

12/07/2024

# AL DAR SHORT FILMS FROM YEMEN

SOLIDARITY SCREENINGS GLASGOW  
IN COLLABORATION WITH  
AL YAMANIAH AND YEMEN ART BASE





Located on the southwestern tip of the Arabian Peninsula; the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden separate Yemen from West Africa.

# HISTORICAL CONTEXT

**The first Arabs!**

**Yemen's economy used to be based on goods such as coffee and myrrh; later outcompeted because of the international division of labour.**

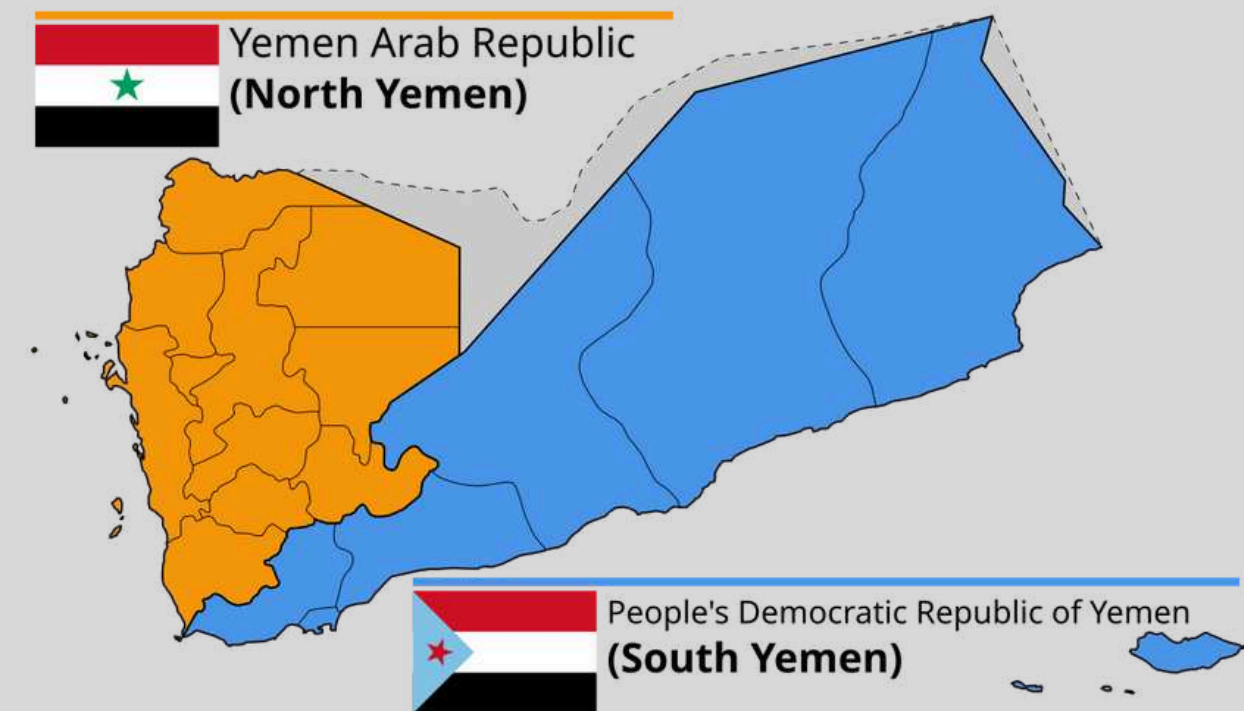
**South of Yemen was a British colony for 129 years; it was not until 1967 that the British Empire withdrew.**

**Split up into...**

**Yemen Arab Republic**

**People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY)**

- **PDRY was the only socialist republic in SWANA**
- **Aligned with the USSR and later on with China**
- **Supported the revolution in Oman**



