

winter 2001

friends of morocco

اصدقاء المغرب

Friends of Morocco Needs You!



The strength of any organization lies in its membership and that means you. Friends of Morocco has been a little dormant, but now is the time to make it the vibrant organization that we all now it can be. FOM needs the help and input of all its members.

Here are some ways you can help:

- **Join the FOM management team:**
See the list for vacancies and ideas on possible tasks
- **Help us find the lost volunteers:**
Friends of Morocco has a database with the names of almost 3000 persons, most of whom were Peace Corps volunteers in Morocco. There are some 900 persons with whom we have lost contact. Please review our lost member list and let us know if you have any contact information. If you are proficient with electronic data searches, you can help us locate some of these people. The list takes about 20 seconds to load at 56K
- **Improving the FOM web site:**
Organize the 150 recipes now on the FOM web site by parts of the meal and by main ingredient; develop web pages to post; identify ways to generate income for FOM from the WWW; improve our presentation; verify of addresses and web sites; start and manage a list serve for Friends of Morocco
- **Connections -Be a Year of Service point of contact,;for example: 1961-66 volunteers,**

contact J J van der Water; 1976-80 Peace Corps Morocco Network whose purpose is to provide a permanent place for returned Peace Corps volunteers who served in Morocco at any time, for any length of time during the years 1976 to 1980; 1987-89 RPCVs had a reunion July 28-30, 2000 in Breckenridge, Colorado.

- **Connections—Start a FOM chapter in your area.**
FOM can provide contact information on Morocco RPCVs and others with a Morocco connection in your geographic area. Host a pot luck picnic; do a fund raiser, do a slide and picture show; trade Moroccan memorabilia.

Check out the FOM web site

Take a look at our web page at <http://morocco.home.att.net>. We are now getting news clips from Morocco every week courtesy of Mhamed El Kadi, the Peace Corps/Morocco librarian. The news clips are subsequently posted on the web page under the newsletters section. The site also has links, yellow pages and a *souk* section. The *souk* has access to publications, music, movies, web radio from Morocco, and a listing of Moroccan restaurants across the US. Under the Moroccan cooking section there are about 150 Moroccan recipes on our web site and links to other recipe sites. Come visit us. Suggestions for improvement are always welcome.



Ash Khabarna?

أش أخبارنا؟

Kathy Staley Miller—Settat/Agadir 84-87 is an attorney with the Indiana Court of Appeals. Contact her at <kmiller@mac.com>

Dorothy Lund Nelson (mother of RPCV Weston Lund) is retired and is a first time author. Contact her at <dlundnelson@hotmail.com>

Weston J.B. Lund—Casablanca/Rabat 89-91 is an ESL instructor in Saga-ken, Japan. Contact Weston at 011-81-942-85-19-39.

Michael F. Smith—Casablanca 63-65 is a senior manager at IBM. Contact him at <msmit41@hotmail.com>

Michael W. Suleiman is a professor in the Department of Political Science at Kansas State University. Contact Michael at <suleiman@ksu.edu>.

John Salamack (director of training 71-75) is executive director of Clothes Helping Kids, Inc. Contact John at <clothes4kids@aol.com>.

Jeff Ankrom—Marrakesh 84-86 is the music editor at Indiana University Press. Write to Jeff at <jankrom@indiana.edu>.

William G. Adams—Taza/Casablanca/Rabat 63-65 is an attorney with O'Melveny & Myers LLP. You can find William at <wadams@omm.com>.

Mike Knudson—Marrakesh 69-71 lives in North Dakota where he is a forester with the USDA Natural Resources Cons. Service. Contact Mike at 701-223-2962.

Joseph Moriarty—Agadir 90-93 is vice president for sales and

marketing at Millronium Automation. Contact Joseph at kjamb@home.com>.

Diane Bouchard Bendahmane—Fes/Rabat 66-72 is retired and living in Wheaton, Maryland. Contact Diane at Bendahmane.Robinson@erols.com>.

Frank Golino—Tangier 64-66 is a consultant at the US Department of State. Contact him at <Fgo1156726@aol.com>.

Kinza and Philip Schuyler—Marrakesh/Fes 68-72/75-77 live in Seattle where Philip is a professor of ethnomusicology at the University of Washington. They can be contacted at 206-523-2315.

I. William Zartmen is a professor at the School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University. Contact him at <zartman@sais.jhu.edu>.

Tom Coyne and Phyllis Erikson—Nador/Tahala/Rabat 81-84 live in Kansas City, Missouri where Tom works for the US Department of Labor and Phyllis is a realtor. Contact them at <tcoyne@doleta.gov>.

