

Official Launching of “Yemen”

A series of publications on “the greatest humanitarian tragedy of our time”

A Disgracing War

Edited and Prefaced by Ambassador Ardeshir Zahedi

On January 12th, 2019, in a special ceremony organised by the world-famous bookstore and publishing house, PAYOT, Ambassador Zahedi signed and dedicated copies of his three volumes of publication on YEMEN”. Many profited from the occasion to get his signature on copies of his Memoirs. This special occasion coincided with the hundred-year anniversary of the establishment of the institution in the city of Montreux in late 1918 and right at the end of the First World War.



Ambassador Zahedi in front of PAYOT Bookstore window displaying some of his works including The Memoirs and his most recent publication “YEMEN”, Biography of his father, Collection of his speeches and Interviews. Photo was taken on January 12th, before the launching ceremony.

Proceeds from the book sale, Ambassador’s personal contributions and donations of visitors will be directly transferred by PAYOT to the Swiss Red Cross for benefit of the war-stricken children of Yemen who die every day by hundreds from malnutrition, lack of medical facilities and war generated disasters.

Payot is one of the largest establishments in Europe and dates back to 1875 when it was created in Lausanne by Fritz Payot and a group of young colleagues. This was soon

followed by a period of expansion opening branches in a number of Swiss cities: Montreux (1918), Vevey (1918), Geneva (1919), Berne (1921) and Neuchâtel (1923). In 1912 Payot inaugurated its publishing house in Paris creating two encyclopaedic collections, the «Historical Library» and the «Scientific Library» which became world-famous.

In the course of nearly 150 years of history, PAYOT has now become a fast growing and undisputed leader in bookselling and publishing in the French-speaking part of Switzerland.



It is an established tradition that each year PAYOT organises special cultural events to introduce the major new publications of the year and for 2019, it had selected Ambassador Zahedi's recent works on the YEMEN WAR.

Enthusiasts gathered from all over Switzerland and patiently queued to see Ambassador Zahedi and get a dedicated copy of his recent works.

In PAYOT's announcement of the event, we read that Ambassador Zahedi's primary motive in editing and prefacing the three volumes on the war in Yemen was to wake up the world to the sufferings of the innocent people and particularly the children of this poor country. PAYOT also insists on the significance of the title of Ambassador's book: *"Yemen - 1'000 Dark Days of a Disgrace. Forget nor Forgive and that History Will Recall with Shame..."*

The ceremony was supposed to start at 3 PM and to end at 5 Pm (already one hour later than the closing time of Saturdays). Payot had obtained special permission for this extension but the enthusiasts kept coming even after 5 PM and by 6 PM there were still many in queue with copies of the Yemen and even other works of the author in their hands waiting to get the Ambassador's signature. Some had come with their small children for attention. Mr. Zahedi with his traditional court



visitors gets a few words of affection in the dedication and not just a simple signature. The demands being higher than expected they had to send for new supplies in the middle of the ceremony.

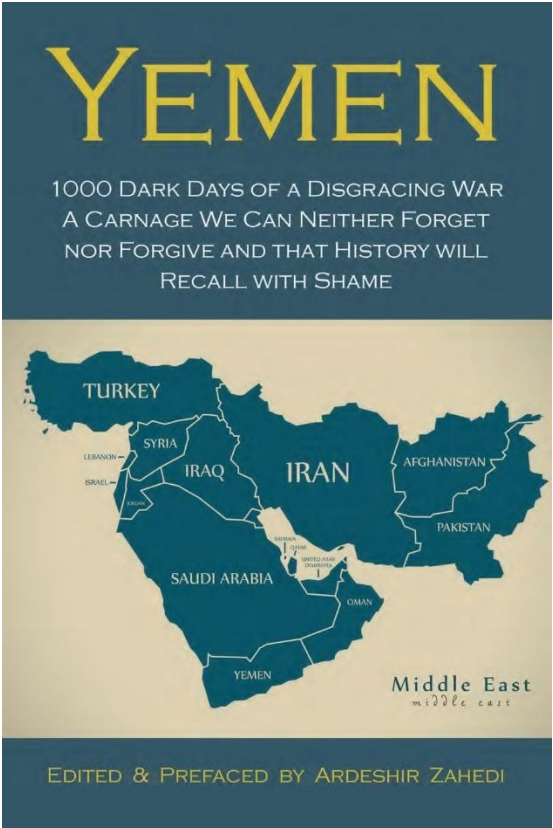
To respect the city regulations, the Ambassador promised to return on Monday and if necessary, on Tuesday to continue to sign the dedications.

