

The interviewer (in Russian): - What can you tell about your food? For example, after coming here, how did you feel? Were you able to get used to the food here? Or did you still like the food in Uzbekistan? How can you compare? What is your favorite national dish?

Uzbek transcript:

Oz'bekistonda taomlar juda xilma xil, turli xil taomlarni uchratish mumkin. Chunki aytganimdek, O'zbekistonda, umuman, turli millat vakillari yashaydi. Shuning uchun, shu sababli, menimcha, turli tuman taomlarni uchratish mumkin. Lekin shuningdek O'zbek oshxonasi taomlari ham juda mazzali deb hisoblayman. Umuman men Amerikaga kelganimda, umuman, Amerika ovqatlari bilan katta muammoga ega bo'lganim yo'q. Chunki O'zbekistonda istiqomat qilib yurganimda ham amerikalik do'stlarim bor edi. Va ularning ham turmush tarzlarini, ularning oziq-ovqatlari bilan ham ancha tanish edim, shuning uchun bu yerga kelishdan oldin o'zimni tayyorlagan edim, ma'lum bir darajada o'zimni tayyorlagan edim. Va bilardim bu yerda o'zbek taomlarini uchratish ancha mushkul bo'lishini. Endi o'zbek taomlari haqida gapiradigan bo'lsak, umuman juda murakkab mavzu, juda keng mavzu deb hisoblayman. Chunki turli tuman taomlarni uchratish mumkin. Hattoki, masalan, Oz'bekistonda vegetarian degan taom, vegetarianlar uchun juda ko'p bo'lmasa hamki, qanday desam, umuman vegetarian degan tushunchaning o'zi keng tarqalmagan O'zbekistonda. Lekin shunga qaramay juda ko'p vegetarian taomlarni uchratish mumkin. Masalan, O'zbekistonda turli xil salatlarni uchratish mumkin, go'shtsiz tayyorlanadigan taomlarni topish mumkin. Lekin shu narsani ham bilamanki, ko'p Amerika fuqarolari O'zbekistonga kelganda, O'zbekistonga kelganda... ularning asosiy... taomlar... umuman oziq-ovqat... O'zbekistonda ular uchun asosiy muammolardan biri edi. Chunki, qanday desam, o'zbeklar umuman yo'g'li taomlarni yoqtiradilar, va qanday desam, umuman, O'zbekiston taomlari juda ham turli tuman. Masalan juda ko'p sho'rvalar ham mavjud, masalan, qattiq taomlar ham mavjud, turli tuman. Men o'zim yoqtiradigan taomim... umuman O'zbekistonning asosiy taomlaridan biri, milliy taomlatidan biri, bu palov hisoblanadi, lekin man, qanday desam, bu palov umuman, chegaradosh davlatlarda ham manimcha bor, manimcha Turkmanistonda ham, Qozog'istonda, Qirg'izistonda, Tojikistonda ham palov tayyorlanadi. Lekin O'zbekistonning palovi, O'zbekistonda palov shu bilan farq qiladiki, umuman O'zbekistonda hozirgi kunda 12 ta viloyat mavjud bo'lib, umuman 12 ta viloyat palov tayyorlashning o'z yo'liga ega. Yana aytmoqchimanki, umuman, shu 12 ta viloyatga tashrif buyursangiz, har bir viloyat palovni turlicha tayyorlaydi. Masalan, man Buxorodanman, Buxoroda bizda turlicha tayyorlaydi, hattoki turli mahsulotlardan tayyorlanadi. Toshkentda umuman turlicha tayyorlanadi, yoki Farg'ona vodiysida, Samarqandda, Har bir viloyat o'z tayyorlash usuliga ega. Lekin men o'zim palovni unchalik yoqtirmayman. Chunki ozgina qattiq taom bo'lganligi uchun. Men mantini yoqtiraman. Manti xamir taom hisoblanadi. Bundan tashqari chuchvarani yoqtiraman. Umuman o'zbek taomlarini hammasini yoqtiraman desam ham bo'ladi. Va bu yerda kelib eng sog'inadigan taomim sho'rvalarni juda sog'inaman. Bu yerda asosan, qanday desam

