

Kurdish Survival Vocabulary

Central Kurdish — Sorani

Introduction:

Kurdistan, the land of early civilization, where the first recorded crop was sown, is now a homeland for over forty million indigenous inhabitants—the land has spread over the neighboring countries of Turkey; from north, Iran; from east, Iraq; from south, and Syria; from west.

There are numerous dialects spoken in the whole Kurdistan, which are about dozens, however, two main dialects have outgrown the others: Kurmanji and Sorani. Sorani Kurdish is officially considered as the language of media and government affairs by the Kurdistan Regional Government—a regional government in south Kurdistan—Iraq. Therefore, in this syllabus, the survival vocabulary for Sorani Kurdish is presented to readers. *Click here to listen to the project introduction.*

Within the syllabus, several reader-friendly features have been provided such as: audio recordings, cultural explanations and expectations, phonetic transcriptions, a concise and clear table design, and visual supports—which all accompany the reader to fluently pronounce, and understand the Kurdish expressions and vocabularies.

The phonetic transcription process mainly relies on a PhD dissertation which has classified the Central Kurdish phonemes: *The Prosodic Phonology of Central Kurdish*, which is written by the same scholar who is also the transcription editor for this syllabus—Dr. Twana Hamid, University of Sulaimani. The dissertation is published on Newcastle University website. *Click here to read the PhD dissertation.*

The audio recordings feature two native Kurdish speakers pronouncing all the Kurdish expressions and vocabularies within the syllabus to help better fluency and pronunciation. There are two ways to listen to the audio tracks: first, by scanning the following QR code; second, by clicking right on the Kurdish expressions within the syllabus. To listen to the instructions on how to play the tracks, *click here.*



Some words and expressions have been used in more than one section. These could be words/phrases like: *please, thank you, how much*, etc. To indicate where an expression/vocabulary is used recurrently, the number of the section in which the repetition has occurred is given between parentheses; beside the expression.

The professionals involved in writing, reviewing and editing this syllabus are all native Kurdish speakers whose experiences in translation, linguistics, English language teaching and learning have expanded for years and influenced the education route in the Kurdistan region substantially.

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"If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart."

– Nelson Mandela

Kurdish Survival Vocabulary

1. Greetings, Being Polite I

Similar to most languages, Sorani Kurdish has numerous variations for greetings. Some of the characteristics of Kurdish language in which learners/foreigners find challenging are its ways of addressing, which vary from a singular addressee to plural addresses, unlike English in which ‘you’ could mean ‘one person’ or ‘a group of people’. However, in this Kurdish Survival vocabulary syllabus, there is no room left for frustration as everything has been simply explained. Moreover, below, register—formal and informal ways of greetings have been taken into consideration. One will most probably notice that some greetings do not have the formal equivalent — meaning that they may be used in both situations.

Formal Greeting:	Informal Greeting:	English Translation:
<p>Used for singular & plural addressee</p> <p>Say: /sɪlaw/ سلاو</p> <p>Reply: /sɪlaw/ سلاو</p>	<p>If addressee is singular</p> <p>Say: /tʃoni/ چۆنی؟</p> <p>Reply: /baʃim supas/ باشم، سوپاس</p> <p>If addressee is plural</p> <p>Say: /tʃonin/ چۆنن؟</p> <p>Reply: /baʃi:n supas/ باشین، سوپاس</p>	<p>Say: Hello/ how are you?</p> <p>Reply: I am fine, thank you I am fine, thank you</p> <p>Reply: We are fine, thank you</p>

<p>If addressee is singular:</p> <p>Say: /ʔam katar baʃ/ ئەم كاتەت باش</p> <p>Reply: /zjanit baʃ/ ژيانت باش</p> <p>If addressee is plural:</p> <p>Say: /ʔam katatan baʃ/ ئەم كاتەتان باش</p> <p>Reply: /zjanit baʃ/ ژيانت باش</p>	<p>If addressee is singular:</p> <p>Say: /baʃi:t/ باشييت؟</p> <p>Reply: /zor supas/ زۆر سوپاس</p> <p>If addressee is plural:</p> <p>Say: /baʃin/ باشن؟</p> <p>Reply: /zor supas/ زۆر سوپاس</p>	<p>Hello</p> <p><i>Especially with no intention of mentioning the time of the day—morning, afternoon, etc.</i></p>
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1. 1. Greetings II

A very common expression: /zjanit baʃ/ ژيانت باش is used to respond to greetings for a specific time of the day: good morning, afternoon, evening, and/or greetings with no intention of mentioning the time of the day (see: 1. *Greetings, Being Polite* section). The literal translation of /zjanit baʃ/ ژيانت باش in English would be: *may all your life be good*.

