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TRADITIONS OF GUATEMALA

8

Guatemala, Central America

1977

TESTIMONIES



CHALLENGE
OF THE
CRISTHIAN KING
AND THE
MOORISH KING

THE CHALLENGE OF THE CHRISTIAN KING AND THE MOORISH KING

Moorish King *(brave)*

*Pagan treasure and fame
whom you come adoring,
today I come tearing down
he who has made you understand
that you adore falsehoods;
when my prophet Muhammad
is the pure truth. Today these Christians
will see whom they should adore,
for I am a good foreseer
and only Allah,
is our God and Lord,
and in towns and places
He should be celebrated
with pomp and devotion,
and whoever does not do so
will not attain his forgiveness
and should be converted,
to ash or coal.*

Christian King

*Be silent, be silent, ungrateful Moor
do not create this impediment,
for we want to celebrate
this celestial wonder;
for the divine patroness*

*is coming out at this moment,
and commend yourself to the two
and to the Divine Sacrament;
do not be so bold as to impede the devotion,
that for each of us
is born from the heart,
and we continue praising them
with faith and veneration.*

Moorish King

*Be silent, infamous
Christian do not try to assert yourself,
for with my spear and my sword
I can lay you low there.*

Christian King

*Do not think that the faith
for this prayer does not burn in me,
and I also carry my spear
with which I have killed so many.*

Moorish King

*Do not believe that I fear
that bewitched spear,
nor that celebration of yours
and with just one thrust
I will take off your skin.*

Christian King

*You will not achieve that feat
infamous and traitorous Moor,
for with only my valor
I will kill you quickly.*

Moorish King

*First the great Muhammad
and also our holy Allah,
who being so powerful
He will defend me.*

Christian King

*Be silent, be silent, lying Moor
do not continue with your stubbornness,
and you, most arrogant dog
I will kill you this day.*

Moorish King

*I want to see poor Christian
surrender at my feet,
first will be Muhammad
and your God will be afterward.*

*I await you there ahead
in the widest field,
and furthermore, I am swift
and I have endurance.*

(The Christian King leaves)

CHALLENGE

Christian King

*Allah must defend me
on this day, to kill that Christian,
son of the Virgin Mary;
striking blows
here and there.*

Christian King (emerging)

*Bold Mohammedan
do not show so much skill,
because my shining steel
must cut off your head.*

Moorish King

*That I should recognize any
of your vile tricks, Christian,
rather with sword in hand
I will make the moon eclipse you.*

Christian King

*I want to see if your gods
take you from my hands.*

Moorish King

*You must see me dead first
than you convincing me.*

Christian King

*Truly you grate
Showing your valor*

Moorish King

*Liar, Allah and my steel
should have killed you first*

Christian King

*What a pity your bravery
if you do not know how to pronounce,
the sweet name of Mary.*

Moorish King

*My hand is already tired
and my feet tremble with fear*

Christian King

*You can no longer stop
foolish arrogant Moor,
now I must thrust
a handspan of my steel into you.*

*(The Christian King will thrust his sword
at the Moor, who receives it in the right arm,
falling to his knees and the steel jumping from
his hands)*

Moorish King

*Forgive me, comrade
my heart is leaving me,
here, I give you my steel
and grant me your forgiveness.*

Christian King

*Do you not understand, old man
that by the name of Mary,
I conquer you with your glory
and yet you still persist.*

Moorish King

*Son, I am now of Mary
that divine wonder,
and I praise this day
the divine Sacrament.*

Both

*Here surrendered we ask
grace of joy and contentment,
because we are celebrating this celestial wonder.*

FAREWELL

*Goodbye divine patroness
cast your blessing upon us,
and if God grants us life
we will come another time.*

THE END.



Combat of the Dance of Moors and Christians. Feast of the Virgen del Tránsito. Chiquimula. (Photography: Héctor Abraham Pinto).

Moors from the Dance of Moors and Christians.
Feast of the Virgen del Tránsito. Chiquimula.
(Photography: Héctor Abraham Pinto).





Christians from the Dance of Moors and Christians.
Feast of the Virgen del Tránsito. Chiquimula.
(Photography: Héctor Abraham Pinto).