# Visit at Irshad's house 260610

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| Name | Discussion/Points | Coding |
| Afshan | Actually we have just taken our breakfast and we are not coming from far, so we cannot have more tea now. (smiling in light mood.) |  |
| Ayesha | (Smiling.) |  |
| Afshan | If we had come here on foot, then we would have asked you to serve us water/drink. |  |
| Irshad | Ok. How are you? |  |
| Afshan | We are fine. |  |
| Ayesha | Very fine, thanks to God. |  |
| Afshan | So how is your son? What is the progress on his job? |  |
| Irshad | He is still waiting. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | He can go to work only when documents will come from higher authorities. |  |
| Afshan | Yes; has he submitted all documents? |  |
| Irshad | Yes. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Yes. |  |
| Irshad | Yes all documents are submitted, now may Allah show mercy on us. I asked yesterday to call you to know if you had left. Actually you had not visited us for many days? |  |
| Afshan | Actually there were some weddings in the villages, so we had been attending those. Yesterday it was their *barat,* so when you called me yesterday I was in another village with the *barat.* It was extremely hot in that village where we went with *barat.* |  |
|  | (Some background sounds.) |  |
| Ayesha | No, no need for fan. |  |
| Afshan | *Barat* started from here at almost noon, so you can imagine how long it would have taken. |  |
| Irshad | Of course, it takes time. |  |
| Afshan | Then we came back in evening around 5:30 pm or 6:00 pm. I was feeling so sick because of the hot temperature. |  |
| Irshad | Should I bring some cold drink for you, you must be feeling thirsty? |  |
| Afshan | No, I am not thirsty. |  |
| Irshad | No, it will be good if you will take some cold drink. |  |
| Afshan | No need for that Irshad. |  |
| Ayesha | We have come here just after drinking. |  |
| Irshad | You have come to earth after drinking water from heavens (smiling). |  |
| Ayesha | (Smiling.) |  |
| Irshad | All the time she refuses to take drink by saying that she has just taken it. |  |
| Afshan | Actually we have kept water in our car also. |  |
| Ayesha | Yes, I always keep water with me in my bag also. See I have it here with me. |  |
| Afshan | Actually she does not take cold water. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Why? |  |
| Afshan | She drinks normal temperature water. |  |
| Irshad | Water which is neither cold nor hot? |  |
| Afshan | Yes. We drink cold water but she does not. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | She must not be feeling this much high temperature. |  |
| Ayesha | (Smiling.) |  |
| Afshan | Yes, she is not used to drink cold water from the beginning. It is pleasant weather outside. |  |
| Irshad | Yes. |  |
| Irshad’s son | Assalamoalaikum. |  |
| Afshan | Walaikumassalam, how are you? Fine? |  |
| Irshad’s son | Yes, Thanks to God. You could have put one more bed here. |  |
| Irshad | Bala, we will sit outside. So please put two beds there. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | You can sit here for a while; we will put beds outside after some time. |  |
| Irshad | It is hot inside here. |  |
| Afshan | Your rooms are usually cool but why they are hot today? They got heated up by warm weather? |  |
| Irshad | Yes, hot weather. |  |
| Irshad’s son | It is very hot the whole day so it gets hot outside as well. |  |
| Afshan | Are you going tomorrow? |  |
| Irshad | No. we don’t know yet that when we will go maybe tomorrow may be the day after tomorrow or some other day. Contractor (*thekedar*) has to come yet and clear all earning calculations. |  |
| Afshan | Contractor has not come yet? |  |
| Irshad | No, not yet. The junior one has come but not the senior one. Senior one has to do all the calculations of money matters. |  |
| Afshan | Ok, he will come and do the calculations and then you will go. |  |
| Irshad | Yes. |  |
| Irshad’s son | Yes. |  |
| Afshan | Then you will come back after celebrating Eid or before? |  |
| Irshad’s son | May be after Eid. |  |
| Irshad | Yes, may be after celebrating Eid. |  |
| Irshad’s son | Will you continue your stay here? |  |
| Afshan | Yes, we will stay here. I think we will continue our stay here till the time you come back. We will be here till September or October. |  |
| Irshad | I will ask you not to go from here. (After sometime) A son was born there. |  |
| Afshan | Whose? |  |
| Irshad | Faisal’s son, in *halwaldar’s* home. A son is born at their home. I just came back from their home. |  |
| Afshan | Ok. |  |