An example of this expression in use has been provided below for clarity:

Person A: /baj:ani:t baʃ/ *good morning*

Person B: /zjanit baʃ/ *may all your life be good*

Kurdish Greeting:	English Translation:
<p>If addressee is singular:</p> <p>Say: /baj:ani:t baʃ/ بهیانیت باش</p> <p>Reply: /baj:ani:t baʃ/ بهیانیت باش</p> <p>If addressee is plural:</p> <p>Say: /baj:anitan baʃ/ بهیانیتان باش</p>	<p>Good morning (6)</p> <p><i>Similar to English; Kurdish speakers reply 'good morning' with 'good morning'. Or, you may reply using the aforementioned common expression: /ʒjanit baʃ/ — may all your life be good!</i></p>
<p>If addressee is singular:</p> <p>Say: /ni:warot baʃ/ نیوهرۆت باش</p> <p>Reply: /ni:warot baʃ/ نیوهرۆت باش</p> <p>If addressee is plural:</p> <p>Say: /ni:warotan baʃ/ نیوهرۆتان باش</p>	<p>Good afternoon (6)</p> <p><i>Similar to English; Kurdish speakers reply 'good afternoon' with 'good afternoon'. Or, you may reply using the aforementioned common expression: /ʒjanit baʃ/ — may all your life be good!</i></p>
<p>If addressee is singular:</p> <p>Say: /ʔewarat baʃ/ ئیوارەت باش</p> <p>Reply: /ʔewarat baʃ/ ئیوارەت باش</p> <p>If addressee is plural:</p> <p>Say: /ʔewaratan baʃ/ ئیوارەتان باش</p>	<p>Good evening (6)</p> <p><i>Similar to English; Kurdish speakers reply 'good evening' with 'good evening'. Or, you may reply using the aforementioned common expression: /ʒjanit baʃ/ — may all your life be good!</i></p>

<p>Used for singular & plural addressee</p> <p>Say: /faw fad/ شهو شاد</p> <p>Reply: /faw fad/ شهو شاد</p>	<p>Goodnight</p> <p><i>Similar to English; Kurdish speakers reply 'goodnight' with 'goodnight'. You cannot say /zjanit baf/ to respond to goodnight!</i></p>
<p>If addressee is singular:</p> <p>Say: /xwat lagat/ خوات لهگهڵ</p> <p>If addressee is plural:</p> <p>Say: /xwatan lagat/ خواتان لهگهڵ</p>	<p>Bye/goodbye/take care</p>

1.2. Politeness Expressions:

Kurdish Greeting:	English Translation:
/supas/ سوپاس	Thank you (often formal)
/dastan xof/ دهستان خوڤ	Thanks (often less formal)
/fajani nj:a/ شایهنی نییه	You are welcome/not at all, etc. (often formal)
/sartfaw/ سه‌رچاو	You are welcome/not at all, etc. (often less formal)
/be zahmat/ بێ زحمهت	Excuse me
/thikaja/ تهکایه	Please
/datwanim wenajakit bigrim/ دهتوانم وینهیهکت بگرم؟	Can I take your photo?

2. Buying and Bargaining:

In Kurdish culture, bargaining is very common, almost everyone haggles from a kid to an elderly, from a small purchase of a bracelet, a pair of sunglasses or a t-shirt to a big purchase of a car, a house, etc. Hence, Sorani Kurdish has numerous expressions used while bargaining. Coming from a western background/culture in which bargaining is not as common as in Kurdistan might expose you to certain cultural unexpectedness—culture shock. Therefore, it is normal to bargain when visiting Kurdistan or a Kurdish-speaking territory.

