

In brief

SANA'A

Tourism revenues go up

Oct. 7—Tourism revenues in Yemen have increased exponentially in the first half of this year to reach \$178 million compared with just \$145 million for the entire year of 2006, according to a report issued by the country's Ministry of Tourism. Tourists from Saudi Arabia are the most frequent visitors from within the Middle East and British tourists are the most frequent from Europe. The report states that the number of tourists who visited Yemen this year stands at 181,637, compared with 179,754 in 2006.

Yemeni satellite channel launched in November

Oct. 7 — A new Yemeni satellite channel, called "Saba" will be launched coming November, director general of the Educational, Youth and Tourism Channel Adel al-Hababi said. The channel would be supervised by the Public Corporation for Radio and TV, under the Information Ministry. Al-Hababi pointed that the channel's council of trustees includes ministers of education, youth and sports, tourism, and finance for overseeing the channel's programs and operation. The broadcast studios of the channel are being set up and necessary arrangements are about to be completed. Al-Hababi said that the channel's programs would meet the needs of Yemeni youths in educational, youth, sports and tourist aspects.

SA'ADA

UNHCR scrutinizes situations in Saada for possible aids

Oct. 7—In a step to house displaced persons from some areas of Sa'ada affected by the acts of al-Houthis rebellion, the Deputy governor of Sa'ada, Salim al-Wahishi held talks on Wednesday with deputy representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Yemen Claire Bood. The two sides discussed the humanitarian support could be provided by UNHCR to citizens in Sa'ada and the role could be played by the UNHCR to urge donors to support Yemen's efforts to rebuild houses and establishments in Sa'ada. Then they reviewed the supports of a number of charitable and humanitarian organizations presented the necessary aids to citizens of Sa'ada who are suffering damages in farms and food shortage due to confrontations with rebels.

HODEIDAH

New cargo of US wheat arrives in Hodeidah

Oct. 7 — US ship carrying 50,000 tons of wheat arrived in Hodeidah harbor of Al-Salif on Wednesday. Assistant general director of the Yemeni Economic Corporation Mohammad Abdul-Jabar al-Moalimi mentioned that the cargo is a part of 286,000 tons of wheat Yemen the corporation has contracted to buy from different Arab and foreign countries to cover wheat shortage in Yemeni markets. Al-Moalimi said the corporation has put a plan to equally distribute the cargo for governorates and selling wheat directly to people through the corporation's branches.

Hadamout

Hadamrami sports movement to be documented

Oct. 6 — Governor of Hadramout Taha Abdullah Hajer called on the attendees of a reception n Sunday to document sports movement in the governorate. The celebration was organized by the cultural-social athletes' association in Mukalla.

By: Nisreen Shadad
For Yemen Times

HAJJA, Oct. 7 — The fate of over 40 detainees in Hajja governorate north of Yemen, three of whom 15 years old, is in the hands of the Minister of Interior. They had been accused of supporting Houthi rebels in Sa'ada, near Hajja governorate.

A high level security committee in Hajja, which was created to solve the detainees issue, has passed on the responsibility to the ministry of interior.

Hajja governor, Farid Mujawar, stated yesterday that the committee recommends the immediate release of those against whom there is no evidence. Others should be referred to the General Prosecution in Sana'a.

The governor, who chairs the committee, said what happens next, is up



Wael Ghalib Al-Alawi is one of the 15 year old children who had been locked up in Hajja prison since January 2007. His fate, along with 47 others is now in the hands of the Ministry of Interior.

to the Minister. "This case is very sensitive issue; therefore the decision to release them can't come from one side. The minister of interior is now in charge of investigating and consequently taking the decision," said Mujawar.

However, Ali Al-Tumbala head of political security in Hajja said the committee has already investigated the detainees and has positive proof that they all are guilty.

"We have evidence, and they have confessed to supporting Al-Houthi insurgents in Sa'ada. But since this concerns the whole nation, it has to be handled by higher authorities," he said. Al-Tumbala, who was a member of the security committee, hinted that he would deal with those who promote the detainees issue.

Ghalib al-Ahnumi, a father of one of he 15-year detainees, has reached a

state of despair in following his son's case. "I don't know if this is good or bad news, I have lost direction amid all this government talk and paperwork," he complained.

The detainees had started on a food strike one month ago, but after 5 days of hunger when no one paid attention to their cause, they called it off.

The case of an illegal arrest of forty-eight detainees in Hajja, three of whom are 15 years old has been on going for the last nine months. The detainees have been arrested on suspicion of having links with Al-Houthi insurgent in Sa'ada. To be released they were asked to bring a guarantee of 'good behavior' to ensure future non-involvement in any act that does not comply with government policies. Though the families of seven of the detainees did provide a guarantee as such, it was not acceptable. Even

thought it was endorsed by senior figures in the community and the local council in Hajja.

Moreover, during the past few months, two official orders were given to release the detainees or give them a fair trial. Current governor claims he has not heard of such instructions despite the fact that they his office had issued one of them during the time of his predecessor in August this year. The other order was issued by the general prosecutor in Sana'a, Abdullah Al-Ulufi on August 13, as an endorsement to this, former governor of Hajja, Abdullah Al-Harazi, ordered the release of the detainees on August 25 a few days before he was transferred to Al-Mahra governorate.

Some of the detainees were humiliated during their detention because of their religious beliefs. All of the detainees are still in Jail until day.

Jabal Al-Tair volcano threatens inhabitants of Red sea Islands

By: Yemen Times Staff

SANA'A, Oct. 6 - A volcano that erupted on Jabal Al Tair, a tiny island on the Red Sea, has caused fears among the people of Kamran Island, about 6 kilometres off Al-Salif coast at Al-Hodida. This came after a light earthquake on Friday hit Saba Island, which is part of a group of islands on the Red Sea known as "the Seven Sisters", about 40 km from Kamaran island.

Kamaran is Yemen 's biggest island on the Red Sea , and its population is estimated at 3,000 inhabitants.

General-director of Kamaran district said fishermen on the island could feel the tremor, which geologists linked to the volcano on Jabal Al-Tair Island.

Ismael Al-Janad director of the Ministry of Oil geological Survey Authority said to Yemen Times: "The tremor that occurred on Saba Island is linked to the current volcano on the Red Sea ".

"The tremor has not caused any damages," he added.

A few days after the eruption, concerned government authorities installed a station for earthquake observation on Kamaran Island in precaution of future

volcanic developments.

The volcano, which erupted on Sept. 30, is still active and spewing lava, according to Yemeni Islands Development Authority (YIDA).

The director of authority has affirmed continued rise of volcanic smoke in Jebel Al-Tair Island up to Saturday evening. He said the smoke vapors are coming up from a new opening. In his statement to media the official said there are geologists who reported straight-line cracks that allow out smoke clouds. He also indicated that the island has also witnessed slight earthquakes which are considered a normal condition in compatibility with the volcano structure, confirming that the volcano wouldn't affect nearby islands.

"The marine environment has not been affected by the volcano, except for the area on which lava fell down. But that was not significant as the volcano is not tremendous," Al-Janad said.

Search for survivals called off

Meanwhile, a Canadian warship, HMCS Toronto, that helped Yemeni coast guards search for survivals, said on 2 October that the search for survivals has been called off.

The crew of the Canadian frigate HMCS Toronto managed to pull one survivor out of the water, along with two bodies.

Ken Allen, a spokesman for the Canadian navy said two Yemeni military personnel who were stationed on the island are missing and presumed dead.

HMCS Toronto, based in Halifax, was in the area with a NATO fleet when the eruption began.

Yemeni authorities said six soldiers were confirmed dead and another fifteen injured.

Read Sea Volcanic area

According to the Global Volcanism Program database for Africa (northeastern) and Red Sea, the area currently contains 69 Holocene volcanoes and 2 Pleistocene volcanoes with thermal activity, including Jabel Al-Tair, Jabel Zubair, Zukur island, and Hanish island where all located in Yemen marine border.

Yemeni geologists linked the volcano



Canadian Navy officers watch from their ship as smoke billows from a volcano on the Jabal al-Tair island.

to seismic activity which coincided with the eruption. The Yemeni Earthquake Observation Centre based in Dhamar said it had recorded tremors in the Red Sea from 22 September until the volcano's eruption. They measured 2.0-3.6 degrees on the Richter scale, with five of the larger ones recorded on 30 September.

Jebel Al Tair (Bird Mountain), island is about 3km long, covers an area of 3.9sqkm, and its highest peak is 1,200 meters. It lies about 100km off the nearest Yemeni coast and, according to geologists, is in a volcanically active part of the Red Sea. The last time the island witnessed a strong volcanic eruption was in 1883.

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Ministry of Oil & Minerals
Republic of Yemen

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3. Intending Bidders may purchase the Bidding documents from the Office of the Employer, located at **5th floor, Yemen Oil & Gas Corporation Building, Haddah St., Sana'a Republic of Yemen**. (Telephone: 00967 1 440283 / 446854, Fax: 00967 1 440723, E-mail: ras_issa_proj@yahoo.com) on submission of a written application to the above office and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **US \$ 500/-**transferred to the following bank address:

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6. Financial bid and technical proposal shall be submitted in separate sealed envelopes.
7. The financial bids will be opened only for those whom technically qualified in second session. Unqualified bidders will receive back their financial bid unopened.
8. For more information about the Project log in to our website at (www.yogc.com.ye) and contact us for any query on any of above mentioned addresses.

Spain comes to Yemen

By: Almgidad Dahesh Mojalli

SANA'A, Oct. 6 — Closer links between Spain and Yemen have been formalized with the signing of the first memorandum of understanding between the two countries. It means that Yemeni students will be able to study Spanish next academic year at the University of Sana'a.

This builds on exchange program between the university and the Complutense Madrid University, one of the oldest universities in the world founded 700 years ago. The vice rector of the university visited Yemen last year when an agreement was signed for students' exchange programs. The first two Spanish students arrived last month. The Spanish ambassador said that this is the first academic memorandum of understanding between Yemen and Spain and there will be many agreements between Sana'a University and Madrid Complutense University in different fields.

"This memorandum comes as a result of the efforts and coordination exerted by the Yemeni and Spanish sides where a visit of the vice rector of Madrid Complutense University for us last year preceded this memorandum," Said Dr. Khalid Tamem, the rector of Sana'a University when signing the memo with the Spanish ambassador Marcos Vega last week.

Tamem added that the memorandum of teaching Spanish in Sana'a University is considered the first step for many coming agreements between Yemen and Spanish in the medical and cultural fields.

He pointed out that teaching Spanish isn't the only main aim of the memorandum but also the cultural exchange and understanding the two cultures through Arabic and Spanish Languages indicating that Sana'a university is ready to receive Spanish students to

study Arabic.

Dr. Abdulrahman Abdrabu, dean of Languages Faculty said that the faculty carried a survey among students regarding desire to study new foreign languages and found out that students are enthusiastic to study many other languages. A large number of students had already enrolled in the new department opened recently. Abdrabu added that Sana'a University has sent one of its students in the Faculty of Languages who is studying an intensive course in Spanish language.

As for the curricula, Abdrabu mentioned that the Faculty of Languages had a tentative concept the curricula and are now waiting for two Spanish experts to give it the final look.

Rebeca Chantal Guinea, deputy head of mission and consular said "this agreement is very important because it is really a cooperation act. That's to say Spain, our Agency for International Cooperation, is going to send a Spanish professor to the University of Sana'a. Spain is going to pay the wages of this professor and also provide the needs of learning Spanish in Sana'a. On the other hand, Sana'a University is going to provide this teacher with a place to stay and with medical insurance. So, it is a cooperation between two countries"

Guinea added, "the teachers that we are going to send from Spain are very specialized and are trained in our Agency of Cooperation in Spain to give full analysis. That's to say they don't only teach the Spanish language but also the Spanish culture. So, it is going to be a mix between learning a language and learning a culture of our country."

According to the Spanish ambassador, Spanish is considered the second most common language in the world with about 500 millions Spanish speakers.

Iraqi Shia leaders sign truce

A-Jazeera — Moqtada al-Sadr and Abdel Aziz al-Hakim, two of Iraq's most influential Shia leaders, have agreed a deal aimed at ending years of rivalry.

Al-Sadr's movement, which enjoyed a surge in popularity after the 2003 US-led invasion of Iraq, is backed by several thousand fighters known as the Mahdi Army and is the country's most powerful Shia group.

Al-Hakim leads the Supreme Iraqi Islamic Council (SIIC), another significant Shia faction and a pillar of the ruling coalition.

The two groups have clashed repeatedly in the past in their competition for control of Iraq's majority Shia community.

Ending bloodletting

A statement from al-Hakim's office said Saturday's accord mentioned three

points aimed at "enhancing relations between the two groups and maintaining the Islamic and national interest."

The first point outlined "the necessity to maintain and respect the Iraqi blood under whatever circumstances or by any party. Bloodletting is contrary to all legislations and morals."

The remaining two points talked of uniting media and cultural efforts and setting up a joint committee with provincial branches to keep order between their respective supporters.

Liwa Sumaysim, head of the political committee of the Sadr group, said: "The agreement is essen-



Hakim is believed to be in Iran where he received treatment in May for cancer

tially a commitment of honour. The most important aspect is that it forbids both sides to engage in bloodletting against each other and against Iraqis in general."

Hamid al-Saadi, head of the SIIC media office, said the deal was agreed in a "friendly spirit" and came at an "important time for the country".

"Iraq needs deals between factions in Iraq to enhance and preserve Iraqi unity," al-Saadi said in a statement.

Government boycott

Both al-Sadr and al-Hakim hail from families that have been active in Iraq's

political and religious life for generations.

Sadr presents himself as a strong Iraqi nationalist while al-Hakim is seen as closer to Tehran, where he spent a number of years in exile during the rule of Saddam Hussein, the former Iraqi leader.

Al-Sadr's six ministers have boycotted the government of Nuri al-Maliki, Iraq's prime minister, since April. In the middle of September his political bloc pulled out of the ruling Shia dominated coalition.

At the end of August, al-Sadr ordered his fighters to observe a six-month ceasefire, including a halt to attacks on US forces.

Despite his close ties with Iran, al-Hakim has tried to build bridges with Washington. Last year he met George Bush, the US president, at the White House.

The SIIC was founded in Tehran in 1982 as the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq (Sciri). T

he party returned to Iraq in the aftermath of the US-led invasion of March 2003 and last year, after winning 30 seats in Iraq's 275-member parliament, joined Maliki's coalition government. It changed its name to SIIC earlier this year.

Al-Hakim is believed to be in Iran, where he received treatment in May for a cancerous tumour. His son Ammar is considered his unofficial successor.

Syrian plane crashes near Damascus

DAMASCUS (Reuters) — A small aircraft apparently used by the Syrian military crashed on Sunday near Damascus killing at least two people, witnesses said.

The plane came down in Muadamiyat al-Sham district, 7 km (four miles) west of Damascus, they said.

"The plane looked like a training aircraft. Two bodies were pulled from the wreckage," Mohammad Nasser, one of the witnesses, told Reuters. "It

came down among gardens and did not hit houses."

