

**Tunisian Arabic transcript:**

**سو:** اللغة ألي نحكيها في تونس العربية، عربية طبعا دارجة مش عربية فصحي كما هو الحال في بلدان اخرى عربية كيما الجزائر، المغرب يعني كل بلد يحكي اللغة الدارجة. اللغة ألي تجمع كل كعرب مسلمين ألي هي اللغة العربية الفصحى، يعني اللغة الدارجة... ممكن قريبة من اللغة الدارجة نتاع المغرب، فيها تحس كتسمع عبد تونسي يحكي، تحس فيه خليط، خليط من اللغة البربرية، خليط من اللغة العربية آآ فيها خليط. يعني اللغة هي مزيج من برشا حضارات علاش؟ لانه تونس عرفت برشا حضارات اهمها ل الحضارة الفينيقية، القرطاجية، الرومانية...  
**سي:** علاش ال ال اللهجة التونسية مخلطة، يعني مزيج من اللغات؟  
**سو:** من اللغات لانه البربر عاشو في تونس، القرطاجين عاشو في تونس، الرومانيين عاشو في تونس، الفينقيين يعني تونس عرفت برشا حضارات. ال لها سبب تلقى اللغة التونسية فيها برشا كلمات... آآ كل كلمة من... مثلا، مثلا كلمة برشا، برشا اصلها بربري يعني الكثير. آآ كلمة اخرى، حتى الامازيغ، الامازيغ عاشو في تونس.

**English Transcript:**

**SO:** The language that we speak in Tunisia is Arabic which, obviously, is the colloquial Arabic and not the Standard. It is also the case for other Arab countries like Algeria and Morocco; each country speaks a different dialect, but the common language that unites us as Arab-Muslims is classical Arabic. The dialect [in Tunisia] is sort of close to the one in Morocco. If you hear a Tunisian person speaking, you can hear a mixture of Berber language and Arabic. This is to say that language is a mixture of many civilizations. Why? This is because Tunisia knew many civilizations and the most important ones are the Phoenicians, the Carthaginians and the Romans.

**SE:** Why is the Tunisian dialect mixed – why does it have a mixture of languages?

**SO:** It has a mixture of languages because the Berbers, the Carthaginians, the Phoenicians and the Romans lived in Tunisia. Tunisia knew many civilizations and that is why you find the Tunisian language with many words from different places. For instance, the word “many” or “a lot” is originally Berber. Even the Amazigh [Berber people] lived in Tunisia.

**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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