

## Glossary

**al hamdu lillah:** thanks be to God.

**Allah:** God.

**boujehayesh:** a nickname for jahesh, meaning mule.

**duba:** a hyena

**gouleh:** A fabulous desert monster that devours human flesh.

**Hajj:** The pilgrimage to Mecca which is the last of the five duties of Islam - an obligation for every Moslem with necessary means and health.

**hajji:** one who performs Hajj

**hammam:** a public bath.

**huweja:** a fertile island in the Euphrates River near Deir Ez-Zor

**ifreet:** a demon or spirit from the Djinn world.

**insi:** a human being created by God from clay.

**iqtai:** a land owner.

**jallekh:** a rectangle stone used to sharpen the knives before killing the sheep.

**jinn:** invisible beings created by God out of fire - they can be good or evil and appear to humans in many disguises.

**khan:** an inn

**Mecca:** the Holy City of Muslim Pilgrimage in Saudi Arabia

**moukhtar:** a mayor.

**muzanara:** referred in this book as the family's traditional food.

**nisnuses:** very tiny.

**qadi:** the judge who settles disputes in an Islamic court of justice.

**soba:** a heating stove

**tanour:** a bread oven made of mud.

**Tete:** Grandma

**Umeh:** paternal aunt.

**wazir:** A Minister or a Court Adviser.