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أصدقاء المغرب

FRIENDS of MOROCCO

A Newsletter

Vol. 4, No. 1, May 1992

PC Morocco Update

Volunteers now number seventy-six

The following is a regular report from the PC Morocco Desk in Washington, submitted by Desk Assistant Christy Schildwachter (Beni Mellal 1988/91).

Salem oualleykoom! Greetings from the Morocco Desk at Peace Corps Washington. These are exciting times for Peace Corps Morocco, which continues to grow following the evacuation of Volunteers and the program suspension of 1991.

PC Morocco has welcomed two groups of Volunteers since the program reinstatement in June 1991. Thirty-seven of the Volunteers evacuated during January 1991, returned to Morocco in June 1991, to resume their work and re-establish friendships with Moroccan friends, neighbors, and colleagues. A second group

of about forty-seven Volunteers left for Morocco in October 1991, and were sworn in January 1992. These "new" Volunteers are now working in projects ranging from veterinary extension and health/sanitation, to parks, wildlife, environmental, education, and teaching the visually impaired. The total number of Volunteers in Morocco currently stands at seventy-six.

Pam DiMeo, Morocco Desk Officer, and I are now preparing another group of forty Volunteers for their departure to Morocco this summer. They will serve as veterinarians and animal husbandry specialists, health and sanitation extensionists, as well as university and ESP English teachers. In response to a question concerning their goals for Peace Corps service, some of Morocco's future Volun-

teers had this to say:

..."I will do my best to teach as well and to as many people as I can. After visiting Morocco for ten days in 1990, I am eager to return to this culturally rich country."

..."I am ready to accept this challenge, and I am looking forward to exchanging knowledge and ideas with the Moroccan People."

..."My commitment is firm: to provide a service to the best of my ability that will help increase understanding of my country and its diversity, and, to obtain, from a vastly different culture, a new perspective on the country from which I come."

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Friends of Morocco

PC Morocco Update...

In talking with some of these prospective Volunteers on the phone in recent weeks, we have been impressed by their curiosity, their enthusiasm, and their willingness to learn as much as possible about Morocco and Moroccans. We look forward to hearing more from them as they head off for sites throughout Morocco and begin to experience Moroccan culture first-hand.



MBC-TV

September 1991, saw the first broadcast from the Middle East Broadcasting Center (MBC).

Broadcasting from a former spaghetti factory in London, programming is beamed by satellite to all of the Arab world.

It is the first all-Arabic television network.

Backed by Saudi investors, it is hoped that the network can be a "catalyst for understanding", said Stephen Marney, head of news. He further stated that the network "will stay away from toeing any particular line."



Playing Again

Casablanca is being played again. The Warner Bros. film celebrates its fiftieth anniversary this year, originally being released on 26 November 1942.

Now owned by Turner Entertainment, the film premiered (in its original black and white), again, on 7 April in New York City at the Museum of Modern Art. It will be released nationally soon.



MGM

Nominated for eight Academy Awards in 1942, the film is still ranked by audiences as one of the best and most favored films of all time. Most people have never seen it uninterrupted, however, according to Turner Entertainment President Roger Mayer.

A complete melodrama, the film "was engineered to stress the importance of a hopelessly outdated value: sacrifice," according to Stephen Hunter of the *Baltimore Sun*.

In conjunction with the re-release, Moroccan Minister of Tourism, Abdelkader Benslimane, and Royal Air Maroc held a meeting with tour operators in New York.

The purpose of the meeting was to outline the commitment of the Moroccan government to a *New Era of Tourism in Morocco*. Tourism is Morocco's first source of foreign exchange.

After the conference, attendees were treated to a gala at the Plaza Hotel. The evening consisted of dining on Moroccan delicacies, a haute couture fashion show of Moroccan caftans and tkshatas, and a program of Moroccan music and dance. (Call Royal Air Maroc in Washington DC at 800/428-5550 for more information about travel opportunities to Morocco.)



MGM

Amnesty Appeal

As reported in the January 1992 *FOM Newsletter*, Morocco has been recognized for the improvement of human rights by releasing as many as 5,000 "political prisoners."

Amnesty International Group 11 (Brooklyn NY) is hoping to help enable those released to make a successful and peaceful adjustment back into Moroccan society.

The Amnesty International

goal is to raise \$5,000.00 to send to the former adopted cases and their families. Amnesty's Group 11 is asking interested RPCVs to help with financial support or with finding other sources of aid.

If you would like more information, contact Amnesty International Group 11, c/o Paul A. Carroll (MRPCV 1980/82), 390 Sachett Street, Brooklyn NY 11231 (tel. 718/330-6391).

