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Inside:

5
 Corporal punishment
 harms Yemeni children's
 development

6
 Jailed for laughing

9
 Women and Development

Verdict described as "political"

State Security Court sentences Al-Shoura editor to 6 years in jail

By: Mohammed Bin Sallam

SANA'A, June 10 — The State Security Court, which handles terrorist cases, on Monday sentenced journalist and human rights activist Abdulkarim Al-Khaiwani, who is editor-in-chief of Al-Shoura weekly newspaper, as well as of the former Al-Shoura.net, which the Yemeni government disbanded.

The court accused Al-Khaiwani of involvement in an armed gang, distributing publications supporting Abdulmalik Al-Houthi and his loyalists who are clashing with the Yemeni army, and inciting violence against the state.

Security authorities arrested Al-Khaiwani just as the court issued its verdict sentencing him to six years in prison. The editor then was taken to the Sana'a-based Central Prison, along with 14 other suspects the Yemeni government accuses of comprising a terrorist cell backing the Houthis in their fight with the army.

Numerous human rights activists and journalists harshly criticized Al-Khaiwani's verdict, demanding it be abolished. Describing it as "unfair," they say it represents a new violation of press freedom in Yemen.

In a statement to the media, Al-Khaiwani said the verdict issued against him violates press freedom in Yemen, while Abdulmalik Al-Mutawakil, secretary-general of the opposition Popular Forces Union Party, commented that the Yemeni government has proven itself "very stupid in bringing upon itself various issues at both the local and international levels."

At Al-Khaiwani's side was Khalid Al-Anesi, executive director of the National Organization for Defending Rights and Freedoms, known as HOOD, who alleged that the verdict is "political," adding that it disregards national principles of political reconciliation.

"The authority will pay the price for



Abdulkarim Al-Khiwani showing defiance on the day he is sentenced to a 6-year prison term. R.R.

this verdict because it will find itself in a new war with the media amid the worsening national situations," said Al-Anesi in a statement to the media, "This verdict has revealed the urgent need to establish an autonomous and neutral judiciary in Yemen because the judiciary must be liberated from this regime's dominance!"

Al-Anesi went on to note that while Al-Khaiwani's verdict can easily be challenged and appealed, the real problem originates from the lack of an independent judiciary.

Rights groups' reactions

Various local and international organizations concerned with human rights and press freedom strongly denounced the court's verdict against Al-Khaiwani, saying it is unfair and targets press freedom in Yemen. They distributed a statement to the various media urging journalists and reporters not to remain silent against this verdict, which,

according to them is "political, not judicial."

In a joint statement, the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate and the Yemeni Artists and Writers Union said that they deplored Al-Khaiwani's verdict, which violates constitutional and legal guarantees of freedom of the press and expression.

Both organizations were shocked at the verdict, which contained no real indictment against the editor. The verdict violates legal procedures in this regard, particularly as Al-Khaiwani was released on bail while his trial was in progress, according to the groups.

Both groups also agreed that Al-Khaiwani incurred such a verdict due to his journalistic activities, urging human rights groups and media organizations both inside and outside Yemen to stand in solidarity with the journalist and pressure the authorities to stop violating press freedoms in Yemen.

Continued on page2

Houthi field leader hurt in clashes with army

By: Mohammed Bin Sallam

SA'ADA, June 11 — Houthi field leader Abdulmalik Al-Houthi was hurt by mortar shells on his right hand and, "We fear that doctors may decide to sever [it]," sources related to the injured leader said Sunday.

The same sources report that the injured leader is being treated in a safe area near the Saudi Arabian border. "His condition is stable and there are no fears that he may risk death," they went on to say, noting that, "Another leader is assuming Abdulmalik's role temporarily during Houthis' fight with the [Yemeni] army."

Regarding confrontations between government troops and Houthi supporters, the injured leader's office said in a statement that Yemeni army forces struck a safe area in Al-Awar area near Dhahian city and north of the provincial capital in an effort to end a 10-day lockdown on several military brigades in that area.

Published by Marebpress.net, the statement added that Yemeni government forces are using Katyusha rockets and mortars in their attacks against Houthi fighters who are besieging the area.

The statement confirmed that the fiercest clashes are occurring in Mirran area, noting that army personnel have been extensively advancing toward the area to free besieged brigades since the largest operations began in Khawlan Bani Amer district.

It further mentioned that the Yemeni army has mobilized further weaponry and ordinance in its attacks on main Houthi strongholds with the aim of seizing control of several strategic positions believed to be hampering its progress.

Regarding clashes in Bani Hushaish

district northeast of Sana'a, the Houthi statement denied army claims to have taken over the entire area, following an announcement by Yemen's Interior Ministry asserting that Yemeni military and security forces had driven Houthis from Sana'a's eastern suburbs.

According to the statement, the ministry revealed to the media numerous non-Houthi individuals whom it says surrendered themselves in response to a call by Interior Minister Mutahar Rashad Al-Masri. It pointed out that those who surrendered are ordinary citizens loyal to the Yemeni government and with no connections to Houthi supporters.

The statement further noted that Houthi fighters are taking over the majority of Bani Hushaish areas, such as Wadi Rijam, Ghadran, Beit Al-Aghrabi, Beit Al-Qahm and Al-Sharaya, a fact confirmed by neutral tribal sources. It stated that Houthi loyalists seized control of two strategic mountaintop positions the Yemeni army had been using in its operations against Houthis on Sunday.

Both neutral and media sources report that fighter jets and tanks struck and completely destroyed Nawas village in Saqain district on Sunday. They say dozens on both sides were killed or

injured, adding that even residents' cattle were victims of the armed operations.

The sources further maintain that the Yemeni army attacked Assaya village in Majaz district last week, leaving more than 20 — mostly women and children — dead in the bloodiest events ever seen in that area.

Houthi reports published photos of children trapped by the rubble and others whose bodies were pulled from the rubble. The victims shown in the report photos included infants killed amid the terrible devastation of their homes last week.

Additionally, the Yemeni Socialist Party-affiliated Aleshteraki.net reported that nearly 100 Yemeni soldiers were killed and 14 others held captive in a Houthi ambush against a military supply caravan in Amran governorate's Harf Sifyan on its way to Sa'ada last Friday.

The web site confirmed that only 10 tanks and two minesweepers from the caravan were able to continue on their way to Sa'ada, noting that the caravan ambush death toll is one of the largest the Yemeni army has suffered in a single Houthi attack.

According to the web site, the bloody confrontations between Yemeni military forces and Houthi loyalists in Sa'ada have been fierce since the fifth war broke out last month.

Mohammed Jassim Al-Saqr, speaker of the Transitional Arab Parliament, expressed his willingness to send a delegate from the Kuwait-based Parliament to Yemen to contribute to settling the ongoing clashes between the two sides.

"This delegate would expend much effort to end this destructive fighting in Yemen," Kuwait's KUNA News Agency quoted Al-Saqr, also a member of

Kuwait's National Assembly, as saying on Thursday.

The Kuwaiti official warned against any plots intended to fuel conflicts and civil wars in the Arab world, as "Such conflicts and wars may hinder Arab states' efforts to meet the challenges of the 21st century," Al-Saqr pointed out.

The current fighting in Sa'ada, which broke out four weeks ago, has drawn stronger regional attention than in the past, particularly after Saudi Arabia called for ending the fighting via peaceful means for the first time since the initial Sa'ada War broke out in June 2004.

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New school buildings need immediate renovation

By: Almigdad Mojalli

SANA'A, June 10 — A recent study conducted by the German Education and Training organization (GET) in Ibb, Marib, Lahj and Hajja governorates showed that 10 percent of the schools that the GET built in 2002 showed signs of serious deterioration and are in need of immediate remodeling. Additionally, over 50 percent of the schools that GET visited had none or very little maintenance work done to them since the facilities were handed over to the Yemeni authorities for use.

On Tuesday, GET held a workshop where they announced the study's findings and helped the Ministry of Education to analyze school building costs.

Abdulsallam Al-Jawfi, the Minister of Education, said it was important to design schools according to local requirements, using the suitable raw materials for the dry, cold or hot areas. "We now have a school plan, which we can depend on, to know the needs of the educational process of school buildings, teachers and instructional aids," said Al-Jawfi. The study lasted for 11 months and aimed to better school construction in terms of educational requirements and cost effectiveness, which included maintenance. It also will be used as a basis for ongoing revision of national regulations with regards to school construction in Yemen.

In over 40 percent of the 50 inspected schools, the buildings and premises aren't cleaned regularly, increasing the risk of vermin and disease. Students'



Many schools in Yemen, such as Al-Mujamma' Al-Tarbawi in Bab Al-Yemen (pictured), were never finished or were poorly built and now in danger of collapsing.

sanitary facilities were locked and flush toilet systems weren't functional due to either a shortage of water or a cut in the supply line.

The study attributed the lack of maintenance to three main reasons. First was the absence of funds for maintenance activities. The second reason was that maintenance fell by the wayside in favor of prestigious new school construction activities. Third, the maintenance procedures and manuals were complicated, inefficient and largely ignored. These three factors lead to rapid a decline in the schools within short period of time and created a need for major rehabilitation work or construction of new schools far sooner than the GET had anticipated.

According to the study, 69 percent of schools visited required urgent remedial

works in order to prevent more costly remedial works in future. If a school needs major rehabilitation or replacement within 10 years of its construction, the costs of running it almost double. Each school was expected to be in use for approximately 32 years.

Many of the newer GET schools were actually replacements for existing schools that failed to reach the end of their planned lifecycle due to lack of maintenance.

There is a shortage of classroom furniture, though piles of abandoned school benches — called "furniture graveyards" — are common.

The best-maintained schools were the ones where the community voluntarily contributed financially or through personal service to the operation and maintenance of the facilities.

Heat wave causes electrical blackouts, hazards in Aden

ADEN, June 9 — Soaring temperatures of up to 40 degrees Celsius have caused mass power outages across Aden governorate, with many of the region's elderly suffering heat-related health problems. Electricity blackouts occur frequently in Aden year round; however, they worsen in the summer in one of Yemen's hottest governorates. Such blackouts can last for two hours in many Aden regions.

Some locals worry that the increasing heat will affect hospitals in a repeat of last year's heat wave tragedy where in eight people reportedly died of heat-related causes just at Al-Jumhuriyya Hospital.

Aden hospitals don't have generators

to rely on when the electricity goes out, which could lead to hundreds of injuries and possible deaths. So far, there have been no reports of injuries or deaths from heat-related causes.

Besides the hazards to hospitals, electricity blackouts also are causing large financial losses, such as rotting foodstuffs in markets and restaurants. Hotel owners also are at a standstill, unable to draw customers in the intense heat without the promise of proper cooling. In addition to the already-high living costs, electric bills increase to a minimum of YR 5,000 to YR 6,000 per month in the summer.

Many wealthier residents of Aden have resorted to buying mini-generators

to help their children study and prepare for the current exam season.

The electricity office has been the target of much complaint, as these current difficult circumstances have resulted in broken down power plants.

Jalal Nasher, manager of Aden Electrical Corporation, maintains that the blackouts are out of his company's control, explaining that the outages occur due to high consumption and low output by the main generator in Khor Maksar district during the summer.

Electricity ministry officials have promised Aden residents that this year's blackouts will be less than last year, but there's been no change in the situation as of yet.

Socotra ranks low in 'seven wonders' competition

By: Alia Ishaq

SANA'A, June 9 — The island of Socotra may not make it to the final round of "The New Seven Wonders of Nature" on the website www.new7wonders.com.

Socotra was nominated last July and announced in March as one of 77 short-listed sites competing to be included in the new seven natural wonders, which will be determined and announced by January 2009. However, its ranking has since slumped to 97 out of more than 200 nominees on the list. Because it is no longer one of the 77 top locations, Socotra is in danger of failing to make the next round of the competition, where the top 21 locales will compete for international renown. However, nominees can still be voted on until December 31, 2008. The "New Seven Wonders of the World" competition began in 2006, with millions of people worldwide sending in votes online and through text messages. The winners, including the ancient city of Petra in Jordan, were announced last July. Because of the success of the initiative, which aimed to increase conservation efforts worldwide, the New7Wonders

organization decided to create a new competition featuring the best and most important Mother Nature-built sites in the world.

Abdulrahman Al-Eryani, Minister of Water and Environment, mentioned that the reason behind Socotra's low ranking was that few Yemenis use the website to vote for Yemen. He added that the current rank has nothing to do with Socotra's true position as a natural world wonder. He called the competition and the website itself "silly," and said he thinks it has nothing to do with reality. "The owner of the website aims to make money from the advertisements," said Al-Eryani. "It is nothing but a good advertisement website and a project to get more money." However, there were few advertisements on the website and the organization is not-for-profit.

Al-Eryani added that he thinks there are more qualified international organizations that could better conduct a competition like this, citing the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage Sites as an example, the result of which will be announced this July. "I have high hopes

for Socotra to rank high in this one," he said.

The New Seven Wonders Foundation, also written as "New7Wonders," is a non-profit organization established in 2001 by a Swiss-born Canadian filmmaker, author and adventurer named Bernard Weber to contribute to the protection of the world's man-made and natural heritage and to foster respect for cultural diversity. The Foundation is based at the Heidi-Weber-Museum in Zurich, Switzerland. According to the foundation's website, 50 percent of the net revenue raised by the New7Wonders Project is to be used to fund monument documentation and conservation efforts worldwide, and is supported by the UN. The group is also launching a competition to codify the "7 Virtues of Humankind."

Socotra is one of 182 islands scattered along the Red and Arabian Seas, and is famous for its enchanting and rare plants, including the 'dragon's blood' tree, which is native only to Socotra. The Yemeni government announced in 2000 that Socotra would become a natural protectorate with support from government funds to help keep it pristine.

€5 million to support Yemen Parliament, election system

By: Ismaeel AlGhaberi

Sana'a, June 10 — The European commission decided to increase the 2007-8 ceiling for EU support to Yemen from 27 million Euros to 51 million Euros, said the European Commission (EC)'s Director of External Relations on Tuesday.

Director of External Relations Thomas Dupla Moral said the decision by the commission to increase the ceiling comes in light of the commission's assessment of the tangible achievements in Yemen in the implementation of reforms. He went on to say that the European Union is keen to continue such support for reforms and development.

Moral's statement came during a meeting in which a number of issues relevant to the enhancement of Yemeni-European cooperation was discussed, as well as a review of progress in the country strategy for the years 2007-2011.

Yemen and the EC signed on Tuesday an agreement supporting an electoral system and developing Parliament's capacities at the cost of €5.3 million for 2008-2010.

The agreement was signed by Planning and International Cooperation Minister Abdul-Karim Al-Arhabi and EC Director for the Middle East and Southern Mediterranean Affairs Tomas Dupla Del Moral.

The EC's grant aims to strengthen the programs of the Supreme Commission for Election and Referendum, as well as implement the recommendations issued by the EU Election Observation Mission that stressed the importance of revising the legal electoral framework, the independence of state functions and resources, and the need to increase female participation as both voters and candidates for the 2009 parliamentary election.

In a press conference held after the meeting, the Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, Abdulkareem Al-Arhabi, confirmed the Yemeni government's wish to implement further economic and political reforms.

He stated that the implementation of reforms was justified by national interests and was never imposed from the outside. He added the national reforms agenda is a purely Yemeni agenda

which has seen a large number of reforms implemented during the past two years, including the anti-corruption law and the reforms of the state's procurement system. He also expressed satisfaction towards the existing cooperation between Yemen and the European Union, saying that the EU understands the nature of Yemen's needs. He went on to say the doubling of the ceiling of EU support for Yemen is a reflection of the growing development in Yemeni-European relations.

For his part, the Director of external relations in the European Commission praised the country's achievements in the reforms process. He also confirmed that the EU will continue to support Yemeni-European cooperation, especially after the commission decided to enhance the mandate of its representation office in Yemen, a matter which would provide a more flexible framework for bilateral cooperation. The European official added that future cooperation will focus on a number of priorities, including capacity building and creating opportunities to enhancing Yemeni government effort's to fight poverty and reduce unemployment.

Continued from page 1

State Security Court sentences Al-Shoura editor to 6 years in jail

Jamal Eid, executive director of the Arab Network for Human Rights Information, stated, "Al-Khaiwani has been subjected to repeated hunting and arrest by security authorities due to his critical writings against the Yemeni government and the president, so this is the real reason he faces this unfair verdict."

He continued, "Al-Khaiwani, whose freedom often has been exposed to risk, has changed from being a critical journalist to a prisoner of conscience. Thus, all relevant Arab and international organizations should step up their efforts to release the jailed editor, who is believed to be a direct foe of the Yemeni president." The Cairo-based advocacy group also delegated Dr. Hisham Manaa to visit Al-Khaiwani in prison and determine what happened. The network noted that in cooperation with HOOD, it presented Al-Khaiwani's file to numerous Arab and European journalists and lawyers after discovering that the editor was sentenced to six years in jail according to direct presidential orders to the judiciary.

In a statement, a copy of which the Islah Party-affiliated Al-Sahwa.net obtained, the Arab Network for Human Rights urged, "We call for a presidential intervention to put a stop to violations of press freedom and repeated harassments of journalists in Yemen."