| Irshad | I went there for massage. |  |
| Afshan | Ok, for massage. Where was the son born? |  |
| Irshad | In Gujar Khan. |  |
| Afshan | At Nighat’s place? |  |
| Irshad | Yes, at Nighat’s place. |  |
| Afshan | Ok. |  |
| Ayesha | But Qamar is there in Gujar Khan. (In low voice). |  |
| Afshan | What? |  |
| Ayesha | Nighat is in Sohawa and Qamar is there in Gujar Khan. |  |
| Afshan | Oh yes (low voice). But Nighat is in Sohawa and Qmar is there in Gujar Khan. |  |
| Irshad | Yes, son was delivered at Qamar’s place in Gujar Khan. |  |
| Afshan | In Gujar Khan, ok. Why did they go to Gujar Khan? These people always go to Sohawa not to Gujar Khan. |  |
| Irshad | They went to Sohawa and they asked them to take to Gujar Khan. |  |
| Afshan | Ok, there must be some complication. |  |
| Irshad | Usually everyone goes to Sohawa from here. |  |
| Irshad’s son | Did you offer some drink to them? |  |
| Irshad | They said that they did not want any drink. |  |
| Irshad’s son | Any cold drink please? |  |
| Afshan | No, we don’t need any. Actually we have just taken our breakfast. We drink enough water after breakfast, so no need for any drink now. |  |
| Irshad | Ok. Does Baji (Dr. Zubia) call you? |  |
| Afshan | Yes, she calls. |  |
| Irshad’s son | When did she left? |  |
| Afshan | She went almost three weeks back. |  |
| Irshad’s son | Yes she was telling that she would go to Mianwali? |  |
| Afshan | Mianwali? No it was Sindh. Our nature of work is like that, so it is compulsory to go there. |  |
| Irshad | Yes, you travel to wherever your earnings are destined. |  |
| Afshan | Yes. Did Baby return? |  |
| Irshad | No, not yet. |  |
| Irshad’s son | And she is not going to come back in the summer season. |  |
| Irshad | The other day we called, but she did not speak. May be she turned off her mobile phone. |  |
| Irshad’s son | It is better to live there instead of living alone here. |  |
| Irshad | There is no one else here, that is why. |  |
| Irshad’s son | She has nothing to do here and that country is so big. |  |
| Irshad | Her all relatives are there including her sisters, brothers and aunts and all cousins. |  |
| Afshan | Hmm. Why have you put *hinna* on your head? |  |
| Irshad | He wanted to put it. |  |
| Afshan | You are fond of putting *hinna* on your head? But you have put it on your hands too. |  |
| Ayesha | It is flowing (down your hands) as well. |  |
| Afshan | Irshad, did you not put the *hinna*? |  |
| Irshad | (Smiling.) I brought a packet of *hinna* but could not find time to put on. I don’t have time baji. |  |
| Afshan | So what do you keep on doing all the time? |  |
| Irshad | First I went to Dumma and have just come back. I did cleaning there, then mopping and then I massaged the lady there. |  |
| Afshan | Is that lady, who just gave birth to a child, living alone there? |  |
| Irshad | No, she has her elder sister-in-law (jithani). |  |
| Afshan | Ok. Was it her first baby? |  |
| Irshad | Yes. |  |
| Afshan | Then why did they send her to Dr. Qamar? |  |
| Irshad | That I don’t know. |  |
| Afshan | Ok. |  |
| Irshad | There can be many complications, but let me tell you the truth baji. They don’t tell and I never ask about these things because it is none of my business. You ask these things because it is your business, but why should I ask. |  |
| Afshan | No, but there must be something. |  |
| Irshad’s son | Yes. |  |
| Irshad | She went there (in Sohawa) but they asked her to go to Gujar Khan, what can we do? And she is like very weak. |  |
| Afshan | Ok, did they know that it was going to be a baby boy? |  |
| Irshad | No, I don’t know. They did not go for ultrasound too. Her husband is very Islamic (Molvi) and Wahabi. |  |
| Afshan | Hmm. How is Abida; is she fine? |  |
| Irshad | Yes very fine (smiling). |  |
| Afshan | Did she not ask about us that we did not go to her place again? |  |
| Irshad | Yes, she was saying that but you people are like this. |  |
| Afshan | No, I was thinking to go to her place too. But we do not have time; we have started work at that place too. Actually I had asked Abida to arrange *desi ghee* for me. She said that she will make ghee and give it to me. But I did not go to her place again. |  |
| Irshad | How can she make it? She sends all milk to the hotel. |  |
| Afshan | No, she told me that she takes off all the cream from milk before sending to the hotel. |  |
| Irshad | No, it is not like this. |  |
| Irshad’s son | Their milk is also not good. |  |
