Level: MS4

Situations of integration

Sequence One: ***Me, Universal Landmarks and Outstanding Figures in History, Literature and Arts.***



1. Universal Landmarks:

Big Ben



Big Ben is a clock tower famous for its accuracy and its massive hour bell. It is located in the Palace of Westminster in London. It was designed by Edmund Becket Dension in association with Sir George and Edward Dent. It chimed for the first time on 11th July 1859. Its chime broadcasted internationally by the BBC in 1932. Big Ben weighs 13.7 tons, stands 2.2 metres tall and has a diameter of 2.7 metres. Big Ben's hammer weighs 200 Kilos. Big Ben is a spectacular landmark which lots of tourists visit it each year.

Alhambra Palace



Alhambra is an Islamic historical landmark located in Granada, Spain. Alhambra is an Arabic word which means "red". It was called so because of its reddish walls: in Arabic "Qalat al-Hamra" means "Red Fortress". It was built in the 9th century as a military fortress. It is as big as a town. It contains a lot of halls, courtyards, gardens, fountains, towers and gates. It extends over 100.000 square metres (m^2). It has a 2000 long wall, twenty-nine towers and seven gates. Alhambra was inscribed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1984.

Topkapi Palace



Topkapi Palace is the biggest and one of the most popular sites to visit in Istanbul. It was built by the talented Turkish architect "Mimar Sinan" between 1465 and 1478 on top of a hill. It is used to be the residence of the Ottoman sultans between the 15th and the 19th century. It extends over 80. 000 square metres. It is a huge complex which consists of four country yards and many different quarters, halls, rooms, kitchens, baths and stables for horses. Today, the place is a museum which was added to the UNESCO list of World Heritage Site in 1985.

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The Blue Mosque



Sultan Ahmed Mosque or the Blue Mosque, is one of the magnificent buildings that is located in Istanbul, Turkey. It was constructed between 1609 and 1616, when Sultan Ahmed I ruled the Ottoman Empire. It is the most typical example of classic Turkish-Ottoman architecture and was the first mosque that included six minarets in its original design. It has also an impressive dome which is 23,5 metres in diameter and 43 metres high. The building is not just a mosque, it is also a social life complex. It includes a covered market, a Turkish bathhouse, a soup kitchen, a hospital, several schools and the tomb of Sultan Ahmed. Today, it is one of the greatest tourists' attractions in Istanbul.

Eiffel Tower



The Eiffel Tower is a celebrated landmark and a masterpiece in building-construction history. It was built by Gustave Eiffel, a French engineer, in only about two years (1887-89). It is made of iron and steel. The tower is twice as high as the dome of St. Peter's in Rome or the Great Pyramids of Giza. It is 300 metres high. It rests on a base that is 5 metres high. The Eiffel tower was the tallest structure in the world until the topping off the Chrysler Building in New York City in 1929. The tower has three levels for visitors with a restaurant on the first and second levels. There are 20,000 bulbs on the tower which sparkle every hour, truly cementing Paris' reputation as the City of light.

The Statue of Liberty



The Statue of Liberty is one of the Seven Wonders of the World. It is located in New York, U.S.A. It was designed by Fredric Auguste Bartholdi, an American sculptor, and its metal framework was built by Gustave Eiffel. It was a gift of friendship from the people of France to the United States and is recognized as a universal symbol of freedom and democracy. It was built in 1885 for the 100th anniversary of America's Independence, but it was not finished until 1886. The cooper statue stands 46 metres tall and weighs 225 tons. Today, the Statue of Liberty is considered as the best known landmark in the world.

Pisa Tower



The Leaning tower of Pisa or simply the Tower of Pisa is a building is Pisa, Italy, that is famous for the settling of its foundations, which caused it to lean 5.5 degrees (about 4.5 metres) from the perpendicular. The tower stands about 56 metres and weighs about 14,500 tonnes and has 294 steps. It was built by Bonanno Pisano, an Italian architect, in 1173 as the third and final structure of the city of Pisa' cathedral complex. It is considered as an impressive landmark from medieval Europe and one of the most attracted place for tourists.

