

This photo of the freedom fighter and martyr Larbi Benmhidi has always fascinated me. How a 34 years old man arrested and handcuffed, can be that calm showing a proud and peaceful smile in front of his enemies?

What was the secret of this absolute serenity?

Some time ago, an old relative saw me reading "Trodi's book " on Benmhidi's life." Larbi Ben M'hidi L'homme des grands rendez-vous" to the national hero and martyr Mohamed Larbi Ben M'hidi written by his friend El Hachemi Trodi. The book narrates the life of the man behind the legend. How all his being-mind, body and soul-was dedicated to one goal: the independence of Algeria.



I wish young Algerians would read this book to understand how difficult it was to be a militant for the independence of Algeria. We used to think it was easy to be on the right side at that time since there was only one known enemy. But that is far from the truth, Ben Mhidi and his companions had to fight many enemies and face many conspiracies .They also, had to face ignorance, treacheries and jealousy. But their genuine commitment to their noble cause always succeeded to show them the right way to follow and their bravery helped them carry on the fight ... till freedom.

After reading this book I had a feeling of pride, to be the compatriot of such a great man, May he and all martyrs rest in peace.

Indeed, Si Larbi, France left Algeria with its colons and army ... and a whole nation remembers you ... will always do .

May you rest in peace in paradise for eternity.

Adapted from : www.decolonizingalgeria.wordpress.com

PART ONE : A/ Reading Comprehension (7pts)

Task one : I read the text then answer the questions :(3pts)

- 1- Who was Larbi Ben M'hidi ?
- 2-How old was he when he was arrested?
- 3-Was he afraid of his enemies?

Task two : I read the text and choose the correct word : (2pts)

- 1-The text is: a) a letter b) a web article c) a dialogue
- 2-After reading the book the writer felt: a) proud b) shy c) ashamed

Task three: 1/ I read the text and find words or expressions that are closest in meaning to : (1pt)

Picture = , to combat =

2/ I read the text and find words or expressions that are opposite in meaning to : (1pt)

Easy =/= , failed =/=

B/ Mastery of Language (7pts)

Task one : I reorder the words to get correct sentences : (3pts)

- 1939 /joined /Ben Mhidi /in /. / The Muslims Scouts/

- a /grew up /./He / wealthy /in/family /

-by/captured /was/he/in/paratroopers/French/1957/. /February

Task two: I give the correct form of the verbs in brackets: (2pts)

The Algerian war for independence (to start)in 1954 and (to finish)..... in 1962 .
More than 1 million and a half martyrs (to die)for our freedom .So, We must (to be)
..... proud of them.

Task Three: I classify these words according to the pronunciation of their final's': (2pts)

narrates - conspiracies - colons - places

/s/	/z/	/iz/
.....

PART TWO: Written expression (7pts)

I use the information below and write a short biography about Larbi Benmhidi .

Full name : Larbi Benmhidi

Date and place of birth : 1923 in Ain M'lila (east of Algeria)

Physical traits : tall/slim /short dark hair /brown eyes /

Personality features : brave ,calm , cheerful

Deeds:one of the six founding members of the National Liberation Front (FLN)that launched an armed revolt throughout Algeria for a sovereign state .

Date of death : assassinated on March 4th 1957 .

GOOD LUCK