

Yemeni Arabic transcript:

ل: كيف كان الفرق بين أيام زمان ودحين؟
س: كان أول أول، كان أول شي ثاني والآن...
م: كل شي رخيص كان.
س: والآن شي ثاني. ها؟ كان أول..
ل: يعني كيف الفرق أيش اللي أختلف؟
س: الآن أختلف الغلاء في المواد الغذائية وأختلف ال... يعني حاجات كثير أختلفت. كل وقت وله يعني ها؟ والوضع أتغير،
الوضع أول كان شي ثاني والوضع الآن الجديد....
ل: أيش من وضع، وضع أيش؟
س: وضع المعيشة، معيشة الناس، ووضع البلاد ووضع المعيشة يعني تعايش الناس مثلاً. في ناس يعني زي ما تقولي راتب
الحمد لله الآن يعني مع الناس تمام لا بأس به الراتب الناس تستلم راتب الحمد لله بس الغلاء. الغلاء هو اللي ماخلاش الناس يعني
كذا تلتفت على نفسها يعني وتعيش في سلام وفي رعدة وفي سعادة. الغلاء في كل الدول مش إلا عندنا نحنا في كل الدول. لكن
أول ماكانش في غلاء كان كل شي رخيص. بس الرواتب كانت قليلة اللي نستلمها من الدولة. كانت قليلة الرواتب بس كان كل
شي رخيص. وكان الوضع يعني لا بأس به.
م: ولأن زادت الرواتب
س: الآن الحمد لله زادت الرواتب...
م: وزاد الغلاء.
س: وارتفعت الأسعار. لكن ربنا إن شاء الله بيصلح البلاد والعباد، ربنا كريم.

English translation:

L: What was the difference between before and now?

S: Before was before. Before is one thing and now...

M: Everything was affordable.

S: And now is something else. Before it was...

L: I mean what's the difference? What is different?

S: What's different now is the high prices of food and ... I mean there are so many things that changed. Each period has its own... The situation has changed, it was one thing before and now it is new...

L: Which situation? Of what?

S: The living situation, the living situation of people, I mean how people live for example. There are people now who get decent salaries thank *Allah*, but the high prices. The high costs [of living] kept people from enjoying themselves and living in peace and happiness. The high costs of living exist in all countries not only here, but before it didn't exist, everything was affordable. However, the salaries we got from the government were limited. Everything was affordable and the situation was decent.

M: And now the salaries have increased...

S: Now thank *Allah* the salaries have increased.

M: And the high costs have increased.

S: And the prices increased. But God *inshaAllah*¹ will fix the country and the people, He is generous.

¹ *inshaAllah*: an Islamic expression meaning if Allah permits. It's used to express wishes, plans and hopes for the future.

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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