

CultureTalk North Africa Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>
A Sweet for the Prophet's Birthday

Tunisian Arabic transcript:

سي: أي اعياد دينية ثانية، مثلا تتحفلو بعيد المولد النبوي الشريف؟
سو: ايه بالطبيعة يعني نحتفلو به و نطيبو فيه آآ حاجة حلوة معروفة ألي هي عصيد، عصيد زقوقو آآ الزقوقو ألي هو نبة آآ نبة صغيرة نشروها قبل ل قبل الولد بفترة آآ نسفيوها و من بعد ترحى تولي آآ
سي: طحين

سو: ايه، تولي بoder يعني و آآ... بعد ما ترحى يعني تطيبها عيبة. أنا مثلا نساعد ما نجمش نقوم بها من المرحلة لولى لمرحلة لاخرى، امي تنجم تقوم بها اما أنا ما نجمش نطيب من لول لاخر. يطيب الزقوقو ألي هو عصيدة آآ فيه يعني طعم طيب، فيه طعم مكينة على لخر و من بعد يحطو فوقها آآ يعني الصفحة نتاع لعصيدة تعمل بزقوقو قبل و من بعد يعملو فوقها كليما كليما بانبة و البعض يزنها بالفاكية، فاكية مرحية، فوسدق مرحي، لوز مرحي، بفوليو مرحية، بندق مش مرحي آآ و يزبنها، كل مرآ تتفنن كيفاش تزبن لعصيدها تاها و الجيران بيعثو لبعضهم و العائلات، أنا نبعث لاختي، نبعث مع راجلي سحفة لاختي آآ أختي تبعث مع راجلها سحفة لي أنا يعني عصيدة الزقوقو معروفة في، يطيبها خاصة المولد النبوي الشريف.

English Transcript:

SE: Are there other religious holidays? For instance, do you celebrate the Eid of the birthday of the Noble Prophet?

SO: Yes, of course. We celebrate the Maulid [Prophet's birthday] and we cook something sweet, which is known and it is called *asidet zgugu*. *Zgugu* is a very small seed and we buy it some time before the Maulid, we clean it and then grind it until it...

SE: It becomes powder.

SO: Yes, powder. And after you grind it, you cook it; cooking it is very difficult. Personally, I can only help; I cannot do it from the first to the final step by myself, but my mother can do it. I can only help, I can't make it. After the *zgugu* is cooked, it looks like paste and it has a nice flavor. First, they fill the plate with *zgugu*, and then they put vanilla cream on top of it, and then decorate it with crushed nuts like pistachio, almonds, hazelnuts... Each woman decorates her *asida* [paste] in a special way. The neighbors send it to each other and I would send a plate to my sister, and she would send a plate with her husband to me. *Asidet zgugu* is common and is especially cooked during the birthday of the Noble Prophet.

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