On special award shortlist

According to the London-based Amnesty International, Al-Khaiwani currently is shortlisted for its 2008 Special Award for Human Rights Journalism Under Threat, part of the organization's annual media awards. The award, which will be given June 17 in London, will be presented by Alan Johnston, the BBC journalist who was kidnapped and held hostage in Gaza for nearly four months last year.

Amnesty International reports that the Yemeni journalist has been targeted repeatedly for his work, suffering years of harassment, death threats, beatings and arbitrary detention. On one occasion last year, gunmen abducted him outside a newspaper office, apparently because of an article he wrote concerning human rights abuses in Yemeni prisons. During the ordeal, he reportedly was beaten and threatened with death if he continued publishing articles critical of the Yemeni

government. "The Yemeni authorities are trying to silence me, seemingly even prepared to lock me up to keep me quiet. I definitely don't want to go to prison again simply for doing my job as a journalist, but at the same time, I'm not prepared to censor myself just to receive an easier life," Amnesty International quoted Al-Khaiwani as saying.

The jailed editor added, "Amnesty's support means a lot to me. I think it's really important that they make these awards to journalists under threat."

Amnesty International's U.K. Media Director Mike Blakemore said, "Abdulkarim Al-Khaiwani should never have been on trial in the first place. His imprisonment looks like a clear case of the authorities putting an independent-minded journalist behind bars for his criticism of government policies."

Amnesty International's Special Award for Human Rights Journalism Under Threat is awarded by a panel of Amnesty experts and activists from the organization's U.K. headquarters and its International Secretariat. The chosen journalist is invited to receive the honor in person at the media awards ceremony in London. Amnesty has been granting the special award to a journalist for the past 10 years. "If given the award, he'll be in the ironic position of being unable to collect it himself because of his latest imprisonment," Blakemore explained, adding, "This situation speaks volumes about the poor state of freedom of expression in Yemen." "The Yemeni authorities should release Mr. Al-Khaiwani immediately and stop persecuting perfectly legitimate journalism. They also should release other detainees currently being held for peaceful protest and peaceful criticism of the state," he concluded. Amnesty International is seriously concerned about the recent clampdown on freedom of expression in Yemen. Recent peaceful protests in the south of the country have resulted in the detention of several government critics, three of whom have been accused of undermining the nation's independence, a charge carrying the death penalty.

U.S. State Department condemns verdict

The U.S. State Department has likewise condemned Al-Khaiwani's verdict. Al-Khaiwani's sentencing to six years in prison "points to a distressing trend in

Yemen of intimidation and prosecution of independent journalists in criminal and security courts," State Department spokesman Sean McCormack told reporters Tuesday. "Both Yemeni and international journalism and human rights groups have condemned this sentence," McCormack added in his statement. "[Al-Khaiwani] himself has been the victim of violence, intimidation and kidnappings, which the Yemeni government has yet to fully investigate and prosecute those responsible," he noted. "We call upon the Yemeni government to protect Yemeni journalists and their right to free expression in pursuing their profession because a free and independent media is a key component of a democratic society," McCormack pointed out.

Death sentence against Sana'a Cell Two leader

The same court issued another verdict Monday sentencing to death the leader of the Sana'a Cell Two for killing two security officers during an attempt to arrest him as he was accused by the government of plotting terrorist operations and backing Abdulmalik Al-Houthi, while another 12 cell members received prison terms ranging between one and 12 years.

Issued by the court's chief judge, Mohsen Alwan, the verdict stipulated that Jaafar Mohammed Ahmad Al-Merhibi be executed by firing squad for killing police officers Yahya Mohammed Rawaa and Abdulghani Al-Maamari while they attempted to arrest him at his brother's house in Daris area north of the capital city of Sana'a two years ago.

Under the verdict, convicts Ali Al-Hamzi, Basim Humaidan, Mahfoudh Al-Kuhlani and Yahya Ahmad Al-Kuhlani each will serve 10 years in prison, while Khalil Al-Hassassi and Ismail Al-Shami will serve eight years. Ibrahim Ali Abu Talib was given a six-year prison term, while Ibrahim Ali Al-Kuhlani and Muna Ali Zaid were sentenced to six and four years in prison respectively. Other cell members Yahya Sharafaddin and Ahmad Al-Merhibi will serve from one to three years in prison for possessing explosives and trading arms without obtaining licensing from the appropriate authorities. Finally, the court acquitted suspect Saadah Saleh Khamis, wife of convict Ahmad Al-Merhibi, due to inadequate evidence.

Educated Yemeni women are less exposed to violence

SANA'A, June 10 — Illiterate Yemeni wives are subjected to more domestic violence than educated wives, according to a study by at Sana'a University's Faculty of Arts.

Masters Degree student Khairya Ali Mohammed Al-Rada'ai entitled her study "Motives behind domestic abuse against married Yemeni women."

The study found that young girls who are forced to marry are most exposed to domestic violence. Younger women aged 13 to 20 encountered the highest rate of spousal abuse, with around 70 percent reporting that their husbands had used some form of physical violence against them. However, the study also said that there is domestic violence used against Yemeni wives regardless of their age or their husband's age.

The study aimed to identify the most dominant forms of domestic violence in Yemeni society, to what extent it exists and the motives behind it.

Of the women surveyed, nearly all of them had encountered some form of spousal abuse, whether it was verbal, physical or sexual in nature. Crimes like these often go unreported, with families preferring to settle the situation themselves



rather than taking the matter to the police.

The verbal abuse was the first and most prominent of all abuse, with 96 percent of the women surveyed reporting some sort of verbal attack, name-calling or threats.

Verbal abuse can also be insulting, cursing, mocking and blaming wives for rousing their anger.

Thirty three percent of the women surveyed reported that they had been physically abused through hitting, kicking, punching and slapping. Physical abuse is defined by any type of force or

violence that leads to bodily injury, pain or physical impairment.

The study found that working women are less exposed to attack from their husbands than stay-at-home wives. However, unemployed husbands were often verbally and physically violent with their working wives, which the study tallied up to a show of control by the husband, who felt unconfident and powerless next to their employed spouses. Additionally, financial stresses and poor economic circumstances increase many husbands' aggression towards their wives.

Their News

Alkholidy Awarded the Master Degree of Arts in English

Taiz University has awarded the Master Degree of Arts in English to the researcher Maged Thabet Al-kholidy, for his thesis entitled "Discourse of Native and Non-native English News in contrast: Towards a Global Rational". The Thesis is supervised by the associate professor Sanad Mohammed Mustafa, and examined by Associate Professor Rafiq Shamiry, an external examiner, and Dr. Abed Alsameai, an internal examiner.

In his thesis, Alkholidy has touched upon a new and original topic which sounds significant for the language of media especially newspapers and news websites. He has studied the discourse features of written news, taking the news of the Associated Press, an American news agency, as a model of native English news. He takes Yemen Observer and Yemen Times as two non-native English newspapers for the analysis and the contrast with the Associated Press because all of them target international readers. He has selected a number of articles to be analyzed according to the news discourse features, with an aim to find out the rates of accommodating to these features in these Yemeni newspapers.

The researcher analyzes ten features of news: eight at the word level and three features at the sentence level. The features of words are categorized into two levels: four features for all the words and four features are specified for specific words as parts of speech. The four features of all words are: the use of short words, the initial deciphering of abbreviations and acronyms, the initial definition of technical terms and the use of prenominal noun modifiers. The other features at the level of words are: the initial decoding of personal names (writing the full names of persons in the first reference), the initial identification of personal names (stating the person's relation to the news or other persons), the post initial family titles (using only family titles for persons after the first reference) and the use of third person pronouns.

The features at the level of sentence are: the use of active voice and the use of the affirmative statements.

Al-kholidy has analyzed these ten features of news discourse in the selected news stories from Yemen Times and Yemen Observer. He finds that 70% of these features are considered in the two newspapers, while only 30% are not considered. That means three features are breached as opposed to seven considered features. The breached features are features of the general words which are: the use of short words, the initial deciphering of abbreviations and the initial definition of technical terms. Other features at the level of words and sentences are accommodated.

The study of these features in Yemen Times and Yemen Observer in contrast with the Associated Press is to show how these features are used in native and non-native English news. On this basis, Al-kholidy concludes with a list of recommendations for news writers, news translators and news editors in order to establish international framework for news discourse in both native and non-native newspapers and news websites.

The ultimate purpose of this thesis is how to make news published in non-native English newspapers as clear, lucid and meaningful as it is in native English newspapers and websites.

To shed light on the validity and reliability of the thesis, the supervisor and the examiners have been interviewed to state their opinions:

"The thesis will be a guide for news writers to present news clearly and meaningfully to the local and international readers", said Dr. Abed Alsameai, the internal examiner. It shows how to write news in non-native English news discourse with the same quality of meaning as it is in native English news, he added.

As an external examiner of the thesis, Dr Rafiq Shamiry stated that the researcher has done a good work in the field of news discourse analysis, attempting to draw a framework for news discourse in native and non-native English newspapers and websites.

In interview with the supervisor, Dr. Sanad Mohammed, he affirms the significance of the thesis in the fields of journalism as well as in the field of linguistics. "Maged has done a well-organized work in the field of news discourse, drawing unbiased conclusion and ultimately stating a set of significant recommendations for news writing".

Yemenia Airways Extends its Extra Activities to Malaysia

Yemenia Airways in Dubai extended its extra activities to Malaysia by sponsoring the flight of 23 Emirate media agents during the period between May 19th and 25th. The Emirate media agents went to Malaysia to participate

in the Malaysian tourist celebration Colors of Malaysia 2008.

"Yemenia Airways in Dubai sponsored the flight of 23 Emirate journalists from different magazines and newspapers like Al-Baian, Al-Etahad, Gulf Today News, Khaleej Times, Akhbar Al Arab, Al-khaleej and many other media corporations," said that Muneer Jahwash, the manager of Yemenia in Dubai and Sharjah district.

The passengers paid tribute to services and punctuality of Yemenia. "Great Explorer with Yemenia FAM trip we are going to release report on achieving such great success," said Ahmed Al Noami, Akhbar Al Arab. "Marvelous experience in the FAM trip with Yemenia," stated Bassam Fahmi, Al-Biyannet.

Yemenia Airways started working in Dubai 22 years ago and has 17 flights weekly. During the past period, Yemenia made many achievements like inaugurating the Air Shipment Office in January 2008 which is allotted for the Yemenia customers like businessmen and marketing agents. "we set the cargos and give our customers feedback about their cargos," said Jahwash.

The sales of the first quarter of 2008 achieved increase at %30 in comparison of 2007 while the shipment sales during the first quarter of the year 2008 achieved increase of %70 in comparison with the sales of the first quarter of the year 2007.

What is distinctive with Yemenia Airways in Dubai is 96-hours visa and 14-days visa for businessmen. "we issue between 15-20 visas a day and thinking of presenting this service for the normal people not only businessmen," Jahwash mentioned.

According to Jahwash, Yemenia is occupied a very good position in Dubai and it competes Emirates Airways where it has more than one flight a day. In addition, Yemenia makes the times of the flights suitable for passengers.

Moreover, Yemenia works in tourism promotion where it has programs of 4,7 and 14 tourist days in Yemen. "we contact with the tourism agencies and hotels and make programs for the tourists of the places that they can visit," Jahwash explained. "the cost of the programs is 1000 DHMS including flight tickets," Jahwash added.

2008 Knight International Journalism Award Winners announced

The International Center for Journalists (ICFJ) announced that Belarus editor and free-press champion Aliaksei Karol and Ugandan human rights reporter Frank Nyakairu are the winners of the 2008 Knight International Journalism Award.

They will be honored along with Founders Award recipient John F. Burns of The New York Times at the annual ICFJ Awards Dinner at the Ronald Reagan Building and

International Trade Center in Washington, DC, on November 12.

Karol, editor-in-chief of the weekly publication Novy Chas, is one of the few remaining independent voices in Belarus. Over the past 15 years, he has provided fellow citizens with independent news despite physical attacks and intense government pressure.

Uganda's Nyakairu stands out for his in-depth coverage of human rights abuses in Uganda, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Somalia and Sudan. A multimedia reporter who spent more than seven years at The Monitor and works for Reuters, he has produced hard-hitting stories on everything from abuses in Uganda's detention centers to war crimes by rebel leaders in his country.

The awards are given by ICFJ's Knight International Journalism Fellowships program, which aims to create lasting, tangible improvements in the way journalism is practiced around the world.

News campaign to promote safety, ethical standards in journalism

Journalists from 12 countries across the Arab world and Iran developed a campaign on press freedom following a recent conference in Casablanca which targeted safety, press freedom, ethics and working conditions.

The campaign, Breaking the Chains, features an accompanying report and urges a general decriminalization of press offenses. It condemns arrest, disproportionate fines, kidnappings and violence against media professionals, as well as demands eliminating imprisonment as a radical sanction used to intimidate journalists and to silence independent media.

Affiliates of the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) agreed to work on the campaign, as well as host a conference on the topic before the end of the year.

Survey identifies top issues in Arab journalism

In a recent study, Arab journalists identified political reform, human rights, poverty and education among their top priorities for reporting under anti-democratic governments. These issues trumped other controversial issues such as the war in Iraq and Palestinian statehood.

Researchers surveyed 601 journalists in 13 Arab countries in North Africa, the Levant and the Arabian Peninsula, according to an Op-Ed piece in The New York Times.

The survey found that many Arab journalists perceive themselves as critical mediators of political and social change in the region as well as valuable agents for their audiences when explaining American policies.

Journalists also ranked American policy and "lack of political change" as most threatening to the Arab region. In addition, the survey reported that 26 percent of Arab journal-

ists claimed their fellow reporters were professional and 11 percent said that they were truly independent, according to The Times.

The article will be published in the International Journal of Press/Politics in July.

Islamic Countries to Invest \$1.2 Trillion in Infrastructure

The Islamic Development Bank (IDB), the Muslim world's premier multilateral financial institution, estimates that its 56 member countries are set to invest up to \$1.2 trillion in infrastructure over the next ten years to meet the rapidly growing demand for telecom, transport, power, water and other infrastructure services. Around \$675 billion will be used to finance new telecom and power projects, some half of which will be in GCC states, while an additional \$290 billion is to be invested in expanding and upgrading air, sea and land transport infrastructure, with half of that investment taking place in Asia. Another major investment area targeted by IDB member countries will be water, where as much as \$115 billion will be invested to expand and improve the provision of water and sanitation services over the next decade. Nearly 60 percent of this investment will be in Arab and African IDB member countries.

While only a fraction of the investment requirements is currently being met by the private sector, IDB sees a greater role for the private sector in meeting demand for infrastructure services over the next decade, stated Dr Amadou Boubacar Cisse, the IDB Vice President Operations, at the IDB-hosted high level seminar on infrastructure financing held on 31st May 2008 at the Westin Jeddah Hotel. This special event, which was held in conjunction with the IDB annual meeting, featured groundbreaking infrastructure projects such as the new Hajj and Umra terminals, Petro Rabigh and SABIC's Yansab petrochemical project. Other investments IDB showcased at this event also included Dubai Port World's seaport terminal container project in Djibouti financed by IDB and the World Bank, toll-road projects in Malaysia and Morocco and a desalination plant in Qatar.

Mr Mohammed Binladin, Vice President of the Saudi Binladin Group, brilliantly presented the new Hajj and Umra terminals construction and development project, which is expected to significantly improve both the handling capacity and quality of service provided at the Kingdom's main gateway. Mr Othman Fassi-Fahri, General Manager of Morocco's highway authority, for his part, highlighted his country's impressive highway development programme, while Mr Waleed Al-Saif, a senior executive at Saudi Arabia's Petro Rabigh (a major joint-venture between Saudi Aramco and Japan's Sumitomo Chemical, a leading petrochemical firm), provided an excellent overview of this pioneering Saudi-led enterprise that aims to firmly establish the Kingdom as a major player in the

global petrochemical industry.

This IDB-hosted international business gathering attracted more than 250 participants from over 50 countries, including international bankers, business executives mainly from leading contracting and consulting firms from IDB member countries, senior executives of national development finance institutions, representatives of diplomatic missions, and academic and research institutions.

Dr Nahed Taher, CEO of Gulf One Investment Bank, who attended the IDB event, for her part, highlighted the need to pay due attention to the environmental dimension of new projects, especially their carbon footprint, in order to minimise the impact of harmful greenhouse gas emissions, she said. She further urged project developers to seek carbon finance opportunities currently being offered by the Kyoto Protocol's Clean Development Mechanism, or CDM as it is commonly known, which is an arrangement that basically allows developed countries to invest in projects that reduce emissions in developing countries as an alternative to more expensive emission reductions in their own countries. Mr Toshimitsu Ishigure, Japan's Consul General in Jeddah, who also participated in the event, subsequently indicated the keen desire of the Government of Japan to cooperate more closely with IDB in the field of infrastructure development, especially in Africa, following the recent announcement of Mr Yasuo Fukuda, Prime Minister of Japan, to boost aid to Africa (this commitment was made on the occasion of the Fourth Tokyo International Conference on African Development [TICAD IV], which gathered at the end of May 2008 in Yokohama in Japan 51 African heads of states and governments to seal a new Japan-Africa partnership). IDB's strong focus on developing infrastructure services provides an excellent opportunity to create synergies between IDB and Japan on the heels of TICAD IV, Mr Ishigure said.

