

Egyptian Arabic transcript :

أمل: بالنسبة للسفر إحدى صديقتي للولايات المتحدة الأمريكية، تأثيرها علي آيه؟ انا أشوف إنها تشوف عالم ثاني وترجع بخبرات وأكبر، مكنش من السفر بس برضوا باحتكاكها بالناس هناك، يعني نوعيات من البشر ونماذج من البشر مختلفه عن بعضيها، وخصوصا إن أمريكا عامل زي بوتقه يعني شايله من كل مكان في منها عينه، عينات بشرية يعني. سفرها بالنسبة لي... عدت كانت صعبة طبعا علي من غيرها، وكانت صاحبتني الثانيه، صديقتي الثانيه كانت في السعوديه، فكننت لوحدي يعني، وأحاول إن أنا أعمل صداقات ثانيه بس باءت بالفشل كلها... لأ... يعني سميتها صداقه زي ما تحبي، بس برضوا يعني هي ليها.

نجله: ليها طابع خاص.

أمل: ليها طابع خاص، يعني الصداقة مع الأولاد ليها شكل ثاني يعني. طيب، انطباعي عنها بعد ما رجعت من السفر، في الأول أنا عارفه إن الناس حيكون رد فعلهم إنها تغيرت لأنهم بياخدوا بالشكل يعني ميعرفوش هي شكلها التغيير من جوه ولا من بره ولا التنين مع بعض. هي متغيرتش كثير بالنسبة لي أنا، لكنها يعني اكتسبت افكار ومخا تفتح أكثر يعني. هو كان مفتوح من الأول مخها بس أصبح أكثر تفتحا ونظرتها أصبحت أكثر حكمه. طيب، عشان خاطر، طبعا من وجه إنها كانت لوحدها هناك، تعتمد على نفسها بكل شيء يعني، أكل وشرب ونوم وكله وكله، على نفسها. والعمل برضوا اكسبها خبرة كبيرة، كويس، الأهم من كده إن أنا حابه إن خبرتها دي... هي طبعا كانت راجعه سخنه، كانت عايزة عمل تغيير بأي شكل من الأشكال، طب استنتي شويه في ميعاد في أوان لأنك تتكلمي في حاجات زي كده ومينفعش تصندمي بالناس إلي هنا، في ناس برضوا لسا عقولها محدوده يعني، مش بيجبوا التغيير بسرعه، مش بيتأقلموا، بخافه منه، بخافوا من التغيير. طيب حابه تفيدنا إحنا كأصدقائها من تجاربها دي، تجربة سفرها، لأي حد، الحاجات إلي تعلمتها، حبذا لو إحنا تعلمناها أو تعلمنا بعض منها. بحس إنها يعني آيه عشان العلم برضوا زي المال، في عليه زكاه، زكاة العلم، يعني مش عايزاها تكون من الذين يقال عنهم "سيطوقون ما بخلوا به يوم القيامة"¹ في القرآن الكريم، يعني أفضع شيء يعني زكاة المال لو الواحد ماله مفيش حد حيموت من الفقر، لكن الناس ممكن... العلم يأخر، يعني قلة، أو عدم تمكين الناس من أن هم يتعلمه، حجب العلم، حجب العلم عن حد محتاجه دي جريمه فظيعه.

¹ [2:180]

English translation:

Amal: Regarding the travel of one of my friends to the United States of America ... ah what is the influence on me? I know that she will see another world and return with more expertise, more, and ... ah ... if not from travel alone, also from her interaction with people over there ... and ... I mean, types of people and ... ah ... types of people that are different from each other, especially that [because] America is like a melting pot, I mean, like this; it embraces every, every, from every place there is a person, a person I mean.

... ah ... her travel for me

Woman behind camera:.... [Unclear audio]

Amal: It was hard for me, of course, without her ... and my other friend, other friend was in Saudi Arabia; so I was alone, I mean. I try to make other friendships, but they failed, all of them [laughing] ... but

Woman behind camera: [unclear audio] ... with men?

Amal: No, it doesn't work out. We cannot call it a friendship. I mean; call it a friendship as you want, but also, I mean, it has

Woman behind camera: A special form?

Amal: It has a special form. I mean friendship with men has another form, I mean. Fine ... ah ... my impression about her after she returned from travel ... ah First, I know that people, their reaction will be that she has changed because they consider the appearance. They don't know whether she changed from outside or inside or both of them together. She hasn't changed much for me. But she ... ah ... I mean, gained thoughts, and her mind, I mean, is more open, I mean.

Woman behind camera: It was open from the beginning.

Amal: It was open from the beginning but ... [Laughing] it has become more open, and she perceived things with more wisdom. Also; because She lives alone over there, she depends on herself for everything, I mean eating, and drinking, and sleeping, and [for] everything, everything she relies on herself ... ah ... and works too has helped her gain great expertise. More important is that I liked that her expertise ... she certainly returned excited. She wants to cause a change in any way possible. Fine, wait for some time, and there will be a time, a time for, for discussing such issues. And it will not work out to challenge people here. There are also people whose minds are limited, I mean. They don't, don't like a fast change; they don't adjust -- they fear it, they fear change.

Fine, she likes to help us as friends because of her experience of traveling ... ah ... whatever she learned, she wishes we would learn all of it, or learn some of it ... ah

She feels that she's what? Because knowledge is also like money,² I mean like *zakat*,³ *zakat* of knowledge ... ah ... I mean, I don't know; I don't want her to be [Laughing] I don't want to her to be ... as what's being said about them: "They will be surrounded with what they have prevented on the Judgment Day" -- the Glorious Quran ... and the most terrible thing is ... I mean money *zakat*; if someone prevents [holds back] his money, no one will die because of poverty, I mean. But if knowledge is delayed ... I mean scarcity or disability of people to learn ... preventing knowledge, preventing knowledge in someone who needs it, this is a terrible crime.

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² The speaker compares money and knowledge. According to the Islamic religion, money must be purified by giving certain portions of it to the poor and the needy. Knowledge and education also must be purified by helping other people and sharing information with them.

³ *Zakat* means alimony money in Islam.