Amongst the distinguished visitors were **Mr Laurent Wehril, Mayor of Montreux and Deputy at the National Council** (On the right) and a good number of Swiss and Iranian personalities who had come from other cities like Lausanne, Geneva, Berne or Zurich.



Mr Gaillard the Director and his colleagues of Payot made every effort to warmly host and direct the visitors.

In a review of the book by Chancellor Houchang NAHAVANDI we read: "Ardeshir Zahedi recently edited and published an impressive collection of documents and articles on the Yemen War. "Yemen, 1000 Dark Days of a Disgracing War; a Carnage we can neither Forget nor Forgive and that history will Recall with Shame. "



The first edition in 240 pages was printed in the Unites States in January 2018, soon to be reprinted in June 2018. Here he wanted to wake up the world and open the eyes of the reader to realities of the war, in a way to make-up for the relative silence imposed on the media.

The second edition followed in September 2018 with 200 additional pages of

documentation and shocking pictures of a whole nation that bleeds and suffers from the blind raids of the coalition. This edition shows that some responsible media particularly CNN, BBC, New York Times, Washington Post, The Guardian and Al-Jazeera have started to break the silence and begun to raise their voices. Zahedi also wanted to show his appreciation of the work of those writers, journalists, reports and representatives of humanitarian and human right organisations, as well as certain American Senators, Congressmen and members the House of Commons and European Parliament; he praises their responsive attitude. For him the courage and sacrifice of those on the scene facing the hard and hazardous conditions to perform their duties and defend their ideas is nothing less than heroism.

Hardly a month had passed, and the new developments led Zahedi to add another supplementary volume to update the second edition of his book in early November 2018.

After more than seventy years of active social and political life and at the advanced age of 90, Ardeshir Zahedi had every right and opportunity for a comfortable life of retirement, but he continues indefatigably fighting for defense of human dignity, respect of nations' sovereignty and the most fundamental right people, the right to live.

The documents and pictures that he presents to the reader in these three volumes on Yemen are both shocking and shameful; no reader can remain indifferent. These efforts have certainly left their desired effect on the international organisations and can contribute to new efforts, finding a way out of this disgracing tragedy.

Amongst the solutions for ending the conflicts, Zahedi thinks that we should start by leaving the destiny of Yemen to the Yemenis, respect their sovereignty and stop all aggression. Countries like United states, England and France that continue to sell destructive arms to the Saudi-led coalition bear as heavy a responsibility as the original perpetrators of war. Today the war in Yemen has nothing to do with the long-set-aside Shiite-Sunni rivalries. It is falsely claimed to be so as a pretext for sale of arms and profit making. Western powers are experts in fishing in the muddy waters and distracting the world attentions from realities.

