

Bus from Patan to Kathmandu

Nepali transcript:

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: हजुरको बेलामा, होइन, अब काठमाडौँबाट पाटन, पाटनबाट काठमाडौँ जाँदा गाडी थियो कि हिडेर जानुहुन्थ्यो?

रजनी: हिँडेर त जाँदैन। बस थियो। त्यो बेला, बसबाट गइन्थ्यो।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: हजुर।

रजनी: अनि बसबाट फर्किन्थ्यो। बसको त्यति असुविधा थिएन। त्यति अहिले जस्तो मान्छेहरुको हुल थिएन।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: हजुर।

रजनी: बसबाट सजिलै जान-आउन सकिन्थ्यो।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: हजुर। अनि, अब, एकचोटी जानलाई कति पथर्यो होला?

रजनी: त्यो बेला ... ५० पैसा ... काठमाडौँबाट... मेरो जमानामा काठमाडौँबाट पाटन आउनलाई ५० पैसाको टिकट काटिन्थ्यो।

English translation:

Interviewer: In *hajur*¹'s time, *hoina*², when you went from Kathmandu to Patan and from Patan to Kathmandu, did you go in a car or did you walk?

Rajani: We didn't walk. There were buses. In that time, we used the bus to go.

Interviewer: *Hajur*³.

¹ Here, '*hajur*', is a term that essentially means 'you' but in a formal way. Nepali language has degrees of respect in it and the term '*hajur*' decrees the highest degree of respect. It is used to address the woman, as the interviewer is younger than the interviewee.

² The literal meaning of '*hoina*' is 'no'. However, here it is used only as a filler word. It may also be used as a question after a statement, asking for confirmation of something, or just to make sure that the other person is following what you are saying.

Rajani: We used the bus to return too. The buses weren't that uncomfortable then. There weren't crowds of people like there are now.

Interviewer: *Hajur*.

Rajani: We could leave and return easily on the bus.

Interviewer: *Hajur*. And, now, how much did it cost to make one trip?

Rajani: In those days... 50 paisa⁴... from Kathmandu... In my time, a ticket of 50 paisa would be cut to return to Patan from Kathmandu.

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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³ '*Hajur*', in this context, is used to acknowledge what the interviewee is saying in a respectful way and also shows that the interviewer is listening and following whatever she is saying.

⁴ *Paisa* is the equivalent of cents in Nepal. That is, a 100 paisa is equal to Rs. 1, like 100 cents equals \$1. However, the monetary value of it is very low. 50 paisa or Rs. 0.5 would be approximately 0.01 USD.