Another witness saw a truck carrying the wreckage to the Mezzeh military airport. He said he saw no military markings on the plane.

The crash came at a time of heightened tension between Syria and Israel, which carried out an air strike deep inside Syrian territory on Sept 6. Both sides have given little information about the target.

Court unlikely to annul Musharraf victory

By: Robert Birsell

ISLAMABAD (Reuters) — Pakistani military ruler Pervez Musharraf must wait at least 10 days for a Supreme Court ruling on the legality of his re-election but the court is unlikely to annul his sweeping victory, analysts said on Sunday.

As expected, Musharraf won almost all the votes in a presidential election, largely boycotted by the opposition, in parliament and the four provincial assemblies on Saturday.

The official result has been postponed until the Supreme Court rules on challenges by the opposition who say Musharraf was ineligible to run while army chief even though he has promised to quit the military in weeks.

The opposition also objected to Musharraf being re-elected by outgoing assemblies — where Musharraf's coalition has a majority — just weeks before they are dismissed for a general election due by mid-January.

The court will take up the case again on October 17.

The outcome is of vital interest to the West which wants to see Musharraf maintain nuclear-armed Pakistan's support for efforts to stabilise Afghanistan and tackle al Qaeda.

"Although it's a controversial election, there are lots of problems with it, the parties have been protesting and so on, my guess is it would be very difficult for the Supreme Court to overturn it," said political analyst Shafqat Mahmood.

The Supreme Court, which has been seen as hostile to Musharraf since he tried to dismiss its chief judge in March, had to decide on the eve of the election if it should go ahead.

It ruled it could but a winner would not be declared until it ruled on Musharraf's eligibility.

"The bench having conceded the presidential election should go ahead, had implicitly accepted the propriety (on strictly constitutional/legal



Supporters of President Pervez Musharraf celebrate his victory in the presidential election in Multan Oct. 6.

grounds) of the outgoing assemblies giving Musharraf a fresh five-year mandate," the Post newspaper said.

"It looks likely that Musharraf is home and dry."

Uncertainty

There were opposition protests on Saturday and police fired tear gas to disperse anti-government lawyers throwing stones at the assembly in one provincial capital.

While few analysts doubt Musharraf has lost much popularity, there have not been big protests, making it less likely the Supreme Court would feel public opinion compelling it to block his re-election, analysts said.

There are also fears about what might happen if the court ruled against him. As president and army chief, he

could impose emergency rule or even martial law although he has consistently ruled those options out.

"The Supreme Court may be scared that the situation could go in any direction because they don't expect Musharraf to quit. Nobody in Pakistan expects Musharraf to quit," said another political analyst, Hassan Askari Rizvi.

"My own feeling is it would be a major step by the Supreme court if they undo it now," he said.

But no one is predicting an end to uncertainty.

"I don't see the period of difficulty ending," said Mahmood. "Elections are coming and they're going to be hotly contested."

Rizvi added: "It's going to be a kind of hung parliament and you'll see a lot

of manoeuvring. Musharraf will continue to manipulate politics and uncertainty will continue."

Musharraf is also facing criticism over a so-called reconciliation ordinance that erased graft charges against former prime minister Benazir Bhutto. That ensured her party did not resign before Saturday's vote, giving it a cloak of legitimacy, and clearing the way for her return from self-exile on October 18.

The United States has been encouraging Musharraf and Bhutto to work together but for now, Musharraf is likely to keep firmly behind his trusted ruling party allies, analysts said.

"He won't be attacking the PPP but he'll be maintaining a safe distance," Rizvi said, referring to Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party.

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Petraeus puts heat on Iran over Iraq violence

By: Dean Yates

EAST OF BAQUBA, Iraq (Reuters) — The U.S. military commander in Iraq stepped up accusations over the weekend that Iran was stoking violence in Iraq and said Tehran's ambassador to Baghdad was a member of the Revolutionary Guards Qods force.

Washington accuses the force, the elite unit of Iran's Revolutionary Guards, of inciting bloodshed in Iraq and

of training and equipping militias who have attacked U.S. troops.

General David Petraeus, speaking at a U.S. military base about 30 km (20 miles) from the Iranian border on Saturday, said Iran was giving advanced weaponry to militias in Iraq.

"They are responsible for providing the weapons, the training, the funding and in some cases the direction for operations that have indeed killed U.S. soldiers," Petraeus told a small group of reporters when asked if the Iranian government was responsible for killing U.S. troops.

"There is no question about the connection between Iran and these components, (the) attacks that have killed our soldiers."

Petraeus did not say how he knew Iran's ambassador to Baghdad, Hassan Kazemi-Qomi, was a member of the Qods force.

"The ambassador is a Qods force member," said Petraeus, before appearing to suggest that Kazemi-Qomi was not under the U.S. military spotlight because he was a diplomat.

"Now he has diplomatic immunity and therefore he is obviously not subject (to scrutiny). He is acting as a diplomat."

The Iranian embassy in Baghdad had no immediate comment.

Kazemi-Qomi has twice met U.S. ambassador Ryan Crocker in Baghdad this year for landmark talks on ways to stabilise Iraq. The discussions have made little headway, with both sides accusing each other over the violence in the country.

The Qods force is a special unit of the Revolutionary Guard Corps. There are varying estimates of its strength but it is in charge of Tehran's support for groups such as Hezbollah in Lebanon and Hamas in the Palestinian territories.

Iran's military acknowledges the existence of the Qods force, although it tends not to give details of its role.



The U.S. military commander in Iraq General David Petraeus stepped up accusations over the weekend that Iran was stoking violence in Iraq and said Tehran's ambassador to Baghdad was a member of the Revolutionary Guards Qods force.

Tehran routinely denies U.S. accusations about its role in Iraq's violence, as well as Western allegations its nuclear programme is aimed at developing atomic weapons.

President George W. Bush has said he is committed to diplomacy to resolve the dispute over Iran's nuclear programme but he has not ruled out taking military action.

"Malign, lethal involvement"

But Petraeus said he had no doubts about the Qods force.

"There should be no question about the malign, lethal involvement and activities of the Qods force in this country," he said.

Petraeus listed the type of weapons he said Iran was supplying to militias in Iraq.

He said this comprised advanced rocket-propelled grenades, shoulder-fired "Stinger-like" air defence missiles and 240mm rockets. This was in addition to components used to make explosively formed projectiles (EFPs), a particularly deadly roadside bomb that has killed hundreds of U.S. troops in Iraq.

Petraeus also suggested there was an Iranian link in the assassination of two provincial governors in southern Iraq in August. Both were killed by roadside bombs.

"They are implicated in the assassination of some governors in the southern provinces," said Petraeus.

Asked to be more specific, he said one case "was clearly an explosively formed projectile".

"They only come from Iran and they are only used by militias so it's a sort of a signature trademark of militia extremists. The other case the suspicion is the same, we just don't have the same quality of forensics."

Asked if there was intelligence directly linking Iran to the two bomb attacks, he said: "I would not comment on this."

Iran holds more talks with U.N. over nuclear work

TEHRAN (Reuters) — Iran and U.N. nuclear experts will hold fresh round of talks in the Islamic state this week aimed at clarifying aspects of the country's disputed nuclear programme, a foreign ministry spokesman said on Sunday.

Iran agreed with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on August 21 to explain the scope of its nuclear programme, which the West fears is a cover for building a bomb. Iran says its atomic work is aimed at generating electricity.

As part of the agreement, an Iranian

team and the IAEA held a two-day meeting in September to answer outstanding questions over centrifuges Iran uses to enrich uranium.

"The next round of talks will be held on Tuesday to continue discussions about P1 and P2 centrifuges," Mohammad Ali Hosseini told a weekly news conference. Centrifuges can enrich uranium to weapons-grade.

Iran uses a 1970s vintage of centrifuge, called P-1s, prone to breakdown if spun at high speed for long periods but is researching an advanced P-2 model at sites off limits to IAEA inspectors.

The deal with the IAEA allows Iran to settle questions one by one over a timeline the agency says would run to December — even as it adds centrifuges to its Natanz enrichment plant, nearing the 3,000 needed to start producing usable quantities of nuclear fuel.

The U.N. Security Council has slapped two rounds of sanctions on Tehran for its refusal to halt enrichment.

Major powers have agreed not to impose further U.N. sanctions until November, to see whether the pact between Iran and the IAEA yields results, and to await a report by EU

negotiator Javier Solana on talks with Iran.

However, the Security Council and Germany are negotiating on a third resolution against Tehran, and France and Germany signalled on Friday that Europe could punish Iran for pressing ahead with its nuclear work before further U.N. sanctions.

Iran's Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki said on Saturday France's call for EU sanctions against Tehran outside the U.N. framework was illegal, reiterating Iran would go ahead with its nuclear programme.

السلام عليكم
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Bonjour
France 1978

سلام
Iran 2005

مرحبا
Libya 2007

喂
Singapore 2007

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‘Shahad Ayan’ serial stops due to misunderstanding

By: Fatima Al-Ajel
fatimafjr@yahoo.com

Qasem was always treating his pregnant wife badly especially when she complained about pains and the difficulties she faces during the pregnancy. One day, he saw in his sleep that he became pregnant as a woman. During the dream, Qasem faced all difficulties and felt all the pains that his wife faces. Suddenly Qasem woke up and thanked Allah that it was only a dream and he is not a woman who would face such difficulties.

In the next day, his wife was crying that she is about to deliver a baby. Immediately Qasem took her to the hospital and was kind to her.

His wife was surprised about the new treatment of her husband toward her. In the hospital while the wife was shouting from the illness, some one came to Qasem and said to him: “Don’t believe your wife. She only pretends to be tired. She is only delivering a baby and doesn’t need all this shouting or noise.”

At this point, Qasem remembered his dream and immediately and without saying a word, he slapped the man and cried “Shut up, you don’t face such pains to judge. If you were a woman, you would not say so.”

Such was a brief review on an episode called “The Mother” in the Yemeni serial “Shahad Ayan”, meaning an eyewitness, which was showed during the first days of Ramadan. After this episode, the serial was stopped without knowing the real reasons behind such reaction from Yemen Satellite Channel. One day later, local media reported that the Minister of Information ordered to stop the serial and make an investigation with the serial staff about how they produced the episode that is against Islamic instructions and Yemeni culture.

However, last Ramadan, the same topic was showed on the Yemeni channel but the roles were different: women acted in



Yahya Al-Sanhani says media misunderstanding stopped broadcasting his serial ‘Shahad Ayan’

the role of men. There was no criticism on that episode, and the serial continued.

The Yemeni audience was excited after stopping Shahad Ayan serial. They also had different views regarding this issue.

Some people, especially women, think that the episode was good and there was no problem in broadcasting it. Others, however, had different views and think the episode was not appropriate to be broadcasted.

A pregnant woman who suffers from her pregnancy says: “It is a good idea to let a man feel the pain of pregnant women. The aim of the episode is to help men understand how women suffer during pregnancy.”

A lot of men as well as a few women didn’t like the episode, claiming that men and women are not allowed to mimic each other.

“The actors persisted in imitating women. There are better ways to express the message to the audiences with appreciation and respect,” says Ali Nasser, a

local citizen of Sana’a.

Yahya Al-Sanhani, the author of the “Shahad Ayan” explains that he aimed to present a message to the audiences especially men to be more merciful and kind to their wives. “However there is misunderstanding of the theme of this episode especially on the part of media outlets that know exactly what a drama is. I apologize to all the audiences for such a misunderstanding,” he says.

The media officials played a big role in arousing the audience’s views due to lack of understanding. “We are humans and it is normal to make mistakes and I made a mistake, it was better if they blamed me and did their process to make me aware without stopping the serial.”

Basically that episode focused on the human part between women and the society around them, either at home or work. Unfortunately, women in Yemen in many cases are treated badly and some men consider women as a tool

“Woman is the other part of man. I con-

veyed a message and the audiences can evaluate which is right or wrong,” Al-Sanhani adds.

The author was surprised at the local media’s reaction to the episode. “I was surprised with the reaction of the media as it is supposed to be professional and know what drama serials are and what they stand for.”

He further notes that if the last six series were shown, the serial would be a normal show and the audiences will not be confused with different critics and viewpoints.

The role of the censorship

It is normal that before showing and producing a serial or program, the Television sector forms a censorship committee to evaluate and follow the process of the production and then either accept the serial or delete some parts of it. However, in the case of “Shahad Ayan” serial, the matter was different. As a kind of trust between the committee and the author, the censorship committee was satisfied with talking to the author and watching some episodes.

“Frankly, the committee didn’t think that I will put forth the topic in a very strong way. They thought it will be a superficial presentation,” Al-Sanhani says.

Weak performance

Other problems the serials faced is the shortage of professional actors and actresses. There is no academic institute for acting in Yemen.

“We can not blame the actors or actresses for their weak performance. It is rare to find local people who want to act and appear on television especially women. We encourage the people who have talent and then through acting and experiences, they can become actors,” Al-Sanhani adds.

Al-Sanhani has been working in the acting department at Yemen Television Sector for more than twenty years. He admits that he is still in the beginning and needs to learn more and more in order to be professional. “I didn’t present anything to the media and audiences right now and I still hope that the future will be better especially for young actors and actresses.”

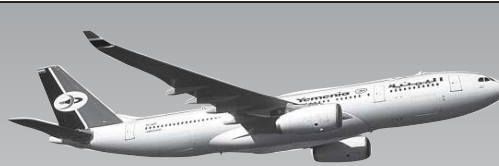
Weakness of Yemeni Drama

Almost all the Yemeni serials are shown during Ramadan although they were recorded a few days before Ramadan. “We started making “Shahad Ayan” serial exactly 15 days before Ramadan. We worked under stress with shortage of time and staff. If we had enough time over the year, it would be a chance to search for talented people around Yemen and had them in the serial,” Al-Sanhani said.

According to Al-Sanhani, there is no

strategy for planning professionally to create good programs to the audiences. The actors and actresses and other staff are only employees, he says. “They follow the orders of the Ministry of Information. This increases the mistakes and weakness of the Yemeni serials in general. We feel that we have a duty.”

Al-Sanhani calls on the official at Yemen Television Sector to produce at least two or three serials a year which discuss different themes in different ways.



JOB VACANCY

Yemenia (Yemen Airways) is announcing vacancies for the job of **Female Airhostesses** as per following conditions:

1. Educational qualification must not be less than high school (class 12 pass).
2. Must have good knowledge of English (speaking, reading & writing)
3. Age form 18 yrs. onward but not more than 25 years
4. Height not less than 160 cm (1 mtr 60 cm)
Weight suitable as per height.
5. Eyesight - 6/6

Interested candidates must apply within **Two weeks** from the date of this advertisement to Yemenia Head Office in **Sana’a** or Yemenia offices in **Aden, Taiz and Mukalla**. You can also apply through the website: www.yemenia.com

Yemenia  اليمنية

More meals for the poor during Ramadan

By: Yemen Times Staff

“Ramadan always comes with its sustenance”. This phrase is mostly repeated by the shoppers, especially the poor, who go to local markets to buy basic food and other things they need during the Holy month of Ramadan.

