

Tunisian Arabic transcript:

سو: الاكل التونسي متنوع يعني آآآ تلقى فيه الماكلة اليهودية كيما مثلا المدفونة... اساسا مطبوخة يعني من عشبة معينة آآآ منخية. برشا مكلات من اصل يهودي... لانه فيه برشا يهود في تونس.
سي: كيف تعمل المنخية؟
سو: منخية هي نبة كيف كيف آآآ يشيحوها و من بعد يرحها تولي غبرة آآآ من بعد يطيبها تولي مرققة. مرققة يعني مش جارية برشا، عاقدة شويا و وو ثم شكون يضيف عليها ل آآآ لحم العلوش و البقري... آآآ
سي: كأنها sauce؟
سو: ايه كأنها sauce عاقدة شويا... و آآآ مكلات كيما قلت لك الامبراطورية العثمانية خلات اثار كيف كيف في الكوجينة التونسية فتلقى برشا اطباق زاد من اصل تركي آآآ عندنا... لبريك من اصل تركي ألي نطيبه في رمضان و نوع من انواع لحو اسمه ل ل العلقوم كيف كيف من اصل تركي.

English Transcript:

SO: Tunisian food is diverse. You can find Jewish food, like *medfunna*, which is made of a specific herb. Ehhhh... *mnoukhia* [corchorus]. There are many dishes that are of Jewish origin because there are many Jews in Tunisia.

SE: How is *mnoukhia* made?

SO: *Mnoukhia* is a dried plant. They first cut it into long pieces and then grind it until it becomes powder. Then they cook it and it becomes a sauce – not too liquid, but a bit thick. Some people add lamb meat or beef.

SE: It is like a sauce?

SO: Yes, like a sauce – a bit, I think. As I told you, the Ottoman Empire also left an influence on Tunisian cuisine. So one can find many dishes that are of Turkish origin. We have *lebrik*, which is of Turkish origin and it is made during Ramadan. There is also a type of sweet called *halgum*, which is also of Turkish origin.

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 every day. 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.

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