

CultureTalk Bangladesh Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>
When are Sweets and Snacks Consumed?

English translation:

Interviewer: When do you sell the most sweets?

Shopkeeper: Business is best after evening.... Night

Interviewer: Which of these types do you sell most?

Shopkeeper: People buy all types, but those with a lower price sell better.

Interviewer: Compared to other shops, how well do your sweets sell?

Shopkeeper: Yeah, good...better than other shops.

Interviewer: Where are these sweets prepared?

Shopkeeper: In our own factory.

Interviewer: Own factory... okay.

Shopkeeper: In Dhaka, in Dhaka [not clear].

Shopkeeper: Now, in Bangladesh, the sweet is a traditional food. Usually, sweets are used most on wedding days, birthdays and other social events....and during weddings...during wedding ceremonies lots of sweets are bought... side by side, beverage... we sell these...okay...and fast food...our.... The next item after the sweets, fast food, sells out most during the morning...fast food... fast food includes *singara*, *samosha*,¹ burger, hot dog, sandwich...okay... all these. Then in the refrigerator we keep yogurt and *rashamalai*²...*rashamalai* is a very delicious food for Bangladesh people... for our These are used for different wedding ceremonies and parties...these types of sweets are used... meaning everyone takes them... takes and does that... how do you usually say it? The word appropriate here is “use,” or what?

Interviewer: Yes.

Shopkeeper: Or do you use a better word... or what? Sweets’... “use” is all right, huh? Then... that’s it...then some take it as a light snack... for the evening... and eat it. Then

¹ *singara*, *samosha* – both are like pies, but *samosha* is usually stuffed with meat and *singara* with potato.

² This is a sweet made by special processing of the curd, and it is soaked (and served) in thick milk, which has a gravy-like consistency.

we have *jelapi*.³ It's another traditional item... food... this... while still hot, hot. We start frying this from 3:00 p.m. and continue doing so till 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. This comes gradually from Bangladesh's rural areas... to cities. And the people living in cities slowly get accustomed to all this, because Dhaka City has been urbanized and most things are concentrated in the city. You can't find all this in the villages any more... instead these rural traditions are finding their way into the city.

About CultureTalk: CultureTalk is produced by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and housed on the LangMedia Website. The project provides students of language and culture with samples of people talking about their lives in the languages they use everyday. The participants in CultureTalk interviews and discussions are of many different ages and walks of life. They are free to express themselves as they wish. The ideas and opinions presented here are those of the participants. Inclusion in CultureTalk does not represent endorsement of these ideas or opinions by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages, Five Colleges, Incorporated, or any of its member institutions: Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

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³ A soft sweet, spiral in shape.