With the advent of Ramadan, housewives start to prepare a list full of needs required for the month. They are very careful to know the new food products to show how they professionally cook them during the days of Ramadan. Lavishness and extravagance have become remarkably seen in Ramadan’s meals, consuming money and wasting time in making delicious foods.

These foods are often thrown into trash, as if fasting is determined to satiate bellies and inactivate minds.

In the house of Shaima’ Al-Ulofi, a state of emergency is announced before the advent of Ramadan. “Expenditures of Ramadan go double. We need to buy a lot of things before Ramadan so as to have enough meals,” she added.

Mona Abdull-Galeel, a worker and a housewife, pointed out that she starts thinking about the various requirements of Ramadan and how she can provide her family with them. Most of the housewives think of this as well, she added.

“Ramadan has become a way to make us think of the decent dining tables and new foods. This is commonly known in most of the houses. Satellite channels are vying one another to present the best shows in making

Ramadan’s meals,” another lady shared.

Shaima also held men accountable for lavishness in Ramadan as “they carry delicious foods to their homes, and enter kitchens and raise suggestions, demanding a plenty of meals.”

“A lot of food and drink are to be served in Ramadan. They sometimes go and buy food from the markets as being unsatisfied with the foods cooked inside their houses,” she added.

Less eaten, more thrown

Garbage containers are full of different foods during the holy month of Ramadan due to extravagance. Radha Ali, a local citizen of Taiz governorate, accounts that for the increase of cooking foods in the daylight. “When it comes to break fasting, less food is eaten. The other foods are to be thrown into garbage containers. They sometimes throw bags into streets causing environmental contamination and unaesthetic views,” he said.

Extravagance is not only limited to the rich but also the poor. The later are compelled to borrow some money or buy on credit to meet the expenditures of Ramadan. What makes them borrow? They answer this question saying: “Ramadan comes with its sustenance.”

Radha Ali refused to borrow some money, but Mona Abdull-Galeel starts to do so since the outset of Ramadan, though she has a limited income.

“We want to buy something we are not in need of in the other months,” Mona said.

The Ramadan meals served by some charity associations as well as riche people help a lot of the poor get food

easily. They [the poor] return home carrying plenty of foods. And even some of them go from one place to another to collect as much as they can. “These people are included under this extravagant philosophy,” Mona added.

Ahmed Awadh, a trader, affirmed that the sales’ ratio increased in Ramadan, adding a one month of shopping is equal to one week of consumption in Ramadan.

“I purchase new goods that occur only in Ramadan. Oils, flour, jelly and caster powders are most widely bought in Ramadan. People buy foods on credit and most of them could not pay money for things bought in the previous Ramadan, Awadh added.

Waste of time

We found that a lot of women believe they waste their time in the daylight cooking meals in the kitchen. They also do not make use of the night as they get busy fulfilling the demands of their husbands. They say they are imprisoned in the kitchens from 1pm up till 6 pm. After the prayer of Al-Maghreb, women feel extremely exhausted, falling asleep. Thus, they do not spiritually make use of day and night. They forget what the purpose of Ramadan is.

Health problems

Dr. Abdull-Malik Al-Ghashm, a stomach specialist, pointed out that fasting is a way to purify blood as well as to make body relax. Patients inflicted with diabetes and blood pressure are advised to fast. However, eating foods excessively at the time of break fasting results in a reflexive dire consequence on the body itself. Most of the patients who visit the clinic suffer from dyspepsia (indigestion) and acidity accompanied by dyspnea over the first week of Ramadan. It is because the stomach does not get acclimatized to fasting. Therefore, having excessive foods damage it.

Mosques are misused

Extravagance is also seen in mosques. There several meals are brought from people’s houses.

Most of the fasters bring different foods including salad, Shafout, leeks and radish to the mosques. They put them on the floors. Upon hearing Azan, fasters go ahead and eat ravenously as if they have been hungry for a month. They breathe objectionable smells changing the atmosphere of the mosques and annoying other people.



Garbage containers are full of different foods during the holy month of Ramadan due to extravagance.

The Delegation of the European Commission in Sana’a, Yemen is seeking qualified companies to submit quotations for the development and maintenance of a web site for one year. The project’s scope and the standards according to which the website must be developed, and further details, are provided below.

It would be most grateful if your company could send a quotation by **Wednesday 31 October 2007 at 15.00 hr** the Delegation of the European Commission. Please don’t hesitate to contact the delegation on delegation-yemen@ec.europa.eu should you require any additional information.

PROJECT’S SCOPE

1. The Delegation will provide the contractor with texts, in MS word. Doc or any equivalent format.
2. Pictures will be provided to the contractor either in electronic format or in print.
3. Initially, the site would contain about 60(sixty) A4 pages.
4. Future updates may contain about 5-10 A4 pages per week or per month.
5. All future updates must be online within 2 working days (including holiday time).
6. The contractor’s quotation will state prices for:
 - a. Initial website development: 50 A4 pages in. doc format, and, possibly, conversion of up to 50 pages of. PDF documents
 - b. Further maintenance: price per A4 page, doc or. PDF format
 - c. Suitable conversion of pictures in electronic form
 - d. Scanning of pictures.

EC DELEGATIONS WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS & OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1. The website will be developed according to the Guidelines and the template website available at http://europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/deleginfo/
2. The contractor will strictly follow the Guidelines and use the template as is, without any modification; therefore, is no need for any graphical design.
3. In particular, we would like to draw the contractor’s attention on the following:
 - the website must be developed using
 - Microsoft FrontPage-including the “shared borders” functionality
 - Xtreme SiteXpert (roll-down menus) (SiteXpert is provided by the Delegation)
 - strict compliance with the methods described in the Guidelines is requested
 - no alternative software/methods can be used
 - the template’s design, and navigation methods, may not be altered
4. Quality control
 - The contractor is informed that the Delegation and the Commissions’ services will conduct a detailed examination of the contractor’s work, before it is approved, and any payment made. Such securitization will include, namely, a detailed examination of the HTML code, compliance with the Guidelines and best professional standards.
 - In order to allow such examination, the contractor will upload the project website on a server, on a confidential address, which he will communication only to the Delegation and / or the EC.
 - The contractor is encouraged to upload the project website at an early stage, in order to allow early warning of possible technical mistakes.
 - The contractor may be requested to provide the Delegation or the Commission with a zip file containing the full website (including hidden directories and files).
5. Availability to Delegation

After each update, the contractor will provide the Delegation with a CD-Rom containing a full copy of the website (including hidden files/directories), and of any files generated by FrontPage/Site Xpert, and any further files/materials necessary to allow the immediate takeover of the website development by the Delegation.
6. Website hosting
 - The contractor will suggest a solution for hosting the website on external servers, under a separate contract.
 - Specification: at least 100MB HD space, and no bandwidth limitation, guaranteed 99, 5% up time, 24/7 maintenance/repair facility; secured FTP update.
 - Duration: one year-renewable upon the Delegation’s request, independently from website development/maintenance contract.
 - Domain name registration: to be performed the European commission; the hosting contractor shall provide the Delegation with the unique IP address where the website will be available.

Address to submit the quotation:

Delegation of the European Commission to the Republic of Yemen
POBox 11408
Sana’a Yemen

Or at physical address:
Diplomatic Area, junction of St. no. 1 and no. 16, opposite Hawaii Billiard club
Sana’a Yemen

Tel. 01-440883/4/5, Fax. 01-440887

Attracting ads in Yemen

Published by: the Arab Press Network website

The independent bi-weekly *Yemen Times* gets 85 percent of its revenue from advertising. Deputy director Khairaldin Mohammad Alnsour tells APN about how the advertising department works and the paper's future plans to attract more advertisers - and readers.

Where do independent newspapers in Yemen place themselves on the advertising market?

I am not sure about other newspapers, but I will tell you about the *Yemen Times*. Since we target a specific market - the English speaking population, whether intellectual Yemenis or foreigners in Yemen - our task is easy, relatively speaking. Our target market looks more for brand value than price. Since we are the first English newspaper in Yemen, we have secured this image and clients come to us knowing who we are.

The problem is that often we lose out on "politically oriented advertisements". By this I mean ads that come through influential politicians in the ruling system or political parties. For example, VIPs and businessmen who belong to the conservative party rather advertise in a newspaper or media that is in line with their political stance. This does not mean that they never advertise with us, however, we are not their first choice.

Another example is state advertisements such as national announcements, tenders, etc. They are directed mainly to the state-run newspapers or other official media, so we get a very small share of those.

To a certain extent we do, however, compensate for that through the businessmen who know that our readers are potential clients of theirs. Hence we maintain a good relation with the elite business sector in Yemen.



Yemen Times' Deputy director Khairaldin Mohammad Alnsour

In some rare cases our independence is jeopardised because of news that could affect the reputation of some companies. For example, Yemenia Airways ensures that we do not publish news that criticise or play down their image. Some oil companies in Yemen do the same. We try to strike a balance between pleasing our clients but without compromising our independence. It is hard, but so far we have been doing well.

Are you pleased with the advertising market share of the *Yemen Times*?

If I told you that we are pleased with our share of the market I would be lying. We are doing fine, yet although the *Yemen Times* is one of the most reputable and recognized newspapers in Yemen there is always room for

growth. Competition is also on the rise and because of globalization there is a chance that we cannot keep control of the English-speaking readership in Yemen in the long term. We would like to expand onto the international market and attract companies outside Yemen to advertise with us. We are planning on using the website as a first step to achieve this. However, since the *Yemen Times* is only distributed locally our external outreach is not that great yet. We are also gradually working on attracting a new readership group: the young Yemenis who are eager to learn English. They realise the importance of a second language and want to enhance their skills. They constitute around 15 percent of our current readership and we want to expand this percentage so that we gain their loyal-

ties and make the *Yemen Times* their first choice as they grow in their career.

Advertisements aside, we try to diversify our income through entering other markets through providing printing services as well as seminar and event organization.

APN: How does your advertising department function?

The *Yemen Times* has its own specialized professional marketers and salespeople who work around the clock to secure advertisements. This is why 85 percent of our revenue is generated through ads. In addition to this, our reputation and brand name attract clients to come directly to us. For example, most of the job announcements and vacancies of interna-

tional companies and embassies in Yemen are advertised directly through the *Yemen Times* since the clients know that our readers are potential employees.

The way our team works is that they go to potential clients and provide them with our tariffs and attract them with other benefits such as occasional features covering the company's news, events sponsoring or free subscription to the *Yemen Times*, etc. We often go through an intermediate advertisement agency or person and have to pay commission. But it is ok, because this is the way things work in the marketing business in Yemen.

Have you recently implemented, or are you planning to implement, any particular strategies to attract more advertisements?

Recently our marketing manager and subscription officer visited the *Al-Ghad* newspaper in Jordan (APN article 01 August 2007). *Al-Ghad* is one of the most recent newspapers in the Arab world, yet it has gained ground very quickly and is one of the fastest growing newspapers. Our staff came back from the visit with new ideas and strategies for the *Yemen Times*.

We are planning for a campaign to increase our subscriptions, using other media in Yemen in the campaign. Marketing-wise we also are working on a diversification plan to explore new clients. Another strategy is to gain the loyalty of companies and surprise them by providing them with services in connection to their business, such as return on investment from their ads in the *Yemen Times* and providing them with surveys that would help them in their marketing and service business.

Could you describe what the collaboration between the ad/marketing and the editorial staffs looks like?

If I were to describe the relation between the advertising department and the editorial department in one word I would say "war". Obviously I am joking, but seriously speaking there is competition between the two departments over the space in the newspaper.

There are continuous meetings and one big meeting that takes place when planning the layout of each issue. Sometimes we have to compromise articles and news stories because of advertisements and this is very annoying for the editorial staff. But they understand that ads are the key factor that sustains us as an independent newspaper. And eventually the ads pay the salaries at the end of the month, so there you have it.

But at the same time - since the written matter is what makes *Yemen Times* what it is, we make sure the ads do not jeopardise our reputation and when needed we add more pages in the issue to include both editorial materials and ads.

Sometimes we have supplements in which the editorial materials and the ads have a common factor. On certain

important occasions, such as 10 years of the Yemeni Unity, the ad department worked with the editorial department so that the materials and the ads were in line.

Other times we have what we call specialized supplements like the technical one, where accordingly most of the ads are about mobile phones, computers, etc.

Another way the advertising and editorial department work together is

in information exchange. The editorial department generally uses the ad people to get a feeling of how some of the news and article are perceived by the business sector in Yemen. The ad department in its turn uses the editorial staff to write complementary news to lure certain companies to advertise in the *Yemen Times*, for example if a national company launches an exhibition for its products or receives international recognition.

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Save the Children.

VACANCY

Save the Children-Sweden is intentional NGOs a working for the implementation and promotion of children's rights. We have been working in Yemen since 1963. Save the Children-Sweden is seeking a qualified candidate to fill the position of an administrative officer based in Aden with the refugee children project Funded by the BPRM USA:

Requirements

- At minimum, a university degree business administration or relevant fields
- At least two years experience in administration with an international NGO, a UN agency or a similar experience.
- Fluency in spoken and written English and Arabic.
- Excellent Computer skills
- Excellent communication skills
- Ability to work under pressure and to work in a team.
- Management and leadership skills.
- Accurate, thorough, and able to consistently meet deadlines
- Driving
- Knowledge about the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and other human rights global and regional treaties is an advantage.

Responsibilities include but not limited to:

- Human resources management
- Procurement according to the rules and the management guide
- Management of office utilities and settlements of bills
- Management of vehicles and their repair/maintenance
- Office security
- Filing
- Flexible to take other tasks when needed.

Application

Qualified and interested individuals are kindly requested to send their application including CV and supporting certificates and documents with cover letter (quoting the post title) to Save the Children Sweden only via email to gmo-hamed@scsmena.org. Applications are accepted no later than 17 October 2007. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted for interviews. For more information about Save the Children Sweden, visit website www.scsmena.org or www.rb.se

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the government of the United Kingdom through the Department for International Development (DFID) invite Yemeni Nationals to apply for the following positions to work with the project "Aid Harmonization and Alignment" based in the Ministry of planning and International cooperation (MoPIC).

1. Programme Assistant/Policy Development
2. Programme Assistant/Coordination and Oversight
3. Programme Assistant/Communication
4. Programme Assistant/Information Technology

Candidates should have the following skills:

- At least 5 years of relevant experience at the national or international level.
- Fluency in English and Arabic languages.
- Excellent command in the usage of computers and office software packages.
- Excellent inter-personal communication skills.
- Experience with development issues would be an asset.

To learn more about these positions, please visit our website ahaunityemen@mpic.gov.ye. Interested candidates who have the necessary qualifications and background for the above mentioned positions may submit their applications by fax to 01 250603 with a letter of expression of interest and a C.V with a recent two referenced recommendation letters attached. Response will only be made to short listed candidates.

Deadline for receipt of the applications is Saturday, October 20, 2007 and qualified female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.



Over the past 10 years, DNO Yemen AS, with its country headquarters in Sana'a and its Field Operations in Hadramout, has played an important role in the development of Yemeni oil exploration and production.

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As part of our continuing growth, we seek to augment our field production operations by the recruitment of **2 skilled and experienced Instrument Technicians**.

