

**Levantine Arabic transcript:**

المرأة: يَعْنِي الأعراس فِي فلسطين الفلكلور كثير حلوة, بس فترة مِن الفترات اندثرت أو خف كثير, بس هَلْ إِذَا عَم بتلاحظي كُلوا عَم بيرجع. يَعْنِي الفلكلور الفلسطيني والأغاني والدبكة وزفة العريس والحنا, هَلْ الناس عَم بتعاود ترجعها.  
المرأة خلف الكاميرا: وسهرة العريس..  
المرأة: وسهرة العريس آه. بس هاي أنا بحس أنها كُلها بهالوضع الإقتصادي, إني أنا بقول كثير مُكلفة.

المرأة خلف الكاميرا: هَلْ وأكثر اليوم...  
المرأة: بقُلوك ليش. يَعْنِي كُلوا هذا ما بكفيهم للناس. بعملوا حنا, وسهرة العريس, وبزقوا العريس, وبعدين يروح بدفعلك عشرين ألف شيفل بأوتيل. يَعْنِي ثلاث أيام أو أسبوع وإنتي وري بعض.. حلوة.. كثير حلوة.. بس يَعْنِي أنا مُش دايماً مع الأوتيلات كمان لعلمك. يَعْنِي صحيح بجوز هي أريخ لست البيت أريخ للعريس والعروس واللبكة وهيك بس إنو مُوضة.

**English translation:**

**The woman:** I mean, the weddings in Palestine ... the folklore is very nice, but within a period of time it [was] extinguished or decreased a lot ... but now, if you notice, all of it is coming back. I mean, the Palestinian folklore, and the songs, and the *dabke*,<sup>1</sup> and the “wedding of the groom,” and the henna<sup>2</sup> -- now people are retrieving them [these customs].

**The woman behind the camera:** And the groom's evening ....

<sup>1</sup> The name of the Palestinian traditional dance and it has many forms.

<sup>2</sup> The stage of Palestinian wedding ceremonies during which the bride has something drawn on her hands with Henna.

**The woman:** The groom's evening, yes. But I feel that all of it, in this economic situation ... I see that it is very costly.

**The woman behind the camera:** And more so nowadays ....

**The woman:** I tell you why. I mean all of this is not enough for the people. They make henna, and the groom's evening, and the "wedding of the groom," and afterwards they pay 20,000 shekels<sup>3</sup> in a hotel. I mean, three days or a week, and you are one after another .... Nice .... Very nice. But, I mean, I'm not always with [in favor of] hotels, as you also know. I mean, right, maybe it is more comfortable for the lady of the house, [and] more comfortable to the groom and the bride ... and the frustration, and so on, but it is the fashion.

**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>3</sup> Shekel is name of Israel's currency which is the main currency used by Palestinians. In addition, Palestinians also Jordanian dinar, U.S dollar, and Euro. As of 2010, 1 Shekel = 0.26 U.S. dollars.