

**Explanation:**

Turkmen baby cradles (called *sallanjak* in Turkmen) have been used for a long time in history by women to put their babies to sleep. Usually there are ropes attached to it, so that women can pull the rope and make the cradle swing, and it puts the baby to sleep. Usually Turkmen cradles are made of iron, but sometimes they are made of wood, too. The baby is a newborn baby. Usually women would do other housework while the *sallanjak* is swinging. Right now there are *sallanjaks* that work on electricity.

**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.