

Hassaniya Arabic transcript:

س: ما هذا؟

س: هذي ينقالها الملحفة, معدلة من هذا ألا نوع من الشراويط. و ملحفة طولها ألا قطعة هاك طويلة, طولها ستة أمتار و عرضها واحد. ألا تقبضي تثنيها ذا كيف, تقبضي ذا الطرف و تعقديه مع ذا الطرف و نعقدوه ذا كيف. تعقديه من هون و تعقديه من هون. و منين تعقديه يطلع ذا كيف ذرك, ذا نبت. و تقبذي هذا من هون و دخلي فيه راسك ذا كيف و جيبي ايدك ذا كيف و تقبضي هذا ذاكيف. هويينا...
ك: اوه, سهل
س: و من ثم ذاكيف. و هذي هي الملحفة.

K: This style is more for the older women?

س: حق, هذا ظريك ينقال له اللغليظ به غليظ و ألا لعلايات كبارات و خالق نوع ثاني أرق منه شفاف أقبالة لشبات, لعلايات الصغارات. بنسبة لي أنا شخصيا نلبس ألا هذا النوع و يقولو عني كهلة.

K: Are there different colors and style or...?

س: ألا انت و اللون الزين عندك و يعجبك. خالق لبيظ و لحر و لخضر و جميع الالوان و جميع الاشكال و ألا انت و اللون ألي يعجبك و الشكل...

K: Is it for every day or just if you want to – is it more common to wear it or not?

س: هذا لباسنا التقليدي و يعني نلبسوه يوميا و الجميع, الطافات كاملات خاصهم بلبسوه. باش تعودي كبيرة شوي تلبسيه. خاصك دايم تلبسيه.

K: Do all ages wear it?

س: ألا منين تقريبا تعود عندك 12, 13 سنة تبداي تلبسيه

K: Do they come in different sizes?

س: كاملين كيف كيف, نفس الطول

K: For special occasions, are there more fancy or...?

س: في منسابات خاصة تلبسي طبعاً لون أزين, لونك أنت الزين عندك و لبسة جديدة و شكله براق و لا شي ذاك كيفه. و أملي شمن الناس يفضل يلبس ألا اللباس التقليدي ألي هو ملحفة و من ثم يعدلو حزام أبيض هاك. حق.

English translation:

K: What is this?

S: This is called *melhfa*, and it is made of cotton. It is just a long piece of cloth: it is six meters long and one meter wide. So, you basically take this end and tie it with this end. You tie them together like this. You tie them here and then in here. After tying them, it looks like this, and then you put your head through here, like this and then your hand like this. Then you take this around you like this... It is easy.

K: Oh, easy...

S: Then you just do this, and this is how to wear *melhfa*.

K: This style is more for the older women?

S: Yes, this kind is called *galidd* [thick] and it is mostly for older women. There is a type that is thinner and transparent, which is for young women. I personally like to wear this type, and so they say that I am an old lady.

K: Are there different colors and style or...?

S: There are many colors and it is up to you to wear whatever color you like. There is white, red and green, all colors and with different patterns. It is up to you what kind and color you like.

K: Is it for every day or just if you want to – is it more common to wear it or not?

S: This is traditional clothing and it is for every day. All the girls have to wear it, and you have to wear it all the time.

K: Do all ages wear it?

S: Usually girls start to wear it at the age of 13 or 14.

K: Do they come in different sizes?

S: All of them are the same size.

K: For special occasions, are there more fancy or...?

S: On special occasions, you obviously wear a nicer one, you can wear your favorite color or one that has a sparkling pattern, or something like that. But some people prefer to just wear it the traditional way, which is a black *melhfa* and you tie a white one around your waist. That's right!

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