



WHAT IS "SEMT PAZARI"?



In every corner of each city in Türkiye, you can come across vibrant markets on different days of the week in different districts and neighborhoods. Those street markets are called as 'semt pazarı' (the literal translation: 'district bazaar').

Semt pazarları can show some similarities with night markets in Asian countries but unfortunately with fewer food counters. However, you can find gözlemeci and dönerci food booths where you can rest and fill your stomach with some delicacies.

These lively bazaars have sections such as (meyve-sebze bölümü) grocery sections with colorful displays of fresh fruits and vegetables; (züccaciye bölümü) home decor, kitchen & table wares section; and (giyim bölümü) clothes section where you can find diverse style of clothes. As you wander through, you might even discover beautifully crafted handmade goods, from knitted clothes and delicate embroidery pieces to elegant lace. It's a true feast for the senses and a glimpse into the local culture.



Seyyar el arabası



tezgah



(plastik)
poşet



pazar
arabası



(dijital)
terazi

EXAMPLE SENTENCES THAT YOU CAN USE:

- Domatesin kilosı kaç?
How much does a kilo of 'tomato'?
- Çok pahalı. İndirim yapamaz mısınız?
It's very expensive. Can you give me a discount?
- Plastik poşet verir misiniz?
Could you give me a plastic bag?
- Taze mi bunlar?
Are these fresh?

EXAMPLE SENTENCES THAT A 'PAZARCI' (SELLER/STALLHOLDER) USES:

- Ne vereyim?
What do you want (to buy)? (Some stallholders might want to fill the plastic bag for you, and they do not let you choose the groceries, they ask this question.)
- Hepsi çok taze ve olgun.
All of them are fresh and ripe.
- Tadına bakabilirsiniz.
You can taste them. (Some might be friendly and generous. They might let you taste it before you buy the groceries. This way they can ensure what they sell is very fresh and tasty.)

Domates, biber,
patlıcan!





Survival Tips in Pazar

Neighborhood markets have recently become a hit among tourists who visit Türkiye. Many are eager to dive into the vibrant bazaar experience. For Turkish, semt pazarı is more than just a place to shop - they are part of daily life, brimming with the warmth and rich people interactions that define Turkish culture. This tradition has been thriving for centuries. So, if your travel plan includes passing through Türkiye in the future, we've got some handy survival tips to make your visit even more delightful!



BE AWARE OF PAZAR GRANNIES WITH PAZAR ARABASI

Surviving in the market is like a high-stakes acrobatics course. Afternoons are a circus of chaos where shopping grannies turn your toes into roadkill. Some move with such leaden grace that you'll find yourself pondering Olympic-level cart-hurdling just to stay upright. For your safety and sanity, early morning shopping sessions are your best bet—less granny dodging, more aisle surfing!



CHECK YOUR MONEY CHANGE WHILE SHOPPING

Since the bazaars are very crowded throughout the day, the stallholders can sometimes make mistakes while giving change due to fatigue. Although it is not a very common occurrence, it's always a good idea to double-check your change after shopping.

BE AWARE OF INSISTING STALLHOLDERS

They are the most disliked type of stallholders in the bazaars. Some of them can be quite persistent. Whatever you do, do not be swayed by their insistence.



BE AWARE OF PICK-POCKETING

Although it is not a very common occurrence, there can be some pickpockets who take advantage of the crowd. To prevent your belongings from being stolen, carry your bags in front of you, and do not put your phone or wallet in your back pocket. Enjoy the vibrant atmosphere, but remember to keep an eye on your money!"

BARGAINING

In the bazaars, mastering the art of bargaining holds a key importance. By bargaining, you can purchase items for a lower price. With a touch of sweet talk and a few words in Turkish, saying "Türkiye çok güzel bir ülke, çok seviyoruz," you will surely encounter stallholders who will give you a discount :)



Domates Biber Patlıcan

Türkçe Sözler

Keşke hislerimi sana açıkça anlatabilseydim
Sana deli gibi âşık olduğumu söyleyebilseydim
Göz göze geldiğimiz o anda sanki dilim tutuldu bir anda
Konuşamadım karşında

Oysa bütün cesaretimi toplayıp sana gelmiştim
Senin için çarpan şu kalbi gör istemiştim
Tam elini tutmak üzereyken, aşkıma itiraf edecekken
Sokaktan gelen o sesle yıkıldı dünyam

"Domates, biber, patlıcan!"

"Domates, biber, patlıcan!" (Ooh)

Bir anda bütün dünyam karardı (ooh)

Bu sesle sokaklar yankılandı (ooh)

"Domates, biber, patlıcan!" (Ooh)



P.S: Do you remember him? We mentioned Barış Manço in the previous Tenefüs Bonus page at the end of the A1 Course :)

Domates Biber
Patlıcan!!!



Movie: "Baba bizi eversene" / "Dad give us in marriage"

Meral Sezen (left), Barış Manço (right)

Tomato Pepper Eggplant

English Lyrics

I wish I could openly tell you my feelings
I wish I could tell you that I am madly in love with you
The moment that our eyes met, it was like my tongue suddenly got tied
I couldn't speak in front of you

Yet, I had gathered all my courage and come to you
I wanted you to see this heart beating for you
Just as I was about to hold your hand and confess my love
My world shattered with that sound coming from the street

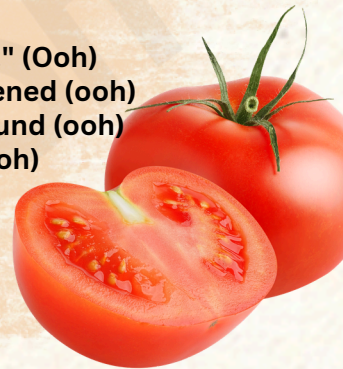
"Tomato, pepper, eggplant!"

"Tomatoes, peppers, eggplants!" (Ooh)

Suddenly my whole world darkened (ooh)

The streets echoed with this sound (ooh)

"Tomato, pepper, eggplant!" (Ooh)



The story of the song

The year is 1968, and Barış Manço is only 25 years old. He met a girl, fell in love, and was going to propose to her. He invited her to his house and made many preparations but couldn't easily muster the courage. They talked about this and that.

Barış Manço had finally gathered his courage and started his sentence with "I...", but what happened? A street vendor passing by shouted, "TOMATOES, PEPPERS, EGGPLANTS!" After hearing this sound, Barış Manço, who had already barely gathered his courage, lost his focus and couldn't speak. The girl said, "I can't be with a man who can't even put two words together."

Twenty years later, Barış Manço released the song "Tomatoes, Peppers, Eggplants." The lyrics of the song, actually, tell this story.

About him: Barış Manço, was a Turkish rock musician, singer, composer, actor, television producer, and show host. Beginning his musical career while attending Galatasaray High School, he was a pioneer of rock music in Turkey and one of the founders of the Anatolian rock genre. His well-known songs of that you can check:

- Lady of the Seventh Sky
- Tell Me Old Men
- Sarı Çizmeli Mehmet Ağa (Mehmet Agha with Yellow Boots)
- Arkadasım Essek (My Friend Donkey)