



سجده

SECOND EDITION

Mubtakaran

مبتكرًا



Arab Student Network
مجلة شبكة الطلاب العرب

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01

Photography

تصوير

It is in the quiet mountainside villages that we discover the most intriguing aspects of Arabian culture. Far from the hustle and noise of the city, these serene places offer a haven of peace. The countryside holds significant importance in our culture and heritage. Life thrives in these small communities scattered around





Some may argue that society cannot evolve without acknowledging its past, but indeed, there is always room for culture and history in a modern environment. Culture forms the foundation of a prosperous society. In this image, the Casbah D'Alger stands as a testament to the harmonious coexistence of the traditional and the modern. The intricate architecture of the Casbah blends seamlessly with the contemporary world surrounding it, showcasing the timeless beauty and resilience of Arabic culture



Arabic/Islamic architecture is unparalleled globally. In this image captured in an old house in the Casbah of Algeria, we witness how, even after many years and periods of colonization, our cultural identity remains indelible. Our architectural style is distinctive, unique, and celebrated worldwide.



Picture taken in a castle where we can still find and appreciate the Arabic architecture and beauty many centuries after it being built.

- *Samy Khelifi*

02

Photography

تصوير





Nights of Old Saida

Walking in the streets of Old Saida at night is a bliss.

The people of Saida are known for their hospitality and their love for meeting new people. As I was admiring this magnificent piece of art in the old souks, I encountered a Haji—a term used for an elder man. He noticed me admiring this beauty and capturing pictures.

Approaching me, he said: “Do you know that I got married on this chair!”. I couldn’t bring myself to leave without hearing the full story. Looking back at this picture, I remember the good food, the good music, the beauty of our people and most importantly, The Chair.

- *Khaled Nemer*





Tarab Saida

Nothing beats enjoying a Cold Lemonade, and good music with the right Company.

I prefer taking pictures of places more than people, and that is because the people leave but the places stay. On June 18, 2022, my friends and I, a group of five, were celebrating “La Fête De La Musique,” a festival held annually across Lebanon. I, the one who captured the photo, am now in Montreal, Canada. Jana, my best friend, is in Italy, while Omran chose to stay in Lebanon. The other two friends, Omar and Issa, are currently in Turkey. We all left, we don’t see each other anymore, but one thing stayed with all of us and that is this picture. Our culture will travel the world with us, and we will forever celebrate it.

ودائماً لديه مسوغات لطمعه وشفائع لفجعه ويعجبه صحبة من يشابهه
في تلك المصالح حتى يدعمه بالرأي والمشورة
ويؤيد كل أفعاله ومسوغاته

وتجده يحدّ ويثابر ولا يوفر نفساً في إعطاء نفسه صلاحيات لا تحق له
ويسابق ليتصدر في أوقات تقسيم الحقوق وتوزيع الحصص حتى
يسلب غيره كل ما بإمكانه سلبه ويستأثر بالأفضل والأجمل والأعلى
حتى وإن أوغر الصدور وعبأ النفوس وعذره أنها مشكلتهم هم
والغلط فيهم وليس به ... فهم ليسوا بشطارته ولا ذنب لأحد في كونهم
هم المغفلون

فالدنيا بنظره ونظر أشباهه: (حلالااا ع الشاطر)
وكلمته التي على لسانه ليبرر أفعاله وشنائعه:
(القانون لا يحمي المغفلين)

أبدًا أبدًا إخوتي، أبدًا! الصحيح أن القانون خلق لحماية الغافلين
والمغفلين والمظلومين المستضعفين
ما فائدة القانون حينها إن كان الكل آخذاً حقه بقوته الشخصية؟
ألم تسنّ القوانين لرد الحقوق للمسلوبين وعقاب الجناة؟

وإلا تحولت دنيانا إلى ظلام الغاب
الحكم فيه للأقوى والأمكر والأكثر دهاء
القوي يأكل الضعيف وسرنا وراء قانون الغواية
"إن لم تكن ذئباً أكلتك الذئاب"

ويا لعجب كلمة (الأنا)
قليلة الحروف عظيمة الشر
شنيعة البلاء موردة النيران

Arabic essay مقال عربي

الأنا والآخر

"أما (الأنا) فهي أن أكون أنا في الوجود فقط
وكل الوجود موجود لي أنا فقط
فوجودي هو كل الوجود وكل خير أنا أولى به وكل رزق
أنا أحق به وأنا مركز الكون
وأما (الآخر) فهو مؤخر ولم يسمى آخر إلا لأنه يجب أن يكون في الآخر"

