

Algerian Arabic Translation:

ع: كاين سيدي بلعباس، سيدي بلعباس هذه لمدينة هذه معروفة ب يعني فيها الزوي بزاف يعني الزويا و حفظ القرآن و يعني الدين، كاين بزاف يعني الطريقة تانيك. يعني الطريقة هذه كشغل قريبة من الصوفية و الناس تماك ما شاء الله، يتعلمو القرآن و يحفظو القرآن و كلش. كيما في تلمسان و كيما في يعني في وهران بصح كتريية يعني مي تروحي لتلمسان ولا سيدي بلعباس. أنا كان عندي يعني العايلة تاعي كان راجل خالتي الله يرحمه كان عندهم زاوية كيسموها زاوية بالقاييد. معروفة، معروفين العايلة هذه و عندهم الزاوية كنت نروح مي كنت في الصيف خطرات مي رحو لسيدي بلعباس نرحو بالك شهر ولا و نرحو لزاوية هذه و عندك يعني في النهار ولا في الليل يديرو شغل و عدة و يتلمو قاع يعني حفاظ القرآن يعني الشيوخ يكونو يعني مجتمعين كامل في زاوية وحدة. يعني الزاوية هذه تلقى شغل جامع، جامع بالزرابي و كلش و عندك بيت الوضوء يعني الواحد يتوضأ و فيه حفظ القرآن و فيه يعني الواحد يتعلم امور الدين يعني الاسلام.

English translation:

A: Sidi Bel Abbés is a city known to have many *zawaya*¹ where people learned the Qur'an by heart and—I mean, and the religion. There is also *tourokia* and *tourokia* is sort of similar to Sufism and the people there, *ma sha' Allah*², study the Qur'an and memorize it. This is the case in Tlemcen and Oran, but for the most part in Tlemcen and Sidi bel Abbés. My aunt's husband (may Allah be merciful to him) had a *zawiya* and it was called *zawiyat* Bel-Kaid. It is well-known and the family is known for their *zawiya*. I used to go to Sidi Bel Abbés in the summer and spend a month or so. I would go to the *zawiya*. During the night or day, they have a gathering for the people who have memorized the Qur'an or the sheikhs in the *zawiya*. The *zawiya* is almost like a mosque; it has carpets and a place to do ablution. It also has space for Qur'an learning and for learning different aspects of the religion, Islam.

¹ *Zawaya* is the plural of *zawiya*: a house owned by a religious scholar where people come to learn Qur'an and other aspects of Islam. A *zawiya* is very different from a mosque.

² *Ma sha' Allah*: Praise God (literally: "What Allah willed"): An Arabic expression generally used when mentioning a personal attribute or event which is considered a blessing, such as a person's beauty or the birth of a baby. The traditional sense is to protect what is being complimented from the "evil eye" by attributing the source of the blessing to God.

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