 3 years experience in the Oil and Gas industry, with minimum qualification as electrician from recognized technical school.
- Sound knowledge in Medium voltage power generation and distribution system.
- Good knowledge of written and spoken English.

Interested candidates are request to submit their CVs and applications by mail to the Dove Energy, Human Resources Department, by fax or by email to hr@doveyemen.com.ye.

Responses will only be made to short listed candidates.

Mailing address:

Dove Energy Limited
P.O. Box 16910
Sana'a, Republic of Yemen

Fax Detail:

Fax No. 967 1 413 767

The deadline for receiving applications is 9th November, 2006

CANADIAN nexen

Yemeni Nationals Only

Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen (CNPY) is creating a Reservoir Development Department within its Operations Division in Sana’a. Its primary objective will be to facilitate the exploitation of the remaining reserves within CNPY’s Masila Block (14).

A multi-discipline team of geophysicists, geologists and engineers is envisaged which will act to maximize value through effective asset management. This team will conduct detailed reservoir analyses using state of the art technology; prepare in depth reservoir studies; and prepare detailed block depletion strategies with focus on optimal reserves depletion through drilling, timely well intervention, as well as the application of IOR and, where applicable, EOR technologies. The team will be required to liaise closely with PEPA on an ongoing basis, as well as provide timely technical input to the Field operation.

CNPY is therefore pleased to invite interested, qualified Yemeni Nationals, who wish to be part of this exciting team, to apply for the following positions:

Reservoir Development Manager**Sana’a****Minimum Requirements:**

- A degree in petroleum engineering with at least 15 years experience at least 5 years of which is in a managerial capacity
- Provide leadership and direction to the Reservoir Development Department
- Lead the process of developing detailed block exploitation strategies
- Provide input to and execute a strategy for maximizing the value of Masila Block “14”
- Facilitate communication within the Development Department, and between the Department and stakeholders – Masila Block Partners, the Government, field operations and senior management
- Manage group performance
- Interface with company senior management
- Provide direction to ensure that staff technical standards are met and maintained.

Technical Reservoir Engineering Advisor**Sana’a****Minimum Requirements:**

- Advanced degree in Reservoir Engineering preferred with 15 + years technical experience. Recognition by peers as an authority would be a plus
- Provide technical leadership to the multi disciplined teams in the of area of reservoir engineering
- Must be at an advanced specialist level in his/her particular discipline (Reservoir Engineering).
- Must be able to provide technical guidance and training to less experienced staff – act as a mentor
- Be available to conduct complex and advanced studies in the area of Reservoir Engineering as required.

Technical Geophysics Advisor**Sana’a****Minimum Requirements:**

- Advanced degree in Geophysics preferred with 15 + years technical experience. Recognition by peers as an authority would be a plus.
- Provide technical leadership to the multi disciplined teams in the area of Geophysics.
- Must be at an advanced specialist level in his/her particular discipline (Geophysics).
- Must be able to provide technical guidance and training to less experienced staff – act as a mentor.
- Be available to conduct complex and advanced studies in the area of Geophysics as required.

Technical Geology Advisor**Sana’a****Minimum Requirements:**

- Advanced degree in Geology preferred with 15 + years technical experience. Recognition by peers as an authority would be a plus.
- Provide technical leadership to the multi disciplined teams in the area of Geology.
- Must be at an advanced specialist level in his/her particular discipline (Geology).
- Must be able to provide technical guidance and training to less experienced staff – act as a mentor.
- Be available to conduct complex and advanced studies in area of Geology as required.

Geologists**Sana’a****Minimum Requirements:**

- Bachelors in Geology with 3+ years in petroleum production preferred
- Conduct Geological studies as appropriate
- Prepare geological maps
- Evaluate seismic and logs for hydrocarbon potential
- Work with geophysicist and generate geological prospects
- Develop depositional models and facies distributions
- Prepare geological models from logs, cross sections and maps for oil in place and simulation input
- Actively participate in the development of asset management planning.

Geophysicists**Sana’a****Minimum Requirements:**

- Bachelors in Geophysics with 5+ years of petroleum industry experience preferred
- Analyze seismic attributes
- Identify events on seismic records for equivalency and time-depth relationship
- Prepare detailed mapping from 3D seismic data
- Prepare structural, stratigraphic and amplitude maps
- Evaluate 2D and 3D seismic data sets for hydrocarbon and work with geologist to generate prospect potential
- Prepare structural maps for input to geomodeling

Reservoir Engineer**Sana’a****Minimum Requirements:**

- Bachelors of Science in Petroleum Engineering with 3+ years experience in reservoir engineering preferred.
- Prepare production decline analyses using Oilfield Manager (OFM) software.
- Monitor well and reservoir performance.
- Perform midyear and year end reserve updates.
- Monitor waterflood and pressure maintenance programs and determine voidage replacement requirements.
- Identify workover and water shutoff opportunities and timing while working with field production engineers.
- Develop a working knowledge of pressure transient analyses to help select workover and stimulation . candidates
- Analyze production log tool (PLTs) results for zonal splits and helping select water shut off and workover candidates
- Build reservoir simulation models
- Generate and maintain full life field asset management plans in conjunction with Field operations.

Senior Staff Reservoir Engineers – Team Leads**Sana’a****Minimum Requirements:**

- Masters of Science degree in Petroleum Engineering preferred with 5 + years experience in reservoir engineering.
- Provide direction and leadership to a multi disciplined team which may include a geologist, geophysicist and reservoir engineers.
- Direct the team to conduct field asset management planning.
- Provide technical leadership in running applicable state of the art technology – e.g., reservoir simulation.

For further information or to apply for this position please visit our website:

<http://www.nexeninc.com/Careers/Yemen/>

Application Criteria:

- All applications **must be submitted** through our online application system.
- Applications **must be submitted Online** NO later than **November 18, 2006**
- A member of our recruitment team will call you if you are selected for a test and interview.
- Selection will be based on the most qualified applicants.
- Applicants can check the status of their application online using the above URL.
- Please make sure that your Application contains all the needed personal, **contact** and **qualification** information.
- Faxed or Handed-In CV’s will **NOT be considered**.

Audit Coordinator**Sana’a****Minimum Requirements:**

- University Degree (Accounting, Business or Economics) and a recognized accounting designation preferred.
- Minimum ten years of accounting and auditing experience.
- Strong contract interpretation skills.
- Strong computer skills including proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite.
- Strong background in system’s of internal control, as well as Oil & Gas policies and procedures.
- Excellent business writing and communication skills.
- Effective planning and problem solving abilities.

General Accounting Supervisor**Sana’a****Minimum Requirements:**

- University degree plus a professional accounting designation (CA, CMA, CGA).
- 10 years' relevant experience including supervision of staff.
- Strong working knowledge of SAP and ability to train others.
- Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), International Accounting Standards (IAS), International Oil & Gas industry knowledge, Negotiating skills, and management principles and procedures are considered an asset.

For further information or to apply for this position please visit our website:

<http://www.nexeninc.com/Careers/Yemen/>

Application Criteria:

- All applications **must be submitted** through our online application system.
- Online Applications **must be submitted** NO later than **November 25th , 2006**
- A member of our recruitment team will call you if you are selected for a test and interview.
- Selection will be based on the most qualified applicants.
- Applicants can check the status of their application online using the above URL.
- Please make sure that your Application contains all the needed personal, **contact** and **qualification** information.
- Faxed or Handed-In CV’s will **NOT be considered**.

Inherited knowledge of healing

By: Amel Al-Ariqi
Fatima Al-Ajel

Hajjah Khiria is famous in her neighborhood. It's her knowledge of traditional medicine that brings her fame – she is one of many folk therapists in Yemen who use old techniques to cure. She said she cured many diseases doctors failed to treat. Her diagnosis is based on observation – a visual test which includes examining sore area and then deciding the treatment which is mostly unwritten and transmitted orally. Her best treatment is "healthy food."

Folk medicine refers collectively to procedures traditionally used for treatment of illness and injury, aid to childbirth, and maintenance of wellness.

Hajjah Khiria, 57, is married and mother of three sons and five daughters. She said she learned the medical folk recipes from her 130 year-old grandmother.

"My grandma was full of knowledge," she explained. "She advised me to use only natural materials and health food as a prescription for my patients."

"I still remember when I was pregnant and she asked me to eat onions especially at the last month of pregnancy as she said onions are good for blood purity," she recalled.

Khiria's house also serves as her

clinic and it receives many patients who sometimes come from other districts. All patients she treats are women and children.

"I don't treat any man," she said and it's rule she has only broken one time.

"Once I had to treat a man. It was an emergency case. My husband wasn't at home that day, a man knocked my door, begging to fix his muscle cramp in his neck, so I was forced to treat him."

The Yemeni use of folk or traditional therapy is an ancient practice and many people continue to deal with folk therapists because of the weak coverage of medical services, which is estimated as less than 50 percent.

In Khiria's community it is considered shameful for a woman to treat a man.

"He was the only man I treated and I am not going to repeat this," she explained.

Khiria stressed she can diagnose and heal diseases that doctors failed to treat; however she also confessed she can't deal with all diseases such

those needing surgery.

"I have to be honest with my patients. When I test them I can say either I will take the charge to treat him or her or advice the patient to go to doctors," said Khiria.

Without the use of any blood tests or x-ray machines Khiria claims she can diagnose and heal all types of muscle cramps, colds, typhoid, shock, and tonsillitis. She said her treatment is based on home recipes. She uses only warm oil and salt to rub down the nerve cell in muscle cramps to be able to ease the cramp. She may also advice and direct the patient to eat particular food, for instance in typhoid cases she asks the patient to eat onions, lemon, and garlic for breakfast for several days shake typhoid fever.

Using fire, burning coal and hot iron in folk treatment in many regions in Yemen is normal. Khiria for example treats tonsillitis by putting burning coal in a cup of coffee and covering the cup. She waits until the smoke of the coffee mixes with the smoke of the coal and asks the patient to drink it twice a day. She also treats shocks by using hot iron.

"Patients who suffer shock due to fear must be surprised by putting a very hot small iron on his body," she explained.

Khiria is also known as a midwife in her neighborhood and she criticizes doctors for have no experience of child delivery.

"Nowadays most doctors diver children by cesarean, while such delivery can be carried on normally," She said.

Khiria is not alone

The Yemeni use of folk or traditional therapy is an ancient practice and many people continue to deal with folk therapists because of the weak coverage of medical services, which is estimated as less than 50 percent.

"In my village people prefer to go to those people who practice folk treatment than going to medical center which is located far away from the village," said Khaled Ahmed, from Albidha governorate. "As many people cannot carry the expenses of traveling to the city hospital, or the expenses of the tests and medications, they prefer to go to these therapists who provide the patients with natural remedies like herbs. According to their believes, these natural things won't harm them," he said, adding that most of the folk therapists are old and inherit their knowledge from their ancestors.

"I know a professional woman from Ibb Governate who treats many diseases. Many patients come from different areas and governorates



Khiria's diagnosis is based on observation – a visual test which includes examining sore area and then deciding the treatment.

visiting her seeking remedies," said Samira Alhababi, who added that not all the folk therapists in Yemen are good. "Some traditional therapists commit huge errors because they have no experience in this field so many patients may undergo the consequences of folk therapist recipes or diagnosis"

"Most of the alternative therapists use herbs like the folk therapist. However the difference between them lies in the fact that folk therapists inherit their knowledge whereas alternative therapy is studied"

Although there are risks of such therapists many Yemeni people still believe in this therapy.

