

Nepali transcript:

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: हजुरको शुभ नाम?

सुदन: सुदन।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: अनी, हजुर के काम गर्नु हुन्छ?

सुदन: अहिले, म यो नेपालमा अहिले loadshedding भइराखेको¹ छ एकदम...

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: हजुर।

सुदन: त्यसकै विषयम अहिले solarको, inverterको, अनि यो generatorको battery सम्बन्धी पसल।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: ए, हजुर। कति वर्ष भयो पसल खोलेको?

सुदन: पसल राखेको² अहिले, एक वर्ष।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: एक वर्ष? हजुर, अनि त्यो पसल चाहिँ कसरी सुरु गर्नु भएको?

सुदन: पसल चाहिँ मैले यो पहिला पसल गर्नु भन्दा पहिला, मेरो electronicमा धेरै रुची थियो मेरो। अनी त्यहि सम्बन्धी म काम गर्दै गर्दै, पहिला training गरें, २ वर्ष। Training गरिसकेपछि अनि म बिस्तारी यो electronicमा छिरें। अनी त्यसपछि यो अहिले उस्मै यो loadsheddingहरु पनि बढ्दै गयो। अनी त्यहि भएर मैले यो कामलाई चाहिँ मैले अपनाएको।

¹ The speaker does not say the full word 'भइराखेको / bhai-rakh-eko', but rather only pronounces half of it as 'bhai-rakh-ya'. It's like shortening 'want to' to 'wanna' in English. The prefix '-ेको/eko' is often shortened to '-या/ya' in colloquial Nepali. In formal Nepali writing, this would be considered an error.

² The speaker does not say the full word 'राखेको / rakh-eko', but rather only pronounces half of it as 'rakh-ya'. See footnote 1.

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: ए, हजुर। अनी पहिला पढाई पनि यहि electronic विषयमै गर्नु भएको?

सुदन: अँ। पहिला पढाई पनि electronicमै गरेको थिएँ मैले।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: अनि यतै काठमाडौँ मै...?

सुदन: अँ। काठमाडौँ।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: ए। हजुर।

English translation:

Interviewer: *Hajur*³'s *shubha*⁴ name?

Sudan: Sudan.

Interviewer: And, what work do you do?

Sudan: Presently, I... in Nepal, right now, there's a lot of loadshedding...

Interviewer: *Hajur*⁵.

Sudan: And according to that [loadshedding] I have a shop that deals in solar inverters and generator batteries.

Interviewer: *Ae*⁶, *hajur*. And how many years has it been since you opened shop?

³ Here, '*hajur*', 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. In other contexts, this word can also be used to ask a person to repeat what they are saying in a formal way or to imply that you are listening to what a speaker is saying especially if you're talking to a person older than you.

⁴ The direct translation of '*shubha*' is 'auspicious' or 'good'; when people formally ask each other's name they say this as a sign of respect. It may also be related to the fact that name choosing ceremonies in Nepal are very auspicious occasions in Nepal.

⁵ '*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 he is saying. It may also be used as a response to someone's question, to acknowledge that a speaker is right and to ask a speaker to repeat something they just said in a formal way.

⁶ '*Ae*' is like an interjection. It can be used in ways similar to that of the word 'Oh' in English. In this context, '*Ae*' is used to acknowledge and express understanding of the interviewee's statement. It can also be used to directly address someone, especially if you're trying to get their attention from afar, or it can also be used to express surprise.

Sudan: It's been about a year, since I opened the shop.

Interviewer: One year? *Hajur*. And how did you start the shop?

Sudan: Well, the shop... Before I opened the shop I was very interested in electronics. And I just worked in that field and trained for two years. After training I slowly worked myself into the field. And then afterwards loadshedding [therefore the scope for the field] also increased. And that's why I started this work.

Interviewer: *Ae. Hajur*. And did you study electronics as well before?

Sudan: *An*⁷. I completed my studies in electronics.

Interviewer: And in Kathmandu...

Sudan: *An*. Kathmandu.

Interviewer: *Ae. Hajur*.

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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⁷ '*An/अँ*' is a colloquial word that is pronounced with a nasal tone. It is just used to agree to something, almost like saying 'yes'.