NCRPCV 31st Meeting

Don't forget that the National Council of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers 31st Annual Gathering will be held 9-11 July 1992, at Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Hosted by the Ozark RPCVs, it will base its program on meaningful post-Peace Corps contributions as a part of our national resources.

For conference information, contact Bruce Hamaker (501/443-9311), Phil & Mary Alice Serafini (501/521-0291), or Jonathan & Becky McCain (501/575-0833)

RPCV Issues

Following are some Non-Country-of-Service and Non-Geographic Issue RPCV groups that you might find of interest. We will try to mention more as they are made known to us.

RPCVs for Environment and Sustainable Development. Write to 1921 Bowman Court, Topeka, Kansas 66604.

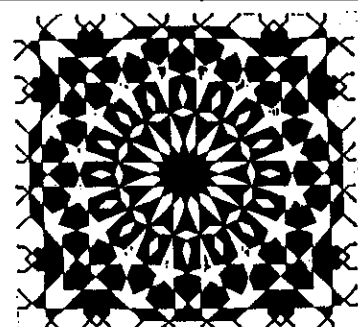
Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual RPCVs. Write to LGB RPCV (use acronym), P. O. Box 65248, Washington, DC 20035-5248

RPCVs Working for a Social Democratic World Order. Write to P. O. Box 20900, Piedmont, California 94620-0900.

Morocco Noted for Population Program

The Population Crisis Committee issued its annual report to countries around the world on 2 February 1992, finding the United States and Saudi Arabia among the worst and Morocco among the best countries for implementing or improving population planning programs.

Morocco was commended for a family program that has increased contraceptive use to about forty percent and for general awareness of family planning techniques, despite a relatively high level of illiteracy.



FRIENDS of MOROCCO

أصدقاء المغرب
Friends of Morocco

Ash Khabarna?

أش اخبارنا ؟

The following information was submitted by our readers to help us keep track. If you have news about you, your friends, other Peace Corps volunteers, former Peace Corps related persons, or any other Moroccophile, send it in for the Ash Khabarna column.

Brahim Elkortas, a pharmacist in Tata, Morocco, is looking for pen pals from around the world who have an interest in Morocco. **Brahim** is 28 years old and wants to exchange correspondence and ideas. He is also interested in travel. He can be contacted by writing him at Pharmacie Tata, 35 avenue de Mohammed V, Tata, Morocco.

Harka-Home's new and expanded updated name and address directory--lots of people from Morocco I through Morocco VI are listed--was printed in April. For more information about the directory and Harka-Home, contact **John van der Water**, 1521 23rd Street, Sacramento CA 95816.

Jackie Johnson (RPCV Lesotho, 1978/81) is look-

ing for one of her best friends, **Trudy Perry** (RPCV Morocco). **Trudy** has since married, though her married name is not known. Her last known address was in Georgia. Jackie is returning home this summer and would like to contact **Trudy** for a reunion. Jackie can be contacted at American University in Cairo, P. O. Box 2511-C.I.T./A.I.D., 11511 Cairo, Egypt.

Craig Storti (Safi 1970/72, TEFL) has written *A Few Minor Adjustments*, a handbook for Peace Corps volunteers and trainees. Written for the Peace Corps Office of Special Services, the book will be distributed to all volunteers in all Peace Corps countries. Special Services Director says that "...the handbook will demystify the whole concept of adjustment..."

Sam Lieberman (MRPCV 1968/72) hopes to take his family (which includes 15 and 17 year old sons) to Morocco for a vacation soon. **Sam** would like to contact some current volunteers with whom the family might stay or visit. Contact **Sam** at 549 B #5, Ashland OR 97520.

Maeve Kenny Reilly (Midelt 1985/87, TEFL) and **Seamus Reilly** welcomed a baby

girl, **Sinead Patricia Ann Joyce** on 2 February 1992. Weighing in at 8lbs 3 1/2oz, **Sinead** has more hair than the another **Sinead** (O'Conner). The Reilly family would like to hear from other RPCVs and their families. Write them at 1017 N. Farmington Road, Peoria IL 61606.

Vinnie Floriani (Ribat El Kheir 1983/85, TEFL) reunited **Kelly Hayford** (Guercit 1983-84, TEFL) last year, and the two were married on 21 December 1991. **Vinnie** and **Kelly** have formed a children's entertainment company. They released their first album of children's music, also in December. The music promotes self-esteem, environmental & multicultural appreciation, and is flavored with blues/Louisiana Zydeco/bluegrass sounds. To contact **Vinnie** and **Kelly**, write them at Azrou Records, 1800 S. Robertson Blvd, #901, Los Angeles CA 90035 (tel. 213/271-4228).

