

House Parties

Bosnian transcript in Latin:

Sharan: Koliko ja znam, tačno porijeklo riječi „dernek“, nisam siguran, mislim da je turcizam, nisam siguran, mislim da jeste. Tačno značenje ne znam, mislim sad da idem da definišem tačno značenje ne želim, ali podrazumijeva dobru zabavu, dernek. Također, u slengu dernek podrazumijeva i opasnu situaciju koja se dešava, u kojoj se nešto dešava kao ono, dernek; ustvari, podrazumijeva neko kretanje. Ali, najčešće se veže za, onaj, dobru zabavu.

Kako izgleda? Pa sve zavisi od mentaliteta čovjeka i generalno zavisi od ljudi koji okupljeni, odnosno od društva. A generalno u Bosni i Hercegovini ćete najčešće naići na derneke gdje je harmonika, gdje je veselo, gdje se skače po stolovima, i gdje je definitivno velika doza alkohola, koji se kreće od recimo piva do domaćeg, dakle, žestokog pića, raznoraznih rakija, šljive, kruške, loze itd.

I naravno, veoma je važno meso u Bosni i Hercegovini. Dakle, Bosna i Hercegovina u većini slučajeva ne priznaje vegetarijance i vegane. Dakle, kaže se, ono, „što ne jedeš meso, jesi bolestan?“ Postoji meza; najlakše je objasniti mezu kao mesno-sirni fingerfood, odnosno narezano meso, suho meso, a meso koje se najčešće jede je dakle govedina, junetina, teletina. Manji broj ljudi konzumira svinjetinu, neki bi rekli zbog religijskih razloga, ja kažem da, ovaj, evo recimo ja nisam vjernik ali ne volim svinjetinu zato jer mi je premasno meso. Tako da ja mislim da za dernek je najvažnije imati dobru muziku, dobru raju, dobro piće i dobru mezu.

Aleksandar: Ko se zove na dernek, a ko se ne zove?

Sharan: Na dernek se ne zovu papci!

Aleksandar: A šta su papci?

Sharan: Mislim sad, podpitanje, šta su papci? Na dernek se zovu, dakle, prijatelji i ljudi sa kojima znaš da će ti biti dobro, kao i na bilo koji drugi, onaj, prigodu, manifestaciju gdje ljude zoveš ono, jer su ti dragi.

Bosnian transcript in Cyrillic:

Шаран: Колико ја знам, тачно поријекло ријечи „дернек“, нисам сигуран, мислим да је турцизам, нисам сигуран, мислим да јесте. Тачно значење не знам, мислим сад да идем да дефинишем тачно значење не желим, али подразумијева добру забаву, дернек. Такође, у сленгу дернек подразумијева и опасну ситуацију која се дешава,

у којој се нешто дешава као оно, дернек; уствари, подразумијева неко кретање. Али, најчешће се веже за, онај, добру забаву.

Како изгледа? Па све зависи од менталитета човјека и генерално зависи од људи који окупљени, односно од друштва. А генерално у Босни и Херцеговини ћете најчешће наићи на дернеке гдје је хармоника, гдје је весело, гдје се скаче по столовима, и гдје је дефинитивно велика доза алкохола, који се креће од рецимо пива до домаћег, дакле, жестоког пића, разноразних ракија, шљиве, крушке, лозе итд.

И наравно, веома је важно месо у Босни и Херцеговини. Дакле, Босна и Херцеговина у већини случајева не признаје вегетаријанце и вегане. Дакле, каже се, оно, „што не једеш месо, јеси болестан?“ Постоји меза; најлакше је објаснити мезу као месно-сирни фингерфуд, односно нарезано месо, сухо месо, а месо које се најчешће једе је дакле говедина, јунетина, телетина. Мањи број људи конзумира свињетину, неки би рекли због религијских разлога, ја кажем да, овај, ево рецимо ја нисам вјерник али не волим свињетину зато јер ми је премасно месо. Тако да ја мислим да за дернек је најважније имати добру музику, добру рају, добро пиће и добру мезу.