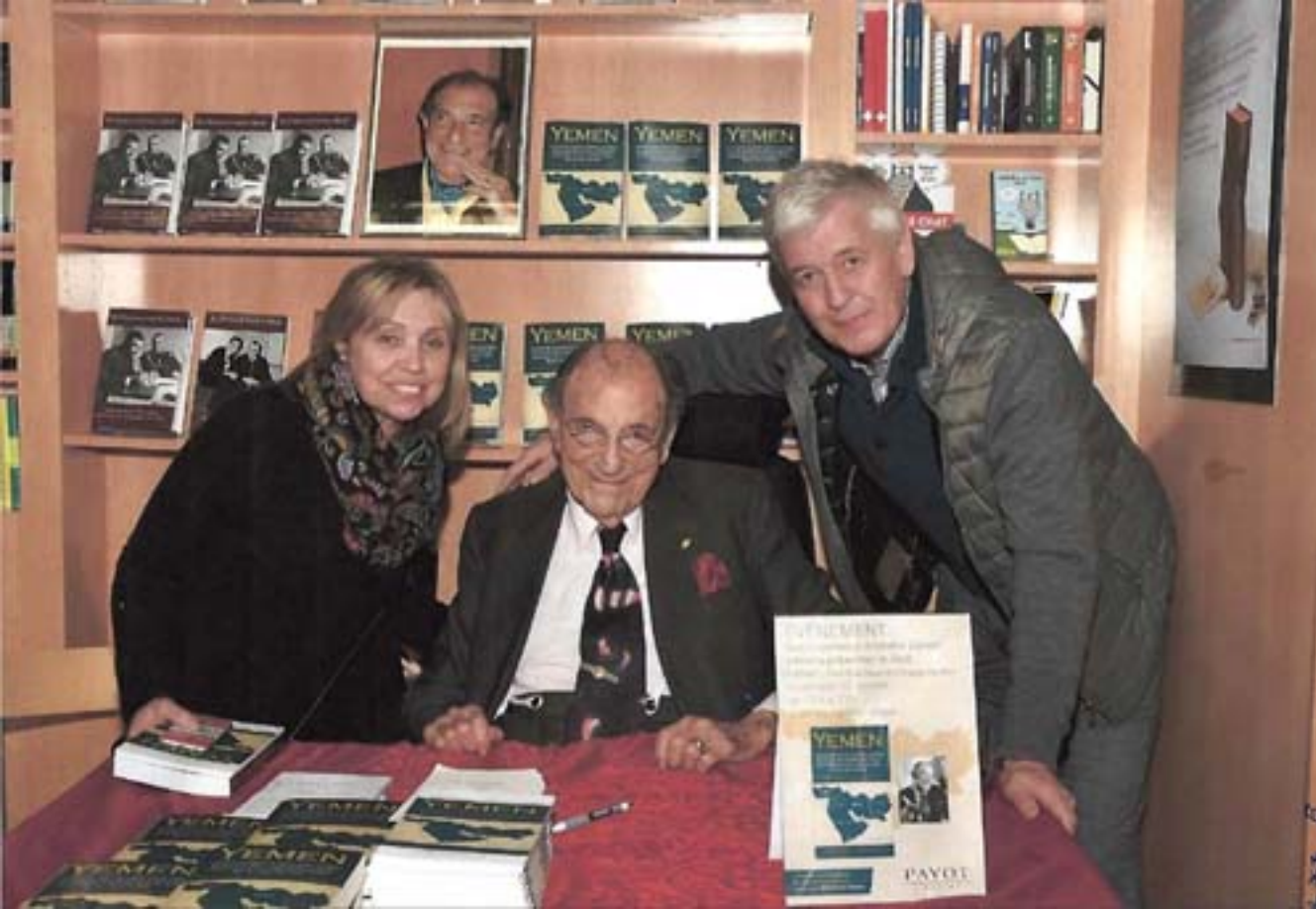
Zahedi has always been an advocate of direct diplomacy, face to face negotiation and human contact. Time and time again he had raised his voice at the UN General Assemblies or other international occasions to warn that the **"The Age of Gunboat Diplomacy is Over."** We do not and cannot continue to live in the colonial age of nineteenth century any more.

Today, he regrets that once the idea of peace talks and ceasefire was launched, the coalition forces started to intensify their attacks and began a new show of force.

