

**English Translation:**

**Woman behind camera:** Well, for the tribal law, does it meet...I mean does it clash with the civil law of the country?

**Man:** [There are] so many times that the tribal law clashes with the civil law. I mean with the spread of the civil law and its control over the tribes and the tribes' life close to cities, in fact, and living actually in cities – and in Iraq, a big number of tribes live in cities now, in city centers unlike the past, in villages and countryside. So the [tribes] must follow the civil law. Originally, just like I mentioned, the rule first is for the tribe's sheikh. I mean in a conflict, it cannot... if a conflict happens, or if a murder happens, or if any problem happens.

**Woman behind camera:** Yes.

**Man:** Within one tribe or between two tribes, they don't resort to law immediately. First they resort to the tribal law. Many conflicts are solved tribally without resorting to...to...I mean to law. If it becomes out of the two sheikhs control...

**Woman behind camera:** Like what?

**Man:** I mean sometimes a tribe would reject reconciliation over a certain sum of money or certain compensations. For instance, for a murder there is compensation in Islam. So they would say they would pay the compensation. The compensation, for tribes, depends on the murdered, on his importance, on his situation, men, women, children, etc. It's paid from the tribe's fund, a certain sum or certain compensations. They might be symbolic compensations; they might be sheep and camels.

**Woman behind camera:** Or properties, for example.

**Man:** Or certain properties, perhaps a piece of land. So if they didn't agree, I mean if they didn't...if they reached a dead end, law interferes because there will be tribal retaliations and there will be blood so law must intervene in this case.

**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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