

Dialects and Regional Events

Croatian transcript:

Isto kao Zagreb, i Hrvatska je zapravo osobita po tom što ujedinjuje mnogo raznolikosti. Naprimjer, jedna specifičnost Hrvatske je u tome što imate i različita narječja. U sjeveru Hrvatske preovladava takozvano kajkavsko narječje, koje jako vuče na slovenski jezik; u Slavoniji preovladava štokavsko narječje, na kojem se većinski bazira ovaj hrvatski standardni jezik; a Dalmacija i Primorje, u njima je... Tamo je zastupljeno čakavsko narječje, i zanimljivost oko svih tih narječja je što, naprimjer u Dalmaciji, se izrazi razlikuju doslovno od sela do sela. Znači svako mjesto, ma kako malo bilo, će imati vlastite izraze za hrpu onako svakodnevnih, najobičnijih, najbanalnijih predmeta. I, mislim, zapravo da nema standardnog jezika da se Hrvati ne bi međusobno previše ni razumjeli. Naprimjer, neki strogi Kajkavac koji nije previše putovao dalje od Hrvatskog zagorja, ili Dalmatinac koji se nije maknuo sa svog otoka, recimo Korčule, se vrlo vjerovatno ne bi nikako sporazumjeli i... Znači, ono što je zanimljivo zapravo, da dva dijalekta jednog te istog jezika su međusobno postavljeni zapravo kao dva potpuno različita jezika. Ali zato većina Čakavaca pod obavezno zna talijanski, što zbog povjesnih, što trenutno aktualnih odnosa s Italijom, koji su bili i ostali intenzivni.

Također, kako je narječje, znači, kao jezik, svaki jezik se veže uz određenu kulturu - tako da i svaki grad u Hrvatskoj ima nešto svoje specifično. Naprimjer, Rijeka je kao nekakva, recimo, evropska ili hrvatska verzija Rio de Janeira po tome što ima karneval svake godine koji traje tjednima. Tada se održi svečana ceremonija u kojoj gradonačelnik Rijeke preda takozvane „ključeve grada“ simbolički, obično je to ovako velik ključ, glavnom među maskama i onda je njihov grad, grad je kao prepušten ludorijama do određenog vremena, recimo to tako. A pred kraj karnevala, znači, prije nego što će početi korizma, spali se fašnik napravljen od, ne znam, žita ili tako od nekog, nečeg paljivog. Također, Varaždin, poznati hrvatski barokni grad, je prepun kojekakvih kulturnih manifestacija; naprimjer, „Varaždinske barokne večeri“, ili „Špancirfest“, koji obično traje danima i tamo dolaze brojni bendovi, drže koncerte ili se tako, održavaju nekakvi projekti u kojima ljudi mogu sudjelovati. Također, odnedavna je tradicija da se održava „Radar Festival“, koji uspijeva svake godine dovući neku stvarno poznatu ličnost u Hrvatsku.

English translation:

Like Zagreb, Croatia is also unique in the fact that it brings together so much diversity. For example, one thing characteristic for Croatia is the number of dialects. In the north of Croatia, the so-called Kajkavian dialect is dominant; it is very similar to the Slovenian language. In Slavonia, Shtokavian dialect is dominant; it was the basis for the Standard Croatian language. In Dalmatia and Primorje, there... Chakavian is prevalent there. The interesting thing about all those dialects is that, for example, in Dalmatia, terminology

differs literally from one village to another. So any place, no matter how small it is, will have its own terms for a bunch of everyday, most basic, most banal objects. Also, I think that if there was no standard language, Croats wouldn't understand one another that well. For example, a proper Kajkavian speaker who never travelled away from Hrvatsko Zagorje, or a Dalmatian who never went any further than his island, for instance Korčula, would probably not understand one another at all, and... So, what is actually interesting is that two dialects of the same language are basically such that they are almost two completely different languages. But then, most Chakavian speakers also speak Italian, whether because of historical or current relations with Italy, which have always been very strong.

Also, since dialects are closer to different languages, each dialect is associated with a certain culture - so every city in Croatia is specific in its own way. For example, Rijeka is something like a European or Croatian version of Rio de Janeiro since it has its own carnival each year, which lasts for weeks. A ceremony is held during the carnival, at which the mayor of Rijeka symbolically surrenders the so-called "keys to the city" – usually it's a key of roughly this size – to the leader of the carnival, and then the city is theirs, the city gives in to shenanigans for a certain period of time, so to speak. Towards the end of the festival, or right before Lent, a life-size doll made from, I don't know, hay or something like that, something flammable, is burned. Also, Varaždin, the famous Croatian baroque city, is full of all sorts of cultural events, such as the "Varaždin Baroque Evenings" or "Špancirfest," which usually lasts for days, and numerous bands come and perform, or certain events take place in which people can participate. Also, "Radar Festival" is a newer event; each year it manages to bring a really famous artist/musician to Croatia.

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