| Irshad | I brought 0.25 kg ghee from there; actually he has to take medicine with that. But now I have paid money since one month but there is no *ghee* or butterand they are not returning the money too. Yesterday I asked them to return my money but she said to buy some other grocery from there. So it is very hard to get *ghee.* But baji you can get *ghee* from our side, we have very nice ghee there. They have buffaloes and they make nice ghee. |  |
| Irshad’s son | So if you want to buy ghee, then tell us. |  |
| Irshad | They have fresh ghee. |  |
| Ayesha | But we have asked them too. |  |
| Irshad | We brought five kilogram of ghee. |  |
| Ayesha | He was saying that he would bring ghee when we would get back. |  |
| Afshan | Hmm. |  |
| Irshad | Who? |  |
| Ayesha | We asked someone at that place where we are living now. |  |
| Irshad | Hmm. |  |
| Afshan | But now it is summer and people don’t eat much ghee. |  |
| Irshad | Yes ghee is *garam.* |  |
| Afshan | Yes that is why people don’t eat it in summers. |  |
| Irshad | Yes we should eat it in winters. It is not good in summers. |  |
| Afshan | It is hot these days, so it is not nice to take ghee. |  |
| Irshad | I was thinking that you have not come to our place since many days. |  |
| Afshan | We went back home for few days and then came back here. Then wedding ceremonies got started, and two weddings together at that. So we had to go there too. We had other things to do too so in doing all that I did not get time to come to you. |  |
| Irshad | Then what about that work that I asked you? |  |
| Afshan | Which work? |  |
| Irshad | I have given one report to the senior baji (Dr. Zubia). |  |
| Afshan | Which report? She did not tell me. |  |
| Irshad | I asked her to do something for us. |  |
| Afshan | I will ask from her. She did not tell me about that. |  |
| Irshad | She herself asked me to take that paper to her. |  |
| Afshan | Ok, I don’t know. But I will ask from her. If there is something, then I will call you. Your son has a mobile phone? |  |
| Irshad | Yes. |  |
| Irshad’s son | Do you have my number? |  |
| Afshan | I have your mobile number. |  |
| Irshad’s son | I don’t think we have the number. |  |
| Afshan | Yes, but I have your number. Has your work finished at this place? |  |
| Irshad’s son | Yes. |  |
| Afshan | And what about all payment calculations, is that done? |  |
| Irshad’s son | No, not yet. |  |
| Afshan | Ok. Is it common practice in all kilns to shut off work for two months? |  |
| Irshad’s son | Yes. |  |
| Afshan | Is it because of so much hot weather? |  |
| Irshad’s son | Yes, because of hot weather. But even if they don’t give this two months off, it is fine for them (they have the right to do that). They give us living expenses for these two months and our travel expenses too. Then we go back to our homes. |  |
| Afshan | Then you have to do some renovation (repairmen) of your house there. |  |
| Irshad | Yes. |  |
| Afshan | So you have to work there also, after leaving this place. |  |
| Irshad’s son | Of course, we have to work. |  |
| Irshad | You know one month is spent in cleaning and arranging the house, we have to put mud-cover on the house too. Then after one month we have to return here, so we do preparations for that (smiling helplessly). |  |
| Afshan | But in this way your house there remains in good condition. Because you put mud on it once a year. |  |
| Irshad’s son | Yes. |  |
| Irshad | Of course that is our home. |  |
| Afshan | Do you have unpaved house there? |  |
| Irshad’s son | No. |  |
| Irshad | We have a paved/cemented house there. |  |
| Afshan | Is that house built on your own land? |  |
| Irshad’s son | Yes. |  |
| Irshad | We own a little land there. |  |
| Afshan | How much? |  |
| Irshad | It is about three to four *marlay*. |  |
| Afshan | Ok. |  |
| Irshad | Yes and two constructed houses. In one house the drawing room is upstairs. |  |
| Afshan | So they will give you two months expenditures in advance? |  |
| Irshad | Yes. |  |
| Irshad’s son | No, not completely. We have to do labor work too to get living expenses. They don’t give so much, so we have to work. We also work on rice crops. |  |
| Afshan | So it is easy to get work there in rice fields? |  |
| Irshad’s son | Yes there is so much work there. |  |
| Irshad | Yes, on rice crops. There is very high growth of this crop in these two months. Two to three months will go by there in Gujrat. |  |
|  | Some silence for few seconds |  |
| Afshan | But if you ask them, then do they give you living expenditures for two months? |  |
| Irshad’s son | Yes, they do. They do give money and we are free to either live here or go back to our home there. |  |
| Afshan | So if you plan to go back, will they arrange transport for you to drop you there or not? |  |