Dr. Terry M. Bennett (MRPCV) recently auctioned off his collection of rare automobiles, exotic vehicles, carnival bumper cars, and bicycles to provide scholarships for the next generation of

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Ash Khabarna.....

needy students at Harvard Medical School, his alma mater. The auction raised over four million dollars. Currently, **Terry** practices in Rochester, New Hampshire.

Melissa Wyers (MRPCV) has been making presentations about Morocco, and her experiences there, to schools and community groups in Atlanta GA. **Melissa** is willing to speak to any type of group about Morocco. She can be contacted at 1209 Euclid Avenue, Atlanta GA 30307 (tel. 404/523-3173).

Some recent new members of Friends of Morocco are: **Ms. A. Brooke Pickering**, 210 West 83rd St., Apt. 3F, New York NY 10024; **S. Louise Hoare**, 1010 Fith Street, Santa Monica CA 90403; and **Anissa A. Hanson** (ambassador's assistant at the U. S. Embassy in Rabat, she was married to the late Philip R. Hanson, former PC Morocco Director) PSC 74 Box 017 APO AE 09718.

Royal Air Maroc has moved. It is now located with Morocco Travel International at 704 N. Glebe Road, Suite 200, Arlington VA 22203 (tel. 703/243-1000).



Morocco in the Press

The Associated Press (30 March 1992) printed a report about the threatened resignation of Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy. (He later withdrew the threat.) Levy has long been known as favoring resolving problems with Israel's Arab and other Middle Eastern neighbors. His announcement reawakened tensions between the Sephardics (Israelis of Middle Eastern & North African extraction) and the Ashkenazim (Israelis of European descent). David Levy emigrated to Israel from his native Morocco, where he worked in construction.

Cox News Service noted that Morocco abstained from a vote in the U.N. Security Council to place sanctions on Libya...a proposal stemming from Libya's alleged involvement in the 1988 PanAm/Lockerbie, Scotland, disaster, as well as the 1989 French airline disaster over Niger. Stating that the problem did not pose a territorial threat, Morocco concurred with four other votes. Other reports say that King Hassan II has proposed the establishment of an international court for terrorism cases, under the wings of the United Nations. His Majesty stated that a trial of the accused in Libya would not be credible, and that a trial of the accused in England or the United States might also not seem credible. He further stated that the creation of such a court "might be the appropriate beginning of the new order."

The Society for Moroccan Studies has announced a lecture by Jon Marks entitled *Morocco in the Maghrebi Union*. The lecture will be held on 29 June 1992, in the lecture center of the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. Contact the society in London at 071-637 2388, or contact Dr. Henry Munson, Jr., at the University of Maine, Orono ME.

Utne Reader (March/April 1992) has an article entitled *Behind the Veil Debate: Some Islamic feminists claim veils as a symbol of liberation*, by Jules Inda. The article excerpts from various interviews of women who have chosen to wear or not to wear the veil, and why those decisions were made. Despite the western view that the veil is an affront to women's rights, the article has some surprising comments that would dispute that idea.

Utne Reader (March/April 1992) has introduced a new *Traveling Salon*...a movable salon of political debate, citizen diplomacy, cultural exchange, and spiritual pilgrimage. Allowing people-to-people contact and in-home visits, the salon will include ten tours to such diverse places as Bali, Nepal, Cuba, South Africa, and Ireland. Of special note is the salon called *Blue Men of the Sahara*. To take place 11-28 November 1992, the salon will spend most of its time with the Niger Taureg nomads in the Air Mountains and the Tenere Desert. The salon will be led by Saharan specialist Irma Turtle. For more information write *Traveling Salon, c/o Utne Reader*, 1624 Harmon Place, Minneapolis MN 55403 (tel. 612/645-5785).

"Morocco in Chicago," the *Retail Store Image* review talks about a new coffee store called Casablanca Coffees in the Windy City. On Michigan Avenue in downtown Chicago, the store has taken its design concepts from the 1940s movie-ideal of Morocco. It is, by-the-way, about as small and intimate as most spice and coffee shops in the souks of Moroccan cities.

Modern Morocco, a recent publication of the Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco in Washington and the U. S. based International Executive Service Corps (IESC). It is a concise and informative beginning for anyone wanting to know how to get started doing business with Morocco...whether on a large or small scale. It includes a brief outline of regulations and a listing of offices to contact for detailed information. For a copy, contact the Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco, 1601 21st Street, NW, Washington DC 20009 (tel. 202/462-7979).

The January/February issue of *Aramco World* includes a six-page color article called *Through North African Eyes*, by Lynn Teo Simarski. The article describes the history and probable future of film making in North Africa. Simarski says, "A new indigenous cinema full of beauty and vitality is emerging in North Africa, placing Algeria, Tunisia, and Morocco on the cutting edge of film in the Arab world."