Kurdish Expression:	English Translation:
<p><i>To get attention, use one of these two expressions:</i></p> <p>/bibu:ra/ ببوره</p> <p>/be zahmat/ بئ زحممت</p>	<p>Excuse me (1.2)</p>
<p><i>To want to buy something say:</i></p> <p>/tan haja/ تان ههيه</p> <p>/nantan haja/ نانتان ههيه؟</p> <p>/?awtan haja/ ناوتان ههيه؟</p>	<p>The name of the item /tan haja/?</p> <p><i>Do you have bread?</i></p> <p><i>Do you have water?</i></p>
<p>/bate/ بەلێ</p>	<p>Yes (9)</p>
<p>/naxer/ نهخێر</p>	<p>No (9)</p>
<p>/?ama/ ئەمه</p>	<p>This—when pointing at a singular & close item</p>
<p>/?awa/ ئەوه</p>	<p>That—when pointing at a singular & far item</p>
<p>/?amana/ ئەمانه</p>	<p>These—when pointing at plural & close items</p>
<p>/?awana/ ئەوانه</p>	<p>Those—when pointing at a plural & far items</p>
<p><i>When you ask for something to buy, but the item is unavailable at the shop. Here are two most common expressions the clerk will use to say “it is unavailable”:</i></p> <p>/ni:mana/ نيمانه</p> <p>/lej nij:a/ لئى نيبه</p>	<p>There is not any</p> <p>(Often without mentioning the object—the item you have asked for)</p>

<p>/ba tʃanda/ به چەندە؟</p> <p>/ʔaw ba tʃanida/ ناو بە چەندە؟</p>	<p>How much?</p> <p><i>How much is a bottle of water?</i></p>
<p>/zor girana/ زۆر گرانە</p>	<p>Too expensive</p>
<p><i>To ask for a cheaper item of the same category. For example: you are presented with an expensive razor blade, but you want a cheaper one. Say:</i></p> <p>/harzantir/ هەرزانتەر</p>	<p>A cheaper one</p> <p><i>This is an indirect request for a cheaper item</i></p>
<p><i>To ask to lower the price of an item; here are three common expressions to use:</i></p> <p>/kamtir nabe/ کەمتر نابێ؟</p> <p>/χatirman bigra/ خاترمان بگرە!</p> <p>/bo χoman batʃanid/ بۆ خۆمان بە چەند؟</p>	<p>Can you lower the price?</p> <p><i>Expect surprise or excitement from a clerk after saying these expressions; since they are usually used by native speakers—it is unexpected from a foreigner to say these!</i></p>

2.1. Numbers:

Similar to English, in Sorani Kurdish, the counting/natural numbers are attached to bigger numbers — thousand/million, etc. to make the number even bigger. For example: ‘two’ is attached to ‘thousand’, to make a greater number — two thousand: the process is the same in Kurdish language.




Numbers in Kurdish:	English Translation:
/sifir/ سفر	Zero
/jak/ يەك	One
/du:/ دوو	Two
/se/ سێ	Three
/tʃwar/ چوار	Four
/penidʒ/ پێنج	Five
/ʃaʃ/ شەش	Six
/hawt/ هەوت	Seven
/hafit/ هەشت	Eight





/no/ نو	Nine
/da/ ده	Ten
/jazda/ یازده	Eleven
/dw:azda/ دوازده	Twelve
/si:jazda/ سیزده	Thirteen
/tʃwarida/ چوارده	Fourteen
/pazida/ پازده	Fifteen
/fazida/ شانزده	Sixteen
/havida/ هفده	Seventeen
/hazida/ هجده	Eighteen
/nozida/ نوزده	Nineteen
/bi:sit/ بیست	Twenty
/si:/ سی	Thirty
/tʃil/ چل	Forty
/pandʒa/ پنجا	Fifty
/ʃasit/ شصت	Sixty
/hafta/ هفتا	Seventy
/hafta/ هشتا	Eighty
/nawad/ نهمده	Ninety
/sad/ سهد	One hundred
/hazar/ هزار	Thousand
/miljon/ ملیون	Million
/pazda hazar/ پازده هزار	Fifteen thousand
/sad hazar/ سهد هزار	Hundred thousand
/ʃaf miljon/ شش ملیون	Six million

2.2. Units of Money:

Kurdistan does not have its own official currency. Alternatively, Iraqi Dinar — IQD is used, as it is considered official by the Kurdistan Regional Government. When visiting Kurdistan, converting your money to Dinar is a safer/better option than using your country's currency—Dollar, Euro, Pound, etc. as IQD is usually cheaper in value compared to the aforementioned currencies. An image for each currency is provided below for clarity. Be aware that sometimes new versions/updates of currencies might have new images/symbols.