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2. Algerian Landmarks:

The Great Mosque of Algiers



The Great Mosque of Algiers or "Djamaa El Djazair" is located in El Mohammadia, Algiers. It is the third largest mosque in the world after the two Holy Mosques in Saudi Arabia. The mosque was designed and constructed by the China State Construction Engineering Corporation (CSCEC) on August 16th, 2012. It sits on an area of 400,000 square metres and has a 265 metres high minaret, which makes it the tallest building in Africa. It includes a 20,000 square metres praying hall which can hold a capacity of 120,00 worshippers. The Great Mosque of Algiers is truly a masterpiece of art and an outstanding example of rich history in the religion of Islam and the country of Algeria.

Martyr's Memorial



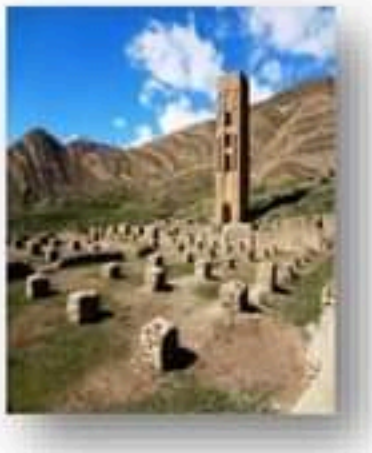
The Martyr's Memorial or "Maquam Echahid" is an iconic monument located in Algiers, Algeria. It was designed by the Algerian painter "Bachir Yelles" and the Polish engineer "Marian Konieczny". The monument was opened in 1982 on the 20th anniversary of Algeria's independence. It was inaugurated by the president "Chadli Ben Djdid" in February 1986. It is fashioned in the shape of three standing palm leaves which shelter the "Eternal Flame" beneath. This monument stands 92 metres tall and has a diameter of 14 metres. It rests on an esplanade that includes the underground Natinal Museum of El Mujahid.

The Great mosque of Tlemcen



The Great mosque of Tlemcen is one of the best preserved examples of the Almoravid dynasty's architectural style. It is located in Tlemcen, a city in north-western Algeria. It was built under Sultan Yusuf Ibn Tashfin in 1082 and enlarged by his son Ali Ibn Tashfin in 1136 to hold daily and Friday prayers. The mosque used to be an Islamic court "Makhama" and an Islamic university of considerable fame. It consists of two main sections with elaborated arches and decorative designs. It is truly a splendid work of art and an attraction that will give visitors lasting memories.

Beni Hammad Fort



Beni Hammad Fort or "Al Qal'a of Beni Hamma" is a fabulous and splendid fortified palatine city in Algeria. It is located northeast of M'Sila. It was founded by Hammad Ibn Buluggin in the 11th century more exactly in 1007. It served as the first capital of the Hammad dynasty. The fort stands 20 metres tall and takes place on 150 hectares of land. It was inscribed by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site in 1980 and described as an authentic picture of a fortified Muslim city.

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Sidi M'Cid Bridge



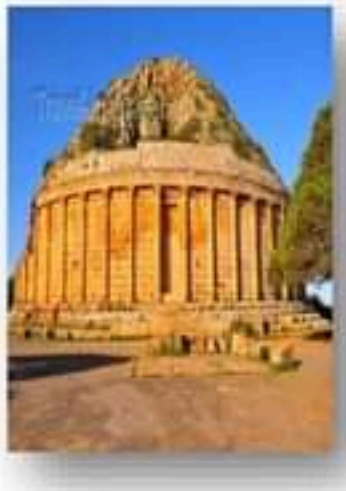
The Sidi M'Cid Bridge, also known as the Suspended Bridge, is one of highest and most spectacular bridges in Algeria. It is located in Constantine, the city of bridges. It was designed by the French engineer Ferdinand Arnodin on 19th April 1912. The bridge is 164 metres long and 175 metres high above the Rhumel River. It is suspended between two arches with cables. It links the Casbah to the slopes of Sidi M'Cid hill. It was regarded as the highest bridge in the world for 17 years (from 1912 to 1929). It is a stunning monument which lots of tourists visit it every year.

