Chicken Tagine-Style Curry

(Instant Pot) Serves 6

- 2 T canola oil
- 1 large red onion, finely chopped
- Kosher salt
- 2 T fresh ginger, peeled and minced (about ¼ C)
- 2 large garlic cloves, chopped
- 1 cinnamon stick
- 2 tsp sweet paprika
- 1 tsp ground turmeric
- ³⁄₄ tsp cumin
- 1/2 tsp hot smoked paprika
- 1/2 tsp ground ginger
- ¹/₄ tsp ground cayenne
- ¹/₈ tsp ground cloves
- Black pepper
- ½ tsp salt
- 1 T tomato paste
- 120 ml chicken stock
- ¼ C (60 ml) fresh lemon juice (from about 1-2 large lemons), plus more to taste
- 1.3 kg boneless, skinless chicken thighs, cut into 2.5 to 5-cm cubes
- 8 dates, such as Medjool, pitted and halved (½ C dried fruit: apricots, etc. are all OK)
- 63 g unsalted nuts
- 1 small bunch flat-leaf parsley, chopped
- 4 scallions, thinly sliced
- Cooked couscous or pita for serving (optional)
- Plain yogurt, for topping (optional)
- 1. Toss the chicken and spices (cinnamon stick, sweet paprika, turmeric, cumin, smoked paprika, ground ginger, cayenne and cloves. Season generously with black pepper) in a large bowl
- 2. Using the **Sauté setting**, warm the **oil** in the pot for **a minute or two**.
- 3. Add the **onion**, season with **salt**, and cook, stirring occasionally, until the onion is softened and translucent, **about 5 minutes**.
- 4. Add the fresh **ginger** and **garlic** and cook, stirring, until fragrant and softened, **less than 1 minute**.
- 5. Add the **tomato paste** and stir until fully combined, fragrant and brick-red in color, **about 1 minute**.
- Add the chicken, scraping any leftover spices into the pot. Cook, stirring occasionally, until chicken loses raw, pink color and brown lightly, about 5 minutes.



7. Turn off sauté function.

- 8. Stir in the dried fruit and nuts.
- 9. Add the **chicken stock** and **lemon juice**, scraping any browned bits that have collected at the bottom of the pan.
- 10. Close the lid and cook on High pressure for 45 minutes (warm setting off).
- 11. Let the pressure **release naturally, about 30 minutes**, then release remaining pressure manually.
- 12. Open the lid, add the **parsley** and **scallions** and gently fold everything together.
- 13. Taste and add **lemon juice** and **salt**, if necessary. Serve with **couscous** or pita and top with **yogurt**, if desired.