Bernadine Ryan Hoff—Agadir 97-99 is a consultant and professor in Spring Valley, California. Contact Bernadine at 619-470-6567.

Lesta Chandler—Beni-Mellal/Skoura 84-86 is an investigator with the US Department of Labor in Cincinnati. Contact Lesta at <skouria@aol.com>.

Kim Trimbel—Taza 74-76 is a professor of teacher education at California State University -

Dominguez Hills.

Ned Balzer and Margie Stewart—Inezgane/Ouarzazate/Marrakesh 85-88 live in Oakland, California where Ned is a computer programmer and Margie is a teacher in the Oakland Unified Schools. Contact them at <n.balzer@cgn.net.com> or <stewbali@hotmail.com>.

Kate Trayte—Guercif 80-82 is director of the International Students and Scholars Office at Drexel University in Philadelphia. Contact Kate at <k8tr8@yahoo.com>.

Mustapha and Ramona El Hamzaoui announce the birth of their daughter, Sarra Vincens, who was born on September 2, 2000. Sarra joins her brother Elias. The Elhamzaouis now live in Alexandria, VA and can be reached at: 703-768-6069 or <elhamzaoui@mindspring.com>.

Rick Watts—Azzemour 84-85 owns a real estate consulting firm in Columbia, MD. I live with my wife and two great kids (6 and 4 years old) on the Magothy River between Baltimore and Annapolis, and enjoy sailing and traveling in our free time. We discovered home exchanges three years ago and will never opt for hotels again! Anyone I know is welcome to visit and stay with us if you are in the area. 410-437-2813 or rbwx2@earthling.net

Cheryl Corkum Deane—Midelt 81-84 writes from Seoul, South Korea where she and her family have been living for 15 years. Cheryl is

is the Director of Admissions at Seoul International School. She can be reached at <neilson@chollian.net>.

Jody Bon Durant-Strong—Khemisset/Rabat 80-83 is a special education teacher and lives in Arlington, WA. Jody writes: "Since I first joined FOM, I've moved to Arlington, WA into our new home complete with plenty of room for our 18 llamas, 2 kids and 2 foster kids! In my spare time I'm, teaching in and coordinating a special ed preschool program and preparing for the arrival of the 15 year-old daughter of my dearest friend in Morocco. Myriem will be living with us until completing high school and going on to college—a long-time dream for all of us. If anyone is traveling from Morocco to anywhere in the US and would be willing to allow Myriem to travel with you, it would really help us save time and money." Contact Jody at 360-653-6580.

Elizabeth Wartluft—El Jadida 88-90 is an adjunct instructor of dance at the University of Oregon. Elizabeth lives in Eugene and can be contacted at <ewartluf@darkwing.uoregon.edu>.

Alison Hyslop—Meknes/Azilal 88-90 is an assistant professor at St. John's University in New York. Contact Alison at <hyslopa@stjohns.edu>.

Michael Aziz is a computer specialist and lives in Glendale, NY. Contact Michael at <zeezonymc@hotmail.com>.

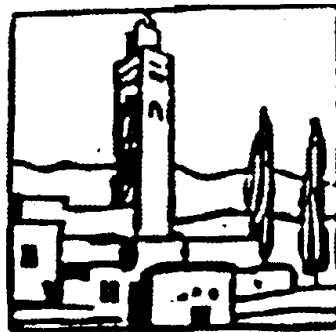
Beverly & John Shank—Rabat 69-71 live in Lexington, MA. Beverly is a librarian at the Watertown, MA Public Library and John is an architect at DIAQ in Somerville, MA. Contact Beverly and John at <jbshank@tiac.net>.

Jennifer Barrett—Aoufous/Er Rachidia 98-00 is coordinator of research projects for the New Jersey Hospital Association. Contact Jennifer at <jennifer_barrett@usa.net>.

Wilfrid J. Rollman—Rabat/Tetouan 68-71 is a professor at Wellesley College. Contact Wilfrid at <wrollman@wellesley.edu>.

Rick Watts—Azemmour 84-85 is president of Metzbenner, Watts & Hulting. Contact Rick at <rbwx2@earthling.net>.

David M. Hart is a retired anthropologist living in Almeria, Spain.



Rosalia Stamatakos—Agadir 88-91 is a substitute teacher with the Ojai City Schools. Contact Rosalia at <rmsojai@hotmail.com>.

Joy Campbell 98-00 is living in Minnetonka, MN. Contact Joy at <joy.campbell@eudoramail.com>.

James C. Costa 64-66 is a senior technical service representative with DMS Copolymer. James lives in Baton Rouge and can be reached at <costajc@dsm.com>.

Jane Hammatt-Kavaloski lives in Dodgeville, WI and can be contacted at 608-935-3007.

