**Meeting at Parveen’s (Asifa’s) House on The Birth of Child 130610**

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| **Name** | **Translation** |
| W1 | Do you want to sit with the baby? |
| Ayesha | Yes, I want to sit with the baby. |
| Afshan | How are you? Is it a boy or a girl? |
| W2 | Girl. |
| Afshan | Many congratulations. |
| Ayesha | Many congratulations. |
| W3 | Congratulations to you as well.  (sounds in the background)  I tried to call you. We got to know that you went to *Islamabad*. I thought where you will be at our turn. |
| Afshan | No, actually my mother was ill. |
| W3 | Okay. |
| Afshan | So I had to go *Islamabad* all of a sudden. How are you? Are you all right? |
| W3 | All right. |
| Afshan | Ok. So my other fell ill all of a sudden. |
| W3 | Okay.  (she is whispering)  I called you and I don’t know she talked to me or someone else. |
| Afshan | No that was someone else. |
| W3 | Okay. I told her that my name is *Parveen* and I asked where is *baji?* She said that talk to her.  I said that she was to come here on Monday. |
| Afshan | Yes. |
| W3 | She said that she is gone to *Pindi* for meeting. |
| Afshan | Yes. (Laughing) |
| W3 | Now how could we know this? |
| Afshan | Yes I had a meeting as well. |
| W3 | Yes. |
| Afshan | Actually we left from here on Monday.. After that. |
| W3 | Okay |
| Afshan | I had to attend two three meetings, I done that. And after that my mother fell ill and then. |
| W3 | What happened? |
| Afshan | My mother has high blood pressure. Her blood pressure rose up and my younger sister was not at home as well. |
| W3 | Okay. |
| Afshan | And my sister in law *bhabhi* was at home. |
| W3 | *Pankha jhalo na isko..* My brother in law *dewar* had called.  It is the truth. Then I took my nephew *bhatija* with me. |
| Afshan | Yes. |
| W3 | It has been five or six days since she has gone *Rawalpindi.* |
| Afshan | Okay. |
| W3 | If I had a sim then it won’t be a problem. I still talked. I gathered my courage. You know that I am a heart patient still I tried to be fair. *Hath acha rakha hr baat mein.* |
| Afshan | *Yes.* |
| W3 | One was her mother and me, my son and a nephew |
| Afshan | Okay. Her husband is back? |
| W3 | Yes. |
| Afshan | Okay. Thank God. |
| W3 | That poor man came, his ankle was dislocated. Then someone told that his ankle dislocates. *Wo takhna charhta he.* |
| Afshan | *Charhta he*? |
| W3 | Yes. He is wise. Then by the will of Allah, we slowly moved from here.  When *Nighat* did the checkup then she asked us to take him to *Qamar.*  (voice of a kid)  There is no harm in getting checkup done from *Gujar Khan.*  I said that listen to me, I am not a learned person. I am totally illiterate. |
| Afshan | Yes.  (voice of a kid) |
| W3 | I said mine. |
| W2 | Close this window. |
| W3 | Close this window.  I said listen to me brother, you have given me the date of mid of June.  (the kid is crying) |
| Ayesha | Make him quiet. |
| W3 | And you told me that the case is normal.  She said *Amman g* don’t panic. |
| Afshan | Okay. |
| W3 | You said to me at that time that *aman g* stay calm and now you are sending me to a place where I don’t want to go. |
| Afshan | Ok. |
| W3 | Then she said that there is no harm in it. |
| Afshan | You shouldn’t do these things so quickly. |
| W3 | What is the matter? You are like our daughters.  Then I said that you told me this earlier and now at the end you are hurting poor people.  You are hurting poor people. |
| Afshan | Yes. |
| W3 | I just said this much and she handed me a prescription and asked me to go to *Qamar Sahb* in *Gujar Khan.*  (kid is talking)  We went to *Dr. Qamar.* We got there at one o’clock and got free at eleven at night. |
| Afshan | Hmmm. |
| W2 | Not 1 o’clock. It was two. |
| W3 | Yes approximately 2 o’clock. |
| W2 | Girl was born at quarter past eleven. |
| W3 | Girl was born at quarter past eleven. |
| Afshan | Normal? |
| W3 | Normal. |
| Afshan | Okay. |
| W3 | And she said that we were afraid that we will have to operate and person becomes useless after that. They said okay, and did the checkup.  I said that *Nighat* gave me this prescription.  I said to her that we are poor people and told her that my son is a laborer, please help us.  I asked her to help us somehow or the other. She told that she will charge 300 rupees for checkup only. And obviously things were about to reach at an end so she admitted me. |
| Afshan | Hmmm. Then she admitted you? |
| W3 | Listen to me. She admitted me as soon as she did the checkup.  Anytime you go.. Bismillah you are welcome. *Bismaillah g ayaan n.*  *(*voice of a kid)  Will you drink some water? |
| Afshan | What? |
| W2 | Will you drink water? |
| Ayesha | No. |
| W4 | Congratulation on the birth of your girl. |
| W3 | Congratulations to you too. May your kids live long.  Get up and pick these things up. |
| W4 | Allah. |
| W3 | Then I said what will happen now?  I said she was all right when we took her from here. |
| W4 | *Bismillah* the other one is *Sidrah?* |
| W3 | She takes 20,000 rupees for operation. They had fixed that they will charge 10,000.  She takes 5000 rupees for girl without medicines.  (coughing sound)  They have made a store on the inside. |
| Afshan | Hmmm. |
| W3 | Anyway the girl was born at quarter past eleven by the Will of Allah. |
| Afshan | Okay. (Laughing) |
| W4 | Are they guests? |
| W3 | They are guests. They came from *Islamabad.* |
| W4 | Okay right. |
| W3 | Yes. They are here for six months.  She came to visit me on my child birth. And your kids are all right? |
| W4 | Where does she live? |
| W3 | There in *Poda.* |
| Afshan | Actually we are not related to *Poda* as such. |
| W3 | They are on duty here. |
| Afshan | We are affiliated with health department of Government of Pakistan. |
| W4 | Okay. |
| W3 | Yes. |
| Afshan | And along with that, especially women health..  (kid is weeping)  About pregnant ladies, when they are near child birth, during that time what kind of issues they face. How people solve those problems and issues. |
| W3 | How they used to give birth in old times. |
| Afshan | What kind of problem they faced. |
| W3 | I have heard about it and I tell them the stories. |
| W4 | I will listen to all the stories when I am free.  (everyone is laughing) |
| Afshan | Where did you come from? |
| W3 | She lives near my house. She visits me quite often.  She said to me that we will go with you to hospital if you need us. She gave her phone number as well. But when the time came, she had some problem. *Inki bhi majboori thi.* |
| Afshan | Actually I went to *Islamabad* at the time she was born.  It is all about luck. (Laughing) |
| W3 | Yes. |
| Afshan | I was here. I came to see her and received call for meeting when I went back. And when there is meeting in the office, it is important to be there otherwise it creates problem. |
| W4 | Yes. |
| Afshan | Then we went. And she called me when I was in the meeting. |
| W3 | She didn’t tell you? |
| Afshan | She was done by the time she told me. |
| W3 | She gave me her number and asked me to call her. She said that she will go with us. She said that they will help me as much as they can. But Allah planned something else. |
| Afshan | It wasn’t in His planning. |
| W3 | Then they all go to duties. My own daughter is gone to *Islamabad.* It has been five six days now. |
| W4 | They didn’t tell us otherwise we could have given something. |
| W3 | No, it is not to complain. |
| W4 | No. A new person is here. |
| Afshan | Yes, masha Allah a new person is here. |
| W4 | It is her right. |
| Afshan | It is her right that everyone come and see her.  (everyone is laughing) |
| W4 | I came here thrice. |
| W3 | Here at *Apu’s* place? |
| W4 | Yes. |
| W3 | When I went there, she said that her younger daughter in law is not at home. |
| W4 | She is not at her son’s place. |
| W3 | When my daughter was born, we brought her here quickly so that you can see.  (All of them are talking together)  Someone else was talking from your number before. |
| Afshan | You must have dialed wrong number. |
| W3 | No, the number was not wrong. |
| W2 | You were in *Islamabad.* You were in a meeting I guess. |
| Afshan | Yes. I was in a meeting. |
| W3 | Then we thought to take her car but… |
| W4 | Actually my mother fell ill. |
| W3 | She was helpless *Majboori.* |
