

How to Wear a Sari

Nepali transcript:

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: नमस्ते, आज हामी सावित्री दिदी सँग छौं। आज वहाँले हामीलाई सारी कसरी लगाउँछ सिकाउनु हुन्छ। अब भन्नुस सावित्री दिदी।

सावित्री पाठक: अब हेरनुस अब। अब यो यसरी राख्ने। यसरी त्यसपछि¹ फेरी यो यसरी... त्यसपछि फेरी यसलाई यस्तो गर्ने। त्यसपछि यो यता लैजाने...माथि लैजाने... त्यसपछि फेरी यो... यसलाई यस्तो...यसरी पट्याउँदै लैजाने... त्यसपछि यसरी यसरी पट्याउँदै पुरा गर्नपर्छ, फल पुरा गरेर यसरी पट्याएर...त्यसपछि यसलाई यो यसरी राख्ने त्यसपछि यो फेरी यसरी मिलाएर... त्यसपछि फेरी यो यसरी मिलाएर... त्यसपछि फेरी यो भित्र यसरी राख्ने। हो यसरी पट्याउने। त्यसपछि यसतो मिलाएर फेरी यो यसरी मिलाउने।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: अनी तपाइले सारी धेरै लगाउनु हुन्छ?

सावित्री पाठक: धेरै लगाउँछु, म त, daily।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: हरेक दिन?

सावित्री पाठक: अँ, हरेक दिन।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: अनी सारी लगाउनु गाह्रो छ कि सजिलो छ, तपाइको विचारमा?

सावित्री पाठक: अब हाम्रो लागी त सजिलै छ। अब नजान्नेलाई चाहिँ अलि गाह्रो हुन्छ।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: अनी सारी चाहिँ तपाइको थरी-थरी होला है?

सावित्री पाठक: अँ, थरी-थरीको छ। Blouse piece पनि हुन्छ, set हुन्छ, पुरा।

¹ The interviewee says 'tya-han-ri' instead of 'त्यस पछि -tyas pa-chi'. This is a colloquial way of shortening the word. Not all Nepali people do this. It is like shortening 'want to' to 'wanna' in English.

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: हजुर अनी यो चाहिँ कपडा फरक फरक पाउँछ कि?

सावित्री पाठक: अब फरकमा त कस्तो अब कोही महँगो खालको हुन्छ, कोही अब सस्तो खालको हुन्छ।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: अनी सारी चाहिँ काममा लगाउनु मिल्छ कि partyमा लगाउनु मिल्छ...

सावित्री पाठक: partyमा जाने अर्कै हुन्छ, काममा लगाउने अर्कै हुन्छ।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: हजुर, अनी यहाँ चाहिँ नेपालमा तपाइको विचारमा धेरै मान्छेहरूले - धेरै आइमाइहरूले सारी लगाउँछ कि?

सावित्री पाठक: धेरै जसो अब हामी मान्छेहरू, नेपालीहरू धेरै जसो सारी नै लगाउछ।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: हुन्छ ल त, धन्यवाद।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: अग्नि सावित्री दिदीले हामीलाइ एउटा तरीका देखाएको थियो सारी लगाउन, त्यो चाहिँ धेरै जस्तो मान्छेहरूले गर्छ।

सावित्री पाठक: अँ गर्छ, नेपाली सारी त्यसरी...

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: अब, अर्को यो अर्को सारी, कसरी लगाउने हो?

सावित्री पाठक: अब यो चाहिँ अब आफुले Indianको styleले। अब Indianहरूले अब यसरी लगाउँछ, धेरै जस्तो। अब कसैले जस्तो गरी मनपर्छ होइन। यसरी पनि लगाउँछ सारीहरू अब।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: यो चाहिँ पछाडीबाट निकालेको होइन?

सावित्री पाठक: अँ पछाडीबाट निकाल्ने, अगाडी ल्याउने। हो त्यसरी ल्याउने। अब यसरी आफुलाइ मनपर्छ, यसरी लगाउने।

English translation:

Interviewer: Hello, today we are here with Savitri *didi*². Today she will teach us how to wear a sari. Now tell us, Savitri *didi*...

Savitri Pathak: Now look. Put this like this. Like this, then this like this... Then you do this with this. Then take this here... take it up... then this... like this with this... keep folding this... keep folding like this completely.... fold it like this... then put this like this, then again place this like this... then fix this like this... then tuck this inside. Yes, fold it like this. Then place this like this and fix it like so.

Interviewer: And do you wear saris a lot?

Savitri Pathak: I wear it a lot, daily.

Interviewer: Every day?

Savitri Pathak: Yes, every day.

Interviewer: So, in your opinion, is it difficult or easy to wear a sari?

Savitri Pathak: Well, it is easy for us. But for those who don't know how, it will be a little difficult.

Interviewer: So, you must have different kinds of saris, right?

Savitri Pathak: Yes, I have different kinds. You also have blouse pieces and you have complete sets.

Interviewer: Yes. And do you get different types of material?

Savitri Pathak: Well, in terms of different types, you get some expensive types and some cheap types.

Interviewer: And do you get to wear saris at work and saris at parties?

Savitri Pathak: For parties you get a different kind of sari and for work you have a different kind of sari.

Interviewer: Yes. And here in Nepal, in your opinion, do a lot of people—do a lot of women wear saris?

Savitri Pathak: Well, most of us; most Nepalese wear saris.

² This is a way of referring to someone older than you with respect. This is almost like Mr. or Ms. But it can be used for both genders.

Interviewer: Okay then, thank you.

Interviewer: Earlier Savitri *didi* showed us one way of wearing a sari, which is what most people do.

Savitri Pathak: Yes, people do that, Nepali saris are like that.

Interviewer: Now, how will you wear this sari?

Savitri Pathak: Well, this is in the Indian style. Indians mostly wear it like this. Now some people like to wear it like this, right? Saris are also worn like this.

Interviewer: You brought this from the back, right?

Savitri Pathak: Yes, I brought this from the back; I brought it forward. Yes, you wear it like this. If you like it like this, then you wear it like this.

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