

The lexical framework of war memory in the testimonies
of Harkis and their families, who were interned at the
Rivesaltes camp

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Abstract. This article aims to identify the lexical framework of war memory in the testimonies of Harkis and their families, who were interned at the Rivesaltes camp after the Algerian War. To this end, we used the textometric software TXM, which allows for the extraction and analysis of words associated with memory in order to reconstruct the lexical network of the war. The study of co-occurrences highlights the strong imprint of war memory on the witnesses' recollections, marked by words describing the suffering and violence experienced during this period. These elements contribute to the construction of a traumatic memory, but are also often trivialized by the witnesses themselves. Self-identifying as victims, their accounts tend to evoke life before and after the war, in a nostalgic tone, through the use of emotionally charged vocabulary.

Keywords: lexical framework, testimony, Harkis, Rivesaltes camp, TXM, occurrences, co-occurrences.