هذه هي نظرية (الأناني) في الحياة على اختلاف أنواعه وأساليبه وألوانه
عشرته صعبة ومراسه مرهق لا يجنى منه خير ولا يرجى من لقائه منفعة
ولن تخرج من صحبته إلا بالخسائر الكاملة

عينه في ما تملك ويستكثر عليك أقل القليل رغم امتلاكه أضعاف ما
لديك ولا يرتاح حتى يسلبك إياه ثم ولشدة أنانيته يخاف أن يخسر
فتصبح لغيره فيبرر فعله أنه "أراد أن يعلمك الحرص على أملاكك من
شدة محبته لك وما قيمة ما سلبك إياه أمام درس الحياة العظيم الذي
أتحفك به واستأثرك بثماره وجناه؟ ... ويلزمك أن تكون ممتناً له لأنه
يدرّبك حتى تصير مثله"

04

Poem

شعر

My teta served up Palestine

My teta served up Palestine on our plates

In the ورق عنب , the ملوخية , and the مفتول بالدجاج

In the jars of pickled olives that lined the kitchen sill

In the مناقيش she toasted up on the days we stayed over,

the home fragrant with the crisp scent of fresh bread soaked with

مناقيش and زيتون زيت

My teta served up Palestine in her dishes

In the سدر المقلوبة بالزهرة , and the مسخن بالسماق البلدي

محشي كوسة قرع جزر

In the hours she spent on a single dish,

حفر حشي نقع تقطيع شوي قلي تتبيل

A labour of love

Quiet, frail, and delicate is all I knew of my teta

All of what the world had left of her

Displaced at 2 years in 1948,

Exiled for 68 years of her life

And yet,

She was the strongest person I knew

The biggest heart, a vivacious personality

A generous soul that wanted to feed everyone

She never spoke of them

The hardest years of her life

She never spoke of Palestine very much at all

In passing, on “لما كنا في دير الغصون”

-

”إمي علمتني أعملها“

My mom always says

While cooking her mother's recipes

My teta served up Palestine on our plates

My teta's mother served up Palestine on her plates before her

My mom serves up Palestine on our plates today

One day, إمي علمتني أعملها “”

I too will say

A lineage of cooking passed down the
women in the family
From Palestine
Trickled to reach me

Her food was resistance.

Her cooking was resistance.

A quiet, gentle, generational
resistance she passed on

I promise teta,

I too, will serve up Palestine on our
plates.

Dedication

I dedicate this poem to my teta, my
teta's mother (Allah yirhamhum),
and my mom (Allah yihmaha). I
dedicate this poem to all the people
in Gaza, and in Palestine. I dedicate
this poem to anyone who cannot stop
thinking about Palestine.

Description

The poem is about my grandmother
(teta) and her unwavering fighting
spirit to resist the occupation
well after she was exiled. She was
displaced with her family when
she was two years old in 1948, and
despite speaking of Palestine very
little, I realized years later (almost
15 years after her death now, Allah
yirhamha) that she was always
resisting, but in her own way -
through her cooking. She taught my
mom to fight for Palestine through
her cooking. I hold onto her
gentle yet fighting spirit with me
every day, especially at these times.

