

Country/entity	Yemen
Region	Middle East and North Africa
Agreement name	Agreement between the Bani Maudhah, Bani al-Shurayfi and Bani Rassam in Utmah, Dhamar
Date	20 Jan 2014
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes

Agreement/conflict level Intrastate/local conflict

Yemeni Civil Wars (1994) (2011 -)

The Republic of Yemen was formed in May 1990 after the merger between the Yemeni Arab Republic (YAR) in the north and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY) in the south. The unification process was rushed and the final agreement between President Ali Abdullah Saleh and President Ali Salem al-Beidh was based on the imperfect promise of equality. Following the merger, integration of the militaries and civil services was at best incomplete or at times entirely non-existent. When Saleh's General Congress Party (GPC) allied itself with the newly created Islamist Islah ('reform') party in 1993, the former ruling party of South Yemen – the Yemen Socialist Party (YSP) – was effectively side-lined in the 1993 General Elections. Violence involving the use of heavy weaponry and aerial bombardment erupted in April 1994 and on the 21 May 1994 Vice President al-Beidh declared the secession of the south, citing political centralization with the northern highland tribes, violence against the YSP and economic discrimination. In the midst of fighting, negotiations in Cairo, Egypt, collapsed. The war ended with the military victory of the north, and on the 1 October 1994, Ali Abdullah Saleh was elected President.

Despite the unification of Yemen in 1990, political power during the 1990s and 2000s remained centralized with the northern highland tribes, particularly the villages from which President Ali Abdullah Saleh and his confidants stemmed. The system of clientelism established through the ruling General People's Congress party maintained relative loyalty among the fractured political allegiances of Yemen's traditional tribal leadership. However, diminishing oil reserves and the shrinking opportunities for access to rent increased economic and political marginalization in Yemen's peripheral communities. The degree of regionalism of conflicts is further defined by other local grievances. In the northern governorate of Sa'dah, a backlash was provoked among the local Zaydi Shi'a against Sunni Salafist cultural incursions resulting in six wars between 2004 and 2010. In the southern governorates of Hadramawt, Shabwa, al-Dhali and Abyan, civil and military personnel forcibly retired after the 1994 Civil War began protesting and eventually formed the secessionist Southern 'al-Hiraak' movement in 2007. Furthermore, tribal grievances have spurred attacks on oil companies and government installations to extract rents. Various takfiri groups including al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula have also increased their presence since 1995.

The Yemen Spring in early 2011 allowed all these movements to express their joint displeasure. Moreover, factionalism in the regime split the already weak military and thus allowed the Houthis, the takfiris and tribal-based militia known as popular committees, to assert themselves militarily. Mandated by the UN-sponsored Gulf Cooperation Council Initiative, the National Dialogue held from March 2013 to January 2014 aimed at guaranteeing power-sharing among the different parties. However, the GCC Initiative only included formal political parties that did not accurately reflect political realities. Furthermore, provisions lacked adequate transitional justice and provided former-President Saleh, as well as others, full amnesty. As a result, little faith was placed in the process by formerly marginalized groups such as the Zaydi Shia Houthi rebels (Ansar Allah) and al-Hiraak who opted to increase their bargaining power vis-à-vis the state by strengthening their own territorial enclaves. In September 2014 the Houthis succeeded in capturing the capital Sana'a and gradually expanded their control southward. The subsequent UN-mediated Peace and National Partnership Agreement between transitional president Hadi and the Houthis on a federal, democratic Yemeni state, failed to be implemented as the Houthis successfully dissolved the parliament and deposed Hadi in January 2015. Following the Saudi military intervention to restore the Hadi government in March 2015, ceasefire attempts continuously failed. A two-year

Stage	Ceasefire/related
Conflict nature	Inter-group
Peace process	Yemen Inter-group Agreements
Parties	Page 1, ...agreement was reached between the brothers whose names and signatures are listed below, each one of them representing themselves, their side, the families of the victims, and the sheikhs, prominent social figures, dignitaries, and civilians from the Bani Maudhah, Bani al-Shurayfi, and the Bani Rassam, all of whom are from Mikhlaf Himyar in the middle of the Utmah district in the Dhammar governorate
Third parties	Page 1, This truce was written under the knowledge of: General Ismael al-Samawi [Signed] Judge Hamoud bin Abdulhameed al-Hitar
Description	Truce agreement to last for 6 months between three tribes in the Utmah District of Dhammar Governorate. Agreement appears to be mediated by a judge and signed by the mediator and a general on behalf of the conflict parties. Truce is to extent to public and private venues and beyond the borders of Yemen to include individuals abroad. Enforcement mechanism is a four-fold retribution on anyone that violates the agreement undertaken by those calling for the truce and the guarantors.

Agreement document [YE_140120_Agreement between Bani al-Shurayfi and Bani Rassam in Utmah, Dhammar_EN.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Agreement document (original language) [YE_140120_Agreement between Bani al-Shurayfi and Bani Rassam in Utmah, Dhammar_AR.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#)

Groups

Children/youth No specific mention.

Disabled persons No specific mention.

Elderly/age No specific mention.

Migrant workers No specific mention.

