Il Gilju u il Warda.

jeu

Il Conti Ruggieru.

Dramm storicu Patriotticu ta
Galea Carmelo S.C.

f'4 atti u prologu.

Proprietà riservata

24 5 1920.
Sliema.

Epoca 1090.

Il Gilju u il Warda.

Dramm storicu patriotticu.

Personaggi.

Il Conti Ruggieru d'Altanella (vi) Guerrier
Nicol Ghabdul fizial fl'armata Gharbija
Gianni Ghabdalloh Signiur Malti.
Maria Ghabdul xebba oht Nicol.
Ahu Fazarah Emir ta Malta u Ghaudex.
Hanama Mirilai General Torc.
Patri Gualtieri Provincial Agostinjan.
Mufti Hagg tal Mecca. Ghama min Mahda.
De Martin Captan tal bahar.
Hammuda, Ahmed, Elhasan — Agoss (A) fil'Armata Gharbija. (ufficioli).
Aga Irsir isued tall'Emir.
Irsiera ohra, suldati Gharab, suldati Maltin u poplu li ma jitchelmux.

N.B. Id-dramm jisvolgi ruhu.
Prologu fil Moschea fir-rahal ta Ghaudex, l'ewwel att fil palazz ricc tall'Emir ma gemb il Moschea f'Ghaudex. It-tieni att fir-ramla ta Ghaudex ma gemb il convent tall'Agostiniani. It-tielet att fix-xtut ta Malta. Ir-rabgha Att fuh l'gholja Xiberras (Sant'Irmu) Malta, ihares ghal port il-cbir ta Malta.

L'autore riserva tutti i diritti di questo dramma sia la rappresentazione riproduzione e traduzione per tutti i paesi. "Galea Carmelo. Salesiano

Il Warda u il gilju.

Jeu

Il Conti Ruggieru.

Dramm bi prologu u erbgha atti ta Carmelo Galea C.S.
Daqqa ta harta fil Moschea.

<u>Prologu</u>.

Fl'ahhar jum tar-randan manzul ix-xemx.

<u>Scena I</u>.

Il Mufti uahdu.

Mufti: (Kiat bil wikfa ma gemb wihed miccniser bit-tambur fidu icecchek u jghajjat chem jiftah.) Ramadam!.. Ramadam!.. Ramadam!.. Allah hua chibir u Mohammed hua il gbir Profeta tighau! Allah! Illah! Allahu! Mohammed razul, Allahi. (Icecchek dejjem it-tambur) Ramadam!Ramadam! Ramadam! Allah! (Jibda jghamel hafna tislim kuddiem il mehrab) Ilolhu ilcoll mighi.

<u>Scena II Musica</u>.

Il Mufti, Hammuda, Ahmed, Elhasan, u gharab ohra.

Hammu: (Jithol mix-xellug leuuel wihed jakla il papoċċ mir-rigleih u ipoggieh uara il bieb. Uaraih jithlu Ahmed, u Elhasan u jamlu listess. L'gharab l'ohra jithlu mil bieb tal-lemin, inehhu il papocci phal ta kabel u ipoggiu-hom aura il bieb.) Icun imbierec Allah u il Profeta tighau Maumettu.(Din il chelma jir-repetugha l'ohrain colla jinslu gharcupteiom kuddiem il mehrab u jiffurmau nofs kamar ghaun jifthu il koran (il ctiep) li giebu il choll mahhom u ipoggiuh fl'art kuddiemau miftuh.)

Mufti: (Jiftah il koran tighau u jibda jghakra.) Icun Imbierec ir-Ramadam, Ramadam, Ramadam.

L'ohr: (jakbdu isallu bideiom ittnein ibaxxu rasom
Colla: sal art u jibdeu jghaidu uara il Mufti ghal tliet darbiet.) Icun imbierec ir-Ramadam, Ramadam, Ramadam.

Mufti: (Dejjem jahra fuk il koran) Allah!

Colla: (Iuegbu chelma b'chellna mighau) Allah!

Mufti: Illah!

Colla: Illah!

Mufti: Allahu!

Colla: Allahu!

Mufti: Mohammed Razul!

Colla: Mohammed Razul!

Mufti: Allahi!

Colla: Allahi! (Dan il cliem jghaiduh fil uakt li kedin isallu il hin collu kuddiem il mehrab.)

Mufti: Kumu issa hbieb tighau, il ghaliex Ir-Ramadam spiccia ghalec tistghau tmorru tieclu u tixorbu chemm tridu, chif ucoll id-dokku u tisfnu, (l'ohrain ikumu colla) Imma irrid li kabel tohorgiu min din il gemgha, nakralcom biccia mil Koran tal Profeta Maumettu, dac li b'ghageb tad-dinja colla kabat il kamar mil-lgholi tas-sema u xehtu fil comma tighau, nakralcom il koran sabiex tibkalcom tifchira, u Allah ibierec diarcom. Dejjem ghandcom takrau il koran li halla mictub Muhammed, u katt ma ghandcom ticsru id-din tighau! Insibu mictub u imnakkax fil gebel illi il cbarat thana hadu taht ideihom daun il gzeijer ta Malta u Ghaudex ghaliex chienu marru il Mecca u talbu bil kalb l'-Allah..... f'dan is-senduk jinsabu merfughein ir-reliqui ta Mohammed. (Jiftah il caxxetta u jibda igib illehja il bandiera u issinna) Daun nista immissom jena biss bhala Kaddis u Mufti, Arauh lil Maumettu se jghamel ghageb

(johrog mactur min geuua hobbu) Arau dan il mactur.... dan min geuua ideja seijer jehdu il profeta u ma jidirx izjed (Jitfa il mactur fil caxxetta fein poggia ir-reliqui) Dan il mactur tala fis-sebgha sema u min hemm ma jargiax jigi. hlif meta jitbiddel il kamar.

Colla: Taijeb is-sahhar! Taijeb il kaddis!

Mufti: Mela raituhom il-lehja u is-sinna ta Maumettu li gibuchom ghaun ghal ftit xur min geuua l'Africa. Issa halli inhallilcom it-tifchira. (Jakra fuk il koran) Ma hemx hlif Allah wehed u il Profeta tighau Mohammed. Ftacru fit-tmiem id-dinja; il profeta ighaid."Ghad tarau il kamar jinkasam fi tnein u hec....illi id-dinja tispiccia; il hziena imorru jinharku u jibdeu jeclu minnom is-sriep u it-taibin imorru fil Harham fuk is-sebgha sema fein icunu imlibsin il hueijeg tas-satin l-actar sbieh u jeclu frottijet l'actar taibin u kabel jiffriscan ruhhom bl'ilma tal ghadaijar tal Profeta u jinhaslu bl'imbit,halib u ghasel, icollom fissema ghaijun u gionna bl'isbah uard u hemmec isibu zeug nisa b'ghaineihom sued u sidiron tal Alabastru li izommu eliem mahhom l'actar helu u icunu b'gharaijes tat-taibin colla". Gal-lum salam, ghada nergghau nintakau. (l'ohrain iuigbu colla) (salam). (Allura jargiau ibaxxu rasom sal art kuddiem il mehrab imorru jehdu il papoccu jitilku.)

Scena III.

L'Emir u ta kabel colla.

Emir: (Jithol fil uakt li l'ohrain colla icunu hergin. Allura ifittex li izommom) Stenneu ftit (Ghal chelma tal Emir l'ohrain colla jekfu u jistendu ideijom it-tnein l'ein l'Emir b'att ta tislima) Int ja Mufti sahhar, ghandi bzonn it-talb tighac ghax ghada chemm uaslitli ahbar min ghand il kadi ta Skallija.

Hachem ta Catania, fein kalli li il Conti Ruggieru dahal geuua Skallija u ked jakbat collox taht ideih; compla igheidli li il Conti ghandu hsiebli uara li jehu Skallija colla jibka gej biex jehu lil Malta u Ghaudex. Itolbu lil Allah u lil Imkaddes Profeta tighau Maumettu biex jehlisna min dan il jasar! Oh!Allah cbir!Isa malair ja Mufti, fittex iftah dac is-senduk u miss bideic ir-reliqui tal Profeta halli jatina il ghainuna!

Mufti: O cbir Emir u kaddis, issa ghadni chemm tlabt fuk is-sinna u il lehja ta Maumettu kuddiem daun li tara colla.

Emir: Seuua, int tasseu Mufti u sahhar taijeb. Inti kaddis. Itolbu, itolbu intcom ucoll kuddiem ilMehrab, sabiex Allah jiscansana mil Conti Ruggieru Allah, chibir. (Jixtehed u ibaxxi rasu sal art kuddiem il mehrab l'ohrain colla jintefau mil gdid fl'art isallu.)

Mufti: (Bi Hrara gbira ta sacerdot) Chibir, chibir, chibir Allah!(Jhaijat phal wihed indannat.) Insalli ghax-xemx,ghal cuiecheb u il kamar tighec!.. (Jinzel fl'art u isalli mal ohrain jibda ihum u jghokod u jghajjat lil'Allah u sahansitra jibda jghamel il cutrumbaisi.)

Emir: (Ikum l'ohrain jghamlu pghalu) la tibzghux xein, jec id-destin tghana hua li ghana immutu f'xi taktigha immutu ad-din tghana, u is-smeuuiet icunu miftuhin ghalina, naksmu lis-shab nifirku ix-xemx u nimxu fuk il kamar u il quiecheb. Allah hua cbir, jekred l'ghadu il musulmani, xandru dejjem bl'armi u innirin il Koran tighau, ighid Allah. Issa culhad jghamel il hila tighau sabiex nirbhu bl'insara,dauc li ghandom id-din tahhom tal clieb! Dauc li ma jemnux bil profeta tghana Maumettu. Ghad irid jigi il jum tal hakk u Allah jixhetom fid-dlamijet ta dejjem. Jena nahlef fuk is-sinna u il-lehja ta Mohammed li ahna inciarcru id-demm tal insara colla

Skallin u Maltin, li ma iridux jemnu bid-din tghana! (Jghamel riverenza gbira kuddiem il Mehrab, l'ohrain colla jghamlu phalu imorru jehdu il papocc u jitilku min fein dahlu.)

Mufti: Allah hua imdadar ghalina, sejjer jilfa fukna il killa tighau! Mur ara, mur ara, x'gej fukna. (Jitlak jigri il barra phal imbazza)

Scena IV.

Nicol Ghabdul uahdu.

Nicol: (Ix-xena tipka ghal ftit voita umbat jithol inchissijit ihares ma cullumchin) Xi cliem tad-dahk semghau daun widneja! X'rau daun ghaineja! Leuuel darba li thalt fil gemgha tal gharab..... izda kabel xein min jaf inix uahdi ghaun geu? Jen bhala Malti Nisrani ma nistax nithol fil cnisia tal Maumettani, marridc li chiecu ninkabat ghax ghandi hila niehu xi ghoxrin dakka saut min ghand dac il chiefer ta Hanama. (Ihares taijeb ma duaru). Milli nara ma ghaun hatt... jena geit ninheba ghaun geu ghax deherli li rait fil bghod lil Mirilai Hanama bi tliet agass mighau u rid niscartah; ilu imkabbat mighi min dalghodu donnu chelb irrabiat. Erhilu jimbah u ikarmec snienu! Hua sa ftit ilu chien ihobbni u bil hila tighau li jin ilhakt agass fl'armata tighau arbija , izda issa sar jobghodni, sirna kisna chelb u kattus. .... Dahhal f'rasu illi irid izzeuueg ma ohti Maria, u jen uegibtu li katt ma jista icun li ahna il Maltin nithaltu mal Musulmani ... ma chienitx chelma, beda iberrak ghaineih ikarmec snienu; u jitfa rauua min halku, jin ghal chemm ma nibzax min delli, fittixt li nitbighed minnu... umbat ohti Maria kisa Anglu sejra tiehu lil wihed snienu barra phal ta iljunfanti u wicciu imkatta collu gidri? Le, le,

il gbija tighau tchixchixni, u ohti Maria jista icun li takbel Mal Ghamel tal Maumettani? U jidrilhom li hadt phalom ma jati geih L'Alla; ma tismax min fommom hlief li isejhu clieb lil insara, min jiflah igerrahha din il chelma? chem indumu ahna il Maltin u Ghaudcin mishukin taht riglein il Musulmani? Sa fl'ahhar jasal il jum tal hena! Kabel ma thalt haun geu jena cont kighad nissamma min hdein il bieb ta barra u derli li smait lil Emir ighid:"Nitolbu lil Allah ghalix uasal Skallja il Conti Ruggieru" jibza forsi li jigi ghal Malta u Ghaudex... din ia ix-xeuka tighei, dac li dejjem nitlob lis-sema, li jigi dac l' Anglu jehlisna mil jasar tal gharab u mil barbarismu tahhom.... Izda meta jigi?.. Jecma imurx xihadt u ighaidlu fix ninsabu f'daun il gzeijer tghana.. u ghalix ma immurx jin stess inkawwilu kalbu dac issaratur sabix jigi jifdina? jena Nicol Ghabdul li katt ma ktait kalbi min xein ma ghandix hila immur sa geuua Skallia bil mohbi tal gharab? ... Iva din tcun il weghda li jena nghamel; li nifdi lil paijisi. (jinzel gharcupteih) O Sinjur ehles nitolboc lil gzeijer tghana min taht idein daun innis li kedin jghamlu hafna deni geuua id-diar tighac sabiex incun mezz li nifdi lil paijisi. (Jipka gharcupteih b'uicciu bein ideih).

Scena V.

Mirilai Hanama u Nicol Ghabdul.

