

Arabic Transcript:

العرس عنده فد شي جبير. اكو... يعني مشروع كلش طويل. اول شي يجون يخطبون. الخطبه تصير اول اول فقرة بالعرس. لمن يروحون يخطبون دائما اول شي يجي العريس بوحده يتقدم، يروح على عائلة البنيه، مثلا ابويه راح بوحده اول شي على بيت امي و جدي ... ف راح حجه ويه جدي، وحجه ويه بييتي كلهم اني اريد اتقدم واريد اخطب بتكم، واطلب ايدها واشياءات فكلوله اوكي، تعال ... جيب اهلك وتعال. فأول شي ينطوه يعني لازم ينطوه القبول... يكولوله اي تعال انت واهلك. فراح همينه على اهله، جاب اهله واجه. ف اجتي امه وابوه وعمه و شوف منو يعني.. متجي عائله كلش جبيره. تجي اول شي جم فرد من العائلة. ف يكعدون كلهم سويه الكبار، الاهل، الاب والام والاب والام من الجهه اللخه ويتناقشون. يعني شمخلص انت؟ ... شتشتغل؟ وين رح تعيش البنيه؟ ... شرأح تجيبها بالعرس؟ ... يعني هاي الاشياءات. فيتناقشون و همين يحطون ايديهم على البدايات واوكي ... يعني يقتعون شويه بيهم. فيخابروهم يكولولهم ميخالف نطيكم خبر بعدين. فترجع عائلة الولد وتنتظر تلفون من عائلة البنيه. اذا قبلو يكولولهم تعالو، جيبو عائلتكم وتعالو. اذا ما قبلو يكولولهم مصار نصيب. وان شاءالله تكون البنيه الاحسن او شوف شنو.

English Translation:

The wedding is a big thing for us. It is a long process. The first thing is the engagement; it is the first part of the wedding. The groom comes alone at first, he goes to the would-be-bride's family; for example, my father went on his own to my mother's family, he talked to my grandfather and my grandmother, and told them that he's proposing and he wishes to ask for their daughter's hand, and they told him that it was okay, bring your family. So, it is necessary to get that acceptance at the beginning. Later, he brought his parents and a few members of the family. The elders of the two families would sit together and ask questions about the man, his degree, his job, where he would live, what things he is willing to bring as wedding gifts ... etc., etc., etc. So they discuss that and touch base with each other. So the woman's family would tell them that they'll answer them later. The man's family will wait for a phone call from the woman's family. If they accept, they would call them and ask them to bring the extended family. If they reject, they would tell them, "Sorry it didn't work out, and hopefully you'll find the right girl."

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.