

The song “Ya Tal3iin al Jabal” dates back to the 1930s when Palestinian women used to visit their family members in prison during the British Mandate. They were transmitting secret messages by singing songs to them. In order for the prison guards not to understand their messages they inserted extra syllables in the middle of the words using the letter ‘l’. In this song they address the freedom fighters that are hiding in the mountains and will come to free the political prisoners.

[In the transliteration we chose for “Arabizi” (simplified Arabic chat language) which uses numbers to replace Arabic letters which don’t exist in the Latin alphabet, you can look it up online.]

ya Tal3iin

ya Tal3iin
3in elelel Jabal
ya molelemawqedin en-nar
bein elelel yaman yaman
3in elelel 7ana ya ru7 (2x)

يا طالعي

ma baddi min
kilelekum 5al3a
walalalala baddi malbuus(1)/zunaar(2)
bein elelel yaman yaman
3in elelel 7ana ya ru7

عين لل الجبل
يا موللل الموقدين النار
بين لللل يامان يامان
عين للل هنا يا روح

ila ghazaal
leleleleledhi
juwein elelelekum ma7buus(1)/maiduum(2)
bein elelel yaman yaman
3in elelel 7ana ya ru7

ما بدي منكى لللكم
خلعة ولا لالالا لابي ملبوس
بين للل يامان يامان
عين للل هنا يا روح

ya Tal3iin
3in elelel jabal
ya molelemawqedin en-nar
bein elelel yaman yaman
3in elelel 7ana ya ru7

ما بدي منكى لللكم خلعة
ولا لالالا لابي زنار
بين للل يامان يامان
عين للل هنا يا روح

A very free translation
of these encoded poetic lyrics:
To those of you climbing the mountain
and igniting the fire
yaman yaman! (emotional expression in song)
I hope you will be safe, my dears!

إلا غزال
لللللذي جوين لللكم محبوس
بين للل يامان يامان
عين للل هنا يا روح

I do not want any dresses from you nor gifts
I just want you to be safe, beloved!

إلا غزال
لللللذي جوين لللكم ما يدوم
بين للل يامان يامان
عين للل هنا يا روح

To those gazelles (endearing, meaning the
resistance fighters)
who are jailed inside,
this imprisonment will not last.
Yaman yaman!
I just want to you be safe, beloved!