Mirilai: (Jithol fuk ruhu, ghaineh imberkin jobrom il mustacci jghati dakka fuk spallein Nicol, Nicol jinkata u ikum jigri.) U int ucoll ja agass tinsab f'din il gemgha tghana tfahhar il Maumettu.

Nicol: La katt ma icun, jin infahhar biss lill bin

David. *Sil Eisu Nazzarenu.*

Miri: Inti tinsab imkarrak ja Agass, ma hux gieh tighac li tipka mas-setta tal clieb insara hem bzon li tgharaf lil Maumettu u tinsa darba ghal dejjem id-din tighac.

Nicol: Katt, o gbir Mirilai, u ara chif titchellem fuk l'insara.

Miril: Mela iftah ghaineich Ghabdul li ma tibkax tirfes fuk din l'art imkadsa bdauc irriglein tighac ta nisrani. Cun af li jec jin nghaid nofs chelma lil kadi inti tiehu issuat u titcheccia min agass.

Nicol: Jecc nitcheccia ghahiar ghalia Mirilai.

Miri: Chif?! Dan hua il gieh li kiat tatini?! Uara li lahhaktec agass fl'armata tighai, daks chemm ghamilt ghalic, daks chemm habbeitec, ecc twigibni.

Nicol: Naf iva (ironicu) jin inzomm ruhi phala kaddei fidil tighac,jin nipka nafulec.

Miri: Mela ecc, ara Nicol chemm inhobboc, inti phala nisrani ma tistax ankas tirfes fuk il ghadba ta din il gemgha, chiecu jin irrid, ghandi isseta li insejjah lil Mufti u jahraklec rigleic bil katran, izda bejnitna collox seuua, bil patt biss li tatini dac li tlabtec, jin ghat irrid min agass inlahkec rajes,izda katt tichadli ittalba li ghamiltlec dalghodu u sa ftit ilu, li inti izzeuuegni lil ohtoc Maria.

Nicol: Mirilai, ghadec dejjem b'din il femgha?

Miri: U nipka sa chemm immut.

Nicol: (Uahdu min taht ilsien) inxerred demmi collu u dana ma icun katt.

Miri: Jin naf ghalix int ma tridx izzeuuec l'ohtoc mighi ghax ghanda lil dac l'ghani Malti ta Gianni Ghabdallah hux tasseu?

Nicol: Xein inkas, ommi u missieri gia tghauh lil Maria phala gharusa tighau.

Miri: Daca ma jod xein, il kauua ta Allah tista thassar collox dakka ta xabla u collox jisseuua.

Nicol: Dakka ta xabla?.........biex gei dana issa? ...... Xi irid ighaid?.....

Miri: Dalghodu kall li ra lil Gianni Ghabdallah diehel fuk lixpruna tighau fir-ramla ta Ghaudex, int li mighau hops u sikkina taf fein icun, mur, sibu, u oktlu.

Nicol: (quasi imueruer) Xi cliem li iqahhax il hsib bis kiat iueriurni.. Nakta ir-ras tal habib tighai Gianni?....Dac izzazuh tant fuk ruhu li ohti Maria tghaix colla chem hi ghalih. Le ja Mirilai.

Miri: U jin nghait iva, inchella chif tridni inlahhec Raijes? Umbat ftacar ucoll li iena kied nistenna unuri ohra.

Nicol: Hallini, hallini minnec Mirilai. (jahbat sejjer)

Mirilai: (Izommu) Haun Nicol Ghabdul, jehtieg tghamel dac li ghattlec, ftacar li jena fukec,malair incheccich min agass, u nista nghamillec xi hagia ohra ucoll....

Nicol: (Jaf xi Hanama jitbazza, umbat jghamel sforza) Hemm bzon li nghamel hilti bla ma nintelah.

Miri: Naf Ghabdul li inti bniedem ta hila, izda jena irrid nisma min fommoc xi hagia... hsibta jeu ma nghamillec isem hazin mal Hachem li inti thalt tmakdar il gemgha ta Maumettu.

Nicol: Le ma noktlux u issema ma iridx min jghamel hsara lil ghairu. Leuuel ruhi umbghat il gid tad-dinja.

Miri: Ghal-lahhar darba, ftacar illi jina mahbub mil kadi ta Malta u Ghaudex u sahansitra min dac ta Catania u ghal nofs ta chelma min tighai inti mux biss ma tilhakx Raijes izda titcheccia mil armata Arbia sechna ohtoc Maria, il Maltin u l'ghaudcin colla min jaf xi isir minnom, ŭegibni toktol lil Gianni?

Nicol: Katt u katt ja sidi, ghamel minni dac li trid.

Miri: Mela hu li hakkec ja bin il chelb (Itih dakka ta harta) Sa ghada ohtoc Maria tcun misruka, umbat dur Malta u Ghaudex u xarrab it-torok tahhom biddmuh biex issiba. Salam ja bin il chelb. (Johrog)

Nicol: (Ghal din id-dakka ta harta jipha scantat.) lili? jghajarni bin il chelb? U jatini dic id-dakka ta harta x'inu li zammi jecc mux il hsib li jena nisrani u il ghandi nahfer, mil phia diraija chienu iterkulu ghadmu!... Ghedidni li ghandu jisrak lil ohti u il icheccini min agass... Icheccini mitt darba izda lil ohti l'ankas isimgha f'halku marrid nisma, anzi issa jena stess immur ghand il Hachem u naidlu li marridx nokot izied fl'armata Arbia. U jecc naf li demmi inxerdu katra katra biex nifdi lil pajjsi nitlah ghal Skallija u immur nithol Ascar mal Conti Ruggieru bil hsieb li ingibu haun sa biex jifdi lil art tuelidi min taht idein il Misilmin. (Icun sejjer u jigi milkuh min Hammuda, Ahmed,u Elhasan.)

Scena VI.

Hammuda, Ahmed u Elhasan u Nicol.

Hamm: (Jithol leuuel wihed ghal fuk Nicol uarai Ahmed u Elhasan) Salam ja agass! Offi ghalic tas-seu li ghaun geu mux kghad li fih nit-hattu u nirfsu din l'art bix-xet geuua ri-gleina fein jinsabu irreliqui ta Maumettu, izda chien uisk xirak ja agass Ghabdul li nigiu nifirhulec bdic iddakka ta harta li chellu hila jatic il Mirilai tghana Hanama.

Nicol: Marx ucoll min fuk jiftahar u ixandar l'-ghamil hazin tighau?

Ahmed: Ghadna chemm intkaina mighau jobrom il mustacci u ifakka iddahk, chiecu rebah xi rebha Ha, ha, hai.

Nicol: Ma chienx hsieb li nithol haun geu.

Elhasan: Int Nicol Ghabdul li Malta u Ghaudex jiftahru bil hila gbira tighac, tghokod ghal dakka ta harta u ma slitx isseif u hsad bieh ras Hanama? Jin nait ghalia hena gbira cont ingiarrab daks chemm hua imkarkac u ihobb jahkar lil ~~bewxi~~. ghajrlau.

Nicol: Tridux titilkuni ja nis bzeuc uciuh.. Itilku ja hafna nies hziena. (jipka fuk tighau)

Hamm: Iscot ja ragel, ftacar li ahna it-tlieta agass phalec u mal kadi migiubin actar minnec.

Nicol: (Incurlat u bla bisa) jin mil-lum il kuddiem ma nibsa min hatt actar la mil Mirilai Hanama u ankas mil Emir... Marridc naf izied bicom ja razziet tas-sriep!

Elahsan: Ma tibsax mil Hachem li jahchem daun il gzeijer taht ideih u sahansitra lilec u il maltin colla?

Ahmed: Izda dic iddakka ta harta li instemghat min hdein il bieb ta barra ma ninsigha katt, ha, ha, hai.

Nicol: Itilkuni ja hafna nies hziena kiat inaidilcom jin u la nibsa mirrazza tal Maumettani, u lankas mil listes profeta tahhom Maumettu.

Hammuda: Indemoniat, halli immur nuczach mal'Emir ja bin il chelb. (jobsoc fl'art).

Elhasan: Ghal dinec ja bin il chelb. (jobsok fl'art)

Ahmed: Ghal ommoc u ghal missirec ja razziet issriep. (c.s.)

Nicol: (jitlalu bl'icrah) issa kedin taksmuli kalbi. (johrog ixxabla u jeddidom bigha. L'oh-
rain jibsau u iuarbu.)

Scena VII.

Mufti u ta kabel.

Mufti: (Jithol millemin incurlat) X'inhu dan il aijat fil gemgha ta Allah? (jara lil Nicol bixxabla fidu) Int xeijer tghamel ja ragel

b'dic ixxabla fideic? Iftah ghainec ixxerred xi dmia fiddar ta Allah, ghalix jibat issahta fukec u fuk isseba razez. Jecc inti ixxerred katra wahda biss demm, Mohammed jghamlec cuccudrill imbat chelb il bahar, umbat siccia u uara li issir imhara jbilac isserp tal infern, ibsa ja ragel. (lil ohrain) U intcom ucoll imiscom tisthu fein jinsabu irreliqui ta Maumettu tidhlu bixxet geuua rigleicom u taitu dan l'ghaijat collu ...... Ma tafux xi ijat il koran, li ma ghandcomx tkasbru il gemgha ta Allah? Hak nofs il kamarli Mohammed jibat fukcom il killa tighau, jghamilcom zrincijet... Jena mort geuua il Mecca u sirt hagg, ghalec ghaun geu jin issid tighau, barra ja ragel min bein daun il hitan.(jakla il papoccia u jibda iwahhal bigha lit-tliet agass) barra ja ragel issahta ta Allah taka fukcom, fgieh nof il kamar li taka fukcom, barra ja ragel (icompli jigri warghaiom iwahhlilom bil papoccia) barra!

Nicol: (li sa dan it-tant rabat ideih u beda jiddiehac bil Mufti jersak lein il bieb taxxellug u kabel jitlak jghait b'enfasi kauuia) Nittama li bil hila, leuuel tas-sema umbat tighai, li Mal Conti Ruggieru jirnexxilna inkaċtu min fuk uicc art paijsna lil daun il hafna nies imgienen, lil din is-setta tal Maumettani.

Mufti: (Imur ghal fuk Nicol u jeddu bil papoċċ) Int ucoll barra ja ragel, Allah jishtec u Mohammed jghamlec cuccudrill barra. (fil hin illi il Mufti jolli il papoċċ biex jghati bih lil Nicol, Nicol johrog ix-xabla u jghamel att li sejjer jghatijelu fuk rasu fil hin li jipkau ma jitharkux phal statui wihed bil paċċ fidu u iihor bix-xabla jiffurmau quadru u ghaun jinzel isseparju bil mod il mod)

Jispiccia il Prologu.

Leuuel Att.

Hugiega ta Spjuni. (L'ghada fil ghodu)

Scena I.

Musica.

L'Emir mixhud fuk sufa, ma gembu hemm censir bin-nar li spis jitfa incens u huejjeg ohra ifuhu, ghandu ucoll curuna cbira f'idu sejjer izebbeg u jitlob bl'icbar devozioni, max-xellug u mal-lemin hemm zueg irsiera, ireu-holu b'imreuha mghamula mir-rix tal paguni ireuhu il hin collu fuk ras L'Emir. Ix-xena tibka ghal ftit minuti, irsiera ohra dehlin min bieb u hergin min ihor ma jakghatu xein u cull darba jghamlu riverenza cbira kud-diem l'Emir.

Emir: (Uara li zebbeg hafna bil curuna jitfahha f'ghoku) Tlabt l'Allah u lil Profeta Mau-mettu sabiex imeuuet l'ghadu fnofs ta bahar! U jen derli li fil hleuua tan- nghas tighaj smait lil Muhammed wigibni u ighaidli, li hecc chif il Conti Ruggieru icun gei al daun il gzejjer, ghandu jixhet fuk l'igfna tighau cheuba cbira, u din taharku umbat jitla il kamar l'eun id-demm u dan icun il werrej tar-rebha tghana! Ghalic il fueijah ja Allah! ghalic id-deheb u il fidda ghalic u ghal dinec id-dakk tal arpi u il ghana tal gha-safar, ghalic ucoll din kalbi! Icun imbierec ghala dejjem Allah u il Profeta Tighau Mau-mettu. (Irsiera jargiau jaksmu ixxena umbghat pausa.)

Scena II.

Aga u-ta kabel umbghat Hanama.

Aga: (Jdhol u isellem profondament lil Emir) Gbir

Emir Kaddis u Hachem ta Malta, ghaun wihed Mirilai irid ichelmec.

Emir: Mirilai? ghaidlu ighaddi.

Aga: (Johrog u jargia jithol jippresenta lil Hanama) Mirilai Hanama (jargia isellem.)

Hanama: (Jidhol u isellem profondament lil Emir) Allah mighac o gbir Emir Kaddis!

Emir: U mighac il profeta Mohammed, Hanama! X' inhu li giebec ghandi dal ghodu Mirilai?

Hanama: (B'malizia cbira) Oh, ja sidi Kadi, gibitni haun hagia li tisua ghalic u ghal gens collu tghana.

Emir: jakau? Okod, okod bilkieda.

Hanama: (Jakbad imhadda tal bellus milli icun hemm massala jintefa fl'art u jokod bilkeda fúka b'rigleih imsalbin fuk xulxin) Dan li sejjer nghaidlec ja kadi, nahilfu fuk il-lehja ta Maumettu.

Emir: Hecc icun (Ibaxxi rasu).

Hanama: Dac li sena ilu inti ghamiltu Agass......

Emir: Ghamiltu Agass?