Roman Ruins of Djemila



Djemila is one of the three Roman Ruins sites in Algeria and one of the best preserved in all of North Africa. It is located 50 km northeast of the town of Setif, a cold city. It was founded by the Roman Emperor "Nerva Tarjan" as a military garrison in the 1st century AD. It was abandoned after the fall of the Roman Empire around the 6th century when the Arab invasion arrived in this part of Africa. Arabs named it "Djemila" because of its unique style of Roman architecture, meaning beautiful in Arabic. It was inscribed by UNESCO as Heritage Site in 1982 and described as "one of the world's great archaeological sites".

Royal Mausoleum of Mauritania



The Royal Mausoleum of Mauritania is a funerary monument located on the road between Cherchel and Algiers, in Tipaza Province, Algeria. The mausoleum was built in 3 BC by the Berber King Juba II (son of Juba I of Numidia) and the Queen Cleopatra Selene II to be their final resting place. It is entirely built from stone, while its main structure is in a circular form with a square base topped by a cone or a pyramid. The monument stands 32 metres in height and its square base measures 60 square metres. The site was placed on the World Heritage in Danger in 2002.

3. Outstanding Figures in History, Literature and Arts:

William Shakespeare



William Shakespeare is an outstanding figure in English literature. He was an actor, a poet and a playwright. He was born on 23rd April 1564 in Stratford-upon-Avon. Shakespeare is widely regarded as the greatest writer in the English language. He wrote about 38 plays. His well-known works include "Romeo and Juliet", "Hamlet", "Macbeth" and "Othello". He also wrote 154 sonnets and two long narrative poems. He created his own acting company and built his own theatre, called the "Globe Theatre". This masterful writer died on 26th April 1616 in his hometown, at the age fifty-two.

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Pablo Picasso



Pablo Picasso is considered to be one of the most famous painters in the 20th century. He was born on 25th October 1881 in Malaga, Spain. In addition to painting, he was a sculptor and designer. He studied at Real Academia de Bellas Artes de San Fernardo. Pablo Picasso's most important contribution to the world of art was his co-founding of the Cubist movement. He also contributed significantly to the invention of collage, constructed sculpture and the plastic arts. His best paintings are "The Old Guitarist", "Girl before a Mirror", "Guernica" and "The Weeping Woman". This influential artist died in 1973 in France.

Mohammed Dib



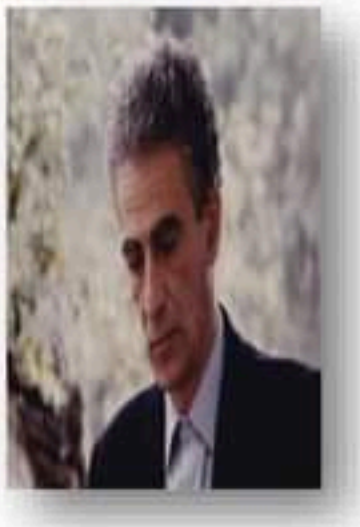
Mohammed Dib is a famous Algerian author, novelist and poet. He was born on July 21st, 1920 in Tlemcen, into a cultured family of artisans. He wrote numerous novels like "The Big House" in 1952, "The Fire" in 1954 and "The Loom" in 1957. He also published over thirty novels, short stories and poems. His works covered the breadth of the 20th century Algerian history, focusing on Algeria's fight for independence. This prolific and talented writer died on May 2nd, 2003 (aged 83) in La Celle-Saint-Cloud, France.

El Emir Abdelkader



El Emir Abdelkader is an Algerian writer, poet, political leader and military warrior. He was born on 6th September 1808 in Guetna, Mascara. This brave leader founded the modern Algerian state and led the Algerians struggle against the French domination. He defended his land against the French army and won many battles like; "The Battle of Maktaa", "the Battle of Sig" and "The Battle of Sidi Brahim". He protected the Algerian values, language and religion to keep the Algerians unified against their enemy. He wrote many books like the book of "Call to the Intelligent, Warning to the Indifferent" in 1855. This great hero died on 26th May 1883 in Damascus, Syria.