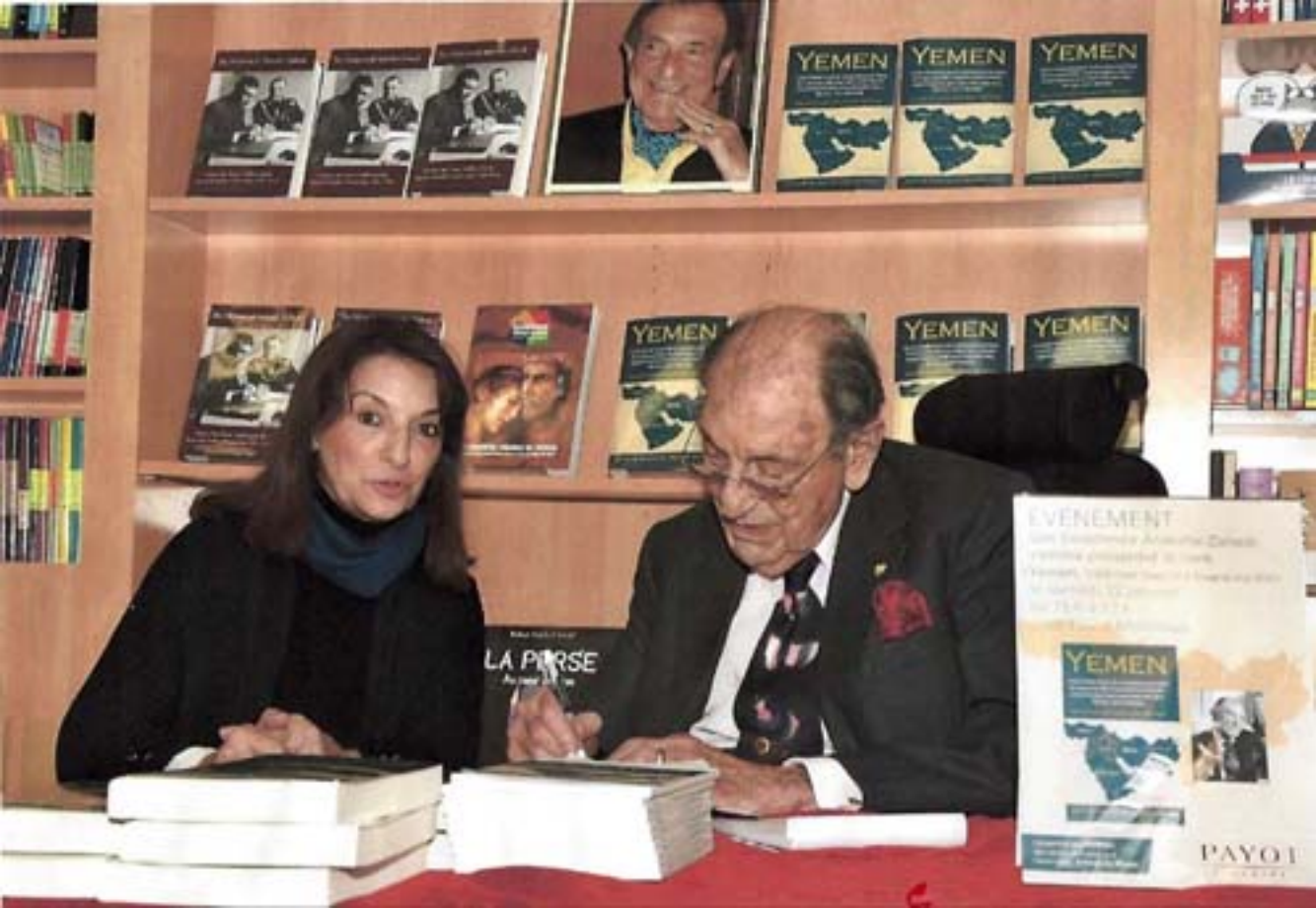
Finally, Zahedi cannot forget that Yemen was once an integral part of the Persian Empire for centuries and has close ties with this great country, its history and civilisation. Being a true lover of Iran and anything related to his native land, it is

natural for him to be so preoccupied about the destiny of Yemen and its noble people though his principal concern has always remained the fate of his compatriots and the calamities they have been going through in the past decades.”



