

Egyptian Arabic transcript :

الرجل: حياة الريف بسيطة جدا ويعني وسهلة جدا وشيقة جداً. المهم إن الإنسان يعني ببيعش بأرض زراعية بيحن ليها، يعني الناس بالريف أطيب بكثير من الحضارة بتاع الحضارة المدنية. بتلاحظ كثير قوي يعني الناس دول بيتعرضوا لخبرات أكثر وتجارب أكثر واصتخدام مع الناس أكثر لأن الزحمة والشوارع بتجبرهم على كده. لكن في الريف الناس بسط جدا، عاداتهم بسيطة وسهلة.
المرأة: آيه هي العادات بتاعتهم؟

الرجل: الناس بتصبح الصبح بدري يكون في الفجرية، في الفجر، بيطلع يودي البهايم بتاعتوا ويجي مثلاً يجي يربطهم ويأكل ويفطروهم قبل ما يفطر. قبل ما هو ما يفطر، يعني هو بيستأرف بحياتهم قبل ما هو يفطر، ويسقيهم ميه، وبعد ما يسقيهم ميه يحي يرجع لبيته وأسرته يفطر معاهم ويأكل معاهم، وبعد كده واره أي حجة تانية بيعملها وهكذا يرجع لأرضه والحيوانات بتاعته. يجي مثلاً يشوف إذا كانت عاوزه تشرب ميه، (...)، لغاية حتى ما يغرب، بعد كده يجي يروح الحيوانات بتاعته، ويدخله جوه البيت وبتاع الكلام داه، ويحافظ على أمانها أو استقرارها. ويدلها العشاء وبعد كده يعني هو يتعشى.

المرأة: حياة الفلاح....

الرجل: أنا بحب الفلاح المصري جدا لأن منهم، ويعشق الأرض، لأن الأرض حاجه غاليه جدا. هنا بالنسبة لزوجة الفلاح يعني بتروح أبسط منه، بتحافظ على أولادها، وتخلي بالها منهم لغاية ما جوزها يجي. والرجال بياخذ الذكور منهم ويطلع منهم على الغيط والمرأة بتقعد تربي بأولادها، وأولادها يساعدها في البيت، ومنظر الأطفال شيق جدا وهم بيساعدوا أمهم في شغل البيت. المرأة الريفية...

المرأة: في لأ، في ستات بتروح مع أزواجهن في الغيط؟

الرجل: في ستات بتطلع تساعد أزواجهن في الغيط، وبيبقى كويس قوي منهم يعني. بس بتبقى نسبة التعليم بتاعتها منخفضة جدا عشان كده بتروح مع الغيط، لكن لو في فلاحين نسبة تعليمهم عالي، يعني في فلاحين نسبة تعليمهم مؤهل عالي وفي نسبة مؤهل متوسط، لكن في منهم في ميتعلمش خالص يعني أميين، نسبة الأمية مرتفعة جدا في الريف، هو بالنسبة للمشاكل بتاعت المدن يعني ما تعتبرش مشاكل يعني الفلاح بيرضى بقليله وبيعيش يعني في حياة مستورة. أهم حاجة إن هو ياكل ويشرب وينا، مفيش حياة (...). هي التطوير دايماً يعني أحياناً منهم ناس بتعش التطوير لكن ناس تانية متفكرش بالتطوير داه خالص. أهم حاجة إن ربنا يسترها عليهم وياكلوا ويشربوا ويناموا وخلص، يعني مفيش أي حياة تانية بتشغل بالهم، حياة سهلة وبسيطة.

English translation:

Man: The life of the countryside is very simple, I mean, and very easy, and very interesting.

Woman behind camera: Hmmm.

Man: The important thing is that the person lives in a rural land that he misses. I mean, people in the countryside are kinder than those in the civilization of ... ah ... in the modern civilization. You notice, I mean, a lot that those people are exposed to more expertise and more experiences and more interaction with the people, because the crowdedness and the streets force them to do this. But in the countryside, the people are very simple ... ah their traditions are simple and easy.

Woman behind camera: What are the traditions that they have?

Man: People wake up early in the morning; they get up at sunrise, at sunrise. He [any farmer] goes and takes his animals and starts, for instance, tying up and so on and feed[ing] them breakfast before he eats breakfast, before he eats breakfast, I mean he takes care of them before he has breakfast. And gives them water; and after he gives them water, he goes back to his house and his family, and has breakfast with them and eats with them. And after that, if he has anything else to do, he does it. And after that, he returns to his land and his animals to check if they need, for instance, to drink water; he harbors them until, ah, until the sunset prayer call. After that, he goes and brings the animals, and herding them inside, and so on, and keeps their safety and stability and gives dinner to them, and after that, I mean he, he dines.

Woman behind camera: The life of farming

Man: I like the Egyptian farmer very much, because I'm one of them and I love the land. I mean the land is a very precious thing. As for the farmer's wife, I mean, it's simpler [her life] than his. She protects her children and takes care of them until her husband comes back. And the man [farmer] takes the males, and takes them to the meadow, and the woman stays home to raise her children at home, and her children [he means the females] help her at home. The scene of children is very effective as they help their mother with housekeeping.

Ah, this is ... the countryside woman, I mean

Woman behind camera: Are, are there women who go with, with their husbands to the meadow?

Man: There are women who go and help their husbands in the meadow I mean; and, ah, this is a very good thing from them

Woman behind camera: Hmmm.

Man: But her percentage of education is very low, and that's why she goes with him to the meadow. However, if there are farmers, then their ratio of education is high. I mean, there are farmers also ... there are people whose ratio of education is high; and there is a ratio of average [education]. And there is [the person] who doesn't learn at all, I mean illiterate. The illiteracy percentage is very high in the countryside.

Woman behind camera: Hmmm.

Man: The, ah, as for the problems of cities, I mean, so that problems don't appear. The farmer accepts his little share and lives, I mean, a sufficient life. The most important thing is that he eats and drinks and sleeps. There is no other life that occupies his mind, I mean. This development, I mean Sometimes, there are people who love development,

but other people don't think about this development at all. The most important thing is that our God would protect them, and ... and eat and drink and sleep and that's it, I mean. There is no other life that occupies the mind. Life is easy and simple.

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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