Hanama: Iva ja gbir Emir, dac il Malti nisrani, Nicol Ghabdul, kal illi mil-lum il kuddiem ma jibza min hadt, u la mil profeta Muhammed u lankas minnec cbir Emir u Hachem ta Malta u Ghaudex.

Emir: (Jincorla u ikum) Hecc kall?! Hecc kall?! Irsiera idhlu ftit geuua ghal issa! (L'irsiera jithlu colla jibha biss l'Emir ma Hanama) Ghaidli, ghaidli.

Hanama: Kal ucoll li ahna il gharab hafna nies hziena.

Emir: (Ictar incurlat) Dan meta kalu?!

Hanama: Il bierah filghaxija geuua il gemgha tghana.

Emir: Icasbar il gemgha b'dan il cliem?! Nistageb chif Maumettu ma xehedx fuku ix-xita tan-nar.

Hanama: Ghalecc jena geit nghaidlec u nugzah, sabiex mill actar fis tceccieh min agass tifirdu min shabna gharbin, ftacar o sidi li dac ghandu hila ihassrilna l'armata colla, u

jghamlilna xi uahda min tighau....

Emir: Izda Mirilai, la tinsiex li dac il bniedem hua ta hila gbira u dejjem uera hueijeg tal ghageb.. x'nghamlu jecc katt jigi il Conti Ruggieru biex jahbat ghal daun il gzeijer? Tahseb int li Nicol Ghabdul ma icunx jinhtiegilna?

Hanama: (B'ghaira gbira) Jen nghaid ghalija ma insibu jinhtiegli f'xein, anzi ictar jgharrakni, dac bniedem karrieki, jobod lilec u lil gnus tghana colla, nehhieh dicment minn Agass ja cbir Kadi.

Emir: Hua tasseu kall li ma jibsa min hadt? Inkas mil profeta Muhammed?

Hanama: Minn hadt ja bin il chelb!

Emir: Semghau xi hadt iehor jidghi dan id-dgha?

Hanama: Semghauh tliet Agass ohra, anzi huma geu kaluli dac li ma smaitux ighid jena.

Emir: Daun issa fein kedin Mirilai?

Hanama: Kedin ghaun fid-dair tighac, gibtom mighei biex jecc jinhtieglec tistaksiom xi hagia issibom mighac.

Emir: Taijeb, gibom dakxein ghaun kuddiemi sabiex jena bhala kadi nizen il htija; u cullhadt jehu li hakku.

Hanama: Daluakt mighac ja sidi (Johrog min fein dahal).

Emir: Ma jakbilx nisma kampiena biss uahda il koran igheid li kabel ma tghamel il hakk minn xi hadt ghandec tisma ix-xieda; umbat mux leuuel darba li smait li dan il Mirilaj Hanama ua ahrax.. jen ma jidhirlix li Nicol Ghabdul sejjer jitchellem hecc minni, daks chemm jurini kima, ucoll dan l'ahhar cont uettu li nghamlu raijes fuk l'agass colla. U jecc katt kal xi hagia inkas jakbilli nicsira mighau ghax ninbghad mannies colla ta Malta u Ghaudex, fuk collox il kamar jatina iddaul (imur ipoggi bil keda)

Scena III.

Emir, Hanama, Hammuda, Ahmed u Elhasan.

Hanama: (Jithol uaraih Hammuda, Ahmed u Elhasan) Daun huma it-tlet agass li jghamlu xieda ta dac collu li kal Nicol Ghabdul ja Sidi Kadi.

Emir: Ahilfu fuk il-lehja u issinna ta Maumettu li cul ma seijrin tghaidu tghaiduh fuk il hakk.

Hamm: Nahilfu kuddiem il gbija tighu O cbir kaddis Kadi.

Ahmed:
Elhasan: (ighollu ideijom it-tnein il fuk u ibaxxu rasom b'sinjal ta halfa.)

Emir: Hecc icun.

Hanama: Staksiom O sidi Emir.

Emir: Mela Nicol Ghabdul kal li ma jibsa min hatt u li jobod il gens tghana?

Hammuda: Iva ja Kadi u dgha dauua cbira!

Emir: (Incurlat) X'kal ja bin il chelb?!

Hammuda: Kal li ahna nies hziena, u la ma jibza mil kauua tighac u inkas mid-din tal profeta Maumettu!

Emir: Bin il chelb! Allah jixtu fid-dlamijet ta dejjem! u dan fein kalu?

Hammuda: Geuua il gemgha.

Emir: (Ictar incurlat) Geuua il gemgha?! Mishut!!

Hanama: (Wahdu) Seijra taijeb, kiat jonfoh ir-rieh.

Emir: Izda dan kalu ghal xein b'xein?

Elhasan: Ghalix il Mirilai tah dakka ta harta u gengillu uicciu u rghedet il hitan tal gemgha.

Hanama: Mishut ta agass! Kighed jixed contra tighai.

Emir: (Idur b'sollennita fuk Hanama) Mela inti hua ja chiefer Mirilai?! Csirt il cliem tal Koran, int ma intix denn li titchellem mighi jec ma tmurx tinhasel bl'ilma nadif. Ohrog min geuua id-dair tighei, lil Nicol inhallieh agass ghax jisthoklu. Ohrog mid-dair tighai ghax inti midneb!

Hanama: (Iddisprat jibda iberrak ghaineih, ikarmec

sniemu u ighiddem ideih bir-rabia) Jena Mirlai nitcheccia mid-dair tal Kadi! Il htija uaket colla fuki imhabba ilsien dac l'agass u Nicol rebah! Is-sahta taka fuk l'insara colla! Ma gibtiex fein ridt jena ! Maruidt nemmen b'xein ictar u la b'Muhammed u l'ankas b'Allah. Issa immur jena stess infittex lil Gianni Ghabdallah u nahsadlu rasu! Nisrak lil gharusa tighau Maria u inkeda geuua haba fein ma isiba hadt.(jitlak jigri, uaraih johorgiu it-tliet agass bil mod il mod).

Scena IV.

Aga, l'Emir, umbat Nicol Ghabdul.

Aga: (Jidhol u isellem profondament lil Emir) Gbir Emir u jena irsir tighac, ghaun agass jixtiek ichelmec.

Emir: Min jaf hux Ghabdul?..... Ma kallecx min hu?

Aga: Ma kallix ja sidi.

Emir: Mur ghaidlu ighaddi.

Aga: (Johrog u jargia jithol ma Nicol Ghabdul, jippresentah u jargia jitlak.)

Nicol: (Jithol u isellem profondament) Is-sliem ghalic ja cbir Emir.

Emir: Is-sliem ghalic ucoll ja raghel kalbieni, stennieni ftit ghaun sa chemm nithol sa geuua, umbat nigi nisimec.

Nicol: Kaddej tighac o sidi (L'Emir jitlak u Nicol jibka uahdu ftit huzbien biex jara x'ghandu ighaid lil Emir, umbat ihoss ruhu jintela bil curagg) U x'irrid nahseb, tasseu li ghadu chemm hareg min ghaun il Mirilai Hanama dac li ghandu ilsienu jakta daks sicchina!..Dic il kalba ta ghain li tafa fuki xein ma togiobni.... Mur ara x'gie kallu fuki lil Hachem.... Tghaid ghadu bil hsieb li jisrak lil ohti Maria?

jen ghadtila biex ma tohrog mil bieb il barra u ghad lil ommi u lil missieri biex jinducrau id-dar seuua bil-lejl u binhar.. Narau chif sejjer jilkghani il Hachem fuk il cliem li sama min ghand Hanama u dauc it-tliet agass, nahseb li giehi mighau spiccia ghal collox; sgur icheccini min agass... ma dan collu, jena geit ghandu apposta kabel iseijahli hua, sabiex nitolbu jin stess inehhini min agass, umbat min ghaun dicment ghal Skallija.

Scena V.

Emir u Nicol Ghabdul.

Emir: (jithol b'pergamena fidu u imur jghokod fuk sufa) Xi tghaidli mil gdid Ghabdul?... taf li ghadom chemm geu icazbru l'isem tighac u fuk dac li smait hakkec is-suat. u titcheccia min agass, u ma huix bizzeijed, izda hakkec il muet l'actar chiefra.

Nicol: Il Mirilai tighai li gie jugzani hux tasseu?

Emir: Hua u xi hadt jehor mighau li lilec jafec taijeb, jena cont gia sejjer nibghat ghalic biex nghamel hakk minnec fuk dac id-dgha.

Nicol: Izda kabel ja sidi ghandec tcun taf li il Mirilai ma hux xi giaura, dac bniedem l'actar kalil, uicciu jixhidlu, u li ma chinx ghax id-din tighai li ighallimmi nahfer, fuk dakka ta harta li hua tani ma nafx x'cont nghamillu....

Emir: Jena naf b'collox, bghattu il barra middair tighai sabiex imur jinhasel min dnubitu. Issa jin Ghabdul, lest biex nahfer lilec ucoll biss marridx nisma darb'ohra li inti ma tatix kima u ma thobx lil Hachem tighec u l'actar li ma tcasbarx izied lil Profeta Muhammed fil gemgha tighau...Ara Nicol, dih il chitba uaslitli il bierah filghodu min ghand il Kadi ta' Skallija.

(jiftah il pergamena) chiecu takraha inti tituahhax! Il Conti Ruggieru ma idumx ma insibuh fil gzeijer tghana. Jena tlabt lil Allah ibighedu minna sabiex intcom il Maltin u'l Ghaudxin ma tak ghaux taht ideih u tbatu; jin fic Ghabdul ghandi tama gbira u irrid nghamlec raijes fuk l'agass, sabiex jecc katt jersak ghaun il Conti Ruggieru inti tmur tissara mighau b'hiltec colla mas-nies li nibghatlec mighec.

Nicol: Dan jena ma inhossnix li nghamlu O cbir Emir.

Emir: Chif ma tghamlux? Sejjer inlahkec raijes fuk elf ruh.

Nicol: Ghalix xbait fl'armata gharbija, mahhom ma nistax nakbel.

Emir: Umbat fein tmur?

Nicol: Nitlak lein Skallija, nithol ascar mal emir ta Catania.

Emir: Taijeb hecc mhux hazin tghati dakka ta id sabiex traggia lura lil Conti Ruggieru?

Nicol: Iva (uahdu) sabiex ingibu l'ghaun Malta.

Emir: Mela Ghabdul, millum il kuddiem inti ma intix agass izied, roddli dic ix-xabla u tista tmur, Jen nahseb nicteb lil Kadi ta Catania sabiex ihallic bhala agass, izda ghad jibdilec meta tfittex u massibx actar lil kaddis Emir Ahir Fazarah.

Nicol: (Jakla ix-xabla u jatiha lil Emir) Nizzi-hair ta cull ma ghamilt mighi O sidi Emir.

Emir: Issliem ghalic,mur, mur geuua Skallija la darba ma tridx tokod mighei.

Nicol: (uahdu bi hrara) Immur u ingib mighei l'-Anglu tal hena il Conti Ruggieru icun issu-ltan tghana. (jitlak)

Emir: Din il biccia tatni x'nahseb.... dan il bniedem ked ibezzghani! Halla min agass biex imur Skallija... min jaf hix xi fteghima tal Maltin? Ftiehmu li jibghatu lil Nicol Ghabdul Skallija biex jinghakad mal Conti Ruggieru u jigi jehoda mghana?

Mishut icun din il chelb! u mishut icun id-demm li jigri geuua gisem l'insara! Allah ghad jbghat fukom ix-xita tan-nar u jahrakom! Puh ghalihom! Daun ma jaraux uicc Allah u in-nabi l'insara colla ghal'-infern! Iva ghal'infern!... (Jithol geuua, ix-xena ghal ftit tibka voita.)

<u>Lahhar Xena.</u>

L'Emir il Mufti irsiera u gharab ta cull gens.

Emir: (L'euuel jinstama ghaijat cbir min geuua "<u>Muhammed! Allah cbir</u>" uara dan l'ghaijat l'Emir jithol l'euuel wihed uaraih l'ohrain colla imsemmijin) Ja kaddis Mufti, u intcom ucoll, isimghou... Ahna actarx ninsabu imkarkin! (jokod fuk is-sufa, l'ohrain colla jakbdu imhadda u jokodu bilkeda fuk ghal Kigha tal art u isalbu rigleihom fuk xulxin, biss il Mufti jibka bil uiekfa ma gemb l'Emir.) ~~Ghaidli~~ ja Mufti int li mort bhali il Mecca u sirt kaddis cbir u ghamilt chemm il darba is-sharijet bil kauua tal Profeta Maumettu tridx tghaidli x'chien il holm tighac dal-lejl?

Mufti: Hlomt o sidi Emir li rait lil gbir profeta Muhammed miexi fuk il kamar idokk ic-ciri-mella u jisfen, umbat f'dakka uahda imbidel f'dghadigha u beda ighajat chemm jiflah fil hin li beda ighaid "Hafna nies hziena! Ma tghallux ir-Ramadam seuua."

Emir: Keghdin tisimghau x'kal il profeta Maumettu? Gei il hakk ta Allah fukna (ighaijat chemm ghandu hila) Hafna nies hziena! Ma somtux dan ir-Ramadam! Ma somtuhx seuua!...

Mufti: O x'rait umbghad ja sidi!...

Emir: Ghad ghandec xi tghaid?

Mufti: Iva ghad fadalli... umbat rait zeug dundiani iuahhlu b'munkarom lil xulxin u wiehed

nitef lil jhor li ma hallilux f'gismu rixa uahda, u l'iehor fakghalu ghainu uahda phal tighai. (u beda sejjer jimita l'ghaj-jat tal dundiani.)

Emir: X'tahseb int li ifisser dan il holm ja Mufti?