The Financial Times Weekend (1/2 February 1992) includes a triptych of travel articles presenting travel in Morocco from several points of view. *Walking tall through Berber territory*, by Michael Woods, gives the trekker's view. He writes of the startling beauty of the High Atlas Mountains and how the area is probably the closest area to Europe that can be called real wilderness. A wonderful description of life in the mountains. Michael Thompson-Noel's *On the Road to Fes* sees the country as a "loafer", traveling elegantly and staying in the best hotels. Thompson-Noel's view starts in Ouarzazate and ends at Fes. Staying in such places as the Es Snadi Hotel in Marrakech or the Palais Jamai in Fes, eating the "finest of food in dream-like settings", and riding camels in the Sahara ("touristy...but why not"). *A perfect choice*, by Antonia Sharpe, who spent the perfect honeymoon at La Gazelle d'Or at Taroudant. She described the surrounding peace of the Atlas Mountains, the grazing horses, the fragrant gardens, and the interesting hotel guests...such as the French lady who was obviously "mad because she kept talking to her Louis Vuitton handbag"...later realizing that she carried her pet terrier around in it, or the plump English lady who couldn't stay away from the lavish buffets. Fun reading...all three stories.

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أصدقاء المغرب
Friends of Morocco

Morocco in the Press.....

The *Illustrated London News* (Christmas, 1991, Vol 279, No. 7103) has a beautifully written and photographed article entitled *High Morocco* by Bruno Barbey. It illustrates the lives of the Berbers in the remote "but ruggedly beautiful" High Atlas Mountains.

The 27 April 1992, *Newsweek* includes an article by Charles Lane entitled *Let's Abolish the Third World*. His premise is that it never made much sense, and it doesn't exist in practice. So why not get rid of it in theory? The "Third World" is a 1950s term invented in Paris (*Le tiers monde*) by "intellectuals looking for a way to lump together the newly independent former European colonies in Asia and Africa." Later it came to mean any "poor, strife-ridden, chaotic" country...allowing the entry of Latin America into the Third World. Lane reminds us that democracy and prosperity are not exclusive prerogatives to the North, and that poverty, health problems, and inequality are not exclusive to the "Third World"...there is only one world.

World Monitor (May 1992) has an article entitled *The Fall And Rise of French*, by George Tombs and Angéline Fournier. In a world where forty-three nations include French as the first or second language, French is once again becoming the international means of communication. Once the "guiding light of diplomacy, science, and international culture," over half of all Francophones will be in Africa by the 21st Century. The language "will become, for the most part, a Franco-African and Franco-Arabic language. The French of luxury and elegance will become the language of people who are hungry...the language of Latin superiority will become the means of expression of Muslim and animist civilizations." Even with the far distances between most Francophone countries, the intrusion of English into a United Europe, and the "fear" of a new French Empire built solely on a language base, its supporters insist that it will become, again, an important world language. Defenders of the language point out that even world authors often have chosen French to express their arts, naming American Julian Green, Romanian Eugene Ionesco, Irishman Samuel Beckett, and Moroccan Tahar ben Jelloun.



Stele in the Form of a Prayer Niche or Mihrab
Seljuk Iran, late 12th century CE
Carved marble
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.
Gift of V. Everitt Macy, 1931, 31.50.1

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Exhibits, Art, Books,

What follows is a schedule of exhibits, new books, and other notes that concern the arts in or about Morocco. If you know of an upcoming event, exhibit, new books, recordings, etc...please send the information in to the FOM Newsletter to share with other Moroccophiles.

The Literate Traveller. A selection of guide books and travel literature, mentions several books about Morocco. Included are: *The Voices of Marrakech* by Elias Canetti (\$6.95). It records the sights and sounds of his travels in Marrakech, incorporating strong themes of morality, tragedy, passion, and pathos....*Journey Into Barbary* by Wyndham Lewis (\$12.50). Writing after a 1931 trip to Morocco, Lewis considered colonialism brigandage, but professed admiration for the French version. He is very good at describing differences between Arab and Berber; he much prefers Berber mud fortresses to what he calls the "Turkish Bath House" style of Islamic architecture. It includes a wonderful chapter on sandstorms....*In Morocco* by Edith Wharton (\$13.95). It is her story of taking off by car to travel through Morocco just at the end of WWI, knowing that the world she was seeing was about to change forever. She describes markets, ruins, religious ceremonies, palaces, homes, and harems. Her eye is sure and her observations are crisp and intelligent.

