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AMMAN (Petra) — The Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan paid a visit Saturday to the Al Qadi family and extended his condolences on the death of the late retired Major-General Ghasab Sa'oud Al Qadi.

Obeidat receives Qasem, Salah

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat Saturday received Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasem and Jordan's permanent representative to the United Nations Abdullah Salah during two separate meetings.

Consumer shops to open bimonthly

AMMAN (Petra) — Beneficiaries of the Civil Service Consumer Corporation shops can now buy goods twice a month instead of once, according to the director of administration at the corporation, Mr. Jameel Farahneh. He said that the project will start on an experimental basis at the beginning of February with two shopping periods in the month.

Women's club prepares action plan

AMMAN (Petra) — The Amman Club for Business and Professional Women's Advisory Services Office has drawn up a plan of action for next year. Director of the office, Mrs. Buthaina Jirdaneh, said that the programme aims to make the community more aware of women's role and the services rendered by the office. The programme will focus on women's rights and duties in Islam, Jordanian legislation and legal provisions for women.

No bilharzia in Al Hasa area, health official says

KARAK (Petra) — Director of the Bilharzia and Malaria Office in Karak Governorate, Mr. Khalaf Al Humeimat, has affirmed that the waters of Al Hasa stream in Ghor Al Safi are now completely free of bilharzia snails which are now restricted to Al Berbeita area. He said that all the bilharzia cases which occurred in Ghor Al Safi area were among incoming workers and that none of the area's citizens were affected by bilharzia.

Research and investigation studies are being carried out in the estuary of Al Hasa stream to ensure that its water is free from snails, he added. Mr. Humeimat said that the office is conducting a comprehensive survey of the workers in the Ghor Al Safi area to make sure that they are free from this disease and that samples are being taken from citizens who feel symptoms of this disease. He said that number of bilharzia cases has so far reached 15, and all of these have been cured and the Berbeita stream area has been sprayed with insecticides.

Family Care Society attempts to get children off the streets

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — According to Aida Ibrahim, a social worker at a welfare society which concentrates its activities in Palestinian refugee camps in Jordan, there are many ways through which young people can help improve the lives of children and improve the status of what she calls "the future family."

leagues are planning a major fund raising campaign to initiate an ambitious project to be implemented throughout the International Youth Year. "What we are planning to do is eliminate as much as we can of the phenomenon of child abuse by improving the plight of kids who are forced to work in order to support their poor families," Aida said. "We will try to get these kids off the streets and back to school — where they belong."

Japanese volunteers to assist in Jordan's development activities

By P.V. Vivekanand
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan and Japan have concluded an agreement under which young Japanese volunteers will be assigned to Jordan to help in the Kingdom's development activities in various fields.

The agreement, signed last week by Minister of Planning Abdallah Nsour on behalf of Jordan and the Japanese ambassador to Jordan, Akira Nakayama, for Japan, comes under services offered by the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) programme.

The Japanese government will bear the cost of the volunteers' air passage and living expenses, in addition to a nominal salary, while the Jordanian government will provide free accommodation, health services and other necessary facilities.

Yarmouk University, the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) and the Ministry of Youth are expected to be the immediate beneficiaries of this agreement. A senior official of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is expected to arrive in Amman Sunday to study requests made by Yarmouk University for Japanese volunteers in various fields such as television and visual equipment technology, computer science, telecommunications and sports.

The JEA has requested two volunteers in the field of operations and maintenance of transformer stations while the Ministry of Youth has asked for volunteers for training Jordanian youths in volleyball and gymnastics, according to a spokesman for the Japanese embassy in Amman.

"By no means the term 'volunteers' imply that the people coming here would be amateurs,"

says Yushi Kitahara, the first secretary at the Japanese embassy. "In fact they will be quite far from 'amateurs,' especially that they will be given intensive training in their respective fields before being assigned overseas."

More than 5,000 such "junior experts" have been sent overseas under the JOCV programme since its inception in 1965 and Jordan would be the 36th country to avail of the programme, Mr. Kitahara said. It offers volunteers in agriculture, forestry and fishery, manufacturing and industry, maintenance and operation of machinery, civil engineering and architecture, health and social welfare, administration and information services, education and culture and sports. The normal duration of volunteers' stay in the assigned country is two years unless otherwise specified by the host government.

"All the volunteers are carefully screened and selected and given intensive training in their respective fields and undergo an orientation course on the country they would be assigned to work in," Mr. Kitahara said. "Normally this process takes over 3½ months."

Asked whether volunteers face language barriers in their field of

work, he replied that it is part of the orientation course that they are given "basic knowledge of the language of the country they are supposed to work in."

