

LESSON 16

Likes & Dislikes

Dust dâram — literally *friend-I-have* — is how Farsi loves. Add the volume knobs kheyli and aslan, and opinions become drama.

AFTER THIS LESSON YOU CAN...

- Declare it: Châyi dust dâram! — thing first, then your heart.
- Turn it up and down: kheyli dust dâram · aslan dust nadâram.
- Hold your own on movie night — Iranian cinema has two Oscars.

THE PHRASE MAP

dust dâram

I like · love it
friend-I-have

dust nadâram

I don't like it

kheyli

very much
volume up

aslan + negative

not at all
volume zero

musighi

music

film

film

ghazâ

food

Châyi dust dâram!

I love tea
thing first, then your heart

THING FIRST, THEN YOUR HEART

Farsi points at the thing, then declares: **Châyi** dust dâram. **Film-e irâni** kheyli dust dâram. No “it” needed. **kheyli** turns the volume up. **aslan** turns it to zero — and it always demands a negative verb: **aslan dust nadâram**.

THE SCENE — MOVIE NIGHT

SPEAKER	FARSI	ENGLISH
Leila	Khob — film!	Okay — a movie!
Amir	Film-e âmrikâyi!	An American one!
Leila	Na — film-e irâni!	No — IRANIAN!
Amir	Film-e irâni? Aslan dust nadâram!	Not AT ALL!
Leila	Man film-e irâni kheyli dust dâram!	Well I LOVE it!
Sam	Man... ghazâ dust dâram.	I... like food.
Amir	Ghazâ!	FOOD!
Leila	Khob — film-e irâni o ghazâ-ye irâni!	Fine — film AND food, Iranian!
Amir	Bâshe!	Deal!

NEW SMALL WORDS WORTH KEEPING

khob = okay, well · **o** = and · culture flex: *A Separation* (Oscar 2012) and *The Salesman* (Oscar 2017), both by Asghar Farhadi — that's why nobody backs down.

EXERCISES — PART 1

1 • Declare it

You love tea: _____ · You love music: _____

2 • Volume knobs

REALLY love it: _____ dust dâram · Can't stand it: _____ dust _____

3 • Match

1. musighi 2. ghazâ 3. film
a. film b. music c. food

4 • True or false

a) aslan works with a positive verb. (T/F) b) The thing comes first. (T/F) c) dust dâram literally = friend-I-have. (T/F)

EXERCISES — PART 2

5 • You're Sam (out loud)

The debate rages. Confess your true love: Man... _____.

6 • Full drama

Reject American film, Amir-style: Film-e âmrikâyi? _____!

7 • The hook returns

Iranian food (hook!): ghazâ-_____ irâni • Iranian film: film-_____ irâni

8 • Debate night (out loud)

Pick three topics (musighi, film, ghazâ). For each: declare with kheyli, then flip it with aslan — full drama, out loud.

- 1: Châyi dust dâram! • Musighi dust dâram!
- 2: kheyli • aslan ... nadâram
- 3: 1-b • 2-c • 3-a
- 4: a) F — needs negative • b) T • c) T
- 5: ghazâ dust dâram
- 6: Aslan dust nadâram!
- 7: ghazâ-ye irâni • film-e irâni

NEXT — LESSON 17: SIX STAR VERBS

miram, miyâm, mikhâm, midunam, mibinam, mikhoram — six chunks that run your whole day. The present tense begins.