

The
WORDS
of My
FATHER

Love and Pain in Palestine

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Originally published in the United Kingdom in 2018
by Haus Publishing.

FIRST U.S. EDITION

Map by Martin Lubikowski

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data
has been applied for.

19 20 21 22 23 LSC 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Glossary

Aboi	How one refers to one's father when he is not present
Al-Aqsa	The third holiest site in Islam, located in Jerusalem
Allahu Akbar	God is great
Al Rasheed Road	A road that runs the length of the Gaza Strip along the coast
Amr Diab	Popular Egyptian singer
Amreeka	"America" in Arabic
Azan	Islamic call to prayer
Dayenu	Traditional Jewish song sung at Passover
Eid	Muslim Holidays. There are two: Eid Al-Fitr which comes at the end of the holy month of Ramadan and lasts for three days, and Eid Al-Adha which comes in the twelfth month of the Islamic calendar and lasts for four days
El Yahood	The Jews
Erez Crossing	Border crossing located at the north of the Gaza strip and controlled by Israel
Fajir	The first of the five daily prayers offered by Muslims; during Ramadan it marks the time to start fasting
Falafel	A deep-fried ball made from ground chickpeas, fava beans, or both
Fanous	Lamp or light used in Ramadan

GLOSSARY

Fattoush	Bread salad made from toasted or fried pieces of pita bread combined with mixed greens and other vegetables
Feseekh	Traditional Egyptian fish dish made of fermented salted and dried fish
Freash	A slang term for the flat cushions used for seating on the floor
Gatayef	An Arab dessert commonly served during the month of Ramadan
Goa'uld	A symbiotic race of ancient astronauts from the television franchise <i>Stargate</i>
Gush Katif	Former Israeli settlement in the Gaza Strip
Halal	Meat from animals slaughtered according to Islamic dietary laws
Hassidim	Ultra-orthodox Jews
Hoy hoy	Slang term used to downgrade someone in a teasing way
Hummus	A dip or spread made from cooked and mashed chickpeas blended with tahini, olive oil, lemon juice, salt, and garlic
Iftar	The evening meal when Muslims end their daily Ramadan fast at sunset
Insh'Allah	"God willing" in Arabic
Jalabiyyah	Traditional Arab garment
Kaboria	A male haircut style that circles around the head leaving the top part uncut while the lower part is completely shaved
Kadima	"Let's go" in Hebrew
Kalandia	Checkpoint near Ramallah in the West Bank, controlled by Israel
Kanoon	Brass brazier
Kazem	A well-known ice cream maker in Gaza
Keffiyeh	Traditional Middle Eastern headdress
Khan Younis	A city in the Gaza Strip

GLOSSARY

Kishk	A delicacy made from drained yogurt which is then dried
Kosher	Food prepared according to Jewish dietary laws
Laban	Yogurt
Mamoul	Small shortbread pastries filled with dates, pistachios, figs, walnuts, or almonds
Maqlouba	Traditional dish that includes meat, rice, and fried vegetables placed in a pot which is then flipped upside down
Mashe	Arabic street word for “OK?” or “sounds good?”
Mazboot	“Right?” in Arabic slang
Merkava	Israeli-made tank
Nuseirat	A city in the Gaza Strip
Oskoot	“Shut up” in Hebrew slang
Rafah	Southern city of the Gaza Strip
Rafah Crossing	Southern exit from the Gaza Strip to Egypt and the world
Salah al-Din Highway	The main highway that runs the length of the Gaza Strip and crosses into Israel in the north at Erez and into Egypt in the south at Rafah
Shahada	The Islamic Creed, one of the Five Pillars of Islam. “There is no god but Allah; Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah.”
Sheikh	A title that commonly designates the chief or head of a tribe, family, or village, who inherited the title from his father; this also often serves as a title for Islamic clerics
Sitie	Term used to refer to a grandmother
Sufra	Traditionally low table, tray, or cloth used for dining

GLOSSARY

Suhoor	The meal consumed before sunrise during Ramadan
Surah	A verse from the Holy Quran
Tabeeh	A stew
Tabbouleh	A salad made of tomatoes, finely chopped parsley, mint, bulgur, and onion, seasoned with olive oil, lemon juice, and salt
TOEFL	Exam testing English language ability of non-native speakers
Yaba	Term used to address one's father, which can also be used by a father to address his son
Yama	Term used to address one's mother