Commenting on IDB's role in infrastructure financing, Dr Cisse indicated that the IDB Group expected to invest up to \$20-25 billion in the infrastructure sector over the next 10 years. This investment is expected to target mainly power, transport and water projects. Climate change adaptation and mitigation is likely to stimulate further demand for investment in cleaner energy, energy efficiency as well as water storage infrastructure and flood protection, he added. Similarly, the on-going concern over global food security is expected to trigger a new wave of major hydraulics infrastructure schemes in IDB member countries, in order to achieve greater food security through sustainable agricultural development underpinned by sound water resources management, Dr Cisse said. Last year the IDB Group provided around \$2 billion of financing for infrastructure projects in more than 30 countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and the Middle East.

Employment Opportunities

An international company developing an exciting new project in the oil/minerals sector has vacancies for the below positions. These positions will be field based for the majority of time:

IT/Office Support Specialist (1)

This person will coordinate all aspects of existing and future computer and communications technology for the office and site. This will include management of all office and site hardware and software, and technical assistance in the procurement of related equipment and services.

In addition the candidate should be prepared to carry out a range of general office duties, including telephone answering, photocopying, and typing, in English and Arabic.

The successful candidate will manage site and office communication systems, including PSTN telephone, VSAT satellite, and UHF radio. They will also be responsible for installing and maintaining servers, workstations, and printers on networks. This role will eventually be based at the mine site, with a lesser amount of time in Sana'a, but for the initial six months the majority of time will be based in Sana'a. Whilst at site food and accommodation will be provided.

ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS

- Experience and a practical approach is as important as qualifications. A typical way to obtain the knowledge and abilities would be: Diploma or university degree after High School with minimum 1- 2 years experience directly related to the duties and responsibilities specified.
- Very good English, reading/speaking skills.
- Troubleshooting skills

Doctors (2)

The Doctor will be based on the mining site and will be responsible for providing routine and emergency medical care in a remote location to up to 350 employees.

He will be responsible for establishing the on-site clinic in the initial stages of the project and will subsequently have wide ranging responsibility for the day to day management of the clinic, ambulance and medical stocks. The doctor will also be required to assist in creating and updating casualty evacuation plans, training company employees in first aid, advising management on health and hygiene issues, and liaison with equipment providers to ensure the effective sourcing and management of medical equipment.

ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS

- Experience of casualty management, preferably in remote locations.
- Experience in managing medical formularies and equipment.
- Fluent spoken and written Arabic, with a good command of spoken English.
- Ability to develop and manage casualty evacuation procedures in cooperation with the Security Manager.
- Experience in training delivery.
- Computer literacy, including Microsoft office and outlook.
- Ability to work unsupervised.
- The ability to work in remote locations with little infrastructure.

Site Support Officer (1)

This person will ensure under the Site Construction Representative (SCR) that all services that are required at site (accommodation, power, fuel, water supply) are provided, and will assist the SCR with site management duties as required.

In the absence of the SCR he will manage site based support staff. He will be required to assist the SCR with his duties, including liaison with other contractors and stakeholders. The position is expected to be complete at the end of 2009. It is based at the mining site.

ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS

- Minimum 2 years relevant field management experience
- Valid Yemen driving license.
- Completed High school.
- Fluent in English as well as Arabic
- Must have a 'hands on' approach and be willing to 'get hands dirty'
- To be prepared to live on site for long periods of time and in basic conditions.

Deputy Security Manager (1)

The Deputy Security Manager will be responsible, initially reporting to the Security Manager, for assisting in the creation of a security guard force of approximately 65 Guards and Supervisors.

He will be responsible for training delivery in the initial stages of the project and will subsequently have wide ranging responsibility for the day to day management of the guard force. Success in the initial stages will provide scope for rapid promotion. Preference will be given to Yemen nationals. This role will require a significant proportion of time to be spent at site.

ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS

- Minimum 5 years experience in a similar role, ideally in the private sector.
- Experience in training delivery.
- A good knowledge of modern technical security systems.
- Fluent spoken and written Arabic, with a good command of spoken English.
- A thorough knowledge of security standards and procedures in the private sector in Yemen.
- Computer literacy, including Microsoft office and outlook.
- Experience in working with western companies.
- Proven ability to work unsupervised.
- Strong leadership skills.

Interested applicants should apply by sending their CV's not later than June 20, 2008 by email to recruitingchances@gmail.com Please write the job title in the e-mail subject. Only short listed applicants will be contacted.

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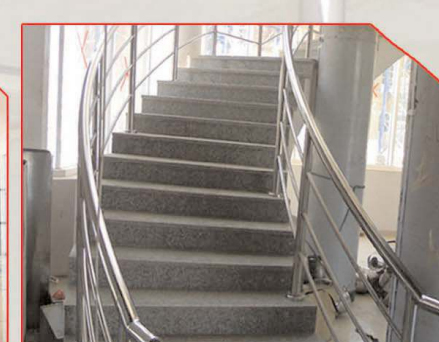
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لدينا متخصصين و فنيين أجانب , ونحظى بسمعه ممتازة بتنفيذ الأعمال و النشاطات بوسائل تكنولوجيا و متطورة و من انجازاتنا :

- أول مشاريع إستانلس إستيل داخل اليمن مركز عدن مول التجارية (كريتر) / م / عدن.
- لولو هايبر ماركيت عدن مول (كريتر) / م / عدن.
- مركز شمسان التجاري (الشيخ عثمان) / م / عدن.
- المجمع الطبي الحديث - شركة السعيد / م / تعز.
- بنك اليمن و الكويت (كريتر) / م / عدن.
- البنك التجاري (كريتر) / م / عدن.
- البنك التجاري (الشيخ عثمان) / م / عدن.
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- شركة السعيد للخرسانة / م / تعز.
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- مكتب الخطوط الجوية اليمنية (العلال) / م / عدن.
- هايبر ماركيت (كايتا) / م / عدن.
- دريم مارت (الدرين) / م / عدن.
- فندق تاج شمسان السياحي / م / تعز.
- بلارا العيسى (كريتر) / م / عدن.
- فندق الطار (خورمكسر) / م / عدن.
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Contract Analyst Yemen Position # 04-008:

will manage the Contracts Administration Process, including but not limited to, contract strategy planning, prequalification process, bid process (including the preparation and issuing of bid documents), contract awards, contract amendments and the contract closeout process for all material and service contracts, third party agreements, and other commitment documents for Canadian Nexen Petroleum East Al Hajr Ltd. (CNPE) and Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen (CNPY). Ensure contracts are awarded in accordance with CNPE's and CNPY's Production Sharing Agreements with the Republic of Yemen (the PSA) and other contracting requirements/obligations arising out of PSA obligations. This position requires a thorough understanding of the PSA and related contracting/competitive bid procedural requirements agreed to between CNPE, CNPY and the Republic of Yemen.

Minimum Requirements:

- University degree or Technical certificates in contracting, or a Legal Assistant Loma preferred;
- Must possess excellent English communication skills;
- Must have well developed/proven computer skills/experience in MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Lotus Notes.
- 2 to 5 years of oil and gas experience, most of that should be associated with Contract preparation and contract administration.

Other Requirements:

- Must have the ability to work with a multi-discipline team in a multicultural environment to achieve mutually beneficial result;
- Must have strong English communication and presentation skills, both oral and written;
- Must be able to effectively manage multiple and conflicting priorities and a very large volume of work;
- Attention to details is a must
- Must be a self-starter and able to work independently with little or no supervision
- Must be able to work in a team environment, able to train and educate Senior Management and numerous multicultural diverse groups and departments on complex legal, contracting and strategic matters;
- International experience is an asset
- The Expatriate Law & Contracts Analyst must have a very good understanding of the entire Petroleum Industry as they are the central focal point for all departments. They must be able to speak both professionally and intelligently regarding all matters of procurement and contracting.

❖ Due to technical problem with workopolis website we re- post this position, if you already apply or you would like to apply for this position please send your resume to: Recruiting_Sanaa@nexeninc.com

❖ Applications should be submitted Not later than June 26th, 2008. Faxed applications will not be considered.

Corporal punishment harms Yemeni children's development

By: Khalid Al-Hilaly
For The Yemen Times

“I never hit my children,” one Sana’a father said as his 8-year-old daughter looked up at him with surprise. “You can ask her,” the little girl’s father said, “Do I beat you?” His daughter stared at him in silence.

Corporal punishment remains an acceptable way to discipline children in Yemen, where there are no regulations prohibiting its use in the home – by any family member against another.

“Nearly 90 percent of children report that physical and humiliating punishment is the main method of disciplining them within their families,” according to a 2005 report by Save the Children entitled, “Physical and Humiliating Punishment of Children in Yemen.”

Save the Children is a worldwide nongovernmental organization that helps prevent child abuse. “Punishments usually were inflicted by mothers and fathers, but also by elder brothers,” the report continued.

Eighty percent of mothers in rural areas and 59 percent of mothers in urban areas use corporal punishment to discipline their children, according to another report from 2004 on mental health, education and punishment pertaining to school-aged Yemeni children conducted by the Institute of Psychiatry at King’s College in London.

Its report indicated that mothers with a low level of education were more likely to use corporal punishment.

“The most common forms of punishment were hitting with the hand, a belt, a stick or some other implement. Other measures included locking [child-

ren in a room], tying [children up], biting and pinching,” the report noted, adding, “Boys were significantly more likely than girls to be spanked.”

The experience of severe corporal punishment is linked to poor educational achievement and unstable mental health for children of both sexes, the report concluded.

“I was beaten as a child, but I wouldn’t treat my kids that way,” maintains Ali Abu Talib, a 33-year-old father of two, “because hitting makes children carry a strong dislike for their parents.”

However, Taha Al-Mohammed, a 54-year-old father of nine, admits, “I’ve used hitting – light hitting – in raising my children, but I’ve never hit my daughters or let their brothers do it [either]. Discussing [the issue] with them was an effective enough form of punishment.”

“The more beating a child receives, the more violent he becomes,” says Khalid Al-Samaee, a father of two, “A child who is beaten at home takes revenge on other children on the streets.”

He continued, “Families that don’t use family planning often have six or more children, so because they fail to provide a proper education or discipline their children, they use corporal punishment as a final effective technique.”

A 2006 United Nations study on violence against children called for ending the justification of violence against children – whether it is accepted as tradition or disguised as discipline – and asked all countries to prohibit all forms of violence, including corporal punishment, against infants and youngsters.

Dr. Hassan Kassim, president of the Yemen Psychological Association and a founder of the local nongovernmental organization Child Rights Care,

notes that corporal punishment has been scientifically proven an ineffective means of achieving positive child development.

“Even if corporal punishment produces a behavioral change in a child, that change has proven to be only temporary,” Kassim explains, adding that the optimal outcomes of disciplining a child, such as internalization of morals or social problem solving, can’t be gained through corporal punishment.

“The use of corporal punishment has consistently been related to poor mental health in children and youth, including depression, anxiety and feelings of hopelessness,” Kassim notes, adding that, “Corporal punishment is a risk factor in [a child’s] increased levels of aggression and antisocial behavior.”

Corporal punishment remains a controversial subject between parents and the psychology and children’s rights communities. Some parents believe that corporal punishment is sometimes necessary, while others find different techniques to enforce rules, such as praising a child’s good behavior, among other methods.

“I would raise my children the right way and teach them right from wrong, but if a child still misbehaved, I would beat him – but not violently,” says Um Mohammed Al-Hubaishi.

According to 34-year-old father of three Adnan Al-Ujail, using violence against children isn’t Islamic, so parents should benefit from new educational methods of raising their children. “With just one look from me, I can stop my child from misbehaving,” he adds.

Abu Talib has another method, explaining, “My children are very attached to me, so becoming angry and not talking to my child is an effective



Corporal punishment can harm your child's development, causing everything from depression to poor progress at school.

form of punishment. I only use spanking to discourage dangerous behavior like badmouthing or insults.”

Additionally, Al-Samaee suggests, “Keeping a child from his [or her] favorite activities, such as kids’ television programming, is a successful method of punishment, instead of using physical force. Also, reducing a child’s allowance is another effective form of punishment.”

Awadh Al-Himyar, a father of one, disagrees with a legislative ban on corporal punishment for children. Instead, he says, “I prefer an awareness workshop for parents who use corporal punishment about the effects of violence on children.”

Kassim was one of several interna-

tionally chosen experts contributing to a recent publication by the United Nations’ Educational, Social and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on the seven major principles of child discipline, which are outlined below:

- Respect a child’s dignity.
- Develop a child’s pro-social behavior, self-discipline and character.
- Maximize a child’s active participation.
- Respect a child’s developmental needs and quality of life.
- Respect a child’s motivation and life views.
- Assure fairness and transformative justice.

- Promote solidarity.

According to Kassim, there are several constructive and safe methods of disciplining children, including, “Restriction of privileges such as reducing playtime, not allowing watching favorite television programs and seeking advice from available good models, such as the Qur’an and the Sunnah, in addition to cognitive thinking – contemplation and collective participation.”

Finally, as Al-Samaee’s 9-year-old daughter Moniah advises, “A child who disobeys his [or her] parents shouldn’t be allowed to join others at the park or on visits – but they shouldn’t be beaten.”

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Wings of Freedom

Jailed for laughing

Yemeni journalist Mohamad al-Mokaleh has been in prison for two months for... laughing in court during the trial of another journalist.

By: Rashad Al-Sharaabi (Menassat)

State prosecutors have accused Mohamad al-Mokaleh of "attacking and defaming the judicial system" for his outburst of laughter last April during the trial of fellow dissident journalist Abed al-Karim al-Khiwami.

The Yemeni Criminal Court responsible for the state's security matters has set a date for al-Mokaleh's trial on June 15, marking two months since the judge at the al-Khiwami trial decided to imprison al-Mokaleh for "disrupting court order."

According to Abed al-Khiwami, his colleague's laughter was admittedly loud during the closing arguments of his trial, which came after the state prosecutor was unable to explain and read parts of the defense's closing argument.

After the prosecutor screamed out his objection, the judge decided to imprison al-Mokaleh for 14 hours as mandated by law, but the real contention over al-Mokaleh's detention did not occur until the day after his initial detention.

The criminal prosecutor refused to release al-Mokaleh and extended his sentence for one week in order to open up an investigation accusing him of "attacking the judiciary system and insulting the judge."

But critics of the judge's decision say the charges appear to be a pretense designed by the Yemeni government to silence al-Mokaleh.

In the months prior to his April outburst in court, the regime had failed to arrest al-Mokaleh, although he is on record as saying he has been subjected to a series of subpoenas that called into question the nature of his story content.



Mohamed al-Mokaleh in a Sana'a detention facility. R.R.

Al-Mokaleh also said he has faced numerous physical and verbal threats and other forms of harassment because of his criticism of the Yemeni government and President.

Yemeni poet Abdul Aziz al-Mokaleh, a cultural consultant to the President and

head of the Yemenite Center for Cultural Studies and Research, has advocated that the Yemeni court reduce the harsh measures imposed on al-Mokaleh in prison but he fell short of calling for al-Mokaleh's release.

Despite the extreme respect he enjoys

amid the Yemeni society, Abdul al-Mokaleh said he had his requests rebuffed, and the trial is continuing to be handled in a court that some Yemeni law experts have characterized as "exceptional, against the constitution, and deprived of the minimum conditions necessary for a fair trial."

A close friend of al-Mokaleh, Al-Ghobary said he fears for his friend's fate.

"The judge refused our demand to release him (al-Mokaleh) with a fine, and our peers are convinced that this matter had nothing to do with al-Mokaleh's laughing or crying, but with his political views," Al-Ghobary said.

Al-Ghobary also said that al-Mokaleh, who heads the Journalists' Syndicate and is the General Secretary of the Socialist Party already apologized to the judge for his outburst.

The Yemeni Journalists' Syndicate denounced what it called "arbitrary procedures against al-Mokaleh for disrupting the order of a trial he was attending to

show his support to al-Khiwami."

"The judge's refusal to release him despite the absence of reasons to imprison him enhances our belief that the motive for his trial is court vengeance and prosecution by outside forces that are critical of his published opinions," a Syndicate statement read.

Sources indicate that several Yemeni officials have intervened in an attempt to secure the release of al-Mokaleh to no avail. Nine Yemeni MPs were unable to use their power to enter the prison where al-Mokaleh is being held, having been told by the judiciary that the prosecution denied their requests.

Despite being imprisoned, Mohamed al-Mokaleh succeeded in leaking a letter to the Arab National Conference held from May 10-13 in Sana'a, Yemen.

"While I feel exhilarated that my country Yemen is gathering hundreds of fine Arab brothers, I feel some sadness for not being able to welcome them or participate in the conference," al-Mokaleh said.

Blogging for change in Saudi Arabia

Saudi Jeans is one of the most influential blogs in the Gulf region. It is run by pharmacy student Ahmad Al Omran, who through his blog hopes to "be a part of the change that is taking place in Saudi Arabia."

