

Egyptian Arabic transcript:

الرجل: شهر رمضان طبعاً زي ما هو داخل على أي واحد مسلم هو داخل على مسلمين، هم العرب آيه، يختلفوا آيه. فيهم ناس مسلمين عم يستقبلوا شهر رمضان فرحانيين بيه.

نجله: يستقبلوه الزاي؟

الرجل: يستقبلوه استقبال عادي، استقبال المسلم لشهر مبارك. يصلوا فيه بالقيام ويذبحوا فيه، ويأكلوا ويشربوا فيه ...

نجله: يعني هو استقبال روحي أكثر منه استقبال بالإحتفالات...

الرجل: أيوى استقبال روحي طبعاً، لما يصلوا القيام، يعملوا كل فيه بعض بيوت العرب يتسهروا في رمضان، يجيبوا شيخ، يسهر رمضان، يقرأ قرآن، يصلي بالناس العشاء والقيام، التراويح، ويفضل لغاية آخر رمضان، ويوم العيد يصلوا العيد وهكذا.

English translation:

Man: The month of Ramadan of course for us is as the same as when it comes to Muslims; I mean how do Arabs differ from others? They are Muslim people welcoming the month of Ramadan and feeling happy about it.

Naglaa: How do they welcome it?

Man: They welcome it the usual way, the way a Muslim welcomes this blessed month. They pray and sacrifice animals in it, and they eat and drink during it.

Naglaa: You mean a spiritual welcoming rather than a celebration...

Man: Yes, a spiritual welcoming of course. They pray. In some Arabs' houses, people stay up late during Ramadan. They bring a sheik to stay up late in Ramadan and read the Quran and lead the prayer of people for *Ishaa*¹, *Keyam*² and *Taraweeh*³ prayers; and he keeps doing this until the end of Ramadan. On the Eid day, he prays the Eid prayer and so on.

¹ Ishaa is the night prayer; last and fifth obligatory prayer daily.

² Keyam is a super obligatory prayer that happens after midnight

³ Taraweeh is a special super obligatory prayers to the month of Ramadan.

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.

© 2007-2010 Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and Five Colleges, Incorporated