"I had pain in different parts of my body, I visited many doctors in different countries who diagnosed my illness as colitis. They gave me medications which did not relieve my suffering," said Asisa Ali, explaining her first trip to a traditional therapist.

"I went to a woman who is known

for her knowledge in traditional remedy. The only thing she asked me to do is to crush certain herbs like pomegranate peel with honey and having this mixture early morning before breakfast. Now I feel well."

Folk and alternative treatment

Alternative medicine is now the term Yemenis use when describing all forms of non-standard medicine. Few people distinguish the differences between folk and alternative treatment.

"Most of the alternative therapists use herbs like the folk therapist. However the difference between them lies in the fact that folk therapists inherit their knowledge whereas alternative therapy is studied," said alternative therapist Abdulhamid Al-Dhumni .

Unlike alternative therapists, most folk therapists cure diseases by using herbs and home recipes based on natural substances like oil, honey, available vegetables.

Alternative therapist also uses practices such as acupuncture, and cupping.

According to the World Health Organization traditional medicine includes many different practices and remedies, and varies from one country to another. While some practices offer benefits, others

remain questionable. However this type of treatment has maintained its popularity in many regions of the developing world and its use is spreading in industrialized countries.

In 2002, the WHO launched a strategy on traditional medicine to help countries explore its potential for people's health and wellbeing, while minimizing the risks of unproven or misused remedies. The main aim of the strategy is to encourage further research.

According to the World Health Organization traditional medicine includes many different practices and remedies, and varies from one country to another. While some practices offer benefits, others remain questionable

Khiria and other folk therapist's methods in Yemen cannot be scientifically approved as there is not any monitoring or studying of the methods.

It's Khiria's fame in her neighborhood that shows they are approved.



Khiria is treating muscle cramp in this child's neck.

Eid leaves a bad taste in the stomach

By: Nawal Zaid

With the end of Ramadan comes the beginning of celebrations. Eid Al-Fitr is the holiday for the breaking of the fast – a time for feast, family gatherings and joyous celebrations. However such festivals do not pass without health problems, particularly for those who stuff themselves with the various sweets and delicacies of Eid.

Sometimes the Ministry of Health and doctors in Yemen warn of health problems caused by irregularity or overeating during the first days of Eid. Many digestive problems become common during these days such as stomach disorders, diarrhea and constipation.

Doctors explain that the local traditions of overeating during Eid are a direct reason for such problems. Because traditionally, on since early morning on Eid day Yemenis start their social visitation to their relatives and friends. Especially men keep hopping from one house to the other visiting their close relatives



such as married sisters, aunts and uncles and so forth. During the visits they are offered sweets, mixed nuts, cookies, cakes and cold or hot drinks such as tea, coffee, juices, and naturally they have to accept the offer otherwise it might be taken as an offence to the host family. At lunchtime, Yemenis have large meals mostly consisting of meat. In the

afternoon many Yemenis tend to eat nuts, drink coffee and tea before chewing qat. And at night they either have fast food in restaurants or cooking their meals at home.

In addition to the irregular snacking all the time on Eid cookies which were prepared by the females in the family in advance on the last days of Ramadan.

"After a long day of eating candies, nuts, fast food and drinking a lot of juices, I woke up the next day with a terrible stomachache and sickness. I was taken to the hospital where a doctor told me that my condition was due to the food that I ate," said a 14 year-old girl about her suffering during Eid.

Ahmed Naji, a man of 50 years old exclaimed that he doesn't want to see another sweet for the rest of his life. "I have been drinking tea and coffee and eating sweets everywhere I go that I have come to dread visiting another relative. You just can't ignore the looks in their eyes when you say no, thanks so you land up filling your stomach with all sorts of junk food."

She is not the only person who goes through this and who is hospitalized while the rest of the community is celebrating in Eid's days. Many hospitals receive hundreds of patients with the same symptoms in the first three days of Eid.

"We received at least 30 patients on the first day of Eid," said general physician Nawaf Al-Abdullah who is working in Al-Ahli Hospital in Sana'a. He confirmed that most of the

cases were sent to the ER and needed bowel cleaning as they complained of stomachaches, vomiting, and diarrhea. He blamed it on over feasting on drinks, fat meals and nuts.

"Most of the cases are of children who buy sweets, cold drinks and ice cream from the street vendors. These children arrive at the hospital suffering fever, throat pain, tonsillitis, stomachaches and diarrhea," he added.

Al-Abdullah also described the meals taken on Eid's morning as "the heavy meals" that contain a lot of sugar, oil, and butter. "Many people especially in the rural regions prefer to eat meals that contain butter and honey early morning of Eid. Such meals are very heavy on the stomach," he noted.

Dr. Ameer Abdullah Al-Kadmi who is working in emergency room at the private German Yemeni Hospital said that the E.R had 20 adult patients and 30 children on the first day of Eid. He pointed out that public hospitals receive many more. "Most of the patients suffer constipation, indigestion, stomachaches and diarrhea," he

explained. "The stomach is empty all day during Ramadan, so when people take on food on Eid day it causes negative affects on the digestive system and leads to sourness and acidity in the stomach," he explained.

Eid days are a time for celebration and festivities. Yet somehow because of certain food behaviors it turns to be a miserable time for those who fall ill. The culture embassies on food as an important part of celebration, and people are forced to follow this trend otherwise they might hurt the host's feelings by braking this tradition. However, gradually some become more aware that irregular and overeating especially after a long month of keeping fast is quite harmful for the body and so they try to avoid such mishaps.

Fatima Mohammed says she has become wiser not to let this happen to her. "We try as much as possible not to eat much because we know what the consequences are. We explain to the host that since we have just ended our fast we can not fill our stomach otherwise it would be harmful, and we oblige by taking small bites and eventually they understand."

SHARK
ENERGY DRINK

الطاقة التي تحتاجها
لتجلك في قمة النشاط والحياة

الطاقة الحقيقية

www.metcotrading.com

پاکستان اور افغانستان میں
اپنے پیاروں کو منٹوں میں رقم بھیجیں

کم از کم ٹرانسفر فیس
US\$ 7**

پاکستان اور افغانستان میں 3,500 سے زائد مقامات پر مقررہ نمائندے
• بینک اکاؤنٹ کی فوری ضرورت نہیں
• وصول کنندہ کسی فیس کی ادائیگی سے مستثنیٰ
• آپ کی رقم 24 گھنٹے کے اندر کاربن
01-407 160

WESTERN UNION
دستور کی منتقلی

بنک الیمن الدولي
INTERNATIONAL BANK OF YEMEN
Authorized Agent

Western Union International Money Order Service is available in Pakistan and Afghanistan through authorized agents. For more information, please contact your nearest agent or call 01-407 160.

((وبش الصابرين الذين اذاصابهم مصيبة قالوا إنا لله وإنا إليه راجعون))

صدق الله العظيم

بقلوب مؤمنة بقضاء الله وقدره تتقدم بأحر التعازي وأصدق المواساة

للحاج / أحمد علي شجرة

وكافة الأسرة الإعلامية في اليمن

لوفاة المغفور له بإذن الله تعالى

الإعلامي البارز / حميد أحمد شجرة

سائلين الله العلي القدير أن يتغمد الفقيد بواسع رحمته وأن يسكنه فسيح جناته وأن يلهم أهله وذويه الصبر والسلوان

ولا حول ولا قوة إلا بالله العلي العظيم وإنا لله وإنا إليه راجعون

وإلى أن نلتقي في رحاب الله يا حميد

المعزون:

أ / نادية عبدالعزيز السقاف

رئيس مجلس الإدارة ورئيس التحرير مؤسسة يمن تايمز للصحافة والطباعة والنشر

أ / خير الدين محمد النصور

نايب رئيس مجلس الإدارة مؤسسة يمن تايمز للصحافة والطباعة والنشر

محمد بن سلام

مدير قسم الأخبار

والأسرة الصحفية في مؤسسة يمن تايمز للصحافة والطباعة والنشر

Fans disappointed at Yemeni football



Yemeni national football team.

SANA'A, Oct. 29 — Yemeni football faced a disappointing qualifying season with both the junior and senior teams experiencing set-backs.

The national football team failed to play well and didn't seem to improve during the qualification round for the Asian Cup. The team was just defeated in the away match against its Saudi counterpart, in Jeddah, as well as the in the home encounter with Japan, which took place in Sana'a.

Football fans were shocked at the performance of the under 17 football

team in Singapore, which sport analysts considered as a setback for the national football.

The junior team was expected to put forth a strong outing in their tournament, but the team was placed in a very strong division due to a few mistakes and an inability to score the team didn't advance out of their own grouping.

However, their setback can be labelled as normal, compared to performance of the senior team. Fans had been hyperbolically optimistic the team may reach achievements similar

to what was achieved by the under 17 team four years ago when it reached the World Cup finals in Finland.

The senior team lost a close home match against Japan, but was never able to get on track to take a run at knocking off either Japan or Saudi Arabia.

Sport analysts hold the view that despite its recurring failure, the senior team should not be blamed for its performance. Rather, its situation necessitates evaluation and improvement to help develop the Yemeni football.

Yemeni football: Where to now?

By: Ismail Al-Ghabiri

SANA'A, Oct. 29 — We hoped that Yemeni footballers perceive what is required from them, as well as to remember Yemeni fans while playing Saudi Arabia in the most recent qualifier for the Asian Cup of Nations, which took place in Jeddah.

We hoped the teammates would be more responsible and perform well to gratify Yemeni fans in and outside the country. The team had been expected to put forth a better performance, but expectations were low as it had not been expected to score victory, which it has not tasted for a long time.

This is what we hoped and it is our right to do so, but the teammates, along with the coaching staff, committed themselves not to change the norm. They entered the match seemingly without any ambition to win or gratify fans or even challenge

their opposition.

No doubt anybody who encourages and supports the Yemeni football is bound to feel shy and saddened when he/she view performance of the players. In addition, fans cast doubt players know how to deal with the ball, particularly as they played a Saudi formation made up of substitutes.

Rebuilding the national teams of different games is a great task with its own principles and rules and only those who understand can reach success in such an important area that rejects ignorance.

Yemeni Football Federation has to be fully committed and responsible for rebuilding the national football team and not to make the team an exploited opportunity for experiences. The federation gives the chance to eligible people who are able to improve the performance of the

team.

The first step to rebuilding the team is to lose the idea the national teams can only be improved by senior foreign coaches. In other words, concerned parties have to hire foreign coaches even if the contracts with these coaches cost a lot of money.

Through the match between Yemen and Saudi Arabia, it has been made clear the coaching staff is concerned about performance of the team as much as it is interested in minimizing the defeat or reducing the number of goals scored in the Yemeni sides net. The coaching staff is judged to be submissive and has no will to please fans.

A huge difference between performance of the team and the exaggerative statements has been remarkably noticed, in addition to odds of the Yemeni football that necessitates reconsideration.



Yemeni football under 17 age.

Bolton 0-4 Man Utd

By: Howard Nurse

A Wayne Rooney treble kept Manchester United top of the table as Bolton lost at home for the first time this season.

Rooney slammed United into an early lead after receiving a perfect pass from England team-mate Michael Carrick.

And he made it two with a cool curling shot from just outside the box as United dominated the early stages.

Bolton were unable to hit back and Cristiano Ronaldo slotted in a third before the brilliant Rooney completed his hat-trick with a fine solo effort.

United - with Ronaldo restored to the right after a virus - went at Bolton from the off with Ryan Giggs releasing Patrice Evra who forced Jussi Jaaskelainen to make a smart save.

Both sides went into the game on the backs of their best ever starts to a Premiership campaign but Bolton were left looking distinctly second best.