Note: the following currency exchange rates are subject to change due to the instability rate of Dinar compared to Dollar!

Units of Money:	English Explanation:
<p data-bbox="272 871 649 903">/dusadu pandza dinar/ دينار ٢٥٠</p> 	<p data-bbox="836 940 1469 1039">Cheapest Dinar unit, it is tentatively equal to about 20 cents. Usually, you can buy a bottle of water with this 250 IQD</p>
<p data-bbox="316 1197 609 1228">/pensad dinar/ دينار ٥٠٠</p> 	<p data-bbox="876 1297 1421 1329">500 IQD is tentatively equal to about 40 cents.</p>
<p data-bbox="316 1533 609 1564">/hazar dinar/ دينار ١٠٠٠</p> 	<p data-bbox="820 1633 1485 1732">1000 IQD is tentatively equal to about 80 cents. Usually, you can buy an ice-cream on the street for 1000 IQ</p>

<p>/penidz hazar dinar/ ٥٠٠٠ ههزار دینار</p> 	<p>5000 IQD is tentatively equal to about 3.5 Dollars. It's most used and common.</p>
<p>/da hazar dinar/ ١٠٠٠٠ ههزار دینار</p> 	<p>10000 IQD is tentatively equal to about 7 Dollars. It's most used and common.</p>
<p>/bistw penidz hazar dinar/ ٢٥٠٠٠ ههزار دینار</p> 	<p>25000 IQD is tentatively equal to about 16 Dollars. It's most used and common.</p>
<p>/pandza hazar dinar/ ٥٠٠٠٠ ههزار دینار</p> 	<p>Most expensive Dinar unit, and least common. 50000 IQD is tentatively equal to about 33 Dollars.</p>

2.3. Units of Measure and Size:

Kurdish Expression:	English Translation:
/tʃanid dana/ چهند دانه؟	How many (quantity)?
/tʃanid lafat dawe/ چهند لهفەت دەوێ؟	<i>How many sandwiches do you want?</i>
/hamwj:/ هەمووی	All of it / All
/ni:waj/ نیووی	Half of it / Half
/danajaki tir/ دانەیهکی تر	One more
/jak dana kamtir/ یەک دانه کەمتر	One less
/gawra/ گەورە	Big (5)
/mamnawanid/ مامناوەند	Medium
/bitʃu:k/ بچووک	Small (5)

2.4. Names of Important Things to Buy:

In the following section: the most common items have been provided in which a visitor/tourist might need when visiting Kurdistan:

Items in Kurdish:	English Translation:
/para/ پارە	Money
/ʔaw/ ناو	Water/a bottle of water
/simkarit/ سیمکارت	SIM card
/fiʔʃaj didan/ فلچەیی ددان	Toothbrush
/hawiri didan/ هەویری ددان	Toothpaste
/xwardin/ خواردن	Food
/xwardini xomali/ خواردنی خۆمالی	Local/homemade food (6.2)
/tʃatir/ چەتر	Umbrella
/ʔazarʃiken/ نازارشکین	Pain killer (i.g.: a tablet)

/ʃampo/ شامپۆ	Shampoo
/sabu:n/ سابوون	Soap
/kilenis/ کاینس	Tissues
/bon/ بۆن	Perfume
/diʒa ɣor/ دژه خۆر	Sunscreen
/tʃawilika/ چاویلکه	Sunglasses
/dʒilubarig/ جلوبەرگ	Clothes
/dʒilubarigi kuridi/ جلوبەرگی کوردی	Kurdish clothes
/peɫaw/ پێلاو	Shoes
/kiɫaʃ/ کێلاش	Kurdish traditional shoes (often worn with Kurdish clothes)
/ʃana/ شانە	Comb
/penu:s/ پینووس	Pen
/daftar/ دەفتەر	Notebook

3. Reading Signs:

Kurdish Expression:	English Translation:
/pjawan/ پیاوان	Gents
/ʒinan/ ژنان	Ladies
/kirawaja/ کراوێه	Open
/daɣirawa/ داخراوه	Closed
/tʃu:nazu:rawa/ چوونەژوورمۆه	Entrance
/dartʃu:n/ دەرچوون	Exit

4. Getting to Places:

In Kurdistan, it is common to stop a pedestrian, asking for directions. It has become a part of the culture to assist one another when it comes to asking for/giving directions — unless the person whom the question is asked is not familiar with the destination.