By: Arab Press Network

Saudi Jeans focuses on topics such as freedom of expression, human and women's rights, as well as democracy and justice. Al Omran also runs the yawmyat blog in Arabic and is one of the co-founders of Saudi Blogs. In addition to that, he regularly appears in mainstream media through interviews granted to outlets ranging from CNN to the Saudi Gazette or Agence France-Presse.

APN: Why do you blog?

AHMED AL-OMRAN: I started Saudi Jeans in May 2004 without a clear goal in mind. I just wanted to try this "new cool thing on the web" and practice my English. But a few weeks later, I noticed a good amount of interest and curiosity from readers in Saudi Arabia, so I started to take the blogging thing more seriously. Why I blog? Because I want to be part of the change that is taking place in our

country. I want to push for political and social reform, and I want to push for more freedom and more justice.

What topics inspire you?

I try to focus on political and social issues in the Kingdom, but of particular interest to me are topics like freedom of expression, human and women's rights, as well as democracy and justice.

Do you practice self-censorship?

I try very hard not to censor myself because if I did, there wouldn't be any point of having a blog. I don't think there are many taboos that I would refrain from touching. Yes, it can be dangerous to elaborate on one or two topics, but I believe you can always find a way to express your opinion without jeopardizing your safety.

What do you see as the difference between a blogger and a journalist?

That's a big question, and a difficult one as well. I think one of the main differ-



Ahmed Omran aka Saudi Jeans.

ences is the absence of an editor. Bloggers get a chance to communicate with audience directly, without filtration or being edited, which gives them more freedom and more power over information. Another big difference is the style: bloggers use a human voice that is more genuine and more natural, while journalists must adhere to certain standards when reporting, which yields a bland and mechanic voice. I think both can be combined in one way or another: the human

voice could be the result of the absence of editing.

What has been your most popular post?

I'm not quite sure but I guess it's the one titled, "Women's Driving: Do We Need Another King Faisal?" Saudi Arabia is the only country in the world where women are not allowed to drive a car, and it is one of the biggest debates in the Kingdom during the past years. In my post, I argued that we need a firm political decision by our leadership to solve this situation, similar to King Faisal's decision to introduce the education of girls in the 1970s when many people in our society were against it. However, he stood firmly behind his decision and today more than half of the college graduates in the country are

female.

What kind of comments do you receive? Do you moderate them?

There is a lot of diversity in the comments, from those who agree with me wholeheartedly to those who fiercely disagree with me, and everything that is in between. I don't moderate comments, and enjoy the discussions amongst my readers, but sometimes things can get out of hand, in which case I am obliged to shut down the comments on a certain post.

How did you choose the name of your blog's?

As I explain in my About page: "The fact is, there's nothing called "Saudi Jeans" but this blog. There is no Saudi Jeans. I made up this name because I'm Saudi and

I do like jeans. I think that "jeans" is a symbol of a lot of different things and ideas here in Saudi Arabia. Things and ideas that a lot of people say it's bad and it has no relation with our culture and traditions, but in the same time everybody use it and believe in it."

Why did you choose to blog in English?

As I said earlier, it was just to practice my English, but soon I realized that blogging in English means that you have a very wide and interesting audience, since it is a universal language.

This article is part of a series of interviews with prominent bloggers in the Arab world by The Arab Press Network, a web portal by the World Association of Newspapers.

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Section I. Invitation for Bids

Tender Advertisement no. (2) of 2008

(One Envelope System - Technical + Financial)

The Tax Authority here announces its desire to invite bidders to Tender no. (2 /2008) for the printing and supply of two billion banderol stamps on locally produced cigarettes which will be financed from the following sources:

a) 100% government Funding

Bidders who are willing to participate in this Tender have to submit written applications to Tax Authority Headquarter to receive Bidding Documents for an amount YR 100,000 non-refundable. Bidders have to apply during the official working hours at:

Tax Authority – General department of Financial Affairs / Procurement Department
Southern Safiah – Besides the Ministry of Finance – P.O. Box 11366-5746

The deadline for selling BDs will be on Sunday 06.07.2008.

Bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes addressed to the Tax Authority mentioning the project name, Tender number and name of bidder procurement department. The following documents must be contained in the bid:

1. A Bank Guarantee for a lump sum 10,000,000 of (YR or Convertible currency.) Bank guarantee has to be valid for not less than 150 days from date of Bid Opening. Bank guarantee may be substituted with a payable cheque.
2. Valid tax card (foreign bidders not conducting any business in Yemen have to submit VAT registration documents in their countries).
3. Insurance card (insurance card is required for companies having business in Yemen and eligible for benefits of the General Social Security Corporation in Yemen).
4. Registration and classification certificate. (in case contract is awarded and the winning bidder has no registration documents, relevant registration documents will be requested as a condition for contract implementation).
5. GST registration certificate.

A foreign bidder may provide the equivalent documents indicated in 2, 3 and 4 from its country of registration as appropriate.

The Dead line for submission and bids opening will be 11:00AM on Wednesday 09.07.2008. Bids received after this deadline will be returned unopened..

Bid Opening will take place at Tax Authority Headquarters, Office of the Deputy Chairman and at the same time mentioned above, in presence of bidders or their authorized representatives.

Potential bidders may inspect BDs before purchasing during working hours for a period of 27 days starting from advertisement.

إعلان المناقصة رقم (٢) لسنة ٢٠٠٨ م

تعلن / مصلحة الضرائب / عن رغبتها في إنزال المناقصة العامة رقم (٢) لعام ٢٠٠٨ م لطباعة وتوريد اثنتين مليار طابع بندربول على السجائر المنتجة محلياً والتي سيتم تمويلها من مصدر حكومي ١٠٠٪ على الراغبين المشاركة في هذه المناقصة التقدم بطلباتهم الخطية خلال أوقات الدوام الرسمي إلى العنوان التالي:

مصلحة الضرائب - الإدارة العامة للشئون المالية / إدارة المشتريات

الصادفة الجنوبية - جوار وزارة المالية - ص ٠ ب (٥٧٤٦-١١٣٣٦)

لشراء واستلام وثائق المناقصة نظير مبلغ وقدره (١٠٠.٠٠٠) مائة ألف ريال لا يرد .

- وآخر موعد لبيع الوثائق هو تاريخ ٦ / ٧ / ٢٠٠٨ م

يقدم العطاء في مظروف مغلق ومختوم بالشمع الأحمر إلى عنوان مصلحة الضرائب ومكتوب عليه اسم (المصلحة) والمشروع ورقم المناقصة، واسم مقدم العطاء، وفي طيه الوثائق التالية:

- ١- ضمان بنكي غير مشروط بمبلغ مقطوع قدره (١٠٠.٠٠٠.٠٠٠) عشرة مليون ريال، صالح لمدة (١٥٠) يوماً من تاريخ فتح المظاريف، أو شيك مقبول الدفع.
- ٢- بطاقة ضريبية سارية المفعول (على المتناقصين الأجانب الذين لا يقومون بأي أعمال في اليمن عليهم تقديم نسخة من وثائق التسجيل لضريبة القيمة المضافة في بلدانهم).
- ٣- بطاقة تأمينية، سارية المفعول (تطلب بطائق التأمين فقط من الشركات التي لديها عمال في اليمن والتي يحق لها الاستفادة من العوائد المقدمة من المؤسسة العامة للضمان الاجتماعي في اليمن)
- ٤- شهادة تسجيل وتصنيف سارية المفعول (في حالة إرساء العقد وإذا لم تكن الشركة التي فازت بالمناقصة مسجلة حينها سيطلب منها تقديم إثبات تسجيلها في الجهات ذات العلاقة في اليمن وذلك كمطلب لتنفيذ العقد).
- ٥- شهادة التسجيل لأغراض الضريبة العامة على المبيعات.

- آخر موعد لاستلام العطاءات وفتح المظاريف هو الساعة (الحادية عشرة) من يوم (الأربعاء) الموافق ٩ / ٧ / ٢٠٠٨ م ولن تقبل العطاءات التي ترد بعد هذا الموعد ويتم إعادتها مغلقة.

- سيتم فتح المظاريف بمكتب وكيل المصلحة بحضور أصحاب العطاءات أو من يمثلهم بتفويض رسمي موقع ومختوم.

- يمكن للراغبين في المشاركة في هذه المناقصة الاطلاع على وثائق المناقصة قبل شراؤها وذلك خلال الدوام الرسمي لفترة ٢٧ يوم من فترة الإعلان.



Invitation for General Bid

NO. (8) 2008 year

The TV and Radio General Corporation declared its interest in inviting for general bid number (8) 2008 year for buying , importing, supervising installment, checking , operating , confirming , submitting , and guarantee of computers with its stuff .

All the interested specialist and industrial companies, and accredited agents apply with their written request for this bid during the official work time to the following address:

The TV and Radio General Corporation – General Administration for Projects - tel: (01/ 230751)

For buying and having the entire bid documents with receipt: (300 \$) non refundable. The deadline of selling the documents is: 6/7/2008.

The file should be enveloped and sealed with the red wax and submitted to the secretary of bids and out-bids committee of the corporation. The file should be addressed with name of the authority, the name of the project, the number of the bid, and the name of the applicant, and the file should include all the following documents:

- 1- Submitting unconditional banking warranty with amount (2000 \$) valid for 120 days starting from the day of opening the files or by a payable check.
- 2- Submitting a copy of the taxing card valid 2008,(all the foreign bidders, who don't work, submit a copy of the register documents for extra cost taxation from their countries.
- 3- Submitting a copy of the insurance card valid for 2008 year (the insurance cards are only requested from those companies which have assets in Yemen and have the right to utilize from the revenues given from the general corporation for social insurance in Yemen).
- 4- A copy of valid certificate of registration and classifications.
- 5- A copy of the alms card valid for 2005.
- 6- The deadline of receiving the documents and opening the files at 11:00 am on Tuesday morning 12/7/2008 at the main branch of the corporation.



Invitation for General Bid

NO. (1) 2008 year

The TV and Radio General Corporation declared its interest in inviting for general bid number (1) 2008 year for designing, importing, supervising installment, checking , operating , confirming , submitting , and guarantee of Perfect Information Net with its stuff .

All the interested specialist companies, industries, and accredited agents apply with their written request for this bid during the official work time to the following address:

The TV and Radio General Corporation – General Administration for Projects - tel: (01/ 230751)

For buying and having the entire bid documents with receipt: (500 \$) non refundable. The deadline of selling the documents is: 16/7/2008.

The file should be enveloped and sealed with the red wax and submitted to the secretary of bids and out-bids committee of the corporation. The file should be addressed with name of the authority, the name of the project, the number of the bid, and the name of the applicant, and the file should include all the following documents:

- 1- Submitting unconditional banking warranty with amount 4.000.000 Y.R. valid for 150 days starting from the day of opening the files or by a payable check.
- 2- Submitting a copy of the taxing card valid 2008: all the foreign bidders, who don't work, submit a copy of the register documents for extra cost taxation from their countries.
- 3- Submitting a copy of the insurance card valid for 2008 year (the insurance cards are only requested from those companies which have assets in Yemen and have the right to utilize from the revenues given from the general corporation for social insurance in Yemen).
- 4- A copy of valid certificate of registration and classifications
- 5- The deadline of receiving the documents and opening the files at 11:00 am on Tuesday morning 22/7/2008 at the main branch of the corporation.

ATT. Conference will be held to ask for details and require about the tender at 11:00 on Saturday Morning 12/7/2008.

‘Global phenomenon’ must not be used to justify failure

By: Abdussamad Al-Ghulaisi

I don't know why the statement: "Global Phenomenon" appeals to my mind as pessimistic. Commonplace and frequent use of this statement made me convinced that any official using it means that he/she escapes his/her own responsibility and utters it in a manner resembling sound of a strong thunder, which humble man may not help prevent.

Here, I remember a televised interview with a senior official prior to the Yemeni Unity, established on May 22, 1990. Asked that taxes may constitute a vital revenue source for the state to perform well, the official replied, "Tax payers evade paying taxes to the state's treasury." When asked why he did not hunt tax evaders, that official responded, "Tax evasion is a global phenomenon." By this statement, the official believed that he

does his job well and is not responsible for what he called 'a global phenomenon'.

Once again the same statement was used by Chairman of Supreme National Anti-Corruption Authority (SNACA) Ahmad Al-Anisi when he said that "corruption is not just a domestic issue, but it is a global phenomenon."

I don't want to deny that corruption is a global phenomenon. But I further add that corruption is an eternal phenomenon, which has been everlastingly practiced since man first came to existence. How corruption is used varies from time to time and from place to place.

As long as corruption is a global phenomenon, punishing corrupt individuals is a global phenomenon too. Unlike the former, the latter has no place in our daily life, with the exception of what we have recently read that some ministers were

eliminated from the new formation in the most recent reshuffle of Yemen's cabinet due to corruption charges filed against them to SNACA. Seemingly, this is a good initiative that may be followed by further charges against corrupt officials.

Financial and administrative corruption is not new for Yemen. This is why the late Yemeni President Ibrahim Al-Hamdi established what was named as 'Supreme Committee for Financial and Administrative Reform' during the early days of his reign in the 1970s. At that time, financial and administrative corruption was in its stages of infancy or a breastfed infant.

On the other hand, today's administrative and financial corruption in Yemen has canine teeth and fingernails, proving to be more able and active than civil society organizations, which Al-Anisi urged to cooperate with his authority in

fighting corruption.

Fighting corruption is not that complicated:

I don't believe that fighting corruption should be viewed as a complicated task until the extent of the United Nations becoming concerned about it. Yemenis are responsible for combating the destructive phenomenon while the establishment of new agencies for this purpose reflects how serious the government is to fight corruption. If the responsible agencies have the will to do so, they will succeed in achieving their sought-after objectives with regard to combating corruption.

When the government began talking about establishing SNACA, I gave a call to a senior official in the government and told him, "Dear Sir, fighting corruption needs nothing more than an honest prime minister, who, in cooperation with President of the Republic, has to select honest

cabinet ministers to do their best for at least minimizing spread of the phenomenon.

It is impossible for anybody to say that Yemen has no honest men and women. In event Yemen has a clean-hand government, the prime minister will be, in cooperation with the Central Organization for Control and Audit (COCA), able to oversee performance of the cabinet members. And, also in cooperation with COCA, the cabinet members will be more able to oversee performance of executive and administrative officials in the various institutions of the state.

Following formation of SNACA, I gave a call to its chairman whom I know well telling him, "If you want credibility and success for the complicated task delegated to you, you should rather start addressing the biggest issues and then move gradually to other smaller issues. Otherwise or if you do the opposite,

people will bear in mind that you make small issues a sacrifice to cover up flagrant corruption cases."

Enacting an additional legislation package with the aim of empowering civil society organizations to play a vital role in this regard may be a good addition to the government efforts in fighting all the forms of administrative and financial corruption. And, all the state's institutions must remain open for media personnel and COCA staff to view what is going on in them, as well as know about their revenues and expenditures.

Disclosing what takes place in the government's institutions to the Yemeni public opinion in a transparent manner and enabling NGOs contribute to the oversight over performance in these institutions is also indispensable for reducing corruption and identifying corrupt officials.

Source: As-Siyassia Daily.

The way democracy is imposed on Yemeni women

By: Khdija Al-Hashidi

Good morning women and congratulations on democracy and freedom! How happy the woman that takes off her veil and goes to visit the U.S embassy is. Our uncle Bush has promised to make us "democratic" people. Poor the one who asks his wife to get him his lunch, because the next day, he'd find himself in Guantanamo.

There is one thing you should learn: "now, it's fifty, fifty". We do not know where Mr. Bush wants to take us with his democracy and reports of human rights.

Sometimes, he wants to liberate our women! Other times, he threatens us because we do not allow woman to travel unless she has a 'mahram' (a man form her relatives next to her). And sometimes, he wants to modify

our "qura'an".

Besides, those people of NDI are working very hard with "women"- they have nothing to do but to seduce those women and "those women" repeat what they hear from them like "parrots": No for polygamies, No for 'mahram' (that goes with a woman while she's traveling), no for the man's guaranty on the woman, no for preventing women from wandering in markets and parks.

My sisters, democracy is neither running after Americans and Europeans from "a hotel" to another nor seeking dollars that Americans and Europeans distribute to "support women".

Do not trust those who want "women" to be "free and democratic". Because they are fooling America with some silly words just to get money to buy meat and "qat" and

America is fooling them with the money it gets from "oil-producing

countries"

It is really a shame to let "a dancer", under the name of democracy and freedom, run for president in any election, because if our President is a "dancer", what would people do???

Women's access to democracy threatened:

Women's access to democratic processes is threatened even further in the current climate of economic rationalism, which favors notions of customers over citizens . Since the late 1980s many governments worldwide no longer see people as citizens whose rights to education, health care and welfare have to be met, but as customers who can purchase services provided by the state.

In Australia for instance, women still earn less than men (women's average full-time weekly earning constitute 85% of men's) their experiences as participants in a user-

payas democracy may move prove to be very challenging.

