

**Uzbek transcript:**

Menga ko'pchilik bir necha marta aytib o'tardiki, uzoq mudatta boshqa joyda yashaganingizdan keyin, o'sha davlatni madaniyati, xulq-atvoriga, ko'nik...ko'nikib qolasiz va o'z davlatingizga qaytganingizdan keyin, qaytib shu narsalarga ko'nikish, o'z madaniyatingizga ko'nikish ma'lum bir darajada muammolar tug'diradi deb aytishardi. Umuman men uyga kelganimdan keyin, qanday desam, taassurotlarim juda yaxshi edi, kutganimdek ko'p azob ham chekmadim. Faqat bir narsani aytishim mumkin, masalan, havo kutganimdan ko'ra ham issiqroq bo'lib chiqdi. Qanday desam O'zbekistondagi havo issig'i bilan Amerikadagi, o'sha Massachusettdagi havi issiqligini taqqoslaydigan bo'lsak, O'zbekistonda quruq issiq, lekin juda ham issiq, kuydiradigan darajada issiq, lekin soya joyga kirganingizdan keyin juda salqin bo'lib qoladi va unchalik o'zizni issiq his etmaysiz. Massachusettda bo'lsa qayerda bo'lishingizdan qat'iy nazar issiqlik hamma joyda, u yerda soya joy bilan quyosh joydagi farq unchalik O'zbekistondagi kabi katta emas. Xo'sh yana, umuman madaniy, madaniyatga doir muammolar haqida gapiradigan bo'lsak, masalan, o'zbek madaniyati erkaklar doim bir-birovi bilan qo'l berib, salomlashib ko'rishadi. Amerikada bu narsa unchalik kuzatilmaydi, bu biznes uchrashuvdagina, masalan, qo'l berishib ko'rishish mumkin, intervyularda, umuman, kundalik hayot, har kun do'stlarizni uchratganingizda qo'l berib salomlashmaysiz. O'zbekistonda erkaklar doim qo'l berib salomlashadi. Shu narsalar mani yodimdan ko'tarilgan ekan. Bir g'alati voqea esimga keldi, man O'zbekistonga kelganimdan keyin, Xivada tarjimonlik, tarjimon bo'lib ishladim. Biza u yerda gilam to'qish markazida ishladik. O'sha markazning direktori ishlardi u yerda va uning o'g'li bor edi. O'gli ham ancha katta bir 18, 19 yashar yigit edi. Ikkinchi kun borganimda o'gli bizani kutib oldi. Shu qo'l berib salomlashish yodimdan ko'tarilganligi uchun, shunchaki assalomu aleykum dedimu, kirib ketdim. Ichkariga kirganimizdan keyin otasi bizani qarshi oldi, o'sha bolaning otasi, va u kishi menga qo'llarini berdilar va men ham qo'limni berib salomlashdim. Ya'ni keyin bu ishni qilganimdan keyin noqulay ahvolda qoldimki, chunki birinchi o'g'illarini ko'rib, o'g'illari bilan qo'l berishib salomlashmay, keyin otalari chiqqanlaridan keyin, otalari berish qandaydir noqulay bo'ldi. Chunki bizda o'zbek madaniyatida salomlashayotganda, qo'l berib salomlashganda doim yoshi ulug', yoshi kattaroq kishi qo'l uzatadi, keyin yoshi, yoshi kichikroq kishi qo'l berib salomlashadi. Endi men yomon his qilganligimga sabab, men yoshim katta bo'la turib, u bolaga o'z qo'l uzatmadim, endi bizada ba'zan shu katta omadni yosh bolaga qo'l uzatmasligi, ya'ni uni o'ziga teng ko'rmasligi, ya'ni qo'l uzatmasangiz, ya'ni sen hali judayam yoshsan, degan ma'nolarniyam ba'zan bildirishi mumkin. Xo'sh yana nima haqida gapirish mumkin. Amerikada umuman birovni ko'rsayiz uzoq muddat ko'rmay, do'stlarizni yaqinlarizni ko'rsayiz, doim quchoqlashib ko'rishasiz, uzoq muddat hammas, hattoki ikki, uch kun ko'rmay qolsayiz, bir hafta ko'rmay qolsayiz ham doim quchiqlashib ko'rasiz do'stlariz bilan. A o'zbek madaniyatidayam quchoqlashish boru, lekin bizda odatda quchoqlashish uzoq muddat birovni ko'rmasangiz, masalan bir yillab, bir necha oylab ko'rmasangiz, keyin quchoqlashib ko'riladi, keyin quchoqlashib ko'rishishni ham turlari umuman boshqacha ekan, masalan, Amerikada quchoqlashganda faqat bir marotaba

