

Barese for English

old sayings from Bari (south Italy)
explained and translated in English

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U' pulp se coce jind all'acqua soje

- **Literal translation :**

The octopus cooks in his own water

- **Metaphorical:**

Give time to time

Agguand' a Peppin'

- **Literal translation:**

Catch Joseph

- **Metaphorical:**

Expression used to suggest attention to happening events. Be careful!!

Sì' fatt la fgura tò!

- **Literal translation:**
You made your own figure!
- **Metaphorical:**
A jockey way to express compliment for someone bad action

Capo!

- **Literal translation:**
Chief!
- **Metaphorical:**
Hey, guy!

Ijiss sol!

- **Literal translation:**

Come out, sun!

- **Metaphorical:**

It is not exactly a good beginning

Facimm la fin d' l' scarciuff'

- **Literal translation:**

We make the end of artichokes

- **Metaphorical:**

It is not exactly a good way going

L'acqu jè picch e la papr non galleggj

- **Literal translation:**
The water is shallow and the duck doesn't float
- **Metaphorical:**
The realisation that the lack of factors always produce negative results.

M' fatt trend, facimm

- **Literal translation:**
We made thirty, let's make thirty-one
- **Metaphorical:**
So far, we cannot come back.

Si cadut da jind'o litt

- **Literal translation:**

You fell from your bed

- **Metaphorical:**

You woke up very early this morning

Passat u' sand, passat la fest!

- **Literal translation:**

Passed the saint passed the party!

- **Metaphorical:**

Time is gone and we don't need to celebrate someone

Ammandieneme 'ca t'ammandeng!

- **Literal translation:**
Hold me that I hold you
- **Metaphorical:**
We are both in trouble

Stam sott o' cil!

- **Literal translation:**
We are under the sky!
- **Metaphorical:**
Eventually we all are human and mortal!

E jun!.....dì cudd ca c'co l'ecchie alla

- **Literal translation:**

First is done..... Said the one who injured wife's eye

- **Metaphorical:**

I am on the right track to finish a heavy task!

U' Padretern da u ppane a c' non ten le

- **Literal translation:**
God grants hard food to whom is toothless!
- **Metaphorical:**
Sometimes there is no justice in this world!

La gallin fasc l'ove e o gall g'abbrusc 'u cul

- **Literal translation:**

Chicken delivers eggs and the cock has a pain in his bottom

- **Metaphorical:**

Complain about somebody else's hard working

Ammin la petr' e annascunn la man

- **Literal translation:**

You throw the stone hiding the hand

- **Metaphorical:**

You don't want to be responsible for your
action

Non s'ì scktann n'giel ca m'bacc' te torn

- **Literal translation:**

Don't spit out the sky, cause it will back on your face

- **Metaphorical:**

Think before talking

La cer se strusc e la prgission non camin



- **Literal translation:**

The candles burn out but the procession doesn't walk

- **Metaphorical:**

The time is fading away and nothing is changing