Despite the current economic and political climate, or maybe even because of it, this article will not end on a pessimistic note. Although feminism, democracy and economic rationalism have not delivered everything they promised to women, we should not forget how much has changed since the first suffragettes started their movement, or even since Anne Summers wrote her first edition of "Damned Whores and God's Police". As long as we acknowledge how much more needs to be done to secure women's access to democracy and recognize new challenges, the process of positive change will continue.

Islam and Democracy:

In order to succeed, reform from within must be in harmony with its cultural and civilization context. The

erroneous idea that there is a contradiction between Islam and democracy must be refuted.

The rights of expression and information cannot be separated from rights to think and believe. Many national and international documents which declare human rights acknowledge the fact that freedom of expression and the freedom of thought are intertwined.

Freedom of thought and belief is repeatedly emphasized in the holy Quran. The Quran repeatedly reports the arguments of atheists and polytheists and reply to them objectively in order to teach Muslims how freedom of expression and information should be maintained to make such a dialogue fruitful.

According to Islam, freedom of expression and information is a basic human right. Islam condemns spreading lies and false information as well as passiveness and reluctance

when the truths should be spoken.

The issue of women's rights is a controversial subject. The status of women varies greatly from society to another, but as a general rule, the status of women and their access to education is improving. In Egypt, for example, women have struggled for their rights since the beginning of the twentieth century. Today Egyptian women from all walks of life play an active role in the Egyptian society. Moreover, women's status in most Muslim countries is better than in many non-Muslim societies.

Islam emphasizes justice, equality, and human dignity. Islam also emphasizes democratic values of consent, consultation, and consensus. The Quran asserts the concept of 'Shura', or consultation, signifying that the leader must consult his followers, and rule with their consent. This is a basic tenet of Islam and a major element of democracy.

Yemen's future: between power bequeathal and bloody fall

By: Qaed Al-Saeedi

The Hashemite Imams had ruled Yemen since they were introduced by Hamdan Zaid Tribe in 208 Hegira Calendar. It is often said that Imam Ahmad Bin Yahya Hamid Ad-Din had a strong faith in fools and superstition. When his father was shot dead in 1948, the Imam Ahmad asked the Beit Al-Faqeeh Fortuneteller Mahdi Amin Al-Salihi, who had been famous for his exact fortunetelling, for advice.

Al-Salihi then advised the Imam Ahmad not to enter Sana'a obediently, but rather he should enter the city from the north front. As a result, the Imam Ahmad returned to his uncles in Hajja's Al-Ahnoom governorate, gathered tribesmen and then entered Sana'a, thereby seizing control of everything in the city in retaliation for the killing of his father at age 80. Sheikh Ali Nasser Al-Qardei was not the one who assassinated Yahya Hamid Ad-Din, but he gave fatwa for assassinating Hamid Ad-Din.

Imam Ahmad then hated Sana'a and preferred to reside in Taiz instead, at the same time traveling between Taiz and Hodeida where he was receiving medical treatment for rheumatism. In Hodeida, he met the fortuneteller once again whose face frowned when Imam Ahmad asked him, "Who can rule Yemen more than his father who remained in power for 30 years?"

The fortuneteller didn't respond but

the Imam repeated his question. The fortuneteller then replied that a Qahtani tribesman will rule Yemen more than your father and all the mountaintops will be obedient to him. The Imam then jailed the fortuneteller and handcuffed in a gloomy cell for more than 60 days. Releasing the fortuneteller, the Imam then told him, "Identify the Qahtani tribesman who will rule Yemen, but the fortuneteller responded by saying, "Only God knows."

The Imam went furious and put his hand on his Jambia threatening to kill the fortuneteller, who then took a deep breath and said, "Master, please give me more time to identify this tribesman." A few hours later, the fortuneteller returned to the Imam and said, "He is a Hashidi tribesman whose last name has the color of blood."

The fortuneteller died on the way to his home after being intimidated by the Imam's furious reactions and enrage. The Imam then began hunting anyone whose last name is Ahmar (red in English). Following his return from a medical treatment in Rome in 1959, Imam Ahmad learned about entry of Hashid tribesmen into Sana'a after false information about his death in Rome was leaked. Upon his arrival to Sana'a, the Imam swore by God to purify the city from any tribesman of the Al-Ahmar family. He then executed a well-known sheikh at that time under the name of Hamid Hussein Al-Ahmar. He also executed the victim's father Sheikh Hussein Al-Ahmar and

threw his brother Abdullah (former Parliament Speaker) in A Hajja jail following successful mediation efforts that helped the inmate escape execution.

Bequeathing power to sons:

In order to pave the way for his son Al-Badr to take job as ruler of North Yemen, Imam Ahmad bore in mind that he must get rid of any Ahmar tribesman, but the misfortune prevented the Imam to do so. This facilitated the job of a group of liberals to implement a coupe against the Imam on the eve of September 26, 1962. This coupe ended the Imamate rule for Abdullah Al-Sallal to become the first President of North Yemen after the country remained under the rule of successive imams for more than 1,000 years.

Al-Sallal quit power soon for Abdurrahman Al-Eryani, who was succeeded by Ibrahim Al-Hamdi as President of North Yemen. Al-Hamdi, who tried to build a civil state at the expense of tribalism, found himself in confrontations with the most powerful tribal leader in Yemen Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hussein Al-Ahmar. Al-Hamdi fled the north and headed toward the south where he was assassinated at a lunch reception. He was succeeded by President Ahmad Al-Ghashmi who stayed in power for a few months until President Ali Abdullah Saleh Al-Ahmar assumed power of North Yemen.

President Saleh, whose family name is Al-Ahmar, has been ruling Yemen

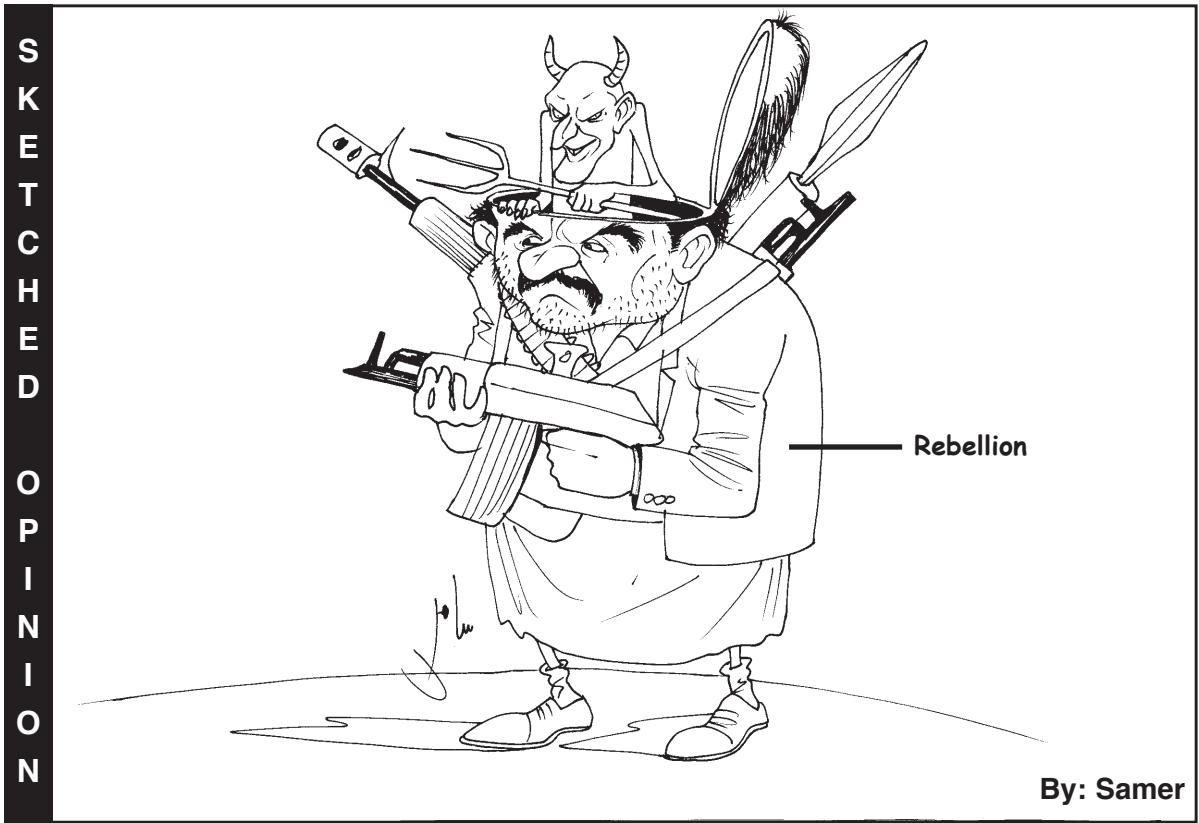
more than Imam Yahya Hamid Ad-Din did, and all the mountaintops from Al-Dhalea to Sa'ada seem obedient to him.

However, Saleh seems to be infected with the complex of Imam Ahmad with regard bequeathal of power, as he is attempting to bequeath power to his son Ahmad, who is not eligible to lead

the country. He doesn't possess the required experience of dealing with the tribal system, which is mostly favored by Yemeni people. In addition, there are more powerful personalities than Ahmad within the Al-Ahmar tribe, and this may create numerous obstacles to his becoming President of Yemen.

Additionally, the ongoing fighting in Sa'ada and other areas in Sana'a and Amran governorates between Houthis and the army may imply the second part of the fortuneteller's prediction regarding the bloody fall of the Al-Ahmar's reign.

Source: Al-Sharea Weekly.



Women and Development

By: Elizabeth M. King and Bjørn Lomborg

A girl born in South Asia or sub-Saharan Africa faces a cruel double burden. She will grow up in a region beset by poverty, disease, war or famine. She will also confront these challenges with the added disadvantage of being female.

Although more attention is being given to gender issues, inequality persists in every culture, country, and continent. A new study for the Copenhagen Consensus project shows that eliminating this disparity is an investment with high payoffs.

Despite global interest in education for all, many girls in poor countries continue to be denied basic education; right from the start, they are disadvantaged. Three in five illiterate children in the world are girls. Particularly in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, cultural norms and economic hardships stop parents from sending their daughters to school or from keeping them in school for as long as they enroll their sons. This unequal investment is neither equitable nor efficient.

An obvious solution is to build more schools in places where girls and boys must be educated separately. In poor



Muslim countries like Pakistan, Yemen, and Morocco, single-sex schooling is the norm, but many rural areas can afford only one public school, which is usually set aside for boys. In theory, about half of the education gap in these areas could be closed by building girls' schools.

Elsewhere, supply constraints are not the problem. Instead, policymakers must find ways to strengthen the incentives for parents to send their daughters to school. In countries where the family's cost of schooling girls is lowered either by a no-fee policy or by a stipend for girls who enroll in school, girls' enrollment rate

increases.

The experiences of these few countries lead us to propose a system whereby mothers are paid if their school-age daughters attend school regularly from the 3rd to the 9th grade. This would increase girls' enrollment and also put money into women's hands – important because studies show that money given to women is more likely to provide positive nutritional and health benefits for their children than money given to men. It also provides the women with greater bargaining power in their own households.

The annual cost per pupil would be

\$32. Covering every eligible girl in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia for a year would cost \$6 billion. Benefits from increased future wages and the reduction in health-care use would be between three and 26 times higher.

Pregnancy is one of the most vulnerable times for poor women; 99% of the 529,000 women who die annually from pregnancy-related complications live in developing countries. Severe malnutrition and the absence of prenatal care during pregnancy put both mother and child at serious risk. Spending \$3.9 billion on family planning and maternal health initiatives, such as provision of emergency contraception in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, could avert 1.4 million infant deaths and 142,000 pregnancy-related deaths in women.

Making reproductive services available to women who cannot afford to pay their way can help prevent these deaths. But such services must not shy away from promoting and providing modern contraceptive methods to avoid unwanted pregnancies. Nearly 20% of women in developing countries report that they would like to stop having more children but are not using any form of contraception or family planning, possibly because reproductive services are not available.

For adolescent girls, early marriage or an unwanted pregnancy typically curtails schooling. Delaying marriage and childbearing allows them to gain more education and perhaps more earning opportunities, as well as improved health, education, and labor market success for their future children – benefits worth ten times more than the cost of providing reproductive services.

Other tools, aside from schooling, can help women improve their income-earning ability. Microfinance institutions, such as Bangladesh's Grameen Bank, play a vital role in allowing self-employed women to build profitable businesses. Small loans empower women by giving them more control over household assets and resources, more autonomy and decision-making power, and greater access to participation in public life. Women are more likely than men to meet regular repayments and to spend their earnings on children's health and education.

Policymakers should continue to facilitate the rollout of microfinance programs. Studies show that each dollar loaned by a microfinance institution increases household expenditure by almost 10% in the first year, and that the benefits will continue for another 30 years. Benefits are estimated to end up about six times

higher than the costs.

Though women have the right to vote in almost every country, gender inequalities in political representation remain large. Governments should consider gender quotas at the local level of politics. Greater female representation may not necessarily lead to more emphasis on "female" policy priorities, but in India, village councils with gender quotas for village chiefs have higher levels of safe drinking water, better immunization coverage and roads, and less bribery. There may be some losses from electing women because they tend to have less political experience than men, but the record in India suggests that if it took 20 years to establish a 30% share of women in local positions in other countries, the benefits would be at least double the costs of achieving this.

Being a woman need not and should not be among the greatest challenges of life.

Elizabeth M. King is the Research Manager for Public Services of the World Bank's Development Research Group; Bjørn Lomborg is the organizer of Copenhagen Consensus, adjunct professor at the Copenhagen Business School, and author of Cool It and The Skeptical Environmentalist. Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2008.

Civilized Talk

By: Tzvetan Todorov

What does it mean to be "civilized"? Obviously, being highly educated, wearing a tie, eating with a fork, or cutting one's nails weekly is not enough. We all know that being "civilized" in this formal way doesn't prevent people from behaving like barbarians. Everywhere and at all times, being civilized means being able to recognize and accept the humanity of others, despite their different modes of living.

That may seem like an obvious point, but it is not universally accepted. The idea of dialogue between civilizations usually gets a good press, but it is also sometimes mocked. The conclusion of Elie Barnavi's recent essay *Les religions*

meurtrières ("Murderous religions") is entitled "Against the dialogue of civilizations." His argument is implacable: "There is civilization on one hand and barbarism on the other. There is no possible dialogue between them."

But if you look at this line of argument more closely, the flaw in Barnavi's argument is immediately apparent. The meaning of the words *civilization* and *culture* is very different when they are used in singular and plural forms. *Cultures* (plural) are the modes of living embraced by various human groups, and comprise all that their members have in common: language, religion, family structures, diet, dress, and so on. In this sense, "culture" is a descriptive category, without any value judgment.

Civilization (singular) is, on the contrary, an evaluative moral

category: the opposite of barbarism. So a dialogue between cultures is not only beneficial, but essential to civilization. No civilization is possible without it.

Contrary to what proponents of the idea of a "clash of civilizations" claim, encounters between different cultures usually take place easily and peacefully, because we are psychologically prepared for them. Everyone is the product of several cultures, even if one has never left his home country, because culture is not only national. All of us carry within us the culture of our sex, age group, wealth, class, and job.

This plurality of cultures usually does not present any problems for us, because shifting from one cultural code to another is a universal human faculty. After all, we don't talk in the same way to every person we meet during the day.

Moreover, cultures related to a given territory are never really "pure". As far back as you can go in the history of a country like France, you will find meetings between different tribes and ethnic groups, and thus different cultures: Gallics, Franks, Romans, and many others. Everywhere we look (except, perhaps, in New Guinea's deep valleys, where obscure tribes may remain isolated from one another), there are only mixed cultures. But, while some cultures are proud of their plurality, others try to hide it.

The concept of a dialogue between cultures is sometimes strained, or seems only a pious hope, because we ask it to do the impossible: solve inflamed political conflicts. Dialogue, as benevolent as it may be, can't resolve questions related to people's freedom of movement, or to the sharing of territory or natural

resources. Politics and culture don't work on the same level: the former governs action, the latter influences mentalities; the former deals with emergencies, the latter can require generations to produce any result.

We should work for this type of dialogue by beginning with simple and modest initiatives. We need more translations of the ideas and literatures of other countries, more long stays abroad for university students, more teaching of foreign languages and encouragement of study about other cultures, and more confrontation between national memories (say, between France and Algeria).

Some measures of this type already exist in the European Union, but they should be introduced elsewhere: North Africa, the Middle East, India, China, Japan, and Latin America. The best way to initiate a dialogue is to

disregard clichés and generalities, and instead to promote gatherings between human beings.

For the moment, politics has claimed paramount status. Yet, from another point of view, dialogue prevails over war and the stubborn defense of what one believes to be his identity, because it brings us closer to the vocation of humanity.

The novelist André Schwarz-Bart used to tell this story: A chief rabbi was once asked why the stork, which is called *Hassada* (affectionate) in Hebrew because it loves its own kind, is classified among unclean animals. "Because," the rabbi replied, "it gives its love only to its own kind."

Tzvetan Todorov is Directeur de recherche honoraire at the CNRS in Paris, and the author of many books on history and culture. Copyright: Project Syndicate.

