

Hindi transcript:

मैं जब कलकत्ते में था, तो जल्द... ट्रेन जर्नी में हम जाते थे, जो एक आदमने अगर अखबार खरीदा, तो उसमें वह अखबार आसपास के चार-पाँच आदम share करके पढ़ते थे। यानकि एक आदमने कहा कि चलो, मेरे को स्पोर्ट्स पेज दे दो, अगर तुम फ्रण पेज पढ़ रहे हो तो। तो, यह... कोई गलत नहीं समझा जाता था। लेकिन जब मैं यहाँ आया, और किसने अगर किस अँग्रेज से पूछा कि Can I read a bit of your newspaper? Have you finished? ...और वह... उस समय उस ने अखबार पढ़ लिया था, लेकिन उसका जवाब था कि Get your own! तो यहाँ के लोग कई मामलों में बड़े selfish हैं, और उन में this is mine – यह मेरा हूँ- and, this is my personal thing, which I will not share with other people – यह चञ्ज बड़ी odd महसूस होतथमुझे पहले। लेकिन अब जल्द में कलकत्ता जाता हूँ और मैं क...कोई नॉवेल पढ़ रहा हूँ, या किताब पढ़ रहा हूँ, और मैं बाहर जा के पार्क में बैठ के पढ़ रहा हूँ किसबेन्च पे – तो, दो-ताम्र दिन इस तरह करने के बाद अ... आसपास के लोग चर्चा करने लग जाते हैं कि यह आदमघर छोड़ के पार्क जा के क्यों किताब पढ़ता हूँ घर में उसकी कोई तकलफ़ हफ़्त्या, या घर में उसके किससे झगड़ा हफ़्त्या? ... इस चञ्ज को मैं बड़ा फील करता हूँ कि unnecessary inquisitio... inquisitiveness अपने neighbors की, या अपने दोस्तों की एक तरह से मेरी प्राइविसको invade करतहया मेरी स्पेस को invade करतह

English translation:

When I was in Calcutta, for instance ... when we traveled by train, if a man bought a newspaper, four or five of the people around him would share it with him. Like, some fellow might say, why don't you let me read the Sports page if you are reading the front page? So, this ... wasn't considered [impolite]. But when I came here, [I found that] when someone asked an Englishman, "Can I read a bit of your newspaper? Have you finished?" ... and ... he – even though he had finished reading his newspaper – said, "Get your own"! So people here are pretty selfish in some matters, and [the refrain] "this is mine," – (repeats in Hindi) – and, "this is my personal thing, which I will not share with anybody" seemed awfully strange to me at first. But now when I go to Calcutta and [suppose that] I am reading a novel ... or a book outside my home, on a park bench: after three or four days of doing this, people a ...around me begin to discuss [my behavior] – why does this man leave his house to come and read at a park? Does he face some difficulty at home, or has he quarreled with someone at home?! ... I am very sensitive to the fact that the unnecessary inquisition ... inquisitiveness of my neighbors and friends invades my privacy in a way; it invades my space.

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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