

### Arabic Transcript:

مثل ما كنت يسوون الدبس والراشي ويسوون الكيمر والكاهي وهاي الاشياء الصبح، طبعاً العائلات ..اغلبية العائلات ما تترك اكل ..يعني ما تاكل اكل تكيل الصبح، الريوك يعني مو اكله كلش مهمه عنده، خصوصاً العائلات الي عدها دوام، والي عدها اطفال تداوم مدارس وهيجي شي. فـ ... يعني الغده لازم يكون تمن ومركه ويكون وباه فد شي ثاني مثلاً...المركه لازم يكون بيها لحم، العائلات العراقيه حته افقر العائلات العراقيه لازم ياكلون لحم، ما يعرفون ياكلون اكل عادي. والعشه دائماً يكون اشياء مطبوخه بالدهن، يعني مقلية، مثلاً بيتجان يكلوه ..مقلي.. نكول: مكل، بيتجان، بنتيه، يشترن هاي الاشياء الي نسميها اجنبيه، صوصج وهاي السوالف، الهمبركر... هاي كلها اشياء اجنبيه بس نطبخها عادي، نكليها وناكلها. واكو فد شي همينه نسوي بالعراق، الطماطه نقسمها يعني قطع زغيره ونحطها على الزيت ونحطها على الطباخ فد خمسطعش دقيقه، وبعدين تذب الدهن مالتها فهاي نسميها طماطه بالدهن. فما اتصور اكو اي مكان ثاني يسوون طماطه بالدهن بس بالعراق. ودائماً يعني يسوون لفات، يجيبون صمون، الي هو مثل الخبز بس يسووها بطريقه بالفرن، يعني اكو محلات مال افران وهيجي اشياء، فمن يشترن الصمون، يكدرن يفتحوها من النص، ويحطون بيها الاكل، يعني مثل الخبز بس مثل خلي نكول شلون الساندوج هنانه. فتكدرن تفتحها من النص وتحطين بيها الاكل. فدائماً اغلبية العائلات يسوون هيجي شي، ويسوون كباب، الي هو خلطة مال لحم وخضروات وبصل وطماطه و اشياء وملح.. فيخلطوها لهاي ويحطوها همين على الدهن، يكلوها يسوون قطع زغيره هيجي مال لحم، فهاي همينه يحطون همينه كباب وطماطه هاي الي بالدهن ويحطون خيار وهاي تصير لفة، فهاي يصير عشه. ومثلاً نطبخ فلافل همينه، يعني تختلف، ونسوي حمص وهاي اكلاته.

### English Translation:

As I said they'd make *dibis*<sup>1</sup> and *rashee*<sup>2</sup> and the *qimar*<sup>3</sup> and *kahi*<sup>4</sup> in the morning. Most of the families wouldn't have a big meal for breakfast; we tend to ignore breakfast in Iraq, especially for families that have work in the morning or children who attend school. The lunch is usually *timen*<sup>5</sup> and *marqa*<sup>6</sup> that has to have meat; even the poor Iraqi families would still put meat in their soup. The dinner is usually fried, like fried potatoes, eggplants, and *kebab*. Or they'd buy those foreign products like hotdogs and burgers. There's still another thing that we make in Iraq ... that is fried tomatoes. We chop tomatoes into small pieces and we put it into cooking oil, and then on the stove for almost 15 minutes, until it releases its juice and that's what we call "tomatoes in oil" which is really good and I don't think anyone else does it besides Iraqis. We also make sandwiches; we use *samoon*<sup>7</sup>, which is like bread but they make it in special bread stores. They can open *samoon* in two halves and stuff it with food. It is like bread, but more like sandwich bread. So, most families do that, and they make *kebab* which is a mix of meat, vegetables, onions, tomatoes, few other things and salt. They mix it and then put in small pieces on the cooking oil in a pan to fry those small pieces of meat, and then they put these pieces of *kebab* with tomatoes and cucumber inside *samoon* to make a sandwich,

<sup>1</sup> black honey made out of dates

<sup>2</sup> sweets

<sup>3</sup> something made out of milk

<sup>4</sup> flat pastries made out of wheat

<sup>5</sup> rice

<sup>6</sup> soup

<sup>7</sup> two layers of flat bread

and that would be dinner. We also make *falafel* and *hummus* ... so yeah, these are our dishes.

**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 everyday. 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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