

## Importance of Soccer

Northern Albanian Dialect

### Albanian transcript:

1: Disa pyetje ne lidhje me sportin dhe kulturen ne Shqiperi. Cili eshte sporti kryesor, me popullor ne Shqiperi?

2: Tashi kur thohet per sportin si ka kene dhe si asht...ne sport... gjithmone asht konsiderue si sport vetem futbollit. S'ka pase nji culture sportive. Te rralle kane kene ne historine e sportit shqiptar pjesemarrjet ne sportet e tjera dhe sportiste te njoftun ne fusha te tjera pervec futbollit. Psh, per te boksit, te atletikes etj qe kane fillue masivisht fill, vone, mbas Luftes se Dyte, me Clirimin e vendit qe u quejt atehere. Edhe atehere jane ba perpjekjet e para, edhe te pjesemarrjes se femnes ne aktivitetet sportive, edhe kuptohet me ato veshjet me paliceta, nji veshje e ndermjetme midis sportistev te sotem edhe te asaj kohe. Tashi si sport gjithmone asht dashte futbollit. Futbollit ka kene, si te thuesh, nji apoteoze per te rinjte. Ka kene dicka e mbinatyrshe pothuej ne ndergjegjien e tyne. Edhe futbollit ne ate kohe, edhe gjate gjith kohes ka qite, Shqipnija ka pase talente te vecanta te futbollit. Atehere bahesh futboll neper rrugica, neper... fusha futbollit kishte shume. Ketu ne lagjen tone mund te permendi disa prej tyne te lanuna. Sic ka kene thojshin, psh, fusha e Sulcabegut; e ka pase fale ate livadh me ba nji fushe futbollit. Keshtu qe ne livadhin e Sulcabegut u pat ba fushe futbollit. Ka kene fusha e Fierejve, i kane pa thane, fusha e Tigris, fusha pa numerim kane kene dhe qe merrshin pjese te rinjte. Ne ate kohe ka pase nji dicka, qe aktivitetet e te rinjvet, qe ishin ndeshje midis lagjeve, dhe baheshin me teper seriozitet. Me kujtohet njihere, femije ishe, kur lote Perashi, lagjia e jone, me Kirasin. Atehere organizohesh prej atyne nji, bahesh... organizohesh shkuemja me karroca, me fizarmonike e me gjana e njerezvet, e tifozeve edhe sportistev qe shkojshin me luejte ne Kiras. Ne Kiras baheshin, lami i thojshin, fusha ku ka kene zooteknika, ndermarrja zooteknike. Aty livadhe te medha, livadhet e Fushes se Bunes, si me thane, ne ate territory. Vizoheshin me te bardha, kufizoheshin me nji lloj telit per njerezit qe do te rrijshin e ndiqshin kete aktivitet qe thue sikur te ishte dicka jashtezakonisht e madhe. Per popullsine ishte teper e madhe ne ndergjegjien e tyne. Edhe baheshin me kaq seriozitet sa s'ka. Ne ate kohe, si me thane, mbajshe mend nji lojtar qe i kane thane Harap Shkreli, i thojshin. Ai kishte nji fizik te vecante qe perfaqesonte Kirasin, kendej kishim Met Vasine etj etj, disa, grup qe shkojshin e lojshin ne aktivitete. Mandej keto aktivitete qe ndiqshin midis lagjeve, qe bajshin, ndiqeshin ne menyre te alternueme si me thane. Lagjet katolike, shkante nji perfaqesues i lagjeve myslimane per me vleresue talented ne lagjet katolike, ne menyre qe mos te bijshin ne subjektivizem. Ne lagjet tona, ne Perash, ne Rus etj, vijshin... me kujtohet nji here ne lagjen, ne fushe te Sulcabegut qe i thojshin lonte Perashi me nji skuader tjeter dhe kishte ardhe Preng Gjeloshi, lojtar i Vllaznise, pra ishte katolik edhe e vleresonte kete te anes (myslimane) qe te mos kishte me u mbajte me hater, me u... per kushrini, per farefisni etj, por qe te bahesh nji gjykim sa ma i drejte (i lojtareve).

1: Per futbollin, dhe per te zgjedhe talentet.

2: Per te zgjedhe pa gabime. Me zgjedhe talentet. Dhe Vllaznine, e din gjithkush, s'po bajme historikun e Vllanise, ka pase shume te talentuem. Futbolliste shume te talentuem, dhe nga Vllaznia ne tane Shqipnине mandej. Derisa ne vazhde te kesaj pune, si me thane, ne ndertuem futbollin tone. Edhe ka kene nji dicka pasionante, me teper pasion. Edhe ne ndryshim nga sot ka kene qe atehere, nuk mbaj mend ndonjhere qe me gjete vend, bileta per stadium. Por shkojshim tue u shtrydhe, a ka nji vend, ishte pyetja "a ka nji vend" kur ishim ma te vogjel ose femije. Dmth qe nqs ishim pese vete me hape edhe nji vend per nji tjeter... me pa. Dhe stadiumet kane kene gjithmone plot. Edhe a punue me pune vullnetare me ndertue stadiumin. Stadiumi i Shkodres psh, asht ba me pune vullnetare, pike e mbaro.

### **English translation:**

1: I have some questions regarding sports and culture in Albania. Which is the most important sport, or most popular sport, in Albania?

2: If were talking about sports before and now . . . in sports . . . always soccer is the dominant sport. It hasn't had much of a sports culture. Very rarely have there been in Albanian history participants in other sports field other than soccer. For example boxing, athletics, etc. have started developing really late in Albania, after World War II, after the liberation as they called it then. That's when the first attempts were, the participation of women in sports, and it's understood also the clothes that they wore clothes such as *paliceta* which was similar to the old players and the new ones of this time. As a sport, soccer has always been the favorite one. Soccer defined young people here. It was something unbelievable to them. Albania has always had many talented players in soccer. Back in time, people would play soccer in streets. There were also a lot of football fields. The field of Sulcabelg was very big. There were a lot of other fields where the young people played. The games at that time were taken very seriously. I remember when I was young, I went to see a game and Perashi was playing in our neighborhood, Kirasin. There was a big ceremony before the game started. The players were brought to the game with music and horse carriages. They would have borders around the field made of wire so that the spectators would not go into the field. Soccer games were thought of as something extremely important. Soccer was considered big in their conscience. They would take it very seriously. At that time a good player was Harap Shkreli. He had a unique physique and represented Kirasin, while in our side we had Met Vasine, etc. etc. We would alternate on the games that we watched. There was also lots of subjectivity. If the neighborhood was Catholic, the representative who judged the game was Catholic and vice versa for a Muslim one. Later on they wanted to make nonbiased judgment by mixing them up.

1: ... For soccer and to find talent ...

2: . . . to be able to choose without making mistake. The team of Vllaznia had a lot of talent, extremely talented player who play for the Albanian national team. Just like that, we built our own soccer team. It was a sport filled with passion. It was extremely hard to find tickets to go to the stadium at those times. Everyone would squeeze with each other at stadiums. The stadiums were built by voluntary work because everyone wanted it.

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