

INTERMEDIATE. LESSON #49. LE MARIAGE

Veillez vous lever, Nous allons procéder à la célébration du mariage de V. Jean avec T. Marie.

A-t-il été fait un contrat de mariage ?

- Non.

Conformément à la loi, je vais vous donner lecture des articles 212, 213, 214, 215 et 371-1 du Code Civil :

Art. 212

Les époux se doivent mutuellement respect, fidélité, secours et assistance.

Art. 213

Les époux assurent ensemble la direction morale et matérielle de la famille, ils pourvoient à l'éducation des enfants et préparent leur avenir.

Art. 214

Si les conventions matrimoniales ne règlent pas la contribution des époux aux charges du mariage, ils y contribuent à proportion de leurs facultés respectives.

Art. 215

Les époux s'obligent mutuellement à une communauté de vie.

Art. 371-1

L'autorité parentale est un ensemble de droits et de devoirs ayant pour finalité l'intérêt de l'enfant. Elle appartient au père et à la mère jusqu'à la majorité ou l'émancipation de l'enfant pour le protéger dans sa sécurité, sa santé et sa moralité, pour assurer son éducation et permettre son développement, dans le respect dû à sa personne. Les parents associent l'enfant aux décisions qui le concernent, selon son âge et son degré de maturité.

Mademoiselle T. Marie, consentez-vous à prendre pour époux Monsieur V. Jean ici présent ?

- Oui.

Monsieur V. Jean, consentez-vous à prendre pour épouse Mademoiselle T. Marie, ici présente ?

- Oui.

Au nom de la Loi, Je déclare Monsieur V. Jean et Mademoiselle T. Marie UNIS PAR LE MARIAGE.

TRANSLATION

Please, all rise. We are going to proceed to the celebration of the marriage between Mr. V. Jean and Miss T. Marie.

Has a marriage contract been established ?

- No.

According to law, I am going to read to you the articles 212, 213, 214, 215 and 371-1 of the Civil Code :

Art. 212

Spouses mutually owe each other fidelity, support and assistance.

Art. 213

Spouses are responsible together for the material and moral guidance of the family. They shall provide for the education of the children and shall prepare their future.

Art. 214

Where an ante-nuptial agreement does not regulate the contributions of the spouses to the marriage expenses, they shall contribute to them in proportion to their respective means .

Art. 215

Spouses mutually oblige themselves to a community of living.

Art. 371-1

Parental authority is a set of rights and duties whose finality is the welfare of the child.

It is vested in the father and mother until the majority or emancipation of the child in order to protect him in his security, health and morality, to ensure his education and allow his development, showing regard to his person.

Parents shall make a child a party to judgments relating to him, according to his age and degree of maturity.

Miss T. Marie, do you consent to take Mr V. Jean, here present, as your husband ?

- I do.

Mr. V. Jean, do you consent to take Miss T. Marie, here present, as your wife ?

- I do.

In the name of the Law, I pronounce Mr. V. Jean and Miss T. Marie JOINED IN MATRIMONY.



We won't work on the vocabulary of the Civil Code because it's quite difficult. We just propose you to have a look at it then to its translation. It's just another occasion to read French...

Se lever : to stand up, to rise.

Procéder : to proceed.

Contrat (masc.) : contract.

Loi (fém.) : law.



What you heard and read here, in this dialogue, is the exact text pronounced by the mayor during a civil marriage ceremony.

In France, only **civil weddings** are legally recognized (due to the concept of *laïcité*), they are performed in the town hall by the mayor. It must be completed before any religious wedding service is conducted.

This civil marriage ceremony is quite simple and straightforward.

It is not uncommon in France to have only the civil ceremony. Rings may be exchanged during it. Guests may be invited to attend. Many city halls have special wedding rooms.



French city hall

Let's discover now a little more **vocabulary about wedding** :

Mariage (masc.) : marriage, wedding.

Mariage (masc.) religieux : church wedding.

Mariage civil : civil wedding.
Noces (fém.) : wedding.
Mariée (fém.) : bride.
Marié (masc.) : groom.
Mariés : newlyweds.
Vivent les mariés ! : Long live the newlyweds!
Mairie (fém.) : city hall.
Alliance (fém.) : wedding ring.
Voyage de noces (masc.) : honeymoon.

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