Mr. Kitahara expects the first batch of volunteers to arrive in Jordan early next year. "One may wonder why it takes so long, but it is our policy that strong emphasis is given on the technical qualifications of the volunteers, and therefore it is a long process before volunteers are ready to take up their assignments."

He also emphasised that all volunteers will be in the age group of 20 to 30 years and "therefore, it is relatively easier for them to adapt to new environments."

Mr. Kitahara finds "a lot of scope for Jordan to avail of the JOCV programme, because Japan is quite advanced in most fields of development that Jordan is interested and active in."

He also referred to technical cooperation between Jordan and Japan and said over 150 Jordanian personnel have undergone training in various fields of specialisation in the Far Eastern country. However, the latest agreement is outside the framework of the technical cooperation accord between the two countries, he added.

Information team starts aerial survey of Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — A technical team from the department of training and development information at the Ministry of Information Saturday started a full scale project to photograph Jordan from the air.

The project aims to record on video tapes population, economic, social, construction, natural and environmental aspects of Jordan.

The tapes will be used in television programmes as part of the development information in support of population activities project which is being executed between the Ministry of Information, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) and the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

He added that the general atmosphere was relaxing, especially since the tawjihi candidates had enough time to go over the scheduled material for the first tawjihi session and that the weather conditions were appropriate and helped the students to relax.

He lives with thousands of children his age in a camp which accommodates about 63,500 refugees and displaced people who were forced to migrate from the West Bank of the Jordan River as a result of the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. Services in these camps are inadequate and families are often forced to live in cramped conditions due to restricted space.

For Kamal, the day starts at six when he wakes up to catch the first bus from Baq'aa to Amman, carrying his box of goods which he bought them all from the used articles market."

Mr. Nimmer said that the delegation will present to the European side the basic Arab political stand on problems of the Middle East.

Jordan, Yarmouk and sign scientific cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) — A bilateral cooperation agreement was signed Saturday between the Universities of Jordan and Yarmouk and the Suez Canal University of Egypt. A University of Jordan spokesman told the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that the signing of the agreement is a manifestation of the two sides' willingness to strengthen brotherly relations between the two countries. He said that two sides have agreed to establish scientific cooperation between the Marine Research Station in Aqaba and the marine sciences station in Sharm Al Sheikh.

The spokesman said that the agreement provides for facilitating scientific exchange in fields of marine and biology, seas, oceans and environment, a joint scientific research, special research and educational programmes in these fields, drawing up a strategy for research in the Gulf of the Suez Canal.

The agreement also provides for exchanging members and researchers to take up the joint project of research and teaching. The agreement stipulates that the sides should exchange scientific bulletins and scientific bulletins jointly use the research facilities.

Examinations director in views regarding tawjihi

By Rana Sabbagh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The results of the first session of the General Certificate Secondary Examination, tawjihi, in all academic streams will be announced at the end of February, Ahmad Bashairch, director of the examinations division at the Ministry of Education, said Saturday.

Dr. Bashairch told the Jordan Times that he expects the final results of the tawjihi examinations to be "good", especially that the standard of examination questions were set bearing in mind the "average students" of the scientific, literary, nursing, agriculture, industrial, postal study, commercial, hotel management and special programme streams.

He added that the general atmosphere was relaxing, especially since the tawjihi candidates had enough time to go over the scheduled material for the first tawjihi session and that the weather conditions were appropriate and helped the students to relax.

Standard of questions

Concerning the standard of questions for all streams, he said that the committee responsible for setting the questions have in mind the categories of students which are either excellent students, average, good and below average. However, the tawjihi exam aims to organise a comprehensive system which can distinguish between these three categories of students, Dr. Bashairch added.

European political interests in the Arab world resulting in cooperation and understanding between the two sides.

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before the allotted time is over, whereas not finish in the allotted time implies that some of them will describe the question as difficult, unfair, complicated, more time is needed. He said, the average good finished on time.

English exam

Concerning the standard of English language examination covering all the academic streams of the tawjihi, Dr. Bashairch said that we cannot keep the questions asked in English. "I believe the English examination should be answered by the average who at least should be able to do it," he added.

Dr. Bashairch pointed out that the reasons why the Ministry of Education cancelled the results of one academic field was general average by education of the Ministry of Education to take such a decision. He said that the fact that students who are passing grade in an examination do not interest him, especially in the second year of the tawjihi. This is in turn the instructor who was in charge of this field. This is in turn the teacher and the student who are not interested in the subject. Also, the University of Jordan is interested in the results of the tawjihi examination.