Saha had a clipped effort cleared off the line by Abdoulaye Meite before United deservedly took a 10th-minute lead.

Rooney, who had gone 10 matches for club and country without a goal, was in no mood to let the drought continue four days after turning 21.

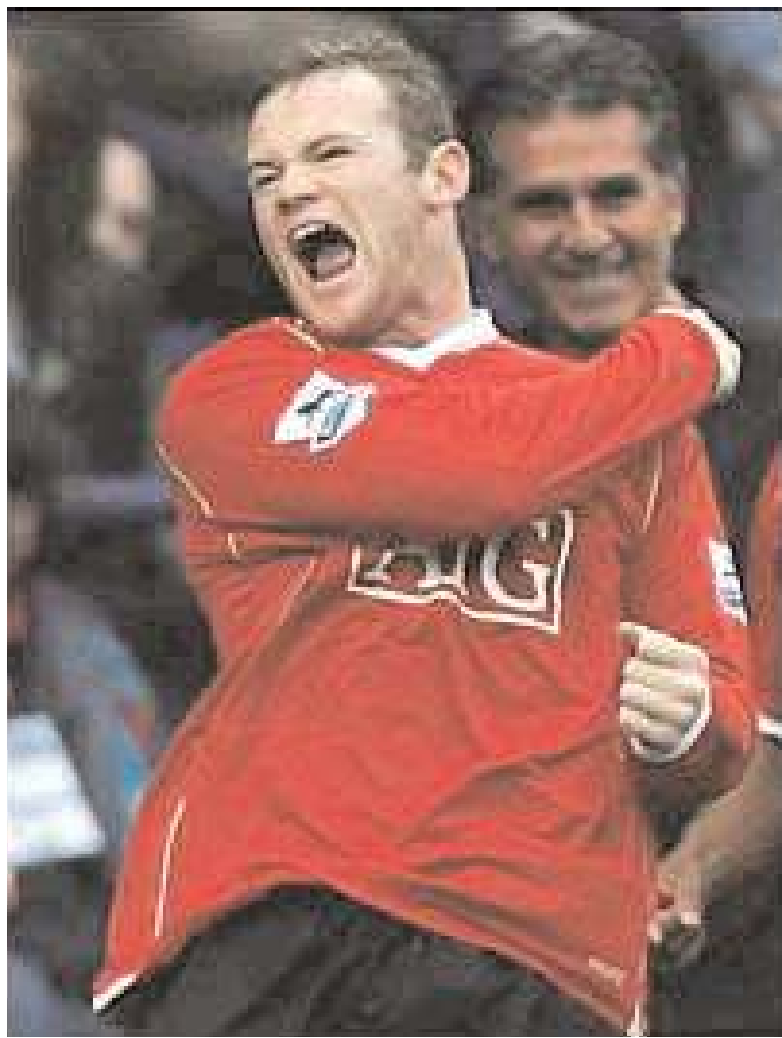
Carrick threaded a glorious through ball from the half-way line to Rooney who lashed home first time with his left foot from 12 yards.

Bolton were soon punished again when Gary Neville ventured forward down the right and the ball ricocheted off Tal Ben Haim to Rooney who curled home his second with slide-rule perfection from 20 yards.

Wanderers needed a quick route back into the game and Gary Speed - making his 493rd Premiership appearance - lashed a free-kick wide of the post.

Giggs was denied just before half time when Jaaskelainen brilliantly parried his opportunist shot away to safety.

Bolton did manage to apply some mild pressure on the United goal with Abdoulaye Faye heading over an El-Hadjji Diouf corner - but Edwin van



der Sar was not seriously tested in the opening 45 minutes.

United had to do some defending early in the second period when Bolton were awarded a free-kick in a dangerous position only for Nicolas Anelka to drive just over the crossbar.

Sir Alex Ferguson called for renewed urgency from the visitors after seeing his side go off the boil, seemingly content to sit on their two-goal advantage ahead of a mid-week Champions League trip to Copenhagen.

Evra was stretched off and replaced by Gabriel Heinze on the hour and Bolton briefly threatened mid-way through the second half, though Nemanja Vidic was a rock in the United defence.

The game opened up again and United wasted a great chance when Saha was set up by Ronaldo and saw his shot superbly saved by Jaaskelainen's flailing left hand.

Van der Sar was finally called into action when he preserved United's advantage by blocking Campo's close-range shot.

But it was all over with eight minutes left when Saha teed-up Ronaldo to slot in United's third from close range.

And Rooney made sure he went home with the matchball when he latched on to a pass from Darren Fletcher and lashed in his third to complete an awesome afternoon for the England star.

Source: bbc.com

Volleyball season approaches

SANA'A, Oct. 29 — Yemeni Volleyball Federation approved its local and international working plan for the upcoming season. The plan is inspiring as Yemen plans to compete at many championships and contests for different age groups.

The volleyball federation plan covers local and international activities and involves ten teams and home and away games. The Premier League competition is scheduled to

kick off Nov. 30 along with competitions of the second tier teams. The participating teams were divided into two groups.

Championship of third tier teams will be in two stages, the first of which is at the level of governorates while the second stage will see the final tournaments organized by the volleyball federation.

The beach championship will be held in two stages, the first of which covers competitions in three

governorates in April 2007. The participating teams are due to pay fees of YR 5000. The second stage will be held in Aden Governorate, during which the first, second and third ranked teams from each governorate will play one another.

At the level of international competitions, top winners are to hold internal and external training camps prior to participating in junior teams' competitions in Syria and UAE.



View from Volleyball match.

**CLASSIFIED
ADVERTISEMENTS
PAGE**

Yemen's ancient leather clothing still in market

By: Saddam Al-Ashmouri

Several people still come to our shops to buy handmade leather cloths says Mohamed Hassan Al-Thawr, a spinner of traditional textiles.

Today people still like to wear traditional handmade dresses despite the availability of modern and contemporary cloths, says Al-Thawr.

"We are called spinners since we spin wools and leathers of local sheep and transform them into clothing for people to wear," explains Al-Thawr. "We have been pursuing the handicraft since the old times and in the past, Yemenis used to put on such dresses as there were no factories."

Since the old times, human beings have used leather and wool of animals and made clothes from them until the time of textile and weaving factories.



Mohamed Hassan Al-Thawr sewing what once was the skin of a goat to become a lovely leather coat.

Such old items still exist in some places, particularly the Old City of Sana'a. People are still wearing them, mainly in

highlands and mountainous areas, where the weather is cold.

Asked how leather clothes are weaved, Al-Thawr explained the long process.

"When sheep are slaughtered we buy the leather and expose it to the sun on the roof of our workshop for one or two weeks. When the leather dries, we then put it in a bath-like room and add dried leaves of the Qaradh tree before rubbing the substance with a small piece of wood. After the leather becomes rubbery, we tailor and weave it into cloths according to demands of customers."

Leather-made cloths include traditional Yemeni kark, jaram, qasira and khutta. The kark is a long jacket reaching the heels and inside it is stuffed with wool while the jaram, which is made with long sleeves, is usually put on under the kark. The qasira is a small coat without sleeves while the khutta consists of wool strings that are spun and weaved with one another to be used as a blanket.

The spinner noted the prices of these products range between YR 6000 and

10,000 and most of the time the price depends on the customer's order.

Many people are still visiting the spinners in the old city.

Ahmad Al-Khawlani comes to Sana'a to buy clothes for his father because his father doesn't like the new styles.

"I came from Khawlan, which is far away from Sana'a to buy a jaram for my father who refuses to put on any modern garments," said Al-Khawlani. "A modern garment can cost only 50 percent of the jaram price, but my father said he doesn't feel warm unless he puts on his jaram."



Leather jackets are died in various colors to attract customers and appeal to different tastes.

A cow you can steer

ANTIAGO, Chile (Reuters) - A Chilean taxi driver has come up with a new way to fight assaults: make your vehicle so conspicuous that nobody would dare try to rob you.

After being robbed several times, Juan Geraldo upholstered and covered every square inch of his car's interior with black and white spotted cowhides, including the steering wheel and ceiling. He then decorated the interior with stuffed toy cows, and added a horn that moos.

The visual effect is even more impressive at night, when the black and white taxi interior is set off from floor to ceiling by a flood of neon light.

"The effect was immediate. They haven't robbed me since," said Geraldo,



who said the special effects also brought in more clientele and allowed him to expand his cab fleet from one car to nine.

The 46-year-old taxi driver with 27

years of experience completes the cow theme by dressing in a cowhide jacket and hat.

"The numbers don't lie, the cow cabs attract more clients," Geraldo said. "Today all most all of our business is with repeat customers."

Geraldo said about 80 percent of his clients are women and that he gets calls from television personalities, former government officials and for children's birthday parties.

Although he has rejected an idea suggested by some to rent out the cow cabs for amorous encounters, he is trying to patent his idea and is keen on coming up with other variants.

"Some would love the idea of a zebra cab or a lion cab," said Geraldo. "It's a question of using your imagination."

HYUNDAI
HEAVY INDUSTRIES CO., LTD.
CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT DIVISION

POWER/SAFETY/TECHNOLOGY

We build a better future

A new chapter in construction equipment has now begun.

شركة زبين للتجارة والصناعة

Zubayen Trading & Industry Company

Sana'a (441575/571) Fax: 441579, E-mail: zubayen1@y.net.ye.

Aden (205060/1/2) Fax: 205063, E-mail: zubayenA@y.net.ye

NOW

The first stationary in Yemen
opens the first-largest shopping center

integral school appliances
library and stationary appliances with latest models
amusing and educational toys from W.D. Disney and others
computer systems, accessories and appliances
library machines and equipments
cloths, show pieces, natural and artificial roses and others
marriage cards and wedding appliances

الاشباب والاطفال

ASHBAMI AGENCIES
For Stationery Supplies

Headquarters: Al Zubairi Street, Sana'a
Tel: 207167 - 456026
Fax: 207167 - 456026
E-mail: ashbami@y.net.ye

Used Cars for Sale

Second-hand BMW, Land Rover and Rover are available

سيارات مستعملة للبيع

بي ام دبليو، لاند روفر، روفر

Al-Rowaishan showroom,
Hadda Street, Sana'a Tel: 401447
معرض الرويشان - شارع حدة

CAC BANK
بنك المساهمة التعاونية والريفي
Cooperative & Agricultural Credit Bank

السرعة للمحالات

السرعة

SPEED

للمحالات

يلغي المسافات

www.cacbank.com.ye

CONSOLIDATED CONTRACTORS INTERNATIONAL COMPANY - SAL

CONSTRUCTION OF MECHANICAL AND HEAVY CIVIL PROJECTS

- Petrochemical plants, refineries.
- Heavy, light industrial plants.
- Power and desalination plants.
- Fuel and water storage tanks.
- Oil fields ancillary installations.
- Air purification for industry
- Marine docks, harbours, deep sea berths & refinery terminals.
- Offshore structures and underwater works.
- Pipelines construction and maintenance.
- Prefabricated accommodation & office facilities.
- Sewage treatment plants & collection networks.
- Airports, roads, highways, bridges & fly-overs.
- High quality buildings & sports complexes.
- Water treatment plants, reservoirs & distribution systems.

Sanaa
Tel: (967-1) 441638
Fax: (967-1) 441630
E-Mail: cccyemen@y.net.ye

Aden
Tel: (967-2) 377328
Fax: (967-2) 377716
E-Mail: cccaden@y.net.ye

NOKIA
Connecting People

ابو العربي

هاتف يفرك ويريك

FM راديو •
مضيق كهربائي •
ساعة مئب •
آلة حاسبة •
ألعاب •
شاشة ملونة •

MAXIMUM TELECOM
ماتسيلم تيليكوم

77 11 33 55
التمل على هذا الرقم
تعرفه سعر اي هاتف نوكيا

NOKIA 2255
CDMA

يمن موبايل

إحذر الجديد... المزيف!

