

CultureTalk Nepal Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>  
**Selling Souvenirs Near a Temple**

**Nepali transcript:**

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: तपाइको शुभ नाम के हो?

मंगल कृष्ण महर्जन: मेरो नाम मंगल कृष्ण महर्जन।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: हजुर। अनी, के गर्नु हुन्छ तपाईं?

मंगल कृष्ण महर्जन: यहाँ पसल राख्छु, गाना-भजन गर्छु।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: हजुर। के को पसल होला?

मंगल कृष्ण महर्जन: यो...(inaudible) पसल।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: ए हजुर। अनी के-के बेच्नु हुन्छ यो पसलमा?

मंगल कृष्ण महर्जन: (Inaudible, Not Understood) को समानहरु बेच्छु, CDहरु बेच्छु।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: हजुर। अनी कस्तो छ बिक्री?

मंगल कृष्ण महर्जन: व्यापार त अहिले पहिला भन्दा कम छ।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: पहिला भन्दा कम छ? अब नेपाल tourism year हो, होइन?

मंगल कृष्ण महर्जन: year हो तर...

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: यसपाली छैन?

मंगल कृष्ण महर्जन: छैन। छैन। अँ। पहिलाजती चाहिँ छैन।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ता: अनी धेरै जस्तो बिक्री, अब विदेशीहरुले किन्छ कि नेपालीहरुले किन्छ?

मंगल कृष्ण महर्जनः नेपाली...विदेशी, धेरै जस्तो विदेशीहरु नै हो। अनि नेपालीले पनि कहिले कहिँ किन्छ...

महिलाः अनि समान पनि विदेशीले नै किन्छ।

अंतरवार्ताकर्ताः अनी अब यो पसल यस्तो धार्मिक ठाउँमा, होइन, मन्दिरमा बनाउनु केहि कारण छ हजुरको?

मंगल कृष्ण महर्जनः हजुर। के भन्नु भएको<sup>1</sup>?

अंतरवार्ताकर्ताः अब केहि कारण छ? हुन्छ नि तपाईंहरुको?

मंगल कृष्ण महर्जनः कारण त अब यो पसलहरु सबै ठाउँ त्यो पसल राख्ने। अरु कुनै काम छैन। घुम्न आउँछ। Touristहरु घुम्न आउँछ, उनीहरुलाई केहि गरिचाहिँ नेपाल छिरे जस्तो गरेर लिएर जान्छ।

### English translation:

Interviewer: Your *shubha*<sup>2</sup> name?

Mangal Krishna Shrestha: My name is Mangal Krishna Maharjan.

Interviewer: *Hajur*<sup>3</sup>. And what do you do?

Mangal Krishna Shrestha: Well, I have shop here and I also sing and do *bhajans*<sup>4</sup>.

Interviewer: *Hajur*. And what shop is this?

Mangal Krishna Shrestha: This is a ...<sup>5</sup> shop.

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<sup>1</sup> Here, the speaker pronounces the word 'भएको' / bha-ye-ko' as 'bha'. This is often done in spoken Nepali while speaking quickly. It is similar to shortening 'want to' to 'wanna' in English. However, in written Nepali, writing the word as the speaker pronounced it would be wrong.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> '*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 may also be used to address someone older than you. It can also be used to ask a speaker to repeat something they just said in a formal way.

<sup>4</sup> '*Bhajan*' is a type of devotional song.

<sup>5</sup> Transcriber did not understand word.

Interviewer: *Ae*<sup>6</sup>. *Hajur*. And what do you sell in this shop?

Mangal Krishna Shrestha: ...<sup>7</sup> and CDs.

Interviewer: *Hajur*. And how are sales?

Mangal Krishna Shrestha: Business is less [slower] than before.

Interviewer: It's less [slower] than before? But it's Nepal Tourism Year<sup>8</sup>, *hoina*<sup>9</sup>?

Mangal Krishna Shrestha: Year<sup>10</sup>... but...

Interviewer: There isn't much [business].

Mangal Krishna Shrestha: No. No. *An*<sup>11</sup>. It's not as much as before.

Interviewer: And so the sales, do foreigners buy more or do Nepali people buy?

Mangal Krishna Shrestha: Nepali... Mostly it is foreigners. But sometimes even Nepali people buy.

Woman: And the items are bought mostly by foreigners.

Interviewer: So this shop is in such a religious place, *hoina*, so what is the reason for building it in [near] a temple?

Mangal Krishna Shrestha: *Hajur*. What did you say?

Interviewer: Well, is there any reason? For you...?

Mangal Krishna Shrestha: Well, the reason is just that there are a lot of shops in this place. There is no other work. So people come to roam around here. Tourists come to roam around and so to give them

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<sup>6</sup> '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.

<sup>7</sup> Transcriber did not understand word.

<sup>8</sup> This interview was filmed in 2011.

<sup>9</sup> The direct translation of '*hoina*' is no; but in this context when added at the end of a sentence, it is to confirm something, like a nuance. For example in English we add 'right?' in order to confirm something. It is also used to make sure that the other person is following what they are saying, the other person would probably nod their head in response or say 'yes.'

<sup>10</sup> Repeating interviewer.

<sup>11</sup> '*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'.

something [souvenir] they can take back to show that they came to Nepal.

**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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