Александар: Ко се зове на дернек, а ко се не зове?

Шаран: На дернек се не зову папци!

Александар: А шта су папци?

Шаран: Мислим сад, подпитање, шта су папци? На дернек се зову, дакле, пријатељи и људи са којима знаш да ће ти бити добро, као и на било који други, онај, пригоду, манифестацију гдје људе зовеш оно, јер су ти драги.

English translation:

Sharan: As far as I know, the exact origin of the word *dernek*¹ is... I'm not sure; I think it's a Turkish loanword, I think so. I don't know the exact meaning, and I don't even want to try to find the definition [in Turkish], but it means a good party, that's a *dernek*. Also, in our slang, *dernek* represents a dangerous situation that's taking place, or when something is going on. *Dernek* basically involves some kind of motion. However, it's mostly related to a good party.

What does it look like? Well, it depends on the person's mentality and the people gathered, or the company present. Generally, in Bosnia and Herzegovina you'll mostly encounter a *dernek* where someone plays an accordion, people are cheerful, they're

¹ *Dernek* (Turkish: *dernek*, lit. trans. “society”): meaning, a big party. Despite its origin in the Turkish language, this word only has this specific meaning in Bosnian.

dancing on tables, and there's a large amount of alcohol present, ranging from beer to domestic hard liquor - different *rakije*²: plum *rakija*, pear *rakija*, or grappa.

Meat is also important in Bosnia and Herzegovina. [People in] Bosnia and Herzegovina mostly don't understand the concept of vegetarianism and veganism. People are often asked questions like: "You don't eat meat? Why? Are you ill?" There's also *meza*³. The easiest way of describing *meza* is as meat and cheese finger food, where the meat is sliced. The most common types of meat [in *meza*] are beef and [two types of] veal⁴. A smaller number of people eat pork, some would say for religious reasons, but I can say that, although I'm not religious, I don't like pork because it's too fatty.

So, I think that it's essential to have good music, good friends, good drinks and good *meza* for a *dernek*.

Aleksandar: Who's invited to a *dernek*, and who isn't?

Sharan: You never invite *papci*⁵ to a *dernek*! [laughter]

Aleksandar: And who are *papci*?

Sharan: That's a tough question, who *papci* are. People who are invited to a *dernek* are your friends and people that you know you'll have a good time with, just as for any other occasion or event, where you invite people because you care for them.

² *Rakija* (pl. *rakije*): an alcoholic beverage that is produced by distillation of fermented fruit; it is a popular liquor throughout the Balkans. Often translated as "brandy" in the U.S.

³ *Meza* (Turkish: *meze*, lit. trans. "snack"): a type of bite-sized appetizer, often served on a large platter at the center of the table at parties or celebrations. *Meza* usually includes different types of cheeses, creamy and hard, *kajmak* (a type of clotted cream spread), and different types of meat including thinly cut ham and *suho meso* (dried and cured beef or pork) and *sudžuka* (a type of dried-meat sausage, usually made from beef or veal; rarely it might contain pork or horsemeat).

⁴ In Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Balkans, the languages and the cuisines recognize three distinct types of beef and veal: *govedina*, which is meat from cattle not younger than 14 months, *junetina*, or meat from younger cattle between the age of 6 to 14 months, and *teletina*, or meat from calves between the ages of three weeks to six months.

⁵ *Papak* or *papan* (pl. *papci* or *papani*, lit. trans. "hooves"): a slang term for those whose company is unwanted because they exhibit provincial behavior, act in an obnoxious manner and are considered to be unrestrained in their primitivism or vulgarity. Please note that this does not necessarily mean that the term *papak* is synonymous with the rural population, since this term is used to denote a specific behavior and not the rural origin of the person per se. Although this is not considered a vulgar term, one should nonetheless be discouraged from (or exercise caution when) using the term *papak* to refer to another person.

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