

CultureTalk North Africa Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>
Preparing for a Kabyle Wedding

Algerian Arabic transcript:

س: شكون ألي مسؤول علي تجهيز المنزل و لحواج هادوك؟ شكون؟

ف: آآ

س: الراجل ولا لمرأ؟

ف: صحى. هذا كيما نقولو في الدزاير dossier كبير يعني... يقول لك يعني واحد الزواج لازم الدار آآ لازم الواحد ينقي داره و آآ كاين ألي بيدل يعني bon هدو لعراس نحكيك علي دوركة مشي علي بكرى... ايه, الناس كاين العائلة. انا شفت نهار زوجو خاوتي, الدار قاع عاودت سبغتها, انا سبغتها ختس لعريس عنده يروح يقضي, يروح يشري, بيدر هذي, يشري لمرته, يشري ليه هو هكداي, يوجد للعرس. Alors, famille هي ألي تتكلف. كيما نحن في الدار, أنا و خويا صغير لآخور و وليد خالتي نجيو نقيو الدار ن آآ نسبغوها هكدايا, باش كيجو الضياف يلقاوها نقية, كاش ما عندنا عفسة مكسرة نبدلها في الدار آآ كانش معندنا عفسة عيانة, قديمة نرموها و نشرو وحد اخرى و آآ نبرييارو الدار و النساء كيما لعجوز يما, لعجوز يما ولا اخت لعريس ولا اخت لعروسة ولا فاميليتهم النساء يوجدو هدوك ال آآ يوجدو لماعن ألي يستحقوهم في العرس خاتش رايعين ويكلو دشرة كبيرة تما حاجة كبيرة. يجيبو هدوك آآ هدوك لماعن نتاع الكوزينة آآ كاين ألي يقدر يشري خاتش تستحقي بالزاف في العرس, تستحقي فناجل, تستحقي طباصة, تستحقي الفرشة. كاين ألي يشري, كاين ألي يشري بالزاف و يخليهم و كاين ألي مسكين ما يقدرش و يتسلف من عند الجيران و من بعد يخلص العرس يرجعهم و هذا ما كان... آآ... اه, و ديافك علي بالك كاين ألي يجو من بعيد, كيما نحن عندنا famille في وهران, عندنا famille في عنابة يجونا في العرس و لازم بيتاتو, و بيتاتو لازم فراش و لازم وين قعدو كراسة و كدايا... آآ... كيما هدي لعفايس ما تقدر يش تشريهم, تشري 60 كرسي و من بعد تخليهم في الدار ما تستحقيهمش, نجيبو من عند الجيران, عشرة عند هذا, خمسة عند هذا و زوج طوابل عند هذا و نطمو و كيخلص العرس نرجعوهم, كيخلص العرس ن آآ نرجعوهم... هذي هي, و famille قاع تتعاون في الحق, في العرس يعني في الحق نتاع ربي. ناس قاع, même الجيران يقول لك كانش ما تستحق نعاونك, هذا عرس نوقفو معك. و هكدا يعني.

English translation:

S: Who is responsible for furnishing the house and things like that? Who is it?

F: Uh

S: The groom or the bride?

F: Alright, what we call a dossier in Algeria—I mean, is big— I can tell you, I mean— during the wedding one needs a house—uh—one needs to clean his house and—uh— there are some who change. Well, I mean the wedding that I am talking about now is not the same as the ones in the old days. Yes, there are families who— In the case of my brother’s wedding, we repainted the whole house; I painted it because the groom is busy getting things, buying things, doing this and that—he needs to buy things for the bride and for himself and things like that; basically preparing for the wedding. All right, the family is the one responsible for the wedding. Like in my family’s case, me, my younger brother and my cousin cleaned the house and—uh—painted it and things like that so that when the guests come they find the house clean. So, if we have something broken in the house, we replace it—uh—if we have something old, we throw it away and buy a new one and—uh— We prepare the house and the women like my mother or the groom’s sister, or the bride’s sister, or the women in their family get—uh—get the dishes needed for the wedding because they will be feeding a big village. They bring those—uh—the kitchen materials—uh— There are some people who are able to buy a lot for the wedding: you would need cups, plates and rugs. There are some who buy, who buy a lot and leave them for other occasions but there are some who can’t afford it and so borrow some from the neighbors and after the wedding ends, they return them—uh— Oh and your guests, as you know some come from far away – like us, we have family in Oran and in Annaba who would come for the wedding and they need a place to sleep. And to sleep over, they need covers, and they need a place to sit like chairs and things like that—uh— Things like these you can’t buy them – you can’t buy 60 chairs and after that leave them in the house when you don’t need them. And so, we get them from the neighbors: ten from this one, five from this one, and two tables from that one. We collect them and after the wedding ends, we return them. This is it, and the whole family collaborates in the wedding, I mean, for the sake of God. Everyone, even neighbors say to you, “If you need anything, we can help you; we stand with you for this wedding.” I mean, like this.

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