



*Shrine for Rabbi Masoud ben Ya'acov Abehsirra, Rissani, Tafilalt, Morocco 1998*

Ubiquitous shrines and tombs of saints, Muslim and Jewish, infused the landscape with a sense of sanctified presence. I visited and documented pilgrimages to many of these sites, learning about this shared tradition, and about some of the saints venerated by both religions. Those who are recognized as having great spiritual achievement are referred to as Tzaddikim (literally, 'righteous' in Hebrew); in Moroccan Jewish tradition they are regarded as holy men and women. Saint veneration among Muslims and Jews is a tradition throughout North Africa. People visit the tombs and shrines of saints to light candles and honor them, and to petition for healing, marriage, fertility, and other assistance.

Rose-Lynn Fisher is an artist and photographer in Los Angeles who traveled to Morocco in 1995 and 1998. Her work is currently in an exhibition, *Liminal Spaces: Photographs of Morocco* by Rose-Lynn Fisher, at the Fowler Museum at UCLA.

*Former synagogue  
Tagounit, Draa Valley, 1998*

Village Elders accessed memory, like drawing water up from a well, as they recalled details about Jewish neighbors long ago and communal life in the mellahs of the Draa Valley, indicating former Jewish homes, synagogues and cemeteries.



*Boxing gym in former Al-Fasi Synagogue, Fes, 1995*

Abandoned synagogues in the mellah of the old city were reclaimed for diverse uses when the Jews moved to newer districts of Fes, or emigrated.