| Afshan | I went to my home directly when my mother fell ill. Then she called me around 2 o’clock I guess. |
| W3 | Don’t give the money. |
| W4 | Why not? |
| W3 | *Sobia* is fine? |
| W4 | Yes, she is fine. |
| Afshan | I thought to call you but then I said that we are going there today so I’ll visit you in person.  We came here directly from *Islamabad.* |
| W3 | May Allah give you long life. |
| W4 | Which village? |
| Afshan | *Saagri.* |
| W4 | Where is *Saagri?* |
| Afshan | It is ahead of *Kalar Sayedaan.* |
| W4 | Okay *Saagri.* I have heard about it. |
| W3 | How many times she came here?  She didn’t go to the neighborhood yet. |
| Afshan | Actually we have visited the women who are about to give birth. Though we are going to meet everyone. |
| W3 | Now it is *Yasmeen’s* turn. |
| W4 | It is at my house too. |
| Afshan | At you place as well? |
| W4 | Yes. It is fourth month. |
| Afshan | Okay it is fourth month. |
| W4 | Yes. |
| Afshan | Okay. (Laughing) |
| W4 | Now it is *Yasmeen’s* turn after this. |
| Afshan | Yes it is *Yasmeen’s* turn. |
| W3 | And after that *Yaseen’s.* (Laughing) |
| W2 | Other *Baji* is on vacations. |
| Afshan | No, she has gone to *Sindh.* |
| Ayesha | She has gone to *Sindh.* |
| W3 | She told us before leaving. |
| Afshan | Actually there were many problems. |
| W3 | Eat something? |
| Ayesha | I have eaten. |
| W3 | Please eat one at least. It doesn’t create a difference. |
| Afshan | Please eat. |
| W3 | Eat my child eat. |
| W1 | Have you seen her. She is pretty. |
| W4 | Yes you niece *bhanji* is pretty.  (Everyone is laughing) |
| W3 | Thank God, she doesn’t resemble my husband. (Laughing) |
| W4 | No she resembles him. |
| W1 | She resembles *Sidrah.* |
| W4 | Yes, she resembles *Sidrah.* |
| W3 | No, see if she resembles her aunts *phuphian* or her father. |
| W4 | No, she doesn’t resemble her aunts *phuphian* or her father. She is on her mother. |
| Afshan | She resembles her mother. It is visible.  (everyone is laughing) |
| W3 | She is just three days old; look at her when she gets a bit older. |
| Afshan | No she resembles her mother. |
| W3 | She is very pretty. She plays all the night. She looks so nicely. |
| W2 | *Nabeela!* Please go and bring it from there. |
| Afshan | Okay, she stays up at night? |
| W3 | Hmmm. |
| W4 | Why the new born babies sleep so much? What is the reason? |
| Afshan | It depends. There is no specific reason. Some babies are born in day time, it varies accordingly. |
| W3 | Yes this creates difference. She was born at night, now she sleep at day and stays up at night. |
| Afshan | Her timing will change. |
| W3 | It is the third day today. |
| Afshan | Yes. Her time table will change gradually. |
| W3 | Her eyes are so beautiful *patar patar dekhti he.* And she talks as well. |
| W4 | She is born after *Saira* right? |
| W3 | Hmmm. |
| W2 | I have asked him to stay up for her at night. |
| Afshan | Yes. |
| W3 | She is born after many years. |
| W1 | We are so happy. We couldn’t sleep. |
| W3 | She came after so many years. |
| W4 | How old is *Saira.* |
| W3 | We made her identity card when she was eighteen. |
| W4 | *Bano* is twenty years old. |
| W3 | She is of her age. Okay how is your mother now? |
| Afshan | Thanks to Allah. *Allah ka shkar he.* |
| W3 | She is fine? |
| Afshan | She is fine. |
| W3 | Thanks to Allah. |
| Afshan | She fell ill when I went back from here. |
| W3 | Come here.  See *Kubra* is here. |
| W4 | Where was she? |
| W3 | Come here and sit.  Thanks to Allah. Human is giving birth to humans. This is a big thing.  It is a big thing. |
| W4 | *Sidra* how old are you? |
| W2 | I am 23 years old. |
| W3 | They were doing so many operations there, how a normally delivery was possible there. I sat here and there. They were doing cases in front of me. By God I was so astonished.  *Kubra* have you seen my daughter? |
| W5 | Congratulations. |
| W3 | Congratulations to you too. |
| W5 | She resembles her mother. |
| W3 | Look at her carefully today, and then don’t say to me later that she is changed. |
| W5 | Congratulations from everyone. |
| W3 | Congratulations to them my child. |
| W1 | *Isko naza na lg jae.* |
| W4 | No it will not happen. |
| Afshan | Okay. |
| W1 | Yes, she will get an evil eye. *Isko nazar lg jae gi.* |
| W3 | Okay, will you eat something else? |
| Afshan | No, thanks. |
| W3 | You didn’t eat the sweets either. |
| Afshan | I ate the sweets. |
| W3 | Bring water or make tea.  *Saira* make eight glasses of water. |
| Afshan | Small baby (Laughing) |
| W3 | When she opens her eyes and looks around.. |
| W4 | It is good that she doesn’t resemble her father. Keep quiet. |
| W3 | Her feet are like her father’s. |
| W4 | Father’s complexion is wheatish. |
| W3 | See carefully. Her feet are like her brother’s. |
| W1 | Little hands. |
| W3 | Look at her hands and fingers; she is just like a fairy. |
| W4 | Thank God that she doesn’t resemble you. |
| W3 | See I am smart. |
| W4 | What to do with such smartness that you look like a skeleton with little bit of flesh. And clothes won’t look good on you.  (everyone is laughing) |
| W1 | Hmmm.. |
| Afshan | It is too hot. |
| W3 | It is too hot. |
| Afshan | Don’t cover her. Don’t cover her face. |
| W3 | Should I not cover her face? |
| W4 | Put a very thin piece of cloth on her. |
| W2 | There are mosquitoes. |
| W3 | No there are no mosquitoes. We burnt mosquito repellent coils all night.  He has brought big cartons. They are like big coils.  Tie that. |
| W1 | Tie the *challa.* |
| W4 | Why should we tie the *challa?* |
| W3 | The baby will not get scared then. |
| W4 | So *challa* will stop the fear?  (everyone is laughing) |
| Afshan | What is her name? |
| W1 | We haven’t named her yet. |
| W2 | We are thinking. |
| W4 | You know what I used to put box, knife and a lock. |
| W1 | You used to it right. |
| W3 | Okay, tell me a good name. |
| Afshan | Tell her. |
| W3 | Please suggest a name. |
| Afshan | Ayesha. |
| Ayesha | I like one name only “*Rehab”.* |
| Afshan | She is telling a difficult name. |
| W3 | Suggest some easy names, such that no one has over here. |
| W2 | No one has that name? |
| W3 | No one should have that name here. |
| W2 | It is a different name. |
| Afshan | What is the meaning of *Rehaab?* |
| Ayesha | *Rehaab* means a beautiful valley. |
| Afshan | Beautiful valley. Suggest some other names. |
| W4 | Tell us some Islamic names. |
| W2 | We will keep an Islamic name. |
| W4 | Keep Islamic. |
| W3 | Her aunt *phupho* will name her after coming back. God knows what will she name her. |
| W4 | When did she go? |
| W3 | It has been four five days. |
| W4 | Baby followed her. |
| W3 | She would have said that what is my need over here when the baby is coming. |
| Ayesha | You didn’t thought of any name? |
| W3 | When did you come? |
| W4 | Here, at *Nazeer sahb’s* place? |
| Afshan | Yes, we are at *Nazeer sahb’s* place. |
| W3 | They have been here for quite a long time. They came here twice or thrice. |
| W4 | We used to go to meetings before. |
| Afshan | Okay. Do you live here in *Mughlan?* |
| W4 | Yes. And do you have kids? |
| W3 | She is not married yet. |
| W4 | Why to get married when you have job. |
| Afshan | Yes. |
| W3 | I asked he why didn’t she get married? She said that I scoiuldnt find time.  (everyone is laughing) |
| Ayesha | Aw baby.. |
| Afshan | I said let go.. |
| W4 | You are not married because you started doing job.  We give our girls in marriage when they turn sixteen. |
| W3 | I have told her my stories three four times. (*Afshan* is laughing)  I said her that I will take her to the neighborhood and you can listen to their stories there. |
| Afghan | Yes, actually we haven’t been to *Mughlan* quite often.  It has been just one month. |
| W1 | Okay. |
| Afshan | Women whose delivery dates were near like her. Now there is *Yasmeen* and *Haseena.* |
| W3 | No, *Kishwar* is after her. |
| Afshan | Yes, there is *Kishwar.* |
| W3 | Yes. |
| W2 | There is *Gulnaz.* |
| Afshan | No, I think *Gulnaz* and *Haseena* has almost the same dates. |
| W3 | Yes, they have almost same dates. |
| W4 | My nephew *bhatija* is nine months old but he cannot walk. What is the reason? |
| W6 | He cannot sit either, he just lies down. |
| W4 | His legs are weak. |
| W3 | Whose kid? |
| W4 | *Tasleem’s* kid. |
| W6 | *Arif’s.* |