Pronunciation notice: In Sorani Kurdish, the pitch at the end of an interrogative/question sentence usually falls: this is how the listener knows the speaker is asking a question.

Kurdish Expression:	English Translation:
/ʃaqam/ شەقام	Street
/koʎan/ کۆلان	Neighbourhood
/garak/ گەرەک	Neighbourhood (zone — often a wider area including some minor streets/neighborhoods)
/datwani jarmatim bidaj?/ دەتوانی یارمەتیم بەدەیت؟	Can you help me?
/la kweja/ لە کوێیە؟ /bazar la kweja/ بازار لە کوێیە؟ /ʃaqami mawlwi la kweja/ شەقامی مەولەوی لە کوێیە؟	Name of place /lə kweja/? <i>Where is Bazar?</i> <i>Where is Mawlwi Street?</i>
/darmanxana la kweja/ دەرمانخانە لە کوێیە؟	Where is the pharmacy? (4.2)
/ʔam ʃaqama nawi tʃj:a/ ئەم شەقامە ناوی چییە؟	What is the name of this street?
/ʔam ʃara nawi tʃj:a/ ئەم شارە ناوی چییە؟	What is the name of this city?
/tʃanek du:ra/ چەتیک دوورە؟	How far is it?
/lerawa nizi:ka/ لێرمووە نزیکە؟	Is it near here?
/lerawa tʃanek du:ra/ لێرمووە چەتیک دوورە؟ /kalar lerawa tʃanek du:ra/ کەلار لێرمووە چەتیک دوورە؟ /hawraman lerawa tʃanek du:ra/ هەورامان لێرمووە چەتیک دوورە؟	Name of destination /lerawa tʃanek du:ra/ <i>How far is Kalar from here?</i> <i>How far is Hawraman from here?</i>

4.1. Getting to Places — Directions:

Kurdish Expression:	English Translation:
/tʃap/ چەپ	Left
/rasit/ راست	Right
/rek biro/ رێك برۆ	Straight ahead
/hewaf biro/ هێواش برۆ	Slow down (directions for a taxi)
/lera biwasta/ لێره بوهسته	Stop here
/tʃaware bika/ چاوهرێ بکه	Wait
/lera dadabazim/ لێره دادهبزم	Drop me off here
/ba tʃanid darojt/ به چەند دەرۆیت؟	How much? (used to ask for transportation fee)
/ba tʃanid darojt bo ʔakre/ به چەند دەرۆیت بۆ ئاکرێ؟	How much is a ride to Akre?
/ba tʃanid darojt bo mardin/ به چەند دەرۆیت بۆ ماردین؟	How much is a ride to Mardin (a city in North Kurdistan?)
/bimba bo/ بمبه بۆ	/bimba bo/ Name of destination
/bimba bo qalaj hawler/ بمبه بۆ قه‌لای هه‌ولێر	Take me to Hawler (Erbil) Citadel

4.2. Getting to Places — Most Common Places to Visit:

In Sorani Kurdish, a very common suffix is usually added — /kha:nə/ to mean “the place”. For example: “restaurant” means (/tʃefitxana/ چێشتخانه), while (/tʃefit/ چێشت) means ‘food’. Consequently, the suffix — /kha:nə/ is added to mean “the place where **food** is sold”. One can clearly notice the repetition of the suffix in the following table.

Kurdish Expression:	English Translation:
/dasitʃor/ دەستشۆر /sarʔaw/ سه‌رناو /twalet/ توالت	Similar to English, Kurdish has more than one word for 'toilet'. The three Kurdish expressions all mean 'toilet'.
/banik/ بانک	Bank
/firoziga/ فرۆشگا	Market

/tʃeʃitʃana/ چیشتهخانه	Restaurant
/naʒoʃʃana/ نهخوشخانه	Hospital
/darmanʃana/ دهرمانخانه	Pharmacy (4)
/firokaʃana/ فرۆكهخانه	Airport
/nanawaʃana/ نانهواخانه	Bakery
/mozaʃana/ موزهخانه	Museum
/tʃajʃana/ چایخانه	Café / tea shop
/wesitgaj pas/ ویستگه‌ی پاس	Bus station
/binkaj poli:s/ بنکه‌ی پولیس	Police station
/piziʃik/ پزشکیک	Doctor / Physician
/posita/ پۆسته	Post office & post

