

CultureTalk Turkey Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>  
**Migration and Agriculture in Mersin**

**Turkish transcript:**

Zeliha: Başka Mersin hakkında söyleyebileceğin birşey?

Mine: Mersin...

Zeliha: Kalabalık bir şehir mi, nüfus olarak?

Mine: Nüfus olarak aslında son zamanlarda bayağı Doğu Anadolu ve Güneydoğu Anadolu'dan bayağı göç aldı. Aslında Güneydoğu Anadolu'dan sadece mevsimlik işçi olarak, mevsimlik işçi geliyordu. Ama sanırım doksan sonrası gelen mevsimlik işçiler tamamen yerleşmeye başladılar. Onun için Kürt nüfusu fazla bir şehir. Aynı zamanda duyduğuma göre, emin olamayacağım, ÖSS istatistiklerinde iyi yapan bir şehir. Genç nüfusu çok aşırı derecede fazla, ama yazın genelde emekli şehrine dönüşen bir şehir. Garip ama denizi çok güzel.

Zeliha: Peki insanlar neyle geçinirler Mersin'de, ne iş yaparlar? Tarım var mı?

Mine: Tarım var. Turunçgiller aşırı derecede yetişiyor. Galiba Türkiye'nin büyük bir turunçgiller ihtiyacı Mersin'den karşılanıyor. Hatta ben burda ilk mandalina gördüğümde çok şaşırılmıştım. Çünkü okulda pek çıkmıyor mandalina, genelde portakal çıkıyor, ve herkese anlatmaktan çok mutlu oluyorum, biz kilo kilo almıyoruz mandalinaları, direkt kasa kasa alıyoruz, ve çok aşırı derecede mandalina yiyoruz. Daha sonra pamuk yetişiyor. Herhalde pamuk ve turunçgiller diyebilirim. Ama turunçgiller yoğunlukta, çünkü pamuk daha çok Adana'da yetişiyor, çünkü Adana daha sanayileşmiş bir şehir, Sabancı sayesinde.

**English translation:**

Zeliha: Is there anything else you can say about Mersin?

Mine: Mersin . . .

Zeliha: Is it a crowded city, in terms of its population?

Mine: Actually, in terms of its population, it recently had a lot of immigration from eastern Anatolia and southeast Anatolia. Actually, from southwest Anatolia . . . people used to come as seasonal workers. But I think seasonal workers began to settle after the nineties. That's why the Kurdish population is quite high. At the same time, as far as I have heard -- I can't be sure -- the city is doing very well according to the National

University Exam statistics. Its youth population is quite high, but in the summers [means winters] it turns into a city of retired people. It's weird, but the sea is nice.

Zeliha: How do people make ends meet in Mersin? What do they do? Is there agriculture?

Mine: There is agriculture. A lot of citrus fruits are produced. I think most of Turkey's demand for citrus fruits is met by Mersin. In fact, I was very surprised when I first saw tangerines here. Because tangerines are not often given out at school (they usually give out oranges) -- and I take a lot of pleasure in telling people [this] -- we don't buy tangerines by the kilo; we buy them by the box...and we eat a lot of tangerines. Cotton is also produced. I guess I can say cotton and citrus fruits. But citrus fruits are more common, because much more cotton is produced in Adana, because Adana is a more industrialized city, thanks to Sabancı.

**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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