Mufti: Scont ma nebbahni Maumettu, dan il holm ifisser li geija xi takbida cbira beinec u bein il Conti Ruggieru f'daun il gzejer u inti actarx li tibka tellif.

Emir: (Jitfa il harsa tighau il fuk b'att ta preghiera) Oh nabi Mohammed, min issa il kuddiem nghatu it-tifhir collu li jisthokk lil Allah u Hua jahfrilna.

Mufti: Iva Allah hua hanin! Allah! Illah! Allahu! Muhammed razul! Allahu!

Emir: Kumu bil giri u culhadt imur isum u jinhasel, umbghat jinxtehed kuddiem il Mehrab u jitlob sabiex nirbhu lil ghadu; uara culhatt imur jarma ruhu as-sarar, ahna nghamlu il hila tghana sabiex il Conti Ruggieru ma imidx rigleih fuk daun il gzeijer, umbat jecc katt it-taktigha tcun harxia u immutu. nghaidu hecc chellu icun li immutu ghal Allah, mhux hecc ja Mufti?

Mufti: Collox chif ked tghaid int ja sidi, u hecc icun.

Emir: Mela morru ja saraturi kalbiena u kisu li fit-taktigha ix-xerdu demcom sa l'inkas katra, kedin tifmu? Is-sarau min ghair biza Allah ihallascom u Muhammed irakkatcom fil hena ta dejjem.

Mufti: U jahsilcom bl'imbit, bil halib u bl'ghasel, ilibbiscom hueijeg tas-satin u jitmghacom hueijg tajba li tilghaku subghaicom! (L'ohrain colla ikunu iselmu b'dirghaijom it-tnein u ibaxxiu rasom sal art kuddiem l'Emir, bil mod il mod jinzel is-separiu.)

Jispiccia l'euuel Att.

Ittieni Att.

Zeug hbieb u zeug

uara gimgha ghal hapta ta l'imuiet.

(f'Ghaudex.)

Dakk tal Orgni u Cor.

Scena I.

Patri Gualtieri uahdu.

Patri: (Kiat jippassiggia fil hemda tal-lejl ma gemb il cunvent, id-dia tal kamar mixhuta fuku sejjer jakra fuk il breviariu u cull tant jekaf jicconsidra innatura u jirres pira l'aria frisca. Cor tal patrijet min geuua.) Min jaf jec Nicol Ghabdul sabiex lil ohtu Maria? Gia gimgha ila misruka u hadt ma jaf feina. Dac Nicol ma ighamilx hlief jibchi it-telfa tahha, leil u nhar ifittixa u hadd min gio Malta u Ghaudex ma sata jatieh ahbar tahha. Hua jibchiha meita, ghax jaf x'jafu ighamlu daun l'-gharab meta icollom l'imrar ghalic!...:. X'ferh jecc jigi haun il Conti Ruggieru! Malta u Ghaudex kedin jistenneuh phal ma id-dinja chienet tistenna il Messia!... X'baka ighamlu daun il Musulmani geuua paijisna? Id-dair ta Alla bidluhom f'mandri, imhazen u huinet tal beigha, izda jigi, jigi dac izziem li il cneijes jergiau jin-fethu ghal fidili! Ma nafx x'ked inhoss, bhal tama cbira timlieli kalbi! Halli nar-au chif Nicol Ghabdul sejjer jipka fuk ohtu, umbat incomplu il ueghda tghana. (Icompli jippassiggia u jakra.)

Scena II.

Nicol Ghabdul u Patri Gualtieri.

Nicol: (jithol u imur min uara Patri Gualtieri itaptaplu bil mod fuk spaltu) Ja raheb mahbub tighai! Bericni!

Patri: X'hemm Nicol? X'ahbar? ghamilna xi hagia?

Nicol: (ferhan) Ghamilna actar milli cont nistenna. U inti patri chif tinsab ghaunec! Ghaudex? Jena mort inficcec id-dar tighac.

Patri: Geit inghaddi xi jumein ma daun il hbieb tighai patrijet Agostiniani.. imma ghaidli Nicol? Ghada hajja ohtoc Maria?

Nicol: Ghada hajja u maddumx ma targha kuddiemec; dal lejl stess ghanda tithol f'din irramla fuk l'ixprunara ta Gianni Abdallah.

Patri: Nizzihair l'issema. Ghaidli xi hagia.

Nicol: Chien collox chif hsibt jena; dac il chiefer ta Mirilai Hanama ma chienx ghadu xebghan b'dic id-dakka ta harta li tani u uara, mar ghideb fuki u nassasni mal Kadi, izda ra chif ghamel. U dic inhar stess li jena mort ghand il Hachem biex ngheidlu iholni min agass, stenneu lil ohti Maria tohrog mid-dar, u hecc hu li serkuha u haduha Malta fit-torri ta fuk l'gholia Xiberras.

Patri: U issa sibta?

Nicol: Sibta ghalix ilbierah filghodu geu xi hbieb Maltin min Malta li kedin jahdmu fit-torri ta Xiberras u uara li ghamiltilom hafna mistoksijet, jecc f'dac it-torri tinsabx xi xebba maltija jisimgha Maria, kaluli li hemm xebba kalb hafna irsiera u ma 'tghamilx hlief tibchi u issemmi lil huha Nicol Ghabdul; jen milleuuel hsibt li hia ohti Maria, u chif chienu sejrin Malta bl'ixprunara mort mahhom u b'ftit flus li hallast lil ghases, mal-lejl irnexxili ridhol fit-torri u bil ghakal tighai hri-

gta min hemm il barra.

Patri: Nifrah; Nifrah mighec Nicol! U issa fein hia Maria?

Nicol: (Imur ihares ma duaru) Patri, nitchelmu bilmod.... biex tasseu, icolli biex nifrah u inpatti ta chemm ili nipki l'ohti, sibt ir-rieh fil kghala minn cullumchien; hecc chif cont miexi ma ohti mixxiatt nilmah zazuh ifecc ghad-daul ta kamar u gie jifrah b'Maria u jibchi b'bichi ta ferh!

Patri: U min chien dan?

Nicol: Chien Gianni Ghabdallah l'gharus tahha.

Patri: Il mahbub Gianni li trabba mghacom? gheidli, gheidli Nicol!!

Nicol: Hemmch hua chellu l'ixprunara tighau u tafa malair gio figha lil ohti Maria u kalli inhalliha fideih u f'idein il bahrin li chellu mighau umbghat jahseb hu chif ghandu jamel u igiba f'Ghaudex min ghair icun jaf Hanama, jin dhalt kabilghom ma xpruna ohra li chienet gejja haun Ghaudex, u bkajt sejjer id-dar biex ngheid lil ommi u lil missieri dan collu li giargha.

Patri: Ghettli li ghandom jigiu f'din ir-ramla tal cunvent?

Nicol: Iva, haun ftghemma u nittama li deluakt icunu mghana.

Patri: L'ahjar li nghamlu jec ghadom it-tnein bi hsieb wiehed, norbtughom biz-zuieg mal cnisja kabel ma jinkala xi ghauc iehor, ghax issa la darba dac il Mirilai Hanama nibbitcom f'kalbu, ma tafx x'jista jamel u l'actar meta jigi jaf li ohtoc Maria m'ghadiex fit-torri Xiberras.

Nicol: Patri ghaz-zuieg ghad hemm zmien, l'ahjar chif jen thaddit ma Gianni u ohti nitilku ittlieta ghal Skallija bl'ixpruna ta Gianni stess, ghaliex chif staijt inxom, it-tlieta kedin ighassuna biex joktluna daun il mishutin ta gharab! Dic li jen halliet min

agass tatom xjahsbu uisk u l'actar lil Emir li gia beda jissuspetta hazin fija.

Patri: Izda int Nicol cont ghetli li trid tidhol patri, jeu ma ghadc ghandech dic il hrara ta granet ilu?

Nicol: Iva ja rajjes tighai, ma jecch chemm il darba nifdi lil paijisi min taht fdein il musulnani. Ghaun arani kuddiemec stess irrid inwieghed lil omm tghana fis-sema, li chemm il darba tatini grazia nifdi lil paijisi, jena nghaddi il fdal ta haiti bein il hitan ta dan il cunvent. (jinzel ghar-rcupteih kuddiem inniccia tal Madonna) Is-sliem ghalic Maria, Isma it-talba tighai! Int li dejjem habbeit lil Maltin, checci lil musulmani mil gzeijer tghana li hilom mitein u ghxorin sena jahcmu u jahkru l'imseicnin huti insara!

Patri: (Chif Nicol icun ghadu ghar-rcupteih imur fuku u ibusu) Mahbub ta kalbi Nicol, imma chemm thobbu lil paijisec! U Jena le mhux inkas minnec, imma tibzax ghat jitkatta is-shab isued u jigi il bnazzi! Hux trid tmur tinghakad mal Conti Ruggieru? mur, hecc tcun tista tghamel gid uisk izjed milli tithol patri jeu kassis bhali.

Nicol: Hecc nghid jin ucoll; jena scola tghallimt, ghadni zghazuh gmieli, ghad fadalli tama li insir patri, izda leuuel il paijisi.

Patri: Tajjeb Nicol, issa kauui kalbec u itlak dicment ghal Skallija, jeu Catania ghandi patri habib tighai hafna, u migiub mil Conti Ruggieru nictiblu erba chelmiet fein nghaidlu biex ighaid lil Conti Ruggieru fiex ninsabu f'daun il gzeijer tghana u fil uakt idahhal lilec ascar mighau. Imbghat inti chif tcun hemm compli gharrfu b'collox, ibka sgur li uara li il Conti jisma cliemec jitfa il prua tal igfna tighau ghal gzeijer tghana, ghax il Conti Ruggieru jaf x'jistghu jisueulu Malta u Ghaudex dac bniedem

kaddis ihobb lil insara, hua icun jista ighamlihna hafna gid. Imxi fic-cella tighai nictiblec zeug chelmiet. (Patri Gualtieri u Nicol jithlu mil bieb tal cunvent.)

Scena III.

Mirilai Hanama u il Mufti b'bastun ohxion fidu.

Hana: (Jithol jimbotta kuddiem lil Mufti) Ghadtlec haffef ja Mufti. (Il Mufti ihares lein Hanama b'att ta rimproveru) Int Kaddis ta xein, ghal xein mort il Mecca ghax Muhammed ma Kadzecx!

Mufti: (Incurlat) Alfi issa izzeijed kiat tueggighali kalbi! Jin ja sidi mort il Mecca, kghad sghatein sa ghonki gior-ramel u Allah bghat lil Maumettu bhala hamiema bajda fuk rasi u ghamilni Hagg tighau. Din l'ghain mifkugha b'dakka ta munkar li tani Maumettu biex ihallili tifkira u turi il kdusia tighai.

Hana: Mela la darba int kaddis ghalix ma titlobx lil Allah jished lil insara ulied il chelb u jished ucoll id-din tahhom? Ghaidli ja hagg.

Mufti: Ghalix... ghalix... Muhammed phal issa rieket.

Hana: Muhammed ma jorkod katt ghandec tcun li inti thobb torkod daks il cuccudrilli, izda issa ma hux hin li torkod. (jakbat min ghonku lil Mufti incurlat seuua) Ma tafx li jena ma ghandix zmien x'nitlef? ideja ket inhossom jaharku demmi ket inhoss jghali.

Mufti: Ara se toktolni.

Hana: Jec ma tghamilx dac li ghattlec namillec rasec taht riglejja. (Johrog ix-xebla u jeddu bigha)

Mufti: (imbazza) Izda fgieh Allah ghaidli haun

x'gibtni nghamel f'daun iddlamijet tal-
lejl.

Hana: X'gibtec tghamel, ma tafx li il Kadi tghani isseta li nigi inficcek ghal cul ma tcun tehtigli?

Mufti: Cont kiat gmili nonhor taht il cutra ja sidi.

Hana; Mela ghax hadt il bokxiex li jena taitec? mux biex tigi mighai u titlob lil Allah isib lil Gianni Ghabdallah li jin irrid noktol? Int phala kaddis u sahhar tal Mecca imissec tcun taf x'kiat isir fid-dinja colla. imissec tcun taf fein hu mohbi Gianni Ghabdallah.

Mufti: (imbazza) Toktol, ja sidi? Il koran ijghait li ma ghandex toktol, u Muhammed ghandu il hila jitlob l'Allah biex jibghat-lec il mard tal bukauuieg. Ara toktol ja sidi.

Hana: Dan ghalia collu cliem mitluf jin infittex biss li nicber kuddiem id-dinja, mux id-din tighai,... il Koran ighajt ghal min irid jisma izda jin hagia ohra irrid, ehlisni ja sahhar, ghaidli fein nista insib lil dac il chelb Malti ta Gianni Ghabdallah?!

Mufti: Ma temminx bil koran? O ja sidi xi dnub gbir, Muhammed! fuk din ghandu il hila jibil-ghac isserp.

Hana: (b'rabia) Dan it-tneuuih tighac kiat inhos-su javvelenalidemmi! Dal uakt inhanxiarlec ghonkoc u nitfac il bahar. (Jakdu min ghonku) Ghaidli fein insib lil Gianni Ghabdallah ghax irrid noktlu, inchella im-seichen int ja hagg!

Mufti: Iva itlakni f'gieh Allah, sejjer tifgani.. hallini inhares ftit fuk il kamar u nghaid-lec collox ja sidi.

Hana: (Jitilku) Isa mela ax inkissirlec ghadmec.

Mufti: U le.. u le.. Arani sejjer nghaidlec (Iki-at ideih fuk ghaineik phal tromba u ihares lein il kamar) x'uahda din, x'uahda din!

