

CultureTalk Arab Levant Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>  
A Pastry Shop in Tripoli

**Levantine Arabic transcript:**

زينه: شو أسمك؟  
حسن: حسن شرف الدين.  
زينه: هادا محللك؟  
حسن: إن شاء الله. هدول ولدي سيد محمد وسيد مصطفى.  
زينه: هاي هي حلاوة الجبن.  
صديقه: بايي بموت بحلاوة الجبن هو اصلوا من طرابلس.  
حسن: أبوك؟ من بيت مين أبوك؟  
صديقه: عدرة.  
حسن: عدرة.. هالأ كان عندي ابن عدرة، صحبتي، آيه..  
الصديقه: والله.  
حسن: طرابلسيه أنو.. بس ما بتقولي (...).  
زينه: هايدا كمان حلاوة الجبن؟  
محمد: هاي معمول، معمول العيد.  
زينه: أه معمول مع جوز. وهايدا شو هاد؟  
سيد: هاد حليب رز.  
زينه: أنتو شو بتحطوا بحلاوة الجبن؟  
حسن: جنبه جنبه.  
زينه: جنبه شو؟  
حسن: جنبه مصنوعه من البقر الصوفي وطبيعيه يعني.  
زينه: هي عكاوي يعني.  
حسن: لأ هي مش عكاوي، إحنا عنا جنب طبيعي وحليب طازه يعني.. يعني حليب الطازه معروف. أميركاني؟  
الصديقه: هي أميركانيه.  
زينه: وبطحتوا فيه زبده؟  
حسن: لأ هي الجبن قلبوا مدهن من الزبده.  
زينه: وبتحطوا السكر أما زهر أما ورد.  
حسن: مي ورد.  
زينه: مي ورد.  
حسن: مي ورد آيه.

**English translation:**

“A Pastry Shop in Tripoli”

Zeina: What is your name?

Hassan: Hassan. Hassan Sharaf Eddin.

Zeina: Is this your store?

Hassan: Yes, God willing ... with my sons, Mr. Mohammed and Mr. Mustapha.

Zeina: Hello.

Hassan: And is that *Halawat al-Jibn*?<sup>1</sup>

Friend: My father loves *Halawat al-Jibn* -- he's originally from Tripoli.

Hassan: Your father? What is his family name?

Friend: 'Adra.

Hassan: 'Adra ... I just had an 'Adra in my store, my friend.

Friend: Really?

Hassan: You're from Tripoli?

Zeina: Is this also *Halawat al-Jibn*?

Mohammed: This is *maamoul*<sup>2</sup> for *Eid*.

Zeina: Oh, *maamoul* with walnuts. And what is that?

Mustapha: That's rice pudding.

Zeina: What do you put in *Halawat al-Jibn*?

Mustapha: Cheese.

Zeina: What kind of cheese?

Mustapha: Cheese made from cows' [milk]. Natural.

Zeina: *Akkawi*<sup>3</sup> cheese?

Mustapha: No, not *Akkawi*. We have natural cheese from the mountains here, and fresh milk. Americans, are you American?

Friend: She's American.

Zeina: Do you put butter in it?

Mustapha: No, there is butter in the cheese.

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<sup>1</sup> A cheese-based pastry.

<sup>2</sup> A pastry made of semolina and filled with either dates or nuts

<sup>3</sup> A white brine cheese.

Zeina: Do you use sugar, or flower water, or rose water ...?

Mustapha: Rose water.

Zeina: Rose water.

Mustapha: Rose water, yes.

**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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