You will ideally be educated to recognised Diploma standards, have a minimum of 2 years proven industry experience and be well-acquainted with a comprehensive range of electrical, electronic, mechanical and pneumatic instrumentation systems. In addition you will hold a valid driving license and have a good command of English. This position is field based, rotating on a 5 week on / 5 week off basis.

Yemeni Nationals Only

Should you wish to develop your career within our Production Operations please, in the first instance, e-mail your resume, along with an introductory letter, detailing why you should be considered for this position to: careers@dnoyemen.no

Please include your chosen speciality in the "Subject" box and attach one integrated MS Word file. We regret that we can only respond to those applicants who meet the above criteria.

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المركز الرئيسي : شارع جيبوتي : تلفون ٤٤٥٣٦٢ ٣ ٤
صنعاء - شارع تعز ٦١١٠١٠ - معرض السيارات شارع الستين : تلفون ٤٤٣٥١١/٢ ٩٦٧ ١ فاكس : ٤٤٣٥١٤ ٩٦٧ ١

الموزعون المعتمدون :
البحرين للسيارات : خدمة العملاء : ٩٦٧ - ٧٧٧٧٠٧٠٦٠ + ٣٨٣٣١ - ٩٦٧
العربية للسيارات : خدمة العملاء : ٧١١٠٠٠١٠٠ + ٩٦٧ ٤٤٤٤٤٢٢
سكارس سيتي : خدمة العملاء : ٧٧٧٣٨٣٢٠١ + ٩٦٧ - ٣٨٣٢٠٠٠ + ٩٦٧

الفروع :
عدن - دار سعد : ٣٠٣٣٠٩/١٤
عدن - المعلا : ٢٢٠٣٣٤
تعز - الحصن : ٢٤١٦٦٠ الحديد - شارع صنعاء : ٣٦١٥٧٨

TOYOTA

Words of Wisdom



The problem is the helplessness people feel. Most people feel they have lost control, and even a sense of direction. They drift along with the current. They feel uncomfortable with the flow as they believe there is no one in charge. This is because the Yemeni individual is used to an autocratic system in which things are predetermined and people are given exact roles to play.

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

OUR
OPINIONA country run
through whims

“Yemen is a state of law and order.” This is one of the many clichés repeated by the president. He claims this as a result of his 30 years of leadership. “We created good laws, whereby everyone is equal”, he keeps saying. However, no one really believes this because everyday life just proves the opposite.

It is as if the president is living in another country or chooses to ignore the reality of Yemen. What he does not realize is that he has lost credibility long ago, and none of his well-publicised speeches in official media, will change the way things are.

For one, the judiciary system is extremely corrupt to the extent that judges openly ask for bribes. A friend who had a case in court over a land dispute was shocked when the judge told him that wants more money in order to rule in his favor. Apparently the other party had given a bigger bribe, and it was matter of bargaining.

Official instructions have no meaning either. Starting from the president and down the authority ladder. I have seen several presidential orders whose destination was the dustbin. Sometimes it is a simple clerk who has chosen to ignore them.

For example, Yemen Times has been closely following a case of over 37 detainees in Hajja prison north Yemen. They had been detained without trial over 9 months until today, on charges of Houthism, whatever that means. There had been instructions to release the prisoners by the General Prosecution Attorney in Sana'a, by the previous governor, by the security committee leading the investigation in the detainees issue and nothing has happened.

“The deputy governor simply said he will not release my son, despite the orders. I don't know what else to do?” said one of the detainees' fathers. He had been running from one government official to the other in order to find a solution for his son's problem. But it appears to him now that it is a lost case, because it would not follow any logic. It is simply a personal whim of the deputy governor.

This is not the only example. There are hundreds of similar cases around the republic where the personal interest of someone in authority rules over the law.

Is this the state of law and order president Saleh is bragging about? Does he know his instructions are thrown in the dustbins of government offices? More importantly, would he care if he did?

Nadia Al-Sakkaf
Editor-in-Chief

The way to a capital fenced
with flowers and jasmine

I admit that I haven't yet known the reality of what is said about prohibiting arms bearing in the capital. I also cast doubt on whether the purpose of this ban is to clear the city of weapons or it, according to some people, aims to only prevent appearances of carrying weapons after the capital city was viewed by residents and visitors as if it is a barracks housing different types of light and heavy weapons while its natives appear as if they prepare themselves for an anonymous war.

The habit exercised by arm bearers in this city, as well as the other cities, is known to everyone as a greater challenge to development. Judicious citizens bear in mind that it is necessary for the government to reinforce the arms bearing ban, and in an event the country is exposed to an external threat, citizens then will be entitled to carry different kinds of weapons and boast their ability in training and shooting.

Some Yemeni cities have turned into exhibitions for various types of weapons and the Yemeni people into an army, thus depicting a situation of an anonymous war in the country with citizens anticipating threats and risks from others. The Yemeni citizens, however, comprise a unified



By: Dr. Abdulaziz
Al-Maqaleh

family without any realization of minorities and multiple religions that create discrimination between natives.

Yemeni citizens comprise a unified and cooperative nation, the prominent characteristic of

which is its being free of religious and ethnical minorities. It is composed of a unified family while those, who have been trying since a long time ago to play with the moderate sectarianism that has similar formations and thoughts in order to achieve certain political factors and gains, failed to defect people from their unified identity. Even in times of smaller and factional states that emerged in Yemen, the plots of creating fragmentation, fighting and conflicts in the 'Country of Faith and Wisdom' failed too.

From this point, the Yemenis are the only Arab people qualified to be Switzerland of the Arab World and have their homeland free of all the forms of arms, except for the weapons of military and security forces.

Since I explored my personal adoration for this unique city with its unique citizens, nice climate and permanent spring, I have had a dream that this city be fenced with flowers and jasmine. I disliked the mud walls surrounding the Old

City of Sana'a, as I felt that they plant fear and create a growing a demand for possessing arms.

Now, we are living in a new era with awareness and education as the only arms of man while dialogue and respect for public opinion are the sole means for coexistence, but not daggers and bullets. In addition, a portion of my dream made me once supplicate the Almighty that another weaponry capital city would be selected in order for this fascinating city (Sana'a) to remain innocent, safe and calm.

Talk about clearing the capital city of weapons is no longer a personal dream. Instead, it has become a dream of millions of people who aspire to led a peaceful life and that their children sleep to the music of birds, not the noise of machineguns and mortars

When we get rid of the phenomenon of arms bearing, those having differences over the newly passed anti-arm ban will ultimately realize that solutions can only be reached by mutual understanding, dialogue and abidance by laws. The use of force or any similar options as a solution to any persisting issues of this type will no longer be acceptable.

Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Maqaleh is Yemen's prominent poet and intellectual. He is the director of the Yemeni Center for Studies
Source: Al-Thawra Stat-run Daily

South Yemen in
physician-patient relations

By: Ali Haitham Al-Gharib

Restoring confiscated property to its owners in South Yemen is a new manifestation of unity and democracy. This also gives communities in the north and south parts of Yemen a noble goal in harmony with their historic message. The Yemeni people then perceive that addressing persisting issues in the south is indispensable for the future of unity and the fate of democracy, as well as the unified Arab civilization. This designates the overall responsibility required from all the Yemeni people and philanthropists

in the south to help take their homeland to the safe side. The weakness of this stage in the unity's history is the product of scandalously disclosing all the crimes committed in the south, on the one hand, and the destructive capacities of the political regime in curing wounds, on the other.

Over the past few days, we provided sincere suggestions about persisting issues in South Yemen, one of which is the recommendation that Mr. President issues a republican decree confirming that what happened after 1994 Civil War such as lootings and right abuses are inauthentic and baseless in order to satisfy popular feelings.

This suggestion was hailed by most of the committees that visited Aden and the political and social community as well, but members of these committees themselves are still confused like they were prior to the retirees' uprising. And, the retirees find themselves in the face of different allegations, solutions and fears.

The government confuses itself once again with falsely invented suspicions and interrogations while military, security and civil retirees are anticipating what the government will say to them. Why such decisions are taken hurriedly nationwide, but nothing of them is applied in real-life situation. People in streets say that authorities behave in a way fragmenting the nation and abusing rights of retirees, and a thorough reading of the situation provokes

laughter and absurdity.

People! What do you fear? Is it too difficult to assess what happens in the south? Is it impossible to understand the objective relationship between these phenomena and the peaceful struggle of those whose rights to enjoy equal citizenship and live in peace were confiscated. We are not against the notion that our initiatives, demands and suggestions are presented for serious discussion with the relevant agencies, and in light of our culture, this is a normal matter.

The most important thing is that this discussion aims to seek acceptable and noble solutions to the problems, but not to search for the means of oppression once again. There are many people who want to mislead the public opinion regarding the demands listed by security and military pensioners, as well as the other human right issues presented to the presidential committee for discussion.

The pens of propaganda are coming together in Sana'a, thereby fomenting the sedition over what is happening in the south, alleging that the oppressed retirees are traitors for the west. In addition, the pro-government media accused the oppressed retirees, who voice their concerns via peaceful means, of being defectors and instigators of violence, and we are expecting more charges and accusations to emerge in the days to come. By this behavior, the official media wants to say to the public opinion, “See! The government is searching for

SILVER LINING

Running into
deadlock

In its official response to the proposal of constitutional amendments concerning some political reforms forwarded by President Ali Saleh, the opposition coalition described it as a step forward to escape the ongoing economic challenges and demands of the retirees in the southern governorates. In this current turmoil of attack and counterattack between the government and the opposition, President Saleh decided he would go ahead with discussion of his proposal with civil society organizations, only very few are active on the ground. He even lashed out at the opposition and warned them of running into the situation of the 1994 civil war. Again, the ruling GPC announced the termination of its dialogue with the opposition unless grounded on Saleh's initiative. There is no doubt that the proposal of president Saleh has addressed crucial issues including the reduction of the presidential and parliamentary tenure to five and four years respectively and a 15% quota for women in parliament, local police. However, this initiative should not turn into a crisis in itself and the stroke that broke the camel's back.

I understand the regime of Saleh is in hot waters as it is losing its old-aged allies, including tribal support of Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hussein al-Ahmer, head of Hashid, the biggest tribe and his sons who are now strong opponents of Saleh's regime. Again, the Islah party extended great support for Saleh's regime during his fight with the socialists and their allies before the unification and during the 1994 civil war. Now, its position is completely different and its opposition to the regime is stronger than ever before. This is because of the support of other opposition parties that are gaining ground due to their challenge to Saleh. The President, however, toned down his discourse a little bit in his meeting with civil society organizations in Taiz last Thursday. After he said in Hodieda he was not obliged to take their opinion into account, Saleh called on the opposition to join dialogue over these amendments without tension. Yet, his harsh criticism to the opposition in his interview with al-Jazeera the other day and the absence of confidence between the two sides means they are running into a deadlock.

Of course, this sort of media barrage between them following the opposition's rejection of Saleh's invitation to dialogue is driving us away from the real problems the people across the country are facing. Yemen right now needs urgent actions to stop the constant decline of the people's living conditions, address the problems of the retirees, and land looting issues. Forced by economic hardships, some tribesmen in al-Jawaf governorate already started moving away to Saudi Arabia borderline.

Two weeks ago Dr. Saleh Basurah, Minister of Higher Education and chief of the committee undertaking the problems in the south, pinpointed the results of his fact-finding mission. As usual, the man overtly said that it is now at hands of the people in authority to decide whether to sacrifice a score of corrupt influential people who looted big chunks of the land for the people and address the problems of over 10,000 retirees or sacrifice the whole country's welfare. The man who was talking to al-Nida'a independent weekly was very critical of the over centralization to the extent that Yemenia Airlines has to fly abroad from Sana'a and not from Aden, Taiz, or Mukalla. It is funny to read in state-run newspapers that supreme directives were given last week to prosecute leaders of sports, information and education ministries for not attending their offices during Ramadan. I went the other day to the education ministry to see what is going on. I found most of the offices closed while teachers and other people were waiting.

Hey guys, people are expecting courageous decisions concerning the south's problems and other corruption. Things are still at the hands of President Saleh, who plainly admitted in Taiz meeting that problems used to be held up or disregarded and it is time to address them and run these amendments. The state-run media celebrated and described the proposal as the magic solution to all our plights. If it is the case, go ahead with these constitutional amendments. I do understand, however, if this is just a political tactic and a step forward from the problems in the south in particular and pressure on the opposition, it will not relieve the suffering people. It might overwhelm the people's attention for a while but not for good.

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

solutions to retirees' issues while locals in the southern governorates are insisting to foment violence. But the real fact is that citizens in the south can no longer tolerate the way the authorities treat them, delay discussing their issues, and therefore use the military force against them. In the meantime, the government is only busy in its decisions, of which nothing is applied in real-life situation, but it has plans to silence any voices

claiming legal rights.

Is returning property to their owners, who have been claiming them for nearly 13 years, not the best means and way for supporting the national unity? The concept of 'Unity sealed with blood' seems to be outdated, and we should rather shift our attention to another matter that is putting a stop the spread of the 'apostasy culture'.

Source: Al-Ayyam Daily



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Yemen Press Review



Al-Sahwa Weekly, Mouthpiece of the Islah Party
Thursday, October 4

Main Headlines

- Minister of Local Administration call on governors to be join parties in discussing provincial issues
- Armed confrontations between Security Forces and Al Al-Thabti tribe in Marib over tribal issues
- Interior Ministry indifferent toward kidnapping of religious cleric, protests for his release escalate
- At least 9 reportedly killed and others injured in Dhamar car accident
- Transparency International demand transferring Ba Awvam and Al-Nuba to hospital
- Islah Party members in Hajja and Al-Beidha stress necessity of peaceful struggle for development
- Presidential initiative aims to resolve President's problems, says Qahtan

A senior leader of the Joint Meeting Parties, Mohammad Qahtan, said that the president's recently declared initiative had come to only solve the President's own problems due to the wave of soaring prices, and not to solve the people's problems, the weekly paper reported. "The ruling power aims to grant the president new two terms," the weekly quoted Qahtan as saying in a political symposium in Dhamar province.

He labeled the authorities as narrow-minded, affirming that they only think of tribe and family at the expense of the nation. According to Saleh's initiative, the new amendments would cut the presidential term from seven to five years, and reduce the parliamentary term to four from six years. He further said that the expected changes

will shift the current parliamentary system into a presidential system in which he would hold the posts of head of state and head of cabinet.



26 September Weekly, Organ of the Yemeni Army
Thursday, October 4

Main Headlines

- We agree with 95% of President's initiative, no objection to why governance should be presidential, says YSP leader
- Yemen claims extradition of Asnaj via Interpol according to a previously signed security agreement with Saudi
- Yemen receives more than 680 thousand tons of wheat and flour during September
- Sana'a to host Fifth Gulf Geology Forum by the advent of 2008
- Yemen Youth Union: President's initiative will help upgrade political system in Yemen
- Yemen elected member of WIPO's Coordination Committee

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) has elected on Tuesday Yemen a member in WIPO's Coordination Committee, the weekly reported. According to WIPO approval, Yemen has become a member of the Coordination Committee of WIPO for two years for the first time since it has joined the organization in March 1979. Yemen was elected during the meetings of the WIPO from September 24 to October 3.