| Afshan | He didn’t take him for checkup? He was born at home? |
| W4 | He was born at home. |
| Afshan | They live here? |
| W4 | They live at our place. |
| W3 | He is her nephew *bhatija.* |
| Afshan | Okay. You didn’t take the child to doctor? |
| W4 | Yes we did. We took him to *Chakwal*. |
| W6 | The kid id nine months old. He should at least sit. |
| Afshan | Yes he is nine months old, he should sit by now. His back bone is fine right? You took him for checkup? |
| W4 | We took him to the doctor. |
| Afshan | Actually his backbone… |
| W3 | Backbone? |
| Afshan | He should get his checkup done, whether he is right or not. |
| W6 | I thought you were talking about kids, you must can do their checkup as well. |
| Afshan | No. |
| W4 | Which milk does he drink? Formula milk? *Ooper ka doodh* |
| W6 | Formula milk. |
| W3 | He drinks formula milk. |
| Afshan | Why do you give him formula milk? |
| W4 | His mother didn’t have milk. And his tummy gets upset when we feed him with cow’s milk. That’s why we are spending money. |
| W6 | Is it Lactogen? |
| Afshan | I f you are feeding him with Lactogen then it is fine. You should give him mother’s milk.  What are you giving her? |
| W3 | It has been three days she didn’t take milk. There is no milk in my breasts. |
| Afshan | Milk will come down, you just start giving her. |
| W5 | Just try. |
| W4 | Feed her again and again. |
| W3 | They say… |
| Afshan | Feed her all the time. |
| W3 | I tried a lot. Now she says that get up and sit.  How can I sit? |
| Afshan | It doesn’t matter.  Doctors tell to feed the newborn. You can feed her while sitting.  Feed her forcefully. |
| W3 | We don’t give her formula milk. But then she was weeping and I gave her two feeders of formula milk. She got quiet after I fed her. |
| Afshan | This is not only harmful for your baby but for you too. |
| W3 | I told her before that it is your own loss. |
| W2 | It is when milk flows out, she doesn’t even drink. |
| W3 | Feed her forcefully. |
| Afshan | Put it in her mouth forcefully, she will suck on your breasts and milk will flow out automatically. |
| W3 | I gave her *ghutti* but she kept weeping.  Then I gave her feeder. |
| W4 | Milk comes down on third day. |
| Afshan | No no it will come down. Just put it in baby’s mouth. Milk will come down. |
| W3 | Masha Allah her breasts are good. |
| Afshan | Get up and give her milk. Keep on feeding her, milk will come down. |
| W3 | I said the same thing..  This will become a headache for you.  Feed her after small intervals. She is so small and she will loose her appetite. |
| Afshan | She will get ill. |
| W3 | She has less appetite, |
| Afshan | The water that is coming down is important for the baby. Feed her with that, milk will come too. |
| W2 | She throws up. |
| Afshan | It doesn’t create any difference. |
| W4 | Milk is coming out. |
| Afshan | Yes, feed her milk. |
| W3 | She vomited a yellowish substance. |
| W4 | It is not a big problem *bachey ka dil saaf hota he.* Don’t get scared that she threw up, give her milk. |
| Afshan | You know what this will benefit you a lot. |
| W3 | Now what should we say? |
| Afshan | You know if her tummy gets upset then it will be a big problem for you. |
| W4 | His stomach is upset. |
| Afshan | Weather is too hot; in such harsh weather his stomach will get upset. |
| W3 | Now it gets upset even if we keep him under fan. |
| Afshan | Electricity went again and again. |
| W4 | Electricity went a lot. Today it was off for major part. |
| W3 | Today light was off for most of the time.  We have to give her massage so that air doesn’t harm her. If it does, then she will get hurt.  This girl will stay under the fan all day long. Now I gave her two feeders milk. Now after drinking the milk she is saying that there is no milk. |
| W4 | Turn off the fan while massaging her. |
| W3 | Yes like this. |
| W4 | Don’t turn the fan off completely. |
| W3 | In cities, fans are on at this time. |
| W4 | They don’t turn it off. |
| W3 | They stay on in the cities. We have been there. |
| Afshan | You gave her *ghutti* for how many days? Did you give that to her for a whole day? |
| W5 | They stop us from giving *ghutti* to babies. |
| W3 | It’s hot. |
| W4 | We should not give *ghutti* at all. |
| W3 | I said that don’t give her *ghutti* but then his father brought formula milk. |
| W5 | We only gave a little bit of honey as *ghutti* when she was born. |
| W3 | When we made her feeder from that box, she drank four times from it. If we make her suck breast feed for four times, milk will automatically come out. |
| Afshan | Milk will come out surely. |
| W2 | I gave her three times.. it doesn’t come out. |
| Afshan | Don’t do this, you will get worried yourself. |
| W3 | She doesn’t understand this that when she will cry from hunger then she will take breast feed. And then milk will start coming out. |
| W4 | Mother’s milk comes out on third or fifth day. |
| W3 | Today is third day. All foods which Allah has given for babies are there…  Give her milk. |
| W2 | Is it all right if I take milk? |
| Afshan | Yes, take milk as much as you want but feed milk to the baby as well. Milk will start coming. |
| W3 | Her diet is good too. |
| Afshan | When did you feed her last time? |
| W3 | In the morning. |
| W4 | In the morning? |
| W3 | At day time. |
| W5 | Feed her after every hour or half hour. |
| Afshan | Give her your own milk after every ten minutes. Milk will come down automatically. But it will come only if you feed her.  If you thing water like liquid is coming out, give her that too. It is good for her. |
| W3 | I said feed her this. |
| Afshan | Feed her this, the watery thing. |
| W3 | I told her to feed her this watery fluid and don’t give her *ghutti.* |
| Afshan | That water is enough for the baby. |
| W3 | Yes it is enough. |
| Afshan | Yes that is enough. You will see that she will get fine.  If you start giving her other milk, it will be a problem for you. You will know when you will have two make feeder for her three to four times at night. |
| W3 | She is so patient that she sleeps all day and she didn’t say anything at night. She makes noises when she is hungry. Then I wake her up and ask her to sit and give her milk. |
| Afshan | Get up and sit properly. |
| W3 | The more you are active the more you will heal. |
| W4 | Operation wasn’t done right? |
| W3 | I have seen major operation. God forbid it is cruelty.  There that doctor operated on her and that baby dot ill too. |
| Afshan | Whose? |
| W3 | There in hospital.  She did the operation quickly and took the baby and kept her for one hour. Then she said that pick her up and take her to the bed.  Then another woman came there. Her seven months baby died in her womb. *Usko saya lg gaya tha.* |
| W4 | I am leaving now. |
| W3 | No, please sit. I have given her water. |
| W1 | Yes. |
| W4 | Please sit and talk to *Parveen.* |
| W3 | May the children live long; I talked to them a lot. |
| Afshan | I will come to visit you. |
| W4 | Okay. |
| Afshan | Khuda Hafiz. |
| W5 | Okay Khuda Hafiz. |
| W4 | Please come and visit us. |
| Afshan | Yes, we will come. |
| W3 | Just think these are our own homes. |
| Ayesha | Yes, we will come. |
| W3 | We go everywhere with open heart, and we ask for what we want to eat there. |
| Afshan | Now everyone is gone, get up and feed her. Nothing will happen. |
| W2 | Okay. |
| W3 | I told her that it is for her own benefit. |
| Afshan | You will get fine quickly. |
| W3 | I told her that those women who do not move around in pregnancy, they have to go through operation. |
| Ayesha | Okay, can I take picture of this baby? |
| Afshan | Yes. |
| Ayesha | I want to take her picture. Can I take picture of this little kitten?  (everyone is laughing) |
| W3 | Masha Allah. She is not weak. |
| Ayesha | Masha Allah, she is very pretty that is why I wanted to take her picture. |
| W3 | Babies are often very weak when they are born but she is quite healthy Masha Allah. |
| Ayesha | Cute kitten look here. |
| W3 | Turn her here. Her eyes would have looked beautiful if she was awake. |
| Afshan | We are here for now; we will take her pictures when she will get older. First we have to take picture of the little one. |
| W3 | I asked her father to take her picture. |
| Afshan | When I will go this time, I will bring print of this picture. (laughing) |