Hana: X'giara?

Mufti: Chemm hua gbir il kamar.

Hana: Ma chienx hemm bzon tghaidu, izda ghaidli fdac il cobor tal kamar int x'tara phala kaddis u sahhar?

Mufti: Kiat nara lil Gianni Ghabdallah mal gharusa.

Hana: Gianni mal gharusa?! ~~Hia ma tinsabx actar makfula fit-torri ta Xiberra. Jena naf,~~ pausa ghaidli ja Mufti, ja kaddis, ja l'actar fost issahhara, inzidec fil bokxiex jec tghaidli fein jinsabu.

Mufti: Halli nara (jargia ihares lein il kamar) jec ma humix fl'art kedin fuk il bahar ja sidi.

Hana: Dan jin cont nafu, fuk rasec ma humix sgur! Int ma intix kaddis, ma intix sahhar, int halliel. (jgolli ix-xabla fuk rasu) gib dauc il bokxiex li taitec. (isabtu ma l'art)

Mufti: (Icun imbazza) Ha! ha!... kiat tbazzani (johrog borsa flus min hobbu u jitfahha ma sakain Hanama fil uakt li jitlak jigri il barra) Allah! Illah! Allahu! Muhammed razul.

Hana: (Jigbor il flus mil art jibka ihares irrabiat mnien hareg il Mufti) Bin il chelb int ja Mufti ma tisua ghal xein. (Pausa ftit tuila) ~~Maria mghodiisc taht ideija, ma~~ jecc naf illi indur Malta u Ghaudex insiba u s'ghada icolli f'ideija ras Gianni Ghabdallah tKattar id-demm!

Scena IV.

Nicol Ghabdul umbat Patri Gualtieri.

Niçol: (Li fl'ahhar cliem hareg rasu biex jissemma mil bieb tal cunvent) (johrog isfar meut u uara li mar ihares min fein hareg Hanama imur fnofs il palc u jekaf ftit

husbien) Xi cliem smait!... Chemm hua ta chelmtu dac il kalil ta Hanama, ghadu jigri uara Gianni l'gharus t'ohti biex joktlu, jaf ucoll li hadnilu lil ~~ohti~~ mit-torri ta Xiberras. (filhin jinstama ghana tal barclori.)

Musica: <u>Cor tal barclori</u>.

Xi gmiel ta gzeijer aghandna
Bil bahar imdaurin
Kisom phal uard fil ksari
Bl'ghasafar imghamrin
  Sabih innisel tighac
  Ulidec il Maltin
  Ghalchemm mil maumettani
  Uisk huma mahkurin
Izda dac iz-zmien jigi
l'il clieb ta Misilmin
Jitkactu min paijisna
U n'incunu mehlusin.

Nicol: Ta min hu dan il ghana (imur ihares lein il bahar) l'ixpruna ta Gianni uaslet... l'ghana tal bahrin tighau.... issa infittex nghaidlu li il Mirilai Hanama kiat ifitccu ghal meut! Naidlu biex infitcciu naharbu flimchien ghal Skallija (jersak lein il bieb tal cunvent.)

Patri: (johrog mil bieb tal cunvent b'pergamena fidu) Haun Nicol zom taijeb din il chitba biex meta tasal Skallija tatigha il Patri Giusepp.

Nicol: Iva patri Gualtieri daluakt nitlak ghal Skallija, ghax Gianni uasal bl'ixpruna tighau.

Patri: Uasal? U Maria ucoll mighau?

Nicol: Iva, Maria geija mighau (imorru it-tnein iharsu ghal bahar) Patri taf li il Mirilai Hanama kedt ifittex lil Gianni Ghabdallah biex joktlu?

Patri: Dan chif geit tafu? Jakau hemm xi hagia mil gdid?

Nicol: ~~Taf li jena~~ inzilt nistennic fein il bieb ta barra, dac il hin derli li smait lehen ma hux gdid ghalia, harist chemm chemm mil bieb u nilmah lil Hanama bixxghabla fidu imdghadar phal chelb ifittex ma ihor u sejjer ighaid,"Jecc naf li dal-leil indur Ghaudex collu irrid illi icolli ras Gianni fideja.

Patri: Nicol, jin kiat jigi xi nebbahni illi mux lil Gianni biss kedin iftxu ghal meut, izda ucoll lilec u lil ohtoc Maria! Isa immorru nghainuhom jinglu min fuk l'ixpruna bix nghaidulom xi zeug chelmiet, umbghat argiau itilghau u fitcciu salpau, aharbu fis ghal Skallija.

Nicol: Immorru.

Patri: Collox malair (Johorgiu bil ghagla, ix-xena tibka voita ghal ftit.)

Scena V.

Patri Gualtieri, Nicol, Gianni u Maria u xi bahrin Maltin.

Patri: (jithol ma Maria uaraihom l'ohrain colla) X'ferh Maria li argiat raitec kauua u shiha jin hu huc conna bkeinic meita.

Maria: Ghal ftit missier tighai Patri Gualtieri, daun il barbri ta Misilmin ghandom il hila jghamlu collox! Domt gimgha mghaluka taht l'art bla ma naf fein jena keda u cul tant chienu ituni issuat ucoll. (sa dan it-tant Gianni u Nicol jithattu beinitom b'interres gbir) Emminni ja Patri illi ma flahtx izied nokodt kalp dauc l'irsiera ucciom leun il faham, xufteighom gbar gbar, u dauc ghaineihom jitfau il giamar tan-nar, nghaid-lec li billejl cont nisthaijilom xiaten tal infern.

Patri: Imseicna Maria, chemm nghali ghalic, int li imdorria dejjem f'dar ommoc fiex chellec

issib ruhec! Tara xfieh dac l'imbierec ta Hanama. (Nicol u Gianni dejjem jithattu)

~~Maria:~~ Fer Izda l'actar li bchiet ax bgheduni minn min tant inhobb.

Patri: Min Gianni Ghabdallah trid tghaid?

Maria: Min Gianni u min hia, ma l'actar min ommi u min missieri.

Patri: Hobbu, hobbu lil Gianni daks chemm hua zghazuh taijeb u ihobb lil insara (lil Gianni) Gian, int ma taidli xein daks chemm ilna ma niltakau? Ghaidli lil Maria ghadec thobba phal zmien ilu?

Gianni: Inhobba phal ma jinhabbu l'angli geuua issema ahna trabbejna flimchien ja raheb ghalec ninhabbu phal zeug t'ahua.

Patri: Seuua, Gian hobbu lil xulxin sal meut, izda issa l'ahiar li chif intom ~~it-tlieta~~ hewn haun tergiau titilghau fuk l'ixpruna u titbghedu mil actar fis min daun il gzeijer tghana.

Gianni: Ecc ucoll chien kiat jghaidli Nicola izda dan il ghalix? Jen ma nista nifem xein.

Patri: Int ghad tifem il kuddiem.

Gianni: Ja patri jin biex inhalli lil daun il gzeijer li tant inhobb jehtigli incun naf l'imma.

Patri: Ghaidlu int Nicol.

Nicol: Gian jin digia ghattlec xi hagia u ma hemx zmien wihed x'jitlef nitilku lejn Skallija.

Gianni: Nitilku lein Skallija?... xi hagia hemm finnofs u matridux turuni biex ma tuggiaulix kalbi.

Fernanda
Maria: X Incun jen li sejra ingib f'xi hagia lil hia u lil Gianni? issema jibghalilna taiba, Maria zomma int taht il mantar tighac.

Patri: Int isma minni u min Nicol li tant ihobboc Giovanni.

Gianni: Intcom kedin issahnuli rasi, ghaiduli ahjar milli thalluni imhasseb.

Nicol: Gian int ma tafx li lil Maria haun min irjda hatt ihor?

Gianni: Min? Dac iluahx ta Mirilai Hanama?

(X (jitkarrex lejn ...) jaħseb inhalli xi haga ohra? ma nistax nifem xejn.. Maria zomma taht il mantar tighec)

Nicol: Hua li ~~seraka.~~ serhu

~~Maria:~~ Fern Issemmix dac l'isem ghax ichexchixni.

Gianni: Jena x'jmpurtani hadt hlifi ma icun ta Maria, issema u il meut biss jistau ihassru iz-zeug tghana.

Nicol: Issa kiat tghaid seuua il meut, mela cun af li il Mirilai Hanama kiat ifitxech biex jok-tloc.

~~Maria:~~ Fern (Maktugha) Kaddisa Maria, ~~hisptu~~ tisiftu Jena.

Gianni: (li kghad itihem il clieni) Hanama kiat ifit-tixni biex joktolni?

Nicol: Biex jehles mit-tfixchil tighac, ghadu chemm chien lil daun innahit kiat jasses phal chelb lil qattus.

Patri: Gianni titlifx zmien, jisua ghalic u ghal daun hbiebec fuk collox ghal paijisec. (fil hin jinstama ghaijat u hseijes ta armi min geuua).

Nicol: risak xi hadt lil haun, lehen il gharab.

Patri: Isau fitxu ahirbu.

~~Maria:~~ Fern Geijin biex jargiau jakbdu lili? ahjar mitt darba il meut jeu naka mil gdid irsiera. (tghatti uiccia tipki) li marrilec ahli jehen ghom

Gianni: Jehtieg nghamel dac ~~kalp~~ Hanama phal issa; ma bizzejjet jena nisrani irrid nahfer. (Ghajjat jinstama actar vicin)

Nicol: Immorru, immorru insalvau lil paijisna.

Patri: Jitciu itilku issema jekaf mghacom.

~~Maria:~~ Fern Patri bericna u itlob ghalina. (jitilku)

Patri: Ulidi tcunu imberchin. (ihares leijom u ixejjer bil mactur) isau aharbu, Nicol, Gianni, ~~Maria.~~ Fernanda. (Iberichom b'idhu illeminija u jibbatom). Telghau fuk l'ixprunara, is-sema mghacom uliedi, ftit ihor u tcunu mehlusin.. bdeu ~~jinxfu~~ jifirxu, il kluh gia miftuhin berah,.. mehlusin huma.. hatt ma jista ghalihom.. bahar bnazzi u irrih fil kghala, issema itassalcom bissliema u igibcom mal Conti Ruggieru. (jipka ixejjer, hseijes tal ghajjat jinstemghau fittrik stes. Patri Gualtieri uarrab min fejn il bahar.)

Scena VI.

Mirilai Hanama, Ahmed, Elhasan gharab ohra u Patri.

Hana: (jithol b'xabla mghollia il fuk, uaraih l'-ohrain colla armati) Min haun irrid lil dauc innies (lil Patri) Ghal dinec ja chelb raheb, int ja bin il chelb li ked iz-zomm mohbijin fid-dair tighac lil Gianni Ghabdallah lil Nicol Ghabdul u lil ~~ohtu Maria~~? dac itt[illegible]

Patri: Jen ma ghandi lil hadt mohbi, dan hua cunvent li ma fihx hlif patrijet li phal issa jinsabu rehdin fic-celel tahhom.

Hana: U int ghadec imkaijem? Ghalix ma tmurx tor-kod phalom? Ghax ghandec x'tghamel fdin ir-ramla? ma tuigibx ja raheb?

Patri: Ma ghandix x'inuigeb hagia ohra hlif li jena sid tighai innifsi u immur norkod meta irrid jena...

Hana: (Jaktghalu cliemu) Sicchet ilsienech ja raheb din il chelb..... Jena geit naf collox inti habib ta Nicol a taz-zeug gharaijes Gianni u Maria, u hadt hlifech ma tgha ghai-nuna sabiex ~~Maria~~ Fernanda tigi misruka mit-torri ta Xiberras, ghalec inti halleit darec u geit tinheba gio dan il cunvent, ghaid li le.

Patri: Le (icun sejjer, Hanama izommu min drighau)

Hanama: Ghiddib, ara ja raheb jena gibt daun innis mighai sabiex nakbdu u noktlu lil Gianni Ghabdallah lil Nicol Ghabdul u ~~ohtu Maria~~ ibnu ~~irrida targia taka~~ taht ideja bil fors ta kalba. hem lzon jalsa Fein huma mohbijin ~~dauc it-tlieta~~?

Patri: Hares l'hemm fuk il bahar ja sidi Mirilai, intix tara dic l'ixpruna?

Hana: (b'rabia) Jakau? fittex ghaidli ja raheb.

Patri: Fuk dic jinsabu Gianni Ghabdallah, Nicol Ghabdul u ~~ohtu Maria~~. u ibnu Fernanda

Hana: U fein sejjrin?

Patri: Sejjrin Skallija. (jithol fil cunvent)

Hana: (feroci) Allah jishet lilec, lilom u lil

Insara colla, nahlef fuk illehja ta Maumettu ~~u fuk il cheuba ta filghodu~~ li hadt minnon ma jargia jersak lein daun il gzeijer li ma naharkux hai.

Hana: Ja sidi Mirilai, u jecc katt Nicol ghabdul phal ma kal il kadi, mar Skallija biex igib mighau lil Conti Ruggieru?

Ahmed: Din actarx xi ftiehima tal Maltin u l'Ghaudcin ja sidi mirilai.

Elhasan: U hadt ma jista icun hlief dac il chelb ta raheb li fethilom it-triek.

Hana: Issa la darba ma stainix nithalsu min dauc it-tlieta, nithalsu min dac irraheb rajjes ta l'insara dac li hua fethilom ghaineighom biex jahirbu ghal Skallija ghalix hadt hlifu ma jista icun, ithlu akbduh u murru ixtuh fid-dlamijit ta taht l'ardt sa chemm tasal is-sigha tighau.

