

CultureTalk Western Sahara Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>  
**Making the Traditional Tent**

**Hassaniya Arabic transcript:**

س: أندورك تشرح لي كيفاش كنتو تعدلو الخيمة لقديمة  
إمرأة: الخيمة لقديمة؟ و الله... الخيمة لقديمة ألا نقبطو ذاك، نقبط ذاك لوبر و نغزلو و نعدلو  
س: شنهو نوع لوبر؟  
إمرأة: لوبر، الشعر، شعر لغنم، شعر لغنم، شعر لغنم أنعدلها و أنعدلو منها الفلجة، نغزلو و نعدلو و ننزو و نهيشو و  
نبرمو هو أسمه؟ و أنعدلو أمأحط، أنعدلو منهم أمأحط و أمنين أنعدلهم أنكبه و أنعودو أنسدو الفلجة أسمعتي؟ و أمنين  
أنسدوهم، ننزوهم و أمنين ننزوهم نوبة تنزي فلجين و تقلي عليهم الخيمة و تخطيها و الين أتخطي الخيمة و تبنيها  
أسمعتي؟ و تبني فيها رحلك و و تعدلي و هي هي الی عندنا و تبني فيها البنية و هي العايشين بيها و بالباسا.

**English translation:**

**S:** Could you explain how you used to make the old *el-khaima*<sup>1</sup>?

**Woman:** The old *el-khaima*? Certainly... The old *el-khaima*... we just take, I take the wool and I spin it. We make...

**S:** What type of wool do you use?

**Woman:** Animal wool.... animal wool, we make it and we make *el-feldja*<sup>2</sup> from it. We spin... and we make... aaa... we make, you know, we make *emahet*<sup>3</sup>... we make *emahet* and when we make them, we spread them around and we arrange them to make *el-feldja*, do you understand? And when we arrange them, we stitch them and when we stitch them... sometimes you stitch two *el-feldja* and you can turn them over the frame and stitch them together. When you make the whole tent, you build it, do you understand? And you build *errhal*<sup>4</sup> inside it and... aaa... it is... aaa... it is all we have. And then, you build *el-baniya*<sup>5</sup> inside it. And... aaa... it is where we used to live.

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<sup>1</sup> *El-Khaima*: The traditional Saharawi tent made from woven wool cloths which are sewn together and staked down over a wooden frame with one or two poles in the center.

<sup>2</sup> *El-feldja*: Plural of *fleedj*, a large cloth made of smaller cloths of woven wool. It takes many of them to make *el-khaima*.

<sup>3</sup> *Emahet*: The small woven wool cloths which are sewn together to make *el-feldja*, which are sewn together and spread over the frame of *el-khaima*.

<sup>4</sup> *Errhal*: It is a chest which is used to carry and store the things that go in *el-khaima*, such as the blankets, rugs, mats, or even folded clothes. It is also used as a table in *el-khaima*.

<sup>5</sup> *El-baniya*: A large piece of colored or patterned cloth which is hung over the woolen inside of *el-khaima* as decoration.

**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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