ekan, quruq oziq-ovqatdan iborat. Bu yerda sho'rvalar unchalik ko'p emas, bilmayman. Shuning uchun men oddiyroq bo'lsa ham, shu oddiyroq sho'rvamizni juda ham sog'imanam bu yerda. Umuman Amerikada ham, umuman olganda turli tuman taomlarini topish mumkin. Agar, umuman, xohish bo'lsa, turli, barcha millat vakillarining oziq-ovqat mahsulotlarini, taomlarini topish mumkin. Hattoki qidirgan inson o'zbek oshxonasini ham topishi mumkin Amerikada. Albatta man Northamptonda yashaganim uchun, Northampton juda kichkina shahar bo'lganligi uchun, balkim Northamptonda topolmasman o'zbek oshxonasini, lekin kattaroq shaharlarda, umuman, turli tuman oshxona, turli tuman oshxonalarni topish mumkinligiga aminman.

English translation:

The interviewer (in Russian): What can you tell about your food? For example, after coming here, how did you feel? Were you able to get used to the food here? Or did you still like the food in Uzbekistan? How can you compare? What is your favorite national dish?

K: In Uzbekistan the dishes are various; one can see different kinds of dishes, because, as I said, in fact, representatives of different nationalities live in Uzbekistan. That's why, for this reason, in my opinion, one can see various dishes. But I consider Uzbek meals very delicious as well. In fact, when I came to America, in general, I didn't have big problems with American meals, because I had American friends when I lived in Uzbekistan. And I was quite familiar with their way of life, their food. That's why before coming here I prepared myself; I prepared myself to certain degree. And I knew that it would be rather difficult to find Uzbek dishes here. And now if we speak about Uzbek meals, in fact very difficult topic, very broad topic, I guess because you can see different meals. For example, even though there are not dishes known as vegetarian. There is not much food for vegetarians. How I can say, in fact, the concept of "vegetarian" is not widely spread in Uzbekistan. But regardless this fact, one can find very many vegetarian meals. For example, one can see various salads. One can find dishes prepared without meat. But I also know that when Americans come to Uzbekistan, their main...dishes...in general food...was one of the main problems for them in Uzbekistan. Because, how I can say, in general Uzbek people like oily food, and how I can say, in general Uzbek meals are very different. For example, there are different soups, for example, there are solid meals, various. The dish I like...in fact, one of the main dishes in Uzbekistan, one of the traditional dishes, is considered to be *palov*. But I, how I can say, this *palov*, in fact, in my opinion, is in bordering countries too. *Palov* is prepared in Turkmenistan, in Kazakhstan, in Kyrgyzstan, in Tajikistan too. But Uzbek *palov*, *palov* in Uzbekistan is different. In fact nowadays there are 12 provinces in Uzbekistan, in fact 12 provinces have their own way of preparing *palov*. And also I would like to say, in fact, if you visit these 12 provinces, each province prepares *palov* in different way. For example, I am from Bukhara. In Bukhara it is prepared in different way, even from different ingredients. It is prepared in completely different way in Tashkent or in Fergana valley, in Samarkand. Each region has its own way of preparation. I personally do not like *palov*, because it is a little solid food. I like *manti*. It is made with dough. Besides I like *chuchvara*. In fact I can say that I like all Uzbek dishes. The dish I miss most of all after

coming here is...I miss soups a lot. Here mainly, how I can say, it consists of only solid food. There are not many soups here, I don't know. That's why, even though it is simpler, I miss these simpler soups very much here. In fact, in America too, in general, one can find various dishes. If, in fact, there is a wish, it is possible to find the food, dishes of the representatives of various, all nationalities. Even a person, who looks for it, can find Uzbek cuisine in America. Of course, since I live Northampton, as Northampton is a small town, maybe I cannot find Uzbek cuisine in Northampton, but in bigger cities, in fact, I am sure that one can find various cuisines.

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