



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Center for Middle Eastern Studies

The Movie “Free Men”

1. Where is Younes from? Where and when does the movie take place?
2. Why is Younes picked up by the police? What does he have to promise to do in order to get out of jail?
3. How does he become acquainted with Benghabrit (the man in charge of the mosque)?
4. What kinds of activities are going on in the mosque? (Be specific.)
5. Who are the children that Younes brings to the mosque? How/why did he become responsible for them?
6. Who is the woman that Younes meets? Who is she really, and what happens to her?
7. A singer, Salim Halali, spends a lot of time at the mosque. What two big secrets does he have that put him in danger from the Nazis?

8. When Salim is arrested, what does Benghabrit (with the help of Younis) do to help him?

9. Why are many of the Algerians living in France (like Younes' cousin) part of the French Resistance during World War II? What did they hope to achieve for their country?

10. What happened at the hospital? What happened when they *left* the hospital?

11. The mosque has passages connecting it to the river. Why is this significant in the story? (What happens by the river near the end of the story?)

12. What did Younes do after leaving the mosque? (How did he deal with what happened to his cousin?)

13. How did he spend the last years of the war? (What was he doing?)

14. Which characters and events portrayed in the movie are historically accurate?

15. Which characters and events were fictitious?

16. How can historical fiction help you understand events in history?