The Coordination Committee is one of most important committees of WIPO for it handles important responsibilities such as revising the performance of the organization and making administrative measures. The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is a specialized agency of the

United Nations. It is dedicated to developing a balanced and accessible international intellectual property (IP) system, which rewards creativity, stimulates innovation and contributes to economic development while safeguarding the public interest.



Al-Wasat Comprehensive Political Weekly
Wednesday, October 3

Main Headlines

- Bajammal takes ruling party to a state of brain death
- Ruling party announces new dialogue without Joint Meeting Parties, disputes grow sharper
- Jail inmate passes away as Prosecution refuses to let him have medical treatment
- Protests in Sana'a and Dhale' in solidarity with retirees
- Press discloses scandal related with nuke energy agreement
- Yahya Al-Houthi underestimates President Saleh's initiative, accuses government of breaking June Agreement

According to the independent weekly, the MP Yahya Al-Houthi, who is currently residing in the German capital Berlin, underestimated importance of the new initiative presented by President Ali Abdullah Saleh regarding political reforms, as well as the Statesman's call for the choice between a parliamentary and a presidential system? Al-Houthi described the initiative as another method for cheating Yemeni people and drawing their attention away from real reform demands.

In statements, published by Quds Press Agency, Al-Houthi indicated such a political initiative is not the first of its kind ever presented by Saleh to draw popular attention away from the

current political congestion in the country. "In the past, Mr. President declared that he would not run for president again, but later on he motivated students, employees and others to take to streets in demonstrations urging him not quit elections," Al-Houthi said. "The nature of regime is responsible for creating an atmosphere of distrust between government and opposition, and there is no mutual trust between people and their government."



Al-Wahdawi Weekly, Mouthpiece of the Nasserite Unionist Popular Organization (NUPO)
Tuesday, October 3

Main Headlines

- NUPO Secretary General: Presidential system is merely dedication of dominance and oppression
- Hodeida Branch of Joint Meeting Parties holds ruling party accountable for failure of government policies
- MPs to Al-Wahdawi.net: Additional allocations increase inflation as they are based on lies and false analysis
- Aden Police arrest three army retirees including deputy chairman of retirees council, throw them in military prison
- Three soldiers rescued while three corpses of hurricane victims found in Tair Island
- JMP considers President's initiative as escapism from national entitlements

The weekly paper reported that the Higher Council of Joint Meeting Parties discussed on Monday the initiative, which President Ali Abdullah announced recently regarding the constitutional amendments, considering JMP as the first national party that announced its program on Nov. 26, 2005 claiming comprehensive reforms. According to the JMP program, political reforms are the real approach to national reforms. The JMP Higher Council released a statement, of which a copy was obtained by Al-Wahdaw.net, confirming that reforming the election system is key to political reforms.

The JMP statement expressed Yemeni citizens' disappointment over Saleh's initiative, thus labeling it as escapism from current national entitlements. It stressed the necessity of addressing persisting demands of citizens in the southern governorates, fighting unemployment and rampant poverty, and putting a stop to skyrocketing prices of basic foodstuffs. JMP leaders recommended that the government takes serious actions to resolve such issues, fight corruption and punish corrupt officials.



Al-Nass Comprehensive Independent Weekly
Monday, October 1

Main Headlines

- Relatives of Sheikh Sadiq Al-Ahmar warns ruling party media of attempting to harm the Sheikh's relation with President
- Former Secretary General of the Council of Ministers: Nothing new

in President Saleh's initiative

- A catastrophe worth YR 267 billion awaiting vote by the majority of members of parliament
- President's Initiative: new reforms or reproducing outdated matters
- A prominent Shara'ab Sheikh escapes an assassination attempt
- Government universities criticize cabinet's false promises threaten to stage protests
- Family accuses Nuqum Prison of killing jailed relative
- Aden authorities attack prominent Yemeni investor
- Owner of nuclear generation company is intimate friend of Yemen's Electricity Minister, accused of extortion

The Yemeni journalist Munir Al-Maweri, who is currently residing in the United States, ended merriness of Electricity and Energy Minister Mustafa Bahrani about his nuclear power project by disclosing that the Yemeni official has intimate relationship with owner of the U.S. nuclear generation company, due to implement the project, the weekly paper reported. It added that Bahrani and the US company signed a contract worth \$15 billion for building five nuclear reactors over a span of ten years, and implementation of the project is due to begin by 2010.

In an article published by Marihbprss.net, the journalist revealed notorious information about the company with which Bahrani signed a contract for implementing Yemen's nuclear program. He quoted American sources as saying that the financial situation of the company doesn't qualify it to finance the project, thereby contravening statements by Bahrani, who confirmed that the company will fund the project until the end.

Proselytism and the world's religions

By: Halima Krausen

Some months ago, two news items caused excitement: one reported that 4000 Germans converted to Islam last year, and the other was that a Council of Ex-Muslims had been established. In a secular society where the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion includes freedom to change one's religion or belief these should be side issues. But in fact, they caused considerable concern both to churches and among Muslims. Each group feared that those who turned away might actively contribute to a hostile atmosphere rather than quietly choosing another religion or ideology.

Beneath the secularist surface, conversion remains a delicate subject. Is, then, religion not such a private matter after all?

Sociologically, religious communities may look like any other social group. Initially, a religious tradition may have been identical with the beliefs, laws and rituals of a tribe, making most sense in its particular geographical and economic environment and including local and tribal deities. We find traces of this system in the ancient Middle East, where the Biblical narrative evolved, or in a number of traditions in the Indian subcontinent under the umbrella of Hinduism. People were born into certain traditions. If conversion was an issue at all, it was a matter of adoption or some other kind of integration. Among the few stories of personal choice in the Bible is the one of Ruth who tells her mother-in-law, "Your people will be my people and your God will be my God" (Ruth 1:16).

On this "tribal level", the hope for the well-being and numerical strength of one's own group is only natural. So is the necessity to draw dividing lines between "us" and "the others" and to insist on group loyalty. The concept of religious freedom from an individualist perspective seems alien in this context. "Leaving the group" would be equivalent

to a change of loyalties and perceived as a loss or a betrayal, resulting in mourning and excommunication or even persecution of the apostate.

On another level, religion is a path that involves orientation towards a goal and personal commitment. It is represented by enlightened and inspired individuals, like the Biblical prophets or the Buddha, who combined criticism of theological and social grievances within their communities with visions of a more balanced and meaningful future. The logical consequence is to teach these insights to others. Thus, the prophets confronted kings and priests to warn them of the consequences of idolatry and social injustice. Buddhist teachers presented Far Eastern kingdoms with the eight-fold path. Jewish teachers had followers in the Roman Empire until they were forbidden to accept converts on penalty of death. Christian missionaries, motivated to "go and teach all nations..." (Matthew 28:19), spread their message of salvation through faith. Muslim teachers invited others to ethical monotheism, insisting "there is no compulsion in religion" (Qur'an 2:256).

The emerging movements sometimes replaced the "tribe". New converts were welcome, even if they were motivated by personal advantages like better social status. But then the same loyalty was expected - not only to the community but also to its path to salvation. With this, the dividing lines between "us" and "the others" assumed a metaphysical dimension. While religious systems were never monolithic blocks but instead influenced each other in various ways, there were also claims of exclusivity. In an oversimplified logic: if "our" way is right, then any other path must be an aberration; in the worst case, a threat that "we" must defend ourselves against - a view that readily lends itself to demonising the "other".

On the other hand, love for our fellow human beings would oblige us to save them by converting them to "our"

path. We come across this idea among some Christian missionaries, but also among some Muslims - although earlier revealed messages are expressly confirmed in the Qur'an and people of different faiths are asked to "compete in good actions" and leave their different views to God to decide (Qur'an 5:48). In fact, religious communities seem to be competing in polemics and spite rather than in good actions, alienating themselves from the ethical and spiritual essence of their tradition. It is not surprising then, that religion is sometimes considered a factor of conflict rather than of reconciliation and peace.

With the world becoming increasingly complex and interconnected, projects of interfaith dialogue have emerged, based on the premise of our common humanity: all people want happiness. These dialogues promote understanding and trust. But in order to deal with a pluralist world, we work in two directions. One is looking for tools within our religious sources. Meditating on the Qur'anic perspective of the One God and the variety in creation, including the different colours and attitudes and even religious rituals among human beings, may well take us beyond tribalist rivalry and the exclusivity of paths to a vision of a common goal of healing and peace. The other is exploring our religious sources together - which is not a new idea. By studying with colleagues of other religions, Muslims scholars and mystics have often discovered how those different colours and shades represented by our traditions are actually aspects of the One Light.

Halima Krausen is the director of the Initiative for Islamic Studies and Imam of the German-speaking Muslim community in Hamburg. This article is part of a series on apostasy and proselytism distributed by the Common Ground News Service (CG News) and can be accessed at www.commongroundnews.org.

Ubuntu: The spirit we need in the Middle East

By: Emad Omar

A few years back, Susan Collin Marks, an international conflict transformation specialist from South Africa, wrote a great book, Watching the Wind, about the South African transition from apartheid to democracy. Its importance lies in the fact that it answers a question that has been on my mind for some time: How did the apartheid regime in South Africa end with relatively little bloodshed, when a doomsday scenario had always been predicted?

In her book, Marks explains how the spirit and culture of the South African people played an important role in making the peaceful transition possible. She describes the culture and spirit of Ubuntu, which in the Xhosa and Zulu languages means "people are people through other people." As Archbishop Desmond Tutu says, in Ubuntu "my humanity is caught up inextricably in yours. When I dehumanize you, I inexorably dehumanize myself. The solitary human being is a contradiction in terms."

Ubuntu expresses itself in hospitality, compassion, a desire to help others, and tolerance. Furthermore, it maintains open doors, welcomes everyone, and promotes inclusion. The culture of Ubuntu helped South Africans reconcile through a peace process that focused on ending apartheid rather than on revenge, and the South African tradition of storytelling from the heart set the stage for public forgiveness and a better future. This is a culture that cherishes actively listening to the narratives of others.

Reading about Ubuntu, I could see its similarity to Arab culture in how

people see themselves through others and never hesitate to help. Today we desperately need to revive this Arab Ubuntu as we strive to shed the violence and futility that dominate the Middle East.

Ubuntu also entered the corporate and academic sectors in South Africa. In 1994, South African Airways restructured its organization to embrace Ubuntu and launched a marketing campaign to reflect its new policy of a caring airline. We, too, could integrate it into the management concepts that govern our institutions and enterprises.

Internationally, stories are told by individuals through art, music, and film. We listen, our humanity is touched, and we are encouraged to act. A case in point is the 2004 film Hotel Rwanda. Based on a true story, the film shows in horrible detail global inaction in the face of the 1994 massacre of a half-a-million Rwandans over a three-month period, not by weapons of mass destruction, but by machetes and guns.

According to a friend who worked there, Rwanda is a piece of heaven. Its Lake Victoria is among the most scenic in the world. Yet the film shows 40 thousand dead bodies fished out of that lake in the wake of those massacres. It shows how an individual's identity can become a fatal flaw. Colonialism, intolerance, bigotry, the indifference of the international community and power struggles all contributed to producing this tragedy.

Music can also play a role in telling people's stories, especially if prominent musicians are involved. A case in point is the American rock star Alecia Moore, known as "Pink". In her song, Dear Mr. President, she raises the people's voice by asking difficult ques-

tions on such pressing socio-economic and political issues as war, homelessness, and those with little economic opportunity. Although Alecia is most likely not aware of it, she is calling for the Ubuntu spirit when she sings, Dear Mr. President, how do you sleep while the rest of us cry? How do you dream when a mother has no chance to say goodbye?

Some songs turn into a legacy with time. We Shall Overcome, by an unknown songwriter, became the anthem of the non-violent Civil Rights movement in the United States and later found its way to South Africa during its peaceful transition to democracy. In 1996, Diana Ross sang it in Budapest in a remarkable opera variation.

Today, more than at any other time, the world needs the spirit and culture of actively listening to the stories of others, seeing life through their eyes, sharing with them life's journey and peacefully transforming difficulties into positive change. Translating this spirit into music, literature, and daily life helps reduce the effects of devastating wars and violent conflicts and provides the opportunity for peaceful solutions.

The televised bloody and violent images that invade our daily lives in the Middle East are terrifying and should come to an end. Perhaps the solution is in a book, a film, a song, a poem, or a play, that shares our stories. The people of Ubuntu would know best.

Emad Omar is based in Amman and specializes in media and conflict resolution. This article is distributed by the Common Ground News Service (CGNews) and can be accessed at www.commongroundnews.org.

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Antiretroviral drugs help HIV patients, specialists say

By: Robert Franklin Draper
For Yemen Times

Antiretroviral drugs and counselling are being used to heal both the bodies and minds of HIV infected people in Yemen, specialists have said.

The National Aids & Sexually Transmitted Disease Program (NAP), which is headed by Dr. Fouzia Abdullah Saeed Ghramah, who is a community medicine specialist, is confronting the HIV epidemic in Yemen by providing free medicine, HIV/AIDS education, and group counselling, but the stigma of HIV prevents people from seeking the free help.

As of right now, "\$191,000.00 for 200 patients has been spent on antiretroviral drugs, which comes from UNICEF," says Ms. Ghramah. It is the antiretroviral drugs "that stops the reproduction of the HIV virus," according to Dr. Achmed Yahya Al-Nehmi, a lab technician at Al-Gumhouri Teaching Hospital.

As of present day, there is no cure for HIV/AIDS but there are antiretroviral drugs to stop the spread of the infection at different stages. "We get combinations of antiretroviral drugs from the World Health Organization, and the dates are on the packet, and so it is not expired," says Dr. AL-Nehmi.

After testing the Cd-4 count of the patient, the doctor gives drugs to patients who have a CD4 of less than 200. Dr. AL-Nehmi explains to the patients that the

"antiretroviral stops the reproduction of the HIV virus "We slowly decrease their (HIV infected people) fear about this problem (HIV)," says Mr. AL-Zomor.

Antiretroviral drugs are available in all western countries, and "antiretroviral treatment for HIV infected patients was first introduced in 1986.

Zidovudine (ZDV), a nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor (NRTI), was the first drug that was used and was shown to reduce deaths," of HIV infected people, according to the World Health Organization.

The organization added that "in Europe and North America, AIDS mortality has dropped significantly in large part due to access to regimens of 3 or more antiretroviral drugs."

It is this decrease in mortality rates that NAP is looking to manifest in Yemen. The Ministry of Public Health and Population has a list of 2,075 cases of people living with HIV/AIDS," says, Dr. Areej M Taher, a NAP technical officer. Many Yemeni people can be helped by the antiretroviral medication, but "because of the stigma they (HIV infected people), are afraid to come, they refuse to come here," says Dr. Taher.

HIV stigma

Stigma of HIV & Aids has been thwarted drastically in most western and modernized nations because of the numerous HIV/AIDS awareness programs in grade schools, middle schools, and even high schools. These programs have been able to educate the youth, and in many other

third world countries.

