

LESSON NOTES

Absolute Beginner S1 #1

Saying Hello in Persian at Any Time of the Day

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DIALOGUE - PERSIAN

MAIN

1. سینا : سلام.
2. شیرین : سلام.
3. سینا : چطوری؟ خوبی؟
4. شیرین : من خوبم. تو خوبی؟
5. سینا : من هم خوبم. فردا می بینمت.
6. شیرین : خداحافظ.

VOWELLED

1. سینا : سَلام.
2. شیرین : سَلام.
3. سینا : چَطوری؟ خوبی؟
4. شیرین : مَن خوبم. تُو خوبی؟
5. سینا : مَن هم خوبم. فَردا می ببینمت.
6. شیرین : خُداحافظ.

ROMANIZATION

1. Sina : salaam.
2. Shirin : salaam.
3. Sina : chetori? khoobi?
4. Shirin : man khoobam. to khoobi?
5. Sina : man ham khoobam. fardaa mibinamet.
6. Shirin : khodaahaafez.

ENGLISH

1. Sina : Hello.
2. Shirin : Hello.
3. Sina : How are you? Are you fine?
4. Shirin : I'm fine, how about you?
5. Sina : I'm fine too. See you tomorrow.
6. Shirin : Bye.

VOCABULARY

Persian	Romanization	English	Class
خوب	khoob	good	adjective
من	man	I, me	pronoun
چطوری	chetori	how	adverb
تو	to	you (singular)	pronoun
سلام	salaam	hello	interjection
فردا	fardaa	tomorrow	noun
دیدن	didan	to see, to watch, to look, to visit	verb, noun
خداحافظ	khodaahaafez.	goodbye	interjection

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>احساس خوبی دارم.</p> <p><i>ehsaas-e khoobi daaram.</i></p> <p>I feel good.</p>	<p>او معلم خوبی است.</p> <p><i>oo moa'llem-e khoobi ast.</i></p> <p>He's a good teacher.</p>
<p>من تا حالا چنین چیزی ندیدم.</p> <p><i>man taa haalaa chenin chizi nadidam.</i></p> <p>I have never seen such a thing.</p>	<p>از من عکس نگیر.</p> <p><i>az man aks nagir.</i></p> <p>"Don't take photos of me."</p>
<p>چطوری برم میدون انقلاب؟</p> <p><i>chetori beram meydoon-e enqelaab?</i></p> <p>How do I get to Enqelab square?</p>	<p>بهم یاد بده چطوری از کنترل استفاده کنم.</p> <p><i>behem yaad bede chetori az kontorol estefaade konam.</i></p> <p>Tell me how to use the remote control.</p>

<p>چطوری توانستید از این راه بروید؟</p> <p><i>chetori tavaanestid az in raah beravid?</i></p> <p>How did you go by this way?</p>	<p>چطوری بروم میدان انقلاب؟</p> <p><i>chetori beravam meydaan-e enqelaab?</i></p> <p>How can I go to Enghelab Square?</p>
<p>من تو را می شناسم.</p> <p><i>man to raa mishenaasam.</i></p> <p>I know you.</p>	<p>او هیچ وقت به من سلام نمی کند.</p> <p><i>oo hich vaqt be man salaam nemikonad.</i></p> <p>He never says hello to me.</p>
<p>فردا تعطیل است.</p> <p><i>fardaa ta'til ast.</i></p> <p>Tomorrow is a holiday.</p>	<p>من همیشه این نمایش تلویزیونی را می بینم.</p> <p><i>man hamishe in namaayesh-e televizioni raa mibinam.</i></p> <p>I always watch this TV show.</p>
<p>خانواده من سال آینده از رم دیدن خواهند کرد.</p> <p><i>khaanevaadeye man saal-e aayande az rom didan khaahand kard.</i></p> <p>My family will visit Rome next year.</p>	<p>او نتوانست صفحه را ببیند.</p> <p><i>oo natavaanest safhe raa nabinad.</i></p> <p>She couldn't stop looking at the screen.</p>
<p>معمولاً، هیچ ورزشی را نمی بینم ولی دیروز استثناء قائل شدم.</p> <p><i>mamoolan, hich varzeshi raa nemibinam vali dirooz estesnaa ghaael shodam.</i></p> <p>Usually, I don't watch any sports but I made an exception yesterday.</p>	<p>او به دیدن من آمد.</p> <p><i>oo be didan-e man aamad.</i></p> <p>He came to see me.</p>
<p>تا دفعه ی بعد خدا حافظ.</p> <p><i>taa daf'e-ye ba'd khodaahaafez.</i></p> <p>Bye until next time.</p>	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

