

Yemeni Arabic translation:

ل: طيب وأيش بالنسبة للحناء؟
ج: هذي الحناء للاسمه، يعني للعروس. أنه يحتفل هو وأصدقاءه ويعملوا حناء، ويجيبوا يعني فرقة مثلا. في بعضهم يجيبوا فرقة مثلا رقص وأغاني شعبية، في بعضهم يسونه مثلا بوسط الشارع لما يكون كثير ناس وكده بس عمري ماشفتيش. ويغسلوا بال... يتغسلوا كلهم أعتقد بالحناء أو العروس يغسلونه بالحناء وحاجة زي كده. هذا زي الغسل للحرمة والحناء للرجال، زي كده. هذي يسونه قبل العرس مثلا بيوم أو بيومين، الزفاف.
ل: طيب في حاجة اسمه السابع بعد الزواج بعد سبعة أيام.
ج: أيوه صح، في السابع برضه. أعتقد يسونه دي على أهل العروس يسونه، أنه يعزموا أهل العروسة بعد سبع أيام من الزواج، ويا أما تكون برضه بقاعة حسب الإمكانيات. بس العروسة لوحده تكون، مايدخلش العروس. وإذا دخل العروس يعني حسب ما أعرف أنه لازم يقدم هدية لزوجته. يعني هدية مثلا اي إسوارة ذهب أو خاتم ذهب أو سلس ذهب ولا ما يدخلش. في بعضهم ما يسونيش يعني لأنه الآن الوضع أتغير.

English translation:

L: Well, what about henna?

G: This henna is for the groom. He celebrated with his friends and they have henna and they hire a band. Some hire a local singing and dancing band, and there are others who have it on the street when there are many people [to watch]. I have never seen one. Then, I think they all wash with henna, or they wash the groom with henna or something like that. This is like *Ghasl*¹ for women, the henna is for men. This ceremony is done about two days before the wedding day.

L: There is something called al-*Sabi*, after the wedding, after seven days?

G: Yes, this is true...there is a *Sabi* too. I think this is one of the groom's family's jobs: they invite the bride's family seven days after the wedding day, and they have it in a wedding hall if they can afford it. However, this time the bride [sits on the stage] by herself, the groom doesn't come in. As far as I know, if the groom comes in he has to offer a gift to his wife. I mean something like a golden bracelet, or golden ring or a golden necklace, or else he doesn't come in. There are some people who no longer have it because of the changes in the situation.

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.

¹ Ghasl: another ceremony to prepare the bride before the wedding day.