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## **Yezidier – tabun gällande mat och klädsel**

### **Fråga:**

Har yezidier några särskilda restriktioner vad gäller mat eller klädsel?

### **Svar:**

Landinfo publicerade 2008 en rapport som ger en allmän introduktion till yeziderna<sup>1</sup> och deras tro: *Yezider. En kurdisk minoritet*

[http://www.landinfo.no/asset/715/1/715\\_1.pdf](http://www.landinfo.no/asset/715/1/715_1.pdf)

Nedan är en sammanställning av information från olika källor som beskriver några förbud gällande yezidiernas klädsel och mattraditioner.

### *Ingmar Karlsson (1991)*

I den svarta boken uppräknas en rad andra märkliga förbud: "Det är förbjudet för oss att äta sallad och bönor liksom att använda mörkblå färg. Vi äter inte fisk på grund av vår vördnad för profeten Jonas och ej heller eftersom de var en av våra profeters hjord.

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<sup>1</sup> Andra stavningar som förekommer: yazidier, jezidier, jezider och jesidier

Shejkerna (den viktigaste prästkasten, se nedan) och deras lärjungar får inte äta tuppkött av vördnad för påfågeln som är en av våra gudar och avbildas som en tupp. De får ej heller äta pumpor. [...]" (s.192)

### *Spät (2005)*

"Formerly Yezidis wore distinctive clothing and tattoos, which varied from region to region. Nowadays these clothes are worn only by the erderly, and sometimes by community leaders to signify elevated status." (s.18)

### *Guest (1987)*

The most remarkable of all grades in the Yezidi religion is that of *kochek* ("little one"). Most of these pilgrims who left their homes to settle around Lalish and work for the sanctuary as woodshippers; during festivals they take care of the visitors' needs. But among them are individuals gifted with ecstatic powers who claim to communicate directly with Melek Taus himself. Around the middle of the eighteenth century a kochek declared to the 'Baba Sheikh' that in a vision during the night it was revealed to him that the indigo colour of the shirts then worn by Yezidis was unlucky and displeasing to Melek Taus. Orders at once went out that all blue clothes should be thrown away and henceforth only white clothes should be worn; in many communities this rule is still observed. (s.34 f)

### *Lalish.de - Center for ezidish [sic] culture*

Clothes: The Yezidis, both men and women, wear distinctive clothes, which vary from region to region. In Sinjar the men wear a white woollen turban wound around a red kerchief or a piece of black cloth. Others wear a white head-dress held in place by black bands, like Arabs. Women wear white clothes, winding a white cloth around their head or wearing it loose, as a sort of headscarf.

The men of the Sheikhan area mostly wear white clothes, and special trousers (serwal) with a short

jacket (demir); they wear a red turban (jemedani) on their head. The women wear colourful dresses, with a round turban wound around a black kerchief. The women of the Duhok area are similarly dressed. The men wear trousers and jacket (shal u shapik) like most Muslim Kurds of Badinan. In Turkey, Georgia and Armenia, Yezidi women's clothes are similar to those of Christian women, and in Syria both men's and women's clothes are largely the same as those of Arabs.

*Encyclopaedia Iranica (2004)*

The Yazidis' concern with religious purity, and their reluctance to mix elements perceived to be incompatible, is shown not only in their caste system, but also in various taboos affecting everyday life. Some of these, such as those on exogamy or on insulting or offending men of religion, are widely respected. Others, such as the prohibition of eating lettuce or wearing the color blue, are often ignored when men of religion are not present.

[...]

Auditory resemblance may lie behind the taboo against eating lettuce, whose name *kâs* resembles Kurdish pronunciations of *kâss*. The taboo against eating pork appears to be a custom which follows Islam rather than a specifically Yazidi edict. Prohibitions are also attested, in certain areas at least, against fish, cockerel, gazelle, and various vegetables including okra, cauliflower, and pumpkin.

*Encyclopedia of Religion and Ethics Part 2 (2003)*

"...Among the Yezidis only the lowest classes are said to eat fish..." (s.515)

*Landinfo (2008)*

Det er tillatt for yezider å spise svinekjøtt og drikke alkohol. Bruk av svinekjøtt er imidlertid mer utbredt blant yezider i Georgia og Armenia enn i Irak. (s.8)

*BBC News (2010)*

I was interviewing the Baba Sheik, who, in the ancient religion of the Yazidis, holds a rank equivalent to that of the Pope. While I was swotting up, I had encountered the intriguing suggestion that Yazidis are forbidden to eat lettuce.

"Was it true", I asked, "that some foods were haram, or forbidden?"

No, he patiently explained, ordinary Yazidis can eat what they want, but holy men like him refrain from certain vegetables..."

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## Källor

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