Also, HIV/AIDS is associated with non-Islamic practices such as homosexuality, fornication, and drug addiction,

"Most people feel ashamed, and they don't want anyone to know about them," explains, Dr. Nehmi. "There was one man who had sex with a woman, who was a servant in the house. By chance he found out he had HIV when he went for a routine medical check up," explains Dr. Nehmi.

As a result of cases like these, the person fears social stigma from family members, and fellow employees, which causes them to "escape from others and they don't do social activities," the specialist added.

It is because of this stigma of HIV that "only a little bit of medicine is needed," officials say. Dr. Mayada Faisal Nabih Mohammed, a medical specialist at NAP, says : "Since February 2007, we have just reached 82 cases that receive treatment with Aids medicine."

Also, there are 240 people from different governorates that are receiving test, and other medication for infections, she adds.

According to her, NAP is expecting to reach 250 patients that need the AIDS medications by the end of 2008. The medicine for these people is far from the registered 2,075 cases at the Ministry of Health, but it is start.

Akbar, 27, is infected with HIV and his case is registered with NAP. He says : "I already wanted to kill myself, but then the hospital sent me to the NAP counsel-

lors' office. He says to his counsellor, "I wanted to chew Qat, drink alcohol, and shoot myself."

However, Mr. Abdul Basset Al-Zomor, who is a nurse and counsellor for patients with HIV/AIDS, convinced him that life was better than death. Akbar says: "I had sex with a female friend from the Philippines. I had sex with her once, and that's all. She doesn't know I have AIDS."

Four months ago he went to the hospital for a routine investigation about his health for a VISA to Saudi Arabia, and the administration of the hospital told him that he had HIV.

Akbar says, "If I kill myself, my family and village will look down on me, and because of that my family doesn't know."

According to Mr. Zomor, "No one understands this problem in Yemen," and that's why families are not told unless the patient gives his permission. When Akbar's mother asked why he didn't travel to Saudi Arabia to work and bring in money for the family, fear of social stigma compelled him to lie.

Akbar justified his not going to Saudi Arabia by saying that he had hepatitis B, and he can't travel. "I want to marry a woman from the NAP program who has HIV but is healthy," he says.

Akbar looks like a healthy trim Yemeni man. No weight loss is apparent, and no sicknesses are plaguing his disabled immune system because he has been taking a combination of antiretroviral drugs since he became aware of his HIV status 4 months ago.

Unaware patients

"I don't know how I got HIV," says Muhammad, 31, a truck driver. Muhammad, like many people in Yemen found out he had HIV when he got a 2 year medical check-up.

"At that time I tested positive for HIV, and yeah I cried." During this time, "I felt sick in my body, and my weight came down." As Muhammad waits for his CD4 results at Al-Gumhouri, he says, "my CD4 count was 107, but after 3 months of (antiretroviral) medicine it went to 216."

Dr. Al-Nehmi says, "No need for drugs. His CD4 count is still above 200."

According to Mark Cichocki, a HIV/AIDS nurse specialist at the

University of Michigan's HIV/AIDS Treatment Program,

"CD4 Cells are cells that have molecules called CD4 on its surface. These 'helper' cells initiate the body's response to invading micro-organisms such as viruses. HIV is a retrovirus, meaning it needs cells from a 'host' in order to make more copies of itself (replication). In the case of HIV, CD4 cells are the host cells that aid HIV in replication.

HIV attaches to the CD4 cells, allowing the virus to enter and infect the CD4 cells, damaging them in the process. The fewer functioning CD4 cells, the weaker the immune system and therefore the more vulnerable a person is to infections and illnesses. It is the antiretroviral drugs provided by organizations like NAP that prevents the CD4 level in a patient from decreasing

Another Yemeni man, 60 year old, who voluntarily brings HIV patients to the clinic at Al-Gumhouri Teaching Hospital, takes both antiretroviral drugs and Zindani' herbal medication. He is also health-looking, maintains a good CD4 count, and looks forward to the future. "I have no complaints," he says about the antiretroviral medication and Zindani herbal drink for HIV, which he takes daily. "I convince people to come here (Al-Gumhouri) to get treatment with HIV," he says.

"I am a new patient," says Fatima, 47, "I got it (HIV) from my husband. Maybe he committed adultery."

"I was very angry at my husband, and I felt very bad. He said that he was sorry and he didn't know how he got the disease. He was having kidney problem, before losing his weight, which is common amongst AIDS patients who don't receive treatment.

"He was shouting at me before he died. When he died my brother took me to the hospital, and made the test. Health workers told me I had AIDS."

Fatima is one of the many women from the Mediterranean region that has contracted HIV from her husband. "In general about 80% of women in the Mediterranean region get HIV infection from their husbands," says Dr. Ghramah, but men get infected, too. Presently, Fatima is taking antiretroviral drugs, and

she expects her CD4 count to rise above 200.

Also, to curb the patients fear of members of the public knowing that they are HIV infected or if they have full blown AIDS, "We receive patients here (Al-Gumhouri), give them a code number for personal security, and we give them info about AIDS," says Mr. Al-Zomor.

Because of the sensitivity and the shame associated with HIV & AIDS, to identify patients, "we have a number system, so the patient is confident of his security," explains Dr. Al-Nehmi.

Only the age, nationality, and sometimes the city of the patient is written down in the record. No pictures or any other identification is documented. Because of the documenting system no statistic can be gathered about where the majority of HIV infections occur in Yemen, or the average age, or occupation of HIV patients, but according to Dr. Al-Nehmi, "most cases are aged between 20 to 40 years old."

Free medications

The quality of medication is a major issue in Yemen. Yemen is known for selling medicine that is expired or lack effectiveness in its ability to cure or decrease the problematic health issue that plagues the patient, but this is not a problem with the HIV medication according to Dr. Taher. "All drugs are approved by the World Health Organization, and by companies known and registered with the Ministry of Public Health and Population," she adds.

How long will free medication be provided to Yemeni people is another question that resonates in the minds of Yemeni & refugees alike. Since Yemen is a third world developing country, most of the people live in poverty, and they depend on the government to help provide the antiretroviral drugs needed to help HIV infected people.

Funds are coming, but there is no long term project to take care of the HIV infected people. "We have money from the Global Fund to support us for 5 years, and if God wills the Ministry of Health and Population will take care of the procurement of the drugs for AIDS patients for the future," says Dr. Taher.

YEMEN: People struggling with drought on Socotra Island

Socotra, a small group of Yemeni islands in the Indian Ocean close to the Horn of Africa - and in broad biogeographical terms closely linked with Africa - has been hit by a severe drought. It started about two months ago, causing a water shortage and the deaths of hundreds of animals, say government officials.

The last time the main island's 45,000 inhabitants experienced serious drought was in 1999. Their livestock died in their thousands as grass and bushes withered in the sun in what at the time was the worst drought in living memory.

This time drought has spread to the western, eastern and middle parts of the island.

Ahmed al-Awadi, director-general of Hadibo, Socotra's capital, told IRIN that people in the affected areas were living in miserable conditions and their livestock had been dying as a result of the drought.

According to al-Awadi, a tanker of water could cost 60,000 Yemeni riyals (about US\$300), which Socotri people say they cannot afford. "Our capabilities are very weak. We need water tankers to bring water to the affected areas. The army has helped people get water in some areas," al-Awadi said.

The head of the environmental protection authority (a government body) in Socotra, Salem Ali, told IRIN sheep and cattle had been dying because of lack of water and grazing areas. "There is no exact figure on the number of deaths of animals, but it could run into the hundreds," he said.

The inhabitants of these areas were very poor and preoccupied with their animals on whom they depended for their living. Many had left their homes in search of better places for themselves and their animals, Ali said.

However, environmentalists say that if livestock are allowed to survive droughts through the provision of water and imported fodder, the present fragile equilibrium between vegetation, man and livestock will be destroyed very quickly.

Rainwater harvesting, storage

Southern and northern parts of the main island get water from cisterns in the valleys and a network of pipes. People in western and eastern parts of the island build ponds to collect rain water. While some of the ponds are six metres long, four metres wide and three metres deep, others are larger. Several families share a



A map highlighting Socotra, a small group of Yemeni islands in the Indian Ocean close to the Horn of Africa

single pond.

"But water saved in ponds can dry up in a month. This year the ponds dried up by the beginning of July after the May rains," Ali said.

Most of the ponds are not clean as they are not covered. "The water in these ponds can cause diseases such as diarrhoea because it contains parasites," he said. Dysentery is common on the island and often essential drugs are not available.

Malaria is also widespread partly as a result of mosquitoes breeding in the ponds. Fresh water ponds have also formed because of leaking water pipes and this has also contributed to an increase of mosquitoes.

Sources of income

Socotra's inhabitants depend on fishing, livestock and to some extent tourism as sources of income. The coastal area is inhabited by fishermen mostly of

African origin while the 'wadis' (dried-up river valleys) and mountain regions are populated by people of Arab descent. Health services, education, access to sustainable livelihoods and clean water are weak.

The island has no agricultural crops because of the harsh climate, though small-scale production of fruit and vegetables, including dates, cow peas, finger millet and sweet potatoes, is possible.

Food, mostly wheat and flour, come from other parts of Yemen by air or sea, as a result of which prices are the highest in the country.

"The situation is horrifying. A sack of wheat can cost 8,000 Yemeni riyals (\$40) while in other provinces it sells for 5,000 riyals (\$25)," said al-Awadi, attributing this to the high cost of transporting food to the island.

Source: IRIN

Cycling and Cancer

By Barron H. Lerner

The cyclist Lance Armstrong recently celebrated an anniversary. It has been ten years since he was diagnosed with metastatic testicular cancer, which his doctors believed would kill him.

Based on his inspiring story and his efforts to publicize the disease, Armstrong has become an anti-cancer crusader. But on examining his foundation's website (www.laf.org) and his writings, a nagging question remains: Did the same tenacity that enabled Armstrong to win seven Tour de France bicycle races help cure his cancer? Armstrong is careful not to equate cycling with cancer, but he—and his legions of fans—often cannot help but do so. Such a connection may be highly misleading.

By his early twenties, Armstrong was becoming a force in the racing world, but all was not well. In 1996, at age 25, Armstrong developed fatigue, testicular pain and a bloody cough.

Doctors diagnosed him with testicular cancer. More distressingly, Armstrong's cancer was far-advanced, having spread to his lungs, abdomen and brain. He was given roughly a 40% chance of survival, which was probably an overestimate. One doctor told Armstrong's mother that her son would die.

After undergoing surgery to remove his cancerous testicle, Armstrong became "a student of cancer." He was treated at Indiana University, perhaps America's leading center for testicular cancer.

Armstrong chose Indiana because its oncologists said they could treat him without bleomycin, a type of chemotherapy that would have damaged his lungs and ended his cycling career if he survived. They removed his brain tumors with surgery instead of radiation, which might have caused balance prob-

lems.

But the doctors made no bones about what Armstrong was to receive: extremely caustic drugs that would make him sick as a dog. Armstrong later wrote that "by the fourth cycle [of chemotherapy], I was in the fetal position, retching around the clock."

Armstrong's cancer responded extremely well. He then underwent extensive rehabilitation, gradually regaining strength and confidence. By 1998, he was again riding his bicycle.

The illness changed Armstrong's body. When he resumed serious training, he was leaner and more muscular. In addition to the emotional advantage that Armstrong believed that cancer gave him, his new body also made him a more effective cyclist.

In 1999, less than three years after his diagnosis, Armstrong won his first Tour de France. Six more followed, making him the greatest cyclist in history.

For his part, Armstrong has tried to steer clear of facile associations between his Tour de France triumphs and his recovery from cancer. "Good, strong people get cancer," he has written, "and they do all the right things to beat it, and they still die." Perhaps he was a racing hero, Armstrong has stated, but "it wasn't heroic to survive cancer." Even though he participated in his care and had excellent doctors, his survival was "more a matter of blind luck."

Still, at times, Armstrong seems to slip into the sort of language he wishes to avoid. At the close of his second book, Armstrong summarized his history with cancer as: "I got treated, I fought like hell, and I got better." A quotation on his foundation's website reads "When I was sick, I didn't want to die. When I race I don't want to lose. Dying and losing, it's the same thing."

More worrisome is the adoption of the same reasoning by those who hear Armstrong's story. "Lance refused to become a statistic and instead rallied

and became cancer's worst enemy," wrote a reviewer of his first book. "He refused to give in and chose to fight the disease with all he had." An Internet biography states that "with the same fierce focus he brings to competition," Armstrong "tackled his illness and won."

To some people, Armstrong has become a symbol for the notion that anything is possible. "Lance beat cancer and then he went on to win 5 Tour de Frances," a computer programmer wrote on his blog in 2003. "That pretty much means I can overcome whatever ills I have in my life so I can keep going after that."

The trouble is that data about the "will to live" among cancer patients are not so rosy. One 1989 study showed that women with metastatic breast cancer who attended support groups survived longer, but these results have not been duplicated. A recent study showed that a positive attitude did not lengthen the lives of lung cancer patients. Anecdotal, clinicians can recall "fighters" with cancer who die and others who "give up" but live.

This is a sobering message for Armstrong's many fans. After all, we all want to think that hard work always pays off. Unfortunately, in the world of cancer, this may not be so.

But Armstrong's legacy is about more than data. He has educated and provided inspiration to thousands, perhaps millions, of cancer patients and raised money that is being used to finding cures. Oh, and there are those seven bike races that he won.

Barron H. Lerner is Professor of Medicine and Public Health at Columbia University Medical Center. This essay draws on his new book, When Illness Goes Public: Celebrity Patients and How We Look at Medicine.

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JOB VACANCIES

Nexen is a Canadian-based, global energy company growing value responsibly. We are strategically positioned in some of the world's most exciting regions: the North Sea, deep-water Gulf of Mexico, Middle East, offshore West Africa and the Canadian Athabasca oil sands. Nexen offers a strong focus on individual training, an attractive compensation package and a benefits plan that extends medical coverage to immediate family, including parents. Job opportunities with Nexen Yemen extend across both our blocks, Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen - Masila (BLK14) & Canadian Petroleum Yemen East Al-Hajr (BLK51).

1. Geologist ((0612)**Job Duties:**

- o Maintains the geology data base and construct geological maps from well logs and seismic data.
- o Becomes a super user on Petrel, Geolog, Geographics and related geological and geophysical software and applications.
- o Prepares maps for regular reports and as requested by the asset team.
- o Assists with geological models development from well logs, cross-sections, and maps.
- o Assists Sr. Geologist with updating the asset management plan geological information.
- o Assists with hydrocarbon resource size estimates in generated prospects and related risk assessments.
- o Assists the multi-disciplinary team following development well drilling operations to evaluate results.
- o Participates in the annual evaluation and reporting of total field reserves
- o Participate actively in technical meetings with partners and government representatives as required.
- o Travel internationally and to the Operating sites up to a few times each year.