Kathleen L. Joki lives in Palo Alto, CA and can be contacted at

<ummkenza@eudoramail.com>.

Tim Resch—??? 70-74 is president of Friends of Morocco and works for the East Asia and Pacific Environmental Initiative at USAID. Contact Tim at <tresch@att.net>.

Reuben Simmons and Marilyn Charles 62-64 live in Washington, DC where Reuben is retired and Marilyn is a marketing consultant with Charles Simmons & Associates. Contact Reuben and Marilyn at <marilync60@aol.com>.

Catherine Tansey 70-72 is an intercultural training consultant and lives in Spring Lake Heights, NJ. Contact Catherine at 908-449-2367.

Cheryl Zainfeld 98-00 lives in Eugene, Oregon. Contact her at <czainfeld@yahoo.com>.

Agostinho Nunes—Safi 81-83 lives in Brookline, MA.. Contact Agostinho at <olmsted204@aol.com>.

Lori Kurtz-Larkin—Rich 84-86 is a child development specialist and lives in Scottsdale, AZ. Contact Lori at ,lorikl@primenet.com>.

Kristy Larson—Essaouira 82-present is a tour guide/trip coordinator in Morocco. Contact Kristy at <kristylarson@hotmail.com>.

Have any news? Been promoted? Got married? Kids? New job? Want to have someone contact you? Send your information and requests to the FOM address on the back of this newsletter or send an email to: <k8tr8@yahoo.com>.

Psychological Evacuations *(from Peace Talks Morocco circa 1981)*

(editor's note: this memo was originally published in Peace Talks Morocco, the PC-Morocco newsletter, probably in 1981. It was reprinted in Peaceworks, the current PC-Morocco newsletter. I hope it brings back some laughs and memories).

TO: All PCVs

FROM: Peace Corps Medical Office

SUBJ: Psychological Evacuation

Peace Corps Morocco has seen an alarming rise in the incidence of psychological problems among volunteers. Early detection of serious psychological problems, leading to what this office terms "psycho-vac," can be accomplished by the simple practice of a monthly psycho self-examination. This examination, if done regularly at your site, could save you from irreversible insanity.

How to perform the monthly Peace Corps psycho self-examination

First, find the time when you won't be disturbed. Look closely at yourself in the mirror for any signs of non-recognition. Do this systematically: start at your nose and work your way outward in a circular pattern. Is there anything you don't recognize as your own? Do you know the person in the mirror?

Secondly, lie down on your bed in a comfortable position with this list of questions. Read the list slowly and carefully. If you answer "yes" to any one question, you may have reason to suspect psycho-vac. Please contact the PCMO if you have any questions as to your sanity.

Paranoia: When taking your midmorning nap in your locked trunk, do you feel that you are being observed?

Exhibitionism: When watching olive oil vendors, do you have to constantly resist the temptation to expose your genitals?

Schizophrenia: Have you suddenly mastered a tonal tribal dialect not spoken at your site?

Confusion: Does Peace Corps strike you as a well-run organization?

Audio hallucinations: By fondling warm couscous, are you able to communicate with relatives back home?

Over concern for cleanliness: Have you been insisting that, prior to eating your food, your maid soak your bread in iodine water for twenty minutes?

Apathy: Does the thought of opening a letter from home wear you out?

Hypochondriac: In a typical month, would you say that you use all of the contents of your Peace Corps medical kit?

Taking unnecessary risk: While hanging from the side of a moving souk bus, do you try to jump onto the seat of a passing motorcycle without a helmet?

Has your job been affected?: TEFLers—has your mudir suggested for the third time that you face the class while teaching? Fish volunteers—have the villagers been suggesting that you fill your ponds with water before adding the fish? Voc Heads—rather than using locally available resources, have you asked Peace Corps to pouch hacksaw blades? Physical therapist volunteers—have you found David Werner's medical guide, *Where There is no Doctor*, an invaluable aid for open heart surgery?

We would like to thank Richard Baxter, a near psycho-vac who was able to detect his problems in time, for his help in developing the psych self-examination for his fellow volunteers in Morocco.



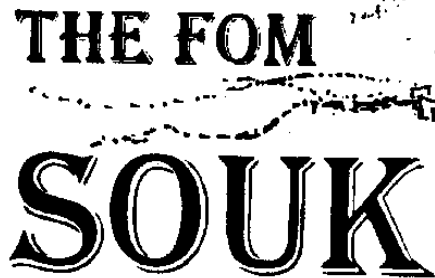
Morocco RPCVs Form New Non-Profit

Several RPCV's that served in the High Atlas Mountains of Morocco, along with some former Moroccan counterparts, have formed a new non-profit organization. The High Atlas Foundation (HAF) is dedicated to the principles of participatory development with a particular emphasis on improving the economic and environmental health of rural communities in the High Atlas Mountains. This fledgling organization is recognized by the State of New Mexico as a non-profit organization. HAF, however, is currently awaiting 501c3 status from the IRS.

