

**English translation:**

- Dislikes?

- Hmmm?

- Is there something you dislike about Bangladesh? Or do you like everything?

- No, there is a lot that [I] dislike, a lot of things. Many of us are corrupt. Many people are not honest. Many of us do not tell the truth. Several of us cheat other people. Like that... that there are many different kinds of, you know, [flaws] among us. There is dishonesty. If we could remove these things, [we would have] really... I mean so many natural resources. Anything that is sown grows. There are many countries in the world, such as Japan, [where this] does not happen. A lot is done to the soil, and then those things (fertilizers) are mixed with the soil. Then the thing grows. But in our country... try planting a tree. It will grow on its own. As a result... if we could, you know, [make good use of the resources] in this country, by planning properly, by arranging things in place, we could take this country much further ahead. If we could put our plans in proper order .... But we have failed again and again on that count.

There is only one problem here. We are... for example, I think about myself. I do not want to think so much about the troubles of another person. This is where there is a huge difference from places abroad... this is where there is a difference with other countries. For instance, I... what will cause me to benefit [repeats]? Whereas there are my neighbors, and others – I don't think of those people. Somebody is in difficulties, is unhappy ... it is necessary to help them. Now... you know there are floods all over the country just now. Thousands, hundreds of thousands of people are in difficulties. I am not alone in saying this. You will find that these things are being broadcast by the media everyday ... [it] is in the papers. People all over the world are watching all these things. If we could properly manage things, then, look, we would have fewer floods and natural disasters.

These things happen in America, also. They happen all over the world. People would not, you know, they would not suffer so much, if we could properly organize things. If we... we didn't think about ourselves alone, and thought about the country instead... I mean patriotism... if we had more of that in us, you would not have been able to [ask] today: "Why should I come to Bangladesh?" You would not have been able to say this. Today ... about Japan. We always refer to Japan, Malaysia... why do we always refer to them? They are fine people; they can make sacrifices for their countries. We have done it too. But we haven't learned how to build our nation in the way they. That is why there is so much difference between us and them. Where is Japan today? Where is Malaysia today? At one time, they, too, were very poor. They were very poor. But today they have gone on far ahead. We are way behind. This is our... we have many resources, we have many

people... much manpower, but when it comes to the real thing, government, we have not had good government. This has been our misfortune. So, that is what I have to say. Do you have anything else...questions?

- That is all, I think. Do you want to say anything more?

- If you have anything to ask, I mean ....

- That's it, I think. [Unclear.] So, thank you very much.

- Thank you very much.

**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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