

KWADRU Nru 10

IN-NEWWIEHA (1)

META KIEN IMUT XI HADD, SKOND IL-MEZZI TAL-FAMILJA, KIENU JIKRU N-NEWWIEHA JEW BIKKEJA. DAWN KIENU JMORRU F'DAR IL-MEJJET, U BHALA WIRJA TA' DISPJACIR U VISTU, KIENU JAQILBU L-BOROM U L-KZAZEL, BIEX GHAL TLITT IJIEM MA JSIRX TISJIR FID-DAR, JIGBRU N-NIGRUFUN MINN MAL-BOROM U L-KENUR, U JHAMMGU FEJN HEMM DEKORAZZJONI BIZ-ZEBGHA. KIENU JAQTGHU FRIEGHI MID-DIELJA BIEX TISSIMBOLIZZA T-TELFJA TA' MEMBRU TAL-FAMILJA. JEKK IKUN HEMM ZIEMEL, KIENU WKOLL JAQTGHULU L-LANZIT TA' DENBU. INKWATRI KIENU JITNIZZLU, SIGGIJET U BANKETTI JINQALBU, U XI GARAR JITKISSRU, KOLLAX BHALA VI STU.

PAINTING No. 10

HIREN MOURNERS (1)

ON THE DEATH OF A MEMBER OF A HOUSEHOLD, IT USED TO BE THE CUSTOM TO HIRE WOMEN TO CRY OVER THE DEAD, THEIR NUMBER DEPENDING ON THE FINANCIAL MEANS OF THE FAMILY IN MOURNING. THESE USED TO BE DRESSED IN BLACK, AND ON ENTERING THE HOUSE OF THE DECEASED THEY TURNED OVER THE POTS AND PANS SO THAT FOR THREE DAYS THERE WOULD BE NO COOKING. THEY COLLECTED SOOT FROM AROUND, AND SOILED PAINTWORK IN THE HOUSE. THEY BROKE SOME JARS, DISPLACED CHAIRS AND STOOLS, REMOVED WALL PICTURES. BRANCHES FROM THE GRAPEVINE WERE SNIPPED OFF DENOTING THE LOSS OF A HOUSEHOLD MEMBER, AND IF A HORSE WAS PRESENT ON THE GROUNDS, ITS TAIL WAS CUT OFF.