"While we wait for our official non-profit designation, we are seeking out funding sources, potential projects, and building the organizational structure," says Jason Ben-Meir ('92-'95), HAF Director. "We hope to have a full time person on the

ground in Morocco within the next year or two." HAF intends to make its official debut during the NPCA conference in September. For more information, please contact Thom Anderson at 309-298-2682 or at tk-anderson@wiu.edu.





THE FOM SOUK

Hello Moroccan textile lovers,

It may seem you've heard from me quite recently - and you have, in October. But I've been back to Morocco since then, and couldn't resist buying more rugs.

I also bought some silver pendants, plus earrings and some posters, all of which can be found in the new category "Souvenirs of Morocco". It's a good place to check for affordable gifts. Another new category is "Collector's Items" at the end of the Large Rug section of the Shop. In it you'll find a few very intricate, finely woven pieces that will appeal to the serious collectors among you.

I want to let you know I've reorganized the Shop. Now all items can be found there, including the newest pieces. There will still be a "Newest Pieces" section for frequent browsers who are sure that's all they want to see, but you can see everything by working from "Shop".

With the reorganization, I've tried to keep it so your past bookmarks to the site will all work. But to be sure, I suggest that you right now bookmark, or add to "Favorites" if you use that, <www.marrakeshexpress.org> The previous web address, <www.uslink.net/ddavis> will still work, but the first one is my new domain name and much easier to remember.

Do tell me if any of you have trouble with links. Some people did last time, and thanks to their email they were fixed, so I've been especially careful this time.

As always, let me know if you'd like to be taken off this list, which I send out only when I get new items, about 2-4 times a year.

Finally - Happy Holidays!

Best, Susan Davis

Morocco-related web sites of interest:

- www.morocco.com—has current news of Morocco, virtual postcards and travel information
- www.morocco-today.com—includes information on Moroccan tourism, culture, fashion, cuisine (lots of recipes) as well as current news
- www.travel.state.gov/morocco—The US Department of State consular information sheet on Morocco
- www.maroc.net— a site directly from Morocco and includes digital postcards, train/bus/plane timetables as well as a way to download and listen to Radio Casablanca
- www.onlinenewspapers.com/morocco—read all the daily newspapers from Morocco online
- www.mar.eudel.com—website of European Commission in Morocco
- www.moroccodaily.com—yet another site to get daily news from Morocco
- www.amcham-morocco.com—the American Chamber of Commerce in Morocco
- www.wunderground.com/global/MC—get the current weather in Morocco
- www.britishcouncil.org/morocco—the British Council in Morocco
- www.embassy.org/embassies/ma—the website of the Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco in Washington, DC
- www.council.org.ma—website of the Morocco-US Council on Trade and Investment; it includes information on investment, trade and jobs in Morocco
- www.moroccointeriors.com—really cool website where you can buy Moroccan tiles and textiles

FOR SALE: "Ritual and Belief in Morocco" by Edward Westermarck. Two volumes, copyright 1968, with dust jackets. \$35 (includes shipping). Contact Mike Knudson at <kann2@uswest.net> or write to 422 Garden Drive, Bismarck, ND 58504.

Membership Renewal/Application

PLEASE NOTE: Prior to filling out this application, consider making a few copies to pass on to others. While many of our members are former Peace Corps Morocco volunteers, membership is open to anyone interested in the people, culture and development of Morocco.

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Current occupation: _____

Employer/school: _____

Experience in Morocco: (RPCVs and PC staffers list Peace Corps jobs. Academics: list field and research topics. Moroccans: list profession or field of study)

Years in Morocco: _____ to _____ Site/hometown: _____

Areas of interest: Check potential FOM activities in which you would be interested:

<input type="checkbox"/> newsletter	<input type="checkbox"/> local FOM chapter	<input type="checkbox"/> speakers' bureau
<input type="checkbox"/> trips to Morocco	<input type="checkbox"/> recruiting PCVs	<input type="checkbox"/> putting RPCVs/Moroccans in touch
<input type="checkbox"/> hospitality	<input type="checkbox"/> reunion/gatherings	<input type="checkbox"/> career/readjustment services
<input type="checkbox"/> fund raising	<input type="checkbox"/> development education	<input type="checkbox"/> FOM officer position
Other _____		

We need your support for the *Friends of Morocco Newsletter* and other FOM activities. Membership categories appear below. Joint membership includes membership in FOM and the National Peace Corps Association (NPCA). NPCA members receive the award-winning magazine *World View*, and the newsletter 3/1/61. NPCA and FOM dues and contributions are tax-deductible.

