

Hassaniya Arabic transcript:

رجل: هذه المرحلة كامل ألي يعاني فيها الطالب و يقاسي أنه ماهو موجود أحدى أمه و لا أحدى بوه و لا أحدى أهله و لا أحدى أقاربه و لا في وطنه و لا في حريته، يعني موجود تقريبا ... نجد 200، 100 طالب صحراوي في مكان واحد، ينامون في مكان واحد ...
س: يعني عنكم داخليين؟

رجل: داخليين، يعني دراسة داخلية. يعني هذا يدل علي أن هذا الطالب، هذا يعني آآ الصبي ماشي في عمره مثلا 13 سنة و لا 14 سنة ماشي يقرا خارج عن أهله و عن أرضه، يعاني و يقاسي يغير هذا كامل، هذا كامل إن دل علي شي إنما يدل علي معانات الشعب الصحراوي و علي قصوة الاحتلال ... قلت هذا هذا الطلبة و هذا الكم الهائل من أولاد الصحراويين أعلاه ما يعود عندهم الحق في العيش و في عيش الحياة الكريمة مثل أي طفل في العالم، مثل أي طفل في العالم. ماهو لاهي يعيش حياته دائما لاجئ آآ دائما لاجئ غريب الاوطان، يعني لما أنا كنت أدرس في الجزائر، كان حذايا الطالب الجزائري، زميلي الجزائري يمشي لدار أهله و يدخل و ينام مع أهله و أحبابه و أقاربه، و أنا يعني لاجئ يعني مرتين: مرة في الحمادة و مرة أطلب العلم. و لكن مع ذلك، هذو هذو الطلبة الصحراويين و لا هذو الصحراويين مزالو يعني صامدين و واقفين و يطلبو العلم، يطلبه في الجزائر و في كوبا و في أمريكا و في أي مكان ثاني من العالم. مزالو واقفين و صامدين و صابرين رغم المعانات و المقاصات ... و كل صباح تشرق فيه الشمس يعني نشم نسيم الوطن و نحن للوطن ألي تقريبا مثل من أمثالي أنا، من قدرني في السن و آآ أمثالي عديدين بالمئات يعني لم يرو الوطن، لم يرو عاصمتهم العيون و لم يرو الأرض. لماذا هذا؟ لماذا؟ وبالتالي هذا يعني، يدل علي معانات و مقاصات هذا الشعب ... و آآ بالتالي مثلا الامريكين، إخوانا الامريكين و لا في أي دولة ثانية في العالم، تقريبا نحن مانا كيف المغرب، المغرب دولة آآ كبيرة، قوية، عندها من الامكانيات ألي تصخر لها دعابتها كاملة، لكن نحن في أرض الواقع، لا بالعكس يعني شعب مشرد، ليست لديه أي شي، أبناء لا يدرسون عند أهلهم. يعني هذا واقع موجود، و واقع موجود أنه هذا ولكن نطلع لكل إشراقة شمس أنه يعود فيه حل إن شاء الله و نعودو للوطن بدون أي مشاكل مع الأشقاء المغاربة.

English translation:

MAN: During this time, the [Saharawi] student suffers a great deal because he is far away from his mother, away from his father, from his family and relatives, and he is not in his homeland – and without his freedom. You would find 100, 200 Saharawi students in one place, they sleep in one place...

S: This means you study in boarding school?

MAN: Boarding students, meaning that we study in boarding school. I mean, this indicates that this student, I mean... aaa... this young child who leaves home at the age of thirteen or fourteen to study away from his family and his home, he faces many challenges and suffers great deal. But if this means anything, it means how much suffering the Saharawi people have to endure and the painful occupation... I always wonder myself, why all of these students – this big number of Saharawi sons and daughters – don't have the same right to live a stable and dignified life like any other child in the world? He is going to live his entire life as a refugee... aaa... and always a stranger. I mean, when I was studying in Algeria, my Algerian friend who was able to go back home after school, he slept with his family, his loved ones and his relatives. Meanwhile, I am, I mean, exiled twice – the first time as a refugee in the *Hamada*¹ and the second time as a student. Despite all of that, these Saharawi students or these Saharawis are still determined and still willing to get an education anywhere, be it in Algeria, Libya, Cuba, the USA or any other part of the world. They are still standing firm and determined despite the suffering and miseries... And for every morning that the sun rises, I mean, I look forward and pray for the day when I breathe the air of my homeland. I mean, I am just an example of people my age... aaa... and many more hundreds who, I mean, have never seen their home country, they have never seen its capital city, Layoune. I always wonder: Why do we have to go through all of this? Why? And so, this is an indication of the suffering and miseries of these people. ...aaa... For this, for example, the Americans – our American brothers and sisters, or in any other country in the world – we are not like Morocco. Morocco is a big and strong country and has the ability to propagate itself in different forms. On the contrary, Saharawi people are people who have been displaced, they don't have anything, and their children can't study and be at home with their families. I mean, this is the real life, it is the reality. But we still look forward to the rise of the sun, and that a solution will be found to this issue, *in sha' Allah*², and we look forward to going back to our homeland without any problems with our fellow Moroccan brothers and sisters.

¹ *Hamada*: The desert region in southern Algeria where the Saharawi refugee camps are located. It is basically a barren land, covered not with sand but with small rocks and hard plateaus.

² *In sha' Allah*: God willing (literally: "If Allah wills"): An Arabic expression used in a variety of contexts, but generally used to show respect for God's omnipotence when talking about a future event, especially one which is desired or anticipated.

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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