

**Text :**

Cheikh Zakaria Ben Slimane Ben Yahia was born on June 12<sup>th</sup>, 1908. He was given the nickname of Moufdi by a school friend. He was born and attended school in the M'zab region of Algeria. He became associated with Algerian nationalists and served time in prison for his beliefs in 1937 and 1938. In 1955 he was imprisoned in Serkadji prison by the French for his politics. There he wrote a poem called "Qassaman" or "The Pledge". It was said that he wrote the poem on the walls of his cell using his own blood because he had neither pencils nor paper to write in the prison. The poem was later set to music by Mohamed Triki in 1956 and then by Mohamed Fawzi. The final song was heard in 1957. This poem became the Algerian national anthem shortly after July 5<sup>th</sup>, 1962 when independence was achieved. Zakaria died in 1977 in Tunisia but his body was buried in Algeria.

His university education was in Tunis where he met a number of poets including Aboul-Qacem Echebbi. His first poetry was published in a Tunisian newspaper in 1925. Moufdi Zakaria. His poetry was believed to be largely influenced by the work of Egyptian poet Ahmed Shawqi. Moufdi Zakaria Airport in Ghardaïa, Algeria is named in his honour. His name was also given to cultural centre built in 1984.

**Part one:**

**A/ Reading comprehension.**

7pts

1/ Read the text carefully then choose the right answer: the text is :

- a-Descriptive                       b- Narrative                       c- Descriptive and narrative

2/ Read the text carefully then write "true" or "false" next to the statements:

- Moufdi Zakaria is from Bni M'zab .....
- Moufdi is the nickname of his friend .....
- “Quassaman” was written by Zakaria .....
- Ahmad Shawqi was largely influenced by the work of Zakaria.....

3/ Read the text carefully then complete the table:

Place and date of birth	Occupation	University	Place and date of death

4/ Find in the text words that are closest in meaning to the following:

- a- named §1 = .....                      b- constructed §2 = .....

5/ Find in the text words that are opposite in meaning to the following:

- a- the first §1= / = .....                      b- excluding §2= / = .....

**B/ Mastery of language:**

7pts

1/ Reorder the following words to get a meaningful sentence:

any - was – zakaria – as – moufdi – brave – other nationalist – as.

.....

2/ Complete the sentences:

A- Moufdi Zakaria attended school in the M'zab region of Algeria.

→B- School .....

A- Moufdi Zakaria refused the French repression so they took him to prison.

→B- Because.....

A-Moufdi Zakaria was a nationalist. Ahmad Sawqi was a nationalist, too.

→B- Moufdi Zakaria was.....

3/ Complete the table below by words from the text:

/ei/ take	/ai/ my
1-..... 2-.....	1-..... 2-.....

