10 POSTCARD **Inland Empire** 

12 INBOX

### BRIEFING

17 | THE MOMENT Dubai welcomes the world's tallest building

18 | THE WORLD Record snowfall in Asia; Baghdad irate over Blackwater

20 SPOTLIGHT Intelligence: why our spies have trouble connecting the dots

## 22 VERBATIM A jihadist says he's not a terrorist; an ethicist

pushes dolphin rights

24 | HISTORY Armed guards on airplanes

27 MILESTONES Farewells to cartoonist David Levine and political pioneer Abdurrahman Wahid

# COMMENTARY

28 CURIOUS CAPITALIST Justin Fox on the slowmotion train wreck in commercial real estate

31 IN THE ARENA Joe Klein wonders if the CIA has picked the wrong allies in Afghanistan



Changing genes Scientist Lars Olov Bygren with a portrait of his father. Photograph for TIME by Lars Tunbjork-VU

### THE WELL

32 | The Problem with Yemen How a fragmented Arab nation became a breeding ground for extremists by Andrew Lee Butters

37 | Viewpoint The underwear bomber was a sign of al-Qaeda's weakness by Peter Beinart

38 | Teen Unemployment The Great Recession has been a jobs disaster for those under 20. Is that all bad? by Stephen Gandel

44 | Health Care and the States Governors are bridling at the cost of Washington's reform by Kate Pickert and Karen Tumulty

48 | COVER Genes Aren't Destiny Epigenetics shows how environment and personal choices affect our DNA by John Cloud

54 | The New Slave Trade One man's crusade to stop South Africa's sex-trafficking underworld by E. Benjamin Skinner

ON THE COVER: Photograph for TIME by Kevin Van Aelst

59 HEALTH Should you pay \$2,300 for a cognitive-fitness machine? How about \$395 for brainimproving software? You might get the same benefits from taking a walk

61 TECHLAND Barnes & Noble's Nook finally gives the Kindle some serious competition, but it probably won't outlive the paperback

61 | WEB WATCH Getting paid for losing weight

63 BOOKS Memoirists Elizabeth Gilbert and Julie Powell consider the state of their unions

65 INTERVIEW A Q&A with Elizabeth Gilbert

66 | MOVIES Assessing the contenders for this year's Golden Globes and Oscars

67 SHORT LIST Season 4 of Big Love, 2010's banned words, Elvis' 75th and an antitech manifesto

68 THE AWESOME COLUMN Joel Stein explains why he'd much rather text you than Skype you

Dubai's new

160-story wonder, the Burj Khalifa

TIME (ISSN 0040-781X) is published weekly, except for two issues combined at year-end, by Time Inc. Principal Office: Time & Life Building, Rockefeller Center, New York, N.Y. 10020-1393. Ann S. Moore, Chairman, CEO. Periodicals postage paid at New York, New York, New York, and at additional mailing offices. Canada Post Publications Mail Agreement No. 40110178. Return undeliverable Canada addresses to: Postal Stn A, P.O. Box 4322, Toronto, Ont., M5W 369. GST #122781974RT © 2010 Time Inc. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited. TIME and the Red Border Design are protected through trademark registration in the United States and in the foreign countries where TIME magazine circulates. U.S. subscriptions: \$49 for one year. **Subscriptions**: \$49 for one year. **Subscriptions**: \$49 for one year. **Subscriptions**: \$40 for one year. **S**