**Oil was found in the east of the country in 1984 which transformed the economy.**





# RECENT HISTORY

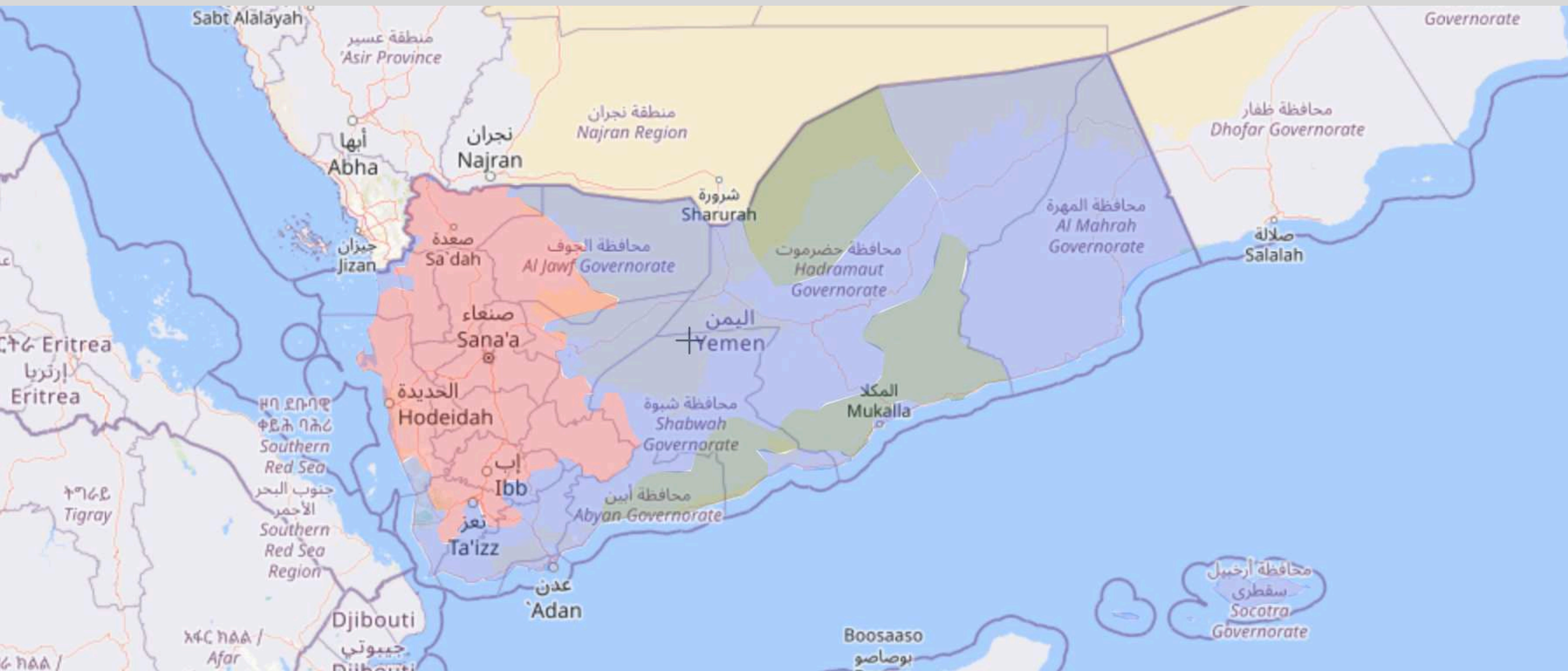
## **Ansar Allah**

- **Translates into Partisans of God**
- **Began as a theological movement, yet faced repression from the US backed government**
- **Turned to arms in order to defend themselves**
- **Fought against Salafis such as al-Qaeda and Daesh**
- **Mostly formed as a reaction against imperialism, which has plundered Yemen heavily and de-developed it severely**
- **Domestically oppress Yemenis too, such as checkpoints, extensive arrests and the siege of Taiz**

## **Imperialist Agression**

- **The US and its puppet states in the Gulf began their open aggression in 2015**
- **US-Saudi led naval blockade has been one of the main contributors to the famine**
- **US and UK-backed Saudi-led invasion has led to 370 thousand deaths**
- **Following Al-Aqsa flood, Yemen has begun firing missiles at the Zionist entity and has been blockading all ships from trading with the occupation**
- **'In response' the US & UK have been bombing civilians and civilian centres (e.g., Sanaa airport)**