- *Mayyasah Akour*

Digital art & photography

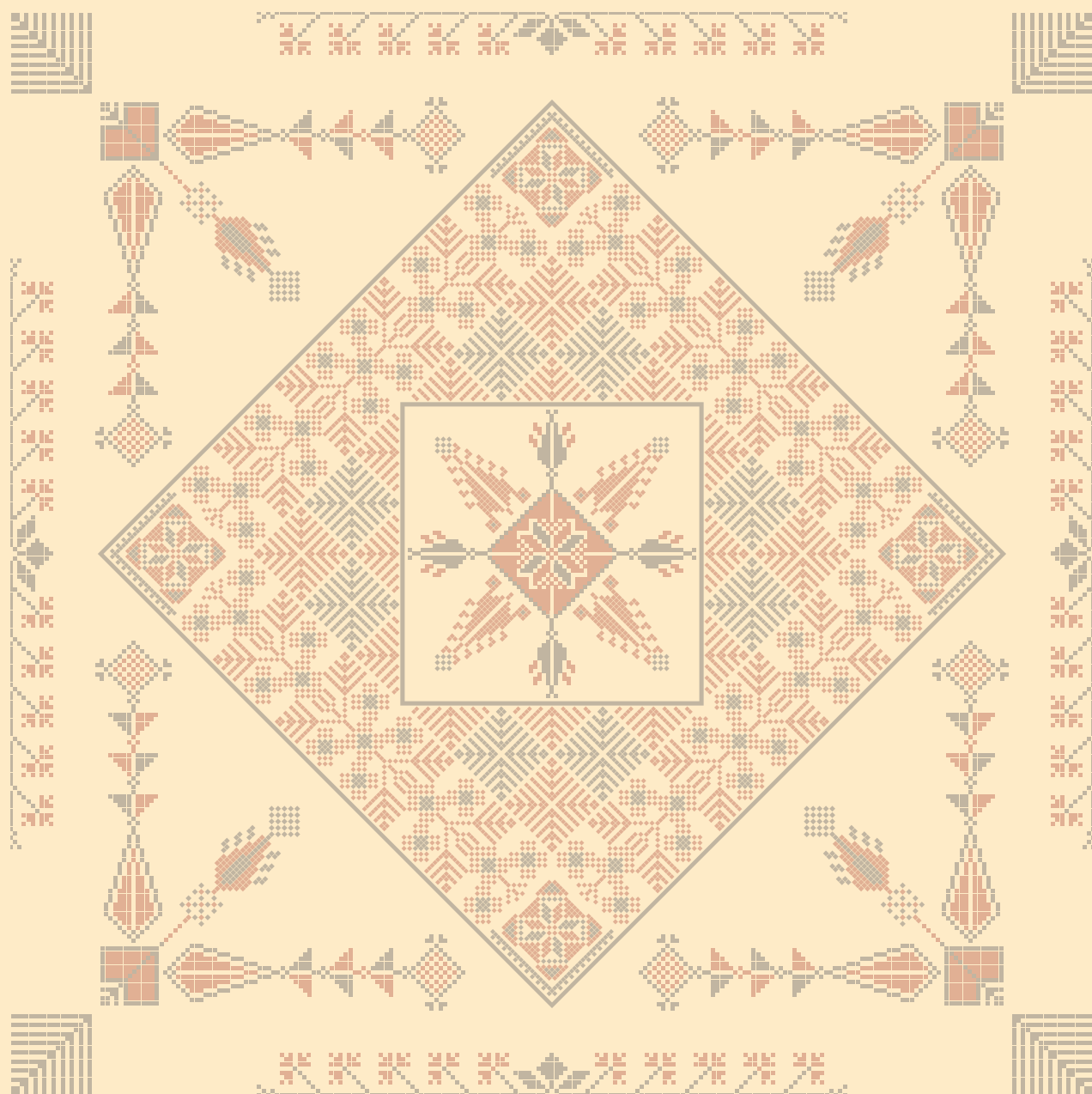
فن رقمي و تصوير



The Past, The Present, The future

A legacy of discovery and beauty that transcends time,
reflecting an enduring testament to the greatness that was,
and the wonders that are yet to be.

- *Ayham Nassar*



06

Painting

لوحة فنية

A breakfast with watermelon and olives over a collage of each mention of crisis in the Middle East by McGill newspapers. The painting depicts desensitization due to oversaturated media, as intense real-world experiences are reduced to the mundane. The word 'السفرة' translates to 'The Dining Table'.

- Khedr Farida



“I am immensely proud of the Journal’s enduring legacy and its role as a platform for students to share their diverse experiences and perspectives. It’s heartening to witness marginalized voices finding resonance and visibility, spotlighting the rich tapestry of immigrant narratives. Let us continue to foster creativity and artistic expression through this journal as it remains a beacon of hope, inspiration, and unity for the student body.”

*- Khaled Skaik, Founder of the
ASN journal - Mubtakaran*

“Mubtakaran encapsulates the collective beauty of the incredible talents and creativity that thrives within our community. It is a testament to our heritage, a proud declaration that our timeless achievements transcend borders, forever etched in the tapestry of our identity. It was an absolute honor to work on this amazing project.”

*- Obai Osman, ASN VP
Academics (23-24)*

