

By Siham Ali – 14 / 04 / 2014

1 Morocco, this month, has begun a new effort to boost local security. The move comes in response to the emergence of a new trend: pictures of armed robberies and assaults posted online by criminals. Called "tcharmil", the phenomenon seen on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram has made citizens fear they could be the next victims of their knife or sword attack. Casablanca police are arresting the criminals. Besides, they might prosecute young people who take the pictures, as well.



2 King Mohammed VI ordered immediate action to address the acts of vandalism and violence publicised via social media, Interior Minister Mohamed Hassad announced last week. The government's counter-attack will involve mayors, walis and local security officials. In every town, the minister is urging authorities to carry out daily patrols. **He** said that the participation of citizens was essential to boosting security and public confidence. The community-based approach includes meetings to hear people's concerns and needs.

3 Speaking at one such meeting in Al Hoceima on April 10th, Hassad urged authorities to adopt the action plan to fight crime. The feeling of insecurity that has recently arisen in some cities "is largely due to the wide media coverage given these crime cases", he told wilaya officials. "Official figures do not reflect the rise in crime that has occurred over the past few years. But people are feeling increasingly unsafe," sociologist Mourad Zinbi confirmed. "The government has been urged to take concrete action and show citizens that authorities are there to protect their safety," he added. "It is time to foster a climate of confidence, especially in big cities."



[AFP/Eric Feferberg] Morocco aims to engage citizens in the fight against crime, Interior Minister Mohamed Hassad said on April 7th, 2014.

4 Many citizens have observed that for years, the only police presence felt in big cities has been that of traffic control officers. Salma Dahbi, a 39-year-old Temara resident, said she had stopped going out in the evenings since she was attacked with a knife two years ago. "A young man snatched my bag and my gold chain, beat me up and even cut my arm," the bank clerk said. "That attack still affects me even now. There were no police officers close to my neighbourhood. And the criminal was never caught." "Starting neighbourhood patrols and community policing will help deter those criminals," she added.



5 "The recent stories about young bandits and muggers armed with large swords and seeking for Internet fame have terrorised families," 42-year-old employee Bahia Tellabi said. "I've stopped allowing my 16-year-old son to go out in the evenings so that he won't be attacked by a criminal gang," she said. "I hope the security measures that will be put in place will encourage criminals to abandon **their** plans," she added.

I COMPREHENSION (16 POINTS) {BASE ALL YOUR ANSWERS ON THE TEXT}

A Choose the most appropriate title for the text. (2 pts)

- 1 Moroccans Learn About Street Crime
- 2 Morocco Fights Street Crime
- 3 Morocco Fosters Street Crime

B Tick (✓) the most appropriate column. (2 pts)

		Fact	Detail
1	Official figures do not reflect the rise in crime.
2	I've stopped allowing my 16-year-old son to go out in the evenings.

C Answer these questions. (3 pts)

- 1 Which media do those youths use to spread their news?
- 2 What is Salma Dahbi's job?
- 3 Why do these lawbreakers commit their crimes?

D Say if the following sentences are TRUE or FALSE? JUSTIFY your answers. (3 pts)

- 1 The government believes that civilians must also take part in combating this phenomenon.
- 2 Many citizens think that the police have played an important role in ensuring their security in important cities.
- 3 Some citizens are optimistic about the measures taken by the government.

E Find in the text words or expressions which mean the same as the following. (2 pts)

- 1 happened (para 3): 2 discourage (para 4):

F What do the underlined words in the text refer to? (2 pts)

- 1 He (para 2): 2 their (para 5):

G Complete the following sentences with information from the text. (2 pts)

- 1 Casablanca police are not only arresting the criminals, but
- 2 He urged authorities to adopt the action plan because

II LANGUAGE (14 POINTS)

A Rewrite the following sentences as suggested. (2 pts)

- 1 Parents shouldn't keep medicines within children's reach.
Medicines
- 2 "Please stop arguing and listen to me," Mrs Williams said.
Mrs Williams asked the two students

B Choose the correct answer. (3 pts)

- 1 I'm our trip to France. I'm really excited to leave next month.
a bringing about b coping with c looking forward to
- 2 Your results weren't satisfactory last semester; you'd better harder.
a to work b work c working
- 3 Do you know a good technician repairs computers?
a whose b who c which

C Put the words between brackets into the correct form. (2 pts)

Parents often worry about their children's (addict) to computer games. They think that playing games for a long time can be harmful to their children's health. They are also afraid of changes that might take place in their (behave)

D Put the verbs between brackets into the correct tense. (3 pts)

Last night, while the Browns (have) dinner, the telephone (ring) It was their son Billy in Paris. "I am at the airport now. In half an hour's time, I (leave) Europe," he said.

E Fill in each gap with the correct word from the list. (1 pts)

- culture education literacy opportunity attitude

People who didn't have the to go to school can join classes, where they can learn reading, writing and numeracy.

F Rewrite the following sentences using the connectors between brackets. (3 pts)

- 1 The new secretary is always on time. She does not want to lose her job. (so that)
.....
- 2 The match was postponed because the weather was bad. (due to)
.....
- 3 Ali has lived in London for five years, but he can't speak English fluently. (in spite of)
.....

III WRITING (10 POINTS)

Today, a lot of children drop out of school and work at an early age. This is called child labour and it is a serious problem in Morocco. Write an article to be published in your school magazine about the major causes and effects of child labour and suggest some possible measures to limit this phenomenon. **(Approximately 200 words)**

These suggestions may help you:

Causes

- poverty / parents' ignorance
- lack of interest in studies / stereotypes
- cheap labour force

Effects

- illiteracy
- joblessness
- underdevelopment

Solutions

- NGOs
- laws
- the mass media to sensitize people

A large vertical rectangular area with a solid left border and horizontal dotted lines, intended for writing the article.