Hammuda: Tcun mokdi ja Mirilai. (jithol mil bieb tal cunvent uaraih Alhmed, Elhasan u gharab ohra.)

Hanama: Issa icun jaf chif andu jitchellem billi nahraklu ilsienu b'hadida mikwia.

<u>L'ahhar Xena.</u>

Patri Gualtieri u l'ohrain colla.

Patri: (L'gharab johorgiu mil bieb tal cunvent bil patri marbut) Itilku dan l'imseichen xueijah.

Hanama: Sicchet ilsienech ja raheb, imxi issa ishet lil Maumettu u fahhar lil bin David.

Patri: Spicciat cull tghana ghalia! Il martirju bis histenna!

Hanama: Din id-darba Allah rebah. (Fil uakt li seijrin bil patri jinzel issepariu.)

Jispiccia it-tieni Att.

+

Scena VI.

Mirilai Hanama, Ahmed, Elhasan gharab ohra u Patri.

Hana: (jithol b'xabla mghollia il fuk, uaraih l'-ohrain colla armati) Min haun irrid lil dauc innies (lil Patri) Ghal dinec ja chelb raheb, int ja bin il chelb li ked iz-zomm mohbijin fid-dair tighac lil Gianni Ghabdallah lil Nicol Ghabdul u lil ~~ohtu Maria~~? dac itt[illegible]

Patri: Jen ma ghandi lil hadt mohbi, dan hua cunvent li ma fihx hlif patrijet li phal issa jinsabu rehdin fic-celel tahhom.

Hana: U int ghadec imkaijem? Ghalix ma tmurx torkod phalom? Ghax ghandec x'tghamel fdin ir-ramla? ma tuigibx ja raheb?

Patri: Ma ghandix x'inuigeb hagia ohra hlif li jena sid tighai innifsi u immur norkod meta irrid jena...

Hana: (Jaktghalu cliemu) Sicchet ilsienech ja raheb din il chelb..... Jena geit naf collox inti habib ta Nicol a taz-zeug gharaijes Gianni u Maria, u hadt hlifech ma tgha ghainuna sabiex ~~Maria~~ Fernanda tigi misruka mit-torri ta Xiberras, ghalec inti halleit darec u geit tinheba gio dan il cunvent, ghaid li le.

Patri: Le (icun sejjer, Hanama izommu min drighau)

Hanama: Ghiddib, ara ja raheb jena gibt daun innis mighai sabiex nakbdu u noktlu lil Gianni Ghabdallah lil Nicol Ghabdul u ~~ohtu Maria~~ ibnu ~~irrida targia taka~~ taht ideja bil fors ta kalba. hem lzor jaha Fein huma mohbijin ~~dauc it-tlieta~~?

Patri: Hares l'hemm fuk il bahar ja sidi Mirilai, intix tara dic l'ixpruna?

Hana: (b'rabia) Jakau? Fittex ghaidli ja raheb.

Patri: Fuk dic jinsabu Gianni Ghabdallah, Nicol Ghabdul u ~~ohtu Maria~~. u ibnu Fernanda

Hana: U fein sejjrin?

Patri: Sejjrin Skallija. (jithol fil cunvent)

Hana: (Feroci) Allah jishet lilec, lilom u lil

Insara colla, nahlef fuk illehja ta Maumettu ~~u fuk il cheuba ta filghodu~~ li hadt minnon ma jargia jersak lein daun il gzeijer li ma naharkux hai.

Hana: Ja sidi Mirilai, u jecc katt Nicol ghabdul phal ma kal il kadi, mar Skallija biex igib mighau lil Conti Ruggieru?

Ahmed: Din actarx xi ftiehima tal Maltin u l'Ghaudcin ja sidi mirilai.

Elhasan: U hadt ma jista icun hlief dac il chelb ta raheb li fethilom it-triek.

Hana: Issa la darba ma stainix nithalsu min dauc it-tlieta, nithalsu min dac irraheb rajjes ta l'insara dac li hua fethilom ghaineighom biex jahirbu ghal Skallija ghalix hadt hlifu ma jista icun, ithlu akbduh u murru ixtuh fid-dlamijit ta taht l'ardt sa chemm tasal is-sigha tighau.

Hammuda: Tcun mokdi ja Mirilai. (jithol mil bieb tal cunvent uaraih Alhmed, Elhasan u gharab ohra.)

Hanama: Issa icun jaf chif andu jitchellem billi nahraklu ilsienu b'hadida mikwia.

L'ahhar Xena.

Patri Gualtieri u l'ohrain colla.

Patri: (L'gharab johorgiu mil bieb tal cunvent bil patri marbut) Itilku dan l'imseichen xueijah.

Hanama: Sicchet ilsienech ja raheb, imxi issa ishet lil Maumettu u fahhar lil bin David.

Patri: Spicciat cull tghana ghalia! Il martirju bis histenna!

Hanama: Din id-darba Allah rebah. (Fil uakt li seijrin bil patri jinzel issepariu.)

Jispiccia it-tieni Att.

It-tielet Att.

"Ghajjat ta ferh!" (Ghaddeu tliet xhur mazzbieh, filghodu cmini.)

Scena I

Maria u Gianni.

(Mat-tluh tassepariu jinstama hafna tisfir u ghana tal ghasafar; bil mod il mod jizbah umbat Uara ftit jithlu Gianni u Maria, Maria fil-lemin ta Gianni u Gianni kighed ighattiha b'mantar gbir tal bellus, it-tnein ftit bezghana. Gianni imur biex jara jecc xi hadt hux riesak leihom)

Gianni: (Uara li hares seuua ma duaru) Maria, x'ighidu ommoc u missierec meta icunu jafu li uasalna ghaun Malta? U l'ictar meta icunu jafu li gia sar it-tieg tghana!

Maria: Il ferh tahhom u tighai icun cbir! Ma narax il hin li nitfa xufteija sabiex imbus l'idt ta dauc il mahbubin xiuh tighai, ommi u missieri.

Gianni: Tibzax Maria, issa ghaun kghedin, tliet sighat bahar u hecc hu li min Malta isibu ruhna f'Ghaudex id-dar tghacom.

Maria: Min jaf ghadomx haijin Giann?

Gianni: Chif, uara tliet xiur safar sejra issa iddahhal f'rasec il meut ta ommoc u ta missierec? Inkas li ilna bghod min pajjsna xi ghaxiar snin.

Maria: Tajjeb nittama li ghadom hajjin...

Gianni: U ghadhom sgur Maria . Mandumux ma insalpau bl'ixprunara tighai ghal Ghaudex, izda collox bil ghakal, kabel nett irridu narau x'sar minnu dac il kalil ta Mirilai Hanama, u narau jecc ghadux bdac il hsieb ta kabel. ... Ma tafx chif nistau niltakau mighu u nghalu bl'icrah!

Maria: Iva x'dahhlu fmohhom dauc innies; jen li

trabbeit f'ghozza tant gbira fid-din nisrani sejjra nithallat ma wiehed li jahlef illigi ta Maumettu? Ma jarax li dan ma sata icun katt li jena nitgharras ma Hanama.

Gianni: Hecc nghaid jen ucoll Maria.. umbghat ahna li trabbeina fl'imchien phal ma jitrabbeu il gilji tal wiedin u jissahhu fl'ilma l'actar safi! u cbirna fost tant cliem helu. Ghandec tghaid li chien tasseu missema Maria

Maria: Iva Gianni, mahniex inkas min zeug t'ahua li jibcu u jifirhu fliemchien bhala kalb wahda.

Gianni: Nifirhu iva, li ergiaina gejna fil gzejjer tghana! U tghadt ahna biss nifirhu f'dan issabieh jum?

Maria: Jifirhu innies colla ta Malta u Ghaudex.

Gianni: U jifrah sa l'istess bahar! sa l'istess sema li ighattina u jifrah il gebel li nimxiu fuku! Daluakt, daluakt mahbuba Maria narau lil paijisna mifdijn, ma idumx ma jasal haun il Conti Ruggieru ma huc Nicol.

Maria; Mur ara Patri Gualtieri chemm sejjer ighola bil ferh x'hin jisma li uasal fil gzeijer tghana il Conti Ruggieru!

Gianni: Jifrah sa chemm kalbu ma tatiehx actar. (Fil hin jinstama crib gej mil bghot u dejjem jokrob.)

Maria: Isma Giann! X'inhu dan il crib?!

Gianni: Min jaf hux xi Malti nisrani li gie mahkur mil gharab?!

Maria: Ma tcunx leuuel darba; marridx niftacar fl'imghoddi...

Gianni: Naf li isautu lil insara ghax ma'iridux jemnu b'Maumettu tahhom; u issa chemm jistau idumu? Malli jasal haun il Conti Ruggieru colla jithlu gio koxrithom (il crib jinstama actar fil krib.)

Maria: Isma..... Il crib riesak l'ghaun! Ejja narau min jista icun Giann (jimxu xi ftit passi.)

Scena II.

Patri Gualtieri u ta kabel.

Patri: (Jithol marbut b'habel min fuk s'isfel, isfar u batut donnu méjjet) Sema tal hniena! (ihares lejn issema bla ma jinduna b'Gianni u Maria.)

Gianni: (B'heggia gbira) Maria! X'ked nara!!!

Mar: Gian: Patri Gualtieri!!!

Patri: Gianni!!! Maria!!! (jitghanku it-tlieta)

Gianni: Patri Gualtieri, dan l'irbit?! Dic isfuria ta uiccech? min icunu katt li ghamillec dan collu?....

Patri: (B'lehen deboli) Uliedi.... chemm bateit mindu infridna! chemm hallasta kares ittelka tghacom ghal Skallija!...

Maria: Ghaliex mahbub missier tighai htieglec tant tbati?.....

Patri: L'euuel ghal imhabba ta paijisi, umbghat ghalicom.

Gianni: Ghalina? ... Iva halli leuuel inhollue min daun il hbula umbghat ghaidilna... (Iholloh) Ghaidilna xi gralec?

Patri: (uara li halleuh jehu nifs kauui u jistrih) Dichinar stess li intcom tlaktu ghal Skallija fil uakt li jen bil mactur fidi biex naticom l'ahhar tislima, hecc hu li gie fuki Hanama b'xi agass mighau armati; imdadah bhal chelb beda jistaksin jecc chellix lilcom mohbijin fil cunvent, ghaliex ried bil fors il hajja tighac, chemm ucoll ta Nicola fl'ahhar ghedded bil meut ucoll lili chemm il darba ma nghaidlux fein contu tinsabu intom it-tlieta, ghal darf il cliem bzait u ghedtlu: "Intix tara dic l'ixprunara tofrok l'ilma? Fuk dic jinsabu Gianni Ghabdállah, Maria u hua Nicol" "U fein seijrin?" compla ighaidli: Jen wegiptu li sejrin Skallija, ma chienitx chelma, meta

ra li ma satax jakbatcom izied taht ideih, xehet il htia ta dac collu fuki, gighel linnies tighau jakbduni, giebuni ghaun Malta, u uara li domt kisni tliet xiur kalb ittorok irsiera nghaix taht l'art tat-torri ta Xiberras, il bierah rabtuni bdaun il hbula, tefghauni fuk dghar ta ziemel, lebtuh bhal mahrub, u geu xehtuni ghaun fuk dan il blat bhal ma jixtu il clieb!

Gian: Mar: Imseichen Patri. (Jakbdulu id cull wihed u ibusuilu bi hrara cbira.)

Patri: Ghaiduli xi hagia chif ghaddeituhom daun it-tliet xhur gio Skallija.

Gianni: Kabel xein ja raheb ghandi ngharfec li Maria hia tighai ghal collox.

Patri: Tasseu Maria?

Maria: Iva patri, hmistax hilu gio Skallija kuddiem il Conti Ruggieru stess, dac it-tuajjeb patri Giusepp rabatna biz-zeug mal cnisia u sirna ta xulxin.

Patri: Nifirhilcom uliedi! Tara Giann chif collox jasal, uasal il jum li Maria tcun tighac ghal collox, issema icompli mghacom....... huc Nicol, Maria? U il Conti Ruggieru, Giovanni?

Gianni: Il conti Ruggieru daluakt narau ig-gfien tighau reskin lein Malta.

Patri: (mistghageb ghal lahhar) Chif?... Kghedin taidu isseuua jeu kedin ticciatau mighai?..

Maria: Il bieraht'lura conna fix-xatt ta Siracusa ma hia Nicol u sillimna lil xulxin biex nitilku lein Malta bl'ixpruna ta Gianni, u hia kalli li lesti biex jitilku huma ucoll, ghaliex il Conti Ruggieru ha taht idejh Skallija colla u l'ghada li tlakna ahna chellu isalpa biex jigi jehu il gzeijer tghana. (Trombi)

Patri: (Ferhan) X'ahbar sabicha! Icun imbierec issema ghala dejjem! (Fil hin jinstama aijat gbir ta ferh fil bghod dakk ta trombi, kniepel u cant tal Kyrie eleison) dehlin xi.

gfien!.... ghaun fdaun ixxtut tal gneina.

Gianni: Iva il Conti Ruggieru! Ngharaf il gifen tighau li chien fuku Sirakusa!

Maria: U l'ihor li chien fuku Nicol. Ftit uaslu uaraina.

Patri: (Ferhan) Liema ferh ghalicom ja gzeijer imkaddsa! Intom s'issa contu taht shab isuet, izda daluak jitkatta dac is-shab u min tahtu tfegg il ceuba tal hena!