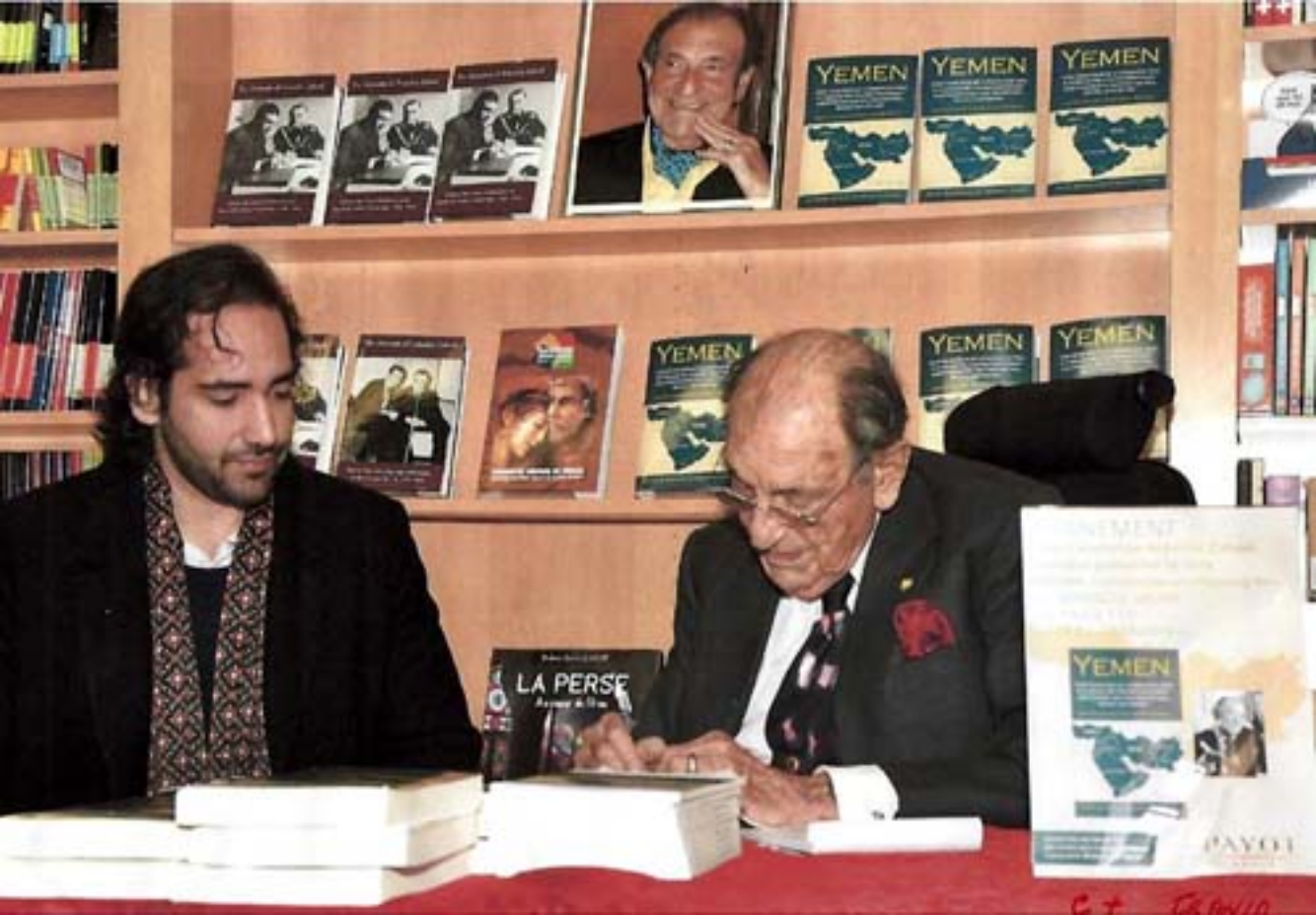






Abdel Kader AL-JABER
LA PIRSE
Autour de...

EVENEMENT
Les Écrivains Arabes de la Région
rencontre organisée le week-end
Yemen, 1948-1990
du mardi au dimanche
de 10h00 à 17h
PAYOT