Education

A free monthly Supplement offered by Yemen Times and presented by Dr. Ramakanta Sahu

No. 9

Dr. Ramakanta Sahu
Associate Professor,
Department of English,
Faculty of Arts and
Education, University
of Science and
Technology, Sana'a
Tel: (01) 311117
Mobile: 733523970
P. O. Box 14533,
Sana'a
ramakantasahu@yahoo.com



Improve Your English: 297

I. What to Say

Situations and Expressions (93)

Wishes for a sister (iii)

A brother and a sister share an ineffable memory of childhood. They grew up hand in hand with a strong bond of kinship that grew stronger and stronger as they grew older and older. Life holds out a special charm for a brother when he's in the precious company of a sister whose companionship is the reason for so many smiles for him.

- It's great knowing I can count on you for advice, help or just good conversation - that you care and understand and can make me laugh, when that's exactly what I need most. You're everything special a sister could be and I feel lucky to have you.
- Dear sister! You're too precious to me. You can relate to me like no one else can, whom I can laugh with to no extent; I can cry too when times are tough, the one who understands me even when my thoughts are not fitting into words. For me you're precious in the whole world.

II. How to Say it Correctly

Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences

- She has to do lot of traveling in her job.
- All seemed to go wrong.
- The whole Sana'a was affected by the power cut.
- Their both children had chicken pox at the same time.
- Each buses owned by the company are washed once a week.

Suggested answers to the previous week's questions

- The **Talibs** (the Talib family) live in the house next door.
- She plans to go to **college** after she's finished school.
We use zero article if the speaker is talking about 'college', 'school' as institutions, rather than a particular college and a particular school known to the hearer.
- Did you buy **any** (or **some**) tomatoes when you went shopping?
'Any' and 'some' are not used with singular countable nouns. 'Some' might be used when we expect the answer to be 'yes'.
- I've never seen **anybody** (or **anyone**) that tall before.
- There isn't **much** traffic along the street where I live.
'Much', not 'many' is used with uncountable nouns.

III. Increase Your Word Power

(A) How to express it in one word

- Short tale with animals in it and intended to give moral teaching
- Front or face of a building towards a street
- One of the many sides of a cut stone or jewel
- Exact copy or reproduction of writing, printing or a picture etc.
- Story, work of art, etc. that looks genuine but is not

Suggested answers to the previous week's questions

- A cheerful person who likes doing things rather than using his mind: **extrovert** (n)
- State of overflowing: **exuberance** (n)
- Oozing out of drops of liquid: **exude** (vt)
- Small hole in clothes: **eyelot** (n)
- Using cautious and slow strategy to wear out opposition: **fabian** (n)

(B) Words often confused

Bring out the difference in meaning of the following pairs of words

- acquisition, requisition, inquisition
- prescribe, proscribe, inscribe
- collar, colour
- conceive, perceive
- compress, depress, repress

Suggested answers to the previous week's questions

- abuse** (vt) (make a bad use of): Politicians often abuse their powers to further their own ends.
misuse (n) (using wrongly): Many EFL learners make misuse of prepositions 'in'/'at'.
disuse (n) (state of no longer being used): The machine is out of order due to long disuse.
- concur** (vi) (agree in opinion): The cabinet has concurred minister's draft proposal.
conquer (vt) (defeat or overcome enemies, bad habits, etc.): Alexander, the great, conquered many countries.
- concave** (adj) (an outline or surface that is curved inwards like the inside of a circle): I use concave

lenses.

conclave (n) (private or secret meeting): Recently the conclave of cardinals met in the Vatican City to elect a new Pope.

- concurrent** (adj) (existing together): The seminar was organized in three concurrent sessions.
- simultaneous** (adj) (happening or done at the same time): Recently there were simultaneous blasts in several places of New Delhi.
- hospitable** (adj) (showing the wish to give attention to the needs of others): The Agabis are very hospitable people.
- hospital** (n) (place where the sick persons are treated): The university of Science and Technology has a super specialized hospital in Sana'a.

(C) Synonyms and Antonyms

(i) Synonyms

Choose the word that is closest in meaning to the one given at the top

- circumlocution**
 - expressing an idea in more words than are necessary
 - evasive talk
 - a long winding speech
 - irrelevant details in speech
- circumspect**
 - looking round on all sides carefully
 - wary
 - cautious
 - prudent
- clandestine**
 - concealed
 - hidden
 - private
 - on the sly
- coalesce**
 - to grow together
 - unite into one body
 - fusion
 - combination
- cognition**
 - knowledge
 - apprehension
 - knowing in the widest sense
 - to be conscious of

Suggested answers to the previous week's questions

- | Word | Synonym |
|---------------|---|
| 1. assiduity | diligence |
| 2. axiom | a self evident truth |
| 3. baroque | exuberant style in architecture and art |
| 4. boisterous | noisy |
| 5. cacophony | discord of sounds |

(ii) Antonyms

Choose the word that is most opposite in meaning to the one given at the top

- effeminate**
 - virile
 - feminine
 - philologist
 - misogynist
- epilogue**
 - epigraph
 - prologue
 - prelude
 - vogue
- extolled**
 - condemned
 - sang
 - criticized
 - praised
- esoteric**
 - concentric
 - categoric
 - rhetoric
 - none of these
- endemic**
 - epidemic
 - hateful
 - assaulting
 - lethargic

Suggested answers to the previous week's questions

- | Word | Antonym |
|--------------|-----------|
| 1. debonair | inelegant |
| 2. delicious | odious |
| 3. deviate | abide |
| 4. diligent | lazy |
| 5. emerge | disappear |

(D) Choose the correctly spelt word

- libarty
 - liberty
 - lebrty
 - liberety
- libbrery
 - library
 - lebrary
 - library
- maintennance
 - manteinance
 - maintenance
 - maintenance
- magnifikant
 - magnificent
 - maginificent
 - magnificent
- mathematics
 - mathmatics
 - methemetics
 - mathamatics

Suggested answers to the previous week's questions

- interrogative
- immediately
- journey
- knowledge
- litterateur

(E) Phrases and idioms

Use the following phrases in sentences

- in hot water
- belle of the ball
- in seventh heaven
- a different kettle of fish
- change horses in midstream

Suggested answers to the previous week's questions

- hold your horses** (to wait for a moment, not to act hastily): You should hold your horses and have a second thought before giving up your job.
- bite (someone's) head off** (to answer someone sharply and angrily): Shamlan bit my head off when I expressed my inability to pay off the loan now.
- run a mile** (to go to great lengths to avoid someone or something): I would run a mile rather than go to the night club with my friends.
- what's up with (someone/something)** (what's wrong with someone or something): What's up with Ayid - he is putting a long face?
- be not getting any younger** (to be getting older): Don't forget that I'm ageing and am not getting any younger to participate in such fun and frolic.

(IV) Grammar and Composition

(A) Grammar

Finish each of the following sentences in such a way that it means exactly the same as the sentence printed before it.

- Running a big car like that can't be at all cheap. It must —
- Ahmed Azzam started teaching six years ago. Ahmed Azzam has —
- What do you find most interesting about the film? What interests —
- 'What's happened to your knee?' Khalid's mother asked him. Khalid's mother asked him —
- I was amazed by the things he said. I thought what —

Suggested answers to the previous week's questions

Verb + preposition

- On her birthday, many friends came to **wish/congratulate** her.
- In my dream, every one was laughing **at** me.
- You really **remind** me of your brother. You look like him and you sound just like him, too.
- She was so terrified of speaking in the debate she was **frozen** with fear and her hands were shaking.
- The court passed orders to prevent him **from** keeping animals again.
- I'm not interested in concert.
- We might have a picnic tomorrow or we might not - it all **depends** on the weather.
- As she didn't know the town, she asked the bus driver to tell her where to **get** off.
- She **succeeded** in passing her driving test at the third attempt.
- I have employed a nurse **for** looking after my baby girl.
- Our dog is very **clever** at doing tricks.
- She got top marks in all her exams, so her parents were very **pleased** with her.

(B) Composition

Expand the central idea contained in the maxim

115: THE EARLY BIRD CATCHES THE WORM

Suggested answers to the previous lesson's questions

114: A BIRD IN THE HAND IS WORTH TWO IN THE BUSH

A bird in the hand symbolizes something certain or known. Two birds in the bush signal something uncertain or something that one may or may not be able to get. To put it in another way, something which one has really got is better than a lot of nice things which one hasn't got. In practical life we often come across some people who are not content with what they have. They fruitlessly run after uncertain things which appear to be more alluring, neglecting things which are already theirs or are at their disposal. The grass on the other side of the hedge looks greener. They deceive themselves into believing that the thing far away is a worthier possession than the thing which is already theirs. In running after mirage they lose both and come to grief. Hence it is never prudent to forsake that which is certain for the sake of something that seems to be attractive but is uncertain. It is wiser to make the most of the one bird in the hand than to wishfully run after the two birds which are away in the bush. The core of the maxim is a warning against being a star-gazer and an advice to be practical and realistic.

V. Pearls from the Holy Quran

"Your Lord is full of mercy all-embracing; but from people in guilt never will His wrath be turned back."

S6:A147

VI. Food for Thought

"The trouble with our times is that the future is not what it used to be"

—Paul Valer

The role of gender in the production, circulation and consumption of literary works

Revisiting a recurrent hypothesis in feminist literary studies



Ameen Ahmed Abbas Jamous
Ph.D Scholar
CIEFL, Hyderabad
jamous226@yahoo.com

There is no doubt at all about the seminal role of gender in the whole activities of the feminist literary studies. Bearing in mind the continually accumulated prejudices against women and confining a woman's identity to her body, it is natural for any movement that calls itself feminism to make gender as its focal axis. One of the seminal works of feminism has put this in a nutshell:

The enslavement of the female to the species and the limitations of her various powers are extremely important facts: the body of the woman is one of the essential elements in her situation in the world. (de Beauvoir 69)

The female's body is the axis around which the whole concept of gender, and all that follows from it, has been built. A female's body has, to a great extent, determined a woman's life through time and place:

...we live in a world in which our life chances and experiences seem in many ways to be determined by our sex. (Valerie 47)

And this is the line of the radical feminist thought which includes among others, Virginia Woolf, Germaine Greer, Simon de Beauvoir, Adrienne Rich, and Kate Millet; some of whom will be referred to later in this essay. It is their seminal works that have, in varying degrees, laid the foundations for the feminist movement. Among those foundations was the need to challenge the dominant discourse; the need to produce counter-discourse to that of the patriarchal one:

Because we are born into language, we cannot escape the dominant discourse of the symbolic. No space exists in which feminists may stand to begin totally anew. (Ratcliffe 5)

Language, by inventing a set of certain lexicons that have been exclusively woman-oriented (e.g. woman, female, gender, motherhood, procreation, sexuality), has its share in the construction of woman's identity:

Woman? Very simple, say the fanciers of simple formula: she is a womb, an ovary; she is a female - this word is sufficient to define her. In the mouth of a man the epithet female has the sound of an insult, yet he is not ashamed of his animal nature; on the contrary, he is proud if someone says of him: "He is a male!" The term "female" is derogatory not because it emphasizes woman's animality, but because it imprisons her in her sex. (De Beauvoir 35)

And it is this discourse that persistently stereotypes women and relegates them to a secondary position in which they are portrayed as subordinate to men's authority and power or as the object of their sexual desire. Viewed in their general tenor and substance, most literary texts by women writers, have to do with the vastly complex and far reaching problems of the female's weakness and powerlessness in patriarchal cultures. Such weakness and powerlessness have helped perpetuating the "negative" portraits of the female in some literary depictions as the following example from the prolific American novelist Joyce Carol Oates demonstrates:

...as she winced at his embrace yet unprotesting acquiesced to it, always she whoever she was, this one, this short dumpy big-breasted one, sweet-faced one, baby cow ... always she acquiesced. (Oates *The Rise of Life on Earth*, 108-9)

It is in this feminist context that women need to produce, circulate and consume literary works that can position them, not only on equal footing with male writers, but also to amend the distorted picture that has incurred on them by the biased patriarchal discourse.

