

Yemeni Arabic transcript:

ل: طيب، اهمم... ممكن نتكلم عن المناسبات الخاصة؟ يعني مثلا مناسبات خاصة بالعائلة مثلا زي الأعراس، زي مثلا العائلة على مدى مثلا عمر الشخص أيش الإحتفالات اللي ممكن يشوفها في حياته داخل عائلته؟
ج: امم... عندنا في... يعني بالنسبة لعائلي نحنا عندنا نحنا مثلا عيد ميلاد، عيد مولد شخص مثلا معين. امم.. نعمل مثلا، خواتي الصغار ثنتين، يعني حفلة صغيرة كيك وشيكليت ونعنع والجهال و كده وبنات عماتي كده حفلة صغيرة. بالنسبة للكبار يعني هدايا، بانسويلهم، يعني كل واحد يهدي للثاني. مثلا نحنا خوات و بنت عمي خصوصا، آيات اسمه، أكثر قرابة. كل واحد بعيد ميلاد الثاني يهدي للثاني. بالنسبة لعائلة نحنا، لكن في عائلات يعني يقولوا أنه حرام. أنه مافيش بالدين أنه...
ل: بدعة.

ج: أيوه، أنه هذي الحفلة ماهليش بالدين. يعني أني أشوفه يعني عادي. يعني حاجة تقرب الاسرة حتى لو ممكن تهدي لصديقك برضوه المقربة، عيد ميلاده برضه أو أي حاجة ما...
ل: طيب..

ج: في الإحتفال انه لما الواحد يتزوج ينجب أول طفل. في ال...
ل: السابع؟

ج: الأربعين. الإربعين أو... الأربعين بعد أربعين يوم.
ل: أيوه.

ج: في يعملوا حفلة يتجمعوا الأسرة وكده ويعملوا فولة. في عندنا نسوي الفولة مثلا تجس الأم وابنه و يشترى شكلية ونعنع وكده و يعني يسكنه فوقه ويجيبوا الجهال يشلوا الشكلية والنعنع و كده. دي الفولة يسمونه.
ل: فوق العروسة ولا فوق الأم؟
ج: لا فوق الأم والإبن. النينو يعني الجاهل.
ل: ها!

ج: تلبس يعني حسب كيف يلبسوا يعني عادي، ثوب أو درع. اه مثلا بنت عمتي بحقه الأربعين هي وزوجه تسوي دي الحفلة الصغيرة يعني بين الأهل مش كبيرة كبيرة. بعدين راحوا يتصوروا بالاستوديو هي وزوجه، يعني حفلة صغيرة.

English translation:

L: Well, Can we talk about special events? I mean like the events special to the family like weddings, like for example [events] throughout the person's life, what are the family celebrations that one can see?

G: Umm... we have... I mean as for my family we have birthdays, the date someone was born. Umm... we have, my two young sisters, I mean a small party with cakes and candy, with the kids and things like that, with my cousins. As for older people, it's [about] gifts. I do for them... I mean each one gives gifts to the other. For example, my sisters and I, and especially my cousin, her name is Ayat, are very close. Each one gives gifts to the other on their birthday. [This is] for my family, but there are other families that say it's *haraam*, that it doesn't exist in religion...

L: *Bida'a*¹.

G: Yes, that this celebration doesn't exist in religion. I mean I think it's okay. I think it's something that gets family members together; you can give a gift to your close friend on her birthday, too...

L: Well...

G: There is a celebration when someone gets married and has his first kid, in the...

L: *Al-Sabi'*.

¹ Bida'a: the word to describe something that was made up by humans and wasn't mentioned by God or the Prophet in Islam.

G: The *Arba'een*. The *Arba'een* or... the *Arba'een* after forty days.

L: Yes.

G: They make a party and the family gathers and they make a *follah*. We do this *follah*, the mother sits with her baby and they (the family) buy candy and things like that and pour it over her (the mother) and they bring the kids to pick up the candy. This is called the *follah*.

L: Over the mother or the bride?

G: No, over the mother and the son. I mean the baby, the kid.

L: Ha!

G: What she wears depends on what they wear, I mean it's okay, a dress or a *dire*². For example my cousin and her husband had a small party in her *Arba'een*, I mean just for the family, not a very big [party]. Then they went to take portraits of themselves in a photography studio, I mean a small party.

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² Dire': a one-piece dress that women wear in the south of Yemen.