| Irshad’s son | Yes, they will go with us to drop us there. They will bring us back too. |  |
| Afshan | So they will tell you the date when they will come to pick you to return here. |  |
| Irshad | Yes. |  |
| Irshad’s son | Yes. But they do keep on visiting there. May be there is need for money or more people to work at kiln. So we keep in contact. |  |
| Afshan | Yes, of course they need people. |  |
| Irshad | Yes, some can leave this job and some can start this job. |  |
| Afshan | Yes. |  |
| Irshad | They do keep on changing people. |  |
| Afshan | Are you planning to leave this kiln this time? |  |
| Irshad | I don’t know. |  |
| Irshad’s son | I don’t know. They will tell later. |  |
| Irshad | They will tell till Saturday if we have to go or not. |  |
| Afshan | Ok. |  |
| Irshad | Yes. |  |
| Afshan | What job do people do if they leave their job at this kiln? |  |
| Irshad | We don’t know anything about all this. They can go to the other kiln. Of course we don’t own lands to grow crops there. |  |
| Afshan | Yes. |  |
| Irshad | If work is finished here then people can go to next kiln. If they don’t find work there they can go to the other kilns. We have been working here for fifteen to sixteen years. Firstly we used to work at that kiln, which is there at the start of village. Then we moved to this kiln. |  |
| Afshan | And before that, around sixteen years back which kiln were you working at? You were not working at kiln? |  |
| Irshad’s son | At that time, we used to have our own work. |  |
| Irshad | We had our own work, in Mandi. We were living in Mandi at that time. But the wages are very low there. |  |
| Afshan | Ok, they have awful wage rate there. |  |
| Irshad | Yes, awful. There we must have our own beds and all utensils but here contractor (*thekedar*) gives everything. |  |
| Afshan | So *thekedar* gives everything. |  |
| Irshad | The fuel, we have to buy ourselves. |  |
| Afshan | So they give all crockery…? |  |
| Irshad | Yes, crockery and beds and everything. |  |
| Afshan | Who can stitch cloths? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | I can do that. |  |
| Afshan | So you can make dresses of all family members? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Yes. |  |
| Irshad | Before, her elder sister used to make dresses. She got married, so now she is sewing clothes. |  |
| Afshan | Is she not teaching the young girls to sew? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | They can learn. I do tell them, but they are immature yet. |  |
| Irshad | One of the young girls can do a little bit of stitching. |  |
| Afshan | Your daughter? |  |
| Irshad | No, the other young one. They are too young. |  |
| Afshan | Yes, they are too young. |  |
| Ayesha | Who was she? |  |
| Irshad | She is my daughter. |  |
| Ayesha | Oh, she is your daughter, but she does not have resemblance with any of you. |  |
| Irshad | She too is my daughter. |  |
| Ayesha | Ok. |  |
| Afshan | Why are her features (appearance) so different from yours? |  |
| Ayesha | Yes, she is totally different. Like you and your other daughter can be easily recognized as mother and daughter. |  |
| Afshan | Has *munshi* come or not? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Everyone is different from other. |  |
| Afshan | Has *munshi* come or not? Has he not come? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | I don’t know. I have not seen him since morning on this road. |  |
| Afshan | Yes, I have not seen him. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | May be he is on other kiln, down there. |  |
| Irshad | Yes, may be. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | He has to do an endless list of work. |  |
| Irshad | The other day he was complaining that those ladies (researchers) have not come. So he asked me to go to your place to ask you. But I could not. |  |
| Afshan | You should have come to our place; you have stopped coming there? |  |
| Irshad | Baji it is hard to find time. I have to go to massage that lady two times a day. Your home is far and it takes time to go there and come back. |  |
| Afshan | Yes. |  |
| Irshad | I go there at Asar prayer time and then come back after Maghrib. And now I have just come back after my morning duty there. |  |
| Afshan | So you do dishes and wash cloths in evening too. |  |
| Irshad | No there are not cloths to wash at this time, I do it in morning. But I have to do dishes because many people come to visit there to see the newborn. I have to do cleaning and mopping too. |  |