Al-Andalus: Islamic Arts of Spain. As the Maghreb and the Iberian Peninsula were closely associated from the 8th through 15th Centuries, and were ruled together as one kingdom by the Almoravid and later Almohad dynasties from the late 11th to early 13th Century, the art produced in Spain at that time necessarily reflects the taste of these rulers and patrons. The patrons came from Morocco. The exhibition will open at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City in June of this year.

The Here and the Hereafter: Images of Paradise in Islamic Art. An exhibition showing at the Museum of Fine Arts in Springfield, Massachusetts, through 28 June 1992. As in Christianity and many other religions, the prevailing image of Paradise in Islam is that of a verdant walled garden, a place of abundance and beauty, serenity and joy, and a delight to the senses. According to the *Koran*, the rewards of Paradise include shade trees and flowering plants, and rivers of water, milk, honey,

and wine. Therein the faithful are and carpets, and the pleasures of four thematic sections: Paradise and Ized, and Paradise Attained: The Ish

A Door to the Sky. A 1989 film dir story of a young Moroccan emigre, funeral. Having a mystical experie turns her family's ancestral palace i sions arise when she falls in love wi into her spiritual center. More infor can Embassy in Washington DC.

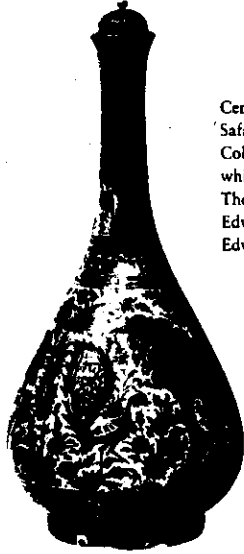
The Hakima: A Tragedy in Fez. Press (\$40.00), that is based on a re and died there in 1978. The author aunt was a maid. Hakima was bad! death is still somewhat of a mystery; to be married to Abdulkader...did s pushed by Fatima, her adoptive moth the *Village Voice*, the book is an intr with the author throwing in truths, found in Fez (and most any other Me has "bridged the gaps of ignorance making us--a part of the history of



Examples from *The Here & the Hereafter:*



Door of a Tomb
17th century CE
steel
Museum of Chicago,
Purchase Fund, 1935.361



Ceramic Wine Bottle
Safavid Iran, ca. 1600 CE
Colored glaze and luster painting on molded
white siliceous ceramic body; silver top mount
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York,
Edward C. Moore Collection, Bequest of
Edward C. Moore, 1891, 91.1.188



Ceramic Plate with Floral Design
Ottoman Turkey (Iznik), late 16th century CE
Colors painted on white slip on white
siliceous ceramic body
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston,
Gift of George Washington Wales, 85.478

Film.....

and fine food and drink, silken cushions and cushions. The exhibition is divided into *Paradise Described, Paradise Symbolized.*

by Moroccan Farida Ben Lyazid, it is the returning from Paris for her father's death results in her spiritual rebirth, she will center for disinherited women. Tenuled young man and tries to bring him may be obtained by contacting the Moroccan

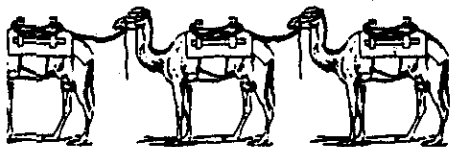
by William Betsch, released by Aperture on, *Hakima*. She was born in Fez in 1962 (time once, at his home in Fez, where her passed the last months of her life. Her fell from a balcony just before she was entally fall, did she jump, or was she according to Christine Schwartz, writing in story of women's roles in Islamic culture, taboos, and the related social pressures city). By the end of *The Hakima*, Betsch between two cultures by becoming--an

Windows on the Maghreb. An exhibition of Moroccan textiles and carpets, reviewed in the January 1992 FOM Newsletter, will be moving from the University of Tennessee to Toronto, Ontario, Canada. It will be on display through 1 October 1992, at the Museum for Textiles, 55 Centre Street, Toronto M5S 2C (tel. 416/977-5000).

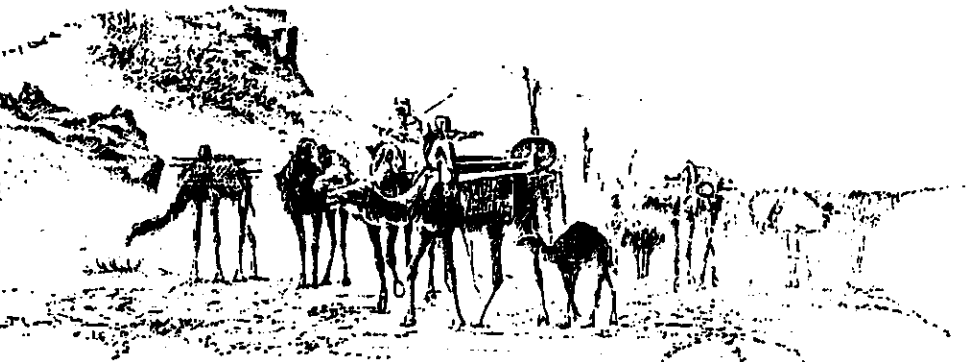
The Hansberger Collection. Currently showing at the museum in Muttens, Switzerland, the Hansberger Collection is an exhibition of Moroccan carpets. The exhibition catalogue, 160 pages and 130 color plates, can best be described as a "landmark" publication. With text by Dr. Wilfried Stanzer of Vienna, Austria, the photographs include many rare and previously unpublished examples of tribal and rural rugs. Currently in German only, an English/French edition should be available in May 1992. For more information contact the Moroccan Rug and Textile Society, 2820 Arizona Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20016 (tel. 202/686-5108)