JOINT MEMBERSHIP IN FRIENDS OF MOROCCO AND NATIONAL PEACE CORPS ASSOCIATION

Individual	_____ \$40.00
Multiple (two people, one address)	_____ \$55.00

MEMBERSHIP IN FRIENDS OF MOROCCO ONLY

Individual	_____ \$15.00
Multiple (two people, one address)	_____ \$20.00

Additional contribution to Friends of Morocco (tax-deductible) \$ _____ (shukron!)

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED (make check payable to Friends of Morocco) \$ _____

CONTINUED ON REVERSE

friends of morocco

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We like to keep an update on our members. Please answer the following questions:

1. Briefly, what have you done since leaving Peace Corps? What are you doing now?

2. What projects or programs would you like to FOM involved in (either in the US or Morocco)? Can you help?

3. Which news features would or do you like in the FOM newsletter?

The information collected on this form will be used by FOM and will be made available only to those organization whose purposes are consistent with the aims of FOM. It will not be sold or traded for commercial purposes. The information may be used in the FOM Directory unless you request otherwise.

p.o. Box 2579, Washington, DC 20013-2579

New telephone numbering system in Morocco

In order to meet the increasingly growing needs for telephone numbers, the National Telecommunication Regulatory Agency has established a new numbering plan for fixed and mobile phone services. On October 13, 2000 the phone numbering system chanced from 6 Or 8 numbers to 9 numbers for local and long distance calls.

The new national numbering plan for the fixed network is based on a geographical division of the Kingdom of Morocco in 4 regions instead of 8 regions.

For international calls to Morocco, the caller will have to dial 11 numbers instead of the previous 10.

To call Morocco, dial 011 (international dialing access) + 212 (country code for Morocco) + the area code (see below) + new additional area code (see below) + 6-digit phone number.

<u>Region</u>	<u>Area code</u>	<u>New additional area code</u>
Casablanca	2	2
Settat	3	3
Marrakech	4	4
Meknew/Fes	5	5
Oujda	6	6
Rabat	7	7
Laayoune/Agadir	8	8
Tetouan	9	9

News from Morocco

45% of Pregnant Women and 35% Children Suffer from Iron Deficiency.

SALE - Health minister, Thami El Khyari, said here Tuesday, iron deficiency affects 45% of pregnant women and 35% of children. According to the minister who supervised the distribution of iron and vitamins donations said national statistics reveal that 22% of children aged between 6 and 12 suffer from goiter, with rates reaching 50 to 78% in mountainous regions, vitamin A deficiency affects 41% of children aged below 6, including 3% who suffer eye diseases. Statistics also show that 2.5% of children suffer from rickets. In view of these problems, the health ministry has prepared a nationwide program to eliminate Vitamin A deficiency and its effects and problems resulting from Iodine deficiency in newborns and reduce by one third anemia.

Ouarzazate center to dispense farming and handicraft training for disabled.

12/18/2000

The local "Afak" association for the disabled said it is setting up a training center to dispense farming and handicraft training for disabled persons. The center to be operated with assistance from the international France orphans association will prepare the handicapped for economic integration and help stop exodus towards

urban centers. It will also provide small credits to graduates to start small businesses. The center, said Afak secretary general, will be operated thanks to revenues coming from the hotel built in Ouarzazate catering for the needs of the disabled and meant to promote "tourism for the handicapped."

Morocco earmarks \$ 100 million for anti-drought struggle.

12/21/2000

Morocco has announced a \$ 100 million for the second phase of the national program to alleviate drought effects. The sum will be used to save livestock, digging water points and the purchase of seeds and

fodder. A severe drought has hit Morocco during the past two years, pushing the government to devise a \$ 650 million to curb the effects of the plague. Agriculture plays a key role in the Moroccan economy,

employing half of a 10-million workforce and contributing almost 20% of the country's Gross Domestic Product.

Moroccan official calls for IT generalization by 2002.

12/16/2000

Morocco's Secretary in charge of posts and information and telecommunication

technologies, Nasr Hajji, stressed on Friday night the importance of generalizing new information and communication technologies in Morocco in 2002. The official who attended the signing of an agreement on electronic trade between a Moroccan private school and the French University Lille 2 said Morocco will face three crucial dates: 2002 when new technologies should be generalized, 2005 date for Morocco to reach international standards and 2010 when all the country should improve its competitiveness in the field and fully integrate information society.

He also recalled three conventions were signed between the handicraft department and three enterprises for the promotion e-trade use by handicraft cooperatives.

