CultureTalk Iran Video Transcripts: http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu

Khuzestan Culture

Persian transcript:

مُحسن: بعد فِکر می کنید جَنگ چه آثاری داشت در خوزستان؟ به هر حال یعنی عَراق در غَربِ ایرانه [ایران است] دیگه[دیگر].

آزیتا: دُرُسته، جُنوبِ غَرَب.

مُحسن: غَرَب و جُنوبِ غرب، خب فکر می کنید که... فکر می کنم که اُستانِ خوزِستان بیشترین آسیب رو دید. حالا فکر می کنید چه آثاری داشته بر خوزستان این جَنگ اگه بخوایم[بخواهیم] مثلاً به طور کلی بگیم[بگوییم]؟

آزیتا: بهتره از این جا شروع کنم؛ قبل از این که جنگ بشه[بشود] و قبل از انقلاب، خوزستان نه تنها قطب صنعتی بود، بلکه قطب، چه می دونم[1]، یه جورایی[2] فرهنگی هم محسوب می شد؛ خیلی نویسنده های بزرگی هستند که الان نویسنده هایِ مُعاصِرِ ایران[هستند و] از خوزستان اومدند، به خاطرِ این که اونجا شُغل بود و اِقتِصاد رُونَق داشت. خیلی ها از جاهایِ مختلف ایران می اومدند تو خوزستان زندگی می کردند همین باعِث شده بود که خیلی شکوفا بشه[بشود]، مَخصوصاً با صَنعتِ نَفت و، انگلیسی هایی که اومده بودند اونجا، انگلیسی ها و آمریکایی هایی که نفت را راه انداخته بودند صنعتش را، باعث شده بود که خیلی خوزستان مُتَمایز باشه[باشد] با استانهای دیگه[دیگر]. یه جورایی مَردُمِش مُدِرن تر از اُستان هایِ دیگه فِکر می کردند؛ این قدر سُنَتی نبودند.

محسن: من فِکر می کنم حالا این جور که شما می گید[می گویید] که یکی از دلایلش اینه[این است] که مردم از جاهایِ مُختلِف اومده بودند و اون حالتی نبود که یک جایی باشه[باشد] که همه آدما[آدم ها] از یک فرهنگ باشند و یه جورایی خیلی به اصطلاح محافظه کار باشند.

آزیتا: هم این می تونه باشه[می تواند باشد] هم این که کلا مردم خوزستان اصولا آدمای[آدم های] مَعروفَند به خون گرمی[3] و خیلی آدمای بازی هستند نِسبَت به آدمایِ غَریبه و کسایی[کس هایی=کسانی] که از جاهای دیگه می آیند. حالا نمی دونم اول این علت اونه یا این معلولِ این قضیه است. ولی خُب خیلی راحَت کنار می آیند. شاید هم به خاطِرِ فرهَنگِ عَشایری باشه. مثلا خود من خوزستانی هستم ولی پدر و مادرم از نظر جُغرافیایی خوزستانی اند، ولی پدر و مادرم هر دو بختیاری اند[4]، و فرهنگ عَشایری خیلی فرهَنگِ راحَت و خودمونی[خودمانی] و بازیه[بازاست].

محسن: درسته

English translation:

Mohsen: What effects do you think the war had on Khuzestan? Iraq is west of Iran anyway.

Azita: That's correct, southwest.

Mohsen: Right, the west and the southwest. Well, do you think…I think Khuzestan province was damaged the most? What effects do you think the war has had on Khuzestan, if we want to talk in general?

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[1] "چه می دونم": I do not know

[2] "یه جورایی": somehow

[3] "خون گرم": (lit. warm-blooded) It means very welcoming, and hospitable.

[4] "بختیاری": It is one of the two largest nomad tribes in Iran. The other is Qashqai Tribe of Fars province.

Azita: It is better to start like this; before the war and before the Revolution not only was Khuzestan the industrial center but also, I don't know, somehow it was considered a cultural center too. There are many great contemporary Iranian writers who have come from Khuzestan. Because there were jobs, the economy was growing. From different parts of Iran people were coming [and] living in Khuzestan. It had caused the growth of the economy especially through the oil industry and the British who had come there. The British and Americans who had run the oil industry had made Khuzestan different from other provinces. Somehow its people were more modern thinkers than [people in] other provinces; they were not very traditional.

Mohsen: I think one of the reasons is that people had come from different places, and it was not a kind of situation in which all people being from one culture and somehow very conservative.

Azita: It can be this, [and] also basically Khuzestani people are known for being very welcoming, open-minded toward strangers and people who come from other places. Now, I do not know if this is the cause or the effect of that. But they get along easily. It can be because of the tribal culture. For instance, I am from Khuzestan, but geographically my father and mother are from Khuzestan[5]. But my parents are both Bakhtiari [nomads]. The tribal culture is very easygoing, friendly and open-minded.

Mohsen: That's right.

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[5] Meaning they were born and brought up in Khuzestan, but originally are tribal people who settled in Khuzestan.