|  | Some casual talk among researchers on travelling back to home and timings. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | So you are going to Islamabad? |  |
| Afshan | Yes, we are going back today and will come back day after tomorrow. |  |
| Irshad | May Allah have keep you safe. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | You are going now? |  |
| Ayesha | Yes. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Straight from here? |  |
| Ayesha | No, we will go to home and will take our things. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | So you are going with all your stuff? |  |
| Afshan | No, we will carry only few things that we need to carry. |  |
| Irshad | Ok, fine. |  |
| Kid | There is phone. |  |
| Irshad | Hello… |  |
| Afshan | Is it your uncle (mamu)? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Yes. |  |
| Irshad | What is the matter (on phone)? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | What happened? Has he disconnected the phone? |  |
| Irshad | Yes, he does not have enough credit in mobile. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | We have recently put credit. |  |
| Afshan | Who was there? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | My brother; he is with the elder sister there. |  |
| Irshad | My elder son has gone there since Saturday. |  |
| Afshan | Ok, he has gone. |  |
| Irshad | Yes, he has gone there to his elder sister. He was so much worried and asking us to come (one or two persons) there because she is sick. |  |
| Afshan | What happened to her? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | We don’t know exactly, but he was telling that she has back pain and fever. |  |
| Irshad | She has one son and one daughter. |  |
| Afshan | Have they not taken her to doctor? |  |
| Irshad | They must have. She is taking medicine, poor her. She has brought medicines two times and has got injections too. |  |
| Kid | Amma…Amma… |  |
| Irshad | Go outside and play there. |  |
| Kid | Amma give me… |  |
| Ayesha | What is she asking for? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | I don’t know. |  |
| Afshan | She is asking for more *hinna.* (smiling) |  |
| Irshad | Yes. |  |
| Ayesha | Where else you will put it now (smiling)? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | She has to put on her buttocks too. (grinding teeth) |  |
|  | All laughing. |  |
| Afshan | Where else you will put the hinna? |  |
| Irshad | We have to wed them when they will grow up. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Yes, as if marriages are very useful (sarcastic and critical). |  |
| Afshan | Look at her, she is sick of marriage. |  |
| Ayesha | Smiling. |  |
| Afshan | So you will not marry again. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | No. |  |
| Afshan | What will you do when your sisters-in-law (brother’s wife) will come? |  |
| Irshad | Then she will get aside and they will live and eat nicely. (sarcastic) |  |
| Afshan | Hm. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | But they should think before wedding anyone. If someone is not willing to marry a person, they should not force. (angrily) |  |
| Irshad | But of course this mistake can happen from parents. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | But parents should not mistreat their children like that. (angry) |  |
| Irshad | But we have to keep relations with some persons. |  |
| Afshan | But Irshad it is not fair to ruin your child’s life just to keep/maintain relation with someone. It is important to care about your child’s life, is it not? |  |
| Irshad | But you have to keep good relationship with your brothers and sisters too. |  |
| Afshan | Hmm. |  |
| Irshad | You have to maintain your relationship with them (siblings). |  |
| Afshan | You cannot abscond from your siblings. |  |
| Irshad | Yes. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Then how did you break out from them now? (annoyed) |  |
| Irshad | Now we are apart, our children have destroyed our relationship. We thought that our relationship would get stronger but now it is even worse (Gloomy). |  |
| Afshan | Yes, it got worse. |  |
| Irshad | Yes. Now I think about that time, we thought we would get closer to each other (by marrying our kids with each other) but now we are farther. If we had not wedded them, then we would have a normal relationship with each other so that we could meet. But now after divorce of my daughter, we (both sisters) don’t even see each other. This is the situation now, our relationship is totally shattered. |  |
| Afshan | She is your sister? |  |
| Irshad | Yes, my younger sister. |  |
