



Welcome to
MOROCCO



Enrichment Study Tour – Morocco, 2012

July 8 - 23, 2012

Sponsored by:



Ministère de l'Intérieur - Maroc
Ambassade du Maroc aux États-Unis

Arranged by:



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Introductory information

The World Affairs Council mission is to promote international awareness, understanding and connections through multifaceted programs. With the support of the Moroccan Ministry of Interior and the Embassy of Morocco to the US, WAC is organizing a study trip to Morocco for ten North Texas educators and administrators. They will explore the cultural dimensions of Morocco through educational workshops, travel, and community events. The Portrait of Morocco program will support curriculum development that emphasizes 21st century skills and promote collaboration between American and Moroccan educators.

Program coordinator

Dr. Ahmed Yanouri is a native of Berkane, Morocco, where he grew up and received his early education. He then moved to Rabat where he got his bachelor's degree from Mohamed V University, in 1983. Soon after that, he moved to the USA to pursue his graduate studies. In 1990, he graduated with a PhD in Molecular Biology from UNT & TWU in Denton, Texas. In 1993, he went to become an entrepreneur, as he ventured into the business world and started up few businesses in different sector of the economy including medical, hospitality, food, and import export.

Despite his busy schedule, throughout his professional career and during his school years, Mr. Yanouri always gave a lot of his time to volunteer work and has been an active member of many non profit organizations.

In 2009 Mr. Yanouri became a board member of DFW World Affairs Council and was the 2010 WorldFest board coordinator. He played a major role in bringing the "Moroccan Village" to Addison and making WorldFest, the reputable international festival a great success in the 2010 and 2011 editions.

Projet summary

This Study Tour in Morocco will give the American educators the chance to develop a broad appreciation for the history and Arabo-Islamic culture of the Kingdom of Morocco whose friendly relations with the United States date back over 200 years. More specifically, the participants will focus on issues related to areas such as Education, Politics, languages, civil society, Women issues as powerful traditional and increasingly contemporary forces in Morocco. It is expected that the various site visits and the information provided by the highly-qualified speakers/guides while travelling will be carefully integrated into the academic curriculum of the American schools.



List of participants

Tamara Haddad is the Arabic language teacher at Central Junior High School in the Hurst-Euless-Bedford ISD. She is an active member of a number of educational associations and organizations.

Summer Wiese has worked at North Mesquite High School for six years where she has taught US History, World Geography and is the current AP World History teacher. She is also the sponsor of the Academic Decathlon team, a nationally recognized competition.

Bev Smith is the Social Studies Curriculum Specialist for Lovejoy ISD. She teaches World Geography and AP European History at Lovejoy High School as well. As a school district administrator she develops and manages the secondary social studies curriculum for the district. In 2006, she was named the Texas Council for the Social Studies Middle School Teacher of the year and in 2012.

Rosie Rojas is a World Geography teacher at Birdville High School in North Richland Hills, Texas. She earned her bachelor's degree and teacher certification from University of North Texas.

Karen Haley teaches World History, Geography. She is the sponsor of the African Awareness Club, the Rising Starts Program and the 'All-School Read Committee. Karen is a leader in her school and she was voted the 2008 Outstanding Teacher of the Year.

Nicole Vickerman is the World Geography Team Leader at Clark High School in Plano, Texas. She is the co-writer and a teacher of Plano ISD eSchool's online geography course.

Anna Sifford has been a teacher at Garland High School for five years. In 2006, she earned her MA from Seton Hall University (South Orange, NJ) in Diplomacy and International Relations.

Craig Pavlue currently teaches English Language Arts and Creative Writing at J.J. Pearce High school in Richardson, TX. Additionally, He graduated from Beloit College (Beloit, WI) in 2002 with a B.A. in literary studies and creative writing.

Emily Sherwood teaches World History, US Government and Politics, and will be preparing students for the Advanced Placement exams in each discipline. Emily Sherwood earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a minor in History from the University of Oklahoma.