EVÈNEMENT

Des Enseignants Arabistes Zuhair
19h00 - 19h30
12 janvier
de 15h à 17h

YEMEN



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YEMEN

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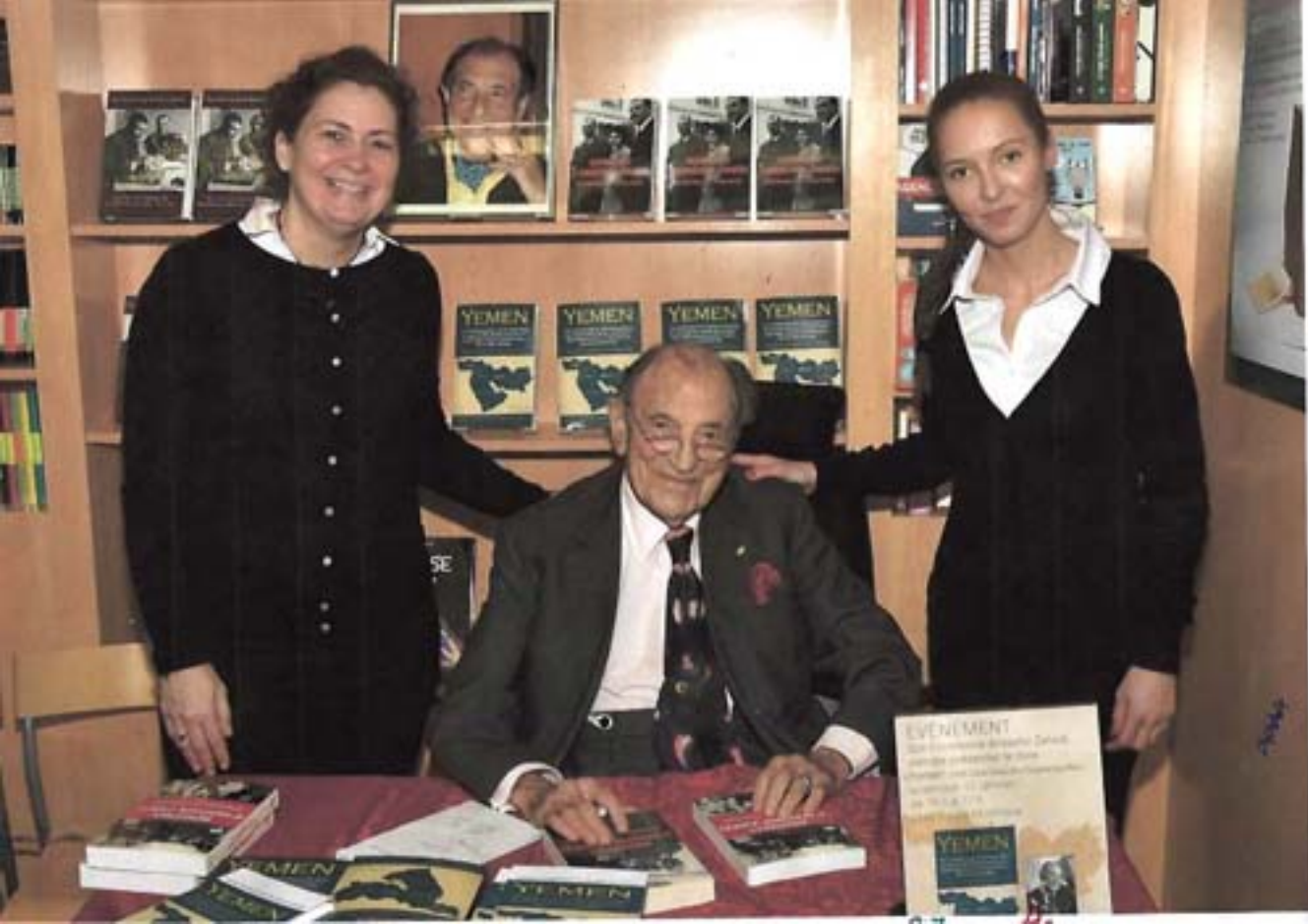
