



What Allah had hidden from us was greater

Illustrations by: Rawya Al Khalili

Translation by: Rajaa Al Lawati

Once upon a time there was a man whose wife died of an incurable disease. He was patient, and he was always repeating one phrase "What Allah had hidden from us was greater". He had a son called Saleh, and one day, he told his son Son, My life has been so tight after your mother's death. So, I "decided to travel far from here, perhaps I can forget Saleh welcomed his father idea. Then, they took the camel and carried their travel belongings on it and the food they needed for their travel. After two days of travelling, the camel's leg broke. Abu Saleh Said: "What Allah had hidden from us was greater". Saleh was listening to what his father said but didn't say anything. Abu Saleh decided to divide their belongings between them to carry. On the way, Abu Saleh fell into a hole and broke his leg, but he kept repeating : "What Allah had "hidden from us was greater .

Saleh helped his father and treated his father's broken leg, and carried the luggage on his back. They were walking slowly until the night and on the way, a snake bit Saleh's foot. He screamed from the horrible pain .



The father repeated: “What Allah had hidden from us was greater”.

At this moment, Saleh complained

“?Is there anything greater than that, Dad”

But Abu Saleh didn’t answer his son and just treated his son’s foot by using herbals and sucking the poison. Saleh recovered and was well again and they both continued their trip until they reached the village where they found that an earthquake destroyed it completely.

Here Abu Saleh said :

**Did you see, son? If we had not been affected by the misfortunate” events and were late, we would have died with the people of the village by the earthquake, but Allah with his mercy, made from the misfortunes that we suffered from a good thing for us, and this What
“Allah had hidden from us was greater .**

Source: Acting from oral memory.



Suri

Dishdasha

Traditional

Craft

AL SA

Text and pictures by: Majid Al-Alawi



Our country Oman is distinguished by its beautiful Omani clothes with bright colors, varied strings and different shapes. It reflects the originality and history of the Omani man. The Suri dishdasha is one of the Omani clothes that people of Willayat Sur are distinguish to other Willayats in the Sultanate, so the name of the dishdasha is called the dress of the man, or the woman or the boy ,or the girl. But the names differ according to the embroidery, such as Mafaqish, Sinisleh, Habaka and Qittan.

The Suri dishdasha is worn on various occasions, such as Shabaniya (in the 14th of Shaban Hijri month) and Houl Houl (birthdays),weddings and Eids. Suri dishdasha is classified into two types:

- The first type is the “ Mutaiwaia ” , which men wear and it is stitched with one thread, either with white buttons or prism, depending on the raw.
- The other type is the mixed dishdasha and stitched with white or yellow buttons, or with prism.

The Suri woman specializes only in stitching the dishdasha, which she uses the basic tools a needle, scissors, and threads. She takes between two weeks to a month to finish one dishdasha.

BLAH

Text by: Marwan Al-Balushi
Translation by: Rajaa Al Lawati

Folk
Art

Al
Madeema

Al Madeema is a maritime art practiced in coastal regions of our beloved country, Oman, for the purpose of entertainment and enthusiasm in fishermen's hearts. They perform it collectively whether they are on board ships, or on the coast, or when raising or lowering the sail, through which sailors display their skills. Approximately twenty-five sailors participate in presenting this art, where the sailors line up in a circle, headed by the drummers of Almsindo, Al-Kasir, Al-Rahmani, Al-Qirba and Al-Saws (types of drums). After that, the head of the group (Al Aqeed) raises his voice and mixes Swahili language words with Arabic language, and the sailors respond to him as they clap in different, overlapping forms in a harmonious way. After that, one sailor takes out one of the sailors from the dance circle after Al Aqeed's permission, and he makes a graceful jump until he returns to his place. Then, once he finishes the movement, he points to another sailor who repeats the previous movement and so on until the song ends. This arts still presented on occasions and national holidays as one of the Omani arts that meet the approval of all.





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