Gianni: Spiccia il biza ghalina Maria! Il Mirilai Hanama ma jigix ifittixna izied ghal meut. (jitghanku)

Patri: U spiccia il biza tighai ucoll li nista nghaid cont gia geuua il kabar (ghaijat mil gdid) Oh! chemm huma zbieh dauc il kluh bojod u chemm ghandu icun sabieh dac li kighed imexxighom? Dac l'anglu mibghut missema biex jivdi il gzeijer tghana min taht idein il Misilmin, dac il kaddis Conti Ruggieru! Kighat ninsa it-tbatijit colla ta haiti! Ked inhossni nituiled mil gdid! Ghainejja kedin jintleu b'daul l'actar safi! Lil Malta ked narha actar sabieha! Demm gdid ked inhossu jigri geuua gismi! Immorru, immorru Gianni u Maria biex nilkau ahna ucoll lil Conti Ruggieru. (jitilku bi hrara cbira, il kniepel u il ghajjat ghadom jinstemghu)

Scena III.

Dakk kniepel u ghajjat.

Mirilai Hanama, Mufti, Hammuda, Ahmed, Elhasan, u gharab ohra armati b'tarchi, xuabel, vlegeg ecc.

Hana: (jithol jigri donnu chelb irrabiat, ihares l'ghaun u l'hemm ma jafx x'jakbat jghamel) Mishutin ghall mitt darba icunu l'insara colla! Mishut icun Nicol Ghabdull u cull min tah ghainuna! Inkarkin ninsabu ahna! Il Conti Ruggieru dahal bil gfien tighau f'daun

il gzeijer, u daluakt jinzel l'art u icun hua li jahchem collox! Il mishuta Maltin lakghauh bil ferh u biddak ta kniepel u trombi! Ma nakbatx uihed mil hatjin taht ideja? Hak illehja ta Maumettu li nixrob middemm tighau. (imur jakbat il Mufti bil herra li dan ghandu fuk spaltu giårra gbira tal fohhar ked izomma b'ghozza gbira) Int x'inti tghamel fid-dinja ja Hagg?! Mur chisser dic il giarra li lilec iggiorra mighac gimgha shiha.

Mufti: Inchisser din il giarra? u irruh ta missieri fein tmur? Din il giarra dort Malta colla minlia bil ghasel u issa immur nixtu fuk il kabar ta missieri li miet bhal lum sena u dfintu taht sigra tal harrub ghaun ma gemb il gniena.

Hana: U b'dakshecc tahseb int li jecc missierec chien ragel hazin sejjer jithol geuua il Karham?

Mufti: Iva ja sidi, Jena hlomt li missieri kiat sa gheddumu fis-silg u kalli "Jecc trid thlisni min din id-dbatija, kiat fuk il kabar tighai giarra ghasel Malti.Hallini immur fein il kabar tighu.

Hana: (Izommu) Haun, haun ghax illum l'actar li tehtigli.

Mufti: Ara tuakkali il giarra ja sidi ghax tibghat lil missieri gio l'infern ta dejjem.

Hana: Daluakt inkissirlec rasec jecc inti ma tismax climi, ismghani: Int li titchellem maxxiaten, int li thob l'Allah u lil profeta tighau Maumettu, itlobom li jibghatu xita tannar u jaharku il gfien tal Conti, Itlobghom jakilbu il bahar ta taht fuk u jgharku lil Conti binnis tighau colla!

Mufti: Jena tlabtom ja sidi izda Muhammed donnu it-tarrax ghal collox. Imseicna giarra jahasra jecc m'ghandix tinkisirli, Muhammed izommili shiha (izomm il giarra b'ghozza gbira.)

Hana: Hallic min dic il giarra li seijra tisuilec haitec, argia itlobhom ja Mufti sahhar.

Mufti: U chemm titlobghom ja sidi umbat Muhammed jitlalu ghalia u jibgholli is-sajjetti.

Hana: Ipka itlob sa chemm Allah jisma dac li irrid.Jena li jaklep il bahar ta taht fuk u li itakka il quecheb fuk l'edeuua.

Hana: (Feroci) Mishut l'int ja Mufti, Ittalb tighac ma jisua ghal xein, int mictub maxxiaten Allah jghobodoc.

Mufti: Le, le Allah ihobbni, jin mort il mecca u fkait ghaini ghalimhabba ta Allah, jena hagg, kaddis Allah, Illahu, Razul. (jinzel gharcupteih jitlob)

Hammu: Ja Mirilai ahiar ma intilfux zmien ma dan l'iblah ta Mufti, ftacar xkallec l'Emir biex iddauuar ixxtut colla bin-nis tghana.

Hana: Ma jistax icunn li nerbhulu il Conti hua kauui uisk ja bin il chelb.

Ahmed: Ja sidi Mirilai ma nistaux inkabdu lil ascar tghana jitfau il gebel ghal fuk ixxuini tal Conti?

Hana: X'tista tghamel bil gebel la ma tghaidx ninsabu sider ma sider u nuruhom il kauua ta daun is-schiechen tghana.

Elhasan: (Jinstema ghajjat cbir) Naharbu, naharbu ghax gejja il cotra fukna. (jitlak jigri culhadt il Mufti johrog l'ahhar wihed bil giarra fuk spaltu ix-xena tipka voita ghal ftit.) (Ront tal Kirie eleison)

Scena IV.

Conti Ruggieru, De Martini, Nicol, Gianni, Fernando, Maria, Patri, u Maltin ohra.

Nicol: (Jithol leuuel wihed liebes ta Captan)Ifrah o Malta ghalix uasal il feddej tighac, ifirhu o Gzeijer ixxurtiati.

Patri: Itla ja helua xemx u checci il biza min fuk hiti Maltin! Dbierec ja art li uara l'ap-

postlu San Paul issa midd rigleih fukec ghal leuuel darba il Conti Ruggieru sabiex icompli il missioni tighaù

Conti: (Jithol mal Maltin u xi grighi il captan de Martini Gianni Maria bil frighai tal palm u tazzebbug u icantau il kyrie elesion maddak tattrombi N.B. Jecc jista icun il Conti riecheb fuk ziemel) Nizzicom hair min din il-lakgha tghacom ech sabieha! Lilcom ja Maltin illi iddinja colla tfahhar ghal fidi nisranija u il gmiel tal gzeijer tghacom! Huma sbih il gzeijer tghacom il bahar ictar ichal, issema l'actarsafi u daun l'irueijah tal ward tal plejju u tassusann inhossom jaksmuli kalbi. Collox sabih, collox iferhec... biss il Musulmani jghamlulcom ghaib u ihamgiu il gzeijer tghacom! izda jena nittama li ixxeuka tghacom tigi maktugha... xi tridu tchecciu lil gharab min paijiscom? (~~Cant ta Kyrie Elesion~~)

Culhadt: Mill actar fis ja gbir guerrir u mobli Norman.

Conti: Daluakt tarau lil ghadu jimmansa phal hrief phal ma immansa geuua Skallija, m'hix actar taht il hacma tal misilmin izda tinsab mahcuma min ibni li ghad icun werrid tighai... Issa issema bghatni nifdi daun il mahbubin gzeijer tacom, u forsi tcun l'ahhar geurra li jena nghamel, rid jigi ibni stess sabiex jehu daun il gzeijer min taht idein l'gharab, izda jena ghattlu le ibni dac ma hux hops tighac u hecc hu li ghalchemm illum jena xiaht u inhoss gia rigel wihed geuua il kabar, geit fil gzeijer tghacom sabiex jen ixxerred demmi fdin it-taktigha jen nirbah fuk l'ghadu ghal dejjem.

Culhadt: Tirbah, tirbah!!

Conti: Jen ech ucoll nittama phal ma irbaht bnadi ohra, u jecc katt nirbah itolbu bissahha ta dan iz-zazuh Nicol Ghabdull li Jena dahhaltu ascar mighai u ghamiltu captan

fi tliet xiur ghalix rait il hila u il
kauua tighaufl'ahhar taktigha li saret fuk
il bahar ta Siracusa, ghamel rebha gbira fuk
l'gharab u mux biss katel lil Mirilai
u xi agass ohra ma sahansitra heles lili
ucoll mill chiefra meut.

Culhadt: Ghalic ittifhir Nicol Ghabdull (ixeiru bil palm) Ghalic il ward u il kronfol. Ghalic il ghana u id-dakk tal kniepel!

Ferrandi ~~Maria~~: ~~Issema jafulec hia.~~(jitghanku) Missier!

Gianni: (Jehdu fidein xulxin) Nifrahlec Nicol. (jghanhu)

Patri: Nicol ta kalbi mux ta pxein chien ixxol tghana, ilka din il beusa li seijra taka mil kalp ta missir l'insara (Ibusu fuk gbinu il Maltin l'ohra icomplu johdulu b'idu wihed uara l'ihor)

Nicol: Jena nizzixhair lissema leuuel nett uara, lil conti Ruggieru talli tant habbni umbghat lilcom o huti Maltin ta dan collu li kedin tghamlu mighai, Izda cunu afu li jin ghad ma inix hini ghal,collox, il gzeijer tghana ghad ma humix mehlusin min taht il hacma tal Maumettani, Jehtigilna nghatu bidu......

Conti: Nghatu bidu mill actar fis.....

Patri: Jecc ma hux ghal hagia ohra o tuajjeb conti, sabiex targia troddilna taht ideina il cnejjes li hadulna daun innis ta bla kalp u bidluhom fi diar l'actar mokzieza.

Conti: Collox inroddilcom, isau halli nghatu bidu bla telf ta zmien. Arau issa li culhadt jghatini ghainuna, culhadt jarma ruhu u juri hiltu colla. Morru fi diarcom u gibu schiechen, staletti, vlegeg u cul ma issibu tajjeb ghal din it-takbida.(lil cap de Martini) Int Captan de Martini issa mur hu hsieb l'igfien u kiat lil bahrin colla u suldati fuk il prua ghal chemm jisimghou il chelma tighai.

De Martini: Daluakt mighac o Conti... Jen attilghom bie: ma izarmau, l'ebda qlugh kabel ma nisimghou il chelma tighac u il bahrin u

issuldati colla bil kaddis li jecc iarau lil xihadt gei ghal fukom mil gharab inuahhlulom bla hniena.

Conti: Tajjeb captan, ghalina mela, ma indumux ma narau l'istandard tal Musulmani fideina u fuk il biut tghacom iperper dac il mixtiek ta l'insara. Nicol Ghabdul int li taf timxi b'ghaineic maluka ittorok ta daun il gzeijer, mexxina int, ahna nigiu uaraic.

Nicol: Kaddej tighac o Conti nghamel cul ma taidli.

Conti: Immorru, immorru culhadt ikawwi kalbu.

Patri: Jen ucoll irrid nihu sehem, immorru b'isem tas-sema geuua kalbna. (Nicol jitlak ighaggel leuuel wihed il Conti Ruggieru waraih, fil uakt li l'ohrain colla hergin uaraighom jinzel isseparìu helu, helu.)

Jispiccia it-tielet Att.

Ir-rabgha Att.

Malta rebbieha. Uara gimgha, billejl u hemda gbira.

Scena I.

Nicol Ghabdul, u issuldati Maltin armati.

Nicol: (jithol ihares l'aun u l'hemm uaraih suldati Maltin) Digia ghaddiet gimgha li fia ilna nghatu u dac il chiefer ta Mirilai Hanama ghadni ma iltkaitx mighau sider ma sider chif nixtiek jin! Sa dal ghodu chien ghadu isus biex jersak leja, izda din iddarba nispicciaugha wihed minna ghandu imut! Xi uhut min shabi kaluli li rauh fuk din il gholia ta Xiberras jirgha kisu volpi, jecc niltaka mighau uicc imbuicc nurih xjisna Nicol Ghabdul. (lissuldati) Huti Maltin l'gharab digia katau kalbom mil Conti Ruggieru il bierah l'Emir Kadi ta Malta u

Ghaudex bghat ijghaid li illum jigi sa ghandu sabiex iuakkaf ittakbida u jatih il gzeijer tghana, ghalec biza ma ghannix u nistau inghaidu li ahna gia rebbihin, izda ghalia il guerra ma tispicciax kabel ma nara mejjet taht rigleija lil ~~rigleija lil~~ Mirilai Hanama.. Iva umbghat incunu nistau inghaidu li ahna irbahna. Biss talba nghamlilcom; jin naf chemm intom thobbuni u ma tridunix ninfired mincom bil chiefra meut... U jen naidilcom illi jec katt niltakau ma Hanama, halluh fidieja, ara xi hadt biex jippercedini jarfa ideih fuku... marridx, dac hua tighai imiss lili sabiex inhalsu ta cul ma ghamilli! Fimtu huti? Jec hua joktolni nghaid mit ghal paijisi. Jec noktlu ahna incunu nistau inghaidu issa irbahna sgur. Issa imxiu fit mighai fil camp tal Conti ax bghat ghalia biex ichellimni (fil hin li icunu sejrin jinstama lehen Hanama) Iekfu dakxein.... gei xi hadt l'ghaun, iva l'edeuua tghana imxiu ninhbeu.(imorru uara il quinti)

Scena II.

Mufti Wahdu.

Mufti: (jithol mixxelleg imbazza) Muhammed, muhammed ehlisni min taht il killa ta Hanama! Irid bil fors joktolni! Chif iddadah ghalija! Bghatni infittixlu lil dac il bin il chelb ta Nicol Ghabdul u ma nafx fein nibda insibu u jecc mansibux? Jecc mansibux ... ah! Hagg, Hagg x'isir minnec! Muhammed! Allah, Allahu!... Jena ghettlu lil Emir li dan mhux xoghol tighai! Dan li jassarni mal Mirilai Hanama, nigri lejl u nhar mighau biex nghamila ta ghezzieh u culjum iridni nghamillu is-sharijet; iridni min haun incun naf nghaidlu x'kighed

jghamel is-sultan tat-Turchia. Jena Mufti Hagg tal Mecca, m'nei-sa-fein ghandi nihu sehem fit-taktih u fit tislit tas-schiechen. Le, le isschiechen ichexcxuni! Izda icolli nokghod ghalija, inchella Mirilai Hanama... X'wahda din!... Allah ehlisni mil meut ta deijem!.. (jinzel gharcupteih u jitlob) Immut , izda ibghatni fil Karam ta chemm ghamilt ghalic, il Karam, il Karam!

