

CultureTalk Egypt Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>
Education in Bedouin Life

Egyptian Arabic transcript :

أول حاجة البدو أكثر ناس عندهم ذكاء، ذكائهم حاد. ودي طبيعه فيهم ويمكن حددتها أو أظهرتهم عيشتهم في الصحراء. وعندهم ذكاء خارق، فوق العادة. وذكائهم بس بينصب بحاجات معينه، بس عايز يبني، عايز يعمل، عايز... لكن هم أذكيا مش أغبيا مثلاً زي ما الناس متصورة، والله معندهم مثلاً... والله جهلة. لأ معندهم مش جهل. ناس متعلمين، ولو تعلموا وشانت الظروف مثلاً عندهم... يعني ابتدت المدارس عندهم والتعليم بدري بدري كان مكنش حد يبقى معاهم. في طبعاً بالبيوت العربية كمبيوتر ودش وتلفزيون وفي ناس متعلمين ووصلوا.... متعلمين ومتقبلين التعليم ومش رافضين التعليم، لكن فيه الظروف مادية تتحكم في إلی يتعلم، أو في إلی عنده مثلاً أولاد، مثلاً ظروفه صعبه، ظروفه الإقتصادية صعبه، مش رايح يقدر يكمل تعليم عالي مثلاً، مش حيقدر يقولك يتعلم وياخذلوا دبلوما ويركن ويوخذلوا مش عارف آيه. هاي شهادة متوسطه، يتعلمه صنعه، يتعلمه مهنة. لكن في ناس مادياتها مرتفعة يعلم ابنه ويصل بيه لغاية ما يوصل. مفيش موانع، كان عند البعض، كانوا مانعين تعليم البنات، لكن دلوقتي خلاص البنات تعلموا ووصلوا لأعلى الدرجات، فش حاجه اسمها... وده أكبر دليل على إنهم ناس اذكيا وناس معاصرين وناس متفتحين مع الزمن ومع الواقع.

English translation:

Man: The first characteristic is that the Bedouins have intelligence. Their intelligence is sharp. This feature in them was decided or perhaps showed by their life in the desert. They are smart, more than usual. Their smartness is dedicated to a specific thing -- but he wants to build ... he wants to do something But they are smart, not stupid as people think. For instance, they don't have ignorant people – no, they have no ignorance. They are educated people, and if circumstances allow, and they start their education early, nobody would be able to cope with them.

In Arab¹ houses, of course, there are a computer and a dish-satellite and a TV -- and there are educated people who reached [high positions].

They [Bedouins] accept education; they don't reject education, but there are financial circumstances that control who get an education Or for a person, for example, who has children ... for example, his economical [financial] circumstances are hard; he will not be able to finish higher education, for instance. He won't be able to learn, earn a diploma, and stop -- take whatever, earn a middle-school degree. He learns a skill; he learns a profession.

¹ Arabs in Egyptian means Bedouins.

However, there are some people who are financially capable of educating their son to obtain high education until he reaches [the top], no problems. Some people used to prevent girls from getting an education, but not anymore. Women now reached, and learned, and reached the highest education. There is no such thing as This is the clearest evidence that they are smart, modern, and open-minded people.

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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