KWADRU Nru 18

IL-QUCCIJA

META KIEN IMUT XI HADD, FL-ANTIK KIEN HEMM DRAWWA LI TAL-FAMILJA U QRABA JILTAQGHU FUQ IL-QABAR, U JITQASSAM XI XGHIR U IKEL IEHOR LILL-FOQRA U DAWK PREZENTI. DIN KIENET TISSEJAH QUCCIJA. IZDA META DIN ID-DRAWWA SPICCAT, TAL-FAMILJA KIENU JILTAQGHU F'OKKAZJONIJIET OHRA, UKOLL TAHT L-ISEM TA' QUCCIJA, U WAHDA MINNHOM KIENET META XI TARBIJA TAGHLAQ SENA, L-AKTAR FL-IBLIET. KIENU JGHAZLU OGGETTI LI GHANDHOM X'JAQSMU MA VOKAZZJONIJIET, XOGHOL U SNAJJA DIFFERENTI, U JARAW X'TAQBAD MINNHOM IT-TARBIJA. GHALKEMM BHALA LOGHBA, KIENU TAPARSI JARAW X'VOKAZZJONI KELLHA IT-TARBIJA. HAFNA OGGETTI KIENU JKUNU RELIGJUZI, BIEX JIZGURAW HAJRA LEJN HAJJA QADDISA, TA' QASSIS JEW SORU, JEW GHODOD GHAS-SENA' TA' MISSIERHOM.

PAINTING No. 18

VOCATION GAME

AS PART OF FUNERARY RITES, OF THE PAST, FAMILY AND RELATIVES USED TO ASSEMBLE AT THE GRAVESIDE AND GRAINS WERE DISTRIBUTED TO THOSE PRESENT AND ALMS TO THE POOR; THIS OCCASION WAS TERMED 'QUCCIJA'. WHEN THIS CUSTOM WAS DISCONTINUED, THE SAME TERM WAS RETAINED TO REFER TO OTHER FAMILY OCCASIONS, AS WHEN A CHILD WAS ONE YEAR OLD, ESPECIALLY IN CITY AND TOWN. SOME OBJECTS REPRESENTING VARIOUS TRADES AND OCCUPATIONS WERE SET OUT IN FRONT OF THE CHILD. THE OBJECT SELECTED WAS SUPPOSED TO PREDICT THE CHILD FUTURE VOCATION. THE OBJECTS OFTEN WEIGHED HEAVILY TOWARDS RELIGIOUS CALLING OR FATHER'S TRADE.