

CultureTalk Albania Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>  
**Let's Have a Coffee**

Southern Albanian dialect

**Albanian transcript:**

1: Po persa i perket ngjashmerive apo ndryshimeve ne pervojen tende ne Turqi dhe Amerike? Persa i perket, bjen fjala, funeraleve, ditelindjeve, festave, vizitave – nqs veme kete pervoje ne sfond.

2: Po...

1: Ose, nuk eshte e thene qe te vihet pikerisht kjo, ky rast, por dhe ndonje rast tjeter qe ti mendon se mund te jete interesant nese perballet me pervoja, po themi, Stambolli apo Amerika.

2: Po tani te gjithë... Ekziston nje besim i tille qe e kam vene re ne shume shqiptare qe psh, ne ne Shqiperi kemi... ne jemi shume, dmth... keta kulturat e tjera si psh, turqit ose amerikanet se varet nga konteksti, jane me artificiale. Dmth ndryshimi per ne. Por nje gje qe me vjen per te qeshur, ca njerez, jo te gjithë njerez, por ca njerez ne Shqiperi dalin per xhiro, ne Shqiperi. Psh, bejne promonaden ose familjarisht ose vetem. Ketu, edhe ne Turqi, edhe ne Amerike, edhe une, edhe shume njerez dalin te shikojne. Por eshte me ndryshe. Ka me pak ceremoni se si ndodh ne Shqiperi. Ajo eshte nje ndryshim qe mund te pakten thuhet. E dyta, njerezit ne Shqiperi shkojne per kafe, dhe eshte gje e madhe. Ndersa edhe ne Turqi, edhe ne Amerike – po i ve Turqine dhe Ameriken bashke – eshte... ky simboli i te shkuarit ne kafe perdoret me pak. Ne Shqiperi per cdo gje “do pime nje kafe”. Tani dihet ajo qe nuk do pish kafe, por eshte qe... eshte nje... simbolizon qe do shpenzojme kohe bashke dhe do flasim nje ceshtje nqs do merremi vesh per dicka, ose qe nuk do te takohemi, s'do kemi kohe te takohemi por qe (nenkupton) jemi te afert. Eshte nje fare... Ndersa ketu nuk, as ne Amerike as ne Turqi, nuk ka nje ide te tille qe te veme ne nje kafe. Mund te kete qe “do takohemi”ose “do vemi ne kinema” ose do... jane menyra te ndryshme. Keto jane.

**English translation:**

1: What about the similarities or differences regarding birthdays, funerals, celebrations between Turkey and US, in your experience?

2: Yes.

1: It does not necessarily have to be limited to these only, but any experience that is worth underlining, be it from Istanbul or the US.

2: Well, all ... I've noticed in many Albanians there is a common belief that ... we are ...

well, that other cultures, Turks or Americans, depending on the context, are more artificial ... compared to Albanians. However, I find it funny that some people, not all, in Albania do their promenade regularly, alone or with their family. People do that in Turkey and in US, but it is different. There is less ritual, if you like, compared to Albania. That is a difference that is apparent. Second, in Albania people go out for coffee, and it's a big deal. While in Turkey and US, I'm putting these two together, this symbol of going for coffee is not as important. For everything in Albania one can use "let's have a coffee." Well, it goes without saying that you won't have coffee all the time. It means that we're going to spend time together, we'll discuss something or business that even if we don't meet, it is a sign, offering "to have a coffee," that we're close friends. Here in the US or Turkey, there is no such idea of "having a coffee." Maybe "let's meet" or "let's go to cinema" ... it is different.

**About CultureTalk:** CultureTalk is produced by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and housed on the LangMedia Website. The project provides students of language and culture with samples of people talking about their lives in the languages they use everyday. The participants in CultureTalk interviews and discussions are of many different ages and walks of life. They are free to express themselves as they wish. The ideas and opinions presented here are those of the participants. Inclusion in CultureTalk does not represent endorsement of these ideas or opinions by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages, Five Colleges, Incorporated, or any of its member institutions: Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

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