Both Right and Left Handed: Arab Women Talk about Their Lives. A 1991 release by Bouthaina Shaaban and published by the Indiana University Press (\$35.00/\$12.95). It includes interviews with Syrian, Lebanese, Palestinian, and Algerian women, complementing another book *Doing Daily Battle* by Fatima Mernissi about Moroccan women. No one can finish the book without having gained respect for the courage with which these women are battling for better futures for their families, their fellow women, and their countries. The reader will find a range of viewpoints on wearing the veil and other "traditions." Probably the most important, and revealing, aspect of the book is the women's perceptions of their own status and not just the status of Arab women in general.

Islamic Art. By Barbara Brend and published in 1991 by the Harvard University Press (\$39.95), this may be the first book on the subject that "is sensible, accessible, authoritative, thoughtfully organized, and does not require a table to support it." It is not one of those "everything-you-want-to-know-about" books, rather it states on the first page of the introduction that "...the definition used here will be: the art produced for rulers or populations of Islamic culture." Concentrating mostly on the Middle East and its immediate environs, the book is filled with lavish photographs showing, among other things, Ottoman vases, towering minarets, and painted Pakistani lorries.



THE FOM SOUK



Friends of Morocco is trying to compile a source list for things Moroccan that can, we hope, lead to the creation of a source book for our members. We ask that readers send us the names (and addresses) of restaurants, retailers of Moroccan goods, sources of Moroccan musical recordings, speakers from or about Morocco, exhibits of Moroccan art and artifacts, sources for cooking spices, books, tours, etc.

The following is a sampling of the most recent arrivals:

● **Brooke Pickering.** Brooke Pickering specializes in top quality Moroccan carpets and textiles, including pile and flatwoven rugs, saddle covers, capes, and pillows. Selections include textiles for someone who wants to satisfy a nostalgic urge or who is a serious collector. Items are for sale by appointment. For more information contact Brooke Pickering, 210 West 83rd Street, New York NY 10024 (tel. 212/721-5022).

● **Summer in Morocco.** University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee/Madison is again

offering the summer study abroad program in Rabat at the University of Mohammed V. Canceled last year because of the Gulf Crisis, more information may be obtained from Mary Connolly, Bolton Hall, University of Wisconsin/Milwaukee, P.O. Box 413, Milwaukee WI 53201. (tel. 414/229-4252).

● **Friendship Stamp.** FOM has fourteen uncanceled "Friendship with Morocco 1787-1987" postage stamps. The 25 cent commemorative stamp is now out of print. FOM will make them available to collectors for \$2.00 each. For more information contact Tim Roesch at 703/660-9292.

● **Morocco Travel International.** Specializing in (though not limited to) travel planning to and in Morocco. For more information contact Colleen Fannin (Rabat 1988/89) at Morocco Travel International, 704 N. Glebe Road, Arlington VA 22203 (tel. 202/393-1515).

● **Morocco: Trekking the High Atlas.** A two to three week hike in the Atlas mountains, the trek includes visits to Marrakech and Casablanca and hikes up Mt. Toubkal and Mt. M'Goun. Offered between June and October, it is

considered of moderate difficulty. Accommodations and costs vary. For more information contact Force 10 Expeditions (800/922-1491), Himalayan Travel (800/225-2380), IbeX Expeditions (503/345-1289), Mountain Travel-Sobek (800/227-2384), or Overseas Adventure Travel (800/221-0814).

● **Morocco/Algeria/Mali/Senegal: Touring West Africa and the Sahara.** Lasting six to seven weeks, the tours traverse 1,800 miles in a 20-passenger safari truck beginning in Tangiers and ending in Dakar. Offered between September and May, the tours have a European bent requiring travelers to help out with food preparation, shopping, and pushing the truck out of the sand. Though covering some spectacular terrain, there are many days of 115 degree temperatures without showers. For more information, contact Adventure Center (800/227-8747), Force 10 Expeditions (800/922-1491), or Overseas Adventure Travel (800/221-0814).