Racial/ethnic/national group No specific mention.

Religious groups No specific mention.

Indigenous people No specific mention.

Other groups No specific mention.

Refugees/displaced persons Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Rhetorical
Page 1, 1. To stop the war and end the armed mobilization and taking down their military preparations from all of the sites of the fighting and the clashes, as well as returning the people displaced and left homeless by the war to their homes

Social class No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and gender No specific mention.

Men and boys No specific mention.

LGBTI No specific mention.

Family No specific mention.

State definition

Nature of state (general) No specific mention.

State configuration No specific mention.

Self determination No specific mention.

Referendum No specific mention.

State symbols No specific mention.

Independence/secession No specific mention.

Accession/unification No specific mention.

Border delimitation No specific mention.

Cross-border provision No specific mention.

Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed) No specific mention.

Elections No specific mention.

Electoral commission No specific mention.

Political parties reform No specific mention.

Civil society No specific mention.

Traditional/religious leaders Page 1, "agreement was reached between the brothers whose names and signatures are listed below, each one of them representing themselves, their side, the families of the victims, and the sheikhs, prominent social figures, dignitaries, and civilians from the Bani Maudhah, Bani al-Shurayfi, and the Bani Rassam, all of whom are from Mikhlaf Himyar in the middle of the Utmah district in the Dhamar governorate ... "

Public administration No specific mention.

Constitution No specific mention.

Power sharing

Political power sharing No specific mention.

Territorial power sharing No specific mention.

Economic power sharing No specific mention.

Military power sharing No specific mention.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general No specific mention.

Bill of rights/similar No specific mention.

Treaty incorporation No specific mention.

Civil and political rights No specific mention.

Socio-economic rights No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship No specific mention.

Democracy No specific mention.

Detention procedures No specific mention.

Media and communication No specific mention.

Mobility/access No specific mention.

Protection measures No specific mention.

Other No specific mention.

Rights institutions

NHRI No specific mention.

Regional or international human rights institutions No specific mention.

Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and emergency law No specific mention.

State of emergency provisions No specific mention.

Judiciary and courts No specific mention.

Prisons and detention No specific mention.

Traditional Laws No specific mention.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction No specific mention.

National economic plan No specific mention.

Natural resources No specific mention.

International funds No specific mention.

Business Page 1, ... This truce shall be a clean and honorable truce in the all areas, villages, cities, farms, roads, markets, masjids, schools, celebrations, weddings, funerals, government institutions, businesses, and anywhere else that the two parties may meet with each other, in rural areas and urbans, inside Yemen or abroad. ...

Taxation No specific mention.

Banks No specific mention.

Land, property and environment

Land reform/rights No specific mention.

**Pastoralist/
nomadism rights** No specific mention.

Cultural heritage Land, property and environment→Cultural heritage→Tangible
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Environment No specific mention.

**Water or riparian
rights or access** No specific mention.

Security sector

Security Guarantees

No specific mention.

Ceasefire

Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision

Page 1, 1. To stop the war and end the armed mobilization and taking down their military preparations from all of the sites of the fighting and the clashes, as well as returning the people displaced and left homeless by the war to their homes.

Page 1, 2. To start an absolute truce that shall last for six months between the three parties mentioned above, their allies, and those on their side, and this truce will include stopping any fighting or tribal vendettas that have been caused by the wars between these parties since their beginning and until today. This truce shall be a clean and honorable truce in the all areas, villages, cities, farms, roads, markets, masjids, schools, celebrations, weddings, funerals, government institutions, businesses, and anywhere else that the two parties may meet with each other, in rural areas and urbans, inside Yemen or abroad. ...

Page 1, ... This truce shall not be ended or violated during its duration, and any violation or breach of it during its duration, by any of the parties against any one of the other parties, shall be punished forty-four-fold, and this punishment shall be enforced by the individuals calling for the truce and its guarantors from each side, whose names are provided for each side. The people whose honor and guarantees were included in this agreement shall be the ones responsible for restoring rights and the honor of the parties in the case of the breach, and each side is fully responsible for any actions relating to this truce during its duration. ...

Police

No specific mention.

Armed forces

No specific mention.

DDR

No specific mention.

Intelligence services

No specific mention.

Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces

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Withdrawal of foreign forces

No specific mention.

Corruption

No specific mention.

Crime/organised crime

No specific mention.

Drugs No specific mention.

Terrorism No specific mention.

Transitional justice

Transitional justice general No specific mention.

Amnesty/pardon No specific mention.

Courts No specific mention.

Mechanism No specific mention.

Prisoner release No specific mention.

Vetting No specific mention.

Victims Page 1, "agreement was reached between the brothers whose names and signatures are listed below, each one of them representing themselves, their side, the families of the victims, and the sheikhs, prominent social figures, dignitaries, and civilians from the Bani Maudhah, Bani al-Shurayfi, and the Bani Rassam, all of whom are from Mikhlaf Himyar in the middle of the Utmah district in the Dhamar governorate ... "

Missing persons No specific mention.

Reparations No specific mention.

Reconciliation No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory No specific mention.

Other international signatory No specific mention.

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar

No specific mention.

Enforcement mechanism

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