Gender and the Production of the Literary Work

It was on the face of such prolonged prejudices and misrepresentations that it was quite natural for women to fight back their battle against different patriarchal institutions, and more particularly, that of literature. To fight this latter institution women writer needed to use literature in their battle. For literature has been, and will continue to be, the umbrella term that embraces all of humanity. The literary discourse was one of the earliest discourses that gave voice for the feminist concerns and interests. This, in turn, has helped bring to the fore the possibility of social change vis-à-vis women's position in the social sphere. But to achieve this, women were in a dilemma vis-à-vis the position of language. Thus, for their self-transformation from mere consumers of the masculine literary works to self-reliant authors and producers of such texts, female writers have been divided between two attitudes: content-oriented writers and form-oriented writers. That is to say that some were content that they should focus on gender-based issues so as to characterize their feminist texts.

Others have gone to the extent that they believed that female writers have to make up their own discourse which should be distinct from the discourse of patriarchy. Much of the debate over the so-called "feminist texts" revolves around these two axes. In both cases there is an explicit wish for the change. This is what is reflected in their literary endeavors. In Joyce Carol Oates's novel *Marya: A Life*, for instance, this wish to become a producer, rather than a consumer, is manifested in Marya's attempt of self-transformation. Though still a young woman, contemplating about a few famous figures of the literary canon (Schopenhauer, Dickens, Marx, and Shakespeare), we are told that:

It sometimes disturbed her that virtually nothing of what she read had been written by women (except Jane Austin) ... (Oates *Marya: A Life* 152-53)

Continued on page 3

ELT Panorama

Secondary school students' handicap in pronouncing English words



Mohammed Hassan Bakheet
Hodeidah, Bajil
Khadeijah school
albakheet77@yahoo.com)

Language as a tool of communication
Language is a means of communication of ideas, emotions and desires. A foreign language facilitates interlanguage communication.

English is decidedly the world's most important and most widely used language. Undoubtedly, it is the lingua franca of the world community, because the world is getting smaller and smaller and we are no longer only citizens of our own country; we are citizens of the global village. Communication between various countries is increasing quite rapidly. Furthermore, English is the language of science and technology.

Learning English subsumes learning of both form and function. In order to speak a language correctly learners need to learn its grammar, lexis and phonology. But mere correctness will not help them, they must know how to use it with different people in different situations and how to pronounce the words in the correct way. Thus learning English is not to master grammar, but to speak the language correctly and to

use it appropriately. Therefore, we should focus on the correct pronunciation of the English speech sounds in speaking and listening.

Now, let's shed some light on the two skills: speaking and listening, because these are the skills most practiced by the majority of the learners in so far as most Yemeni students learn English not to write English articles or compositions, but rather for the purpose of communication with others.

In this context, the questions which must be exacerbated here are:

* Why most Yemeni students find difficulties in pronunciation of some English words?

* Why are our students at the bottom of the list of words' students?

* Why are our teachers so relaxed despite students' atrocious mispronunciation affecting the intelligibility of their spoken English?

* Why do our teachers usually underestimate the gap between our students and the students of the developing world?

* What are the reasons contributing to the overall weakness of our students?

In my opinion, this weakness can be attributed to several reasons, I will try to mention the most important reasons which I notice as a teacher in a secondary school.

1) The first one, absence of focus and opportunity on pronunciation during the teaching of English, because most of our teachers in the secondary schools focus on grammar. Some of them are still fond of grammar – translation method. It aims at teaching rules of grammar and translation of sen-

tences and passages. The method focuses learners' attention on the written language, but they fail to acquire oral fluency and spontaneity. Moreover, translation is itself a specialized skill. Everyone doesn't want to be a translator. In this method there is emphasis on creating a framework in which rules can be applied. This emphasis may lead to stilted and unnatural use of the language. So the teachers should focus on speaking more than other skills in an EFL classroom.

2) The second reasons is absence of audio – visual aids in the classroom such as: computer, TV, video, CD, ...etc. The fluent use of a language is essentially a set of habits which can be developed with a lot of practice. Much of this practice involves hours spent in a language laboratory in repeating oral drills.

3) The disparity between the source language Arabic and the target language English is also a reason for weakness in pronunciation of English words. There is no doubt that English phonetics constitutes a major problem for the Yemeni students. For this reason many learners can't pronounce some English speech sounds correctly. For example, they pronounce the sound /ch/ as /sh/ because the Arabic language has no /ch/ sound. Also, most Yemeni students find it difficult to differentiate between /p/ and /b/, /b/ and /d/, /f/ and /v/. They sometimes pronounce /sh/ as /s/.

4) Teachers' poor proficiency in English is also a reason for mispronunciation of some English words. A lot of empirical research has been conducted to study the learner's performance in

the field of second language learning. The researchers have analyzed the pronunciation errors made by learners in order to identify strategies which learners use in learning English as a foreign language. Our syllabus doesn't focus on pronunciation or practice in phonetic symbols in the courses of secondary schools (Crescent English Course For Yemen). As a result of this, our teachers in the secondary schools don't focus on pronunciation during the teaching of English. The physical properties of sounds and their manner of articulation should be the basic thrust in teaching English. It is common knowledge that the English language has 24 consonants in all, fifteen of which are voiced, and the other nine are voiceless. Native speakers of Arabic should know and differentiate between them clearly to avoid mistakes when pronouncing them, and this must be emphasized from the early stage of EFL learning.

Some suggested solutions:

1. We should focus on pronunciation of English as much as our focus on English grammar.

2. Teachers should use audio- visual aids because it isn't easy to grapple with the pronunciation of an English word by looking at its spelling. Students should be taught the correct pronunciation, so all the necessary facilities should be available in the classroom.

3. We should give the students some idea about the differences between the English and the Arabic phonetic systems.

4. Teachers should be given adequate in - service and pre - service training.

TEACHER EDUCATION (7)

The Teacher

Dr. Ramakanta Sahu
Associate Professor
Department of English
University of Science and
Technology, Sana'a

School is a place in which all children grow not just in life, not even in knowledge, but in curiosity, courage, confidence, independence, resilience, competence and understanding. If teaching is a complex phenomenon, the component dominating the entire system is the teacher.

Teachers guide, stimulate young minds to assimilate contradictory trends and give children the courage to question, sometimes even given knowledge. Good teachers are capable of instilling confidence and will-power in students so as to generate enlightened minds. They help students to build up their character and realize their dreams. In the final analysis it is the teacher more than any other component that makes the system effective as measured by the ends achieved.

In a general sense teachers' performance is guided and determined by the demands of the system. In as far as teacher are accepted as role models by the students, consciously or unconsciously teachers shape the students in the image of themselves. They intend for the students to acquire certain knowledge they have themselves acquired and become like themselves. Teachers intend that when the targeted learning objectives are attained, students grow as complete human beings and the acquired knowledge and skills become useful and permanent characteristics of their students as persons. No other occupation bears such formative relationship between the agent (teacher) and the subject (students).

The acronym

In the recent years, many metaphors have been coined to describe the role, function and significance of the teacher. The word TEACHER is taken as an acronym to signify the following:

A teacher is

Talented
Enthusiastic
Affectionate
Cooperative
Humble
Encouraging
Reliable

Teacher's roles

According to Khalil Gibran (1991 - 76), "if the teacher is indeed wise, he doesn't bid you enter the house of his wisdom, but rather leaves you to the threshold of your own mind." Broadly a teacher is entrusted with the onerous task of chiselling out a wholesome individual who can be a leader in public life. Towards this end he/she performs the following roles:

- A teacher
- instructs students in positive social values
- assists them to succeed in the classroom
- prepares them with the necessary skills for problem solving
- inspires them to learn how they may help themselves
- prepares them to weigh options before setting goals
- impacts upon future generations
- motivates them to think critically and creatively
- prepares them to meet the daily responsibilities in a democratic society

Teacher's role in the classroom

Teachers play several roles in the classrooms with the aim to facilitate students' progress in some way or the other.

1. **Controller:** They are in charge of the class and of the activities. They take rolls, tell students things, organize drills, read aloud and so on.
2. **Organizer:** They organize students to do various activities by getting them involved, engaged and ready. They moti-

vate students by making it clear to them that something new and interesting is going to happen which would be useful and enjoyable. The role of the organizer is to:

- Engage - instruct - demonstrate - initiate and organize feedback
- 3. **Assessor:** They have to offer feedback on students' performance.
- 4. **Prompter:** They have to supportively elicit students' response in classroom interaction.
- 5. **Participant:** They participate in group work activities and monitor their progress from time to time.
- 6. **Resource:** They are a rich reservoir of information and willingly provide help as and when students need them.
- 7. **Tutor:** They provide direction when students feel lost and encourage them to go ahead and explore.
- 8. **Observer:** Teachers observe the students' interaction pattern, their communicative competence and group dynamics.

Teacher and the classroom interaction

Teacher is the initiator, maintainer and nourisher of classroom interaction. He determines what is to be done, how and when it is to be done, and what it is to be done for. Teachers' efficiency in monitoring the direction and character of activities involved depends upon the teacher's information level about students, his/her awareness of principles and techniques of teaching, the content of instruction, and other resources available in the teaching context. If the teacher is the director or the principal initiator of the learning process or if the teaching learning process is teacher driven, it is called direct teaching. If the teaching-learning process is based on a cooperative principle, that is, if the acts of teaching is performed conjointly by students and teachers, if the students plan with the teacher what is to be done, and how and when it is to be done, then it is called "inductive method," "discovery method," "inquiry teaching," "learner-centered approach" and so on.

In recent years, under the influence of humanistic and communicative theories, great emphasis has been placed on "learner-centered" teaching, that is, teaching which makes the learners needs and experience central to educational process.

Teachers' perceptions about themselves

Teachers have varied perceptions about their profession. Some teachers say they are like actors because "We are always on the stage." Some other compare themselves with orchestra conductors because "I direct conversation and set the pace and the tune." The third group sees a close similarity between themselves and gardeners because "We plant the seeds and then watch them grow."

Teacher's discourse

The discourse that teachers use in their interaction with students basically aims at changing the abilities and disposition or character of their students. As such, the teachers' discourse is supposed to differ from ordinary utterance because it is laden with knowledge and practical wisdom. Teachers intend that what they say should not only be remembered in words, but be followed in spirit and be reflected in students' practical lives. In order that this ideal is achievable, teacher's discourse should be free from ambiguity, vagueness and indefiniteness.

In order that the teacher is able to discharge all the functions with passion and professionalism, he/she should fulfill his/her potential and be a self-actualized individual.

Reference:

- Harmer, Jeremy (2004): *The Practice of ELT*. Longman
- Smith, B. SHSJM Borg, B. V. Fry (1980): *A Design for a School Pedagogy*. US Department of Education.