سلام

Salam is a salutation meaning "hello" in Persian that can be used at any time of the day, anywhere and by anyone. It's usually the first thing people say to each other when they meet, over the phone, or even in letters and messages.

خدا حافظ

Khodahafez means "goodbye" or "farewell." It consists of two parts: *Khoda*, meaning "God," and *hafez*, which means "protector." This literally means, "May God protect you" when we say "goodbye" to someone.

(دیدن می بینمت)

Mibinamet means "see you" in Persian. It's not used that often, but sometimes people say it when saying goodbye to show that they are going to meet again soon. It is a form of the verb *didan*, meaning "to see," which is the present or future tense; in Persian (*mi*), the subject pronoun "I," or (*am*) in Persian, and the object "you," or (*Et*) in Persian, in itself.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Greetings.

من خوبم. تو خوبی؟

man khoobam. to khoobi?

"I'm fine, how about you?"

In Persian, there are different ways of saying "How are you?" In informal speech, for example, when you are talking to your friends, چطوری؟ (*chetori?*) is used as "How are you?" and حالت چطوره؟ (*haalet chetore?*) means "How are you feeling?" خوبی؟ (*khoobi?*) is also used when you simply want to say "Are you fine?" These are all in singular forms.

Informal and Formal, Singular and Plural

In order to make these questions sound formal, the plural forms are used instead. In the plural forms, the *i* sounds at the end of the words become *id*. چطوری؟ (*chetori?*) will become چطورید؟ (*chetorid?*) and خوبی؟ (*khoobi?*) will be خوبید؟ (*khoobid?*). But the most formal way of all is حالتان چطور است؟ (*haaletaan chetor ast?*), meaning, "How are you feeling?," which is the plural of حالت چطوره؟ (*haalet chetore?*).

For example:

سلام آقا، حالتان چطور است؟

سَلَام آقا، حَالِتان چَطُور است؟

salaam aagha, haaletaan chetor ast?

"Hello sir, how are you feeling?"

من خوبم، شما چطورید؟

مَن خَوبَم، شُما چَطُورید؟

man khooban, shomaa chetorid?

"I'm fine, how about you (plural)?"

Examples from this dialogue:

چطوری؟ خوبی؟

چَطُورِی؟ خَوبِی؟

chetori? khoobi?

"How are you? Are you fine?"

من خوبم. تو خوبی؟

مَن خَوبَم. تُو خَوبِی؟

man khoobam, to khoobe?

"I'm fine, how about you? (are you fine too?)"

Sample Sentences

سلام، حالت خوبه؟
سَلَام، حَالِت خَوِيَه؟
salaam, haalet khoobe?
"Hello, are you feeling good?"

حال شما چطور است؟
حَالِ شُمَا چَطُورِ اسْت؟
haal-e shomaa chetor ast?
"How are you (plural) feeling?"

Language Expansion

In response to the above questions, we usually answer by saying, "I'm fine" (من خويم - *man khoobam*). This is used for both formal and informal situations, and it's often followed by a short thanks: *mamnoon / motshakker / mersi*.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Greetings in Persian

The word *salam* ("Hello") comes from *salamati*, which means "health" in Persian. There is also a well-known saying that goes, *Salam Salamati Miare*, meaning, "*Salam* brings health." Grandmothers often tell this to their grandchildren.

In a popular poem by Hafez that's heard a lot on radio and TV, he wrote, *Salami cho booye khoshe Ashenayi*, which means, "A hello is like the good scent of an acquaintance." It shows how *salam* is the symbol of friendship. In other words, *salam* in Iran is the beginning and the most important part of a conversation since it starts everything!