

Oral History Kosovo

INTERVIEW EXTRACT

[The in-depth oral history interview with the narrator was conducted on May 15, 2021 in Pristina. Due to the narrator's request for anonymity, we have concealed the identity.]

Interviewer: When you bought the apartment, did you buy it by working or did you inherit it?

Narrator: A little inheritance, we sold a part of the land we had there and paid with that money, we have been paying off the other part now, it will last for eight years.

Interviewer: How much do you pay?

Narrator: 300 euros per month.

Interviewer: Is it too much for you?

Narrator: It's all right, we are doing well for now, but it's a little too much.

Interviewer: What was this pandemic year like? Did it change your life in any way?

Narrator: Well, yes, especially when neither me nor my husband worked for three months. The government money that came in, didn't come in on time, it was delayed. Now again that we closed down for two weeks, you know, a little, of course. We couldn't pay for like two months, but we didn't pay through the bank, we paid the landlord directly, and he showed understanding. We didn't pay for two months, now we pay it as per usual.

Interviewer: Do you have your parents?

Narrator: Yes, yes, I do.

Interviewer: Are they still...

Narrator: Yes, they live in Emshir, yes. They're alive. I have my brothers, they're married, four married brothers, they live in their own houses. They have their own houses.

Interviewer: There in the same place?

Narrator: In the same place. We had ten acres of land, and they built their houses.

Interviewer: Just for your brothers, or for your sisters too?

Narrator: No, not for my sisters, there's not enough space. For my brothers, all four of them are there.

Interviewer: Did your parents give anything to you, their daughters or not?

Narrator: No, so far no.

Interviewer: Is there a plan to?

Narrator: My father said, "Yes, there is [a plan]." But right now, based on the living conditions at the moment no.

Interviewer: How did you decide to go to Fushë-Kosova and live there?

Narrator: We decided to do so because here it was a little expensive, and of course we had no state jobs or something [to get a loan], we couldn't buy it here in Prishtina. And in the end we decided to buy it in Fushë-Kosova.

Interviewer: What about Fushë-Kosova, what is it like living there?

Narrator: Good, in the beginning, it seemed to me like it was hard there too until I adapted to it, but it's good, it isn't bad.

Interviewer: What bothered you?

Narrator: The air bothered me, the air in the evening from Obiliq, it smelled a little in the evening, that bothered me a lot. Now I have gotten used to it, and I don't go out in the evening, you know, the

windows are closed. Perhaps I got used to that too, you know, but now it doesn't seem bad to me, in the beginning, it seemed a little bad. Maybe also when I changed the environment, you know. Moving from the countryside to Fushë-Kosova is, it is different, of course. There the air is very clean, here the air is more polluted.

Interviewer: What was it like for the children?

Narrator: Well, for the children it was kind of the same as my son is a little older. My son likes it there, to go out in nature, in the village. He always goes there during the weekend, he goes to his grandmother there. My father-in-law died last year, so he goes to his grandmother, to my brother-in-law. He goes there almost every weekend.