Harvests of Hunger

By: Jomo Kwame Sundaram

Lack of food is rarely the reason people go hungry. Even now, there is enough food in the world, with a bumper harvest this year, but more people cannot afford to buy the food they need. Addressing this growing crisis is the aim of the Global Conference on Food Security in Rome on June 3-5.

Even before the recent food price spikes, an estimated billion people were suffering from chronic hunger, while another two billion were experiencing malnutrition, bringing the total number of food-insecure people to around three billion, or almost half the world's population. Roughly 18,000 children died daily as a direct or indirect consequence of malnutrition. Obviously, the recent increases in food prices are likely to drive the number of people vulnerable to food stress even higher.

There is now an urgent need to finance existing food aid programs to address mounting food demands, avert further social unrest, and ensure that farmers get the costlier farm inputs they need for the next planting season. But, as we respond to the current

humanitarian emergency due to higher food prices, we must not lose sight of the longer-term problems that have undermined food security in recent decades.

Clearly, a "new deal" for food security is urgently needed.

The major increases in food production associated with the Green Revolution in the 1960's – with considerable government and international not-for-profit support – gave way to new policy priorities in the 1980's. As food supply growth slowed, demand continued to grow, and not only due to population increase. With higher incomes, rising meat consumption requires more grain for animal feed.

Since the 1980's, governments have been pressed to promote exports to earn foreign exchange and import food. But food cannot be treated as just another commodity, and governments should develop appropriate policies, infrastructure, and institutions to ensure food security (not to be equated with total self-sufficiency) at the national or regional level.

The problem is that, having neglected food security and the productive sectors of their economies

for several decades, many developing countries' governments now lack the fiscal capacity to increase public spending in order to increase food production and agricultural productivity.

Moreover, growing urbanization and other non-agricultural uses of land have reduced acreage available for food production, while agricultural land is increasingly used to produce commodities other than food, such as bio-fuels.

But we should not rush to abandon bio-fuels, despite some undoubtedly poor policies in recent years. Some bio-fuels are far more cost-effective and energy-efficient than others, and different bio-fuel stocks have very different opportunity costs for food agriculture (sugar has not experienced any significant price increase).

Another problem is that fewer and fewer transnational agro-businesses now dominate marketing, production, and inputs.

This comes largely at the expense of small farmers and consumers, particularly the poor. Moreover, with less government support, rural credit has often become prohibitively expensive.

In addition, more securitization,

easier online trading, and other financial market developments in recent years have facilitated greater speculative investments, especially in commodity futures and options markets, including those affecting food.

Falling asset prices in other financial market segments, following the sub-prime mortgage meltdown in the United States, may be more important for explaining the recent surge in food prices than supply constraints or other factors underlying longer-term gradual upward price trends.

Meanwhile, rich countries' agricultural subsidies and tariffs have undoubtedly undermined food production in developing countries. However, cutting farm subsidies will increase food prices, at least initially, while reducing agricultural tariffs alone will not necessarily lead to an increase in food production in poor countries without complementary support.

Instead, some food security advocates have called for rich countries to compensate for the adverse consequences of their own agricultural subsidies and protectionism by providing additional



foreign aid to the developing world, targeting production efforts that enhance food security. To avoid catastrophe, the world community must also meet the urgent emergency food and planting requirements mentioned above, including more generous budget and balance-of-payments support for low-income food-importing countries.

Finally, as world leaders gather in Rome, the international community

must secure a meaningful global commitment to food security that will not be undermined by contradictory policies.

Jomo Kwame Sundaram, the United Nations Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development, was awarded the 2007 Wassily Leontief Prize for Advancing the Frontiers of Economic Thought. Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2008.

Mazen Al-Shaibani:

“The establishment of the ministry of Tourism was a dream coming True”

Universal Tourism Group is Yemen's leading travel and tourism group with companies in almost all sectors of the tourism industry. Universal tourism has gone through a transformation since its establishment in 1983. In this interview we speak to Mazen Al-Shaibani, The marketing manager of the group regarding the group's experience so far and future ambitions.

Interviewed by: YemenTimes Staff.

YT: Kindly brief us on Universal Group and its scope of work.

Universal Group was established in 1983 in travel and tourism sector. Now the group has evolved and expanded to include over 12 companies and still expanding. Now it covers Travel, Tourism, Hospitality (6 Hotels around Yemen), Hertz international franchise for car rentals, Touring company handling any kind of tours in Yemen, Automobile Club (YCTA), DHL, TetraPak, Investment Company, Foreign Exchange Company, and Almar Oil & Gas Services. We have also expanded abroad to establish a Tourism company in Dubai named Arabia Felix Voyages. With this selective blend of travel solution franchise and companies, we lead the market in Quality, Performance and Cost.

YT: The last twenty years or so witnessed several trends in the tourism industry in Yemen, can you tell us more about your experience with these trends?

For twenty five years, we continuously improved our services to offer international standards of quality and service. We went far to build six hotels around the country in tourist attraction sites, where there were no services before. We created a variety of services according to the international demands and trends. Adventure, expedition, documentary, sports, camps, royalty escorts, trekking...etc. Packages are offered anytime of the year, and results exceeded visitors' expectations. As we continuously observe and improve our

services according to international trends, we maintain leadership and creditability in the market. We recently implemented ISO Quality System to implement worldwide management tactics to ensure faster, easier, more professional services to grant comfort to our visitors.

YT: Security restrictions and the international media portray Yemen as an unsafe country for tourism, what is your coping mechanism for this particular issue?

This certainly affects our annual business share compared to other countries, but we still receive many tourists around the year, who are in love with Yemen. We generated other sources of tourism business, for example - we are advocating for domestic tourism among citizens and settled foreigners. That's not all, as we now focus on other parts of the world (other from the usual most frequented tourist countries) to encourage them to visit Yemen. This was great as there was less competition, and those governments are cooperative in general.

YT: Do you develop specific tourism packages to Yemen to attract particular segments, for example adventure seekers?

Yes, we had experts who visited Yemen for expedition tours or documentary tours like Discovery channel and BBC Channel. They received all information desired, and scheduled meetings with official for their purposes. Adventure packages are available, and with varieties (mountains, deserts, coastal adventures.etc). Though resources



Mazen Al-Shaibani

are minimal, but we maintain our quality even if we have to invest on equipment for a single tour.

YT: How about domestic tourism, is the growth potential still untapped?

We have signed many contracts with local hotels to reduce accommodation costs to serve this cause. Yemenis now can enjoy the splendors of their country in reduced prices up to % 50. Foreigners in Yemen also can utilize the same offers.

YT: Statistics indicate that large numbers of tourists coming to Yemen originate from neighboring gulf countries; do you have a regional marketing strategy targeting gulf audience?

Arabia Felix – Dubai, plays a vital roll in this share. The main purpose of establishing this company was to link UAE, KSA, Oman and Yemen in packages of reduced costs. While Mr. Mahmood Al Shaibani manages Universal Touring Company in Yemen to expand its tourism, Mr. Marco levidiotti works from Dubai in Arabia Felix company to bond the huge

critical afflictions of tourism industry.

YT: The Ministry of Tourism has launched several campaigns to promote tourism and investment into the tourism sector in Yemen. How do you value such activities?

The ministry was a dream come true to this industry. Established in 2006, under the leadership of the young minister, Mr. Nabil al Fakih; we now have more accurate statistics of visitors to decide better on where to invest and focus. The ministry also created investment projects blueprints for investors from around the world to study them and enrich the country with new tourism projects. While our chairman, Mr. Alwan Al Shaibani, is the president of the Yemeni Hotels Union, and the vice president of Yemen Tourism promotion Board, we work hand in hand with the ministry to better serve the nation.

YT: What are the future expansion plans for Universal Group?

We focus now on opening a new hotel in Sana'a besides Shahran in 2009, which is a 5 stars hotel, with an international management agency, under our chain on Hotels. It will be called Bir Al Azab hotel, which consists of seven palaces aged around 400 years, refurbished and renewed for the latest technologies complying with international 5 stars standards. We also plan to enter oil and gas services sector from logistics and supply of spare parts under our newly opened "Almar Co. for oil & gas services". We believe that this sector will serve as a catalyst between oil and Tourism industries.

YT: What are the main problems the tourism industry faces in Yemen?

As resources in Yemen are very limited and unavailable in some tourism sectors, we also face accommodation high prices compared to other countries. For example, Yemen offers \$50 for a night in a normal 4 stars hotels, while you can be in a 5 stars hotel in Cairo for the same; therefore, we can't really compete with those countries in prices, not to mention their tourism huge potentials and resources. Hard to access historical information to supply tourists is also another problem. Preserving environment and historical sites and artifacts also are also another constrain to the growth of this industry. These are the main and

YT: Any last comments?

Yes. As we celebrate our 25th Silver jubilee Anniversary next Year, we assure everyone that we will be working even harder to deliver the best in our industry. We will continue to devote more of our profits and power for social activities, and serve our beloved nation even more. We thank all our clients who stood beside us all these years, gave us all their trust, and continue to support us always. Next year will have many surprises for them and Yemen lovers.

Business In Brief

Total aims at increasing oil production

Total E&P in Yemen has announced that exploration activities are intensifying in order to increase the company's oil production from Yemen to 90,000 barrels per day within the upcoming three years, mainly from block 10 in Hadhramout.

Yemen and Egypt to increase trade cooperation

Minister of Trade and Industry Dr. Yahya Al-Mutawakel has stated that the government aims at improving bilateral relations with Egypt through signing 13 cooperation agreements and protocols, as well as hold discussions aiming at increasing trade cooperation between the two countries.

European Commission increases aid to Yemen

The European commission has announced that it will raise its official development assistance to Yemen from 27 million euros to 51 million euros, in order to help Yemen better cope with the developmental challenges it faces.

Cabinet Approves Hadhramout's Broom Port

The cabinet has approved the allocation of land for the establishment of Broom port in Hadhramout governorate. The port will take about 11sq kms, and will be administered by the Arab Sea Ports company, which is affiliated to the government of Yemen.

Bahrain Islamic Bank to invest in Yemen

The Bahrain Islamic Bank is finalizing plans to buy a 33% share in the Yemeni Islamic Bank, as well as take charge of the management of the Yemeni Islamic Bank through a package aiming at improving the competitiveness of the bank in the local market.

Oil Currency Hypocrisy

By: Kenneth Rogoff

Does it make sense for United States Treasury Secretary Hank Paulson to be touring the Middle East supporting the region's hard dollar exchange-rate pegs, while the Bush administration simultaneously blasts Asian countries for not letting their currencies appreciate faster against the dollar? Unfortunately, this blatant inconsistency stems from the US's continuing economic and financial vulnerability rather than reflecting any compelling economic logic. Instead of promoting dollar pegs, as Paulson is, the US should be supporting the International Monetary Fund's behind-the-scenes efforts to promote de-linking of oil currencies and the dollar.

Perhaps the Bush administration worries that if oil countries abandoned the dollar standard, today's dollar weakness would turn into a rout. But the US should be far more worried about promoting faster adjustment of its still-gaping trade deficit, which in many ways lies at the root of the recent sub-prime mortgage crisis. The administration's multi-pronged effort to postpone pain to US consumers, including super easy monetary and fiscal policy, only risks a greater crisis in the not-too-distant future. It is not at all hard to imagine the whole strategy boomeranging in early 2009, soon after the next US president takes office.

Of course, a strengthening of the oil currencies (including not only the Gulf States, but also other Middle East countries and Russia) would not turn around the US trade balance overnight. But oil countries do account for a large share of the world's trade surpluses, and a weaker dollar would help promote US exports to some degree, even in the short run.

More importantly, it is imperative for US policies to be consistent across regions. How can the US Treasury, on the one hand, periodically flirt with labeling China a "currency manipulator" and, on the other hand, condone a similar strategy in oil-exporting countries?

Of course, one can imagine other reasons for US supplication to the oil states. Perhaps the administration worries that it cannot simultaneously beg for lower dollar oil prices and help promote a weaker dollar. But, contrary to popular opinion, the two actually have little to do with each other. Oil prices are set in a world market, and depend mainly on the quantities demanded and supplied by different regions, not the currency of payment. It is not at all clear that the dollar price of oil would evolve any differently if the euro, rather than the dollar, were the reference currency.

Secretary Paulson has emphasized that the US is "open for business" from sovereign wealth funds. One can hope that his confidence is justified. There is no cause for the US to place any sig-

nificant new restrictions on sovereign investments in the US beyond those that it already has on trade. Besides, the US needs these investments to help re-capitalize its badly weakened financial system. However, even if we can agree on keeping the US open to sovereign wealth fund investments, that is no reason for promoting exchange-rate policies that exacerbate the very trade imbalances that are driving the whole sovereign wealth fund phenomenon in the first place.

Then again, perhaps the Bush administration is worried that if the oil currencies strengthen too much against the dollar, it will start becoming too expensive for the US to scale up its military operations in the Middle East. This, too, is wrong-headed. If a cheaper dollar leads to an invasion of US exports to the Middle East and rising living standards in the region, all parties will be far better served.

What about the interests of the oil countries themselves? Are they right to fear potentially catastrophic results from abandoning the dollar?

As with China, these concerns are overblown. Even with the prevalence of dollar indexation across the region, exchange-rate appreciation would still help promote cheaper imports and higher living standards. Moreover, as public confidence in the de-linked oil currencies increases over time, dollar indexation of private contracts will diminish, and currency movements will have a greater impact on overall

prices.

More immediately, inflation across the oil states is soaring today, with CPI inflation in the Middle East averaging more than 6% after years of relative stability.

If this inflation is allowed to continue and deepen, it is likely to have effects easily as pernicious as the exchange-rate appreciation the region's leaders are striving so hard to avoid.

Perhaps the most important positive effect of exchange-rate appreciation

would be to help promote the development of domestically-oriented industries such as health care, education, and banking, thereby alleviating some of the region's mass underemployment.

To be sure, there are important differences between the oil exporters and the Asian economies. With world energy prices at record highs, it makes sense for oil economies to run surpluses, thereby saving for when oil supplies eventually peter out. But flexible exchange rates are still the right way

for the region to develop a more balanced economic and financial base. As for the US, it makes little sense to support dollar currency pegs in any large emerging market, at least until its trade balance normalizes. This is no time for oil currency hypocrisy.

Kenneth Rogoff is Professor of Economics and Public Policy at Harvard University, and was formerly chief economist at the IMF. Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2008.

يَهْنَى وَيَبَارِكُ أَهْضَاءُ وَمَوْظِفِي مَلَكَب الدَّارِ الْعَرَبِيَّةِ لِلْمَرَاجَعَةِ وَالْإِسْتِشَارَاتِ

المدير العام: أ/ عبد الوهاب علي عبد الله الشيباني

ونائبه: أ/ عصام محمد محمد سعيد الشرعبي

على حصولهم على مؤهل وشهادة محاسب عربي معتمد (ACPA)

دورة نوفمبر 2007، صادرة منه المجمع العربي للمحاسبين القانونيين

وحصول الأستاذ/ عبد الوهاب الشيباني على المرتبة الاولى

المهندسون:

أعضاء وموظفون مكتب الدار العربية للمراجعة والاستشارات

د/ توفيق محمد الشرعبي، د/ ناجي علي الشيباني وموظفون منظمة CHF الدولية

The sleeping giant: foreign workers in Dubai

Dubai is a place that has become synonymous with an Arab rags-to-riches story. But Dubai's reputation as a rapidly expanding state has been built on the toil of exploited foreign workers. MENASSAT sent photographer Simba Rousseau and writer Jackson Allers on a five-day trip to extract some of these workers' stories.

By: Jackson Allers And Simba Rousseau (Menassat)

Sandals. Lots of sandals in the Dubai airport – the ubiquitous footwear of the foreign worker armies milling about customs waiting for visa approvals in huge lines stretching out the corridors leading to baggage claim.

Coming from Beirut, I didn't have sandals as I stepped up to a customs official and asked where I could get my visa.

"You're American? You don't need one sir, please go to baggage claim," he said pointing me to an escalator past the workers.

Rags-to-riches

The Dubai Arabs with their designer luggage, their silk gelabiyeh's, and Ferragamo loafers wearing \$600 per ounce Aoud oil did not have cheap Chinese-made sandals. Nor were their feet sockless exposing chapped, white-blistered skin like the scores of East Asian men wondering about.

Photographer Simba Rousseau and I were entering the United Arab Emirates for the first time. We had heard so much, seen so much on television, of its architectural wonders, golf courses with Tiger Woods appearances and western malls filled with British ex-patriots content with their retirement villas.

I felt my privilege distinctly, and that feeling of privilege never left me in the 5 days I spent with Rousseau in the taxis, buses, malls and labor slums as we chased the story that had been bringing many of our ilk to the UAE in recent months -- the "rags-to-riches miracle" of Dubai which some said was "built on the toil of exploited foreign workers."

Still, little prepared me for the totality of the foreign worker presence in Dubai.

Dubai started to be a replacement tourist destination for the Middle East as a result of the dangers faced in Lebanon during the civil war (1975-1990). Up until that point Lebanon had enjoyed the reputation of being the "Paris of the Middle-East," or the "Riviera of the Arab world."