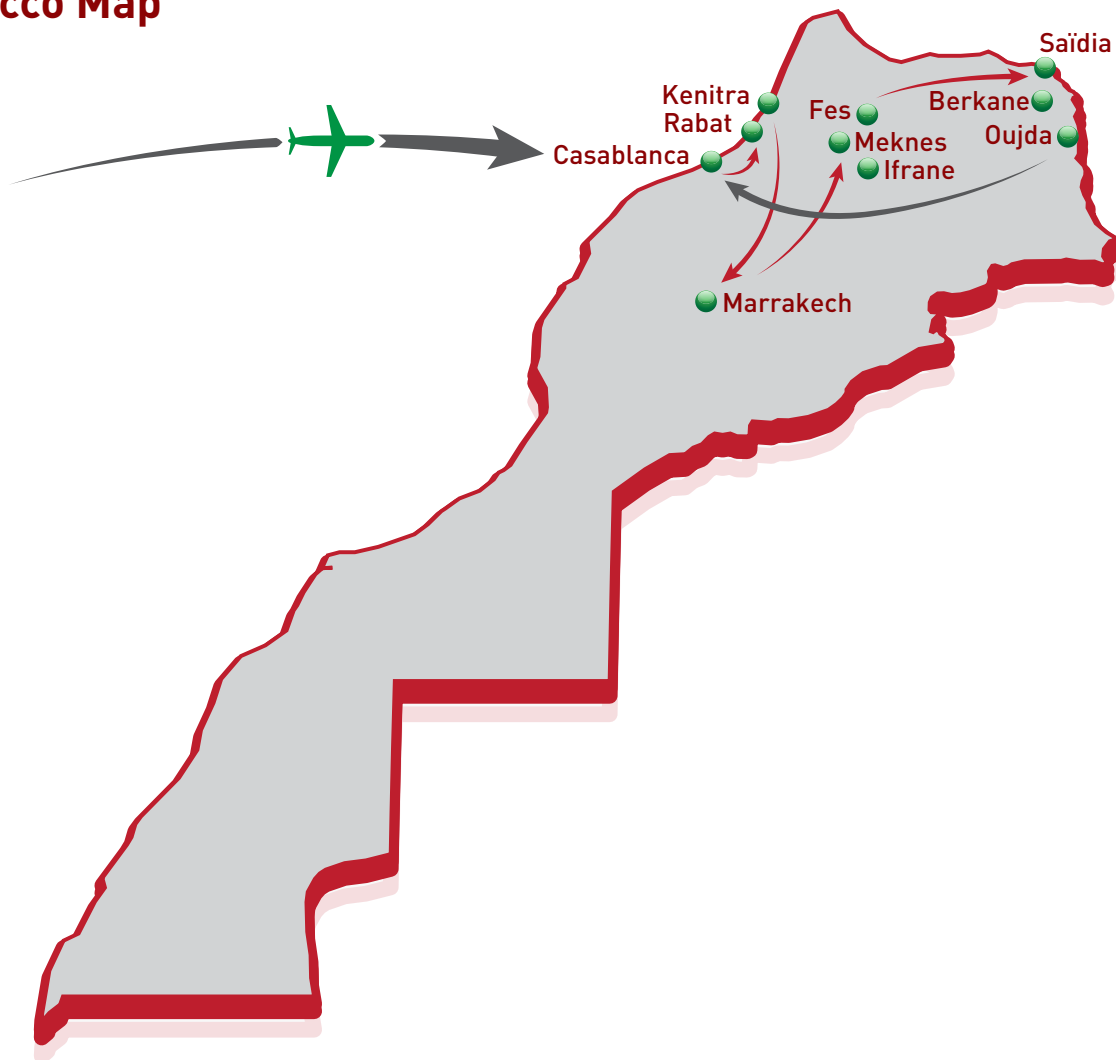
Steven Howell is the Lead World History Teacher at L.V. Berkner H.S. Richardson ISD. He was the 2010 Social Studies Teacher of the Semester Award. In 2007 he was Recognized by the 80th Texas Legislature for the Richardson ISD Capital Scholarship Program.

Program calendar

July 8- July 23, 2012

Sunday 8 Project opening welcome brunch	Monday 9 Casablanca "Economy & Media"	Tuesday 10 	Wednesday 11 Rabat & Kenitra "Government institutions, Education, interfaith dialogue"	Thursday 12 	Friday 13 	Saturday 14 Marrakech "History, tourism..."
Sunday 15 Marrakech Balance of tradition & modernity"	Monday 16 Fes, Meknes & Ifrane "Religion, Women, Multilingualism"	Tuesday 17 	Wednesday 18 	Thursday 19 Saidia, Oujda & Berkane "Border relations, Soufi Islam, Agricultural Hub"	Friday 20 	Saturday 21
Sunday 22 Depart Casablanca	Monday 23 International Departure Casa- New-York					