| Ayesha | *Oye oye.*  (everyone is laughing)  Masha Allah. |
| Afshan | Move that cloth from her face. Now take her picture. |
| W3 | This is your own house. You can drink water if you want. You can drink tea if you want. Whatever you do this is your own house. |
| Afshan | Yes. |
| W3 | This is not the case at our place. This road which is passing from here, whoever goes from here can drink water. |
| Afshan | *Oye.* |
| W3 | Bismillah. |
| Afshan | She is getting irritated because of that. |
| Ayesha | Yes, it has flash. |
| Afshan | She twitches even her closed eyes because of flash. |
| W3 | She has beautiful eyes. |
| Ayesha | Should I close the buttons? |
| W3 | No, don’t do that, it’s too hot that is why I opened them. |
| W1 | She is showing off. |
| W3 | Yes, she shows off a lot. She keeps posing. |
| W2 | She was looking so pretty at night. She was doing this while sleeping. |
| Afshan | *Roshni lgti he isko.* |
| W3 | Please eat some sweets, tell me if you need anything else. Do tell me if you need tea or water. |
| Afshan | No, I have drunk water. |
| W3 | God had mercy on the baby. |
| Afshan | Yes. |
| W3 | What we poor people could do? |
| Afshan | So how much she charged from you? |
| W3 | 5000 rupees |
| Afshan | Okay. |
| W3 | And we bought medicines as well, for one thousand. |
| Afshan | Hmmm. |
| W3 | And later we bought more medicines for 100 rupees. |
| Afshan | So why didn’t she keep her? |
| W3 | You would have asked if you were with us that we went there for monthly checkups. |
| Afshan | Hmmm. |
| W3 | We went to *Jhelum* as well. |
| W2 | No, we went there for checkup only once. |
| Afshan | From where? From *Nighat’s?* |
| W2 | Yes. |
| W1 | We went to *Afia’s* twice. |
| Afshan | What did *Nighat say?* |
| W3 | I regretted after going there. *Afia* charges the same. She charges 5000 rupees and doesn’t give discount. |
| Afshan | Hmmm. |
| W3 | Now a poor man… If you look at my son, he is a laborer and how much a laborer can earn? |
| Afshan | Yes, you are right. |
| W3 | We cannot afford this much. I asked her that how much she charge for operation, she said 20,000 rupees.  This is injustice. |
| Afshan | Hmm, you are right. |
| W3 | Now how a laborer can afford all this?  (there is too much noise)  We distributed sweets as well; she is born after so many years. |
| Afshan | Okay. |
| W3 | We have spent 6000 rupees by now.  He cannot find any work due to rain and now he is at home. |
| Afshan | Yes, obviously. |
| W3 | No that poor man will do labor because he knows that he has to provide for the family.  I swear, I wept a lot. Thousands of delivery cases came there. She operated on many, and God knows how many she has aborted.  (there is too much noise)  This means that. |
| Afshan | Doctor is present there? |
| Ayesha | Yes. |
| W1 | See our baby is so pretty.  (a *goongi aurat* is saying something) |
| Afshan | She will start weeping. |
| Ayesha | *Ayesha.*  (the *goongi aurat* is trying to tell something) |
| W3 | We brought this from *Kaalas.* My son and I went there.  (baby is sneazing) |
| W1 | Allah *aye haye* pull this.  (she is trying to play with the kid) |
| W3 | She is saying that she is my friend.  (everyone is laughing) |
| W2 | *Zara.* |
| Afshan | What is her name? |
| W2 | *Zara.* |
| Afshan | Okay. |
| W3 | I would say this is my luck that they kept me in false hope. *Lara*  (everyone is laughing)  I thought that they must be bounded otherwise they said to me that they will come. |
| Afshan | Yes. |
| W3 | We will surely come, if we are here. |
| Afshan | We would have come if we were here. |
| W3 | Then we called *Samina* and she told that they had a meeting in *Islamabad* and they are gone*.* |
| Afshan | And someone else picked up the phone. |
| W3 | No, she just told that you were in meeting and I said thank you. |
| Afshan | She told me quite late. |
| Ayesha | If she had told quickly then… |
| Afshan | I would have come. |
| Ayesha | Yes, we would reach here. |
| W3 | No, it’s not like that. I thought you will be here.  (baby is crying and the other lady is trying to make her quiet)  I said this too that those girls would have come quickly if it was easy for them. Then I thought its *Yasmeen’s* turn now. I am free now. (Laughing) |
| W7 | See your friend is here.  (baby is crying and others are trying to make her quiet)  I said that now it is the turn of those poor girls, I hope to God that everything will be fine.  Then I told them about you, she said, “really?”  I said, “Damn on you” *la’nat ho tum per* they live in our neighbor. |
| Afshan | Yes, she is neighbor. |
| W3 | There *Zaitoon* and.. |
| Afshan | Yes. |
| W3 | I said that you people are in neighbor yet you don’t know. We got to know in *Mughlay* that they are *Khankah.* |
| Afshan | Yes. |
| W3 | They said that we didn’t sit with them ever, and then I told them to sit and talk with you guys so that they can get to know about you. |
| Afshan | Yes. |
| W3 | She said okay.  I told her that you have given us your number that you will bring the car and will go with us. |
| Afshan | Yes, I would have gone. |
| W3 | I said that it is their duty. They will go where they will be told to go. |
| Afshan | Exactly. I got a call on Monday morning that we have a meeting. I guess meeting was at 2 o’clock. |
| Ayesha | Yes, at 2o’clock. |
| Afshan | Meeting was at two and they called me early in the morning. Then I finished all the chores here and left. Actually they had to go to *Sindh,* so they called a meeting and asked to discuss the issues related to *Sindh.*  (baby is continuously crying) |
| W3 | Exactly. |
| Afshan | Finish this topic. |
| W3 | It is obvious; they are giving money so they take duties in return. Now they pay 6000 rupees and take them to *Muzafar Abad.* |
| Afshan | Hmmm. |
| W3 | They go till there to get the trainings. |
| Afshan | Yes. |
| W3 | To teach the skills. Now it has been four days since they have gone to *Pindi.*  (baby is continuously crying) |
| Afshan | *Asifa* has gone there as well. |
| W3 | Yes. |
| Afshan | Okay, in the fare which is going on there? |
| W3 | They arrange stalls in *Lok Virsa.* |
| Afshan | Okay. |
| W3 | Yes. |
| Afshan | When is the closing? |
| W3 | They will come back tomorrow. |
| Afshan | Okay, they will be back tomorrow. |
| W3 | I said that I go to *Pindi* Fauji Foundation to take my medicine…  (baby is continuously crying)  I said, “I will go there when you will come back.” |
| Afshan | Hmmm. |
| W3 | I am too weak. I cannot sit and I cannot stand in the queue. She gets my slip quickly from the queue and gets my medicine.  Now I said that I will go when you come back. I leave at five or six from here. I asked her to come back as my medicines are finishing.  She brings my fifteen days dose of medicines at once. Doctors have said that there should be no gap in taking medication.  She didn’t come today. You have to go like this. Now if they call you then you have to leave. |
| Afshan | I will have to go exactly. |
| W3 | I t is the same thing. |
| Afshan | These problems come in a job. |
| W3 | These things happen in the job. Now our daughters went and lived in *Muzaffar Abad* for monts. |
| Afshan | Yes. |
| W3 | And to *Chakwal* and *Pindi* wherever their offices are. *Samina’s.* |
| Afshan | Hmmm. |
| W3 | Then they give the things on shops, and then they go there.  (someone is walking) |
| Afshan | These things happen.  Okay when did you reach at *Nighat’s.* |
| W2 | At 1 o’clock. |
| W3 | No, get some sense. We left at eight from here. |
| Afshan | In the morning? |
| W2 | We left at 10 o’clock in the morning. |
| Afshan | 10 o’clock in the morning? |
| W3 | Yes, she was having contractions, but she was having light contractions in the morning. |
| Afshan | Yes. |
| W3 | She was in pain *haye me mar gai, haye me mar gai.*  When we got there they asked me to go to *Qamar Sahb.* Actually, she just made an excuse, she didn’t tell us anything right. |
| Afshan | Hmmm. |
| W3 | She said that there is no harm in getting your checkup done.  I said there is no harm. |
| Afshan | Yes. |
| W3 | There is no harm. Person should stay alive.  I don’t care; we will pay even if we have to beg for money.  I said this is not so. She told that she takes 300 rupees only for checkup.  *Tauba* there were so many people over there. And there was no market and no place to eat near that place. And there was only cold water there. I bought a juice form the canteen. |