● **Kristy Larson, Inc.** Specializing in belts and

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FOM Souk.....

bags from leather and carpets, Kristy Larson designs them using Moroccan and Southwest American designs. Made in Morocco, the belts and bags are distributed throughout the United States. For more information contact Kristy Larson, Inc. at 31550 Trillium Trail, Pepper Pike OH 44124 (tel. 216/831-6368).

Farah Tours. Based in Morocco, Farah Tours specializes in custom designed tours of Morocco, with an emphasis on trekking and horseback tours. Prices and dates vary. For more information contact Renate Erroudani, 99 bis appt. no. 1, Derb Bassaoud, Jbabra Zitoune, Meknes, Morocco.

We still have a long way to go to publish a directory, so whenever you run across something, send your bit of information to Bill Gaisser, FOM Newsletter Editor, 219 Oak Street, Evansville, Indiana 47713-1254.



FOM Yellow Pages

To make life easier when traveling in Morocco, trying to find a fact about Morocco while leaning back in your easy chair, or wanting to contact the Friends of Morocco, the following names, addresses, and telephone numbers might come in handy.

Friends of Morocco, P. O. Box 2579, Washington DC 20013-2579. For general or membership information. To talk to a real voice, contact President Tim Resch at 703/660-9292 (H) or 703/235-3786 (W).

Friends of Morocco Newsletter, 219 Oak Street, Evansville IN 47713-1254. If you want to talk to the editor, call Bill Gaisser at 812/423-3777 (W) or 812/423-7625 (H).

Peace Corps Washington, 1990 K Street NW, Washington DC 20526. To talk to Morocco Desk Officer Pam DiMeo, call 800/424-8580.

Peace Corps Morocco, 1, rue Benzerte, Rabat, Morocco. Darcy Neil is the Director and can be contacted at 011 212 77 060 20.

National Council of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, 2119 S Street NW, Washington DC 20008-4011. Telephone 202/482-5938 for general information.

United States Embassy in Morocco, 2, rue de Marrakech, Rabat, Morocco. Frederick Vreeland is ambassador and the telephone number is 622-25.



Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco in the United States, 1601 21st Street NW, Washington DC 20009. The ambassador is Mohammed Belkhatat, and the telephone is 202/265-0161.

Royal Air Maroc (main US office), 680 Fifth Avenue, New York NY 10013. The toll-free number is 800/344-8726. In Washington DC, call 703/243-1000.

Moroccan National Tourism Office, 20 E. 46th Street, Suite 1201, New York NY 10017, or in Beverly Hills CA (90210), at 421 N. Rodeo Drive. Telephone New York at 212/557-2520, or in Beverly Hills at 213/271-8939.

Association of Moroccans in America, 1448 Boston Post Road, Larchmont NY 10538. Telephone 914/833-0329 and ask for Majid Fentas.

Moroccan/American National Association, P. O. Box 2189, Washington DC 20013. Call Aziz Abbassi, president, at 512/258-1573.

Moroccan/American Trade Association, 25 W. 39th Street, #902, New York NY 10018. Telephone 212/869-1040 for information.

Remember that all of this information and more can be yours if you join Friends of Morocco and receive your FOM Directory and Yellow Pages.

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Friends of Morocco

Christopher Kuhl Exhibition



most recent trip to Morocco in January of this year.

Christopher Kuhl's *Morocco: Discoveries and Visions* will be at the Alif Gallery, 1204 31st Street, NW, Washington DC 20007 (tel. 202/337-9670).

Artist & Mosque I

(Mixed media on canvas, 1989)

One of Christopher Kuhl's works currently hanging at the Alif Gallery in Washington.

The Arab American Cultural Foundation and the Embassy of Morocco will present an exhibit of the works of Christopher Kuhl through 6 June 1992.

A native of Tacoma, Washington, Kuhl first visited Morocco in 1987, when he visited his brother (director of the American Language Center) in Tetouan. He found himself so fascinated by the country that he stayed for a long period studying the land, the people, and the language. After returning to the U.S., he continued to studies of Morocco.

Kuhl's work since that time has been expressed in strongly constructed, intensely colorful paintings and works on paper as well as dramatic

photographs that focus on the interactions of the landscape and architectural forms of Morocco.

His fascination with the Arabic language and calligraphic design is incorporated into his work, often using fragments of scripts found in Moroccan journals or newspapers or interpretations of scripts found on walls or on storefronts.

Other recurring themes in his works are the shapes of Moroccan architecture ...mosques, minarets, high walls, and arched doorways. There is also an affectionate concern with the faces of the people and the small items of their daily lives.