Morocco Map

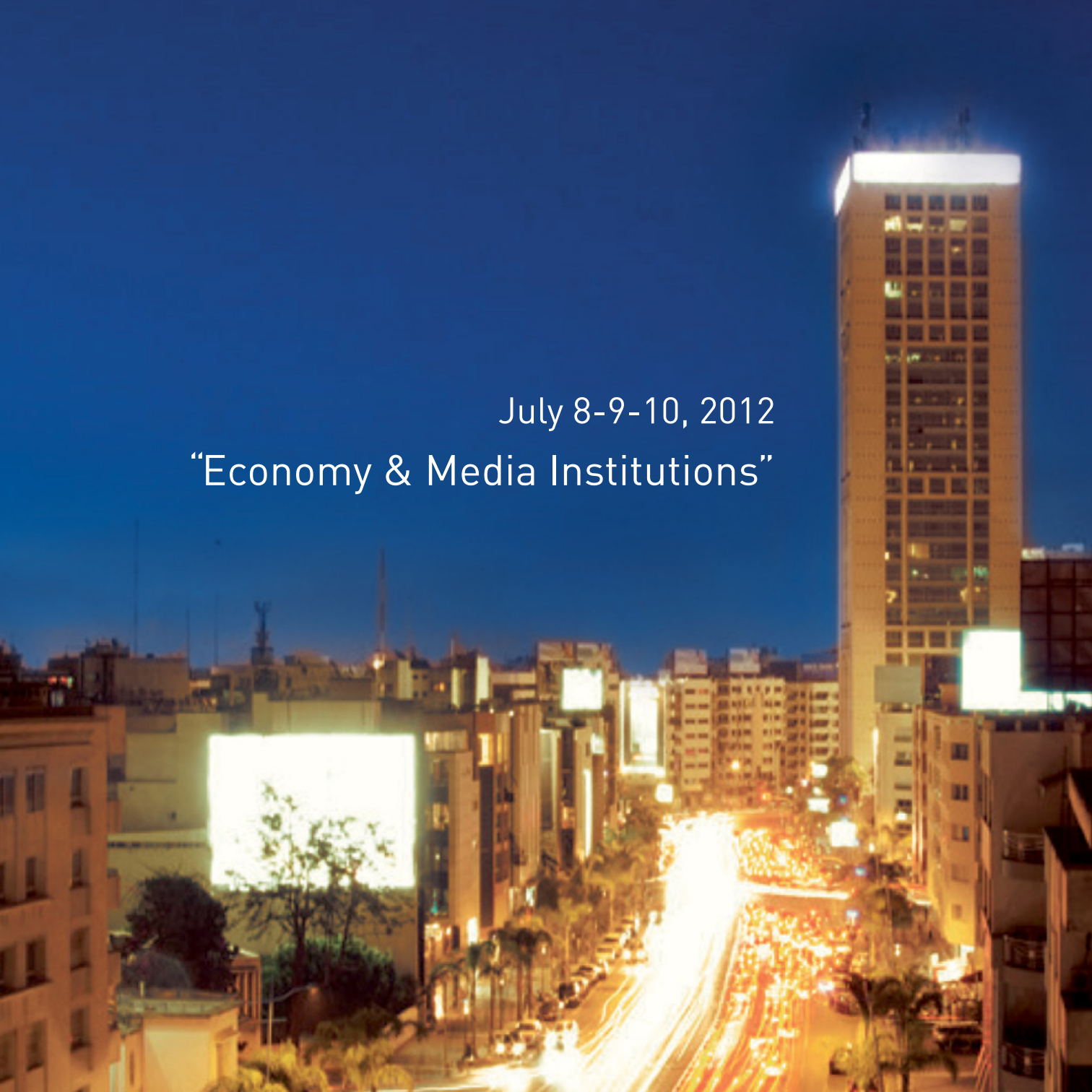


The image shows the Hassan II Mosque in Casablanca, Morocco, at night. The central minaret is the focal point, illuminated with a warm yellow light that highlights its intricate geometric patterns and arched windows. The minaret is topped with a green and white dome. The main body of the mosque is also illuminated, showing a series of large, arched niches along its facade. The sky is a deep, dark blue, providing a stark contrast to the bright lights of the building. The overall atmosphere is serene and majestic.

Casablanca

Casablanca, Morocco's largest city as well as its chief port, is also the largest city in the Maghreb. This modern city on the Atlantic is a starting point for visitors flying into the country. The central portion of the city is a treasure-trove of art deco buildings and Casablanca has superb restaurants. With well over 3 million inhabitants, Casa is far and away the economic and financial capital of Morocco.

