## CultureTalk Pakistan Video Transcripts: http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu Making Pashtun Literature Accessible to the Outside World

## Pashto transcript:

کړی دی، نو مطلب څه، څه literature studentl یم، ماliterature student مطلب زه پخپله چی کم دی د

شو. short stories شوله، یا poetry کاوه، poetry مخکی ما به پښتو time شو. short stories شوله، یا TV, یوه په وا یو، دا به پیش کید لی. سندری چی څه ته مونږه songs وغیره، dramas باندی به

وایی. با ره کی ډیر څه culture باره کی، پښتو literature نو مطلب دا هغه چی کم دی مونږه ته د پښتو

هم ډ ير literature، زه به دا ووايم چې پښتو being the student of literatureاو زه به دا ووايم چې

دی، ډير وسيع دی. rich

په culture ، لکه رحمان با با او خوشحال خان خټک، غنی خان، هغوی مطلب په پښتون poets زمونږه

باره کی هم ویلی دی. nationalism باره کی هم ویلی دی،

شته، لکه غنی خان. universal importance کړیده چی مطلب د هغه یو discuss څه او داسی

ډیر he was چې کمه دی، زه به ده ووایم چې poetry غنی خان چې کوم دی، غنی خا ن دی،liberal poet کې مطلب څه ویلې دی هغه ډیر poetryوؤ او، هغه چې څه liberal poet کړو نو مطلب: translate په دی وجه مطلب که هغه مونږ It will appeal to everybody.

د culture باره کی، مطلب هغه د خپلculture یعنی هغه د] وطن په باره، د پښتون په پاره کی، پښتون [

. په زریعه مطلب مونږه ته یا کم خلک چې په پښتو پو هیږي هغوي ته ښود لي ده. او غني خان کې خاص poetry

ډ ير خوښ دی. educated خبره دا ده چې غني خان د خلكو

، وسیع دی، نو زه به دا ووایم دیrich literature زه، زه به دا ووایم مطلب څنګه چی ما وویلای چی د پښتو

نشته خلک دی، لکه مطلب زه د لته راغلمه، بحر دنیا ته چا ته دومره پټه educated چی مطلب پښتون چی کوم

باره کی. literature باره کی، پښتون

خلک چی کوم دی، هغوی له دا په کار دی چی مطلب پښتو چی کم educated زه به دا ووايم چی کوم

ته languages کړی او مختلف translateدی، دا short stories ، یا څه ده poetry دی

for او بیا لکه د هغی چی کمه طریقه literatureامطلب پښتو او مطلب د نیا ته و ښای چی English example

مرسودی، ښود لی شویدی او مطلب بحر د نیا ته به پټه ولګیږی. culture reflect باندی پښتو

خلکو educatedپه ذریعه هم کولای شو. نو زه په دا ووایم چی دا مطلب د media مونږه دا مطلب د

چې دا وکړي. جوریږي responsibility یو

They should like... do something... ahh, to promote their culture کړی دا څه چې translate او مطلب چې بحر د نیا ته پټه ولګیږی ،او هغه به هم داسې وشي چې مطلب دوی

كولاى شى او مطلب چى بحر دنيا ته پټه ولګيږي.

## **English translation:**

I mean, I myself am a literature student, and I mean I used to study the Pashto literature, whether it was poetry or short stories. [Or like] there were dramas on TV, dramas and etcetera, songs<sup>1</sup> that we call them; they were presented [on TV].

So I mean what is there tells us about the Pashto literature, and about the Pashto culture. And I would say that [as] being a student of literature, I would also say that Pashto literature is very rich and very vast.

Our poets – such as Rahman Baba<sup>2</sup> and Khushal Khan Khattak<sup>3</sup>, Ghani Khan<sup>4</sup> – they have talked [written] about the Pashto culture as well as nationalism.

And they discussed topics that have a universal importance to them, such as [the topics discussed in] Ghani Khan's poetry.

<sup>3</sup> Khushal Khan Khattak (1613–1689) was a prominent Pashto lanugage poet and the tribal chief of the Khattak Pashtun tribe. (Khushah Khan Khattak. (n.d.). In *Wikipedia*. Retrieved February 18, 2013, from http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Khushal Khan Khattak&oldid=532936924)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The speaker uses the generic term "songs" but is probably referring to *Char-baiti* songs, which are are popular folkloric songs consisting of four verses of poetry.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Rahman Baba (1650–1715) was a famous Pashto language poet who is well-known both in Afghanistan and Pakistan for his great poetry and contibution to Pashto literature. (Rahman Baba. (n.d.). In *Wikipedia*. Retrieved February 18, 2013, from

http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Rahman Baba&oldid=515264447)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Ghani Khan (1914-1996), also known as Khan Abdul Ghani Khan, was a well-known Pashto language poet. His poetry is considered to be "anti-political." (Ghani Khan. (n.d.). In *Wikipedia*. Retrieved February 18, 2013, from

http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Khan Abdul Ghani Khan&direction=prev&oldid=539099671)

Ghani Khan is someone, the poetry that he wrote, I mean I would say he was a very liberal poet; everything he says in his poetry is very universal; this is because if we translate it [his poetry], I mean it will appeal to everybody.

I mean it's that he has written about [the Pashtun] homeland, Pashtun[s]<sup>5</sup>, about Pashtun culture; he has shown his culture to us—or those who understand Pashto—through [his] poetry. And what is special about Ghani Khan is that he is very well-liked by educated people.

I mean I would say that, as I said [before], that Pashto literature is very rich and is extensive; so I would say that, I mean educated Pashtun people, like I mean I came here [Amherst MA/USA, and I found that], in the outside world, no one has any information about the Pashtun culture, the Pashtun literature.

I would say that the educated people, they need to translate the Pashto poems, short stories into different languages, for example to the English language, and I mean to show the world the Pashto literature, and in a way that Pashto culture is reflected [and] demonstrated in it [the literature], and so that the outside world knows about it.

We can do this through media. So I would say that this becomes the responsibility of the educated people to do this [to educate people about the Pashto literature and culture]. They should like... do something... ahh, to promote their culture, so that the outside world learns about it, and it could be done this way, by translating whatever they can so that the outside world knows about it [can access it and learns about the culture and literature].

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The word Pashtun refers to the Pashtun tribe and culture and depending on the dialect of the language it is pronounced Pashtun or Pakhtun. The speaker uses the Pakhtun pronounciation here, which indicates a common dialect of the Pashto language spoken in Pakistan.