

Hindi transcript:

तो काफी सामान खरीदा जाता है और सारी धूम-धाम की तैयारियाँ होती हैं। घर में भी रिश्तदार आन-शुरु हो जाते हैं और शादी सतकरीबन एक हफ्त-पहल लड़की को मङ्घ्दी... हल्दी पबिठाय़ा जाता है, उसको उपटन लगाना शुरु होता है। और एक हफ्त लड़की को हर शाम उपटन लगाया जाता है। जिसमें कि न सिर्फ़ लड़की को... उपटन लगता है बल्कि घर की औरतें भी आपस में एक दूसरा को उपटन लगाती हैं। और उपटन लगाना का basic purpose होता है कि लड़की एक तरह सscrub हो जाए... एक तरह सउसको pure किया जाता है, उसको सुधर करनका एक तरीका है, सुधर बनानका एक तरीका है।

So इस तरह लड़का का यहाँ भी मङ्घ्दी की रस्म होती है और लड़की का यहाँ भी मङ्घ्दी की रस्म होती है जिसमें की लड़की को यहाँ तक... दोनों हाथों पमङ्घ्दी लगाते हैं और पैर पभी मङ्घ्दी लगाते हैं। तकरीबन यह रस्म दो दिन पहल होती है। कभी-कभी एक दिन पहल भी होती है। और पिर शादी का दिन आता है और उस दिन हर कोई तैयार होता है और लड़की ज़्यादातर beauty parlor में तैयार उसको किया जाता है... उसको... या पिर parlor सही कोई आता है और उसको खूब ज़बर, लङ्गा पहनाया जाता है। ज़्यादातर लङ्गा लाल होता है, लङ्गा पहनाते हैं लड़की को और खूब सारा ज़बर पहनाते हैं। और लड़का ज़्यादातर शङ्गवानी पहनता है या पिर अचकन – इस तरह की कोई traditional dress पहनते हैं।

और पिर शादियाँ marriage palace में होती हैं, सब लोग marriage palace... बारात marriage palace में ही आती है और वहाँ पसारी शादी की रस्में होती हैं – depending upon किस religion को belong करते हैं लड़का और लड़की। अगर हिन्दू शादी होगी तो पिर होत हैं। और अगर मुस्लिम शादी होगी तो निकाह होगा और या अगर सीख शादी होगी तो पिर लावान किया जाता है।

और इस तरह guests आते हैं, वहाँ पअलग-अलग तरह का ाना होता है, बहुत तरह का snacks होते हैं और हर कोई वहाँ पenjoy करनकी कोशिश करता है। और Indian शादी में... Indian और पज़ाबी शादी में specifically बहुत ज़्यादा मज़ा आता है क्योंकि हर कोई

सुघर लग... सुघर दिता है और हर कोई अच्छा mood होता है और हर कोई... it's a kind of gathering जहाँ पहर कोई हर किसी सम्मिलता है। और... इस तरह ससारी रस्में पूरी होनाका बाद लड़की को विदा किया जाता है जिसमें की लड़की रोती है क्योंकि वह अपना परिवार छोड़का जा रही होती हैं, पर आठिर में it's a happy ending and it ends well, most of the times.

English translation:

So quite a lot of stuff is bought, and preparations are made for the festivities. Relatives also start coming to the house, and about a week before the wedding the girl is brought *mehndi* ... er, turmeric, people begin to apply turmeric paste to her. And for a week the girl is rubbed down with turmeric every evening. [In this ceremony,] it is not just that turmeric is applied to ... the girl, the women of the household also rub each other down with turmeric. And the basic purpose of applying turmeric is that the girl is, in a way, scrubbed [clean] ... in a way she is purified, it is a method of making her beautiful, a way of making her beautiful.¹

So in this way, there is a *mehndi* ceremony at the boy's place too and a *mehndi*² ceremony at the girl's place, in which the [girl's limbs are decorated with *mehndi* designs] until here ... [they] apply *mehndi* on both hands and apply *mehndi* on the feet as well. This ceremony takes place about two days before [the wedding]. Sometimes, it takes place one day previously. And then the day of the wedding arrives and [on] that day everyone gets ready and the girl is usually gotten ready at a beauty parlor³ ... or else someone come from the parlor [for the job], and [the bride] is made to wear a lot of jewelry; she made to wear a *lehnga*.⁴ The girl is given a lot of jewelry to wear. And the boy mostly wears a *sherwani*⁵ or otherwise an *achkan*⁶ – [they] wear some sort of traditional clothes like these.

And then weddings take place in marriage palaces. Everyone [goes to] the marriage palace ... the groom's procession come to the marriage palace, and there all the rituals of the wedding take place – depending upon what religion the boy and the girl belong to. If it is a Hindu wedding then the *phere*⁷ take place. If it is a Muslim wedding then the *nikah*⁸ happens or if it is a Sikh wedding then the *lavaan*⁹ is done.

¹ What the speaker does not mention is that this is more of a girls' party than anything. Often songs are sung, and the women make lighthearted humor.

² *Mehndi* is henna, used as a vegetable dye as well as a beauty mask for hair.

³ A salon.

⁴ A long, richly embroidered skirt.

⁵ A *sherwani* is a long coat-like garment worn in South Asia made with heavier suiting fabric than the *achkan*.

⁶ The *achkan* is a long jacket worn in South Asia, especially in North India, and is often associated with Muslim or Sikh upper classes.

⁷ A *phere* [plural: *phere*] means a ritual circling of fire that takes place in Hindu weddings.

⁸ A *nikah* is the marriage contract between the bride and groom in Islamic weddings.

And in this way the guests arrive. There are different kinds of food, many kinds of snacks and everyone tries to enjoy themselves. And at an Indian wedding ... Indian and Punjabi weddings specifically, one has a lot of fun because everyone in the house feels beautiful ... looks beautiful and everyone is in a good mood and everyone ... it's a kind of gathering where everyone meets everyone else. And ... in this way after all the rituals are completed, the bride is sent away, during which girl cries because they are leaving their family [behind], but at last, it's a happy ending and it ends well, most of the time.

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⁹ *Lavaan* are the rites of a Sikh marriage ceremony, written by the fourth Sikh spiritual leader, Guru Ram Das.