

الأمثال الشعبية الفلسطينية

Palestinian Popular Proverbs

KEY:

Capital letters for Arabic strong letters (D,T,...) and double letters for long vowels (aa,oo,...)

Group 1:

● "El-faaDi yekhli lal-malyaan."

The empty gives the way to the full.

● "E'mal ma'roof wermi fil-baHar."

Do good and throw it in the sea.

● "Ya Haafir jouret el-saww ya waaqe' feeha."

This who digs an evil hole will fall into it.

● "Jaarak el-qareeb wala akhook leb-'eed."

Your close neighbor is better than your faraway brother.

● "Ed-daar daar aboona wajo el-ghorob yeT-Hoona."

The house is our father's and the strangers came to kick us out.

● "LaTHTHaalim yowm methel daqq eththowm."

There will be a day for the oppressor when he will be crushed like garlic.

● "Laa tishrab min beer o tirmy feeh Hajar."

Do not drink from a well and throw a stone into it.

● "Ead waHdha maa betSaffeq."

One hand can't clap.

● "Ma beqTa' er-raas illa illy rakkabo."

Nobody will cut a head off except the One who put it on.

● "Doqq el-baab qabil ma todkhol."

Nock on the door before entering.

● "Ma boHroth el-arD gheir e'joolha."

Nobody will plough the land except its cows.

● "El-jaahil 'adoww nafsoh."

The ignorant is his own enemy.

● "ES-Sadeeq waqt eD-Deeq."

A friend in need is a friend indeed.

● "Illy beHeb maa bekrah."

The one who loves does not hate.

Source:

Barghouthi, A.: "The Role of Folklore in the Process of Socializing Palestinian Children", *Society & Heritage*, **24**: 19, al-Bireh, Palestine (July 1994).

Group 2:

● "Koll 'ein o elha naTHrah."

Every eye has its look.

● "El-'ein mabte'laash 'an el-Haajib."

The eye does not get over the eyebrow.

● "El-maktoob 'ala el-jabeen laazem etshoofol 'ein."

Whatever is written on the forehead is always seen.

● "El-wejh elly betSabHoh, keef elak 'ein etqabHoh."

You will not dare mistreating the face you see in the morning.

● "El-'ein elly btoakel."

The eye is the one that eats.

● "ET'am eththim, testHyl 'ein."

If you feed the mouth, the eye becomes shy.

● "El-'ein baSeerah wel-eid qaSeerah."

The eye sees, but the hand can't reach.

● "Gheeb 'an el-'ein, betgheeb 'an eThThehen."

Away from the eye, away from the mind.

Source:

From the Archive of Popular Proverbs, *Society & Heritage*, 24: 54, al-Bireh, Palestine (July 1994).
