

Arabic Transcript:

ا: طب انا مابعرف كيف تعملو الشاي. احكي لي كيف تعملو الشاي؟
ب: اااااا ... الجاي، نحط اول شي مي بي ونخدره خمسطعش دقيقة او عشرين دقيقة، بعدين وراها نضيف الجاي.. مو مثل التي باك¹ ماعدنه هذا الشاي ... عدنه الجاي ... شلون تكولين ...
ا: اوراق جاي؟

ب: اوراق جاي. ونحطها بالكتلي ونسمي الابريق مال الشاي .. نسمي كتلي احنه بالعراق. ااااا ونحط على صفحة همين كتلي لآخ نحمي بي مي، علمود بس نضيفله مي للجاي. فهيجي نسوي الجاي احنه. و مثل ما كلت اكو شكر همينه محطوط بصينيه. وبالصينيه همينه اكو استكانات مال الجاي. ومثلا للاطفال مرات يحطون كوب جاي لانه الطفل ما يكدر يشيل الاستكان لانه كلش حار فالكوب علمود بي يده، فيشيله. فهاي... وويه الجاي دائما العائلات تاكل كليجه. كليجه فد شي حلو بي تمر ويسووه العائلات يضيفوله سمس مرات واشياءات فيسووه مثلا، تكعد بيبيتي وخالاتي بالليل قبل العيد .. خصوصا قبل العيد يطبخون اكل ومدري شنو ويسوون الكليجه، بالليل. فيضلون ساعات يسوون الكليجه مالتهم، لانه من يجون الخطار للبيت وحده من الاشياءات الي نسويها احنه نقدمهم جاي ونقدمهم كليجه. ودائما الجاي لازم يكون متحضر والكليجه لازم تكون متحضره لانه الخطار من يجون بالعراق ميخابرون بالبدايه ويكولون احنه رح نجي، على غفله يجون. بس يدكون الباب ويدخلون و يجون يزورون.

English Translation:

Girl behind the camera: So I don't really know how you make tea, tell me how do you do that?

Zahraa: Aaaaaa ... we boil water for 15-20 minutes. Later, we add the tea – which is not a tea bag, we don't have tea bags in Iraq – we have, how you say...

Girl behind the camera: tea leaves?

Zahraa: tea leaves, and we put them in the *kitli* which is a teapot, we call a teapot *kitli* in Iraq and on the side there's another *kitli* with hot water in it, ready to make another pot out of it. Sugar is ready in a tray that also has *istikan*². For children, we use cups because tea is hot, and the cup usually has an arm to it. With tea, Iraqi families usually eat *kleicha* which are Iraqi sweets with dates. Iraqis make it sometimes with sesame... my grandmother and aunts would usually make it the night of the Eid and they'd spend hours making it, because one of the main things we do when we have guests is serve *kleicha* and tea, and it has to be ready because guests in Iraq would never give you early notice; their visits are sudden.

¹ Tea bag

² Iraqi tea glasses

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