

Malay Transcript:

Kuhanesh: Sekarang ni¹, saya tinggal di Petaling Jaya², bandar yang besar. Tapi³ dulu⁴, saya kecil lagi, saya tinggal kat⁵ kampung, tau⁶, dekat Miri, Sarawak⁷. Itu Malaysia Timur. Itulah, saya ingat masa itu dulu, masih kecil-kecil, masa budak lagi – berkejaran dengan ayam, dengan anjing semua... Kelakar tau, nampak je⁸ ayam semua orang jerit, lepas⁹ tu¹⁰ kejar satu hari. Mengejar satu hari tau! Lepas tu matahari semua subuh¹¹, semua dah¹² jatuh, terluka semua, kenal marah dari ibu bapa.

Tapi apa nak¹³ buat? Itu dulu kan, masa kecil kat kampung, tak¹⁴ ada komputer, tak ada Internet, tak ada televisyen semua. Inilah cara nak bersenam. Itulah, apa lagi nak buat?

Masa dulu kan, sebab masa kecil kan, dahaga main-main semua, dan dekat rumah saya ada pokok kelapa. Lepas tu panjatlah pokok kelapa itu, cubalah satu langkah demi satu langkah... Lepas tu nak sampai je... Tak lah jatuh; nanti tak boleh cakap sekarang, kan? Ambillah¹⁵ kelapa tu, lepas tu minum; suruh ibu bapa ambil pisau ke, lepas tu potong kelapa tu, minum terus dan isi semua makan sampai habis. Rindulah saya masa kampung tu.

English Translation:

Kuhanesh: Now I live in Petaling Jaya¹⁶, a big city. But in the past, when I was young, I lived in a village, you know, near Miri, Sarawak¹⁷. That is [in] East Malaysia. I

¹ *ni* – abbreviation for the word *ini*; Malay abbreviations are commonly used in everyday or informal speech, and also in text messages or online chats, but are considered incorrect or improper when used in official contexts, such as newspaper articles, when making public speeches or at school

² Petaling Jaya is a large city in Malaysia in the state of Selangor

³ *tapi* – abbreviation for the word *tetapi*

⁴ *dulu* – abbreviation for the word *dahulu*

⁵ *kat* – abbreviation for the word *dekat*

⁶ *tau* – abbreviation for the word *tahu*

⁷ Miri is a city in the state of Sarawak in East Malaysia, and it is the country's biggest state

⁸ *je* – abbreviation for the word *sahaja*

⁹ *lepas* – abbreviation for the word *selepas* in this dialogue, but *lepas* also means let go, to go free or escape as a formal, unabbreviated word

¹⁰ *tu* – abbreviation for the word *itu*

¹¹ The speaker mistakenly said *subuh*, which means 'dawn' in Malay but he actually meant dusk, which is *senja* in Malay

¹² *dah* – abbreviation for the word *sudah*

¹³ *nak* – abbreviation for the word *hendak*

¹⁴ *tak* – abbreviation for the word *tidak*

¹⁵ *-lah* – *-lah* is a Malaysian suffix tacked on to the end of a word for verbal emphasis, but it doesn't actually mean anything

¹⁶ Petaling Jaya is a large city in Malaysia in the state of Selangor

¹⁷ Miri is a city in the state of Sarawak in East Malaysia, and it is the country's biggest state

remember the past, then, when I was young, [during] my childhood – chasing the chickens, the dogs... [It was] funny you know, everyone would scream just because [they] saw a chicken, after that [we would] chase them the whole day. Chasing them for a whole day! Then when it was dusk, all of us would have fallen down, gotten hurt, and gotten a scolding from our parents.

But what (else) could we do? That was back then, our childhood in the village, with no computers, no Internet, no television. It was the way to exercise. What else was there to do?

Back then, when [we were] young, when we got thirsty from playing, there was a coconut tree near my house. After that we would climb the coconut tree, trying one step at a time... Just when we were about to reach [the top]... No, we didn't fall; I wouldn't have been able to tell [this story] then, right? We took the coconut, and then we drank [its juice]; we asked our parents for a knife, then we cut the coconut [and] drank [the juice] straight [from the fruit] and ate all of the [coconut's] flesh. I miss the days back in the village.

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