Scena III.

Hanama, Mufti suldati gharab ohra armati.

Hanama: (jithol bl'istandard gharbi fidu bhal wihed feroci u imur ghal fuk il Mufti, uaraih jithlu l'ohrain) Sibtu lil Nicol Ghabdul ja Mufti?! Jec ma sibtux illum tcun l'ahhar tighec!!!....

Mufti: (Imbezza) Chif tridni insibu ja sidi, f'dan id-dlam u b'ghain wahda mifkugha! Illum nargia immur ghand L'Emir u nghaidlu li ma irridc icolli x'naksam mighec izied, Jena Mufti mhux irsier tighac.

Hanama: (Deijem feroci) Allah jghamic min ghainec l'ohra!..

Mufti: (incurlat hua ucoll) Allah izommloc il-sienec!

Hanama: Allah jibghatlec il meut ta deijem!!! (Itih dakk ta xiabla u jitfghau meijet bein il quinti.)

Mufti: (B'lehen mahnuk min bein il quinti) Muhammed hniena! Hniena! Allah!.. Illahu! ... Muhammed razul!... (Daun il chelmiet jintfeu bein il quinti u lehnu ma jinstemax izied.)

Scena IV.

Nicol Ghabdul, suldati maltin armati u

ta kabel barra il Mufti li hua mejjet.

Nicol: (Jithol armat bix-xabla u it-tarca, imur drit ghal fuk Hanama, l'ohrain maltin jithlu uaraih) Ghalina ja Mirilai! Min icun ked jitkghabad ghal pajjsu icun ked jghamel id-dmir tighau.

Hanama: Lilec cont kiat infittex u uara il Meut tal Mufti li inti kighed tarah mixhut hemm fl'art issa uaslet ucoll tighac. (idur ghal fuk shabu) Intcom arau li f'din it-takbida hadd ma jindahal.

Nicol: Ghalina Hanama; narau jecc Maumettu tighac ghandux hila irebhec. (Jekfu ghassarar, il maltin jiffurmau partit innaha ta Nicol u l'gharab innaha ta Hanama.)

Hanama: Tidghax ja din il chelb! Uri sahtec!... (jakbdu jissarau ta veri guerriri taximitarri).

Nicol: Issa nithadtu.....

Gharab: Tih lil din il chelb!...

Maltin: Tih lil mislem! (ghal dal cliem Hanama u Nicol actar jifferociau.)

Gharab: Tih lil chelb nisrani!...

Maltin: Tih lil bin Muhammed!...

Gharab: Isa ja Mirilai.

Maltin: Isa Nicol Ghabdul.

Hanama: Ghal dinec ja chelb nisrani!

Nicol: Spicciah dan il cliem (jatih dakka ta xiabla fuk ghonku icun pront jahtaflu l'istandard min idu)

Hanama: (jitfa ixxabla fl'art, u jixhet ideih it-tnein malair fuk ghonku biex jghalak il ferita u ikis li sa chemm imut ma inehhix ideih min chif icunu) Irbahtli!!!!

Gharab: (Imbezzghan ighaitu chemm jifilhu) Allah!!! Muhammed!!!Allah!!!(johorgiu imbezzghain)

Hanama: Jena kighed inhossni immut!.. (b'lehen fgat) l'isem tighai imkasbar kuddiem id-dinja!... Jena li id-dinja colla chienet tibsa minni!... immut?!.. Maktul min

chelb malti!.. Nicol Ghabdul chellu item il haija tighai!.. Int Nicol... li min haun u ftit jehor tirfes fuk il gesem tighai mejjet! Jena nishtec!.. nishet l'insara colla!.. u fl'ahhar nishet lil Conti Ruggieru!.... Allah!...Allah... (jaka fl'art mejjet)

Nicol: U jena imbierec lissema li irbaht l'ghadu tighai! Mirilai Hanama fadal biss ismu u il gisem tighau mejjet! Huti Maltin, imxiu issa fein il Conti Ruggieru biex natuh il bxara. (Nicol jitlak bl'istandard gharbi fuk spaltu il Maltin jitilku uaraih mixxellug ferhana. u jghaitu Viva Nicol Abdul!

Scena IV.

L'Emir, Hammuda, Ahmed, Elhasan u Hanama Mejjet.

Emir: (Jithol millemin xin jara lil Hanama fl'art mejjet jimbghala) Allah tighai x'jena nara!.. Mirilai Hanama mejjet!... L'ahjar Mirilai id-dinja ! (ittlet agass jithlu) kedin tarau ja agass?.. dac li ahna conna inseihulu l'akua fost culhadd jinsab mejjet.

Hammuda: U ma gembna ghadna chemm raina ucoll mejjet il Mufti tighac.

Emir: Il Mufti tighaj ucoll mejjet? Maumettu idahhlu fil Karam ta dejjem!

Hammuda: Ghamilt seuua o cbir Emir li mort issewwi mal Conti Ruggieru ghaliex wihed haj minna ma chienx jivdal! it-triekat mimlijn colla bin-nies meita min shabna, u cull mia tara wihed malti jeu xi normann ferut.

Emir: Ghalecc jena bghattcom tficciu lil Mirilai Hanama sabiex immorru fl'imchien ghand il Conti Ruggieru niftehemu.

Ahmed: Izda Hanama chien rasu jebsa; meta mort ngheidlu kalli: " Ma jekafx is-sarar u ma mirrangiaux kabel ma noktol lil Nicol Ghabdul".

Elhasan: Huma it-tnien chienu ket ifitxiu lil xulxin ghal meut u chif nahseb jin li hadt ma katel lil Mirilai Hanama hlief Nicol Ghabdul.

Emir: Ghandcom tghaidu hecc chellu icun! Muhammed u Allah riedu hecc u spiccia... Issa jena phal ma tafu intcom u bhal ma haun mictub min ideja u idein il Conti (juri il pergamena mictuba) Mort ghandu u semmeina collox; ghattlu biex jehu daun il gzeijer min ghair ma inxerdu demm izjed. Ghattlu ucoll, biex ahna il ftit gharab li fadal hajin nibkghau haun taht il hacma tighau u inhalsu xi ftit tal harag, hua ferah hafna u uegibni li nistau nokghodu, biss li ma icolna x'naksmu xein izied ma Malta u Ghaudex.

Hammuda: Mela mil-lum il kuddiem inti ma intix il Hachem ta dan il gzeijer?

Emir: Jena millum il kuddiem incun rajjes tghacom bhala missier ghal cull ma jinhtiegilcom.

Ahmed: Ja sidi, mizzihair l'Allah u il profeta tighau Maumettu li hlisnija buicc il gid u ghadna haijin!

Emir: Iva, nizzihair li ma gralniex bhal Mufti u il Mirilai Hanama, ahna issa ma ghannix xnaksmu izied fil glid mal Maltin, ghaliex jena u il Conti semmejna collox; jista imur cullhadt fid-deir tighau. Issa hudu mghacom lil Mirilai keduh f'-nofs il gemgha u hemmec isir it-talb lil Allah sabiex bhala saratur kalbieni li chien idahhlu fil Karam ta dejjem. (L'agass jakbdu lil Hanama u jitilku bieh, l'Emir jimxi uaraihom).

Scena V.

Il Conti Ruggieru, Nicol, Gianni, Patri Gualtieri, De Martin u il Maltin colla li hadu parti fid-dram barra Maria.

Conti: (jithol leuuel wihed bit-tarca u ix-xabla f'idu uaraih l'ohrain colla x'uhud bil palm u il fiuri f'ideihom) Ifirhu o Maltin, il biza tghacom spiccia! Ahna irbahna lil Misilmin, huma cedeu l'armi, ftit ilu sar il fteghim mal Hachem fein tana daun il gzeijer b'rebbieha.

Culhadd: Viva il Conti Ruggieru!

Conti: Ifirhu u fahhru lis-sema talli bghat lili f'pajiscom sabiex nifdicom u nargia nif-thilcom il cnejjes u nghamlilcom ohrain giodda.....

Patri: Chemm inti tajjeb o Conti Ruggieru!.... Int kaddis timxi fl'art u ahna haun lesti sabiex ninzlu imbusu fein inti tirfes!... Ifthilna il cnejjes sabiex fighom jargia isaltan Is-sultan tassema u l'art. O chemm huma ixxxurtiati daun il gzeijer tghana! Huma chienu zbieh, izda actar zeijintom bil gbia tighac! Viva il Conti Ruggieru il feddej tghana.

Culhadd: Viva il feddej tghana!

Conti: Lilec o patri Gualtieri, issa niehdoc mighau Ruma u inresskec kuddiem il Papa Urbanu II sabiex ighamlec iskof ta daun il gzeijer li uara 220 sena ma chellomx ir-rghai tal merhla tahhom, u nibnilec cnisia gdida geuua ir-Rabat li tibka tifchira tal migia tighai fuk din l'art imbierca.

Patri: Dan lili ma jisthoklix, izda nizzihair b'kalbi colla u icun dac li irid is-sema!

Conti: U inti Nicol Ghabdul li ureit tant hila gbira u mitt darba cont f'halk il meut

sabiex tifdi lil pajisec ipka sgur li ismec katt ma jithassar min kalp hutec il Maltin u jibka mictub fl'istoria.

Nicol: U l'isem tighac o Conti sachemm jipka Malti jghaix gio daun il gzeijer jipka jitfahhar u jitgholla.

Conti: Int Nicol mux biss fdeit il paijisec, izda anche lili geuua skallija, ghalec b'din il medalja li sejjer inkedlec fuk sidrec nghamlec Hachem ta Ghaudex li ua paijisec u li tant thobb u jin incun il Hachem ta Malta. (ipoggilu il medalja fuk sidru)

Nicol: Nizzichair o Conti min din il medalja u il Hachem ta Malta u Ghaudex tcun inti biss. Jena irrid incompli il weda li ghamilt, li chemm il darba nifdi lil paijisi nithol patri.

Conti: Is-sema icompli mighac ibni int l'actar bniedem hieni! Gia la darba inti ghamilt din il ueda mur patri u filhinijet zbieh tighac itlob ghalija.

Cullhadd: Viva Nicol Ghabdul viva il Malti,eroi tghana!

Conti: Issa intcom mahbubin Maltin li sa issa ma chelcomx bandiera tperper fuk il biut tghacom hlif dic tal Misulmani, sejjer nghaticom bandiera jin, u din il bandiera nohoda min daun iz-zeuc culuri li ingib fuk it-tarca phala arma tannisel tighai mill'ahmar u l'abjat tcun mghakuda il bandiera tghacom.

<u>Lahhar Scena.</u>

Fernandez

Maria u ta kabel colla.

Fernandez

Maria: (tithol liebsa l'ahjad u l'ahmar bil bandiera Maltija u tmur tippresenta lil Conti) Ja Gbir u sabieh Conti, Malta hadmitlec il bandiera chif xtakt int.

Is-Sliema

Conti: Ghalic o xbieba sabiha li phal issa fic kiat nghara lil Malta f'ideic jena inkiat din il bandiera mur tellahha fuk l'ghola bixt ta din il Gzira u hallia tperper fizziffa helua ta din il ghodua gdida u ecc icun culhadt jista jghara daun iz-zeuc culuri li uakau min geuua kalbi ghal geuua kalbcom: L'abiat hua il fidi li hallilcom San Paul f'Gesù Cristu u l'ahmar hua ixxrar ta l'imhabba ghal paijiscom! Jeu ahjar il warda u il gilju jghakdu il bandiera ta Malta. (Nicol u Maria jinzlu gharcupteihom ibusuh izommu il bandiera , l'ohrain colla jixtu fiuri ghal fuk il bandiera u icantau sollennement l'innu li gei "Malta" spiccia l'innu jinsel isseпariu bil mod il mod).

Fenandes

Malta. Cant Finali.

Innu Patriotticu.

ta Caba Carmelo

1. O Gzira ta Malta
Daks warda sabiha
Int timla bil fiuha
Lil gnus u l'ibliet
Int xemx fnof id-dinja
Int cnisia ta Alla
Li phala kausalla
Tiddi fissmeuuit

Refrain: F'cull kalb u f'cull menti
Ta ulidec Maltin
Ta Alla il hanin
Il gbija tinsab
U chemm il bandiera
U l'fidi min tighac
In'tipka ggib mighac
Sachemm issir trab

2. Mil jum helu'mkaddes
Li fic rifes Paulu
Ghaneic fis iddaulu
Phal raggi tax-xemx
    Il gilju u l'uarda
    Issingal tas-Salib
    Li gio kalbec iggib
    Xein lilec ma itemx
F'cull kalb u f'cull menti ecc.ecc.

3. Int Dghaisa fnofs lilma
Mil meuc uisk mahkura
Ghalchemm katt micsura
Ma geulec il kluh
    Chemm pcheu dauc ulidec
    Chemm demm huma xerdu
    Eluf fic inkerdu
    'M'ma giehec merfuh.
F'cull kalb ecc.ecc.

<u>Tmiem tad-dramm.</u>

Ittaipiat min

Lewis Bonnici

30 Jannar 1939.