5. Finding Accommodations:

Kurdish Expression:	English Translation:
/tʃʌnid dakat/ چهند دهکات؟	How much (cost)? (2, 5, 9)
/ʃanu:/ خانوو	House
/hutel/ هوتیل	Hotel
/baʃana/ بالهخانه	Apartment
/kaj dabet birom/ که‌ی ده‌بیت برۆم؟	When should I leave?
/diwene/ دوینی	Yesterday
/ʔamro/ ئەمرو	Today
/sibaj/ سبه‌ی	Tomorrow
/bitʃu:ka/ بچووکه	It is small (used to describe a room) (2.3)
/gawraja/ گهوره‌یه	It is big (used to describe a room) (2.3)
/la kwe wazu: bikam/ له کوی وازوو بکه‌م؟	Where should I sign?

6. Time Expressions:

Kurdish Expression:	English Translation:
/kat.zimer/ کاتژمێر	Hour
/xu.lak/ خولەک	Minute
/tjirka/ چرکە	Second
/jaw/ شەو	Night
/roz/ رۆژ	Day
/barabajan/ بەرەبەیان	Dawn
/bajani/ بەیانی	Morning (1)
/ni.waro/ نیوەڕۆ	Noon (1)
/diwani.waro/ دوانیوەڕۆ	Afternoon
/?ewara/ ئێوارە	Evening (1)
/hafta/ هەفتە	Week
/manj/ مانگ	Month

7. Ordering Food:

Kurdish culture is well-known for its strong sense of hospitality. While ordering food; a foreigner should not be surprised when someone else pays for him/her, or when the shop owner refuses to accept any money since the practice is deeply rooted in the culture.

Kurdish Expression:	English Translation:
/ba tʃanda/ بە چەندە؟	How much? (2)
/tʰikaja hisabaka/ تەکایە حسابەکە	The bill, please
/bata:ma/ بەتامە	It is delicious
/naʒofa/ ناخۆشە	It is tasteless
/siwera/ سۆزەرە	Its is salty

/tirfa/ ترشه	It is sour
/firina/ شیرینه	It is sweet
/tifta/ تفته	It is spicy
/tafa/ تاله	It is bitter
/safari/ سهفهری	Takeaway
/lera dajxom/ لیره دهیخۆم	I will dine in

7.1. Names of a Few Dishes and Drinks:

Kurdish Expression:	English Translation:
/dołma/ دۆلمه	<i>Kurdish traditional food</i>
/kabab/ كهباب	<i>Kurdish traditional food</i>
/birjani/ بریانی	<i>Kurdish traditional food</i>
/sarupe/ سهروپی	Leg and head (often of a lamb, goat, sheep, etc.)
/mirifik/ مریشک	Chicken
/gojit/ گوشت	Meat
/birinidz/ برنج	Rice
/fila/ شله	Soup
/fasolja/ فاسولیا	Red beans
/tapsi/ تهپسی	This dish includes: eggplant, zucchini, onions, potato, and sometimes; chicken
/sawar/ ساوهر	Bulgur
/qaraxarman/ قهرمخهران	Freekeh
/dojna/ دۆینه	<i>Kurdish traditional food</i>
/tirxena/ ترخینه	<i>Kurdish traditional food</i>
/mastaw/ ماستاو	Yogurt and water (a famous drink)
/do/ دۆ	<i>Yogurt drink, usually sour (a famous drink)</i>

7.2 A Few Cooking Terms:

Kurdish Expression:	English Translation:
/surawakiraw/ سوورەمکراو	Fried (in oil)
/birzaw/ برزاو	Grilled
/kuław/ کولاو	Boiled
/xojkiraw/ خۆشکراو	Marinated
/xwardini xomatî/ خواردنی خۆمالی	Local food (2.4)