A collection of works that should not be missed if you are in the Washington area, the exhibit includes some paintings from Kuhl's

SHAWLS & RUGS

Russell Pickering of the Moroccan Rug And Textile Society, will publish several rug and textile articles in *Hali* magazine in the coming year, along with *Hali* editor, Alan Marcuson.

Based on a 1991 discovery of rare Siroua shawls that he found in the Marrakech rug souk, one article will include photographs of many of the 50 to 60 pieces. Other articles will concentrate on Pickering's private collections and the "art" of rug shopping.

Hali magazine is published six times each year (\$98.00) and is available from Hali Publications Ltd., c/o I.M.D. Ltd, LUVS Container Station 149-05, 177th Street, Jamaica NY 11434.



Western Sahara

The following is a compilation of excerpts from several journals relating to the Western Sahara.

The New York Times (1 Jan. 1992) noted that despite the differences between Morocco and the Polisario, that the dispute should be settled through referendum. One complication in an accurate voter count is that many nomadic herdsmen and their families fled to refugee camps in Algeria. On the other hand, Morocco claims that many of those camps house other than Western Saharan natives...saying that many are actually from Mali and Niger, therefore not being eligible to vote. According to the U.N. Secretary, children of refugees from Spanish Colonial rule, born and living in Morocco, should be included in the vote. The Polisario assert that this would add as many as 100,000 voters to the referendum...all in favor of joining Western Sahara with Morocco.

From *The Nonviolent Activist* (January/February 1992) comes a report by Stephen Zunes, director of the Institute for a New Middle East Policy, entitled *The Other Occupation: The United States and the Sahara War*. The article outlines the history of the Western Sahara problem, dating back to its release

by colonial Spain. Noting that Spain had promised independence to then Spanish Sahara, the plan was altered with pressure from Morocco and the United States to divide the area between Morocco and Mauritania. This was happening while Spain itself was enduring a transition back to democracy. The article notes that while the exiled Polisario developed impressive structures that have insured a high degree of economic and social democracy (and rejecting Marxist-Leninism), actual political democracy was very limited. The article states that the U. S. has been slow to push for negotiating a settlement in the area, though under President Bush the U. S. has endorsed the U.N.-sponsored peace plan that led to the September 1991 ceasefire...allowing for removal of Moroccan and Polisario troops, assembling a U.N. peace force, and establishing criteria for a referendum...the referendum that is now in jeopardy.

According to the *Associated Press* (4 March 1992), the United Nations peace plan for the Western Sahara has broken down and could be scrapped if Morocco and the guerrillas don't settle their differences by June 1992. Voter registration disputes caused the referendum

determining political status of the Sahara to be canceled. The U.N. is studying other solutions.

The Washington Post (14 March 1992) also discusses the stalemate in Sahara that has halted progress towards a referendum. It notes that the projected 2,800 person U.N. peace keeping force has only reached 375. Current U.N. Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has asked the Security Council to approve a three-month timetable for resolution of the issues blocking the original U.N. peace plan. He acknowledged that most of the Morocco's alleged cease-fire violations have some legitimacy. The Secretary said that if a solution is not found by the end of May, that the entire peace keeping plan may have to be revised. Again, disputes revolve around the counting of voters. Morocco stands behind earlier U.N. agreements allowing Saharan natives descendants living abroad to return for the vote...and the Polisario questioning the method of determining citizenship of that same group. Those opposed to joining Morocco say that the character of the Sahara has already been *Moroccanized*, even prior to the referendum.



DC Reunion

Dave Fredrick (Morocco PC Director, 1986/90) writes that there will be a Morocco Peace Corps Volunteer Reunion in the Washington DC area on 6 June 1992. It will take place between 11h00 a.m. and 6h00 p.m., at Lubber Run Park (2nd Street, N. and North Columbus Street) in Falls Church VA.

All FOM members are invited. Just bring along meat to grill, a dish or dessert to share, your own drinks, and an inclination to have a good time.

For more information contact Dave Fredrick at 9610 Tinsmith Lane, Burke VA 22015, or telephone him at 703/866-7075 (home) or 202/647-9631 (work).



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Friends of Morocco Newsletter is published quarterly by the Friends of Morocco and circulated to their members and other interested parties. The organization was formed in 1988 to reunite PCVs who have served in Morocco, to inform members about current events and conditions in Morocco, to promote a better understanding of Morocco and Moroccans on the part of Americans, and to fund or otherwise support development activities in Morocco. Membership dues are \$15 annually. FOM is governed by a nine-member national board. Mailing address: Friends of Morocco, PO Box 2579, Washington DC 20013-2579. For further information, contact president Tim Resch at 703/660-9292.

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