| Afshan | Hmmm. |
| W3 | There is nothing else. |
| Afshan | *Aye haye.* |
| W3 | Then bring this and that from the market.  I brought juice, she threw up. I brought apricots, she threw up. Then I bought bread *roti* so she could eat.  (baby is crying and an old man is calling from the outside) |
| W1 | Yes. |
| W3 | Then I bought *roti* from outside but she didn’t eat. Then I bought *kabab* and I asked her to eat till her stomach is full. I have no idea what the time is, it’s night time. When Allah wants.  Please turn on the fan. |
| Ayesha | Hmm. |
| W3 | We don’t know what Allah knows. |
| Afshan | That is right too. |
| W3 | Then they admitted us. At around 11 o’clock at night our turn came.  I said to them that listen to me, we are here since 1 o’ clock. Just tell us exact time of delivery. Will it be at ten, twelve or one?  She said that Insha Allah we will deliver the baby before 12 o’clock.  (voice of a lady is coming from very far)  Then she prays herself and recites *Ya’seen* for every patient.  I have seen her doing this a lot. |
| Afshan | That *Qamar?* |
| W3 | Yes, *Qamar* is very good. Don’t ask about money, she charges a lot *Tauba.*  (someone is laughing)  *Allah meri tauba* a poor man is in no condition. |
| Afshan | *Gujar Khan* right? |
| W3 | Yes, *Gujar Khan.* Poor man’s… *taubah Astaghfaar.*  And the others she has hired, they do all the work. She herself goes at the end.  Means when the baby is about to be delivered.  (baby is crying)  When they have to do *chota operation.* |
| Ayesha | She has hired doctors or nurses? |
| W2 | Nurses. |
| Ayesha | Nurses? |
| Afshan | Two? |
| W2 | She has hired four. She stitched her up. |
| W3 | Yes she stitched her otherwise she don’t come near.  (baby is crying) |
| Afshan | Okay. |
| W3 | There is little bit of bleeding now. |
| Afshan | Bleeding is not that much? |
| W2 | It is less than yesterday. |
| Afshan | It is less today? |
| W2 | Yes. |
| Afshan | What do you think? Are you fine?  (baby is crying) |
| W3 | *Beta* we mix and grind a pot full of pistachios and water melon seeds *maghaz,* and keep it stored.  We will give her that. It is on her to eat that.  That will give power to both her and the baby. |
| Afshan | Yes. |
| W3 | She gives her milk. And we have brought home made *ghee* as well. We give her that too. |
| Ayesha | *Zaina.* |
| W2 | What was the name you were telling? |
| Ayesha | *Rehab.* |
| W2 | *Rehab.* |
| W3 | We do feed her later if she says we didn’t give her much then it is up to her. |
| W2 | I have to give my soul to Allah.  (everyone is laughing) |
| W3 | I wept and prayed Allah that they may live their lives.  This is my granddaughter *poti* and here is my daughter in law *Bahoo.* |
| Afshan | *Yes.* |
| W3 | *Tauba Astaghfaar.* We should think of them as our daughters. |
| Afshan | Yes. |
| W3 | My son was weeping.  (everyone is laughing) |
| W2 | He was weeping a lot. |
| W3 | I was looking at him and I asked him what the matter is? He said nothing mother. (while weeping)  (everyone is laughing a lot)  I said get some sense.  At first he sat outside but when rain started pouring down heavily, he went and sat in the car. His knee was not right as well.  He didn’t have breakfast and then he didn’t take tea in the evening so it was as if he was fasting.  Then I went to canteen and brought a pack of juice for him. I asked him to not to worry and to drink the juice. He said that he will not drink it. (she is telling in a crying tone) |
| Ayesha | *Aye.* |
| W3 | I said my son look at me, I gave birth to you all.  (everyone is laughing a lot)  I gave birth to daughters, I gave birth to you.  Then at last he collected himself. I said everything is fine, nothing is wrong. Don’t worry insha Allah delivery case will be normal.  He was saying that how can I arrange thirty forty thousand rupees if we have to operate on her?  I have heard about her. She charged a lot and I am a laborer. |
| Afshan | Hmmm. |
| W3 | From where I will arrange?  I said *Allah khair karey ga.*  I said my silly son, Allah is with us.  Allah is everything.  Don’t worry. We had arranged 20,000 thousands of our own by then. |
| Afshan | Yes. |
| W3 | Hard times come uninvited. |
| Afshan | True. |
| W3 | Although we are poor and we cannot fulfill our needs, but we have to do this. |
| Afshan | Hmmm. This is true. |
| W3 | I told him son it is all right. |
| Ayesha | You must have spent 8,000 by now? |
| W3 | Then everyone asked him to have lunch.  He said I will not eat.  I told them that he will not eat lunch.  Then I was going in and out every hour. I said to him that I am a woman myself and I have given birth as well.  (everyone is laughing)  I said that I have given birth to two daughters and three sons myself. |
| Afshan | Yes. |
| W3 | And they were born at home and I said that didn’t have to spend money at all. |
| Afshan | Yes.  (Everyone is laughing.) |
| W3 | I was trying to soothe him.  Then he laughed a lot that mother look at the way you talk.  I said that I am talking like this. Just wait and see, everything will be all right.  He was saying that neither they are telling any time nor they are saying anything. (she is mimicking him)  (everyone is laughing a lot)  I said that don’t worry, they will not operate; the case will be normal inshaa Allah. Doctor has said that the baby is fine, case is normal. When it is the decree of Allah it will not take long. |
| Afshan | Exactly. It doesn’t take long. |
| W3 | I said it will not take long. Masha Allah baby is fine too. |
| Afshan | What is her weight? |
| W3 | I don’t know. We didn’t weigh her. |
| Afshan | They didn’t weigh her? |
| W3 | I don’t know. |
| Afshan | They weigh the baby right away and they do tell the weight as well. |
| W3 | No matter. I will tell. |
| Afshan | They didn’t do the paper work? |
| W3 | Whose?  This baby’s?  No, nothing. |
| Afshan | They didn’t do any paperwork, they didn’t do anything. |
| W2 | No. |
| Afshan | So you won’t need her birth certificate to make her form “B”? |
| W2 | That will be made from Council. |
| W3 | That will be made from Council. |
| Afshan | Doctors also give some papers. |
| W3 | No, they didn’t give us anything. |
| Afshan | They didn’t give anything? |
| W3 | We will get that after her name is registered. |
| Afshan | Yes, that you will get. |
| W3 | My husband was in army, all the paperwork was done very quickly. And we had no problem in making their identity cards. |
| Afshana | Take picture of this baby too. |
| Ayesha | I want to take her picture.  (voices of people talking) |
| W3 | May Allah bless her with life. |
| Afshan | Yes, may Allah bless her with life. |
| W3 | We will take her to *baji’s* place. |
| Afshan | Take her full picture. |
| Ayesha | Look here. |
| Afshan | Belly comes out… |
| W3 | Only Allah is with us. |
| Afshan | Stand straight, like this. |
| W3 | If my daughter in law was awake, I would have made her pictures.  Wake up *haye tauba.*  (everyone is laughing) |
| W6 | No. |
| W3 | When did you come in *Poda?* |
| Afshan | A little while earlier. We just put our luggage and came here. |
| W3 | May Allah give you life.  (They are taking pictures of baby and asking her to make poses.)  After a long time a baby is born at our place. After my daughter, she is born. |
| Afshan | Yes.  (noise in the background and people are laughing) |
| W2 | I felt dizzy after her birth. |
| W3 | She felt dizzy and vomited a lot. |
| W2 | I vomited a lot. |
| W3 | She threw up whatever she ate or drank. I was moving in and out all the time. |
| Afshan | You were marching around. |
| W3 | I was restless. When this work came at the end I said that I am a heart patient and I am going out.  (everyone is laughing)  She had many helpers over there, she was just doing the operation. She only does cesarean or *chota operation*. Others look over the normal deliveries. She comes at the end only.  So many people go there, when I saw them I thought why she shouldn’t charge this much. |
| Afshan | Hmmm. |
| W3 | She doesn’t consider whether someone is poor or well off. Otherwise she is very nice. She offers prayers and recites surah *Yaseen.* |
| W2 | I called everyone and told them the news at 3 o’clock at night. I told the whole world. |
| Ayesha | Told everyone. |
