

### Arabic Transcript:

ا: ورها اكو السبعه، الي هو سبعة ايام وره العرس، اكو حفله همينه، هاي الحفله لمن الكرايب والاصدقاء يجيبون الهدايا للعروسه. فهمينه العروسه مرات تلبس بيها فساتين مختلفه، مختلفه الوانها، فتطلع تصعد وتنزل تبدل ملابسها فهمينه.. العرس يطول مده طويله كلش.

ب: أحكي لي عن المهر

ا: المهر.. ابيبيبيبي شيجيب العريس؟ اغلبية العوائل هالايام لمن يتزوجون يكولون احنه نريد كمهر بالبدايه قرآن. عساس يعني فد شي حلو وخوش بدايه للعرس وويها تجي من المهر النيشان الي هو الذهب الي يشتروا والملابس هاي جزء من المهر وهمين من يحجون... يكولون اذا صار طلاك بيناتهم يحطوها همينه ويه المهر. انه العريس رح ينطي للبنيه خلي نكول البيت او الشقه او شوف شنو، وياها ينطي فلوس مليون، مليونين تعتمد. تختلف هسه طبعاً الفلوس عن فلوس قبل. قبل جان المليونين هوايه، هسه صار المليونين ولا شي. ف... هاي همين جزء من المهر.

### English Translation:

**Zahraa:** *Saba'a* is a party that happens seven days after the wedding; it is when the family and friends bring gifts to the bride. She [the bride] usually wears seven dresses in this party. So that is why the wedding usually takes a long time.

**Girl behind the camera:** Tell me about *mahar*<sup>1</sup>.

**Zahraa:** Mmmm... *al-mahar* ... what does the groom give? Most of the families these days, when they get married, they say they want as *mahar*, in the beginning, the Qur'an. Because it is basically a beautiful gift, and it is the best thing to start the process of the wedding with, alongside *al-nishan* which is the golden jewelry that they buy and the clothes. They'd also discuss the case of divorce, and if this happens, what are the things that the man needs to provide the woman with. For example, the house, or the apartment and money like a million or two...of course this used to be a big number back in the day, but now with inflation this is nothing.

**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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<sup>1</sup> Dowry given to the bride