

GLOSSARY



- Ausländer (Auslander)* – (German term), foreigners
- Bajram* – Eid, Islamic festival at the end of Ramadan, the fasting month for Muslims
- çiftelia* – a ‘traditional’ wooden lute (string instrument)
- curle* (also *zurle* or *surle*) – a kind of clarinet with a double reed
- dallama* – a long velvet jacket with embroidery
- dasma* – the wedding
- def* – tambourine
- dimia* – Turkish-style trousers of nine to twelve meters of fabric
- familja e madhe* – the wider family, also used for relatives/kin
- familja e ngushtë* or *familja e vogël* – the nuclear family
- farefis* – the close patrilocal kin group
- fis* – the wider patrilocal kin group
- fليا* – a very work intensive dish made of various layers of pancake with yogurt and cream in between, made in a pan on an open fire
- gjak* – blood
- gjjakmarrje* – blood feuds
- gurbet* or *kurbet* – labour migration
- gurbetgji* – guest labourers, labour migrants
- hanefi* – Sunni tradition of Islam
- havale* – Islamic headscarf
- hise* – share of the parental property equally divided among brothers

hoxha – imam

hup kohë – you lose time

iftar – meal during Ramadan to be taken after sunset

jashhtë – outside

jelek – a stiff, velvet blazer with embroidery

kallabëllëk – a crowd, too many people (from Turkish)

kanun – customary law – a frame of reference for local justice dating back to Ottoman rule

katunar – villager (sometimes pejoratively used)

këmishë – blouse; in Opoja, it is stiff with handmade embroidered flowers

kënjagjegi – farewell party of the girls of the *mahalla* the day before marriage

kepuçë – shoes

kulla – fortified house in the shape of a tower, often with small windows

kulm – roof

kushëri – cousins of the patriline

lodra or *tupana* – large double-headed drum played with mallets

magjup – local name for Roma in Kosovo

mahalla – neighbourhood; in Opoja, it is the territorial organization of an agnatically based kin group

mahrma or *peshqir* – a white towel that has been (at least ideally) embroidered by the bride as a sign of the betrothal

marre – shameful, shame

martesa me dashni – ‘love’ or ‘romantic’ marriage

martesa me msit – marriage with an intermediary, ‘arranged’ marriage

mas luftës – after the war

me marrë dorën – to take their hands

medrese – Islamic school linked to the mosque and run by the local imam

mik – friend, also used for a relative from the maternal side

miqësi – the relatives of the in-married women, maternal/affinal kinship, also used for groups of friends; friendship)

- motrat* – sisters
- msit* – mediator in an engagement, matchmaker in an arranged marriage
- nuse* – bride
- para luftës* – before the war
- pite* – puff pastry with filling (meat, cheese, potatoes or cabbage)
- qejz* – marriage trousseau
- rrënjët* – roots
- rrethi* – the social circle, the community
- salloni i dasmave* – wedding salon
- shtëpia* or *shpia* – the house
- shtëpia e madhe* or *familja e bashkuar* – the joint family
- syfyr* – meal within Ramadan to be taken before sunrise
- syneti* – the circumcision
- syni i keq* – evil eyes
- temena* – a highly ritualized hand gesture that is the bride's special greeting
- teshat* – clothes
- vajza* – the girl (used for unmarried girls who have reached the age of puberty)
- valle* – traditional circle dance
- vallja e burrave* – elaborate group dance of kin-related men of the *mahalla* that consists of difficult step combinations and rhythms (not necessarily kin related)
- vëllai* – the brother
- vëllezërit* – brothers
- verza* – the celebration of the beginning of spring, 13 March
- xhaxhai* – the paternal uncle
- zoti i shpisë* – the household head