

CultureTalk Bangladesh Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>
On Drugs and Alcohol

Man 1: So, Shorgo, what did you do today?

Man 2: I did not do much today, brother. I woke up from sleep very late. It's vacation now, so I am relaxing for the most part.

Man 1: Oh, I see.

Man 2: I woke up, went out, ate -- that's it.

Man 1: Oh, okay. What did you have?

Man 2: I did not have much food.

Man 1: Oh. What is there to do for fun in Bangladesh for students and people like us?

Girl 1: What are you saying? There is so much to do -- for example chilling in tea houses or chilling anywhere else.

Man 2: We could hang out in Ramna Park.

Man 1: Yes, Ramna Park.

Girl 1: We could hang out at parks.

Man 1: The zoo.....

Man 2: These days, cafes have sprung up on every block....

Girl 1: Yes.

Man 2: ... For example, Roll Express -- very nice.

Girl 1: Decagon Café....

Man 1: You can have *sheesha*.¹ Besides these, it is seen that many youths are leaning towards *madok*.² Here a new type of drug has been introduced.

¹ Hookah.

² Drugs.

Girl 1: What is *madok*?

Man 2: What does *madok* mean?

Man 1: *Yaba*.³ *Yaba* is here now.

Man 2: Drug?

Man 1: *Yaba* is a stimulant. Many people are abusing it, and because of this drug, the new generation is....

Girl 1: Affected....

Man 1: Yes, the new generation will remain at the bottom and will not be able to rise to the top. That is ... we should take some immediate steps.

Man 2: You are right.

Girl 1: You...So what steps are you going to take to tackle the *yaba* problem?

Man 1: In order to tackle this, it is important for students to create another diversion; for example, you could create the nightlife in Bangladesh, then....

Girl 1: So, are you saying that it is important to legalize alcohol?

Man 1: Yes, that is a good idea. For example, look at Amsterdam -- in these places....

Girl 1: Amsterdam, what are you saying? Look at Malaysia. That is a Muslim country. Turkey.

Man 1: But there are other things to do....

Girl 1: You have gone all the way to Amsterdam.

Man 1: You could hold campaigns; for example, drug awareness campaigns must be initiated, this and that. Then there is R.A.B (Rapid Action Battalion). RAB must take immediate steps. They must come forward and catch and arrest these dealers and those who are doing drugs.

Man 2: Yes, there is so much....

Girl 1: Rapid Action Battalion is regularly taking steps....

³ *Yaba* is a combination of methamphetamine (a powerful and addictive stimulant) and caffeine. *Yaba*, which means crazy medicine in Thai, is produced in Southeast and East Asia.

Man 2: They are trying many things, but there are no results.

Girl 1: There are results. Levels have gone down considerably.

Man 2: No.

Man 1: I don't think the levels have gone down.

Man 2: I think you are right.

Girl 1: It had gone down in the middle.

Man 1: It had gone down in the middle when the *yaba* godfather had been caught.

Man 2: Inshallah, in one day....

Girl 1: Yes someone got caught.

Man 1: The level went down when Amin Huda and others got caught, but right now we are back to the pavilion, I believe. So I think that training programs should be set up.

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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