| W1 | Everybody was sleeping, they woke up. |
| W3 | There was this lean girl the other day.  Do you understand nephew and nieces? |
| Afshan | Yes, I do. |
| W3 | Nephew and nieces, everybody got to know now that a baby girl is born at *Shahzad’s.* Our *bradri* is very big. |
| Afshan | Everyone will come now? |
| W3 | Everyone will come and I will be in a real fix.  (everyone is laughing a lot)  I asked them to come together so that I can get over with it at once. |
| Afshan | Yes, together. |
| W3 | Now it will cost me a lot if they come as twos and threes. |
| W6 | Don’t worry *beta* Allah will bless you with luck. |
| W3 | I was just kidding. Everyone comes with their own will and happiness. |
| Afshan | They come on their own will. |
| W3 | Siblings come with delight. The pay the rent as well. They take 100 rupees fares within the village.  You know the place where my *meka* is? There is a huge mountain over there. *Reema* went there to shoot a movie. |
| Afshan | Yes. |
| W3 | She went there. She couldn’t get enough of that place. She climbed the mountains and said it is a beautiful place.  We will take you there, you will say yourself that it is a beautiful place.  I called there and told them that *shahzaad* had a daughter and I said to them that it is better if you guys come together. |
| Afshan | Obviously, they are coming from a far place. |
| W3 | The rent is 100 rupees. |
| W6 | They will stay here? |
| Afshan | What? |
| W6 | They will live here? |
| Afshan | Yes, because there niece is here. |
| W3 | Her cousins will come. We have a huge family. What should I tell?  *Bhabhian hui bhateejay hue.*  (everyone is laughing a lot)  My kid eat sweets and tell me if you want to eat *roti.* |
| Afshan | No, I had lunch in the noon. I will not be eating soon. |
| W3 | It is our duty. |
| Afshan | What? |
| Ayesha | They are showing her father. |
| W2 | *Shahzaad* is here? |
| W1 | I said that she will call you *abba.*  He said no she will call me papa. |
| W3 | He is not that old. My son gets tired due to labor work. |
| Afshan | Hmmm. |
| W3 | Allah is the Lord. He will give everything in time. |
| Ayesha | Absolutely right. |
| W2 | Her father seems very innocent. |
| W3 | I have asked *Qamar* to keep me with her. She said join in.  I said will you then give me 100 rupees per day?  (everyone is laughing) |
| W2 | She pays 150 rupees to those who stay at night and 100 rupees to those who works there at daytime.  (the baby is yelling an old man is coughing) |
| W3 | *Nighat* told me that she will have operation. |
| Afshan | She said by the way? |
| W3 | She asked to take her to *Qamar* after checking her. |
| W2 | She did ultrasound. |
| W3 | She did ultrasound. |
| Afshan | She only did ultrasound? |
| W2 | No from the inside as well.  (kid is talking continuously) |
| Afshan | She checked from the inside as well? |
| W2 | Yes. |
| W3 | She is earning a lot. I must say she is earning hundreds of thousands.  Few babies were born dead and few had miscarriages in 3rd month.  (they are whispering)  One girl was born dead and her poor mother. Because delivery of dead babies is very difficult. |
| Afshan | Yes it is difficult. |
| W3 | Her condition was very bad. |
| W2 | She was shouting that operate on me, cut my belly, I am dying.  She wept a lot. |
| W3 | As soon as the girl was born she became all right. As if she didn’t give birth to her. |
| W2 | She sat right after the baby was born. |
| W3 | She died because of *saya.* |
| Afshan | What is *saya* by the way? |
| W3 | *Saya* is actually like there is this girl in our village. |
| Afshan | Yes. |
| W3 | She will have miscarriage. Is she is in second or third month and if she has gone somewhere, or to someone’s house. If it is her fourth or fifth month *usko saya lag jae ga.*  And then her fetus will start shrinking. |
| Afshan | It happens in fourth or fifth month only? |
| W3 | Yes. |
| Afshan | It doesn’t happen after that? |
| W3 | No, it doesn’t happen after that. |
| Afshan | Doesn’t happen then. |
| W3 | It is not of our own family and relatives. |
| W2 | It is not of our own family and relatives, it is of others. |
| W3 | You catch *saya* of other castes. |
| Afshan | Other caste? |
| W3 | Like *“Kashmiri”* and “*nai’* and *“dhobhi”.* |
| W2 | You catch *saya* of other castes. |
| W3 | We are from one family, so it doesn’t happen among us. |
| Afshan | What do people do when they catch *saya?* |
| W3 | The baby keeps on shrinking and becomes wood like. Then it is very difficult to come out.  Her delivery was very difficult. *Tauba Astaghfaar.* |
| W2 | The doctor to whom she went for checkup said that they will have to operate but her delivery was normal. |
| W3 | She delivered her normally. |
| Afshan | He was born normally? |
| W2 | Yes, normal. |
| W3 | And then as soon as she was born she became all right. She was asking them to bring the car.  It wasn’t as though the same girl was yelling few moments earlier.  (everyone is laughing)  It was as though she will not deliver baby again. |
| Afshan | But still they give birth to other. |
| W3 | And they get ready to give birth again. |
| Afshan | And she forgets everything. |
| W3 | They don’t remember the whole experience. |
| W2 | Move away. |
| Afshan | Feed her. Put her in your lap and feed her. Milk will come only when you will feed her.  It won’t come if you keep looking like this. (laughing) |
| W3 | I told her that it will become easy for her otherwise raising a child becomes very difficult.  We have to see each and everything and we have to test it. |
| Afshan | Yes. |
| W3 | So my kid whatever I am telling you listen to it and act upon it. |
| Afshan | This is right. |
| W3 | We are old people, we know because we have given birth to children and raised them. They don’t know. |
| Afshan | Right. |
| W3 | So *beta* when you will carry her and feed her then milk will come down otherwise it will not.  You will feel good if you will make her sleep near you like this. I asked her to lay her down near her at night. And I said to her that don’t give her feeder, it will be a problem if she becomes habitual.  Milk is very nutritious. Masha Allah her breasts are good too. |
| Afshan | Hmmm. |
| W3 | Few of them don’t have them at all still they feed their babies.  She says water is coming out, I told her that this water is good for the baby. |
| Afshan | Yes this water is good for her too. |
| W3 | When your chest will open, milk will come out automatically. |
| Afshan | Yes, it will come out automatically. |
| W3 | And whatever you will eat, the food will affect you as well.  We are not literate but we know. |
| Afshan | You are absolutely right. Her own health will get better by feeding this milk. |
| W3 | I made her soap. I made a big bowl of soap for her. I said you should eat some soap.  When it was our time we used to have nothing..  Yes this is true. I ate one kg *ghee* and she was born on the fourth day. She irritated me a lot.’  I went to bring water, I had three pitchers, I put two of them at my back and one on my head. A *dai* midwife used to live here. When I reached home I asked my sister to call her. When she came, I gave birth to a girl in no more than five minutes.  Everyone was saying that *Peeno* was right here, filling her pitchers, she was standing right here and now she has delivered a baby. |
| W2 | Open the door. |
| W3 | We have seen better times. Now, you have to go for checkups for nine months and once these months are completed you have to go to doctor for delivery again. And even there they send you to someone else. |
| W2 | Please drink the water or it will get warm. |
| W3 | The said to me *aman* bring her on 15ht of June, and today is 15th. |
| Ayesha | It is thirteen. |
| W3 | It is thirteen, means few days are left. |
| Afshan | Yes, two three days are left. |
| W3 | *Beta* I lost my senses then. I said listen to me, you told us to come on 13th of June. |
| W2 | She said baby is slightly above in position. |
| Afshan | Okay. When you went to *Nighat?* |
| W2 | Yes, *Nighat* said baby is slightly up in position so get your checkup done from a lady doctor. |
| W3 | She said get your checkup done. |
| W2 | I used to go to *Afia.* |
| W3 | She said take her to *Qamar,* she doesn’t have facilities here. |
| Afshan | She doesn’t have facilities. |
