

### Hassaniya Arabic transcript:

س: و كيفاش اتغلبتو اعلي اللغة من البداية، كان فيه برامج لتعلم اللغة؟

رجل: اللغة الاسبانية ولا العربية؟

س: اللغة الاسبانية طبعاً

رجل: اللغة الاسبانية آآ يعني نحن كنا هونا كانوا يعطونا عادة في في هذا المنهج الي كنا نحن نقرأو به، المنهج الصحراوي الي كانا نحن نقرأو به هونا كان يضم اللغة الاسبانية كمادة في الدراسة في المستوى الثالث، الرابع و الخامس من الابتدائية نحن كنا نتلقاو دروس في الاسبانية و عندنا بعض بعض المصطلحات و القاعدة الاسبانية بصفة يعني، بدرجة يعني ضعيفة لكن كانت كانت القاعدة الاسبانية عند الاغلبية. آآ نطقنا بالحسانية انظن عنه ساهم اقبالة نطقنا او حسانيتنا، لهجتنا ساهمت اقبالة في تقنا الاسبانية مقارنة امع اي دولة ثانية من الي كانوا يدرسو امعانا في كوبا و خصوصاً لعرب، كنا يعني احسن الاجانب يجيدو اللغة الاسبانية علي الاقل هذه الاسبانية الي يكلم بها في كوبا في امريكا اللاتينية و نحن كنا في زمن علي الاقل في حالتني انا و حالة الجيل الي امشا امعنا، كنا في زمن يعني كان عندنا ياسر من الاهتمام بالدراسة و كانت، يعني هذه التغيرات الطارئة ما بعد توقيف إطلاق النار و الاندماج في التجارة و و قلة الاهتمام في هذه الاجيال التالية، الي التعاني منو هذه الاجيال التالية نحن ما كنا ما كان يميزنا و كانت الناس منهمكة الا في تتعلم الاسبانية و تتكون... و الكويين ساهموا بكل الوسائل، الوسائل البشرية و المادية و التكنولوجيا و كل شي باش كانا نتعلمو اللغة الاسبانية. السنة البداية اول امنين اتجي كان عندك سنة باش تتعلمي اللغة فقط و امنين نتعلمو الاسبانية حدنا يعني اواصلو البرنامج، ندخلو المنهج الدراسي الكوي و نبدأو نقرأو normal يعني عادي.

### English translation:

**S:** And how did you initially overcome the language difference? When you first arrived, were there language learning programs?

**Man:** Spanish language or Arabic?

**S:** Spanish, of course.

**Man:** The Spanish language... aaa... I mean, when we were here [in the refugee camps], they usually used to give us... aaa... in this [educational] system we used to follow – the Saharawi system that we used to follow here included Spanish as a course at school. I believe that... aaa... we used to have it in the third, fourth and fifth grades of primary school... aaa... We used to get Spanish classes and... aaa... so we had some vocabulary and basic Spanish grammar... aaa... in a way, I mean... aaa... I mean, to a slight degree but it was... aaa... but the majority of the students had the basics of Spanish... aaa... and our pronunciation in Hassaniya also greatly contributed... aaa... Or, our dialect Hassaniya greatly contributed to... aaa... to learning Spanish compared to people from other countries who studied with us in Cuba... aaa... and especially the Arabs... aaa... I mean, we are the best foreigners in speaking Spanish or at least the Spanish spoken in Cuba. And... aaa... we were in a time... at least in my case and in the case of people who were with me, we were in a time... aaa... when we had great interest in education... aaa... and we had... I mean, we didn't have these changes that have happened after the ceasefire, and market integration... aaa... and the lack of interest for education amongst

the later generations... aaa... We did not have that problem; all the people wanted to learn Spanish and get an education.

And the Cubans contributed with all the means – the man-power and the economic means and technologically – everything – so that we can learn Spanish. Aaa... And so, when you first arrive, you have the first year just to learn Spanish. After you learn Spanish... aaa... I mean – and then you can continue with the programs. We enter the Cuban educational system and we start school normally, I mean – in the normal way.

**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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