July 8-9-10, 2012
“Economy & Media Institutions”



July 8

9:25 International arrival. Participants are met by a Moroccan representative and invited to a Moroccan traditional brunch. Then, depart to the Hotel to check in. The hotel is well located for visiting downtown Casablanca. Please refer to your orientation packet for information and suggestions on restaurants, shops, and tourist attractions.

17:30 Overview of Program/Itinerary, Dr. Ahmed Yanouri, Tour Director.

July 9

9:00 Presentation on Morocco Economics, by Attijariwafa Bank,
Visit to the trading room,
Meeting with Moroccan officials and business leaders.

14:30 Visit of the IMA (Institut des métiers de l'aéronautique), and an aerospace company.

18:00 Guided Tour of Casablanca. Hassan II mosque, Mohamed V square, United Nations Square, the league of Arab States Park.
This special tour will introduce you to the economic and financial capital of Morocco. You will visit important historic sites. At the conclusion of your tour, you will be driven back to your hotel. You are free for the remainder of the day.

20:30 Welcome Dinner, Moroccan home hospitality.

July 10

- 9:00** Meeting at Dar America for a presentation “The U.S. Cultural Mission portfolio in Morocco” by Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Mission in Morocco.
- 10:30** Meeting with Moroccan journalists, attend presentation on: “The Influence of Independent Media on The Democratic Process In Morocco”, Coffee and refreshments will be served before the presentation.
- 12:30 –14:30** Lunch with “challenge” journalist at “la Scala”.
- 15:00** You have an appointment with: Ms. Meriem Bensalah chaqroun.

Ms. Meriem Bensalah chaqroun is the president of the General Confederation of Moroccan Enterprises (CGEM), she also co-leads Holmarcon, one of Morocco’s largest private conglomerates, with businesses ranging from bottled mineral water to wheat and grain trading, real estate and tourism. To reach the official post of second in command at the group, Ms Bensalah Chaqroun, who completed her studies in France and the US, worked her way up, starting as an assistant manager at a family-controlled bank. She took the company into new areas, including starting the first private airline and creating a chain of wheat and grain silos.

- 16:00** Sightseeing and depart to Rabat.

Rabat & Kenitra

The political capital of Morocco, Rabat has a significant architectural heritage ranging from the kasbah of Oudaya, the minaret of the mosque Hassan (12th century), and the Roman city and medieval necropolis of the Chellah. Central Rabat was entirely planned as a colonial city under the personal hand of the first Governor-General of the French Protectorate, Maréchal Lyautey.



July 11-12-13, 2012

“Government Institutions,
Education, Interfaith
Dialogue”



July 11

- 9:00** Presentation on Moroccan Educational System
Dr. Wael Benjelloun, President of Mohamed V University, Rabat
Dr. Mohamed Melouk, Professor at Mohamed V University, Rabat.
- 10:30** Presentation on Moroccan Political System and Tour of the Parliament by
Dr. Abdelilah El Abdi, Faculty of Law, University Mohamed V.
- 11:30** Visit to the Moroccan parliament and meeting with members of the parlement.
- 15:00** Visit to a special need school in Rabat.
- 16:30** Guided Tour of Rabat: Chellah, Hassan Tower, Mausoleum Mohamed V, The Royal Palace neighborhood and downtown Rabat.
- 20:00** Dinner/Discussion around Human Rights in Morocco & the Arab World in light of the Arab Spring.

July 12

- 9:00** Meeting with Mr. Mustapha Elkhalfi, Minister of Communication.
- 10:30** Presentation on Moroccan Arts by Writer Youssef Amine El Alamy.
- 11:30** Visit to the Art Museum of Bank Al Maghrib, Rabat.
- 12:30** Lunch with Amina Guellida, an active High School teacher of English who taught at Sierra High School, Tallhouse, CA. Presentation follows on “Comparison between the U.S. and the Moroccan High School”.

