

Khanna Omarkhali

Kurdish Reader

Modern Literature and Oral Texts in Kurmanji

With Kurdish – English Glossaries
and Grammatical Sketch

2011

Harrassowitz Verlag · Wiesbaden

ISBN 978-3-447-06527-6

Contents

List of Tables	IX
Abbreviations	XI
Acknowledgements	XIII
Preface to the Reader by Amir Hassanpour	1
Introduction	21
The Kurdish Alphabet	35
PART ONE: MODERN LITERATURE IN KURMANJI	
Lesson I	39
Firîda Hecî Cewarî. Heciyê Cindî. Jiyan û Kar – Ehmedê Xanî. Mem û Zîn. Bi kurdiya îro: Jan Dost – Heciyê Cindî – Part I: Tosinê Reşîd – Part II: Eskerê Boyîk – Proverbs	
Lesson II	47
Antoine de Saint-Exupéry. Mîrê Piçûk – Siyabend û Xecê – Şikoyê Hesen. Ez û Baran – Qanatê Kurdo. Gramera Zimanê Kurdî (kurmancî-soranî) – Proverbs	
Lesson III	54
Mehmed Uzun. Siya Evînê. Part I, II – Memê û Eysê – Tiştine kevin lê herdem teze û hêja: Entîgonas – Qanatê Kurdo. Tarîxa edebiyeta Kurdî. (Ahmedê Xanî) – Proverbs	
Lesson IV	62
Erebê Şemo. Şivanê Kurd (translation) – Hafîz. Nepirse – Erebe Şemo. Berbang. Part I, II (original) – Proverbs	
Lesson V	67
Nuredîn Zaza. Bîranîn (Şam-Bêrût) – Maxim Gorky. Kilam derheqa teyrê baz da – Heinrich Heine. Tragêdiya – Wezîrê Eşo. Dîroka Kurdên Sovyeta Kevin – Proverbs	
Lesson VI	74
Mehmed Uzun. Hawara Dîcleyê. Part I, II – Kemal Burkay. Serokzindan û Hozan – Ordîxan û Celîlê Celîl. Zargotina Kurda. Part I, II – Proverbs	
Lesson VII	79
Sehîdê Îbo. Kurdê Rêwî – Cegerxwîn. Agirî Evîndarî – Tiştine kevin lê herdem teze û hêja: Sokrat – Eskerê Boyîk. Emînê Evdal (1906–1964) – Proverbs	
Lesson VIII	86
Eskerê Boyîk. Ewir û Çiya – Mikhail Lermontov. Msîrî. Part I–IV – Kemal Mezher. Şerefname di Kurdnasiya Sovyetê de – Proverbs	

Kurdish – English Glossary	97
PART TWO: ORAL TEXTS IN KURMANJI	
I Text in Kurmanji Written Down from the Kurd from Turkey	133
(Jiyana min li Sêrtê û Batmanê)	
II Texts in Kurmanji Written Down in Armenia and Russia	134
(Jiyana Koçberiyê – Êzdî û File – Dewat – Şîn – Rev. Part I. – Rev. Part II)	
III Texts in Kurmanji Written Down from the Kurd from Syria	142
(Jiyana me li Sûriyê. Part I. Gundê me – Jiyana me li Sûriyê. Part II. Emrê min)	
IV Texts in Kurmanji Written Down in Iraqî Kurdistan	144
The Shingal (Sinjar) region	
(Rê û Rismê Dewatê li Şingalê – Êzdiyên Şingalê. Part I. – Êzdiyên Şingalê. Part II)	
The Til Kêf (Tel Keppe) region	
(Gundê Xetarê û Mîrê Kor – Ruh û Qalibê Adem)	
The Zakho district (Bajêrê me Zaxo)	
Duhok (Bajarê Dihokê).....	
V Texts in Kurmanji Written Down in Azerbaijan	151
The Kalbajar region (Lawkêne min – Qıştaxa me)	
The Lachin region (Tiye me – Jinîde me)	
VI Texts in Kurmanji Written Down in Turkmenia	155
The Ashgabat region (Umrî min – Ez we x ^o e)	
VII Texts in Kurmanji Written Down in Khorasan	157
(Kormanc we mektew – Ezê dax im, daxê te me – Gulgerdîno – Ez ki terem, tu demînî – Xewa min tê, radekevîm)	
Kurdish – English Glossary	159
A GRAMMATICAL SKETCH OF KURMANJI	
1 Phonology	195
1.1 Kurdish Alphabet (Vowels – Consonants)	
1.2 Stresses in Kurmanji (Stresses – Not stressed)	
2 Morphology	198
2.1 Nouns (Definition – Number – Gender – Cases – Izafe)	
2.2 Adjectives (Comparative – Superlative)	
2.3 Pronouns	
(Personal pronouns – Demonstrative Pronouns – The Reflexive Pronoun xwe – Basic interrogatives and indefinite determiners)	
2.4 Numerals (Cardinals – Ordinals)	

2.5 Verbs (Personal endings – Causative – Mood – Tenses – Voice)	209
2.6 Auxiliary verbs (Possession)	220
2.7 Adpositions (Prepositions – Ambipositions)	221
3 Word Formation	223
3.1 Some Useful Derivational Suffixes	223
(-van, -dar, -kar, -mend, -çî , -ik, -stan, -dan/-dang, -tî/-î/-anî , -î/-ayî, -î/-vanî)	
4 Clause Structure	225
4.1 Simple sentences and sentence types	225
(Declarative sentence – Interrogative sentences)	
4.2 Complex sentences	225
Excursus I: Verbs Used in the Part I	227
Excursus II: Some Remarks on the Main Differences of the Local Kurmanji Variants from the Literary Language	239
1 Armenia	239
2 Syria	242
3 Iraqi Kurdistan	242
4 Azerbaijan	245
5 Turkmenia and Khorasan	249
 APPENDIX	
English Translation of Selected Texts	255
Part One: Modern Literature in Kurmanji	255
Lesson I. Text 2. Mem and Zîn. Ehmedê Khanî – Lesson II. Text 1. The Little Prince. Antoine de Saint-Exupéry – Lesson III. Text 3. Antigonus – Lesson IV. Text 2. Don't Ask. Hafiz – Lesson V. Text 1. The song of the falcon. Maksim Gorky – Lesson VI. Text 1. Cry of the Tigris. Mehmed Uzun. Part I. – Lesson VII. Text 3. Socrates – Lesson VIII. Text 1. The cloud and the mountain. Eskerê Boyîk	
Part Two: Oral Texts in Kurmanji	263
From Armenia and Russia: Text 2. Yezidis and Armenians – From Syria: Text 2. Our life in Syria. Part II. My life – From Turkey: Text 1. My life in Siirt and Batman – From Iraq: Text 5. Spirit and the body of Adam – From Azerbaijan, Kalbajar: Text 1. My sons – From Azerbaijan, Lachin: Text 3. Our village – From Turkmenia: Text 1. My life – From Khorasan: Text 1. Kurds and schools	
Sources of Given Kurdish Texts	269
Recommended Literature	273
English – Kurdish Dictionary of Linguistic Terms	275
Grammatical Index	280