For Whom the Bell Tolls:
A study of Hemingway's symbolism

The bell in "For Whom the Bell Tolls" is symbolic. It refers to a funeral bell of the church. "Therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls, it tolls for thee." The novel approaches to reflect only three days of the life of the hero Robert Jordan who is a fighter and a volunteer in the Spanish civil war for freedom. Jordan is sent to join a guerilla band in the mountains near Segovia to blow up a strategic bridge to facilitate a loyalist advance. He spends three days and nights in the guerilla's cave. While he was awaiting what he expects may be



Dr. Bashar Ghazi Askar
basharaskar90@hotmail.com

his own destruction and death, he falls in love with Maria, the daughter of a republican mayor who had been killed, as she herself been raped by the

Falangists.

The bell tolls for the funeral of the hero who thinks that the attack will fail. He blows the bridge but is wounded in the retreat process, and is left to die. He faces his destiny alone as a sacrificer for others to live and take the badge. The hero is still the wounded man. During the remaining moments of his life he learns a lot about suffering, how to survive with his wounds.

Jordan dies as a hero who had conducted his action successfully and bravely. The manner of dying is a lesson that life is worth living and that there are causes worth dying for. The

picture of death is panoramic and catastrophic for such heroic, yet gloomy and bloody war. Hemingway enters the depths of the hero, who is an insider and outsider in the fight against fascism.

The entire action of of life is full of pain, suffering, frustrations and tension. One can observe that pain makes a man a man and distinguishes him from the people who follow random impulse. Man can not be defeated whatsoever the powers might be that stands in his way. Hemingway believes that man is not made for defeat. Man can be destroyed but not defeated.

The role and significance of prophecy in novel



Mohammed Khoshafah
English Teacher
IBB
Email

The word 'prophecy' is used in various senses. The first sense is to foretell the future of man by people like magicians, astrologers and witches. The second sense for prophecy is 'an appeal for righteous' i.e. to advise people to make the right choice between good and bad. Prophecy is an instrument for the prophet who is sent by God to teach people and give them God's messages.

Prophecy has a major place in the novel.. E.M.Forster explains the mean-

ing and significance of the various elements of the novel in his book entitled "Aspects of the Novel". The story, the plot, characters, fantasy, prophecy, pattern and rhythm are the important elements of the novel. The reader must know that every novelist reflects some emotions and feelings inside himself in his writing. The novelist often speaks about social problems and tries to analyze, and give solutions to these problems.

Let us take an example that's Forster's "A Passage to India". This famous novel deals with the relationship between Indians and British colonialists who came to India. Forster has his own prophecy in this novel. Prophecy here is a tone of voice. It is an accent in the novelist's voice. The speaker or the novelist puts accent on some particular words to show the meaning of his voice. By this way, he draws the attention of the reader or listener and saves him from getting entangled in senseless and useless things. Forster doesn't state his view directly like the preacher. The ideas, visions, views and particular subjects of the

novelist are implied in the novel indirectly. And from this implication, the reader tries to understand and catch what the writer wants to convey. The story, the plot or the character must extend itself beyond what it is actually in the novel. What is implied is more important than what is said.

The extension is from the individual to the universal. Forster explores this view expressed in Dostoyevsky's novel "The Brothers Karamazov", by referring to a character Mitya (who is accused of murder of his father; he is spiritually though not technically guilty). Mitya is suffering at the psychic level. Mitya's suffering becomes the suffering of all men in the world. One man becomes everyman. The novelist explains the suffering of all persons through one man, and this is the extension from the particular to the universal. A novelist is prophetic when he reaches this impersonal or universal level. Dostoyevsky's character asks us to share something deeper than their experiences.

Thus implication is very important aspect in a novel. The novelist develops

his prophecy and his vision while dealing with the ordinary life of ordinary people. The individual becomes universal and the ordinary becomes extraordinary. The novelist becomes successful if he starts with realism at the individual level and then he makes expansion in order to reach universal level.

QUESTIONS BOX

Any guesses?

1. What is 'fifth column'?
2. What is 'egg plant'?
3. What is 'Alexander's beard'?
4. What is a 'bottleneck'?
5. What is the meaning of 'dead' in the phrase 'dead easy'?

Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

1. **'magazine'** is a (weekly or monthly) periodical, with stories, articles or writings of a general nature for the general reader.
2. **'Journal'** contains articles of a specific subject and is obviously intended for a specialized audi-

ence, eg. Medical journal, literary journal, and so forth.

2. A **'ghost-writer'** a person who writes a book or does literary or artistic work for another person who gets all the credit for the work. The real writer remains anonymous or unseen like a ghost.
3. The phrase **'in limbo'** means to be in a condition of being forgotten or unwanted. It also means to be in a state of uncertainty.
4. The stars or famous people in the literary sky are referred to as **'glitterati'**. It also refers to famous people in the entertain-

ment industry. The term 'glitterati' was first used in Time magazine in 1956. It is a combination of 'glitter' (bright, brilliant light) and 'literati' (men of letters or learned people)

5. The sentence **'Are you going to Aden'** is used when the speaker expects a 'yes' or 'no' answer because he/she is not sure if the addressee is really going or not. But **'You are going to Aden, aren't you'** isn't really a question although it sounds like a question. The speaker is asking just to check and confirm. It's a tag question.

Continued from page 1

Revisiting a recurrent hypothesis in feminist literary studies

The need to replace the male dominant discourse with a feminist one is implicitly hinted at in Oates's feminist character: “{I}n her arrogance” Marya, Oates tells us, “told herself she would change all that “. (153)

Gender, above all, seems to play a much more crucial role in the very construction of the self of some writers as is viewed by Oates's heroine – Marya: “a writer's authentic self, she thought, lay in his writing and not in his life (135). Sylvia Bailey Shurbutt has lucidly pointed out the great impact of women's accession to the means of textual production on their productivity:

Yet since the invention of the printed word, women too have been uniquely aware of its power; and women writers, from Amelia Lanier to Virginia Woolf, have made a concerted attempt to rewrite or revise the myths and to alter the language that constructs and reconstructs the lives of women. (Shurbutt 38+)

Back to the extract taken from *Marya: A Life*. The heroine's position in this novel is illustrative of the mechanisms of production feminists need so as to be able to produce, circulate and create audience for their literary productions. Oates's Heroine's movement from a ‘rural scene into the world of the academy’ (Bender Artist in Residence, 158) draws the attention to the role of the university in facilitating not only the production of feminist literary texts but also their consumption and circulation. Marya's hope to ‘change all that’ echoes a broader hope that characterizes the American Women Studies as a whole:

“Yet the conviction remains strong that women's studies must be explicitly political, consciously an academic arm of women's liberation, and actively part of a larger social movement that envisions the transformation of society”. (Boxer 252)

In a conservative community ...the consumption of such works is more determined by the prevalent social ideology than by the reader's gender.

The university provides the place where, not only feminist literary studies can germinate, but also the place that facilitates the circulation of such texts as well as holds majority of their readers and critics. Jill LeBihan, in a short essay about “Feminism and Literature”, in the British context, says:

Women students and teachers working within the patriarchal institution of the university began integrating explicitly feminist-oriented approaches to texts.... (LeBihan 129)

Such a line of thought has its roots in the early pioneers of the feminist movement which initiated those debates about the author's gender. Virginia Woolf, who took the lead in the creation of the gendered-based aesthetics, was according to Maggie Humm:

The first woman writer to write a female aesthetic. Her recognition that literature, particularly its syntax and address, is determined by the gender of the

author is what makes her eligible to be called a feminist. The confirmation of that feminism comes in her demand for a new critical tradition for women writers and readers.... (Feminist Criticism: Women as Contemporary Critics 123).

Woolf goes to the extent of linking a woman's sentence with ‘a woman's mind’ as Ruthven's *Introduction to Feminist Literary Studies* demonstrates: ...the function of a woman's sentence, as Woolf said, is ‘to describe a woman's mind’, not a man's. (113)

Ruthven's ‘warning’ below bespeaks a similar conviction similar to that one which resonates in Woolf's “demand for a new critical tradition”:

I mention such general objection to the writing of books by men on feminist topics because they function theoretically to dissuade men from entering the debate on the grounds that they are somehow disqualified from doing so.

He further fosters this view by claiming that:

Any man who tries to ‘master’ the text of feminism is guilty of replicating at the level of discourse those oppressive practices which enable men to subordinate and manipulate women.

Against this point of view of gender-based textual production, there is the view that this is not always true of all texts or of all authors. Cranny-Francis's *Feminist Fiction* examines a variety of genres by different feminist writers and, at the outset, she puts it clearly:

Not all feminist generic fiction can claim to be so self-conscious. Not all feminist generic fiction is so concerned with the gender of its audience. And not all generic fiction engages with issues of race and class. (24)

Such a view is further buttressed by some feminist writers' self-distancing from the attempt of stereotyping the feminist writers as gender-based textual producers. A prominent example is the Oatesian “sexless” artistic voice (Todd 11). So is the case for some black feminists; the determinant factor does not much rest on the gender issue as is the case with most white feminists. Toni Morrison, cited in Maroula Joannou's *Contemporary Women's Writing*, says in this connection that: “.... when the strength of a people rests on its beauty, when the focus is on how one looks rather than what one is, we are in trouble” (167). For others, however, gender, and not race, is determinant in textual production. The Nigerian feminist Buchi Emcheta is a case in point. In her analysis of Emecheta's *Second-Class Citizen*, Joannou describes the text and says it:

Recounts Adah's determination to survive by refusing second-class status and earning her own living as a librarian and a writer. Adah leaves Francis when he sets her first novel in fire because he believes African women to be incapable of writing good fiction. (155)

Despite the huge number of studies of various kinds that have attempted to demark pointedly the gender-distinctions, I have my own contention of the difficulty of, unquestioningly, accepting

the concept of absolute female/male literary works. Gender may, indubitably, motivate the writer's selection of content and/or form but it is not always the determinant of the production of that text. Having read two of Henry James's novels – *The Portrait of a Young Lady* and *The American* (the former centered on a female character while the latter centered on a male character) I have never felt any gender effect in either text. Both characters were given almost equal weight of signification and unbiased artistic representation. Some femi-

“Yet the conviction remains strong that women's studies must be explicitly political, consciously an academic arm of women's liberation, and actively part of a larger social movement that envisions the transformation of society”. (Boxer 252)

nists have rightly proclaimed “Although feminist concerns may be the province of both genders, historically women participated and invested in its discourses more prolifically” (Gamble *The Routledge Companion to Feminism and Postfeminism* 56). There is not even a shade of doubt about that but it does not necessarily follow that there will always be a particularly feminine or a particularly masculine text. It may be more insightful to end this section with K. K. Ruthven 's discussion of Samuel Richardson's *Clarrisa* where he concludes that the word ‘feminine’ when applied to writing denotes an effect rather than an origin, and consequently throws more light on the assumptions of readers than on the sex of the author. (Ruthven 113). The writer's various (literary) commitments, and not necessarily his/her gender, may prove of more crucial importance in his/her produced text. What is known as ‘socialist realism’ is a case in point here. This “state of mind” binds the very “theme” of the author to his/her “social system”, “political faith” and the mainstream of criticism and authorship of which “the author is a member” – in other words, it provides the author with broad lines not only to what to write but even how to write it (Cross 318).

the word ‘feminine’ when applied to writing denotes an effect rather than an origin, and consequently throws more light on the assumptions of readers than on the sex of the author.

