**JORDANIAN PROVERBS AND THEIR TRANSLATION**

**Read the translations for the following Jordanian proverbs.**

**If the translation is OK, just tick it. If not:**

1. **Try to find an equivalent in English.**
2. **Translate literally if you think the translation will be understood metaphorically by English native speakers.**
3. **Otherwise, translate the meaning.**
4. أعزب دهر ولا أرمل شهر

Being single for lifetime is better than being a widow(er) for a month.

1. أكل الرجال عقد فعالها

Men who eat well, work well.

1. أكل ومرعى وقلة صنعة

Filling tummy and spending money.

1. بذوب الثلج وببان اللي تحتيه

Within time, the truth will appear.

The ice will melt, and what is underneath will appear.

1. الايد اللي ما بتقدر تعضها بوسها

Kiss the hand that you can’t bite.

1. اللي بدري بدري واللي ما بدري بيقول كف عدس

One half of the world doesn’t know how the other half lives.

?????

1. اللي ما يعوف الصقر بيشويه

He who doesn’t know the falcon roasts it.

1. طاسة وضايعة

A mess is a mess.

It’s a real chaos.

1. على أهلها جنت براقش

You reap what you sow.

1. المجالس مدارس

Listening to people’s experience gives wisdom.

1. الطول طول نخلة والعقل عقل سخلة

He is as tall as a palm tree with a brain like a goat.

1. العين ما تعلى عن الحاجب

No one can be as good as you.

1. الخيل من خيالها الفرسان من الفارس

The rider determines the outcome of the race.

1. الضرة مرة حتى لو كانت جرة

The second wife is still bad even if she is amazing.

1. اللي على راسه بطحة يتحسسها

The person with a wound on his head keeps touching it.

1. لا في العير ولا في النفير

Neither here or there.

???

1. أعطي الخباز خبزه حتى لو أكل نصه

Give the dough to the baker even if he eats half of it.

1. اللي بيته من زجاج لا يرمي بيوت الآخرين بالحجار

He whose house is made of glass should not throw stones at people’s.

1. اضرب الكلب ليتأدب الذيب

Hit the dog to discipline the wolf.

1. بوس الكلب على تمه لتاخد حاجتك منه

Worship people until you take your need.

1. ان جنوا ربعك عقلك ما نفعك

Wisdom does not have place among the crazy.

1. القدر ما بركب الا على ثلاث

The car is based only on four wheels.

1. كل شي قرضة ودين حتى دموع العين

Courtesy is a loan whether its happiness or being sorrow.?????

1. شين وقوي عين

He is shameless and has bad manners.

1. إبن الحرام لا تكزه... اتركه بوقع لحاله

Do not take revenge against the bad person… karma will get back at him.

1. إمشي بجنازة ولا تمشي بجوازة

Walking in a funeral is better than arranging marriages.

1. الباب اللي بيجيك منه ريح سده واستريح

If you are always dwelling in trouble change the address.

1. اللي ما بيجي معك روح معاه

If you can’t beat them, join them.

1. لا للهدة ولا للسدة ولا لعازات الزمن

He is never a helping hand.

1. أكل الرجال على الرجال دين، وأكل الرجال على الأنذال صدقة.

Venus favors the bold.

1. اللي استحوا ماتوا

Dying rather than losing dignity.

1. مسمار جحا

He always keeps his foot in the door.

1. بلغ السيل الزبى

Enough is enough.

1. خد الحكمة من أفواه المجانين

Children and fools tell the truth.

1. تعب رجليك ولا تعب لسانك

Doing it yourself is better than asking others.

1. ابو نية سار وابو نيتين احتار

One good intention works better than many.

1. صفي النية ونام بالبرية

Do good and good will come to you.

1. احترنا يا قرعة من وين نبوسك

Too many solutions but no action.

1. رجع بخفي حنين

He spent years trying to recover his full dues, but he ended up with nothing.

1. العز للرز والبرغل شنق حاله

Wealth makes many friends, but the poor is even separated from his neighbor.

1. المنحوس منحوس حتى لو علقوا برقبته فانوس

The unlucky will stay unlucky even if they hang a lantern on his head.

1. دقة بدقة ولو زدت لزاد السقا

Do as you would be done.

1. إن ضربت أوجع وإن طعمت أشبع

Hit hard and feed well.

1. اربط بكير بتحل بكير

Schedule it early and it will end earlier.

1. إذا عشرة قالوا لك راسك مو محله اتفقده

If ten people told you that your head is not in its place, then check it.

1. موت يا حمار لما يجيك الحشيش

Wait for it until you die.

