

**Algerian Arabic transcript:**

الخطبة كان ألي آآآ نسيت, كان الفاتحة, كاين ألي يديرها في الخطبة و كاين ألي يديرها في هداك لخميس ألي يروح  
آآآ كيروحو يجيبو لعروسة. كاين ألي, كاين ألي في الخطبة النهار كيروح يخطب, الراجل كيروح يخطب لمرا يدي  
معه إمام و كدا و يفريوها ثمة و يقرأو الفاتحة و يعطيها ال آآآ المهر, الصداق كدا و تولي مرته يعني في الشرع. يقدر  
يزورها, تقدر تجي عنده و يقدر يروح عندها قبل العرس. و كاين ألي يروح, زعما تروح يمناه تشوف لمرا كدايا و من  
بعد يزيد يروح هو, يروح مع يمناه خطرة وحدة اخرى يشوف لعروسة هكداي ولا عجباته. خلاص, كيتفاهمو و من  
بعد في العرس يقولو الفاتحة, يقرأو الفاتحة في العرس. عنده le choix, عندهم le choix. كاين آآآ كاين ألي يقرأ  
الفاتحة في الخطبة و كاين ألي يخليها لنهار العرس, نهار كيروحو نهار لخميس آآآ يحضرو الناس كدايا, يقرأو الفاتحة  
و يجيبها نهار لخميس.

**English translation:**

The engagement—I forgot to tell you, for the *Fatiha*<sup>1</sup> some people do it during the engagement and others do it on that Thursday when they—uh—go to bring the bride [for the wedding]. There are people who, on the engagement day when the man goes to ask for the girl’s hand, he takes an Imam with him and they say the *Fatiha* there, and they give her [the bride] the—uh—the dowry. And so she becomes his wife according to Islamic law. He can visit her and she can come to visit him: he can visit her before the wedding. And there are some people who send the mother to see the girl and then he [the groom] goes afterwards with his mother to ask for the girl’s hand. He goes to see if he likes the bride-to-be. So, if they agree [on when to read the *Fatiha*], they read the *Fatiha* during the wedding. He has the choice—they have the choice. There are—uh—those who read the *Fatiha* at the engagement and there are those who leave it until the wedding day: when they go on Thursday—uh—when people are present and they read the *Fatiha* and bring her [the bride] on Thursday.

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<sup>1</sup> *Fatiha*: Literally “The Opening,” it refers to the first chapter in the Quran which is often spoken to mark the sealing of an agreement.

**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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