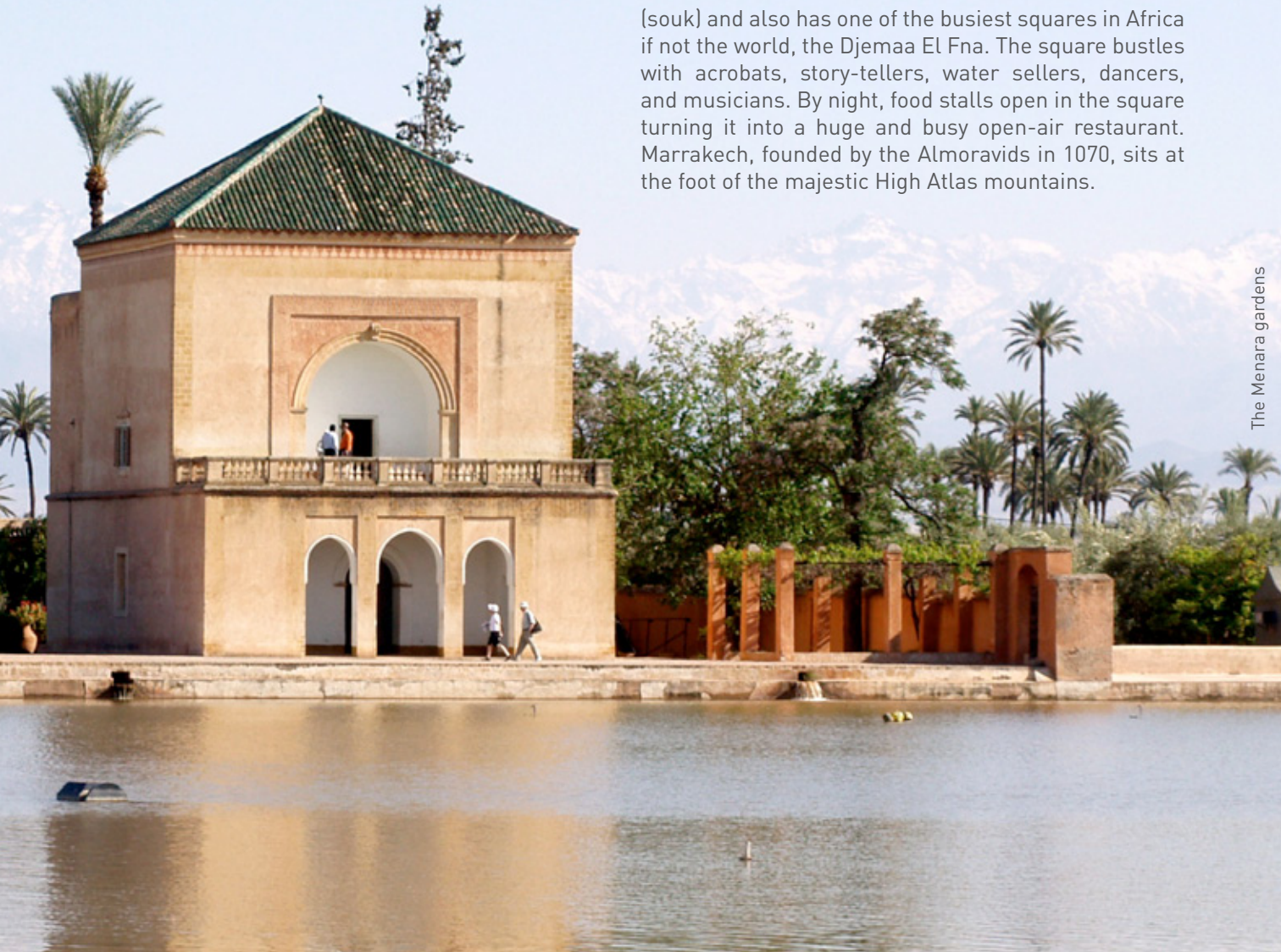
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- 15:00** Meeting with Officials from the US Embassy in Rabat.
 - 16:30** Visit to Universite Internationale de Rabat.
 - 18:00** Walking tour to the Medina, Rue des Consuls, and Kasbah of Oudayas.

July 13

- 09:00** Meeting with the English department of Ibn Tofail University and discussion of “The role of educational institutions in Interfaith and Intercultural Dialogue”
Dr. Mariam Ait Ahmed.
- 11:30** Reception and Meeting with the Mayor of Kenitra and city officials.
- 12:30** Visit to Kenitra touristic sites followed by lunch with Mr. the Mayor and members of the city council.
- 15:30** Meeting with Mr. Aziz Rabbah Minister of Equipment and Transport.
- 16:30** Visit to an English school in Kenitra and meeting with teachers and students
- 17:30** Depart to Marrakech.

Marrakech

Marrakech is a combination of the old and the new Morocco. Marrakech has a vast traditional market (souk) and also has one of the busiest squares in Africa if not the world, the Djemaa El Fna. The square bustles with acrobats, story-tellers, water sellers, dancers, and musicians. By night, food stalls open in the square turning it into a huge and busy open-air restaurant. Marrakech, founded by the Almoravids in 1070, sits at the foot of the majestic High Atlas mountains.