Spanish Agency Funds 5 Health And Education Projects In Morocco.

RABAT - The Spanish international cooperation agency extended Morocco a donation worth \$400,000 to fund five health and education projects in Morocco, says a release of the agency. Funds will help revamp clinic lab and eye-care ward at the Rabat diagnosis center, laparoscopy unit and orthopedics ward in the capital's Ibn Sina hospital and back-up to alphabetization programs in Tetuan. The projects are financed in follow-up of

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

the works of the IV joint Moroccan-Spanish commission meeting last March 1-2 in Madrid.

Moroccan Dams Filled at 36.2%
12/21/2000

Moroccan dams were filled at 36.2 % up to last October 31, the equipment department said in its November newsletter. Some 5.05 billion cubic meters of water are stored in Moroccan reservoirs, the source said.

Moroccan teen sneezes 200 times a day

12/16/2000

A 13 year-old boy living in the Oujda suburbs, northeastern Morocco, sneezed 1,100 times in six days, an average of 200 times a day, shattering a quite unusual world record. The weekly "Gazette Du Maroc" reports that local MDs failed to diagnose the disease and were unable to prescribe drugs. The sneezing only stopped when the boy went to sleep and heavy doses of sleeping medicine were necessary to make him drowse.

Living cost index increases by 1.8% in October

12/21/2000

The living cost index increased by 1.8% compared to the previous month, says the statistics department in its latest newsletter. During the period extending between January–October.2000, variation rate of the index rose by 1.8% compared to the figure of last year, says the source. The variation is mainly due to foodstuffs whose index progressed by 3.8% while products other than non-foodstuffs saw their index slightly rise by 0.2%.

the ban amounts to institutionalised racism.

"It looks like the Moroccan authorities - at least the Ministry of Labour - don't want Berber names, especially historical ones, to be given to children.

"If you looked at the human rights charters, you would find that it is a violation of human rights to refuse names that parents would like to give their children. And to Berber militants this is a case of trying to completely eradicate any Berber heritage in Morocco," he says.

'Arab conquest'

In their cafes and conferences across the kingdom, Berber intellectuals like Hassan Ouzzat argue that Moroccans are facing a new Arab conquest.

"Little did they realise that the pan-Arabism based in the Middle East would expand in such fury to North Africa and result in this pan-Arab hysteria, trying to obliterate anything that is native to North Africa and especially its language," Mr Ouzzat says.

"This Middle Eastern movement generated a movement of culturally genocidal proportions. It is actually trying to subdue local identity in order to augment the numbers of so-called Arabs."

The authorities say Arabic has long been the dominant culture. They accuse the Berber movement of opposing standardisation and thereby disturbing national unity.

Unlike Algeria, the Berber movement in Morocco has been near dormant, but the struggle against Arabisation is now spawning a revival in Berber music so popular that even the authorities are finding it hard to ignore.

The Moroccan Prime Minister, Abderrahmane Youssoufi, recently acknowledged Berber culture as an essential ingredient of Moroccan identity. But he stopped short of lifting the blacklist on Berber names.

Berbers press for rights

From BBC News January 2, 2001

By Nick Pelham in Rashidia

Protests are growing in Morocco over the authorities' policy of Arabisation.

More than 60% of Moroccans claim to be Berbers - the original inhabitants of North Africa.

But four years ago, the government introduced new measures outlawing Berber names and restricting Berber children to approved Arab and Muslim names.

At a police station in Rashidia, a town deep in the Atlas mountains, Mohand checks the blacklist of unacceptable names for his new-born son.

The registry clerk tells him non-Arab names like Jurgurtha and Messina - Berber kings of the ancient world - are out. Hassan and Ahmed are in.

Jalali Saib, a leading activist and professor at Rabat University, says



Photo by Jay Clark as seen on morocco-today.com

Morocco in literature

Return to Childhood: The Memoir of a Modern Moroccan Woman by Leila Abouzeid (Modern Middle East Literatures in Translation Series by Layla Abu Zayd, et al.) Paperback (March 1999). Originally *Ruju 'ila Tufula*, 1993, Rabat. In the Arabic literary tradition, writes the author, "autobiography has the pejorative connotation in Arabic of *madihu nafsihi wa muzakkiha* (he or she who praises and recommends him or himself). As a result, the form is absent historically, and is an "imported genre" in modern Arabic literature. Nonetheless, Abouzeid, a leading Moroccan novelist, has written this brief account of her life to present "my own perspective about my country's reality." In doing so, she struck an unexpected chord at home: the original Arabic edition has become an instant best-seller in Morocco. Abouzeid's family was intimately involved in the revolution that won independence from French colonial rule in 1956, and her story sheds valuable light on her times.

