

Yemeni Arabic transcript:

ج: بعدين في الغسل، الغسل، دي الزقرة، في بعضهم مثلا إذا سوونه الزقرة العصر، مثلا المغرب يسوا الغسل. الغسل هاذا لازم العروسة تلبس يعني تقليديا لازم تلبس درع أخضر مع فل تعمل، الفل عبارة عن مثل الورد، يجي أبيض صغار، يشكلنه باشكال مختلفة، يسوونه على الشعر وتلبسه هنا برضه زي العقد يعني زي السلس ومع الذهب الذي جابله ياتنه العروس، كده تقليديا. وفي بعضهم يلبسوا ثوب يخيوطوا ثوب أخضر يعني بشكل أكثر حداثة.
ل: طيب ليش سموه غسل؟

ج: لأنه يعني زي ما تقولي، يعني مثلا بالزقرة ماتكونش عاملة مكياج، ماتكونش يعني ماتكونش عاملة عاملة، يعني تكون طبيعية بشكله. زقرة زي ما تقولي تروح تبدل ويعني تشيك وتعمل مكياج، قصدي الغسل يعني. في اه، يعني أنه تتمكيج وتلبس ثوب حلو أو الدرع الحلو وبده الشكل.

ل: طيب يعني مش الغسل هذا عشبة زي الحناء؟

ج: أيوه هو مأخوذ من في غسل، في مادة الغسل.

ل: يعني كانوا على أساس يعملوا للعروسة غسل...

ج: يمكن زمان يمكن زمان كانوا أنه يغسلونه بغسل، بس دحين ما أعتقدش. يمكن يغسلونه بغسل وبعدين يلبسونه ده الدرع الأخضر زمان. بحسب معرفتي يعني كل شي أطور فاللهم يعني محافظين على ده التقليد. في بعضهم يلبسوا ثياب يعني ما يلبسوش دروع.

English translation:

G: Then there is the *ghasl*, this *zaqrah*, I mean if you have the *zaqrah* in the afternoon, you should have the *ghasl* at the sunset time. In the *ghasl* the bride has to wear the traditional green *dire*¹ with some *ful*². The *ful* is a kind of flower; they are small white flowers that are incorporated into different shapes. It's put on the hair and is also worn as a necklace. She [the bride] wears it like a necklace with the gold [accessories] that the groom brought to her. There are some people who wear dresses; they make a green dress as a more modern approach.

L: Why do they call it *ghasl*?

G: Because as you could say, I mean in the *zaqrah* she doesn't wear any make up, she doesn't, I mean she doesn't put [it on], I mean she appears natural. In the *zaqrah*, I mean in the *ghasl*, she changes and puts on make up and becomes chic. She wears a nice dress or *dire*.

L: Well, isn't this *ghasl* a kind of herb like henna?

G: Yes, it's taken from the substance of *ghasl*.

L: So they were putting *ghasl* on the bride?

G: Maybe before, maybe before they washed the bride with *ghasl*, but I don't think it happens now. Maybe they used to wash her with *ghasl* and then dress her with the green *dire* before. As I know, everything has changed now; they are keeping this [ceremony] merely as a tradition. There are some people who wear dresses and don't wear *dire*'s.

¹ *Dire*: a one-piece cloth dress that women wear in the south of Yemen.

² *Ful*: a kind of Arabian jasmine.

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