

Hassaniya Arabic transcript:

س: باغية انسولك عن، طبعا عن المجتمع الكوبي مختلف عن الصحراوي، شنهاية المشاكل ولا الصعوبات الي اتلقيتها فم و كيفاش آآ اتغلبتو اعليها؟ طبعا عنكم انتوما اول امنين جيتو كاطفال مانكوم عارفين ياسر...
رجل: نحن بالطبع كنا اطفال صغار اقبالة و منقولين من مجتمع و واعددين واحد ثاني يعني مختلفين بالكل، يعني هون اختلاف اكبير لكن انظن عن الي ساعدنا في البداية هو كيف ما قلت عنا كنا في مراكز، مدارس صحراوية بالكل يعني تجري مدرسة فيها 500 صحراوي وحدة فيها 300 و وحدة فيها 400 و ما معنا من الكوبيين الا اساتذتنا و الطباخين و هادوك الحراس و هادوك. يعني، النظام الصحراوي كان ساري يعمل آآ باعمال يعني آآ انا انتامو في آآ في ارتباط مع المجتمع الصحراوي و مع العادات خلال الانشطة، خلال المحاضرات خلال الانشطة آآ انشطتنا اليومية دايمها فيها فيها هذه الاساليب و هذه المسائل. و كان عندنا كل فترة زمنية قصيرة قصيرة كنا انديرو مسابقات دايمها بارتيباط امع امع قضيتنا و امع الشعب الصحراوي و امع عاداتنا و امع الباسنا و كنا باتصال امع لهل بطريقة صعبة لكن كانت كايئة، يعني كانوا يمشو ممثلين صحراويين يحملوا امعهم الحقايب مملوءة بالرسائل و الاشرطة و الابناض، يعني كان تبادل ما بين الطلبة و العائلات في مخيمات اللاجئين و انظن عنها بهذه الطريقة مرينا هذيك أشهر سنسن اللولة و لا تسعة سنسن اللولة، من سبعة حتى تسعة سنين اللولة وضعنا يعني في نوع من الحضانة و في النهاية الناس تتصل... اتقيس الجامعات و في الجامعة يعني الطالب يقضي خمسة سنين الي ما طرى اعليه و لا أثر اعليه شي في الدراسة، و يلحق حتى سبعة اثمانية، كانيين صحراويين لحقو اثمانية فم في الجامعة و ربما كانيين الي لحقو أكثر، يعني يغيرو اختصاصتهم و لا ذاك. كان كان لديهم الحقوق في تغير الاختصاصات. و انظن عنها الظروف صعبة كلن يمكن انا انا نتقدوها و انا و انا يعني انا انا نتقدوها هذا التغير، التغير الاجتماعي خصوصا... يعني صح كانت صعبة جدا، كان المجتمع مختلف عن مجتمعنا لكن آآ في الثقافة الثقافة و في اعماق الثقافة دايمها هون مسائل تربطنا، في النهاية هما شعوب لانتية و نحن شعوب صحراوية و كنا تحت الغزو الاسباني و كنا عنده و كنا اورث شمن من من الاستعمار الاسباني، يعني يشملنا و كفاحنا و كفاحهم سباني، كان عندهم أهداف تشبه اقبالة لاهدافنا كيف الكفاح من أجل السيادة من أجل الاستقلال التام و نحنا عندنا نفس الشيء.

English translation:

S: I would like to ask you about... aaa... Of course, the Cuban society is different from the Saharawi society. What are the problems, or rather the difficulties you faced there and how did you overcome them? Obviously, when you first came you were still small children and didn't know a lot...

Man: We, of course... aaa... we were very young children and we went from one society to another... I mean, completely different from each other. I mean, there is a big difference but I think what really helped us in the beginning is, as I said earlier, that we were in schools... aaa... completely Saharawi schools; you would find a school that has 500 Saharawis, another that has 300 and one that has 400 and the only Cubans that were there were our professors, cooks and the guards. I mean, here, the Saharawi system was operating... aaa... operating, I mean... aaa... in such a way that we stay in... aaa... connection with the Saharawi society and our traditions through activities, lectures, and through activities... aaa... Our daily activities always had... aaa... had... these approaches... these things. And we used to have... aaa... every so often, we used to do competitions to stay connected with our cause and with the Saharawi people, with our traditions and with our customs. And we were in contact with... aaa... our families in a

very difficult way but there were... aaa... there were Saharawi representatives who used to go and take with them suitcases full of letters and tapes. I mean, there was an exchange between the students and their families in the refugee camps. And, I think... aaa... we spent about the first 10 years or nine years... aaa... or we spent the first seven to nine years this way. I mean, we did not get that type of family caring.

And at the end, people go to university and in university... aaa... I mean, the student studies for about five years unless something happens or something affects him to... aaa... to stay for up to seven or eight years to finish. There are Saharawis who stayed in university for eight years and perhaps, there are others who stayed for longer. I mean, they have the right to change their specialization or something like that... aaa... because we have the opportunity to change specialization. And... aaa ... I think that... I mean, it is hard but... aaa... it is possible... aaa... that, that we overcome it and that... aaa... we, I mean, we face this change – this social change especially. I mean, it is true that it was very hard; we were in a society different from ours but... aaa... in terms of culture, in the essence of the culture, always... aaa ... there are things that connect us. In the end, they are Latino people and we are Saharawi people, and we were under the Spanish colonization. And we each... aaa... inherited something from the Spanish colonization that ties us together. And our struggle and their struggle, I mean, has always been the same. They had... aaa... goals that are very similar to our goals: the struggle to gain their sovereignty and full independence and... aaa... we have the same thing.

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