Minimum Requirements:

- o B.Sc. in Geology preferred.
- o Minimum 2 years of related Geology experience is preferred.
- o Must be knowledgeable in the areas of decision analysis.
- o Must have at least a basic understanding of well log analysis and economic evaluations.
- o Exposure to oil field operations would be helpful.
- o Excellent presentation, team, interpersonal relations skills and business understanding is required.
- o Good knowledge of English a definite asset.

2. Reservoir Engineer (0767)**Job duties**

- o Maintain the production and injection data in the assigned area(s).
- o Become a supper user for OFM and provide support to the technical staff if required.
- o Work with the Senior Reservoir Engineers to maintain the reservoir engineering data base.
- o Review water flood data and recommend changes to the Injection production ratios if required to the Asset team.
- o Provide support to the Asset Team for the monthly production and injection forecast.
- o Maintain close communication and coordination with the Asset team
- o Support the Asset Team Lead in preparing presentations.
- o Participate with preparation and reservoir engineering update area Asset Management Plan in conjunction with Field Operations asset team members.
- o Assist with the annual evaluation and reporting of total field reserves.
- o Work with the Team Lead in preparing the reporting requirements to the government and partners.
- o Actively participate in technical meetings with partners and government representatives as required.

Minimum requirements

- o B.Sc. in Petroleum Engineering preferred (equivalent experience may be substituted for B.Sc degree).
- o Minimum 2 years of related reservoir engineering experience is preferred.
- o Must be knowledgeable in the areas of decision analysis and economic evaluation.
- o Experience with data base applications is desirable.
- o Exposure to oil field operation with be helpful.
- o Exposure to principles of production engineering would be helpful.
- o Excellent presentation, team, interpersonal relations skills and business understanding is required.
- o Good knowledge of English a definite asset.

3. Reservoir Engineer Supervisor – Team Lead (0367)**Job Duties:**

- o Work with and supervise other members of the technical team to develop maintain and execute an asset management plan for area of responsibility by applying concepts of uncertainty and decision analysis.
- o Provide day to day reservoir engineering support to the team (Asset team members, Operations and Production Engineering) to maximize production and reserves recovery.
- o Work with and supervise other members of the asset team (Geologists, Geophysicists, and Production Engineers) to recommend and execute new well drillings, well reactivations and recompletions.
- o Provide support to the team (Asset team members, Operations and Production Engineering) to optimize production and water injection in areas where water flood is required.
- o Provides mentoring and coaching to the other members of the Reservoir Development department.
- o Develop programs and execute to bring on stream on time and on budget.
- o Responsible for cost analysis and control including variance reporting.
- o Evaluate exploration prospects and development plans.
- o Prepare annual production forecast and capital expenditure expectations.
- o Perform economic evaluation in support of new drilling and well exploitation such as well re-completions, and well optimizations.
- o Utilize, as appropriate, state of the art petroleum engineering tools, e.g. reservoir simulation, to predict and optimize reservoir performance and oil, water and gas production profiles.
- o Evaluate and implement new technology for the purpose of enhancing oil production and improving ultimate oil recoveries.
- o Ensures the principles of performance management are followed in the asset team.
- o Actively participate in technical meetings with partners and government representatives

Minimum Requirements:

- o Bachelor's degree in Petroleum, Chemical, Mechanical or Electrical Engineering, Geology or Geophysics preferred.
- o A minimum of 10 years' experience in reservoir engineering, geology or geophysics is preferred.

- o Must be knowledgeable in reserves assessment.
- o Experience with open and cased hole log analysis is a benefit.
- o Exposure to the principles of production engineering would be helpful.
- o Exposure to oil field operations would be helpful.
- o Excellent presentation, team, interpersonal relations skills and business understanding is required.
- o Good knowledge of English is a definite asset.

7. Geological Specialist 0612)**Job Duties:**

- o Plans and directs large programs/projects, setting priorities. Participates with preparation and updates area Asset Management Plan(s) in conjunction with asset team members.
- o Estimates hydrocarbon resource size in generated prospects and performs related risk assessments.
- o Participates in the annual evaluation and reporting of total Block and Yemen reserves.
- o Performs independent studies, and analysis, interprets and draws own conclusions.
- o Directs geological studies including pool or basin modeling.
- o Matures generated prospects to the drillable stage.
- o Independently evaluates complex data sets, seismic and well log data for hydrocarbon potential and makes recommendations based on technical and business experience.
- o Incorporates biostratigraphy, cores, log character analysis, sedimentology and stratigraphy data to develop interpretation of depositional environment and facies distributions.
- o Works with team of engineers on well designs and incorporates engineering input into overall interpretation and evaluates the results.
- o Assists Sr. Geological Specialist to execute the technical work programs and budgets for operated blocks.
- o Actively participate in technical meetings with partners and government representatives as required to keep up to date on current events in the industry.

Minimum Requirements:

- o BS Geology and MS Geology (Equivalent experience may be substituted for the MS degree.
- o Minimum 6 years of related geology experience is preferred.
- o A proven track record of prospect generation with exploratory success is desired.
- o Requires application of mature technical knowledge in planning, conducting, and coordinating difficult and complex assignments.
- o Must and advanced understanding of well log analysis and economic evaluations.
- o Experience in complex fault interpretation is a decided benefit.
- o A proven track reord of prospect generation with success is an asset.
- o Prior experience in extensionally faulted environments is an asset.
- o A good working knowledge of carbonate margin interpretation is desirable.
- o Requires application of mature technical knowledge in planning, conducting, and coordinating difficult and complex assignments.
- o Past experience in both development and exploration work is beneficial.
- o Excellent Microsoft Excel, PowerPoint and Word skills.
- o Excellent Oracle experience.
- o Exposure to oil field operations would be helpful.
- o Excellent presentation, team, interpersonal relations skills and business understanding is required.
- o Advanced written and spoken English language skills are required.

5. Accounts Pay Analyst – Sana'a (8-13)**Job Duties:**

- o Creates SAP Invoice Document based on scanned images of invoices from the Business Workplace relating to different department.
- o Inputs basic data like Invoice #, Invoice date, commitment document reference (for SO/LSO/PO/FWO), invoice receipt date, amount, Currency, House Bank, payment method and other details. When information is incomplete refers back to the invoice source and resolves error. Examples: missing information, incorrect coding, etc.
- o Makes follow-ups with various departmental managers on pending/parked invoices sent to their work flows to ensure timely processing of the invoice and payment thereof.
- o Informs Vendor of errors, overcharges & undercharges on their invoice and prepares and sends Invoice Adjustment Letter.
- o Liaises with vendors to resolve queries. Includes contacting local or overseas vendors or Calgary office by phone, telefax or personal contact to obtain clarification or further information e.g. information in incorrect format, missing information, etc.
- o Carries out other similar or related duties as requested by AP / Disbursement Supervisor.

Minimum Requirements:

- o Bachelors Degree in Commerce or equivalent.
- o Good working knowledge of Word, Excel, Outlook and SAP.
- o Good knowledge of English.

6. Scanning Clerk II (9977)**Job Duties:**

- o Receives invoices from Vendors, stamps them with IXOS/Filing number, enters the invoice data into IXOS control log, and scan them through IXOS and link into SAP (Up front scanning).
- o Scans / links the invoices processed by A/P using IXOS and reviews and confirms the information in the system agrees to the SAP Document (Back end scanning).
- o Organizes the batch files and file in temporary file pending shipment of documents to the Terminal for permanent Records storage.
- o Scans / links the Journal Entries processed by other Finance sections in a back end mode using IXOS and reviews and confirms the information in the system agrees to the SAP Document (Back end scanning).
- o Carries out other similar or related duties as determined by the supervisor.

Minimum Requirements

- o Completion of Secondary (12 years) education.
- o 2 years' clerical experience.
- o Computer skills including Word, Excel and Access.
- o Good knowledge of English.

8. HSE Technician (0199)**Job Duties:**

- o Inspects CPF, Field and Terminal safety equipment on a regular basis to ensure that it is in a proper operating condition. Covers such equipment as fire extinguishers, breathing air equipment, eye wash and emergency shower, first-aid kits, aviation/emergency response vehicle etc. Compiles inspection data using standard check-list and submits to supervisor for review and necessary action.
- o Advises the Environmental Health and Safety Supervisor immediately of any hazardous or unsafe acts and conditions, environmental incidents and accidents, injuries or near-miss events with the potential to cause any of the above occurrences.
- o Provides assistance to the Safety Training Coordinator in the performance of various types of safety training programs. Includes preparing, cleaning and recommissioning equipment and props, supplementing teams undergoing training, conducting safety orientation programs and translating training material.
- o Distributes, installs and maintains supplemental Environmental Health and Safety equipment such as fall arrest equipment, safety harnesses, breathing-air cart etc. Includes such tasks as replacing air in breathing apparatus bottles, cleaning, sterilizing baths, etc.
- o Participates in accident/incident investigations as required. Includes interviewing personnel involved, liaising with the military and/or local police, gathering information, taking measurements etc. under the direction of supervisor.

Minimum Requirements:

- o Completion of Secondary (Technical) education (12 years) followed by 2 years' full time formal training in a technical discipline with 3 years' safety and field operating experience.
- o Successful completion of at least 95% of the items on the EH&S Operator Skills Ladder and 75% of required training courses
- o Basic computer skills including use of Excel, Word and Freelance
- o Good knowledge of English.
- o Valid Yemeni driving license

8. ESP Data Clerk Position (9986)**Job Duties:**

- o Assist with compiling ESP component failure data. Ensures ESP dismantles and failure analysis reports are properly formatted and filed.
- o Assist in tabulating ESP costs by updating the run cost tracking sheet and the shop cost-tracking table.
- o Assists with the creation and produces reports for the production engineering group as requested under direction from the ESP Data Tech. Running standard reports, and manipulating various spreadsheets to extract desired data.
- o Assists with documentation for the exportation of ESP equipment for repair, remanufacture or for warranty replacement.
- o Miscellaneous duties such as, corresponding with accounting personnel and ESP maintenance to reconcile variances and resolve outstanding issues.
- o If required to drive shall know and understand CNPY "Safe Driving Practice".
- o Know and understand the Responsible Care Ethics. Will follow the Responsible Care standards as applicable to their role within the Organization.

Minimum Requirements:

- o Minimum of Grade 12 diploma.
- o Degree or diploma in Business Administration or Computer Science preferred
- o Experienced in extracting data and compiling reports
- o Excellent organizational skills.
- o Ability to coordinate multiple tasks/projects.
- o Strong computer skills with emphasis on MS Excel.
- o Familiar with inventory control techniques and materials management software such as SAP.
- o Work under supervision according to well defined procedures and technical standards.
- o Two years material/logistic coordination would be beneficial.
- o Good knowledge of English.

9. Production Admin Assistant (04-093)

- o Issues supply requests to be withdrawn from Warehouse.
- o Prepares Service Entries into SAP from information received on contractor daily timesheets. Enters invoices into the SAP System and Prepares material reservations and requisitions into the SAP System.
- o Provides clerical support such as typing correspondence and preparing reports and presentations for members of the management team. Includes translating correspondence to respond in English or Arabic as required.
- o Cross checks contractor invoices for manpower, equipment and other charges to ensure they are legitimate.
- o Attend to telephone calls and faxes ensuring requests for assistance or information from other departments or outside organizations are forwarded to the appropriate personnel. Maintaining a filing system and filing documents as required.
- o Maintains stationary supplies and reorders as required.
- o Coordinate travel arrangements for National employees and provide rotation lists to Camp Administration.
- o Has the flexibility to take on additional tasks as assigned and as workload dictates.
- o Carries out other similar or related duties as required.

Minimum Requirements

- o Completion of secondary education, followed by 2 years of administration experience
- o Strong computer skills and knowledge of computer applications including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, PEAK, SAP and Lotus Notes.
- o Excellent knowledge of English (both written and oral).
- o Valid Yemen driver's license.

- o To Apply for this Job and for further information on the Job duties and responsibilities you can visit our website www.nexeninc.com/careers/yemen
- o Applications should be submitted NO later than **October 21st, 2007**. Faxed applications will not be considered.
- o Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.



RAMADAN 2007



By: Harun Yahya
www.harunyahya.com

Only love can defeat terrorism-8

The Prophet Mohammed's (pbuh) Noble Morality-II

Our Prophet (may God bless him and grant him peace) advised the faithful to be full of love:

Our Prophet (may God bless him and grant him peace) declared it was particularly important for the faithful to love one another with sincere affection, taking no account of personal interests, and never to harbor negative emotions like hatred, anger or jealousy.

In the Qur'an (42:23), God commands His Prophet (may God bless him and grant him peace) to say the following:

That is the good news which God gives to His servants who believe and do right actions. Say: "I do not ask you for any wage for this—except for you to love your near of kin. If anyone does a good action, We will increase the good of it for him. God is Ever-Forgiving, Ever-Thankful."

Some hadiths regarding the Prophet's (may God bless him and grant him peace) affection, friendship and brotherhood read:

A believer loves for others what he loves for himself.

God's Apostle (saas) used to accept gifts and used to give something in return.

He who is presented with a flower of sweet basil should not reject it, because it is light in weight and pleasant in odor.

Don't hate one another, don't envy one another don't sell over the sale to another, don't dispute with one another and don't back-bite one another. The servants of God are brethren to one another.

The habits of earlier generations have attacked you—envy and hatred. Hatred is shaving. You will not enter Paradise till you believe. You will not believe till you love one another. Shall I not inform you what thing will establish you on it? Spread peace among you.

The strong man is not the one who is strong in wrestling, but the one who controls himself in anger.

Beware of envy, for envy devours good [deeds] as fire devours firewood.

Muslims are brothers to one another. They should neither cheat, lie, nor humiliate each other.



Our Prophet (may God bless him and grant him peace) commanded justice:

With the rules he gave to the Muslims; with his just and tolerant attitude towards other religions, languages, races and tribes; and in his equal treatment of everybody, rich and poor, our Prophet Mohammed (may God bless him and grant him peace) is a great example to all of mankind. In one verse (5:42), God tells him "But if you do judge, judge between them justly. God loves the just." The Prophet (may God bless him and grant him peace) never made the slightest concession on that justice, not even under the most difficult conditions.

Many incidents from his life bear witness to the Prophet's (may God bless him and grant him peace) exemplary attitude. In the land where he lived, a variety of religions, races and tribes all lived together. These communities found it very difficult to live together in peace and security, much less restrain those who wanted to sow dissent. However, our Prophet's (may God bless him and grant him peace) justice was a

source of peace and security, as much for these non-believers as it was for Muslims. During his lifetime, everyone on the Arabian Peninsula— Christian, Jew, or pagan— was treated justly, with no discrimination.

If you were to follow the common run of those on this earth, they would lead you away from the way of Allah. They follow nothing but conjecture: they do nothing but lie. (Surat al-An'am: 116)

Our Prophet's (may God bless him and grant him peace) pleasing attitude, in conformity with the Qur'an, sets an example for those of different religions and shows how they should behave to one another. His justice brought about compromise between people of different races. In many of his addresses, even in his Farewell Sermon, he made it known that no one's race or class endowed him with any superiority. This lay only in godliness, as God has revealed in the Qur'an (49:13). Other hadiths on this subject say:

You are sons of Adam, and Adam came from dust. Let the people cease to boast about their ancestors.