1. الطبخة ان كثروا عواسينها بتشيط

Too many cooks spoil the broth.

1. إلعب وحدك تصبح راضي

He who has travelled alone know what he likes

1. العب مع المقصقص لما يجيك الطيار

Once we accept our limits we go beyond them

1. ا لعتب على قدر العشم

Blame is measured by love

1. خوف الكلب ولا تضربه

Fear the dog and don’t hit it

1. الكلب اللي بعوي ما بعض

The roaring lion kills no prey

1. لقمة هنية بتكفي مية

Quality over quantity.

1. بيت الضيق يسع مية صديق

A small hut will hold a thousand friends.

1. لا تكثر الهف تنهف ترخص لو كنت غالي

Speak only when required. Else, you will lose your prestige.

1. اللي بعد العصي مو مثل اللي بوكلها

Those who watches the pain aren’t like those who suffer.

1. الهوش عالمتفرجين هين

Fighting is not like watching.

1. لاقيني ولا تغديني

Respect me, don’t serve me.

1. كل على زوقك و البس عزوق الناس.

Eat whatever you want but dress what a people like.

1. لا يفوته فايت ولا طبيخ بايت.

He is always alert and know everything.

1. لا تدل الشحاد على باب بيتك.

Don’t bring the problems to yourself.

1. فرخ البط عوام.

Like father like son.

1. الي ماله اول ماله تالي.

He who has no past has no future.

1. الي ببلاش كثر منه.

What is provided for all, take your needs and more.

1. الي ما بخاف ربنا خاف منه.

He who doesn’t respect God won’t respect others.

1. -الي مكتوب على الجبين بتشوفه العين.

Whatever is preordained, the eye will witness.

1. الما بيجي معك روح معه.

If they don’t compromise, you compromise.

1. ما حدا بحكي عن زيته عكر.

Nobody talks about their flaws.

1. ماكل الطير يتاكل لحمه.

Not all birds have edible flesh.

1. ما الو في القصر الا من امس العصر.

New to the job but acts as if he were the boss.

1. حيد عن الراس و اضرب.

Better to be safe than sorry.

1. -راقب السبع لو اكلك.

Stay with the strong even if he hits you.

1. عواس السم بدوقه.

An evil person tastes his own medicine.

1. نهار الطحان نهار.

A man’s day is very eventful.?????

1. طلبتها المشتهيه و اكلتها المستحيه.

When you fight for something, someone else takes it.

1. دق الحديد و هو حامي.

Strike while the iron is hot.

1. عقد الحافك مد رجليك.

Cut your coat according to your clothes.

1. علمناهم على الشحده سبقونا على البواب.

Teach them and they become better than you.

1. الي منهم احسن منهم.

What you get from a person is sometimes better than the person himself.

1. بالمال ولا بالعيال.

A material /Financial harm rather than a relative harm.

1. المخفي اعظم.

What’s unknown is worse.

1. المصارين بالبطن يتهاوسن.

Even siblings fight.

1. كثر التهلي بجيب الضيف المشم.

Keep your circle small.

1. الي بفوتك حصرم بتوكله عنب.

Whatever will be, will be.

1. كانك يا ابو زيدما تمريت.

Good deeds are forgotten.

1. ما بلزك على المر الا الامر منه.

A bad thing always may drag you to something worse.

1. ان غاب القط العب يا فار.

If the master leaves, the servant play.

1. دخول الحمام مو مثل طلوعه.

Getting into something is not like getting out of it.

1. يا شايف الزول يا خايب الرجا.

Appearance fools / Don’t judge a book by its cover.

1. كرمال العين تكرم مرج عيون.

For you, I am willing to do anything.

1. الحمار حمار لوبين الخيل سار.

Your value will always be the same whenever you are.

1. الي بشرب من بير ما برمي حجر منه.

People who live in glass houses shouldn’t throw stones on others. ???/

1. الي بلعب مع القط بستحمل مخامشه.

He who plays with cats, should accept their harsh.

1. الي بمشي عرجليه نحلق عليه.

Even angles have their wicked schemes.

1. مش كل مره بتسلم الجره.

The pitcher goes often to the well but is broken at last.

1. من بره رخام و من جوا سخام.

A fair face may hide a foul heart.

1. الي عقله براسه بعرف خلاصه.

If there is a wil,l there is a way.

1. الي ماله كبير بقع في البير.

Your precious things that you lost.

1. الي بوكل على ضرسه بنفع نفسه.

If you work hard, you will gain.

1. الي بتوفره بطلع براسك.

Your savings soon will be paid twice.