Kateb Yacine



Kateb Yacine is a famed Algerian writer. He was born on August 6th, 1929 in Smendou, Constantine. He fought with his pen rather than the sword against the French colonialism to bring consciousness to the Algerian people and preserve their national identity. He wrote several novels, among of them is "Nedjma" in 1956. Three years later, he created an Algerian theatre with a collection of plays named "Le Cercle des Représailles". He also published a volume of poems called "Soliloquies". As a result, he won The Grand Prix National des Lettres in France in 1987. This brilliant writer died on October 28th, 1989 in Grenoble, France.

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Assia Djebar



Fatima Zohra Imalayan, known by her pen-name Assia Djebar is a famous Algerian novelist, essayist, translator, professor and filmmaker. She was born on June 30th, 1936 in Cherchel. She is noticed for her feminist stance because most of her works deal with obstacles faced by women. She wrote different novels like "The Thirst" in 1957, "Children of the New World" in 1962 and "The Naïve Larks" in 1967. She also published over 15 books, short stories, poems and plays. For the entire body of her work, she was awarded the 1996 Neustadt International Prize for Literature. This pre-eminent writer died on February 6th, 2015 in Paris.

Ahlem Mosteghanemi



Ahlem Mosteghanemi is a famous Algerian writer and novelist. She was born on April 13th, 1953 in Tunis, Tunisia. She wrote many novels like "Memory in the Flesh" in 1993, "Chaos of the Sense" in 1997, "The Art of Forgetting" in 2010 and "Black Suits You so Well" in 2012. Her works covered the fight against corruption, injustice, totalitarian regimes, fundamentalism, new forms of colonization and the denigration of women's right. She won the prestigious Malek Haddad Literary Prize in 2001. This skillful writer is considered as the world's best-known arabophone woman novelist.

4. European Itinerary:

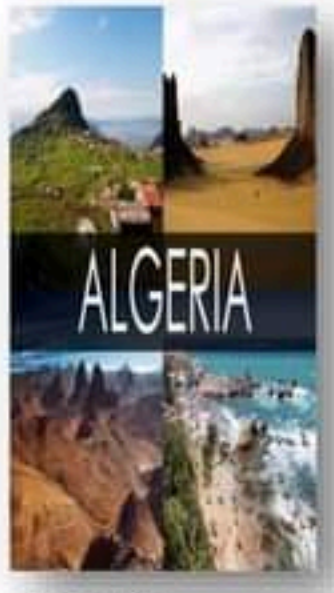
An Amazing Trip around Europe



My itinerary around Europe was wonderful and amusing. First, I started my trip from the capital Algiers and flew to Lisbon, Portugal. I arrived at 10:00 a.m. I walked around the city where I saw many beautiful sights. Next, I went to Batalha town and visited "Batalha Monastery" which is one of the most impressive masterpieces. Then, I travelled on TGV (high speed train) to Barcelona, Spain, to see the notable building "La Sagrada Familia" which was designed by the skillful architect Antonio Gaudi. I took many photos there with some Spanish friends and enjoyed our dinner by having the traditional rice dish "Paella". After that, I moved to the capital of France "Paris" and visited the superb monument made of iron the "Eiffel Tower. Finally, I came back to Algeria after having nice days and unforgettable moments.

5. Algerian Itinerary:

My Tremendous Itinerary around Algeria



Last autumn holiday, my family and I went on a tour around Algeria. First, we travelled by coach to an old city in the northeast part of Algeria called Constantine. We saw the splendid suspended Bridge of Sidi M'Cid which was built by the French engineer Ferdinand Arnodin. Then, we took the train to Tamanrasset, in southern Algeria, to visit the magnificent Hoggar Mountains or Ahaggar Mountains. In this town, we saw the prehistoric wall carvings of different creatures that made the Sahara their home long ago, we enjoyed the best sunset in the world and we tasted the Saharan tea. After that, we flew to Oran with a stopover in Bechar for one night. Finally, we returned to Mascara by taxi after spending fantastic and gratifying days.

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