CultureTalk North Africa Video Transcripts: http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu Shaabi: Music of Poems

Algerian Arabic Translation:

ع: أنا ما كنتش نسمع بزاف لاخور المدحات و الراي. كنت نسمع كثرية الشعبي... س: شا هو الشعبي؟

ع: الشعبي هذا الشعبي كشغل متكون لقصاد، لقصاد العربية بصح بالعربية الفصحى. و كاين بزاف مواضيع تاع الشعبي كاين مواضيع كاين مواضيع تاع الشعبي كاين مواضيع دينية تاع المدح، مدح الرسول عليه الصلاة و السلام و كثرية هذه. و زيد كاين بزاف لقصايد تاع على لقصايد تاع على لقصايد تاع الحب تانيك. لقصايد تاع بزاف شغل لكلام ألي فيه كلام تاع حكمة. حتى الراي فيه كلام تاع الحكمة بصح كاين كيما قلت كاينة هذاك النوع تاع الراي أنا ما نتفاقش معه على كل حال. الشعبي، الشعبي المعروفين كاين الشيخ العنقا الله يرحمه و هذا في الشعبي تلقيه في الدزاير، في العاصمة و في الشمال كاين بزاف… كاين بزاف هذا النوع من الموسيقى تاع الشعبي.

English translation:

A: I didn't used to listen much to *madahat* and *rai*. I mostly used to listen to *shaabi*.

S: What's *shaabi*?

A: Shaabi sort of consists of poems – Arabic poems, but in Standard Arabic. There are different topics in the shaabi music. There are religious topics like praising the Prophet (peace be upon him). That's the most common. Also, there are some romantic poems. There are many poems. The lyrics are sort of words of wisdom. Of course, even rai has words of wisdom. But, as I said, there is that type of rai that I don't agree with. The well-known shaabi artist is Shiek 'Anka (may Allah be merciful to him). You would find shaabi in Algiers the capital. And there is a lot of this type of music in the north.

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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