

CultureTalk Nepal Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>
An Art Gallery

There is no audio during the first part of the video.

Nepali transcript:

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: दाई, हजुरको शुभ नाम?

राजु: राजु।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: हजुर, अब तपाईंको यो artको पसल छ होइन?

राजु: हजुर।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: अब कसरी सुरु गर्नु भएको?

राजु: यो सुरु खासगरीकन, मेरो especially काम भनेको मेरो framing हो। Art को framing हो।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: हजुर।

राजु: अनी artको framing र अनी artचाहीं मिल्ने हुँदाखेरी, अनि artistsहरुले पनि, प्राय जस्तो मान्छेले तपाईं एउटा art gallery खोल्नुस भन्यो। त्यही कारणले गर्दाखेरी धेरै मान्छेले नै, अब, सल्लाह दियो मलाई।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: हजुर।

राजु: त्यही अनुसारबाट चाहीं यो खोलेको मैले। यो खोलेको नै करिबमै मैले २०६१ सालमा खोलेको। ७ वर्ष भयो...

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: अनि ७ वर्ष अगाडी र अहिले, होइन, किन्न आउने मान्छेहरुमा के-के फरक छ? बिक्रीमा के-के फरक छ?

राजु: त्यो बेलामा प्राय जस्तो... ऊ बेलामा चाहीं, मतलब नी ३-४ वर्ष अगाडी देखि प्राय जस्तो foreignerहरु आउँथियो. अहिले आएर प्राय जस्तोले, हाम्रै नेपाली community को पनि interest राखिसक्यो अहिले।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: अनि कस्तो कस्तो खालको art हरु बेच्नु हुन्छ यो पसलमा? कस्तो कस्तो चित्रहरु हुन्छ नी?

राजु: अहिलेको ठिकै छ। हाम्रो... अब लोकल मान्छेले चाहीं अब ठीकैको, मतलब नी, अब महँगो पनि होइन। अब mountain भयो, अब जुन अब typically अब नेवारीको typically भयो। त्यो प्राय जस्तो जान्छ।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: अनि अब नेपालमा modern art चाहीं कतिको बिक्री हुन्छ?

राजु: Modern art त नेपालमा त्यती सारो मैले अहिले सम्म बेचेको छैन।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: बेचेको छैन? ए... हस... अनी एउटाको कती जती पर्छ होला?

राजु: यहाँ चाहीं नी मेरोमा राखेको नी, minimum चाहीं नी अब रु १६,००० देखी छ। रु १६,००० देखी लिएर रु २,००,००० जती सम्म छ अहिले।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: अनि त्यसपछी, अब, paint हरु चाहीं कहाँबाट ल्याउनु हुन्छ? कस्तो paint चलाउनु हुन्छ? त्यसको बारे अली केही भानीदिनुस्न।

राजु: अब यहाँ चाहीं नी charcoal भयो, watercolor भयो, alkaline भयो, acrylic भयो... चारवटा color को हुन्छ ।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: ए हुन्छ हस्, धन्यबाद।

राजु: हस् धन्यबाद।

English translation:

Interviewer: *Dai*¹, what is your *shubha*² name?

¹ 'दाइ/*Dai*' directly translates to older brother. In Nepal, people address each other as brother and sister when interacting with strangers to respect the age difference. The female equivalent would be 'दिदी/*Didi*' for older sister. For younger brother and sister, 'भाइ/*Bhai*' and 'बहिनी/*Bahini*' are used, respectively. It is similar to using 'Sir' or 'Ma'am' in Western countries.

² The direct translation of '*shubha*' is 'auspicious' or 'good'; when people formally ask each other's name they say this as a sign of respect. It may also be because name choosing ceremonies in Nepal are usually very auspicious.

Raju: Raju.

Interviewer: So, you have this art gallery, *hoina*³?

Raju: *Hajur*⁴.

Interviewer: So, how did you start it?

Raju: I started this because... Well, my main job was framing artwork. I framed artwork.

Interviewer: *Hajur*.

Raju: And because art framing and art goes hand in hand and also because artists as well as many other people suggested that I open an art gallery... Lots of people gave me their suggestions and encouraged me.

Interviewer: *Hajur*.

Raju: Because of all these reasons, I opened this art gallery. I opened this in 2060 B.S.⁵ It's been seven years...

Interviewer: So, what are the changes that you have witnessed in the customers over seven years? What changes are there in the selling of the art pieces?

Raju: In those days... I mean about three or four years ago, the customers were mostly foreigners. But nowadays, even Nepali community members are starting to get interested in art.

Interviewer: And what kinds of art do you sell in this shop? What kinds of art do you have?

Raju: It's okay. Local people make an okay range of art, I mean not very expensive. Well, they paint/draw mountains, typically Nepali and Newari art. These are the ones that sell most.

³ The direct translation is "no;" when added at the end of a sentence, it is to confirm something, like a nuance. For example in English we add "right?" in order to confirm something.

⁴ '*Hajur*,' in this context, is a formal way of showing that you are listening by saying 'yes'. In other cases, it can be used as a word to show respect to elders while talking to them, or it can also be used to ask an older person to repeat something they said. In all cases, it is used formally.

⁵ BS, or the Bikram Sambat calendar, is the official calendar of Nepal. It is a lunar calendar based on Hindu traditions and is approximately 57 years ahead of the Gregorian calendar. In this case, 2060 BS would be 2004 in the Gregorian calendar.

(Vikram Samvat. (n.d.). In *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. Retrieved March 26, 2012, from http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Vikram_Samvat&oldid=483520994)

Interviewer: And, in Nepal, how well does modern art sell?

Raju: I haven't sold much modern art in Nepal yet.

Interviewer: You haven't sold any? Okay... And how much do one of these art pieces cost?

Raju: Well, here the minimum price is Rs.16,000⁶ and it goes up from there. Right now we have art pieces that range from Rs.16,000 up to Rs. 200,000.

Interviewer: And, where do you get the paints for the art? What kinds of paints do you use?⁷ Can you tell me a little about that?

Raju: Well, here, mostly charcoal, watercolors, oil color, acrylic is used... Basically there are mostly four types.

Interviewer: Oh... Okay... Thank you!

Raju: Okay... Thank you.

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 every day. 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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⁶ Rs or Rupees or NRS is the official currency of Nepal. 1 USD approximately equals 78 NRS. This means that Rs. 16,000 is approximately \$205 and Rs. 200,000 is approximately \$2,564.

⁷ Here, the interviewer is actually asking what kinds of paints artists use, not Raju. It is a common grammatical error, but because it can be understood in the context it is overlooked by Raju.