

CultureTalk North Africa Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>
Unforgettable Trip to the Kabylie
Part 1s

Algerian Arabic transcript:

قلنا الدزاير العاصمة داما كاين يعني, كاين petites villes, كاين مناطق جبلية كيما بلاد قبايل يعني قرية بالزاف من العاصمة و لكن كاين الناس ألي ما يعرفوهاش يعني... و انا كنت يعني, سكنت بالزاف كنت عايش, يعني سكنت بالزاف في الجزائر العاصمة و كان عندي صحابي كحكى لهم علي بلاد قبايل يقولك, كما شغل نحكي له علي la Suisse, jamais يعرفها و هي قدامه بركة, 100 كلم يكون فيها. و قلت لك خطرة آآ ادبت واحد, ادبت وحد السيد طاكسيور في الجزائر العاصمة, صحبي نعرفه... كان آآ كان وحد فاميلتي كان حاب نديل له لعجوز يماه للعرس للبلاد, كان عرس في بلاد قبايل و هو ساكن هو و يماه في العاصمة. قالي, قالي ماكش ألي يدلي يما للعرس و لو كان ما تزوح يزغو عليها الدار و ال famille كداية و انا ما عنديش شغل خدام حتى الليل يعني ما نقدرش, لو كان لازم يخدم. و قالي ولا تديها لي, قالي روح برك شوف طاكسي تروني le service قلت له ما كانش مشكل. و كي قال روح تشوف طاكسي, انا عندي صحبي طاكسيور و قلت له ألي تدينا لعجوزة كورسة لبلاد قبايل و جي نتاي تبات كدا, قالي يا الله فيهم, يا الله و الله غروحو و قلت لك ادبته, ادبته و رانا نمشو و كدا و دخلنا لتيزي وزو, la ville هاديك ماشي différence كبيرة آآ الباطمات كيما آآ هي la ville صغيرة و لكن ما تحشيش, لحوانت, الغاشي... كخرجنا من تيزي وزو, خاتش عنا بلادنا جايا في الجبل, في آآ يعني في الجبل عالية في السما, بدينا نخرجو و بدينا نطلعو في آآ بدينا نطلعو بلاد قبايل كذاي, les virages, الجبل في الوسط, لحشيش, الغابات. و هو شغل خاف شوي, ماشي موالف بالغايشي, موالف بالزحمة, موالف ب آآ la pollution, بلكرارس, بالطموييلات, la ville mouvement, و هو كان حياته كامل خدام في الدزاير, في العاصمة يعني. كيخرج من الدزاير يروح يا ربي ليومرداس ولا يروح لشرشال, المدن ألي يعني قدام الدزاير.

English translation:

As I said, in Algiers the capital—I mean there are also small villages. There are mountainous areas like the Kabylie¹, which is very close to the capital. But there are people who, I mean, don't know them. And I was, I mean, living for long time—I lived a lot in the capital Algiers. And I have friends—when I talk to them about the Kabylie, it sounds like Switzerland to them; they never visited it and it is only 100 kilometers from them. As I told you, once—uh—I took one—I took a man who is a taxi driver in the capital Algiers. He is a friend of mine, I know him. There was—uh—there was a family member who wanted me to take his mother to a wedding in the countryside. It was a wedding in the Kabylie, and he and his mother live in the capital. He told me that there was no one to take his mother to the wedding and if she doesn't go, the family would be upset. And he had to work until night and he couldn't take her. And so he asked me if I can take her, and told me to look for a taxi and he would pay for the cost. And I told him to not worry. When he told me to find a taxi, I remembered my taxi driver friend and so I asked him if he can take my friend's mother to the Kabylie and we can stay overnight there. And I told him, "Let's go, come on, we should just do it." And as I told you, we were going and we entered Tizi Ouzou. Well, there is no big difference in the city—uh—tall buildings and like—uh—it is a small city but you don't feel like it – the shops and people— And when we left Tizi Ouzou, because the village is in the mountains in—uh—I mean, in very high mountains and we started to go up, go up in—uh—we started to enter the Kabylie and things like that: the bends [in the road], in the middle of the mountains, the fields, the forests. And he kind of got scared – he wasn't used to it. He is used to big crowds, he is used to—uh—the pollution, to the cars, and the movement in the city. And for his entire life, he was working in Algiers—I mean, in the capital. If he left Algiers, he probably went to Boumerdès or to Cherchell—I mean, the cities close to Algiers.

¹ *Kabylie*: The region in Northern Algeria which is mostly populated by the Kabyle people, one of four different groups in Algeria claiming Berber ethnicity.

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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