

**Yemeni Arabic transcript:**

س: مثلا لو في زائر خاص.. شو نوع الأكل اللي مثلا تسويه يعني لو مثلا في زائر في حد؟  
ل: أه....

س: في نوع معين يعني العائلة بتسوي؟  
ل: والله مدري. يعني في ناس يجو بس.. يعني غالبا هو الأكل هو هو نفسه. بس أحيانا يعني تصلح أكلة خاصة مثلا كبسة، و كبسة زي الزربيان بس مع الدجاج. ولا أحيانا مكرونة بالباشاميل.. حاجة زي كده.

س: كيف تعملوا المكرونة بالباشاميل؟  
ل: لحظة.. باحاول. تفوري المكرونة زي اللازانيا زيمة تقولي هنا بس من غير جبن. تفوري المكرونة وبعدين تطرحي طبقة مكرونة وبعدين طبقة باشاميل. الباشاميل تشتريه جاهز ببعدين تطرحيه مع لبن ومش عارفة يمكن مع مي حاجات زي كده.. يطلع لك زي الكريمة. وبعدين تطرحي طبقة مكرونة وطبقة باشاميل وطبقة مكرونة وطبقة باشاميل وتطرحيها بالفرم. طعمها ماشالله حلو زيها زي اللازانيا هنا، بس اللازانيا اللي هنا حالية لأنه بطرحوا فيها سوس... يطرحوا فيها صلصة حالية. في عند نحنا باشاميل. الباشاميل غالبا زبدة، زبدة مش أنه زبده الحالي بس زبده اللي هيه بلا ملح. زبدة أحيانا ولبن ومش عارفة أيش كمان.. حاجة زي كده.

**English translation:**

S: For example if there is a special guest, what are the types of food that you (Yemenis) make?

L: Ah...

S: I mean is there a certain type that the family makes?

L: *WaAllah* I don't know. I mean people come but the food is the same. Sometimes we make a special dish like *Kabsa* for example. *Kabsa* is like *Zorbian*<sup>1</sup> but it comes with chicken. Or sometimes we make macaroni with *béchamel*, something like this.

S: How do you make macaroni with *béchamel*?

L: Wait, I'll try. You boil the macaroni; it's like lasagna but without cheese. You boil the macaroni and then put a layer of macaroni and another layer of *béchamel*. We buy *béchamel* and mix it with milk maybe and water, things like this. It becomes like cream. Then you put down a layer of macaroni and a layer of *béchamel* and keep doing this and then you put it in the oven. *MashaAllah*<sup>2</sup> it tastes really good like the lasagna here, but the lasagna is sweet because they put red sauce in it. *Béchamel* is usually made of butter, not sweet butter but butter without salt. Butter and milk and I don't know what else, something like this.

<sup>1</sup> Zorbian: a traditional rice and meat dish.

<sup>2</sup> MashaAllah: an expression to express strong feelings and extremes.

**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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