

### Persian transcript:

**محسن:** نُه ماهت بود که جنگ شروع شد و از آبادان اومدید [آمدید] بیرون، خب گفتید کجا رفتید؟

**آزیتا:** خیلی اون قصه ی بدبختی و جنگ زدگی اش طولانیه [طولانی است]. یه مُدت رفتیم چَند ماه اهواز، بعد رفتیم تهران. اون وقت اونجا برای جنگ زده های یه خونه های [خانه های]. مخصوصی اختصاص داده بودند، یه هُتل هایی رو، که جنگ زده ها می تونستند [می توانستند] برند [بروند] اونجا یه اتاق هر خانواده [خانواده] زندگی می کرد مُنتها ما چون سوسول<sup>1</sup> بودیم بابام گفت نه من هر جوری هست یه آپارتمان کرایه می کنم اون وقت یه مُدت اونجا بودیم مُنتها اَمّا اصلاً وسیله ی خونه نداشتیم همه ی زندگی مون را گذاشته بودیم اومده بودیم نه تنها ما خیلی های دیگه بودند که یه هُویی<sup>2</sup> همه ی زندگی شون [زندگی شان]<sup>3</sup> رو از دست داده بودند.

**محسن:** یعنی پدرتون [پدرتان] در شرکت نفت کار می کرد بعد که رفتید اهواز و تهران و این ها دیگه کاری هم نداشت.

**آزیتا:** نه پدرم همچنان کار می کرد آبادان. ما، من و مامانم دو تا برادر ام، تهران زندگی می کردیم. اون می رفت آبادان کار می کرد، تا وقتی که دیگه خیلی جدی شد و پالایشگاه رو زدن و دیگه اصلاً پالایشگاه از کار افتاد. دیگه کارش را از آبادان منتقل کردند به اهواز دیگه اونجا کار می کرد.

**محسن:** پس یعنی شما در تهران زندگی می کردید، پدرتون پدرتون در اهواز و آبادان.

**آزیتا:** آبادان آبادان و اهواز کار می کرد. منتها ما یه سه سالی موندیم [ماندیم] اونجا؛ دیدیم که خیلی زندگی سختیه [سختی است] و این جوری نمی شه [نمی شود] زندگی کرد؛ جنگ هم یه کم از اون تَب و تاب اولیه اش افتاده بود دیگه [دیگر] خرمشهر را که محاصره کرده بودند آزاد شده بود؛ برگشتیم دوباره اهواز، ولی هنوز جنگ بود و بمبارون بود و مدرسه ها تعطیل بود و ...

### English translation:

**Mohsen:** You were nine months old when the war began and you left Abadan. Well, where did you go?

**Azita:** The story of misery and being affected by the war is very long. For a while, some months, we went to Ahvaz, and then we went to Tehran. At that time, there they had arranged some specific houses, some hotels, where displaced people could [stay], and each family was living in one room. But because we were spoiled, my father refused and said, "No matter what, I will rent an apartment." For a while, we were there but we did not have any furniture; we had left all [our] possessions and come [to Tehran]. Not only us; there were many others who had suddenly lost their livelihood.

**Mohsen:** Meaning your father was working in the [National Iranian] Oil Company [and] later when you went to Ahvaz and Tehran and [like] that he did not have job anymore.

<sup>1</sup> سوسول : a person who is described as سوسول is one who cannot stand a hard situation, is fashionable and lives a spoiled and luxurious life.

<sup>2</sup> هویی : suddenly

<sup>3</sup> Here زندگی is used here metaphorically. It means possessions which are necessary for a life. Therefore, when it is said that 'they had lost their life' it does not mean that they are dead, but they have left all their possessions.

**Azita:** No, my father was working in Abadan. We—my mom, my two brothers and I—were living in Tehran. He used to go to Abadan to work until it became really serious and the refinery [of Abadan] was out of work. They transferred his work from Abadan to Ahvaz. He was working there.

**Mohsen:** You mean were living in Tehran while your father, your father was in Ahvaz and Abadan.

**Azita:** He was working in Abadan and Ahvaz. But for three years we stayed there; we saw that life was really hard and it was not possible to live like that anymore; the war was not as frightening as it was at the beginning. Khorramshar<sup>4</sup>, which had been occupied, had been freed. We returned to Ahvaz again, but still there was the war and the bombing and schools were closed and ....

**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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<sup>4</sup> Khorramshar: a city in the South of Iran, located in Abadan province. It was besieged by Iraqi forces for a while, but soon was freed by Iranian forces.