KWADRU NRU 12

IT-TBAHHIR TAD-DAR

FILL-GIMGHA TA' L-GHID IL-KBIR, KIENET TINDAQQ IL-GLORJA, NHAR IS-SIBT. WAQT ID-DAQQ TAL-QNIEPEN KULHADD KIEN ICEKCEK IHABBAT U JAGHMEL HSEJJES OHRA, FID-DAR, BARRA, FILL-HWIENET U KULLIMKIEN. FOST DAWN, OMMIJIET LI KELLHOM TRABI SE JITILQU JIMXU, KIENU JITTANTAW IWAQQFUHOM FUQ SAQAJHOM. UKOLL XI OMMIJIET KIENU JAHARQU FTIT WERAQ TAZ-ZEBBUG MINN HADD IL-PALM, U JIMXU BIH MAD-DAR KOLLHA, JIBDEW MINN FUQ U JISPICCAW ISFEL, WAQT LI JGHIDU XI GEKULATORJI, BIT-TFAL JIMXU MAGHHOM. DAN IT-TBAHHIR, GHALKEMM KIEN ISIR F'SENS RELIGJUZ, KIEN DRAWWA PAGANA BBAZATA FUQ SUPERSTIZZJONIJIET FEJN KIEN HEMM IL-FEHMA LI JITKECCEW L-ISPIRTI HZIENA JEW L-HEKK IMSEJHA GHAJN HAZINA.

PAINTING No. 12

FUMIGATION

THE BURNING OF HERBS AGAINST ALL EVEL USED TO BE PREVALENT ALL OVER THE ISLANDS, BASED ON PAGAN BELIEFS AND SUPERSTITION AIMED AT HEALING THE ILLS OF HUMANS AND ANIMALS, AGAINST EVIL SPIRITS AND EVIL EYE. ALTHOUGH CHRISTIANITY TOOK OVER AS THE LOCAL RELIGION, FUMIGATION CONTINUED IN A MODIFIED FORM. MANY FAMILIES USED TO FUMIGATE THEIR HOME ON EASTER SATURDAY WHEN THE CHURCH BELLS RANG THE 'GLORIA' . THEY BURNT SOME OLIVE LEAVES OBTAINED FROM PALM SUNDAY CEREMONIES, AND WHILST THEY PRAYED, WENT ROUND THE HOUSE TO RID IT OF EVIL.