| W2 | She said that emergency can happen and I don’t have facilities. The heartbeat of your baby can drop. |
| Afshan | Okay, that’s why she sent you there. |
| W3 | At the same time a woman came, she checked her with a machine. That machine was producing noise. She said that the heartbeat of the baby is now this much. It is up to you, take her. |
| W2 | There was water in her belly. |
| W3 | There was water in her belly. |
| W2 | They operated her because there was water in her belly. |
| Afshan | They operated? |
| W2 | Yes, then didn’t pay much attention, we were worried about her. There was another woman there, her placentaremained inside. |
| Afshan | Girl was delivered at home? |
| W2 | No, she was delivered here, a doctor did the case. She was brought there because her placentawas left inside. She was throwing up.  *Qamar* had many cases at that time. I became worried and was nauseated. I couldn’t think of anything, whom should I call, nothing came in my mind. |
| Afshan | Hmmm. |
| W6 | I was making *rotian,* they came and told me that *Sidrah* is not well, so I changed my clothes quickly and came here. We took her to *“Suhawa”* then we said to her that you gave us fifteen as a delivery date and today is eleven, we are poor people and we paid rent for all this.  She said that I will give her injections with which she will manage two three more days. We said that we paid so much rent, if delivery is not possible then tell us we will make some other arrangements. Then she recommended us to take her to a doctor. |
| Afshan | Okay. |
| W6 | She will operate if she has to otherwise she will deliver the baby normally. Then we thought to take her. We took her there and asked the doctor that what are we supposed to do? He said that we will admit her.  When she admitted her and a whole day passed. She was in so much pain that she held my arm with great intensity. She was beating her chest saying *haye meri maan me mar gai.* And she was doing like this.  (everyone is laughing)  Then nurses came and said that what can we do? She doesn’t let us come near her.. I asked them to examine her and they said that she is not letting us touch her. Then I scolded her and asked her to let them check her.  Then they gave her a drip. She was very nice and she kept on saying bismillah.  (children are making noise)  She was in a lot of pain, and then they gave her injections and drip. Then the doctor came, she offered *nafal* and recited *Yaseen* and then she did small operation. |
| Afshan | Hmm. |
| W3 | There were a lot of problems there. |
| W6 | My girl was born at home in just half an hour. And at that time I was at my mother’s house *rooth k.* My *khala, dadi* (father’s *chachi*), *nani*and my mother’s *khala* was there. My elder son was delivered at home as well. |
| Afshan | Hmmm. |
| W6 | I remained in pain whole day when my youngest son was born. And on the second day I was in pain too, then a woman came and said that your placenta has become like rubber, your baby cannot be delivered here. Then they took me to hospital and there my son was born at 11 o’clock at night. |
| Afshan | Now how old is he? |
| W6 | May Allah bless him with life, he is in class eighth. |
| Afshan | Okay. |
| W3 | It was raining heavily that day and we faced a lot of problems. |
| Afshan | Yes, it was raining hard that day. |
| W6 | Yes, it was raining in *Gujar Khan* but not here. |
| Afshan | It was raining in *Islamabad* as well. |
| W6 | It didn’t rain here but it was raining very hard there. The thunder of the clouds was so loud that I got scared. Then the nurses came and said to me that nothing will happen to you, give her courage. |
| W3 | They were consoling us a lot. |
| W6 | Yes they were consoling her and were saying bismillah. |
| W3 | We tried as much as we could. |
| Afshan | Hmmm. |
| W3 | Our trials are never ending. |
| Afshan | Yes, there are many trials. |
| W6 | What have you cooked? |
| W1 | *Daal.* |
| W6 | What will you give in lunch? |
| W1 | Shall I give *roti?* |
| W6 | Will you eat *roti?* |
| W2 | Whatever you want. |
| W6 | I wanted to ask about her. I just made the food and *roti*. I covered *rotian* and came here to see her.  Will you go there today? |
| W2 | Her mother has died. |
| Afshan | Yes, I know that. |
| W6 | Step mother does so much injustice that you can never imagine. |
| Afshan | They have a step mother as well? |
| W6 | Yes. |
| W1 | She has a kid too. |
| W6 | She has a kid too, she makes her carry him all day long. |
| Afshan | He is *Asifa’s cahcha* right? |
| W6 | No. |
| W1 | No, he is someone else. |
| Afshan | Okay, he is the other kid? |
| W3 | Her sister died…. He was his husband… she was his daughter. |
| Afshan | Okay, what happened to your sister? |
| W6 | Her baby was born, she was so simple… we called a doctor for her from *Malyaar.* |
| Afshan | Which doctor did you call? |
| W3 | She was another one. |
| W2 | Her name is *Asmat.* |
| W3 | They called *Asmat.* So when her baby was born her uterus came out along with the placenta. And she didn’t even know that it was placenta or something else. |
| Afshan | Who *Asmat?* |
| W6 | Yes, then her liver burst and bleeding started. Women were saying that she bled so much that there feet get covered in the blood. Then they carried her to *Chakwaal.* Then there they gave her blood transfusion as well but she was finished. |
| Afshan | She died? |
| W6 | She died. |
| W2 | And they gave her drip as well. |
| W6 | No, they just gave one in *Chakwal.* Her daughter is very intelligent and very clever. |
| Afshan | How old is she? |
| W2 | Four years old. |
| W1 | She stood first in whole school. |
| W6 | She stood first. She is very intelligent and all the teachers praise her. She was very simple...  My brother lives near her house. Whenever her step mother beats her or scolds her she tells them everything. |
| Afshan | Okay. |
| W6 | She beats her a lot… And this boy teases her a lot.  *Oye Abdullah* I didn’t tell you at night? |
| W2 | You open your eyes just like that at least you should have shaved her hairs. |
| W3 | I asked him to shave her hair on fifth day. |
| W6 | Then take it out. |
| W3 | We shave hairs in fifth month. |
| W6 | And on seventh day as well.  (voice is too low, unable to comprehend)  What to cook for *Sidra?* |
| W3 | Ask him. If you are shaving her hairs on fifth day then we need 5 kg of sugar, dry fruits and semolina to make *laddoo.* |
| W1 | It is means of more expenses.  (everyone is laughing) |
| Afshan | You do this on the birth of girl and boy both? |
| W3 | Yes we invite the whole family. |
| Afshan | You have to call everyone? |
| W3 | Yes, we have to call everyone. But my son is a laborer. Allah has blessed us so we have to do this.  When they heard about it they all came early in the morning. |
| Afshan | Hmmm. |
| W3 | *Asifa* kept on saying on the phone that I am bound otherwise I would have come. We said now the baby is born and we are going back home. |
| Afshan | These things happen when you are on job. |
| W3 | This is *Deena* and this is *Gulnaar* from *Kalas*, and *Sameena* and all these girls do a lot of work. We cannot send them on jobs so this is enough for us. |
| Afshan | *Chalo* it is inside the house. |
| W3 | This is better for us. They are not literate and this is enough for us.  This is our problem.  Are you feeling hot? Come and sit here. |
| Afshan | No, I am all right. It is no problem. |
| W3 | My girl, getup and sit and feed her. |
| Afshan | Should I help you in sitting? Take the baby in your lap. |
| W2 | I will carry her.  She is so pretty. She plays in such a good way at night. She keeps her eyes open. |
| Ayesha | *Haye haye.* |
| W3 | Say something *beta.* |
| Ayesha | Yes, she should start talking from now. |
| W3 | Give her milk. |
| Afshan | Get up and feed her. She will take milk if you attach her with yourself.  (baby is weeping)  She is weeping. |
| W3 | She is weeping. |
| Afshan | She is weeping a lot. |
| W3 | I have given her clothes and everything. I also gave her honey and *ghutti.* |
| Afshan | You gave her honey? |
| W3 | No, her *naani* gave her honey.  (everyone is laughing)  I didn’t even go near her. |
| W6 | She kept on sitting outside. |
| W3 | I told you that I was unable to take it. |
| W6 | She went outside and did this to her son (clapping sound) |
| W3 | Were you watching me all the time?  What a person can do in difficult situation? |
