

**Urdu transcript:**

پاکستانی نوجوان ملک میں ہائے اسکول کی تعلیم کے بارے میں

نجان: کراچی کے دو اسکولوں میں میں نے پڑھا ہے ایک اسکول کا نام تھا

City School

اور پھر

Karachi Grammar School

میں پڑھا۔

Cambridge University

آکے

Host

کرتی ہے

O levels

اور

A levels especially

اس

Region

میں بہت

Popular

ہیں تو ہم لوگ سب اس ہی

System

میں تھے تو ہم لوگوں نے وہ ہی دیئے دو تین سال کا

Course

ہوتا ہے اور پھر اس کے آخر میں ہمیں امتحان دینے ہوتے ہیں اس کے حساب سے ہمارے

Result

آتے ہیں دو تین مہینوں میں

انٹرویو: تو آپ نے

O levels, A levels

دونوں اس ہی اسکول سے کیا ہے؟

نجان: نہیں

A levels

میں نے

Grammar School

سے کیا آخری دو سال

Grammar School

میں گزارے باقی میں گیارہ سال

City School  
میں تھا

انٹرویور: ابھی آپ کالج کہاں پڑھ رہے ہیں؟

نجوان: میں  
Connecticut

میں  
Wesleyan University  
میں پڑھ رہا ہوں

انٹرویور: تو آپ نے یہ کیوں  
Choose

کیا کے باہر جا کر پڑھیں بنسبت اپنے ملک میں؟

نجوان: کیوں کہ امریکہ کے تعلیمی اداروں کا معیار پاکستانی  
Colleges

اور

Universities

سے بہت بہتر ہے۔ اور اگر آپ کے اوپر کسی

Foreign institute

کا ٹھپا لگ جائے تو یہاں پہ بہت سہولت ہوتی ہے نوکری ڈھونڈنے میں یا اپنے

Career

کو اگے بڑھانے میں

انٹرویور: آپ کا

Major

کیا ہے وہاں؟

نجوان: مجھے ابھی پتا نہیں ہے

نہیں پاکستان اپنا

Inter board

کرتا ہے اس کا

Equivalent

ہی ہوتا ہے پہلے

Matric

کیا جاتا ہے پھر

Inter

کیا جاتا ہے لیکن وہ اتنا

Internationally recognized

نہیں ہے پہلی بات کے اگر میں

Inter

اور  
Matric  
کر کے  
Apply  
کرنا امریکہ تو شاید مجھے داخلا نہ ملتا بلکہ مجھے نہ ملتا۔ میں اچھی طرح یہ بول سکتا ہوں  
Confidence  
کے ساتھ کیوں کہ یہ اگر باہر کا کوئی ادارہ آکے امتحان لے رہا ہے تو وہ اس کو زیادہ  
Authentic  
سمجھتے ہیں

انٹرویو: پہلے تو بہت لوگ  
Inter, matric  
کر کے باہر گئے تھے اب ایسا کیوں نہیں

نجان: اس کا معیار وقت کے ساتھ گرتا جا رہا ہے جیسے ہمارے اسکول میں ایک خاتون ہیں  
جو  
Counselor  
ہیں

Mrs.  
احسان الدین تو انہوں نے بہی  
Inter matric system  
ہی کیا تھا اور پھر اس کے بعد وہ  
Cambridge University  
گئی تھیں  
Literature  
بڑھنے

And that is a huge university... so  
اس وقت اس کا... اس کی تھی  
Credit

اور مانا جاتا تھا۔ خیر وہ تھیں بھی بہت  
She was a very dynamic person I might say but  
لیکن اب وقت کے ساتھ... اسل میں تھوڑا  
Corruption

کی وجہ سے آپ آرام سے پیسے دے کے  
Paper out

ہو جاتا ہے اور پیسے دے کر آپ اپنے  
Paper re-check

کرا سکتے ہیں اگر آپ کا کوئی ہوا ہو جس کو  
Source

کہتے ہیں اور... اس ہی لیے وہ اچھی طرح مانا نہیں جاتا اور ہماری  
Society  
میں

Class  
کا  
Issue  
بھی اگیا ہے کے  
Lower classes  
کے بچے  
Generally  
کریں گے  
Inter matric  
اور  
Middle class  
اور  
Upper middle class  
جس سے میں بھی اتفاق کرتا ہوں وہ عام طور پر  
Inter matric  
نہیں کریں گے کیوں کہ  
Status symbol  
پن گیا ہے  
O levels, A levels. International recognition  
کے سوا

It's a status symbol. I mean if your kids are doing inter matric then you are considered failed parents if your in that strata of society.

### **English translation:**

I have studied in two schools in Karachi; one was called City School and then Karachi Grammar School. The Cambridge University hosts O-level and A-level exams. They are especially popular in this region. So we were all enrolled in that system, so we all took those exams. The course is two to three years long at the end of which we have to take the exams. Then we get our results in another two to three months

Interviewer: So did you do your O- and A-levels from the same school?

Teenager: No I did my A-levels, my last two years of schooling from Karachi Grammar School for eleven years before that I was at City School.

Interviewer: Where do you go to college right now?

Teenager: I study at Western University in Connecticut

Interviewer: So why did you choose to go and study abroad instead of staying in your own country?

Teenager: The standard of educational institutions in America is much better than that of institutions here in Pakistan. And if you do study abroad then it becomes very easy to get a job here.

Interviewer: What's your major at college?

Teenager: I don't know yet. Pakistan has it's inter board which is equivalent to the O- and A-level system. First you do your matric then you do your inter, but this system isn't internationally recognized. First of all, if I did my inter and applied abroad, I probably wouldn't get in. In fact I'm sure and can confidently say that I wouldn't get in. This is because exams hosted by a foreign institution are considered more authentic.

Interviewer: Earlier, a lot of people who had an inter degree could and would go study abroad. Why this is not the case anymore?

Teenager: This is because the standard of the system is falling with time. For example, there is a lady in our school who is a councilor, Mrs. Ahsanuddin. She did her inter and went to Cambridge University to study English literature and that is a very huge university. So at that time, the system so much better and more recognized. Except she was herself a very dynamic person, but with time the system has deteriorated. Actually, because of corruption, you can give money and get to know the exam questions before time. You can pay to get your exam paper rechecked if you have a "source" as they call it. This is the reason why it's not recognized. Also in our society there is an issue of class: children from the lower class do their matric and inter. Children from the middle and upper middle class, the class I identify with, generally do their O and A levels. They don't do inter because the O level system has become a status symbol. Apart from the international recognition it has this system has also become a status symbol in society. I mean if your kids are doing inter matric then you are considered failed parents if you from that strata of society.

**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 everyday. 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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