Year of the Elephant A Moroccan Woman's Journey Toward Independence, and Other Stories by Leila Abouzeid, translation from the Arabic by Barbara Parmenter, introduction by Elizabeth Warnock Fernea, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, University of Texas at Austin [c1989]. Distributed by the University of Texas Press 103 p.; ill., map Includes glossary. SERIES: Modern Middle East literature in translation series. LC: 89062509 Class: PJ7806. 099. ISBN: 0-292-79603-X Paper \$9.95 and three added classics:

The Children of Morocco (The World's Children) by Jules M. Hermes Reading level: Ages 9-12 Paperback (March 1995) Carolrhoda Books; Gr. 3-6. After an introductory map section, Hermes tells the story of many different Moroccan children--nomadic Berbers, village dwellers, and city children from Casablanca, Rabat, and Tangier. Some of the children are living with families; others are on their own in cities. Children's contributions to the economy are explained in some detail, and Hermes supplies a respectful

treatment of Islamic culture. The color photographs are well chosen, presenting a combination of individual portraits and pictures of the children's surrounding world.

Culture Shock!: Morocco by Orin Hargraves Paperback (June 1995) Graphic Arts Center Pub Co; ISBN: 1558682414. Orin Hargraves, author of *Culture Shock! Morocco*, knows whereof he speaks. As a Peace Corps volunteer in that North African country in the early 1980s, he learned firsthand about the customs and culture in the Maghreb. Hargraves covers the bases with a basic but thorough overview of Moroccan history, geography, and politics. He delves into the psychological and cultural mores of the Moroccan people, from their attitudes about men, women, and family to their views on homosexuality, hospitality, and religion. The areas for potential misunderstanding between western visitors and Moroccans soon become clear, and Hargraves does his best to offer clear explanations of Moroccan thought and behavior. (*Editor's note: Buz, as we know the author of this book, served in El Hajeb from 1980-82*)

Street in Marrakech by Elizabeth Warnock Fernea. Paperback (November 1988) Waveland Press; ISBN: 0881334049. This is a reflexive account of an American woman and her family's unpredictable journey through the private and public worlds of a traditional Muslim city in the process of change. As a Western stranger in Marrakech, Fernea was met with suspicion and hostility. The story of the slow growth of trust and acceptance between the author and her Moroccan neighbors involves the reader in everyday activities, weddings, funerals, and women's rituals. Both the author and her friends are changed by the encounters that she describes. *A Street in Marrakech* is a crosscultural adventure, ethnographically sound, and written in an accessible style.

Your help needed

I'm translating a novel written by Francois Bonjean, published in 1963, set in Fes circa 1930. The book seems to have lapsed into obscurity and for that reason I'm not ready yet to reveal its title. When I have permission from the executor of Bonjean's estate to approach American publishers with the translation, everything will change. My conviction is that the book is a great novel and deserves translation. Also, given the increasingly cosmopolitan nature of people in the US, it could find a large, appreciative audience here.

I need help with the protocol of approaching publishers, information about royalties for an estate and a translator, and tips about agents, negotiations and all the rest. Contact Mark Kane at <MarkKane@worldnet.att.net>.

Writer of film "Casablanca" dies

From BBC News, January 2, 2001

Julius Epstein, the co-writer of the classic Hollywood movie

Casablanca, has died in Los Angeles aged 91.

He won an Oscar for his screenplay for the 1942 movie starring Humphrey Bogart, which he co-wrote with his twin brother Philip Epstein and Howard Koch.

He wrote 50 other screenplays, including *The Man Who Came to Dinner* and *The Strawberry Blonde*.

He was born in New York in 1909 and turned to screen writing after planning to become a sport journalist.

Known for his wit, Epstein once commented that the screenplay for *Casablanca* contained "a great deal of corn, more corn than in the states of Kansas and Iowa combined".

But he was always very modest about his achievements and once remarked that *Casablanca* became a classic film only after the death of Bogart in 1955.

His brother's death from cancer in 1952 devastated him but he continued to work as a screen writer.

Epstein died on 30 December at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, and is survived by his wife and a son and daughter.

American Legation in Tangier named one of top US historic sites abroad

From arabicnews.com, January 5, 2001

US secretary of state, Madeleine Albright, has officially included the American Legation in Tangiers, northern Morocco, on top of a list of seven most remarkable historic sites owned by the USA abroad.

Perched on the Tangiers hills, inside the walls of the old city, the site, that reconciles harmoniously the Moorish and Spanish architectures, was the first property abroad owned by the US government and used for a diplomatic mission, said Albright at a ceremony held on Thursday to officially announce the seven selected monuments. The legation was donated by King Moulay Sliman to Americans in 1821, part of the special Morocco-US relations incepted by the 1786 bilateral friendship treaty co-signed by John Adams and Thomas Jefferson and which is the oldest treaty ever signed by the USA with a foreign country, she added.