July 14-15, 2012

History, Tourism, Balance of Tradition & Modernity

July 14

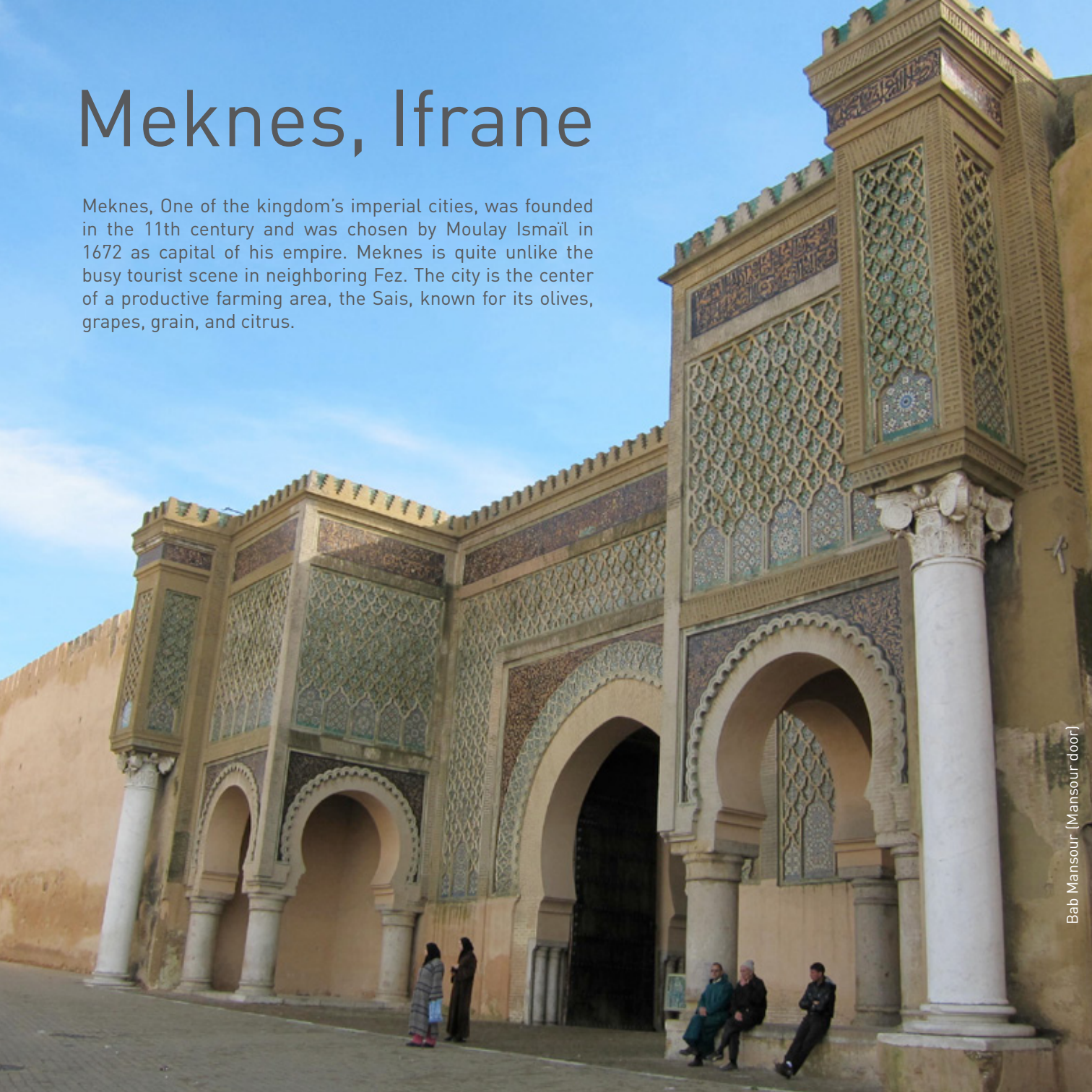
- 10:00** Overview on «The History of Morocco til 1912». Presentation by Dr. Ahmed Radi, Cadi Ayyad University.
- 20:00** Dinner at Chez Ali, comes with a bouquet of folkloric show, fantasia and Moroccan music.

July 15

- 10:00** Visit the Koutoubia Minaret, the Saadian Tombs, the Bahia and the Badie Palaces. Tour of the medina and markets.
- 16:00** Visit Yves Saint Laurent's Majorelle Gardens and The menara Gardens.
- 20:30** Dinner at Jamaa El Fna, enjoying the open air-theater of artists.