Then in the early 1970's, a young Sheikh Mohammed saw an opportunity to attract tourists away from Lebanon, turning Dubai into a transit destination for travelers coming from Europe and going to the Far East.

Post-9/11 boom

And it was during the early to mid-1990s that East Asian workers, especially those from rural villages in India and later Pakistan, began making their way in much larger numbers to assist in Dubai's burgeoning construction development.

To be sure East Asian workers were part of the labor landscape before the 1990's, with the first waves arriving after oil was discovered in 1966. But, the huge rise in foreign workers didn't occur until Dubai became firmly established as a business and development hub giving shape to the meteoric rise it has come to enjoy after September 11, when Arabs took to investing their oil wealth in their own backyard.

Officially, some 80 percent of Dubai's population is foreign, with around 18 percent being from the

UAE. With a population of around 1.5 million people, well over one million hailed from locations in East Asia. Human Rights Watch estimates that in Dubai alone, there are well over 500 thousand construction workers from Asia.

Although sources estimate that some \$300 billion dollars have been or are being invested in Dubai currently, this development has not been the result of some magic wand wafting over the desert. The workers built this place.

A group of Bangladeshis that were part of a large municipal works construction site came up to say hello after a simple wave their way. They were sitting down with their construction uniforms and their muddied boots and with teeth stained from their incessant smoking; they were nothing but open.

One man in his 20's, Mohammed Jitumiya, approached me to let me know what he and his co-workers were dealing with here in Dubai.

\$149 per month

With his ill-fitting hard hat and his broken English, he told me that he was



Foreign workers climb aboard water taxis after work.

contracted to come to Dubai 6 months before to serve out a two-year contract, a standard time-frame for most foreign construction workers there.

"I was on plane with 150 Bangladeshis. I sleep at a place with 3,000 people," Jitumiya said.

"You mean there are 3,000 people in the camp where you live?" I asked.

"Yes 3,000 people where I live. I make 520 Dirhams per month. They take 120 out of my salary each month for rent and food," he said.

Because the value of the UAE currency, Dirhams, has been pegged to the US dollar, that means Jitumiya was making roughly \$149 per month for heavy construction work. And, as the dollar weakens, so do his salary rates.

"No good," Jitumiya told me before a Pakistani security guard stopped my discussion and told me to talk to the sites acting manager - a Turkish fellow by the name of Aymet.

Raj Kunder, a 35-year old Nepalese man from Katmandu, came to the UAE in 1999. I met him while walking through Bur Dubai's 'City Center' area, in search for a Nepalese restaurant on our third day.

At the time I was in Dubai, the Nepalese government was negotiating the demands of the Maoist insurgency

in their bid to dissolve the centuries old monarchy. I thought there's was a perspective that would be unique among the hundreds of thousands of other East Asians, not the least because they, along with the Bangladeshis, were on the lower rung of the social hierarchy in the workers' ranks.

"We have been here for a long time, we know how the system here works," one Indian wholesale silk merchant told me in the Gold Souk.

"Why are the Bangladeshis and the Nepalis considered lower in the social food chain?" I asked.

"Because they're like we were some 15 years ago. Naïve and unaware of how they fit in here. There are opportunities for a select group of them if they are smart," he said.

But for most foreign workers coming to Dubai, there concerns are more immediate.

Raj Kunder.

"I left my Nepal to give my children good education, so I need money, too much money to give them a good education. Almost all Nepalese have the same reasons for coming here," Raj told me as we sat near the water along Dubai creek on the Bur Dubai side where many of the Nepalese came to socialize on Fridays, the UAE's official day of rest.

In Raj's case, that meant putting two boys through school and supporting the entire extended family of his wife

to survey the conditions at two camps and talk to the workers.

"The conditions here are better than in most camps, I assure you," Nader told me on the way to meet the workers.

Inside the labor camps

Sagaa was most definitely not Dubai. It was absolutely bleak, and completely characterless. The smells were also industrial, a mixture of desert air and diesel fumes layered with the soot and dust kicked up by the massive amounts of transit vehicles, buses, tractor-trailers and vans, traveling along the unpaved roads in and out of the areas where the camps were located.

The road leading into the camp was still a bit muddy due to the rare rainstorms that had blanketed the area just days before our arrival.

Sultan a 45-year old father of three from Islamabad, and the camp's foreman, was the first to greet us at the camps entrance, as other workers milled about or did their laundry.

A self-professed karate black belt, Sultan had lived more than 18-years outside of his home in Islamabad, working and sending remittances back to his family to finance the building of a new apartment and putting his kids through school.

He spoke German, Urdu, Hindu and English, and his linguistic abilities qualified him to be the middleman between management and those



Raj Kunder.

hailing from Bangladesh, Pakistan and India.

In the late 1990's, Sultan moved to the U.S. state of Maryland to work. He left after September 11, he said "because it was not safe for me there anymore."

As he toured me around the camp, I was transported to the illegal migrant farm worker labor camps' that I had seen in the rural southern United States during my university days as a labor organizer.

Squat, nasty and with no real ventilation, the 300 or-so workers stayed 10 to a room in the sparse cement cinder block-housing complex. Bunk beds were stacked in rows along the walls with no closets in rooms, which were no bigger than 6 meters by 5 meters.

All of their belongings were out in plain sight. There was no privacy.

"Is there a contrast living here when you compare it with the United States for example?" I asked Sultan.

"Of course, the living conditions are worse in Dubai, but in truth, I don't really spend anything here. There's nothing to spend money on here. You live. You work. Eat, sleep. That's it," Sultan said.

"But, I am doing more than what I am getting paid for here," he added.

Eventually Sultan introduced me to Usman, who was the janitorial manager of the labor camp.

Usman, a 43-year old father of three from the coastal city of Pasni in Pakistan was a bicycle repairman.

"What kind of bikes? Motorbikes or bicycles?" I asked.

"Bicycles... like Sohrab," he said referring to the country's most famous local bicycle model.

He loved his job in Pakistan, but with mouths to feed, and his kids advancing in their schooling, he felt it was time to make a move so he came to the UAE in early 2007.

8 months into a two-year contract in the summer of 2007 a crane hoisting a large crate full of electrical equipment had a nail sticking out of it, and as the crate rounded itself near the position



23-year old Antu from Bangladesh: "They can do whatever they want... I have no education."

where Usman was working, the protruding nail literally ripped his calf to shreds as it passed by him.

"When the crate passed by I felt this horrible sting in my leg, and I was lifted a little off the ground...the next thing I know, I was bleeding and I went into shock. I could not feel my leg and could not see it because of all the blood."

When I asked him what the company did to help him, he replied, "Well. Nothing really."

"What do you mean, nothing? Didn't they pay for your medical treatment?" I asked in disbelief.

He said, "They took me to

know what he said? He said one day he's going to die, so he doesn't want anything."

Usman then continued, "I have only one dream. I want to take a Hajj [pilgrimage to Mecca]."

"Is it because he knows he will take nothing with him when he dies? Can you ask him?" I urged Sultan.

But Usman continued unprompted, "If Allah gives to me money. Then it's good. If he is not giving money to me. What can I do? I don't have anything. God is giving good money, he who is deserving money."

Although Usman's story was a tragic one, it was by no means wholly unique.

Exit strategy

There were other tragedies. Hundreds, likely thousands in Dubai's construction sector over the years. I had read about some of them in articles written before my journey to the UAE. Human Rights Watch's own research on the injury and death rates of migrants in the UAE is perhaps the only of its kind – which to me said something about government oversight and moral culpability.

According to all of my interviews, the choice to come to Dubai was a result of the economic and political situations in their home countries. Dubai was one place they knew to turn to try and escape the larger cycle of poverty they were trapped in.

One of the workers at the camp, Antu, a 23-year old from a small village outside of the city of Shariatpur in Bangladesh said, "They [the management] can do anything they want. Because I have no education, they can treat me however they want."

In mid-March, nearly two months after president Bush's visit to the Middle East, the press reported that about 1,500 workers in Dubai went on strike in Sagaa, hitting the dusty streets in the exact area we had visited, and setting ablaze dozens of vehicles.

"Yeah there are strikes all the time! It just doesn't make the news. But believe me, they're increasing in frequency, not decreasing," our human resources contact, Nader, said.

Mohammed, a cameraman from a Bangladesh television station said it best.

On the back of a bus riding from the Gold Souk during our last day in Dubai, he said, "I think Sheikh Mohammed should address the issues of the workers now, or they will have more long term problems with the labor force issue. In fact, no one will want to work here and workers will be more brave to act for their rights."

تعلن سفارة ملكة إسبانيا بصنعاء عن حاجتها لشغل الوظائف التالية :

١- ضابط إداري	الراتب السنوي ١٨.٩٢٨ دولار
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٢- سواقين	٦١٦٠
١- طباط	٥.٢١٩.٢٠
٥. عامل نظافة	٤.١١.٤٠

آخر موعد لاستلام السيرة الذاتية للراغبين في التقدم لشغل تلك الوظائف هو يوم ١٦ يونيو الجاري . بإمكان المتقدمين الحصول على استمارات طلب التوظيف من السفارة أثناء الدوام الرسمي من الساعة التاسعة صباحاً وحتى الثالثة عصرأ . العنوان : حدة خلف مبنى فندق حدة .

La Embajada de Espana en Sana'a convoca las siguientes plazas de personal fijo:

Plazas	Retribucion integra anual
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2 Ordenanzas Choferes	6160
1 Cocinero	5,219,20
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El plazo de convocatoria sc extiende hasta el 16 de junio de 2008. El modelo oficial de solicitud se podra recoger en la propia Embajada.



The crossroads: the road to the labor camps in Sagaa city, 40 km. from Dubai city.

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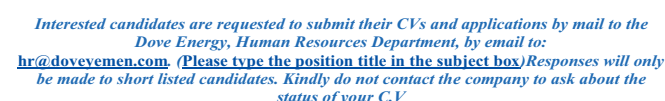


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Antithesis

By: Hanan Abdulrahman

A fortune cookie once told me that in dealing with the big bad world in each of our lives, we’re the pirates of our own vessel. Have we been put to the ultimate sailing test when we become part of the divine depths, tiny vessels floating in a larger expanse?

As far as one can tell, I guess the answer is yes because nothing in life is a piece of cake – not even the cake itself because sweetness always has some bitterness about it.

Life is just such a struggle because nothing we experience can give us ultimate joy and satisfaction. There’s always an impediment along the way, no matter how smooth it seems to be, but I assume this is how life was divinely designed. Good things come, along with their complete opposites, in order to give them that much more value.

Ironically, it seems that we’ve adapted to such contrast quite well, actually, even learning to be in contrast with ourselves regarding the fundamental values and principles for which we claim to stand. How creative of us!

Antithesis has become a part of everything. Think about it: war versus peace, faith and terrorism, wealth and famine, democracy versus dictatorship, law versus government... It’s impressive, right?

Aren’t humans the best manipulators in a universe filled with millions upon millions of organisms? Among all of them, *they* should be awarded for their impeccable skills in making everyone believe their lies.

I’m sure everyone is familiar with the international façade the rich and powerful have created to rule and wallow in luxury. You know, taking advantage of every possible circumstance for their personal benefit.

So many terms they carefully make up to back up their games: legislation, politics, democracy, justice, civil rights, etc. Isn’t it funny? How beautifully they decorate their words to fool the fools so that they can take what doesn’t belong to them and pave paths of gold for their rich, filthy feet to walk.

But wait, haven’t you noticed that the word “powerful” is always attached to the word “rich,” like they’re best friends or something? So, I guess all one has to do is make good money and then you’ll receive power for free – two for the price of one. Or is it the other way around? I’m confused.

Anyway, sometimes when I’m listening to them, I’m almost inclined to believe that we’re all supposed to be guarded by rights, regardless of our ethnicity, color or religion, and that it’s their duty to offer us and protect these rights.

For a few moments, I start thinking that *maybe* there’s some good left in the systems that run our lives, but then I flip the channel, turn on the news and there

it is – reality hitting me right in the face!

The brave and honest no longer are found. Children in many countries are oblivious to the word “innocence;” it hasn’t made it into their vocabulary, possibly because they’ve suffered more than one lifetime can endure.

Families are estranged in the most heart wrenching ways covering the horizon with a blanket of sadness. While one is throwing away perfectly edible food, another is staring at a bakery window wishing he could have a bite of what he knows he can’t afford.

Children working at age 7 or under are deprived of basic education, while some travel the world and change their cars twice a year.

There’s a contrast alright, but it’s not the kind God intended. It’s not a good type of contrast that helps us appreciate things in life. This is downright injustice created by human hands – or at least allowed by them.

The balance of life as it should be has flipped and the world makes little if no sense to me anymore. It’s a mess and as an ordinary citizen who doesn’t have all that much money or power, I feel helpless.

All we can do is watch in anger, maybe protest, boycott or pen a complaint while everything spirals downward. However, nothing changes...and it hasn’t in a long time.

So, where are the ones in authority who can make a change? They’re too busy doing other things. What things? Don’t ask.

Yemen wakeup call

By: Waddah Nasher
waddahn@gmail.com

I’m not sure how Yemen got its name, “Happy Yemen,” because I’ve never seen her happy in my life. There’s always something to suppress the life and happiness out of her and her people.

I am Yemeni. Ask about my history and it will tell how sad I’ve been. However, there is a light at the end of the tunnel and it’s the train coming right at you. The situation in Yemen has reached its limit and that limit is war. It’s unfortunate, but I see it in the distance. It’s the only way out and only a matter of time.

This will be Yemen’s first and last war. Anyone with the slightest inkling of Yemeni history will disagree with me by affirming that this is not Yemen’s first war and probably not its last – but it is.

All previous wars here have been someone else’s, not Yemen’s. It’s always been about someone winning or losing power, someone who wants unity or doesn’t. All previous wars were never Yemen’s, but this one is.

This will be Yemen’s first war simply because it has had enough of you who have mistreated her, cut her open and left her to bleed and squeezed every last drop of happiness from her. You didn’t care for her, but rather for your own interests, well-being, happiness and future, but never hers.

I’m saddened by what I know and I know war is imminent; it’s only a matter of time.

The past 18 years or so have been the worst – not that it was any better before, but at least Yemen use to get a cut of the deal and a little bit of juice to keep her motor running. However, lately, you’ve been taking and talking without even a promise to pay her back.

Need I mention poverty, the increased suicide rate or the decline in the education and public health sectors? The overall wellbeing of Yemeni people has been deteriorating sharply over the past 18 years.

I’m not implying that Yemeni unity is the reason because it’s not. Rather, it’s you who have allowed corruption in our nation to reach new heights, surpassing any human level. Now it’s Yemen’s turn to fight back. It’s Judgment Day.

Yes, sadly, I know that war is imminent; it’s only a matter of time and the time is closer than you think. Yemen is going after all of you who have disrespected and disgraced its past, present and future and you who have depleted its youth and shattered its hopes and dreams.

I’m rooting for Yemen to defeat you and she will because this will be her first and last war.

I love you, “honey!”

By: Minal S.

With all of its preventive and curative values, honey has been a much talked about subject since time immemorial.

- Honey is best for the digestive system, as it’s directly assimilative and laxative.
- Honey is a ready source of energy for the body, as a large quantity of amino acids, minerals, enzymes and vitamins are present in just one ounce of honey.
- Using honey twice daily provides sharpness of memory, eyesight and longer life.
- When taken with milk, honey cures ulcers.
- Honey helps reduce weight, if taken regularly with warm water and lime juice.
- Honey with a little fruit juice also purifies the blood and helps remove bile.
- Honey with papaya helps increase memory ability and cure nervous debility.
- Honey may be applied to burns and in due course, scars will disappear.
- Honey offers children resistance against various diseases and makes them healthy, while also assisting in their mental growth.
- Honey helps build hemoglobin in the blood.

- Tired and overworked individuals can recover by drinking 20 grams of honey with water (warm in the winter and cold in the summer).
- It’s estimated that 30 grams of honey has a value equal to 1.65 kilograms of cheese and butter, 240 grams of meat, eight oranges or 10 eggs. A rich source of energy, along with milk, it is a perfect food.
- Honey may be used on toast, bread, biscuits, baked goods, etc., to give these edibles a delicate flavor.
- Honey may be used to check the stiffness of limbs in old age.
- Honey promotes sound sleep.
- Honey is useful for weak children, as it contains iron and copper.
- Honey has various beauty applications. To give hair extra body and shine, add a teaspoon of honey to half a liter of warm water, pouring

through hair after shampooing and rinsing.

- Honey is a wonderful remedy for dry skin. Mix two tablespoons of honey with half a teaspoon of lime juice and gently spread on the face for 20 minutes. Rinse with lukewarm water, leaving the skin clean, clear and fresh.
- Heart patients must take two teaspoons of honey before eating.
- Regular use of honey improves the liver. With its natural potassium and mineral potentials, honey is a rich, nutritious food and should be utilized to its best advantage by all age groups.

And with all of its qualities, “honey” as an endearment can always make one’s day or night too!
I love you, “honey!”

My angel

By: Mohammed Fikri Al-Anisi

You made me happy when I was sad.
You made my mood good when it was bad.
You made me well when I was sick.
You made me strong when I was weak.
You drew the smile on my face.
You made me feel safe.
You gave me hope in myself.