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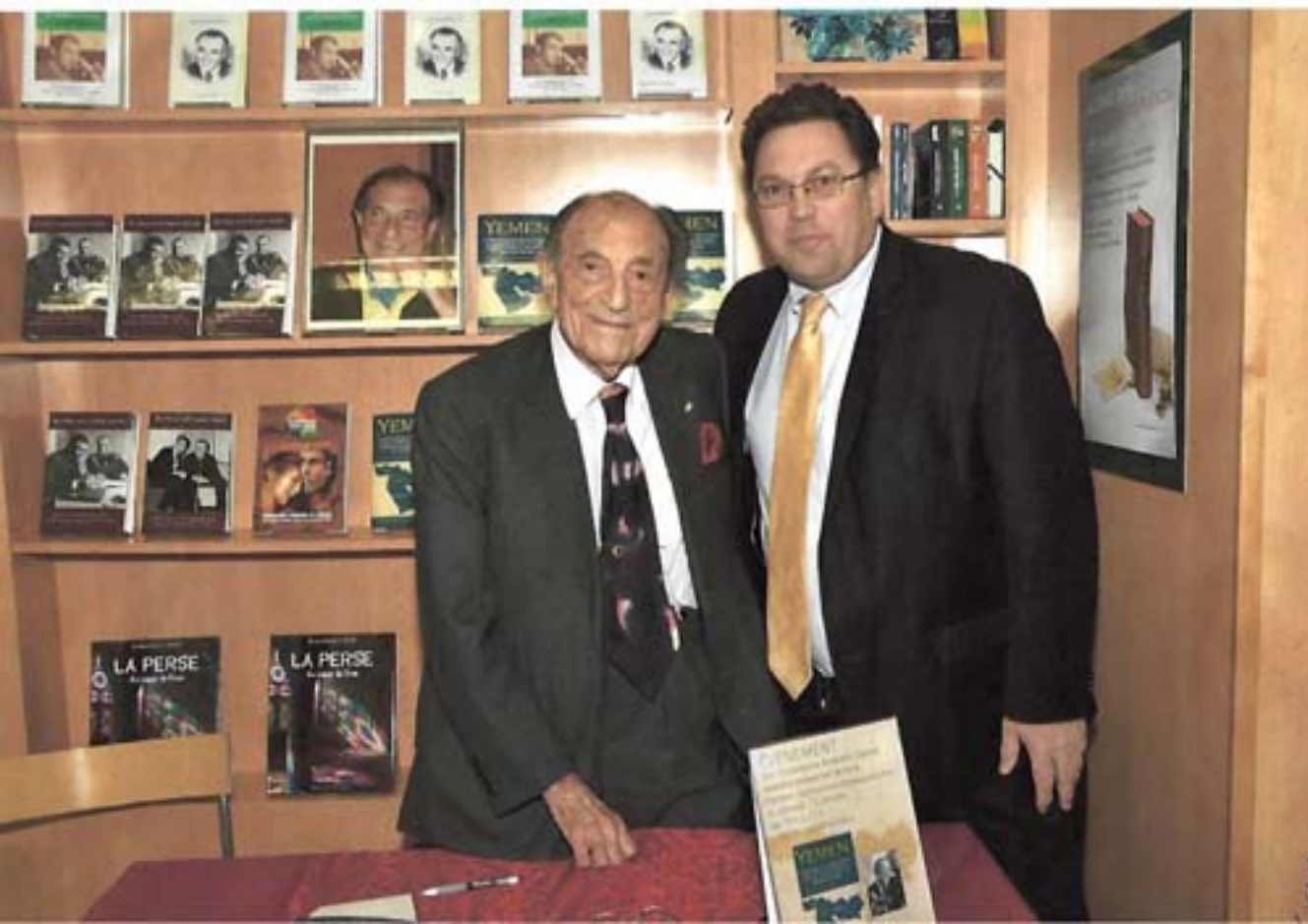
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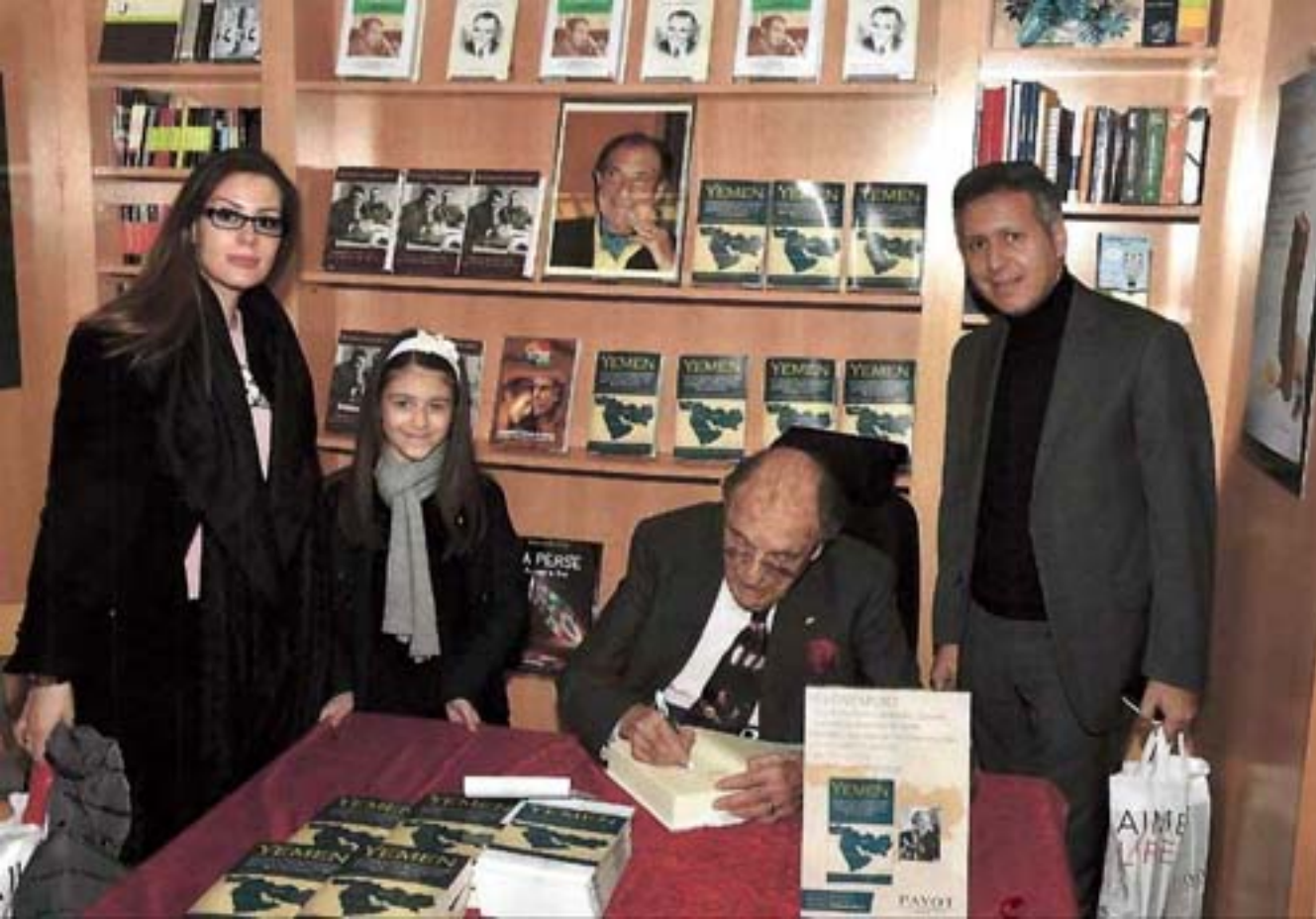
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