

Levantine Arabic transcript:

سارة: هالأ الشعب اللبناني أكيد بيحكي اللهجة اللبنانية، بس مثل ما قلنا الأستعمار الفرنسي ترك كثير أثار وخاصة اللغة. فالشعب اللبناني بيحكي اللغة اللبنانية وبيدخّل في كثير تعابير و كثير عبارات بيحكيها بالفرنسي وحتى ممكن ساعات يحكي جمل بالفرنسي. مثل ما بنعرف لأنو الفرنسيين كان عندهن إرساليات، والإرساليات هي عبارة عن كانت مدراس. مثان هيك اللبنانيين كانوا بيسموهن فرانكوفون. من شان هيك معظم البنانيين والأكثرية تخرجوا من مدراس إرساليات وكانت اللغة الفرنسية هي اللغة الأجنبية الأولى. بس أنا درست بإرسالية ثانية وهي كانت (Tripoli Evangelical School) مدرسة طرابلس الإنجيلية وكانت اللغة الإنجيلية أكيد اللغة الأجنبية الأولى، فأنا بعرف أحكي إنجليزي وعربي لهجتي اللبنانية بس كمان لم بحكي مع حياالله حدى بدخل كثير عبارات فرنسية وهي صارت قسم من حياتي اليومية.

English translation:

Sara: Lebanese people speak in the Lebanese dialect. But as I said, French colonialism left a large impact, especially language-wise. Lebanese people speak Lebanese Arabic and add a lot of phrases and expressions in French. Sometimes they might even speak sentences in French. We know that, for example, the French had missions that were basically schools. That's why Lebanese people are Francophone. So that's why most Lebanese people, the majority, graduated from missionary schools where French was the first foreign language. But I went to a different missionary school, Tripoli Evangelical School, where English was the first foreign language. So I can speak English and Lebanese dialect, but when I speak with whomever, I add a lot of French expressions that have become part of my daily life.

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