Appendix A: Texts

"Fog al'Arsh" (Upon the Throne)

Text: Mulla Uthman al Mawsilli (1854-1923)

فوق العرش فوق معراج أبو إبراهيم فوق العرش فوق زود بينا الشوق بالذكر والتوحيد هذه للاكوان كشاف البلوة

English Translation:

Upon the throne
The ascension of Abū Ibrāhīm upon the throne
It provided us with longing for *dhikr** and *tawḥīd***This is for the worlds that reveal the calamity

*this literally means "remembrance," namely the remembrance of God. It is the name of devotional acts in Islam.

**this literally means "the oneness (of God)." It is the concept of monotheism in Islam, which is its most fundamental concept.

"Fog al Nakhal" (I have a friend above)

Text: Djbouri al Najar

فوق إلنا خل فوق يابا فوق النا خل فوق مدري لامع خدك يابا مدري لامع فوق ولله ما ريده باليني بلوة

مالي امل بالروح يبا بعدك حبيبي بعدك حبيبي وصلك صفى للناس يبا هجرك نصيبي والله معذبني وماعنده امروه

Translation:

I've got a friend above
I don't know if that's the shine of your cheek or a shine above (ie the moon)
I swear I don't even want her
It's ruining me/It's causing me a problem

I have no hope for my soul, you're still my beloved Everyone gets to be with you and my destiny is to be abandoned by you I swear she's torturing me and she has no interest in me

Sabah Fakhri Version, "Fog al-Nakhal"

Additional text listed below:

بالله يا مجرى الماي يابا سلم عليهم صعبان الفرقه على يابا اشتقنا إليهم

Translation:
Oh river, go say hi to them for me
The separation is hard for me
I miss them

"Balini-b Balwa"

Stanzas I and II of "Balini-b Balwa" correspond with stanzas 3 and 6 from *Fog al-Nakhal* text in songbook by Ezra Murad (see bibliography).

Rivers Of Babylon CD: TREASURES © S. Manasseh 2002 email: sara@manasseh.co.uk

Balînî-b Balwâ (He plagues me with a plague!) [Kî Éshmérâh Shabbâth] Iraqi folk song

(Refr: from Sabbath Text) (Final Refr.) Balînî-b balwâ yâ ^cyûnî Refr: Kî éshmérâh shabbâth él Balînî-b balwâ yishmérénî Ḥubbî wa-ârîdâ

Balînî-b balwâ

Oth hî lé^colméi ^cad béyno ûbéynî

Iraqi folk song:

(Refr.) Balînî-b balwâ yâ 'yûnî Balînî-b balwâ Wâllâh mârîdâ yâ 'éynî Balînî-b balwâ

I Kul yom âgûl el-yom Bâcher yibéynûn Lanţî lil-imbâshir Bosâ mnil 'yûn Wâllâh mârîdâ yâ 'éynî Balînî-b balwâ

II Wushlon ânâm al-lél Wunta ^calâ bâlî Ḥattâ-simich bil mâ-y Yibchî ^calâ ḥâlî

III Kul el-blâm tfût W'éynî 'alâ balmak Wumnil-hawâ wul-roj Rabbî yisalmak

יקום עם נחל "Kum Am Nachal"

(b. 1960) מנחם מ. מוסטקי Text: Menachem M. Mustacchi

קום עם נחל, שוב קום. הבה קום עם נחל קום. מזרח ימה חזק. ארץ חמרת אבות, קום. הבה נרימה דגל יהודה.

אנא למזרח אל חי. הבה החזר עמך מגלות. שבעת* חיל פרס מדי**. יה אב שלח אלי. אליהו. הבה נרימה, דגל יהודה. (קום עם נחל...)

תן לארצי טוב רב. השב איש לנחלתו. כל-עם בניו יבואו. יחד בית מקדשו בית מקדשו. הבה נרימה דגל יהודה. (קום עם נחל...)

English Translation

Rise, people of the inheritance, again rise. Let's rise people of (the land), rise Go to the East, strengthen the desired land of our fathers, rise Let's raise the flag of Judea.

Please, Eastward, living God. Please return your people from exile. "Sav'at cheil"* Mede and Persia,** G-d father send us Eliyahu Let's raise the flag of Judea (Repeat Stanza 1)

Give goodness to my land. Bring the people back to their land/inheritance. The sons of the people will return. Together - His temple, His temple. Let's raise the flag of Judea. (Repeat Stanza 1)

*Sav'a, 2 potential meanings:

- 1. We've had enough "sav'anu mi ze" from being in exile
- 2. implies satisfaction with God's wrath: requesting that God will destroy the Persian להשביע, and Median armies

** Esther 1:3; King Xerxes held a great banquet for the armies of the Medes and the Persians. This expression describes the extent of Xerxes' kingdom

Arabic Translations and interpretations with the assistance of Nabil Shair.

Hebrew translations and interpretations in collaboration with Ben Harouvi and Bat Ami Rozensweig.