1933 Oct 15 Jiryes Farhat to Suleiman JF's version of story

Ramallah, Palestine
15 Oct 1933

My dear son,

Greetings, etc.

I tell you about Katrina, we treat her best of treatment. Her health is good. She is not making commerce for her family *[being helpful]* and if the child wants half a piaster, she sends him to his grandfather. The stipend for the teacher who taught her, she is not paying him. She lies to him and tells him that she will pay when you send her money. She has left the first teacher and went to a second female teacher, where she is taking lessons on her own. She doesn't care about the children's education. God help you on this catastrophe. As much as we are good to her, she does not care. This week she made a big hullabaloo on a matter that is nothing. And that is because Girgy (George) loves us and because of this, she has declared war on him. She keeps beating him up, rightly or wrongly. And my son, I tell you, she keeps cursing me and teaches Mary and Fouad to 'curse my father' and to curse their grandma. And she tried to kick out your sister and her children. I told her "if you want, we will put you in your own room and give you your own keys' or would you rather that we put your sister in law in chains and make her children your slaves?" Don't you realize that they are serving us, for without them, our land (harvest) will be in ruins. Day and night, the devil comes out through her eyes. She cares nothing for this family or any other family. She gave your nephew the red electric gadget; then she decided to take it back and gave it to some strangers. We never saw it again. She gave her sisters one third of her clothes and she gave the children's clothes to her sister and their children. I could not say a word. All day she closes the door to her room after she finishes with her lessons she goes to the neighborhood exposing us and scandalizing us. She tells them, 'these people are dogs, these people are gypsies (*nawar*), these people are scum.' Do not respond to her letters at all. I tell you my son, I have filled out the forms in the Dept of Immigration and hopefully we will hear from them soon. Be careful from this wicked woman, whose daughter *(Julia?)* is like a spy. Take care of yourself. Be careful of her folks. Don't allow them to compel you to sell the shop. Do what is necessary and come back, with God's will. Send me a few piasters so we can keep her busy and so we can deal with this catastrophe. May God protect you. Everyone sends greetings.

Jiyres Suleiman Farhat

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