Meknes, Ifrane

Meknes, One of the kingdom's imperial cities, was founded in the 11th century and was chosen by Moulay Ismaïl in 1672 as capital of his empire. Meknes is quite unlike the busy tourist scene in neighboring Fez. The city is the center of a productive farming area, the Sais, known for its olives, grapes, grain, and citrus.



July 16-17, 2012

Ancient Civilizations, Amazigh Indigenous Culture

July 16

6:00

Depart to Meknes.
Tour of imperial city of Meknes.
Lunch discussion : Meet with Ms. Bouchra Zouakia, High School teacher in Meknes.

15:00

Informal meeting with Dr. Mohamed Hatimi on “Muslim-Jewish relations in Morocco”.

17:00

Visit the archaeological site of the Roman ruins at Volubilis. And drive to Fes to spend night.

July 17

8:30

Depart to Ifrane.

9:30

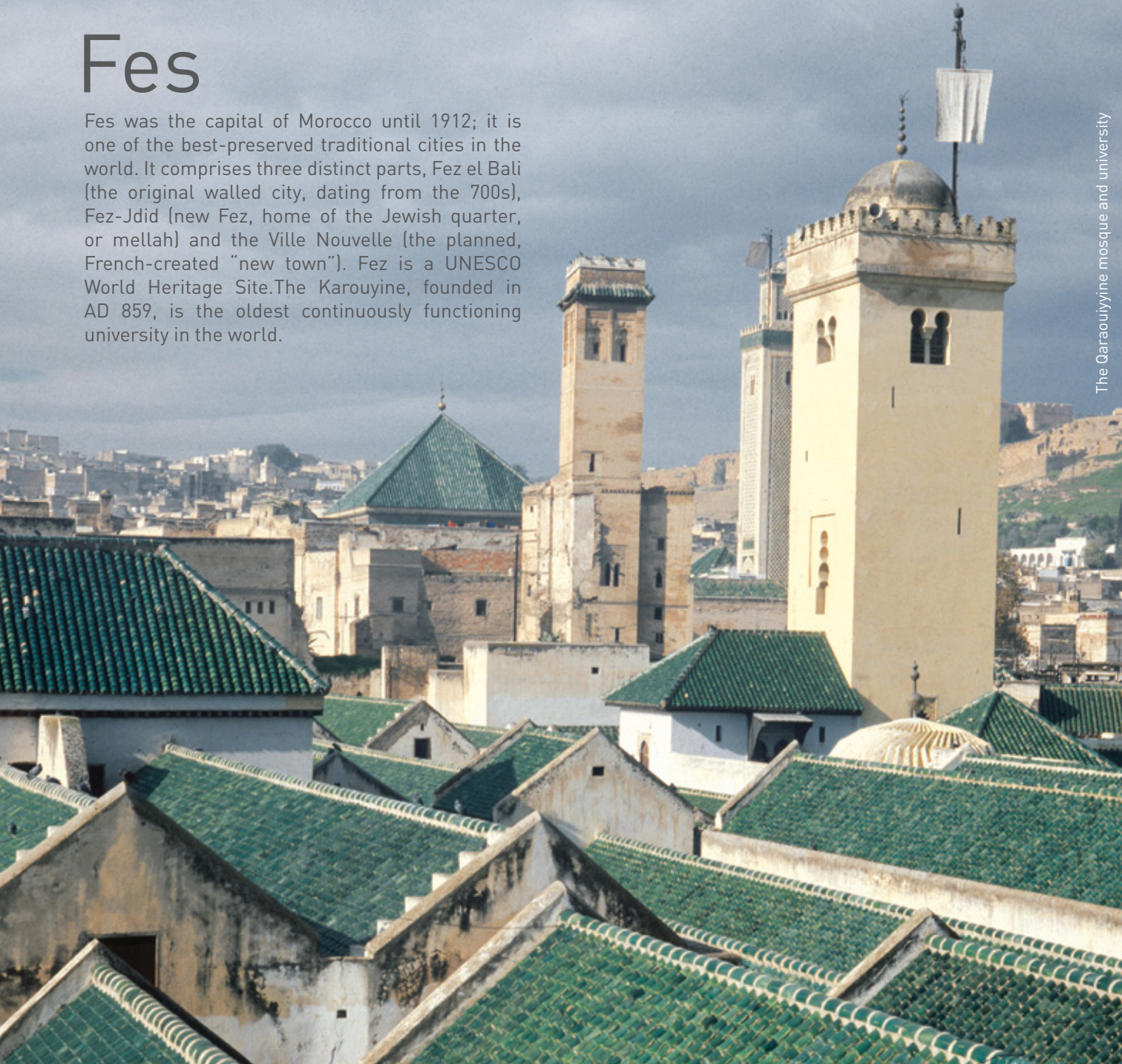
Presentation on Amazigh History & Culture, Dr. John Shoup, Al Akhawayn University.

