

CultureTalk North Africa Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>
Moroccan Ways of Greeting
Part 2

Moroccan Arabic transcript:

ن: يعني مثلا و انت ماشية في الشارع و تسلمي كدا علي حد, ازي تسلمي علي الجيران مثلا؟
ب: انا من حي و ما كان نتكلموش علي المناطق ألي هي جديدة لان المناطق ألي هي جديدة كل واحد ساد عليه بابه و ما كيتكلمش مع جاره يعني لدرجة ان ما كيعرفش شكون هو جاره اما في الاحياء, الحاجة ألي كتعجبني في الاحياء الشعبية ان مزال قراب لبعضياتهم, مزال فيم ذاك عار الجار علي الجار كيما نقولو حن, حار الجار علي الجار. الجار كيسول علي جاره و كيظمن عليه و كيعرف اخباره ديما آآ فاش كان مثلا غادي في ذيك الزنقة ألي انا عايشة فيها, ذوك الناس ألي كنعرفهم و لبد غادي لابد انك تسلم عليه كان ألي من بعد كتقول ليه سلام لابس و كيدير؟ و لكن ما كتسولش غير علي, ألي يعجبني انك ما كتسولش غير علي راسه مثلا الاختلاف ألي لقيت هنا, انا كنقول لك Hi, how are you? كسولك علي سلام, لابس و انت كيفك لابس؟ نحن عندنا لا, كتسلم: سلام, لابس عليك؟ صحتك لابس؟ كسولك علي صحتك حتى هي. كسولك علي العائلة ديالك, عائلتك لابس؟ كسولك من بعد منين نسولك علي العائلة كسولك كل واحد شنهو اسمو؟ كان نسولك ثاني علي الخدمة ديالك...

ن: سؤال غير واضح...

ب: أغلب الاوقات الراجل خصو كيمد اليد... الراجل كيمد اليد ل...

ن: اذا ما مدش؟

ب: علي حساب, مثلا كاين بنات ألي هما ما كيسلموش علي الرجال. يعني ما غاديش تمد يديها...

ن: سؤال غير واضح

ب: مثلا منين كيحي واحد عند للدار, من الادب انك تسلم عليه. فممكنش ان واحد جاي عند للدار و ما تسلمش عليه و لابد...

ن: rude يعني... {غير واضح}؟

ب: نحن كاينة وحد الحاجة مثلا بنت ألي مثلا انا الي جاني حد غادي نسلم عليه و ذاك الواحد كيتسواني انني غادي نسلم عليه. مثلا بنت ألي هي مثلا لابسة الحجاب, فتم كتبقى اختلافات بحيث كاينين لبنات بالحجاب كيسلمو و كاين لبنات بالحجاب ألي ما كيسلموش. فهذاك الشخص مثلا اغلب الاوقات, الولد ما كيسبقش يديه لان يقدر الي ما كتسلمش, غادي يمد يديه و غادي تقول له سمحلي ما كنسلمش. ثم كيبيقى على حساب البنات و لابسة الحجاب و ما لابساش وش كانت تسلم وش ما تسلمش.

English translation:

N: When you walk on the street, how do you greet people – especially your neighbors?

B: I am not going to talk about the modern areas, where everyone is closed behind their doors and they do not even know who their neighbor is. What I like about the popular neighborhoods is that people are still close to each other and feel responsible for one another. So, neighbors always ask each other and visit to see how they are all doing. When I greet people in my neighborhood, I would say: “Salaam, how are you?” The thing that I really like when greeting is that you do not just ask him/her about him/herself—like here, you would just say: “Hi, how are you?” Back home it is not the same. We would greet each other by saying: “Salam, how are you doing? How is your health?” I would ask you about your health. I would ask about your family, and then ask about each one of them individually. I would also ask you about your work.

N: [*Inaudible question*]

B: For the most part, it is the man who would attempt to shake hands...

N: What if he does not?

B: It depends on the girl. There are girls who do not greet men – they would not shake hands.

N: [*Inaudible*]

B: If someone comes to visit you at home, out of respect, you should greet him/her. It does not make sense that someone comes to your house and you do not greet him/her.

N: Meaning rude... [*Inaudible question*]

B: We have a rule that when someone visits the house, they expect that I greet them first. But if the girl is wearing the *hijab* [Islamic headscarf], then there are differences. There are girls with the *hijab* who would shake hands and others who do not. For this, for the most part, the guy never initiates shaking hands because if the girl does not shake hands, she would just tell him, “Sorry, I do not shake hands!” So, it depends on the girl and whether she wears the *hijab* or she does not.

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 every day. 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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