Finally, the system of censorship and restriction in various parts of the world (and for whatever reasons/pretexts) determines, much more than gender, what an author may/may not write. This

particular factor will also have its crucial role both in the circulation and consumption of the literary texts where it shall be reconsidered again.

Gender and the Circulation of the Literary Work

Having swept many departments of the academic institutions many feminist literary works were granted continuous circulation amongst the various feminist experts. Revisited, such texts have given rise to so many other new texts. Examples of such texts may well include Simone de Beauvoir's *The Second Sex*, and Kate Millet's *Sexual Politics*. At the university many feminists seem to have managed to create their own community of readers, which may well extend beyond the academic boundaries:

In 700 or so undergraduate and graduate institutions around the country, women's-studies programs boast their own tenured faculty and produce their own voluminous literature. This literature is readily divisible into two principal genres: the theoretical tract, and the first-person-singular sexual narrative. (Shalit 54)

But I do not believe gender here to be, essentially, the only determinant factor for the circulation of any feminist literary work, or, for that matter, any literary work. Politics, rather than gender, may well become a crucial determinant factor in this context. In their statistical survey of the censorship of expression in the 1980s (which made the very title of their study), John B. Harer and

Gender may, indubitably, motivate the writer's selection of content and/or form but it is not always the determinant of the production of that text.

Steven R. Harris begin their introduction with the following remark:

The election of Ronald Reagan in 1980 shocked and dismayed many civil libertarians and advocates of intellectual freedom. His conservative background was not the only cause for concern. His record as governor of California as well as many public pronouncements showed him to be openly hostile to civil liberties. But his election also appeared to embolden right-wing organizations, especially fundamentalist Christians just entering the political arena, such as the Moral Majority. (1)

But feminist writers may rest assured that many of the feminist issues will be circulating both in and out of the academic institutions. These will be the target of various analyses, explorations, investigations and the like. As stated earlier, the issue of gender may or may not have anything to do with the circulation process. But one has also to remember that gender-based texts will always be in circulation, particularly those studies connected with the family, child-rearing, and topics of this sort.

One more point that is worthy of adding here is that a circulation of a literary work may as well vary according to the social milieu and the dominating ideologies of the people. This is why works of art which have pornography as well as those which foster atheist debates are equally expected to be banned in conservative religious societies. As will be repeated later, certain literary works, most often regardless to the author's gender, are banned and thus deprived from being circulated widely due to some reasons that A short visit to any site on censorship and banned books should prove shocking. In the United States alone, examples of such banned books include “*Ulysses* by James Joyce Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, Boccaccio's *Decameron*, Defoe's *Moll Flanders*, and various editions of *The Arabian Nights*”, according to one of the Banned Books sites. Salman Rushdi's “*The Satanic Verses*” is another prominent example here. Thus, regardless of gender, circulation of some literary works may be determined by the very contents of these texts, and the conformity or deviation of such contents from the “pre-established” stan-

dard for what literary work is or is not allowed to do.

Gender and the Consumption of the literary Work

When addressing this relationship between gender and the literary work I find it insightful to begin this topic by quoting two of relevant questions posed by Cranny-Frances in her introduction to *Feminist Fiction*: “Is there such an entity as a non- gendered audience? Or is audience, too, an implicitly (male) gendered concept?” (23) Having set the scene, such questions provide an illustration of the kind of debate over the issue of ‘consumption’ and a point of departure for my subsequent discussion of this topic.

To whom a feminist literary work is addressed or by whom it is consumed vary from one writer to another, from one situation to another and even in terms of time and place. Consumption of literary works may, in certain situations, be a part of larger scheme of educational systems: I guess this where the rubric “literary canon” was coined. Or it may be determined by censorship and restrictions imposed on readers. The reader's age, rather than gender, at times, determines what he/she reads (or is allowed to read). Hence, the need arises to have children's literature.

For a radical feminist like Adrienne Rich, audience must have been a gendered concept. This is why she was keen on ‘inventing’ a new language:

The new language she needed would be one spoken by and for other women in order to bring into existence a community that her critical method develops. (Humm 183)

Rich, as Humm remarks, goes to the extent of exploring ‘the conversational and autobiographical aspects of spoken as well as written language’ (138) Thus, for this sort of feminists the whole issue of the relationship between gender and production, circulation and consumption is beyond any question. Germaine Greer, Simon de Beauvoir and Kate Millet are three of the “pioneers”- to borrow Humm's term- of the feminist movement.

But, on the other side of the spectrum, there are feminist writers whose feminist interests have not imprisoned them in the chamber of gender, or exclusively feminist questions. The 1930s feminist and productive writer Rebecca West is a case in point:

Rebecca West did not write for an exclusively feminist audience, nor did she develop in one specific genre. She addressed ideas which were surfacing in the 1920s and 1930s but were not then being incorporated into the literary tradition. (Humm 155)

In the free-market system, art-works, like any other commodity, are open to the demands of the consumer and the requirement of the market. An illuminating example is what is known as the ‘best-sellers’. In a conservative community, even in the case of the public accessibility to all types of texts or art-works, the consumption of such works is more determined by the prevalent social ideology than by the reader's gender.

Some times a literary work is banned restrictively (no matter why) but the same book may, after the elapse of some time becomes accessible to readers. In a few many Arab countries, certain texts of some political poets or novelists used to be banned. The situation now is much different. Ahmed Matar, an Arab poet known for his bitter critique of most of the Arab political regimes, has long been banned from many counties in the region. Several of his harsh books are now available for a wider range of readers. Besides, drawing on my personal observation, I have found that his poetry has more appeal for the youths of both sexes than, say, older people. Why this has been so I can find no convincing explanation.

For a last word in this section, I would like to go back to Ruthven's sense of the word ‘feminine’ (discussed above). That is the association of ‘effect’ rather than ‘origin’ with this term. It seems as if a female writer assumes that readers will take a text as a feminist text- an assumption that is based on the type of audience a feminist writer has in mind. In a similar vein, Judith A. Howard and Carolyn Allen's wider study “*The Gendered Context of Reading*”, has reached more

findings about gender and the process of reading:

Although the analyses have demonstrated that gender is one force that shapes how people read, they also demonstrate gender is not the only influential social characteristic. Gender ideologies, together with other social statuses and ideological positions, combined to shape reading and interpretation. (550-51)

Conclusion

Gender, under certain circumstances, does play a crucial role, especially for texts written by female writers. I would, partially, agree with Joyce Carol Oates's response to the question “Is There a Female Voice?” Oates's response is one among several other responses, and it shows the diversity of women's interests in their use of the “literary”. She begins by rejecting the very idea of the question: “If there is a distinctly “female” voice - if there is a distinctly “male” voice—surely this is symptomatic of inferior art?” (Todd 10). Unlike many of the feminist writers discussed in this essay and, in Todd's volume, Oates has a different view: “literature,” she is content,” refers to something that always transcends these categories even while being fueled by them ... Content is simply raw material. (10); and for her “what matters in serious art is ultimately the skill of execution and the uniqueness of vision”. (10) By “partially” I mean to add that we should not belittle the significance of the content of a literary text. For both form and content have their weight in the significance for the interpretation of the literary work. In an essay entitled “Woman Writer: Occasions and Opportunities”, which appears in her book with the same title, Oates summarizes the crux of the matter in the gender issue from her perspective:

There are writers, born women, who rarely think of themselves, when they write, as women; there are other writers, similarly born women, who believe their writing to be conditioned at all times by their gender. (“I am never a female as when I write,” says Marguerite Duras.) A good deal has been made in recent years by French feminists and their American counterparts Of the phenomenon of the specifically female voice, without regard for the fact that voice can only mean voices.... But subject matter is clearly culture- determined, not gender-determined. And the imagination, in itself genderless, allows us all things. (*Woman Writer: Occasions and Opportunities*, 25)

...a circulation of a literary work may as well vary according to the social milieu and the dominating ideologies of the people

I really wonder what the future of the validity of the gender issue, especially at the hands of post-structuralist theorists or even those of these post-feminists, will look like. They have already, according to Sarah Gamble, configured “the contemporary subject as a cyborg who is not locked into organic gender identification.” (Phoca 55) Similarly, in terms of the determination of the circulation and consumption of the literary work, gender is, by no means, in a better position. For as we have seen, many feminists' overwhelming fascination with the question of gender made them eschewed a concourse of various aspects of the issue. Over the whole issue of the relationship between gender and these three aspects of the literary work broods a sense of incompleteness, and endless chains of controversies. But there remains one final word on this subject: whatsoever relationships gender has to these three aspects of the literary work, it is *not always* the most crucial determinant in the production, circulation and consumption of the literary work.

SCIENCE QUIZ LINE

Tick (✓) the most appropriate choice

1. A class of hormones secreted by male organ ‘testes’ is

☐ estrogens

☐ progesterone

☐ androgens

☐ gertagen
2. Raw materials of cement are

☐ limestone and clay

☐ lime

☐ clay

☐ lime and clay

3. A rainbow is found due to

☐ refraction

☐ reflection

☐ optical illusion

☐ the fact that as the sun rays pass through the suspended water drops they break up into seven colors
4. Calcium is necessary for

☐ bones, teeth, breathing of the heart

☐ endurance and memory

☐ bones and glands

☐ none of these
5. What is the full form of ROM?

Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

1. Most of the DNA in lighter organisms has apparently no function. It is known as selfish, junk and repetitive DNA

2. The oldest of all the ecosystems is coral reef

3. Pollination by wind is known as anemophily

4. All warm blooded animals with hair are members of the vertebrate class. They are mammalia

5. The literal meaning of Dinosaur is terrible lizards

The paradigm of distance education (Part 1)

Dr. Ramakanta Sahu
Associate Professor
Department of English
University of Science and Technology,
Sana'a

The paradigm of Distance Education, variously known as Correspondence Courses or Personalized System or Home Study, Independent Study, Externalized Studies has been widely accepted as a large scale solution to the widening spheres of aspiring individuals all the world over. By virtue of its well-defined objectives; matching objectives to self-study exercises; small units of material with built-in feedback system; reliance on the written word for instructional purposes; self-pacing allowing students to work at a rate in accordance with their abilities, resources and needs, coupled with personalized supervision of tutors, this paradigm has proved itself as an efficient, effective and popular medium for updating and improving the knowledge level and skills attainment objective of the students.

Let's consider some representative and comprehensive definitions of Distance Education which might throw light on the complexion of this fascinating paradigm.

1. "The term 'Distance Education' covers the various forms of study at all levels which are not under the continuous, immediate supervision of tutors present with their students in a lecture rooms or on the same premises, but which nevertheless benefit from the planning, guidance

- and tuition of a tutorial organization." (Holmberg, 1977: 9)
2. "Distance Education is education which either does not imply the physical presence of the teacher appointed to dispense it in the place where it is received or in which the teacher is present only on occasion or for selected tasks." (Loi 71.556 du 12 juillet 1971)
3. "Distance teaching/education is a method of imparting knowledge, skills and attitudes which is rationalized by the application of division of labor and organizational principles as well as by the extensive use of technical media, especially for the purpose of reproducing high quality teaching material which makes it possible to instruct great numbers of students at the same time wherever they live. It is an industrialized form of teaching learning." (Peters, 1973: 206)
4. "Distance teaching may be defined as the family of instructional method in which the teaching behaviors, including those that in a contiguous situation would be performed in the learner's presence, so that communication between the teacher and the learner must be facilitated by print, electronic, mechanical or other devices." (Moore, 1973: 664)

These definitions outline a spectrum of fascinating facets of this teaching-learning paradigm that merits our attention here. A fundamental parameter of this system is that teachers and learners are physically separated for most part of the course unless they meet in a contact pro-



gram. Although primarily distance education is print-based, video-television-based, computer-based or even satellite-based, yet, by definition, distance education excludes all forms of conventional, face-to-face, direct teaching and learning.

