

Levantine Arabic transcript:

المرأة: بنيجي على فلسطين. فلسطين. هالأ عادات أهل نابلس بتختلف عن عادات أهل الخليل. عادات أهل الخليل بتختلف عن رام الله. بالأعراس, بالأفراح, بالأتراح, بالزواج, بالمهور. يعني عندك في ناس بتطلب أنو خلاص في عندهم أنو أنا مهر بنتي.. بالخليل مثلا في بعض عائلات بتقلك أنا نص كيلو ذهب, كيلو ذهب, بعرفش كيف. يعني بعض العادات بتختلف حتى من قرية لقرية. ناس بتعمل حنا ناس ما بتعمل حنا. ناس بتعمل زفة العريس ناس لأ ما.. يعني في كثير. ناس بتعزم كل العيلة قبل العرس, ناس بتقول خلص بالأوتيل وماشي الحال. المرأة خلف الكاميرا: في ناس بغدوا مثلا?
المرأة: في ناس بغدوا أو بيعزموا أه.
المرأة خلف الكاميرا: أو بوفيه مثلا..
المرأة: وحتى لو ادين إلا ليعمل هيك, لأنو بقولك هاي عادات وتراث و هيك. في ناس بتقلك خلص. يعني الوضع الاقتصادي ما بيسمح خلص بعمل مرة وحدة بالأوتيل وخلص.

English Translation:

Woman: We come to Palestine. Palestine. Now, the traditions of the people of Nablus are different from the traditions of the people of Hebron. The traditions of the people of Hebron differ from those of Ramallah. In weddings, celebrations, grief, marriage, *mohomr*. I mean there are people who ask for the *mahr*¹ for their daughter ... in Hebron, for example, there are some families who tell you, I want a half kilo of gold, a kilo of gold -- I do not know how. I mean some traditions differ even from village to village. Some people make henna; others do not make henna. People join the groom, or not... I mean, there is a lot. Some people invite all the family before the wedding; others say [staying] in the hotel is okay.

The woman behind the camera: Some people provide lunch?

Woman: Yes, some people provide lunch.

The woman behind the camera: Or a buffet, for example

Woman: Even if he [the groom] goes into debt, he would still do [it] like this. Because they tell you, these are the traditions and customs and so forth. Some people tell you, no, the economic situation does not allow. He makes one thing [event] in the hotel, and that is it.

¹ Dowry.

About CultureTalk: CultureTalk is produced by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and housed on the LangMedia Website. The project provides students of language and culture with samples of people talking about their lives in the languages they use everyday. The participants in CultureTalk interviews and discussions are of many different ages and walks of life. They are free to express themselves as they wish. The ideas and opinions presented here are those of the participants. Inclusion in CultureTalk does not represent endorsement of these ideas or opinions by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages, Five Colleges, Incorporated, or any of its member institutions: Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

© 2003-2010 Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and Five Colleges, Incorporated