These genealogies of yours are not a reason to revile anyone. You are all children of Adam. No one has any superiority over another, except in religion and taqwa [godliness].

Our Prophet (may God bless him and grant him peace) always favored peace:

Our Prophet (may God bless him and grant him peace) never desired war but over the years, made great efforts to spread Islam by peaceful means. He was patient in the face of heavy assaults and pressure, except when dealing with such pressure became imperative, he did give permission for war, in the light of a revelation from God. He never declared war so long as there was still the slightest possibility of peace, and as long as an enemy's attacks and pressure represented no mortal danger.

During our Prophet's (may God bless him and grant him peace) lifetime, the Mu'tah Expedition was the bloodiest and most difficult waged by the Muslims. He appointed Zayd ibn Harithah to command the army, and admonished the troops:

Wage war in the name of God, on the path of God, against those who deny God. Engage in no treachery. Do not cut off ears and noses and other parts of the body. Do not kill women and chil-

dren, the elderly, and men of religion in their places of worship. Do not cut down date and other trees, and do not tear down buildings.

Based on the prophetic orders on war, the following principles, which may be called "The Islamic Principles of Combat", are outlined by Muslim scholars:

1. War is to be waged only with those who encourage and engage in it.
2. Priests in churches, children, women, and the elderly must never be harmed.
3. Sown fields must not be damaged.
4. Treaties and agreements must not be broken.
5. Animals must not be harmed.
6. There must be no cruelty and torture.
7. Towns must not be destroyed.

The Treaty of Medina, signed by our Prophet (may God bless him and grant him peace) and the Jewish and polytheist communities in the city, was also an important example of justice and mutual respect between different communities. The treaty, drawn up to establish a kind of constitution between communities of different beliefs and allowing each one to observe its own principles, brought peace to those who for years had been hostile to one another. One of its most striking features was how it enshrined freedom of belief. The article on that subject reads:

The Jews of Banu 'Awf are one nation with the Muslims; the Jews have their religion, and the Muslims have theirs...

Article 16 of the Treaty of Medina reads, "The Jew who follows us is surely entitled to our support and the same equal rights as any one of us. He shall not be wronged nor his enemy be assisted." The Prophet's (may God bless him and grant him peace) successors stayed loyal to that rule he agreed to, extending it even to Berbers, Buddhists, Hindu Brahmins and those of other beliefs.

Allah has revealed to me that you must be humble, so that no one boasts over another, or oppresses another. (Muslim)

One reason why the time of the Prophet (may God bless him and grant him peace) was blessed with peace and security was his position of justice, so in line with the morality of the Qur'an. Foreign writers, too, have been impressed by his superior character and praise our Prophet's (may God bless him and grant him peace) morality in their works. In The Genuine Islam,

George Bernard Shaw described these superior traits:

I have always held the religion of Mohammed in high estimation because of its wonderful vitality. It is the only religion which appears to me to possess that assimilating capacity to the changing phase of existence which can make itself appeal to every age. I have studied him ... he must be called the Savior of Humanity. I believe that if a man like him were to assume the dictatorship of the modern world, he would succeed in solving its problems in a way that would bring it the much needed peace and happiness...

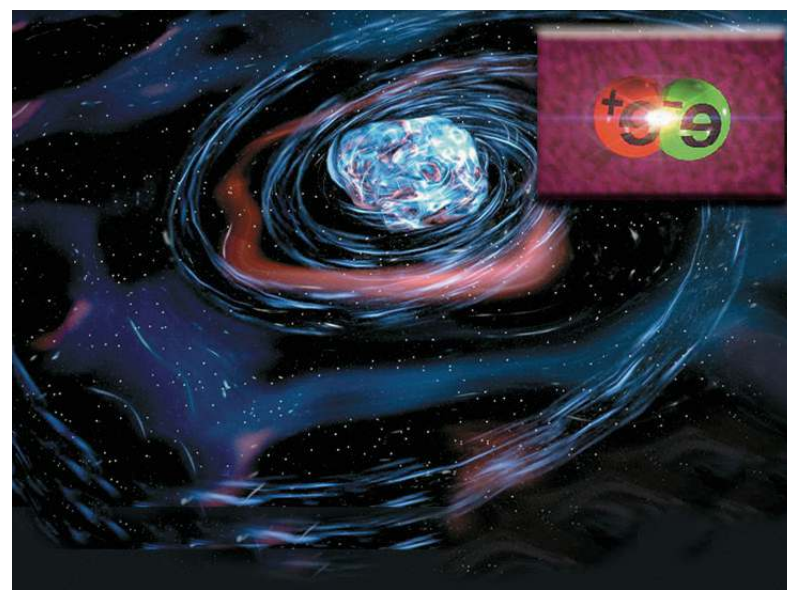
In our own time as well, abiding by the Qur'an's morality is the only answer to all the conflicts, fighting, and instability of the world. Like our Prophet (may God bless him and grant him peace), never we should depart from the path of justice, and should always respect the rights of different communities and individuals, whatever their beliefs and identities may be. (To be continued)

Quick grasp of faith

*** Are people accountable for what crosses their minds?**

Satan may fill people with all sorts of false hopes, whisper to them, or sow suspicious thoughts in their minds. If they are deluded by these whispers, believe in Satan, and comply with his whisperings, they may be responsible for their thoughts.

But if they realize that these whispers come from Satan and so seek refuge with Allah and exhibit good behavior, they immediately abandon such evil thoughts and replace them with good thoughts. As a result, the evil thoughts vanish. How the believers behave when Satan whispers to them is related in the Qur'an, as follows:



As for those who guard against evil, when they are bothered by visitors from Satan, they remember and immediately see clearly. (Surat al-A'raf, 201)

But it should also be noted that if people, despite being aware of the above, allow provoking whispers, doubts, and negative thoughts to cross their minds, they may be held responsible for these. Those who always think evil against the believers and seek to cause dissension among them also may be held responsible for their intentions, for "Say: 'Whether you conceal what is in your breasts or make it known, Allah knows it. He knows what is in the heavens and what is on Earth. Allah has power over all things.'" (Surah Al 'Imran, 29)

*** Should those who know the religion inform others, or can they keep it to themselves?**

Everyone who learns about the religion is responsible to convey its message to others. In the verse "Let there be a community among you who calls to the good, enjoins the right, and forbids the wrong. They are the ones

who have success" (Surah Al 'Imran, 104) Allah informs the believers of this duty. Therefore, they must strive to persuade others to live by the religion, as well as live in compliance with the Qur'an's morals and perform acts of worship throughout their lives.

The Qur'an points out performing this task is an important attribute of believers, as follows:

The male and female believers are friends of one another. They command what is right and forbid what is wrong, establish prayer and give alms, and obey Allah and His Messenger. They are the people on whom Allah will have mercy. Allah is Almighty, All-Wise. (Surat at-Tawba, 71)

(For further reference, please see, Quick Grasp of Faith 1-3, by Harun Yahya)

Miracles of the Qur'an

Duality in creation

Glory be to Him Who created all the pairs: from what the earth produces and from themselves and from things unknown to them. (Qur'an, 36:36)

While "male and female" is equivalent to the concept of "pair," "things unknown to them," as expressed in the Qur'an, bears a broader meaning. Indeed, we encounter one of the meanings pointed to in the verse in the present day. The British physicist Paul Dirac, who discovered that matter was created in pairs, won the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1933. This finding, known as "parity," revealed the duality known as matter and anti-matter. Anti-matter bears the opposite characteristics to matter. For instance, contrary to matter, anti-matter electrons are positive and protons negative. This fact is expressed in a scientific source as follows:

... every particle has its antiparticle of

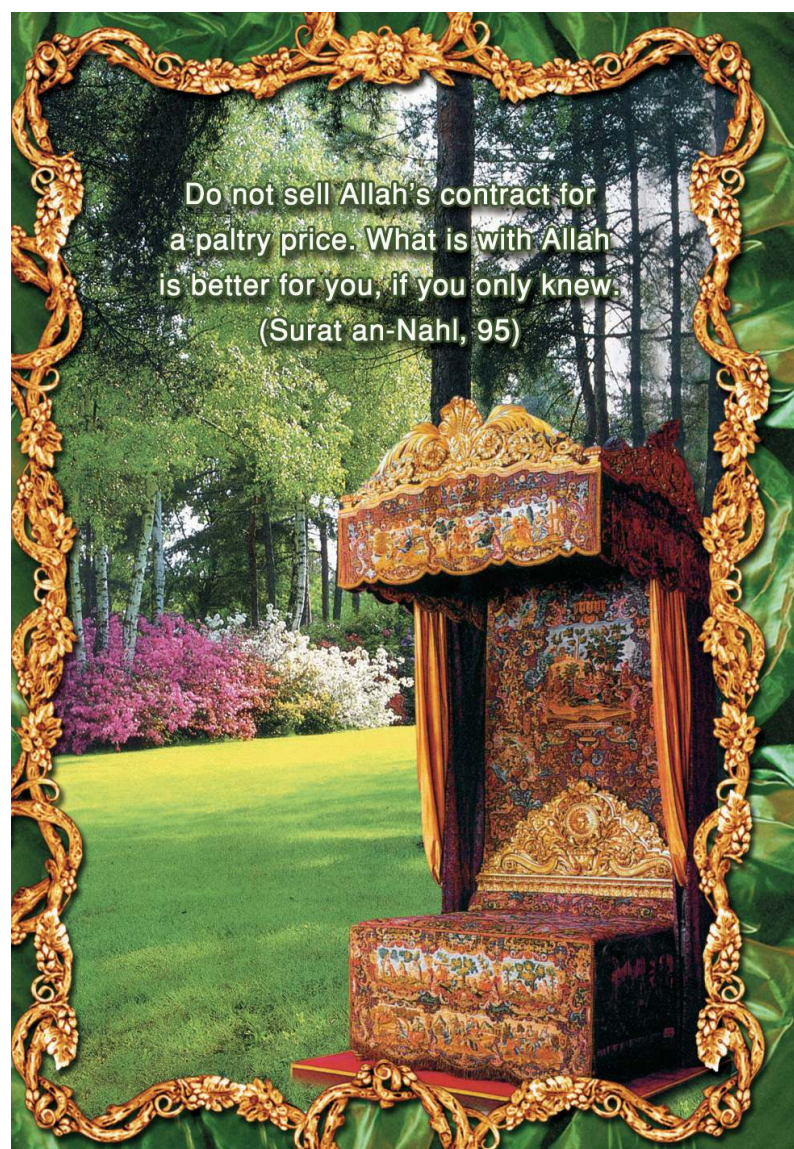
opposite charge... [T]he uncertainty relation tells us that pair creation and pair annihilation happen in the vacuum at all times, in all places.

Another example of duality in creation is plants. Botanists only discovered that there is a gender distinction in plants some 100 years ago. Yet, the fact that plants are created in pairs was revealed in the following verses of the Qur'an 1,400 years ago:

It is Allah Who created the heavens with no support—you can see them—and cast firmly embedded mountains on the earth so that it would not move under you, and scattered about in it creatures of every kind. And We send down water from the sky and make every generous plant grow in it, in pairs. (Qur'an, 31:10)

It is He Who made the earth a cradle for you and threaded pathways for you through it and sent down water from the sky by which We have brought forth diverse pairs of plants. (Qur'an, 20:53)

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Media exchanges from across continents

By: Mohammed Al-Jabri

Diana was playing the harp when twenty five journalists from different countries arrived at Park House Club, which is located in Cardiff, UK. The harp sounded well, and it attracted everyone's attraction upon his/her arrival. It gave a romantic atmosphere to the place. On the other corner was a beautiful table on which different drinks could make it another centre of attraction.

The drinks reception began when it was six in the evening. A beautiful lady distributed drinks for the people available in the place. The harp was still being played, and the guests talked to each other quietly.

Mike Pierson, a print-journalism trainer, and his wife stood silently for a while in front of the harp. The old cou-



A group photo for the summer course 2007 participants after receiving their diplomas

ple seemed to recall memorial moments in their lives. The journalists, however, were so excited to receive their diplomas.

Perhaps the harp could make the journalists be in a good mood before receiving their diplomas in advanced journalism.

Five journalists, Mara (from Mexico), Dewan (from Nepal), Michael (from Uganda), Punam (from India) and Amos (from South Africa), were sitting around one table. All of them had one thing in common and that is a sense of humour.

Almost all guests were there. Anna Robert, head of training at Thomson Foundation, stood before the microphone and gave a welcoming speech.

The Thomson Foundation's trustees were among the guests. Robert thanked the course trainers.

Sarah Page was holding the certificates. Lord Howe of Aberavon, the chairman of Thomson Foundation, stepped into the platform to present the journalists with their diplomas. Cameras' flash lit up the place; a big round of applause was given to each journalist upon receiving his/her diploma.

Once again, the guests were talking to one another in groups, while the journalists were still taking photographs.

Perhaps they didn't want to miss such significant moments. They took photographs with their trainers and colleagues. I took as many photos as I

could. I gave my camera to Robert, who took a group photo for us all.

Inside the club was a big banquet. Eleven tables adorned with candles filled a quite big room. One hour later, the guests began entering into the room. Each one had a comfortable seat.

Two Thomson Foundation's trustees were sitting with me. Sarah Williams, an employee with the Foundation, was sitting next to me, too. She and I talked about different dishes served in Wales. I explained to her some Yemeni popular dishes. A few minutes later, Khaled Al-Raqad, a Jordanian journalist, came to me and said it was time for iftar (fast breaking).

I was so thirsty and ordered a big glass of orange juice. But that didn't

serve the purpose, and I had another bottle of water. It was dinner time. We were served with duck and onion soup. It was the first time for me to have duck, but to tell the truth, it tasted delicious.

The table next to ours included Lord Howe of Aberavon, chairman of the board of trustees at Thomson Foundation, and Lord Thomson of Monifieth, a trustee for 30 years. But at that event, the two men announced their retirement and "handed over the reins".

Lord Fowler of Sutton Coldfield, a former UK government minister and journalist for The Times newspaper, and a trustee since 2003, was

announced new chairman.

25 five journalists attended this year's summer course on print and broadcast journalism at Thomson Foundation. They came from South Africa, Nigeria, Uganda, Tanzania, Mexico, Nepal, India, Jordan, Brazil, Tonga, Hungary, Ghana, Malawi, Yemen, and Romania.

A leading media training based in Cardiff, the Thomson Foundation is run by a small core staff. A highly experienced dedicated team of over 60 media specialists work with the Foundation. Thomson Foundation is an international media for development NGO which exists to improve communication around the world.



Lord Howe of Aberavon (left) giving Mohammed Al-Jabri, a Yemeni journalist, his certificate.

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اكتشف متعة الموسيقى، تصفح البريد الإلكتروني بالإضافة إلى تقنية التصفح عبر الإنترنت، وحدة GPS وخرائط مدمجة، تحميل مباشر لكل أعلامك المفضلة.
احصل عند الشراء على سماعة بلوتوث مجاناً

Nokia N95 + BH-700

MAXIMUM TELECOM

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اتصل على هذا الرقم لمعرفة سعر أي هاتف نوكيا