**Ansar Allah - Ansar al-Sharia - Islamic State - Saudi coalition**



# AL YAMANIAH

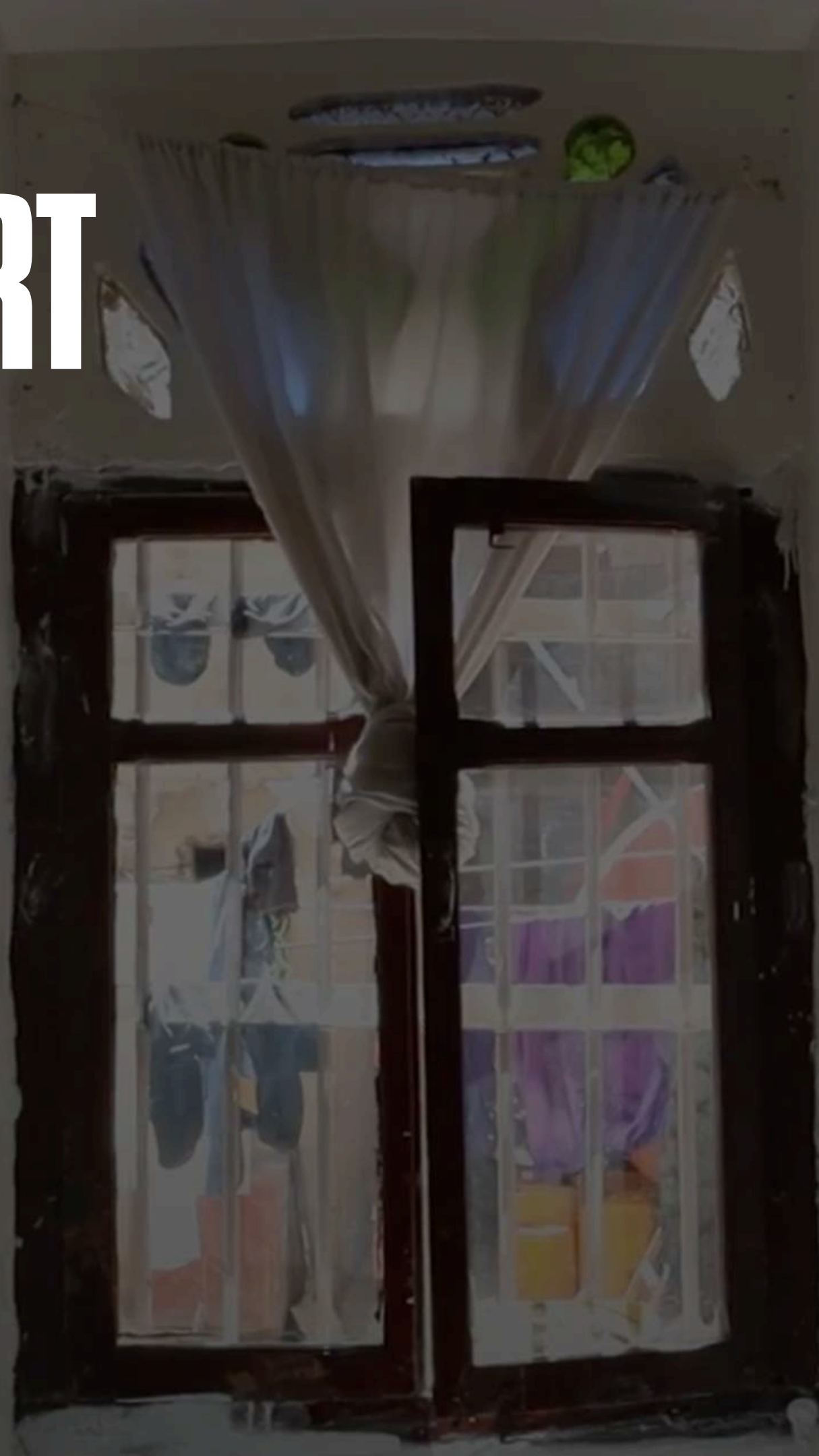
**Al Yamaniah is a Women-led community and platform that champions the work of Yemeni women in the creative field. Al Yamaniah features and promotes the work of upcoming as well as established creatives, facilitates collaborative projects and much more.**

**Al Dar film project is a collaboration between Al Yamaniah and Yemen Art Base which is a cultural institution in Yemen supporting artists to showcase their work both locally and internationally.**



# AL DAR: SHORT FILMS FROM YEMEN

A project by Al Yamaniah and  
Yemen Art Base screening  
selected short films by  
Yemeni filmmakers on the  
theme of 'home'.



# THE FILMS

01 **Shaqous** by Amatullateef Khaled, Hadeel Al Sulaili and Alaa Wael (2021)

A short documentary film on coexistence and love inside a home in Sana'a.

02 **Bara'a** by Aseel Khalifa

Bara'a is an animated film that follows the psychological impact of the war on a group of friends.

CW: Depiction of an explosion and a brief depiction of physical abuse.

03 **What Brings You Here** by Saber Wasel (2022)

'What Brings You Here' explores themes of identity and belonging in the context of Jamme'a, a fisherman who unexpectedly emigrated from Somalia to Aden, Yemen at an early age.

04 **Ozazah** by Ala'a Hafed

'The film revolves around the life of an elderly woman called Aziza, known as Ozazah locally, who lives on Jabal Sabr (Mount Sabr), a key landmark in the city of Taiz.



# THE FILMS

05 **Selahy (My Weapon)** by Alaa Zabara

A short narrative film that follows a young deaf girl, Saleemah who has one major love in this world; her camera.

CW: Depiction of a bombardment and blood, very brief depiction of a dead animal.

06 **The Path to Tombs** by Alya Hakim (2023)

The Path to the Tombs visually represents an original poem by Maysoon Al-Eryani. It tells the tragic tale of Lera, a Yemeni woman who loses her husband and searches for him until she is blind.

07 **In The Long Run** by Yousef Assabahi (2022)

In the historical Old City in Ibb, out of bread and burdened by the arrival of guests, a housewife sends her kid to buy bread. But this simple errand soon turns into a wondrous adventure.



# SOURCES

**Al Batati, "Who Are the Houthis in Yemen? - Middle East - al Jazeera English."**

**"CAAT - the War on Yemen's Civilians."**

**Dresch, A History of Modern Yemen.**

**Ismael and Ismael, Government and Politics of the Contemporary Middle East.**

**Nasrallah, "Yemen's Hypersonic Missiles: A West Asian Military Revolution."**



# GUIDING QUESTIONS



- 1. How does the theme of 'home' connect the films we saw?**
- 2. Linking back to imperialism - how can we see the economic root of Yemen's condition as shown by the films?**
- 3. How can we as a community build on from these films?**



# CONTACT US

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