| W6 | When the clouds were thundering... |
| Afshan | Don’t press her too much in your lap. |
| W6 | The lightning struck quite loudly. |
| Afshan | Why have you tied her that clothe? |
| W3 | It is not good to keep the girls naked. |
| Afshan | What happens if she is naked? |
| W3 | No, it is not good. |
| Afshan | Tell please. |
| W3 | It’s nothing; she is a baby that’s why. |
| W2 | She is not taking milk. |
| Afshan | Keep her close to your breast then she will drink. |
| W3 | Get up and feed her. |
| Afshan | Pick her up and keep her close to your breast nothing will happen. |
| W3 | Keep the baby close to yourself and milk will come out automatically. |
| Afshan | Put it in her mouth, it is not necessary for her to wake up in order to drink milk. |
| W3 | See she is opening her mouth.  (everybody is laughing) |
| Afshan | Okay, put this in her mouth, nothing will happen. |
| W3 | If she does this continuously then I will make her feed the baby forcefully. |
| Afshan | Yes, give her forcefully.  (everybody is laughing) |
| W3 | If she keeps on doing this then I will surely do this to her, now I am here with her all the time. |
| Afshan | Hmmm. |
| W3 | Her mother will go back because she has little kids. I told her that I will be strict on her. |
| W6 | I visit her twice or thrice in a day. |
| W3 | What else can she do? |
| W6 | I have done all the chores. I brought water and made *roti.* Now I came here after taking bathe. |
| Afshan | See, she is drinking milk. Feed her. |
| W3 | Yes, I have told her. |
| Afshan | Milk will come out automatically as you feed her, and the water that is coming out is also important for the baby. |
| W3 | Mother’s milk is good. |
| W6 | It was same with us in the first two three days. And later we used to have so much milk that it would go waste. |
| W3 | Yes, what else. |
| W6 | Same will be the case with you. Massage your breasts like this and eat properly so the milk will come out. |
| W3 | There used to be enough milk for the baby. |
| W6 | I used to have a lot of milk. I used to waste it. My baby used to drink till his stomach was full. |
| W3 | Woman’s milk is enough for the baby. My milk would go waste in large amounts after my child’s birth. A woman used to come at our home at that time; she would ask what would you do with so much milk? I would say that I will make *lassi.*  (everyone is laughing)  What happened?  Why are you laughing so hard on my talk? |
| W6 | You are talking like this.  (everybody is laughing continuously) |
| W3 | Shouldn’t I talk like this? |
| Afshan | No, please continue talking. |
| W3 | People give their daughters in marriage at a very young age. They all must think that you are married. |
| Ayesha | Hmmm. |
| W3 | May Allah give them life; they will get married inshaa Allah.  After eight hours of operation they ask the mother to feed the baby. Doctors do this, they don’t see if the mother is having problems or not. I have seen them doing this at many places. |
| W6 | We don’t feed our babies on first day. |
| W3 | We used to feed our babies on 3rd day, it was our custom. |
| W6 | We used to give *ghutti.* |
| Afshan | Put in her mouth. Let her feed. |
| W3 | Let her feed. |
| Afshan | See, there is something that’s why she is feeding. |
| W3 | It will give a bit of pain.  She says that milk doesn’t come out. I said keep her near your chest, milk will come out automatically.  She will drink slowly. |
| Afshan | Milk will come out according to bay’s need. |
| W3 | Exactly. |
| Afshan | She is very young. |
| W3 | The pores will open by this. Milk will come out when the water will finish. Milk will come out this way, She is very small now. |
| W | Yes *Yassir* no one came?  Where? (home) |
| W1 | You and *Abdullah* sit here, I have to finish some work. |
| W2 | She has done everything. |
| Afshan | She is young. |
| W3 | I gave her bangles. |
| Afshan | Okay, you gave her bangles as well? |
| W3 | Yes, she is my daughter in law *poti.* |
| Ayesha | Buy her a cycle or motor cycle from now.  (everyone is laughing) |
| W3 | My *poti* will drink a whole pitcher of milk. You will get to know at night.  I will not give her feeder now. |
| Afshan | Yes, don’t give her feeder, give her your own milk. |
| W3 | I will not make feeder for her. |
| Afshan | Feed her. |
| W3 | Whether she gets hungry or weeps, I will not make feeder for her. |
| W2 | She will remain hungry if my milk doesn’t come out. |
| Afshan | She will not remain hungry. Do you get scared while feeding her? |
| W2 | I am not scared it is just my milk doesn’t come out. |
| Afshan | It will come out automatically. |
| W1 | Okay, I am going home now. |
| W3 | Please go after eating lunch. |
| W1 | No, I will have my lunch at home. |
| W2 | She is just doing drama. |
| Afshan | Hmmm. |
| Ayesha | Hmmm. |
| W2 | Keep her close to your breast then she will drink. |
| Ayesha | Yes, that is a very good drama. |
| W3 | Then place the TV here. |
| W2 | It will broadcast in early morning. |
| Afshan | Aw, she is saying that everyone teases her. (talking to a little girl) |
| W6 | Babies open their eyes while feeding. |
| W2 | This is because he wants to watch that drama. |
| Afshan | *Khala* lets move.  (girl is talkin)  Should we go now? |
| W3 | She is awake now. Wake up baby.  (the little girl is asking about keys) |
| W1 | Keys are with mother. |
| W3 | Little baby. |
| W2 | She sleeps all the time. |
| Afshan | Young babies do sleep a lot so it is nothing to get worried about. |
| W3 | There is nothing to worry about it. |
| Afshan | She will wake up at night.  (everyone is laughing)  Don’t worry she will tell you at night. |
| W3 | She will tell you in a very good way. |
| W2 | Do you have TV there? |
| Afshan | Yes, we have. |
| Ayesha | Yes, we have. |
| W2 | Do you watch? |
| Ayesha | Yes, we do but rarely. |
| Afshan | We get very little time. |
| W2 | Do you watch dramas? |
| Afshan | No, we don’t get time due to the work load. |
| W6 | We are leaving now. |
| Afshan | We watch TV very less. |
| W1 | I will come early in the morning then. |
| Afshan | Let’s get going. |
| W3 | Why?  Please go after having lunch. |
| Afshan | Actually, we had lunch quite late. We got late a bit. |
| W2 | When did you come? |
| W3 | She was saying that they came here right after putting the luggage. |
| Afshan | We got the news when we were there so we just dropped the luggage. So I said let’s go lady. Let’s see whether she had a girl or a boy. |
| W3 | May Allah give you life. |
| Afshan | Little baby (she is kissing the baby) |
| W2 | She is saying that I like her. |
| W3 | We bathed her after bringing her back. |
| Afshan | Bathe her daily and don’t worry about the warm weather. |
| W3 | Don’t use soap while bathing her. |
| Afshan | It is too hot. |
| W3 | I will surely bathe her at noon. |
| W6 | *Abdullah* don’t do this, you will through it. |
| W3 | I will make her sleep under fan after bathing her. |
| Afshan | Yes, bathe her daily. |
| W3 | You see weather is too hot these days. |
| Afshan | It was very hot in the daytime. |
| W6 | It was too hot. |
| Afshan | What was the time then? |
| W6 | It was so hot that my heart was agitated.  May Allah give life, I gave birth to four kids. |
| W3 | Wake up, don’t you have to eat lunch? (talking to the baby) |
| W2 | She is saying that you all should have lunch now. |
| W3 | Wake up. My *poti* has beautiful hands and feet. |
| Ayesha | Yes, they are beautiful. |
| W2 | Mother. |
| Afshan | Let’s go. |
| Ayeshan | Let’s go. |
| W3 | Look what she is doing. |
| Afshan | Obviously she is growing up now. |
| W2 | Go with them. |
| W6 | They will go on car. |
| W3 | Okay, thank God. |
| Afshan | Okay, Allah hafiz. |
| W1 | Mother I have found the utensils. Bring *Maryam* and keys with you. |
| W3 | May Allah be with you.  (sound of opening the gate) |
| W6 | That is closed. |
| W1 | Get going. |
| W3 | Car is parked there. |
| W6 | Where is the car parked? |
| Afshan | It is parked there. |
| W6 | Okay. |
| Afshan | Okay, Allah hafiz. |
| Ayesha | Khuda hafiz. |
| Afshan | Khuda hafiz. |
| Ayesha | Yes. |
| W1 | We should go. |
| Ayesha | Come along. |
| W6 | Where are the keys? |
| W1 | Keys are with *Maryam.* I will be there before you. |
| W6 | Okay, you go ahead.  (sound of opening car door) |
| W1 | *Maryam* sit you silly. |