

The Belgian-Moroccan intercultural scene is increasingly popular!

Even the famous traveller's guide, *Le Guide du Routard*, praises the brunches at the family stand selling *msemen*, a kind of Moroccan pancake that has been prepared for over twenty years at the *Marché du Midi* in Brussels. Today, a number of "ethnic chic" shops are thriving around the station, on the *Chaussée de Gand* and in the big shopping centres, selling decorative items, fashion and culinary specialities, not forgetting the hip tearooms, or the new halal brasseries that have nothing to envy traditional Belgian gastronomy in terms of their menu and décor.

Paradoxically, it was discrimination that led to the creation of this new "Oriental-style" trend. After being refused admission to "Belgian" bars and other leisure venues, the descendants of Moroccan immigrants opened their own establishments, turning their shisha bars and fast food restaurants into attractive places to be. Widely promoted on social media, they now cater to an increasingly multi-ethnic customer base.