11:00

Presentation on Al Akhawayn University’s role in environment Protection and Renewable Energies in Morocco.

Fes

Fes was the capital of Morocco until 1912; it is one of the best-preserved traditional cities in the world. It comprises three distinct parts, Fez el Bali (the original walled city, dating from the 700s), Fez-Jdid (new Fez, home of the Jewish quarter, or mellah) and the Ville Nouvelle (the planned, French-created “new town”). Fez is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Karouiyine, founded in AD 859, is the oldest continuously functioning university in the world.



The Qaraouiyine mosque and university

July 17-18, 2012

Religion, Women, Multilingualism

July 17

- 15:00** Depart to Fes for sightseeing.
- 19:00** Dinner/discussion with Moroccan graduate students on Muslim/Arab Women in Arab Society.

July 18

- 10:00** Presentation by Dr. Fatima Sadiqi on Moroccan Women: Triumphs and Challenges at The Center for Arabic and Islamic Studies (INLAC).
- 11:30** Presentation by Dr. Moha Ennaji on Multilingualism in Morocco at INLAC.
- 16:00** Tour of the old Fes.

Saidia, Oujda, Berkane



July 19-21, 2012

Border Relations, Soufi Islam, Agricultural Hub

July 19

- 8:00** Depart to Saidia, known as “the blue pearl” for its crystalline water, and golden sand beach that extends over 14 Km.
- 13:00** Lunch on the beach.
- 16:30** Depart to Oujda.
- 18:00** Visit to CERRSO (Centre d’étude et de recherches humaines & sociales).
- 18:30** Reception.
- 19:00** Presentation: “Western Media and the Politics of Otherness” Mohamed Elkouche Professor of English language and literature at the University Mohamed I.

July 20

- 10:00** Presentation on “Morocco: The Neighbor” a look into Moroccan relationships with Spain, Algeria and The Moroccan Sahara as a major bone of contention. By Dr. Khalid Chiat Professor of International Relations and Law at the University Mohamed I.
- 16:00** Sightseeing tour of the medina of Oujda.

Berkane

July 21 is the first day of the holy fasting month of Ramadan when you will be invited to visit the Zaouia Boutchichia, a prominent Moroccan Sufi brotherhood.

Berkane area is known for its well developed agriculture sector and for producing the best clementines in the world. We will visit few farms and and surrounding touristic sites.

Iftar/Dinner in Berkane :

Dinner to break the fast on the 1st day of Ramadan with a Moroccan family.

Rabat

Sunday, July 22

- 16:00** Visit to SNRT (Societe Nationale de Radio et Television).
- 17:00** Round table with members of : «Association Marocaine pour le Développement et la Diplomatie» led by its President Karima Ghanem.
«forum des cadres de la SNRT» led by its President Driss Drissi
- 19:30** Farwel dinner hosted by Mr. El Abadila Malainine, prominent Saharaoui leader and President of Fédération des Chambres des Pêches Maritimes.

Monday, July 23 Depart to New York & then Dallas.

Hotel summary

Casablanca

Hôtel Idou Anfa

85, Boulevard d'Anfa. 20000
Téléphone : +212 5 22 200 235
Fax : +2125 22 200 029

Rabat

Hôtel Rihab

45 Avenue Moulay Ismail, Rabat
Téléphone : +212 5 37 704 834
Fax : +212 5 37 723 622

Marrakech

Hôtel Atlas

Avenue Mohammed VI, Hivernage.
Téléphone : +212 5 24 339 900
Fax : +212 5 24 433 308

Fes

Hôtel Pick Albatros

Avenue des FAR - Boite Postale
Téléphone : +212 5 35 930 909
Fax : +212 5 35 941 011

Saïdia

Oriental Bay Beach Saïdia

Zone touristique Saïdia - 60600
Téléphone : +212 5 36 630 063
Fax: +212 5 36 630 102

Casablanca

Atlas Aéroport Casablanca

Casablanca Mohammed V Airport
Téléphone : +212 5 22 539 040
Fax : +212 5 22 539 051

SEE YOU
NEXT YEAR