

Egyptian Arabic transcript:

أنا مسيحية كاثوليك. في مصر في يمكن ثمانين مليون نسمة، في تقريباً 15 بالمائة من الشعب المصري يدين بالديانة المسيحية. منهم تقريباً بين 12-12 أقباط أرثوذوكس، إلى هم مسيحيين بتنوع الشرق، بتوع مصر بالذات، إلى هوا بيبقوا يسموه، يعني Egypt حاليه من Jipty إلى هي قبطي. الثلاثة بالمائة إلى فاصلين مختلفين بقى، في كاثوليك في بروتستنات، في أرمن، في.. مذاهب مختلفة.

بنروح كنيسة سان جوزيف، في قداس كل يوم حد، ببقي في قداديس، ببقي في قداس بالعربي، قداس بالإيطالياني، قداس بالفرانساوي، وقداس بالإنجليزي. في مصر كان في كتير في وقت من الأوقات كان في جاليه إيطاليه كبيره جداً، وكان في فرنساوين كتير وإنجليز، وما زال لغاية دلوقي ان في طبعاً القداديس بتتعمل بلغات مختلفة لسبب إنني في خمسين دبلوماسي. في دبلوماسيين كتير في مصر، وعائلاتهم، وبتحبوا يوم الحد يروحوا يحضروا قداس. فيا إما بروحوا سان جوزيف إلى بوسط البلد، يا إما سان جوزيف إلى بالزمالك. دي كنيسة أصغر شوية والقسис بيعمل قداس في مواعيد، في بالفرانساوي، وفي بالعربي، وفي الإنجلizi، وفي بالطليانية. الواحد بيمارس دينوا بحرية، فمافيش أي مشاكل، في كنائس كتير في مصر، في كنائس بتبقى تزار كمتلا كنائس أثرية، زي في مصر القديمة مثلًا في كنائس من القرن الثالث الميلادي، وفي كنائس كثيرة أوي أوي في مصر يعين، في كنائس قديمة من القرن الثاني والثالث الميلادي. وفي كنائس طبعاً اتنبت حديثاً.

English translation:

I am a Christian Catholic. In Egypt, there are about 80 million people, and there is about 15% of the Egyptian population that professes the Christian religion; more or less between 10 to 12% are Coptic Orthodox, who are the Christians of the East, especially those of Egypt. I mean ... what people call Egypt ... Egypt comes from "Jipty" [Aegypti], which means Coptic. The 3% that are left are diverse; there are Catholics, Protestants, and Armenians, and there are ... other denominations.

We go to the St. Joseph church; there is a mass every Sunday. There are masses ... there is a mass in Arabic, a mass in Italian, a mass in French, and a mass in English. In Egypt there were a lot ... at some point ... there was a very big Italian community, and there used to be a lot of Frenchmen, and Englishmen, and there are still here today. The masses are done in different languages for a reason, and that is that there is diplomatic representation; there are a lot of diplomats in Egypt, and they and their families like to go attend the mass on Sundays. So they either go to St. Joseph downtown,¹ or St. Joseph in Zamalek² -- this is a church that is a bit smaller, and the priest does the mass ... there are times, there is [a mass] in French, there is in Arabic, and there is in English, and there is in Italian.

¹ The St. Joseph Catholic Church in downtown Cairo is a big Roman Catholic Church, which is owned and run by the Italian and Egypt Franciscan Friars order.

² The St. Joseph Catholic Church in Zamalek is run by the Comboni Missionaries in Egypt.

Everyone practices his religion freely, there are no problems, and there are a lot of churches in Egypt. There are some churches that are visited as historic churches, as in old Cairo for example, where there are some churches from the 3rd century, A.D. ... and there are a lot of churches in Egypt; I mean, there are ancient churches from the 2nd and 3rd centuries, A.D., and, of course, there are churches that were built contemporarily.

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