quchoqlashiladi. O'zbek madaniyatida quchoqlashilganda, erkaklar bir-birovini quchoqlaganda, ko'pincha ikki marta quchoqlashadi, keyin qo'l berib salomlashadi. Shu narsa mani yodimdan ko'tarilgan edi. Amerikada doim bir marta quchoqlashishga ko'nikkanlagim uchun, bu yerga kelganimda ham, yaqinlarim, do'stlarim bilan quchoqlashganda, faqat bir marta quchoqlashardimu, shu bilan qanday desam, o'zimni orqaga tortardim, yani tugatdim deganday. Lekin ular ikkinchi marta quchoqlashib qo'l uzatishardi. Shu narsaga ozgina o'zimni yo'qotib qo'yardim, qanday desam, yana qanday harakat qilishni bilmay qolardimu, shu munga yana noqulaylik tug'dirgan.

### **English translation:**

I have been told several times by many people, having lived in a different place for a long time, you get used to...you get used to the culture, their behavior. And after returning to your country, getting used to these things, getting used to your own culture can create... be difficult to a certain degree. In fact after coming back home, how can I say, I had good impressions. Also, I did not have many problems as I [had] expected. I can say only one thing, for example, the weather turned out to be much hotter than I expected. How I can say, the hot weather in Uzbekistan and the heat in Massachusetts...If we compare with the heat in Massachusetts...It is dry hot in Uzbekistan, but very hot, burning hot, but after you enter a shady place, it gets cool and you won't feel that hot. However in Massachusetts, no matter where you are, the heat is everywhere. The [temperature] difference between sunny and shady place is not as big as in Uzbekistan. Well also, if we speak about cultural, about problems related to culture...For example, in Uzbek culture men always greet each other by shaking hands. It is not observed as much in the US. For example, only in business appointments, one can shake hands, in interviews. In fact, in everyday life, everyday when you see your friends you do not shake hands. In Uzbekistan men always shake hands while greeting. I forgot these things. I remembered one strange situation, after I came [back] to Uzbekistan, I worked as an interpreter in Khiva, interpreting. We worked in a carpet weaving center there. The director of the center worked there and he had his son. His son was quite grown up, 18, 19 years old. When we went there the second day his son met us there. Since I forgot shaking hands while greeting, I just said, "*Assalomu aleykum*"<sup>1</sup> and went in. After going inside his father, the father of the guys met us and he stretched out his hands and I greeted him by shaking his hand. But after doing this, I was in an awkward situation, because I saw his son first and didn't shake hands to greet him. But after the father came out, shaking hands with him made me [feel] awkward. Because, we, in Uzbek culture, when we greet by shaking hands, the older person always stretches out his hand and then the younger one greets him [takes his hand]. Well, the reason I felt bad, I was the older person and did not stretch my hand to him. In our culture when the older person doesn't stretch his hand to the younger one means that he doesn't consider him equal to himself, i.e. if you don't stretch your hand, it can mean things like "you are too young [for me]". Well, what else I can speak about? In the US if you see somebody you whom you have not seen for a long time, if

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<sup>1</sup> *Assalomu aleykum* – Uzbek traditional way of greeting, derived from Arabic and means "may peace be upon you".

you see your friends, relatives, you always greet by hugging, not even for a long time, even you don't see them for two, three days, for a week, you always hug your friends. And Uzbek culture we have hugging too, but we hug when we do not see somebody for a long time; for example, for a year, if you don't see for several months, only then you hug. Also the types of hugging are completely different too. For example, in the States when people hug, they hug once. In Uzbek culture when people hug, when men hug each other, they mostly hug twice and then shake hands. I completely forgot this thing, as I got used to hugging only once in the US. After coming back here when I was hugging my friends and my family, I would hug once and then, how I can say, pull myself back, meaning I was done. But they would hug twice and then stretch their hands. I would get lost because of this, how I can say, I would not know what to do next, this would make me [feel] awkward.

**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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