

Egyptian Arabic transcript:

المهم هو بيبقى شهر هام جدا. كل البلد بتشتغل ساعة بدري، يعني بيخرجوا من الشغل ساعة بدري. بيبقى المرور كلوا زحمة، لكن الناس لازم توصل في وقت معين بيوتها عشان تاكل، المواصلات بتوقف ساعة الفطار، بيبقى في يا دوب بعض التكسيات إلي تبقى ماشية. بس طبعا كان زمان المطاعم كلها بتقفل طول فترة رمضان، بس دلوقتي لأ المطاعم بتفتح عشان تعمل عادات فطار أو سحور بالليل.

طبعا، بتكثر الزيارات برمضان والعزائم على الفطار، عشان الناس بيجمعوا مع بعض بالشهر دا كتير، وبتبقى فرصة الأهل يعزموا بعض، ويقعدوا مع بعض وياكلوا بنفس الوقت. طبعا في الأيام العادية كل واحد في شغلة بيرجع في ساعة معينة، فمش كل العيلة بتاكل مع بعض. لأن طبعا المدرسة بتخلص الساعة ثلاثة، الأب بيرجع من الشغل يمكن الساعة خمسة، في حد ثاني يمكن يرجع الساعة وحدة، فمفيش ميعاد محدد، إنما في شهر رمضان كلوا بياكل بوقت واحد. وعلى فكرة، كتير بتحصل أن مسيحيين يعزموا مسلمين على الفطار عندهم عشان هم عرافين صايمين، وكتير مسلمين بيعزموا مسيحيين على الفطار عندهم عشان ياكلوا معاهم يقوموا على الفطار، يعني دا بيحصل دائما الحاجات دي.

المرأة خلف الكاميرا: هو غير قمر الدين في حاجة معينة، لازم تكلوها؟
المرأة: آه، هو لازم شوربة سخنة على الفطار دي مهمة جدا، في كمان الخشيف. في طبق أسموا الخشيف. دا بيبقى فيه كل الفاكهة الناشفة وبنطربها في المية والسكر، مثلا زي القراصية، زي المشمية، وبلح، آه. كمان في ناس بتاكل بلح باللين، بتحط بلح على اللبن على السكر، ودا بيبقى طعموا حلو أوي، وكتير ناس بتفطر على تمر، بيسموه تمر وبيقولوا أن الرسول عليه الصلاة والسلام كان ييفطر دائما على تمر، ولما تكون موجود بالشارع، وبيبقى ميعاد الفطار، في ناس بتبقى موجوده عشان توزع بلح أو تمر على الناس، إلي موجوده والمدفع ضرب عليها ولسا ملحقتش تروح بيتها عشان تفطر. فتلاقي بيحطلك جوى العربية وأنتا واقف على الإشارة كيس فيه تمر، أو بلحتين، هو طبعا بيبقى بلح ناشف مش بلح طازة. مش البلح إلي هو فاكهة، لأ، بيبقى بلح ناشف زي المشمية والقراصية في دي كمان من الأطباق الحلوة إلي بتتاكل كتير.

English translation:

Woman (yellow shirt): The most important thing is that it is a very special month. All the country works an hour early, and they leave work an hour early. All of the traffic is overcrowded, because people must arrive at a specific time at home in order to eat. Transportation systems stop at the time of the break of the fast; here are just a few taxis running, but, naturally In the past, restaurants used to close all through the Ramadan period, but today, no; the restaurants open for the break of the fast or for the last meal before daybreak, the *suhour*¹ at night.

Naturally, visits increase during Ramadan, as well as the invitations for the break of the fast, because people gather together a lot during this month, and it is an opportunity for relatives to see one another, stay together, and eat at the same time – because, of course, during normal days everyone is at work and comes back at a specific time, so the whole family does not eat together. Because, naturally the school finishes at three; the father may come back from work at five; there is another person that comes back at one ... so

¹ The *suhour* is the meal Muslims eat before sunrise, before starting their daily fast.

there is no delimited timing, while, during the month of Ramadan, everyone eats at the same time.

And, by the way, it is very common that Christians invite Muslims to break the fast in their homes, because they know they are fasting. And a lot of Muslims invite Christians into their homes for the break of the fast, so that they can eat with them one day of the break of the fast. These things always happen.

Woman voice: Apart from the *Qamar al din*,² is there anything specific you must eat?

Woman (yellow shirt): Yes ... we must have a warm soup during the break of the fast. This is very important. There is also the *khoshaf* ... there is a dish called the *khoshaf*, in which there are dried fruits that are macerated in water and sugar, like dried plums, dried apricots ... and we put in nuts and dates. Also, there are a lot of people who eat fresh dates with milk. They put milk with dates and sugar, and its taste is very good! And a lot of people break their fast with dessert dates,³ they call it *tamr*, and they say that the Prophet, Peace Be upon Him, always used to break his fast with *tamr*. And when you are in the street, and the time of the break of the fast comes, some people are present to distribute dates, or dessert dates, to the people who are present ... and the cannon was fired, and they still haven't had the time to go home so that they can break their fast. So, you find when you are waiting at a red light, that he puts a bag in your car with dessert dates or two dates. Naturally, they are dried dates, not fresh dates -- not the dates that are fruits, but dates that are dried, like dried apricots and dried plums. So this is also part of the beautiful dishes that are eaten a lot.

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² Literally means the moon of religion. It is a drink made of apricot paste popular during the month of Ramadan.

³ The "tamr" are dates that are made as desserts, dates in caramel, or dates with chocolates, or dates with almonds for example.