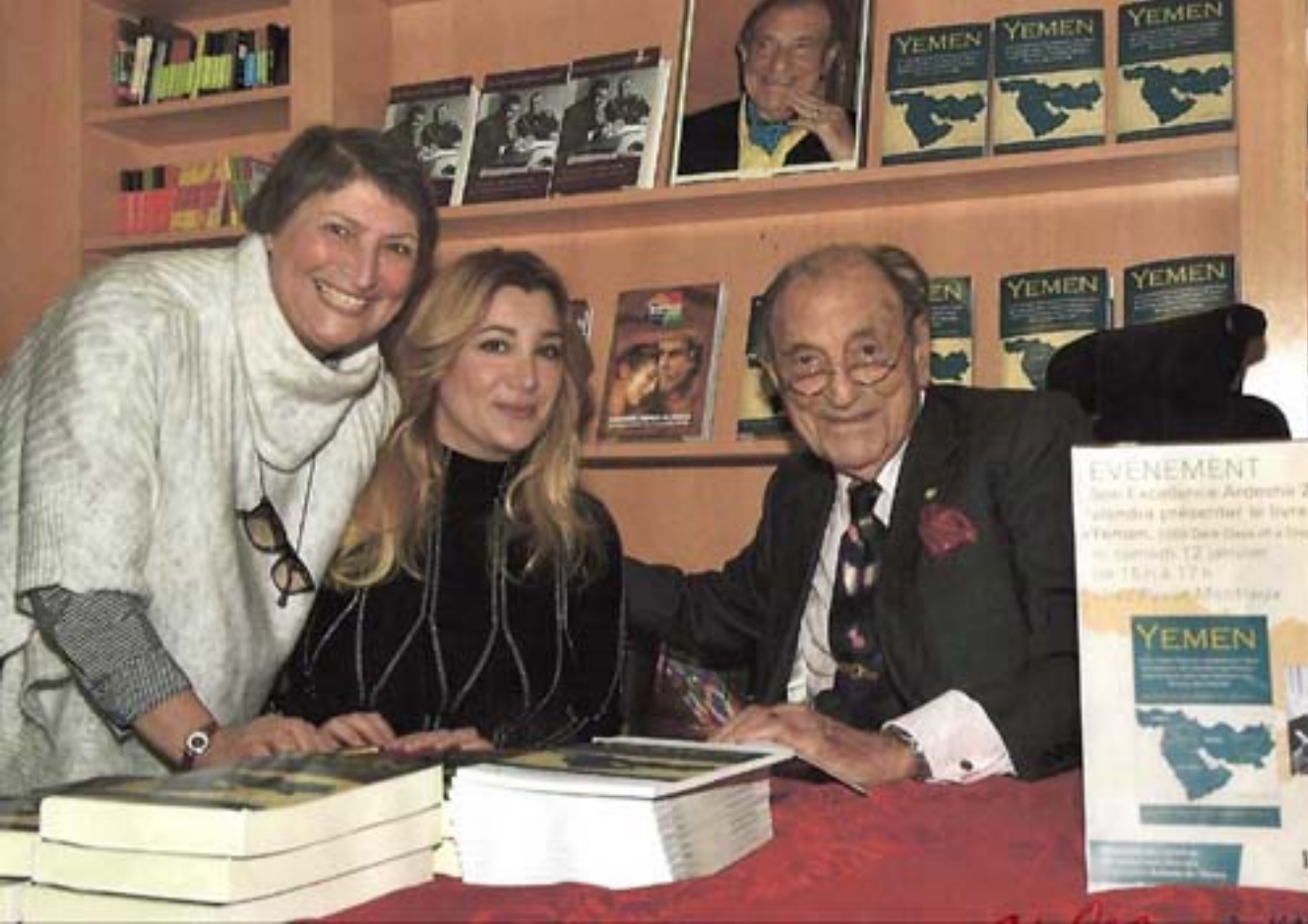












EVÈNEMENT

Son Excellence Argentine Z
vindra présenter le livre
YEMEN, 1000 Days (Days of a Day)
le samedi 12 janvier
de 15h à 17h

à l'Institut Français de Montevideo

YEMEN



1000 Days (Days of a Day)
YEMEN