You made me calm when I was angry.
With you, all of my life was happy.
When I felt lost, you were the light to my way.
You are the angel who showed me the true way.
I need you to be near me, my dear
Because when we were together,
My life was much better,
So stay with me forever.

Through The Mind’s Eye

By: Maged Thabet Al-kholidy
maged_thabet@hotmail.com



Should women be educated? (Part 1)

Compared to many other Islamic and Arab nations, Yemen is considered a conservative country with Islamic laws and systems. However, numerous social conventions play a great role in its people’s daily routines and behaviors.

Women’s education has been taken up as an issue, calling on Yemeni families to send their female members to educational institutions. However, some don’t take this matter seriously because they don’t know the true significance of why women should be educated.

Some say that, “Educating women is an aspect of imitating the West.” Such people look at the call for women’s education as a system imposed by Western nations or by the United States, as some insist, adding that its true purpose is to destroy Islamic societies.

All in our society must respond to such an unreasonable claim, pointing out how Islam honors women, granting them the right to learn. Allah implores all humans to “learn, from childhood to death” – and he doesn’t exclude women. Moreover, the Prophet Mohammed (pbuh) taught his own wives, as well as teaching other women the religion of Islam and the Qur’an.

At that time, Islamic society wasn’t weak; to the contrary, it suddenly emerged as a great society in civilization. So, how can such people claim that educating women destroys Islamic society? In my opinion, it

certainly does not.

Some families restrict their female members from studying after a certain age, justifying that it’s time for them to be responsible for household duties. They say, “A female must be like a servant, taking care of the home.”

Believe it or not, this really does occur in many families – in both villages and cities. For example, a father has three young daughters, whom he keeps at home to maintain the house and tend to its duties.

However, such duties could be done by one daughter – or divided among the three – as it would take each no more than an hour to do all of the work. Thus, they could perform their tasks and study at the same time.

In reaction to this belief in necessary housework, it’s reasonable to say that all families have housework and duties, which many households manage to perform while at the same time sending their daughters and sisters to receive an education.

Nevertheless, some families refuse to educate females, claiming that they’ll be introduced to the larger world where they’ll learn many things that may negatively affect their morals. “Universities are mediums through which women get a chance to think and then to do immoral behaviors,” some fathers say.

Actually, when responding to such people, one should draw their attention to how their daughters were raised at home under the education of the parents. If parents raise their daughters in the right way, the

medium of education at schools and universities can’t harm or affect them. But if their home education isn’t good, they may be affected by such environments.

Additionally, there are thousands of educated women who can be taken as models for morality and good behavior. Therefore, it’s not the fault of education if some exceptional women indulge in immoral things; rather, it’s the fault of the family itself.

Moreover, some claim that women have nothing to do in society except keep house, protesting, “Why educate women since they’ll be in the home forever?” Thus, instead of wasting money and time in vain, it’s better for them not to study at all.

Such people are aware of women’s role in society, which includes the affairs of the home, involving everything from cooking, cleaning and washing to raising children – which I believe is a supreme duty.

I’d like anyone of these people to contrast how an educated and an uneducated woman run their homes. I think this would provide a clear picture of how much better the educated woman runs her house and raises her children than the uneducated one.

These are just some views on how we should respond to those who are against women’s education. In part two, I’ll shed light on other viewpoints found within some families.

As usual, your responses and views are heartily welcome in expanding this topic for further objective discussion.

The Moon is not as you Think

By: Inas Al-Radami

The moon is not as you think,
So nice and bright
And lighting up the night.
The moon is between
The earth and sky.
It is lonely and
Makes people cry!

The moon is not as you think!
The moon is not so beautiful,
But ugly,
With many holes in it

And the sun makes it silvery!

The moon is so dark;
It can’t appear full every day.
Although it is a creature
That thanks Allah and prays!

I can’t stay here watching
The lonely moon.
Oh, how my heart resembles
This lonely moon!

I thought many times
How the moon would please
My sad eyes.

My heart is not so sweet,
But ugly, full of blood
And made of a piece of meat!

What makes such a shape?
Love and hate,
Or cry when we separate?
And what makes birds fly
And people live and die?

I can’t bear watching
The lonely moon,
When it suddenly sinks into
The bosom of the sky!

Let my Hands be your Wings

By: Inas Al-Radami

I have something to remember
That rattles my mind like thunder,
But I don’t easily surrender.

I’ve loved you since childhood,
So deny me if you can,
But I don’t really think
You can afford to.

Break me into pieces.
My heart that life releases

Shall still go back to you.

O, my father, let my tears
Wash you of your sins.
Let my hands be your wings.

Do you know
How much I love you?
Do you know
How much I need you?
Take me wherever you go,
Because I can’t bear life without
you!

By the Punishment of Your Eyes

By: Inas Al-Radami

Let me escape from the reality of
Thousands of lies invading my heart.
Why do I feel so lonely?
Miserable and tired, though smart.
Shall I bring my box with me?
Unfortunately, I lost the key!
Empty eyes whose life is so short.
Guide me! I’m truly lost.
Cruel hands tear my posters.
I shall break them, but oh, I’m wise
And overly hurt
By the punishment of your eyes!

Short story

The missed call

By: Inas Al-Radami

She went to the kitchen to prepare food for her family, bearing in mind that she’d leave them soon. She remembered how she spent every minute with them, but she had something inside like a feeling of guilt for doing nothing.

She probably could go wherever she wanted whenever she decided. Her

interest in traveling was stronger than anything that would take her back to the past when her mother lived under the burdens of the family’s circumstances. She felt that she’d be able to achieve her goals by traveling and changing her life.

Nothing could make her change her mind because she believed in herself strongly. She was thinking of the first step in beginning her own life and

counting the days she’d spend there. Her heart was beating and beating, but she couldn’t stop herself from thinking.

She suddenly hurried to the living room to check the telephone and was shocked that the missed call was from her friend, who was offering her a scholarship. She tried to call her back, but it was too late because her friend had left the country an hour before!

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فنادق

فندق فرساي ت: ٠١-٤٢٥٧٧-١/٢
فندق شيراتون ت: ٠١-٣٣٧٥٠٠
فندق موفيميك ت: ٠١-٥٤٦٦٦٦
فندق تاج سبا ت: ٠١-٢٧٣٣٧٥
فندق ريلاكس ان ت: ٠١-٤٤٨٧١
فندق وأجنحة الخليج السياحي ت: ١٠-٦٠٣٥٠٠-٦٠٢١٥/٨

معاهد

معهد يالي ت: ٤٤٥٨٣٢/٣٦-٤٤٨٠٣٩
معهد اللغة الألمانية ت: ٢٠٠٩٥٥
المعهد البريطاني للغات والكمبيوتر ت: ٣٦٦٣٢٢
فاكس: ٥١٤٧٥٥
معهد كاروكوس ت: ٥٢٤٤٤/٥
معهد أليكك ت: ٢٤٠٨٣٢-٥١٠٦١٢
فاكس: ٣٥٥٣٧٥

شركات للتأمين

الوطنية للتأمين ت: ٢٧٣٧٢١/٢٧٣٧٣٠
مأرب للتأمين صنعا ت: ٢٠٦١٢٩/٨/١٣
الشركة اليمنية الإسلامية للتأمين وإعادة التأمين صنعا ت: ٢٨٤١٩٣
عدن ت: ٢٤٤٢٨٠
تجز ت: ٢٥٨٨٨١
شركة اليمن للتأمين صنعا ت: ٢٧٣٨٠٦/٢٧٣٩٦٢/٤٣
عدن ت: ٢٤٧١١٧
تجز ت: ٢٥٠٣٥٥

مدارس

مدرسة رينبو ت: ٤١٤٠٠٣٧/٤٢٤-٤٢٣
مدارس صنعا الدولية ت: ٣٧٠١٩١/٢
مدرسة التركيبة الدولية ت: ٤٤٨٥٨/٩
مدرسة الماجد اليمنية ت: ٢٠٦١٥٩

سفريات

السيم للسفريات ت: ٢٧٠٧٥٠
العالمية للسفريات والسياحة ت: ٤٤١٥٨٩/٦٠

مطاعم

مطعم ومخبازة الشيباني (باسم محمد عبده الشيباني)
تلفون: ٥٠٥٢٩٠ - ٢٦٦٣٧٥ - فاكس: ٢٦٧٦١٩



دورات في مجال إدارة الأعمال

- دورات في الكمبيوتر - خبرة
- في مجال الكهرباء وصيانة الأجهزة الالكترونية والكهربائية
- التواصل: ٧٣٣٠٧٩١٩٠
- محمد حسين - دبلوم برمجة بتقدير جيد جداً - دبلوم صيانة - دبلوم إنجليزي
- التواصل: ٧٧٠٩٨٩١٠٦

- محمد الشرفي - بكالوريوس كيمياء - جامعة صنعا - دورة في وزارة النفط لفحص العناصر - دبلوم كمبيوتر - خبرة ثلاث سنوات في فحص المواد السامة والمخدره والمتفجرة

- يرغب في العمل في الفترة المسائية. للتواصل: ٧٧٧٢٠٥٠٩٢

- أحمد محمد - مهندس ميكانيكي معدات ثقيلة - خبرة لاتقل عن ١٥ سنة للتواصل: ٢١٠٥٩٤ - ٢١٠٥٩٣
- محمد أحمد - بكالوريوس محاسبة - خبرة خمس سنوات - برامج يمن سوفت المحاسبية - يبحث عن العمل في الفترة المسائية. للتواصل: ٧٧٧١٧٣٧٤٢

عقارات

- للبيع: فيلا جديد دور وبدروم، حده، ٥ غرف، ٣ حمامات، مطبخ، صالة طعام والبدروم كامل. مساحة الأرضية ١٤ لبنه حر. حجر دائري بيضاء - شارع مسفلت شرقيه. سعر البيع: ٧٥ مليون ريال. للتواصل: ٧٣٣٨٠٢٨٥٥
- للبيع: فيلا حجر من دورين كل دور

للتواصل: ٧٧١٩٦٣٤٢٧

- عبد الجليل - ثانوية عامة - خبرة
- في مجال المخازن + مدير إداري لمشروع قنوات سد مأرب - خبرة
- في مجال إدارة المشاريع - خبرة
- في مجال الكهرباء - خبرة في مجال الإشراف والمتابعة - يبحث عن عمل
- التواصل: ٧٣٣٢٠٣٣٧١
- بكالوريوس لغة إنجليزية - كلية التربية - جامعة صنعا - يبحث عن عمل في شركة أوفي أي مجال آخر
- التواصل: ٧٧١٣٧٨٣٠٩
- تخصص برمجة وتطبيقات الحاسب - خبرة في عمل البرامج وكذلك التصاميم وأيضاً في مجال المحاسبة - يجيد اللغة الإنجليزية.
- التواصل: ٧٧٧٩٩١٢٤٨
- خريج كلية اللغات - قسم الترجمة - جامعة صنعا - خبرات عديدة - يرغب في العمل في مجال المراسلات أو الترجمة
- التواصل: ٧٧١٨٧٣٧٢٣
- ياسر هزاع - دبلوم الكتروني أنظمة تحكم صناعي عام - خبرة في الحام - خبرة في صيانة الآلات
- التواصل: ٥٧٩٣٩ - ٧٧٧٠

- مطلوب للعمل في الفترة المسائية ومدرسين ا توكا د CAD
- للتواصل: ٤٧٢٩٣٧ - ٧٣٣٦٥٠٠٤٠
- يعلن مركز تعليم لغات عن حاجته إلى عدد ٢ سكرتيرات الشروط: ١- الحصول على الثانوية العامة ٢- الحفاظ على خصوصية العمل لايشترط أي خبرة أجنبية والتدريب والتأهيل يتم في المركز
- للتواصل: ٤٤٠٧٠٣ - ٢

باحثون عن
وظيفة

- هندسة حاسوب - جامعة الحديدة - دبلوم لغة إنجليزية - يرغب في العمل في أي مجال
- للتواصل: ٧١٦٤١٢٦٧ - ٧١٢١٩٥٦٣٥
- بكالوريوس محاسبة - خبرة سبع سنوات - يمن سوفت - كمبيوتر - مستوى متوسط في اللغة الإنجليزية.

وظائف شاغرة

• يعلن معهد تعليم اللغة العربية لغير الناطقين بها عن حاجته لمدرسين اللغة العربية على أن يكونوا من خريجين كلية التربية أوكلية اللغات قسم الترجمة.

كوبون للاعلانات الشخصية المجانية (كل الاعلانات الشخصية بدون أي مقابل)

بيع إيجار إستئجار طلب وظيفة وظائف شاغرة غير ذلك

تفاصيل الاعلان:

عنوان التواصل:

قص هذا الكوبون وارسله إلى صحيفة يمن تايمز على فاكس ٢٨٢٣٧٦ او على صندوق بريد ٢٥٧٩ - صنعا لمزيد من المعلومات اتصل ب (ت ٢٨٢٦٦١/٢/٣)

Role of Media in peace building and prevention of conflict

By: Hamed Thabet

More than 900 Guests from 100 Countries participated in a conference in the German city of Bonn from June 2nd to 4th to discuss the role of the media in peace building and conflict prevention at the Deutsche Welle [DW] Global Media Forum.

"With this regularly-scheduled event, we are bringing together the expertise of a globally-networked media organization to create a platform for intercultural exchange between the stakeholders in globalization," said Erik Bettermann, the Director General of DW.

Bonn, a United Nations city, is "ideal for this ambitious event because of the city's excellent infrastructure," said Bettermann. "The World Conference Center offers the perfect atmosphere and for three days will be transformed into a 'think tank' for media professionals from around the world."

"Media representatives from around the world – including many of our partners – will have the opportunity to connect with decision makers from politics, culture, business, international development and science to develop interdisciplinary solutions for the many globalization challenges in which media plays a deciding role," said Bettermann.

According to the head of Germany's international broadcasting company, these include peace building, conflict prevention, governance and human rights, civil society and conveying values, education and development.

"The world in general and especially the third world needs to improve and develop its media system, main channels and ways to reach that point of a real democratic system that at present just exists only in name and not in action," said Shirin Ebadi, the Iranian winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, who also participated in the conference.

Participants and photographers came from all over but Africa, which has the most poverty, the most repressed media and the most conflict in the world, was particularly well-represented.

According to international estimations, there are 300,000 child soldiers worldwide, many of them in Africa. They are being recruited for both regular armed forces and rebel groups and forced into combat. In many conflicts, child soldiers are a constant component of the military infrastructure. An important milestone in the fight against children in combat is the additional protocol to the United Nations' (UN) Children's Rights Convention, in which the signing nations agreed not to recruit anyone under the age of 18. Equally important is the International Criminal Court in Denmark.

"We need more supranational efforts, new incentives and good ideas," said Bettermann, who added that he thought many media conventions in Germany have turned into a "travelling media circus."

"I still stand behind the statement. The media conventions here in Germany usually have a regional or national focus and discuss programming and technical issues as the business and politics of media. These types of conventions have their place and Deutsche Welle takes part in some of them. But a national preoccupation in a globalized age is anachronistic. Each year, the same people are there, both at the podium and in the audience," Bettermann said.

Bettermann added, "There's a danger of over-saturation. I am convinced that we need to broaden our horizons. The Deutsche Welle Global Media Forum is a step in that



Journalists and media professionals from all around the world gathered in Bonn, Germany to discuss the role of the media in peace building

direction. It's a media convention in Germany with an international focus and an interdisciplinary approach."

"There's yet another aspect: Germany's President Horst Koehler said in an interview with DW-TV that Germany had not sufficiently identified its position in the globalized world. The Deutsche Welle Global Media Forum can make a contribution to this discussion. We want to more concretely define Germany's role in globalization as a nation with a European cultural heritage," he added.

To help define this role, DW-TV launched a program in the local languages of Dari and Pashto and provides the German national broadcasters with world news. DW-AKADEMIE trains Afghan journalists and has assumed the lead role in an EU project to help modernise Afghan partner broadcasters. "Conflict prevention is a large part of the line-up we have produced together with our partner stations in Africa and Asia," said Bettermann. "These are all measures that strengthen civil society and prevent conflicts. The scope

becomes clear when we remember that two thirds of the world's population lives in countries without free press."

Deutsche Welle complained about insufficient funding that has jeopardized its core business. "Due to globalisation and digitalisation, rapidly changing and growing competition in the global media market, Deutsche Welle's tasks are constantly expanding. At the same time, are constantly confronted with new challenges in German and international politics - just look at Afghanistan and Iraq. There's a gap between expectations and requirements on the one hand and funding on the other. Germany's media presence must be increased if our country's standing in the world is to be strengthened. Awareness for this is missing in our country and this needs to change," according to Betterman.

He added, "Co-sponsorship from the Foundation for International Dialogue of the Savings Bank in Bonn and further support from the German Foreign Office, the government of

North Rhine Westphalia, DHL and the city of Bonn shows that we are on the right track with our agenda for the Deutsche Welle Global Media Forum. We have also attracted the support of numerous other partners, including the German Society for Technical Cooperation (GTZ), InWent and the Konrad Adenauer Foundation. Our financial participation is a good investment in our statutory mandate."

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