She went on that the Cap Spartel treaty, negotiated inside the American legation, reflects major international law principles and

is considered as the forerunner to documents that led to the creation of the Society of Nations and then the UNO.

Managed since 1976 by the Tangiers American Legation Museum Society, the compound now hosts an Arabic-teaching school, a museum of engravings, maps, rare books, paintings, parchments and other precious items testifying to 180 years of Moroccan-US diplomacy, she added.

The other six monuments selected for their historical, architectural and cultural values are the Schoenborn Palace (Prague), Margherita Palace and its twin villas in Rome, the American Legation in Seoul, the Talleyrand hotel in Paris (the US ambassador residence), the US embassy in Tokyo and Winfield House in London.

Albright said the inclusion of the seven sites in the list of important cultural monuments will contribute to develop the monument and give them more visibility and protection.

Contribute to Peace Corps Partnerships in Morocco

Peace Corps volunteers are invited to proposals for funding for projects in their countries. The following are proposals from volunteers in Morocco. If you are interested in contributing to one of these proposals, go to the Peace Corps website for more information on how to contribute and to get more details about the projects: (<http://lasso.peacecorps.gov/contribute/prjctlst.lasso>).

Town: Tagmoute
Project: Pour Flush Latrine Construction
Amount needed: \$3,135.28
Volunteer: Erin E. Olson
Home state: California

Town: Ammeln Valley
Project: Women's Training Center
Amount needed: \$7,065.00
Volunteer: Susan Joyce
Home state: Pennsylvania

Town: Al Bouiya
Project: Agricultural Cooperative Water Pump Project
Amount needed: \$7,700.00
Volunteer: Stephanie Lazar
Home state: New York

Town: Sidi R'Bat
Project: Women's Collective
Amount needed: \$6,459.00
Volunteer: Carolyn LaFontaine
Home state: California

Town: Amizmiz
Project: Children and Young Adult Lending Library
Amount needed: \$2,475.00
Volunteer: Joseph Lewis
Home state: Wisconsin

Teach about Morocco on Peace Corps Day

March 1, 2001 is Peace Corps Day. Special events on that day include classroom visits by thousands of returned Peace Corps Volunteers in schools across the country, sharing their experiences and insights with students in all grades.

Each year on Peace Corps Day, thousands of returned Volunteers mobilize to share with our nation's students the knowledge and insight they gained from their overseas experience. But Peace Corps Day is only the beginning ...many educators and returned Peace Corps Volunteers establish educational partnerships that continue throughout the year. For more information contact: Peace Corps, 1111 20th Street, N.W., 2nd floor, Washington, DC 20526, (800) 424-8580, press 2 then ext. 1961. e-mail: pccday@peacecorps.gov

The FOM website also has ideas for your Peace Corps Day experience. Go to: <http://home.att.net/~morocco/PCDay.htm>



Are you still an FOM member?

Take a look at the mailing label below to see if you are a FOM member in good standing. Membership in Friends of Morocco brings you, in addition to all issues of our newsletter, special mailings announcing the annual meeting, reunions, seminars and special Moroccan arts and craft showings. Membership also brings you the satisfaction of contributing to the goals and aims of Friends of Morocco. At least once a year we do a system-wide mailing to keep our address database accurate and to give people the opportunity to join us. This is one such mailing,

Join us for our national convention with the biennial convention of the National Peace Corps Association celebrating the 40th Anniversary of Peace Corps in September 2001. See <http://www.rpcv.org/pages/celebrate.cfm> for details.

NPCA and the Washington, DC RPCV group will bring the returned Peace Corps volunteer community to Washington, DC for a national conference. It will focus on the social innovations of RPCVs, provide up-to-date reports on the countries where Peace Corps has served, advance NPCA programs in international and domestic voluntary service, examine current American engagement abroad, and honor those volunteers who died during their Peace Corps service.

If you have not paid your membership dues of \$15.00 (individual) annually in the Friends of Morocco, please consider doing that now. We appreciate any additional contributions and recognize special contributors in the Friends of Morocco newsletter.



اصدقاء المغرب

Friends of Morocco Newsletter is published quarterly by the Friends of Morocco and is circulated to its 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 is \$15 annually. FOM is governed by a nine-member national advisory board. Mailing address: Friends of Morocco, P.O. Box 2579, Washington, DC 20013-2579. For further information, contact president Tim Resch at 703-660-9292 or by email <tresch@worldnet.att.net>.

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