



BRINGING US CLOSER UKRAINIAN KOROVAI AND JEWISH CHALLAH

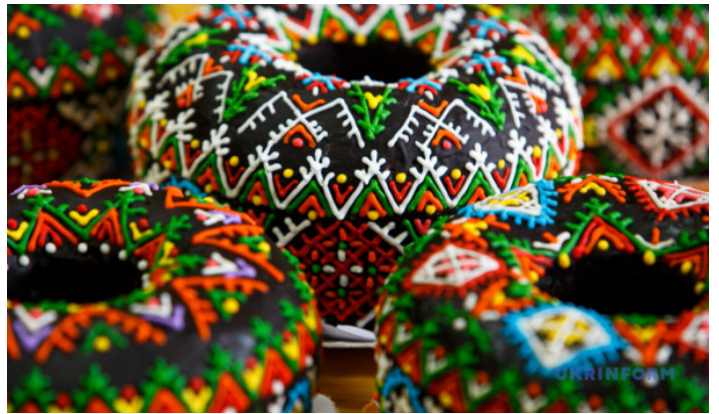


“Greeting guests with korovai* in Ukrainian culture means connecting with holiness, forgiveness, and remembrance. Korovai symbolizes the basis of life – bread is the origin of life, and salt is the essence of being yourself. Greeting someone with bread and salt is a sign of respecting them the way they are, embracing them fully.

The bread remains unchanged during summer or winter, and some kinds of bread, like korovai soaked in honey (medyanik), can even survive many years without going bad. Salt never loses itself, even when in water it doesn't disappear, and just makes the water salty.

Eternal and pure bread and salt are vessels for keeping memories and traditions. Bread is a holy basis, and salt is the core meaning of everything. The person who holds them gets a touch of the divine – with bread and salt in your hands you can only have good intentions in heart.” - from <http://about-ukraine.com/hlib-sil/>

*- a beautiful big usually round loaf of bread decorated with detailed Ukrainian patterns



[Exodus 16:4-6](#)

וַיֹּאמֶר ה' אֶל-מֹשֶׁה הַנְּבִי מִמַּטֵּיר לָכֶם לֶחֶם מִרְהַשָּׁמַיִם וַיֵּצֵא הָעָם וּלְקַטֹּף דְּבַר-יוֹם בְּיוֹמוֹ לִמְעַן אֲנִסְבֶּנּוּ הַיֶּלֶךְ
בְּתוֹרַתִי אִם-לֹא: וְהָיָה בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁשִׁי וְהִכִּינוּ אֶת אֲשֶׁר-יִבְיֵאוּ וְהָיָה מִשְׁנָה עַל אֲשֶׁר-יִלְקְטוּ יוֹם | יוֹם

And the God said to Moses, “I will rain down bread for you from the sky, and the people shall go out and gather each day that day’s portion—that I may test them, to see whether they will follow My instructions or not. But on the sixth day, they shall bring in double the amount they gather each day.”

[Exodus 25:30](#)

וַנִּתֵּן עַל-הַשְּׁלֹחַן לֶחֶם פָּנִים לִפְנֵי תְמִיד: {פ}

And on the table you shall set the bread of display, to be before Me always.

Yiddish Proverb:

Di libeh is zis, mit broit iz zi besser - Love is sweet but it's nicer to have bread with it.

[Pirkei Avot 3:17](#)

אם אין קמח, אין תורה. אם אין תורה, אין קמח

If there is no flour, there is no Torah. If there is no Torah, there is no flour.