

The odour of death hangs over the Oued Zem area of Morocco. And the shame of a barbarous ~~massacre~~ massacre rests upon the Ouled Assim tribesmen - who brutally murdered and mutilated over seventy Europeans during the recent tribal revolt.

Now comes the day of atonement, as over twenty-thousand tribesmen gather at a ~~traditional~~ <sup>solemn</sup> ceremony of submission, to seek pardon for an action that shocked the civilised world.

Over two thousand French soldiers (their arms at the ready) were lined behind General Franchi, Military Commander of Casablanca, as he addressed the now penitent tribesmen...

In firm tones, the General flayed the gathering with withering scorn before granting the pardon - though, he added, all those guilty of the ~~crimes~~ <sup>crimes</sup> would be pitilessly punished...

So the bloodthirsty massacre of Oued Zem is assuaged by tribal penance - closing an unhappy chapter in the troubled history of Morocco...