The curricular pattern in this off-campus, open learning system is not in any way loosely organized. It is marked by rigorous and systematic planning that features any form of an educational organization.

Another aspect of Distance Learning is that, as contrasted with the formal learning system, the teacher prepares his instructional material in anticipation of the learners' attainment level and needs, although distanced from the learners. Similarly, learners go through the material and do the assignments apart from the teacher, privately. This separation of teaching behaviors by the instructors and learning behaviors by the learners has

been further elaborated in the following observation by Rune Flinck (1975-1978) "Distance Education is a learning system where the teaching behaviors are separate from the learning behaviors. The learner works in a group or alone – guided by study material arranged by the instructor who together with the tutors is in a location apart from the students, who, however, have the opportunity to communicate with a tutor/tutors with the aid of one or more media such as correspondence, telephone, television and radio. Distance Education maybe combined with various forms of face-to-face meetings."

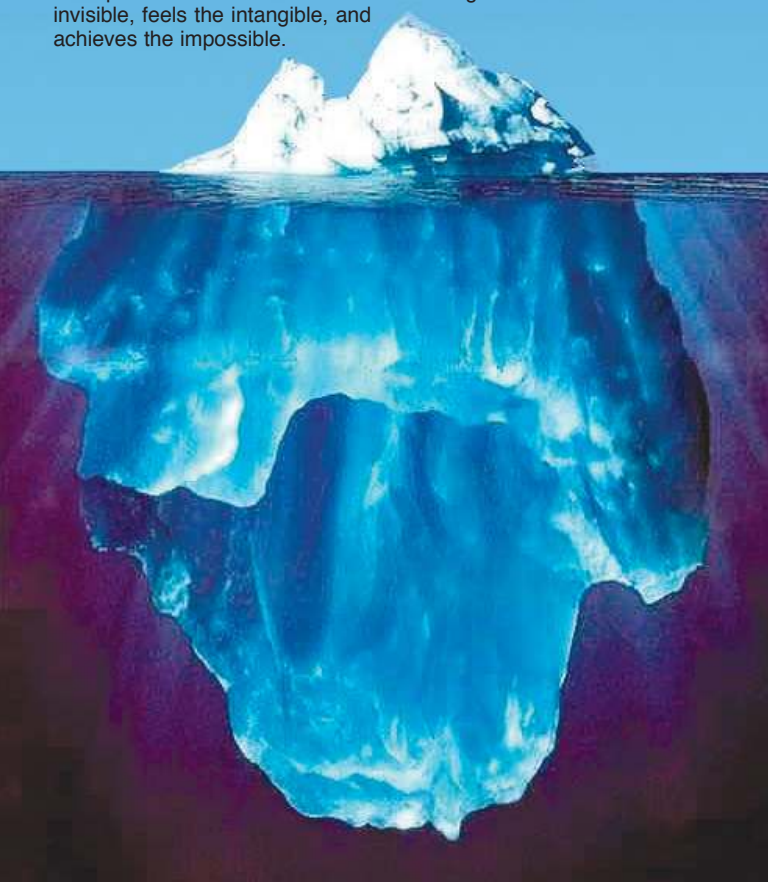
Hence, Distance Education is not qualitatively inferior to the formal instructional medium in any way. Rather, it is more flexible and learner-friendly in its approach and objectives. It throws the same weight of signification to learning outcomes as any institutionalized mode of education.

Attitude is EVERYTHING

Psychologists have reckoned that an individual's mind is like an iceberg, one-tenth of which is visible to the surface and nine-tenth of which is submerged under water. In an individual's personality, his/her knowledge and skill which constitute only an insignificant part of his/her total makeup are externally visible. But attitude which constitutes the staple part of his/her personality is not explicitly perceptible.

Compiled by Shefali Bakshi
shefalibakshi@emailaccount.com

- A positive thought is the seed of a positive result.
- If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude. Don't complain.
- The most significant change in a person's life is a change of attitude. Right attitudes produce right actions.
- If you really want to be happy, nobody can stop you.
- Whether a glass is half-full or half-empty, depends on the attitude of the person looking at it.
- There is a better way for everything. Find it.
- A positive attitude is not a destination. It is a way of life.
- The difference between a successful person and others is not a lack of knowledge, but rather a lack of will.
- The positive thinker sees the invisible, feels the intangible, and achieves the impossible.
- The man with confidence in himself gains the confidence of others.
- You will only go as far as you think you can go.
- The biggest mistake of all is to avoid situations in which you might make a mistake.
- A positive attitude is like a magnet for positive results.
- Our life is a reflection of our attitudes.
- Positive attitudes create a chain reaction of positive thoughts.
- Attitude, not aptitude, determines your attitude.
- No man fails if he does his best.
- Sooner or later, those who win are those who think they can.
- A creative attitude is the fuel of progress and growth.
- Either I will find a way, or I will make one.
- Be the change you want to see in this world.
- Forgive others and you will be forgiven.



It's easy to learn about computers

By: Morgan Hamilton

No problem if you are deliberately avoiding computers. There is no problem of course if you have thought that the computer mouse will bite you. But do you still want to stay unacquainted with computers? Don't you want to learn about computers?

In fact, I can assure you that if you once try to learn about computers you will find yourself very interested. You will find out that computers are not so bad and they are easy to use. You gain so many conveniences using your computer. With just one click of the mouse, you will be able to accomplish many of your daily tasks. For example, you can book tickets for a concert, you can do

the shopping online, you can check anything of interest, apply for loans and credit cards, play games, chat with your friends and colleagues, and of course, send e-mails. What's more, you will even be able to learn about computers online. There is so much information available on the Internet about how to learn about computers. It will be easy to find it, just open a browser, and enter your keywords "learn about computers" in a search engine. I can tell you about many ways to learn about computers. People who want to learn about computers are able to attend computer courses at local colleges and libraries. There you can find the answer you have searched for. You will learn much about the basic and more advanced applications.

Another way to learn about comput-

ers is to buy a book or take it for free at the local library. Relaxing in your sofa, you can learn about computers with a "Dummy" book. There are books with basic information to books that give information for advanced programs and applications.

If you want to learn about computers, there is also another option. Online tutorials and informational websites give plenty of information and advices for people who want to learn about computers. For beginners, I will recommend a web site that gives good basic information about computers and the internet - www.externalharddrive.com. Here you will also find a section with most frequently asked questions. Such sites are available also for children like www.kids-online.net, and www.home-workspot.com. These sites will com-

bine work and fun so your kids will easily learn about computers. Adults can learn about computers for the same time as children. It is true that kids pick it up quickly. This can happen to adults as well if they are not so "scared" of the computer. Soon you will be amazed with all the conveniences and facilitations that computers and Internet provide to you. Fifteen years ago, Internet was just a dream, now you can have it in your home. Computers can be found in every home just like televisions. Nowadays, computers are smaller and cheaper than ever. Everyone on this planet uses computer for some reason. We all use computers as we constantly use our cell phones for example. Are you still hesitating? Learn about computers now!

Source: articlesfactory.com

LETTERS TO THE PRESENTER

Dear Dr Sahu,
Thank you very much, indeed, for being the one through whom my voice is heard and my words are read.

Arif Al-Ahdal
arif_al_ahdal@yahoo.com

Dear Sir,
My grateful thanks are due to a man like you and volumes of appreciation for your support to my effort to articulate my ideas.

Ibrahim Mahfoodh
ibrahimenglish77@yahoo.com

A good reader makes a good writer



Abdulkareem Al-Aawage
English Teacher
Al-Sadda, lbb
bdulkreem_h.alawage@yahoo.com

It is a fact that a good reader is, more often than not, a good writer. This means that the person who reads more and more, is exposed to new words, many structures of sentences, many different words similar in pronunciation and many rules of punctuation.

He stores up most of what he reads in his mind. They become familiar because he meets them whenever he reads a text or a piece of newspaper or

any thing else.

He reads novels, stories, poetry, reading texts grammatical points and anything he comes across.

As a result, he becomes skilful, well informed and proficient in writing which enables him to avoid mistakes in spelling, in ordering paragraphs, in structure of statements, and in punctuationsetc.

Therefore, if you want to be a good writer you have to be a good reader.

WONDERWORD by DAVID OUELLET

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

Academic	Code	Groups	Mind	Step
Activities	Cost	Hall	Miss	Strict
Administration	Course	Homework	Notes	Student
Advice	Courts	Hours	Open	Study
Agency	Cram	Issues	Order	System
Article	Credit	Laws	Pace	Teach
Assistant	Crime	Lawyer	Pass	Test
Attorney	Debit	Lead	Plan	Time
Best	Degree	Learn	Program	Training
Board	Diploma	Legal	Read	Trimester
Book	Duty	Lesson	Recruit	Trip
Borrow	Employ	Level	Report	Trustees
Branch	Estates	Library	Rights	Tutor
Calendar	Exam	Life	Robes	Unit
Campus	Fees	Major	Role	Week
Caps	Field	Marks	Rule	Write
Case	Form	Master	Save	Years
Cause	Goals	Mediate	Semester	
Chair	Grade	Mentor	Sand	
Class	Grasp	Method	Skill	

ANSWER NEXT WEEK

Last Week's Answer: Apartment

LAW SCHOOL

Solution: 13 letters

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

YOUTH FORUM

Hope and despair

Hope and despair are two contrary factors that determine the future of one's life. They are contrary in the sense that while hope signifies a very bright and peaceful life despair implies a very gloomy and joyless life. What is more, hope dwells nowhere but in the inner most chambers of the believer's heart while despair dwells in the inner most chamber of the unbeliever's hearts.

In fact, happy is the man who acquires the treasure of hope and repulses the awful and beastly ghost of despair. Undoubtedly, he is the proud possessor of a very glowing source of pleasure, tranquility and eternal peace. His faith in God inculcates in him the will to lead a very luminous and restful life far away from the destructive and overwhelming hurricane of despair. Such peerless treasure of hope provide him with immunity against all the bitter distresses and ordeals that may block his way. Hardly does he lose his way or stray into the dark, murky night of

despair when his fabulous reserve of hope shines his way ever so bright, and his faith in God bestows in him the strength of mind to tide over his troubles and to stick to the righteous path.

Hope stimulates the believers to restrict themselves to the holy instructions of the Almighty for winning the paradise and shunning the hell. Again, it's nothing but the people's hope of liberation that makes them struggle on and on against barriers. So long as they still have hope of victory, they will struggle on and on despite all the losses and sacrifices. Also it is nothing but the students' hope to succeed that makes them work harder and harder.

In the ultimate analysis, it is hope against despair which conquers people's hearts. But for this hope the mundane life would be full of the gloom of despair.

Ali Ahmed Hizam Julul
Mahweet

The right way

What will I say
To show you what is the right way?
For every one who wants to be happy
In the world

Do what our Prophet has said
Love and respect every one
Be truthful and honest
Look after your guest.

One who wants to enter paradise
From me take this advice
Do all that is due
forgive one who hates you

Read the Holy Quran and pray
All this will take you on the right way.

Khalid Ali Mohssen
Khawlan

At first glance

At first glance I loved you
With a thousand hearts
They can hold against me.
No sin in accepting you as my love
Come to me, my jewel
Don't go away.
Let the zealots think
Loving is sinful

Never mind
Let me burn in the hellfire
Of that sin.

Bushra Abdul Kahlik
Level 4, Education
University of Science and
Technology, Sana'a