AL MAHRUSA

Description of Scenes
(As described by the playwright in the stage directions)

ACT I

Scene 1: The sitting room in the apartment of a Greek man. Forged metal sconces on the back wall. A large sofa in the middle of the room. Chairs to the left. A door to the left leads to a hall where the entrance to the flat is located. There is a passage stage right that leads to the interior of the apartment. Downstage right there is a green velvet gambling table surrounded by five café chairs. Window downstage left. Vases and some artwork. There is a tiled floor covered in the middle by a dark coloured “kilim” carpet. Pictures of the Greek man and of his wife when they were younger on the wall.

There is a moment when there are about six people on stage in that scene at the same time.

Scene 2: The living room at the Chief of Police’s home. Large sofa, two armchairs, and a chaise longue. Door leading to the hall and a door in the back wall leading to the bedroom. A door stage left leading to a balcony that overlooks the street. Large photograph of the Chief in his uniform on the wall. Also a framed Koranic verse. “Kilim” carpets covered with three furs. One red, one black, and one white.

Never more than three characters on stage at the same time in this scene.

Scene 3: A room at the Mayor’s house. Roughly painted walls. There is a dusty couch covered with white cloth. There is an old desk to the side. A number of chairs are lined up against the wall. Locked window stage left. The window panes are covered with old newspapers. A gas lamp hanging from the wall with mosquitoes swarming around it. The floor is made of dirty and broken tiles.

There is a moment when there are about six people on stage in that scene at the same time.

ACT II

Scene 1: Same as Act I, Scene 2.

There is moment when there are about six people on stage in that scene at the same time.

Scene 2: The office of the Chief of Police at the station. Shortly before sunset. A wooden desk and a revolving chair. Several chairs and a sofa. A picture of the King on the wall. A patriotic quote in a frame on the wall. There is only one door and it is partly covered by a screen. Two phones on the desk. Files, papers, pencils, blotter, etc.

There is a moment when there are about four people on stage in that scene at the same time.


**ACT III**

**Scene 1:** The office of officer Said at the station. Large room. High ceiling. Wooden floor. A desk and two chairs. A wooden bench along the back wall. Next to the bench is the door through which one can see the main hall of the police station. A window stage left with broken window panes.

According to the text there are about eighteen people on stage in that scene at the same time during a brief moment. It is a group of peasants that have been arrested. I will cut down that number drastically and give the impression that there are many of them and keep the scene at the door. Other than that there is a maximum of about four to five people on stage at any given moment.

**Scene 2:** A large hall at the local club. Evening. Tiled floor. Four or five café tables with three or four chairs surrounding each table. Several entrances to the hall. A door stage right leading to the kitchen. Door to the left leading to the office of the club secretary. A door in the back wall leading to a veranda. Wooden and glass panes walls.

About eight people on stage at the same time in this scene.