8. Talking About Yourself and Talking to Children:

Kurdish Expression:	English Translation:
من م	/min/ your name /im/
/min ?awinim/ من ئەوینم	<i>I am Awin</i> (a Kurdish name for love)
من ناوم ە	/min nawim/ your name /a/
/min nawim sti:vina/ من ناوم ستیڤنه	<i>My name is Stephen</i>
/xalki kweji/ خەڵکی کوێ؟	Where do you come from?
/kuridim/ کوردم	I am Kurdish
/?amirikim/ ئەمەریکیم	I am American
/min xalki kurdistanim/ من خەڵکی کوردستانم	I am from Kurdistan
/min xalki ?amirikam/ من خەڵکی ئەمەریکام	I am from America
/pifaf tjj:a/ پێشەت چییە؟	What do you do?
/mamostam/ مامۆستام	I am a teacher
/gaftjarim/ گەشتیارم	I am a tourist
/twezarim/ توێزەرم	I am a researcher

/kurdi dazani/ کوردی دهزانی!	You speak (Kurdish)!
/kamek/ کهمیک	A little
/nawit tfj:a/ ناوت چیه؟	What is your name?
/tamanit tfanda/ تهمانت چنده؟	How old are you?
/du: haftaja leram/ دو هفتهیه لیرم	I have been here for two weeks. (you may use the time expressions in section 5.1 to change the duration preferably)
/naxojim/ نهخوژم	I am sick
/sarmam bw:a/ سهرمام بووه	I have got a cold

9. Controlling and Learning Language:

Kurdish Expression:	English Translation:
/te dagaj/ تئ دهگهئ؟	Do you understand?
/te dagam/ تئ دهگهم	I understand
/te nagam/ تئناگهم	I do not understand
/kurdi dazani/ (کوردی) دهزانی؟	Do you speak Kurdish?
/bate/ بهئئ	Yes (2)
/naçet/ نهخئیر	No (2)
/du:baraj bikawa/ دووبارهئ بکهوه	Repeat it
/tikaja lasarxo bidwe/ تکایه لسهرخو بدوئ	Please speak slowly
/kamek kurdi dazanim/ کهمیک (کوردی) دهزانم	I speak a little Kurdish
/ba kurdi bama tfi dañen/ به (کوردی) بهمه چی دهئین؟	What do you call this in (Kurdish)?
/?ama nawi tfj:a/ ئهمه ناوی چیه؟	What is the name of this?

10. Names of a Few Countries and Nationalities in Kurdish:

In Sorani Kurdish, an /i/ sound (suffix) is usually added to the end of the country name to mean its nationality. As it is mentioned below: /barazil/ is **Brazil** in Kurdish — to create nationality for **Brazil**, an /i/ sound is added to it: /barazili/ — **Brazilian**. However, this regularity does not seem to apply on **Kurdistan**, since its nationality is **Kurd**, not **Kurdi**.

Country in Kurdish	Nationality in Kurdish	Country in English	Nationality in English
/swisra/ سويسرا	/swisri/ سويسرى	Switzerland	Swiss
/polinda/ پۆلندا	/polindi/ پۆلندى	Poland	Polish
/hindistan/ هندستان	/hindi/ هندی	India	Indian
/tʃi:n/ چين	/tʃi:ni/ چینی	China	Chinese
/ʔamirika/ ئەمەریکا	/ʔamiriki/ ئەمەریکی	The USA	American
/jaban/ یابان	/jabani/ یابانی	Japan	Japanese
/ʔaʔmanja/ ئەڵمانیا	/ʔaʔmani/ ئەڵمانی	Germany	German
/baritanja/ بەریتانیا	/baritani/ بەریتانی	England	English
/barazil/ بەرازیل	/barazili/ بەرازیلی	Brazil	Brazilian
/siwid/ سوید	/siwidi/ سویدی	Sweden	Swedish
/korja/ کۆریا	/kori/ کۆری	Korea	Korean
/qatar/ قەتەر	/qatari/ قەتەری	Qatar	Qatari

Important Links:

- To listen to the project introduction and description, [click here](#).
- To listen to audio instructions in both English and Kurdish, [click here](#).
- To read the PhD dissertation in which this project's phonetic transcription process is dependent on, [click here](#).

Reminder: There are two ways to listen to the audio tracks: first, by scanning the QR code on the first page of this document — which links to a Google Drive folder with all tracks organized by sections; second, by clicking on the Kurdish expressions within this syllabus — useful for individual readings.