| Afshan | Don’t you miss your younger sister? |  |
| Irshad | Yes, I do miss her. But what can we do with our children (somewhat sad). |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | My mother does miss her but she does not. (annoyed) |  |
| Irshad | What will happen even if she will miss me (sad)? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | She is very clever as compared to my mother. |  |
| Irshad | She was married to outsiders in another village (saying with affection for her sister) |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | She (her aunt) does not have affection with anyone. |  |
| Irshad | Outsiders (out of family) are never nice. Now I am very close to my own family (my parent’s family). Even though my husband is out of family, I am close to my parent’s family. I have affection and concern with all my family members but she (my sister) does whatever her in-laws tell her. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | They know that he was a drug addict, he has so much addiction. Many people advised my mother to not wed me with him. But when her (my mother’s) sister swore by Quran, the false promises, in front of her my mother, she (mother) embraced her. (angry) |  |
| Irshad | Everyone is drug addict these days, so what can we do. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | No one is happy with addict husbands (angry). |  |
| Nighat | What kind of addict was he? |  |
| Irshad | Everyone in this world is a drug addict (casually justifying). |  |
| Afshan | What type of drug he was taking? |  |
| Irshad | He was *charas* addict (saying in normal tone, as if this is not a big issue). He never takes that in front of us but does it behind us. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Otherwise too, his habits were not good. It is fine if someone has an ugly face, but he must have good manners. Now he had ugly face and bad habits too, so how can one live with him. (angry) |  |
| Afshan | You are right. One should have something to compromise with (face, or manners, wisdom). |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Yes. If I did not talk on my own, he would not even talk to me. He never used to give me money for expenses. He had never bought any dresses or shoes for me. My stay there was just a compromise. My parents used to bear my travel expenses from that home to here and vice versa. I used to come to my parents’ home with someone else and go back to my in-laws with someone else. My parents were bearing all the expenses. He had told me that he would not take me to my parents’ home or bring me back. If I used to argue on something then he would to not talk to me for two months. Imagine what kind of person he was. (angry) |  |
| Afshan | Yes, it was wrong. |  |
| Ayesha | For how long did your marriage sustain? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | It lasted for four or five years but I lived at my in-laws’ place for three months only. |  |
| Ayesha | Ok. |  |
| Afshan | So you lived there for three months once, and did not go afterwards? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | No, I went back there two times. |  |
| Irshad | She went there to get a daughter (joking). |  |
| Afshan | Yes, to conceive her daughter (smiling). |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | It is her (mother’s) mistake; she forced me to go there and then I got a daughter too. |  |
| Irshad | I wanted that they compromise and continue their marriage. Of course she was my sister, so I wanted them to keep their relation. |  |
| Afshan | So your aunt was not saying anything to him (your husband)? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Aunt used to ask him but she herself was with him. Before she used to take my side, but what could she do when all others were against me. |  |
| Afshan | True, it is hard to cope when everyone is against a person. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | I swear, all of them are like this black shawl. Whole family is like that (black in appearance). |  |
|  | (All laughing.) |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | I swear when they used to talk about issue of our marriage, I used to protest by not eating. This talk continued for seven years. I was so nice, they have changed me. My mother did not listen to me at all. I used to get scared by just looking at them. |  |
|  | (All laughing.) |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | But after wedding I thought now we were married so I had to compromise to spend life. They should not have done this to me. |  |
| Ayesha | Yes, true, it is wrong. |  |
| Irshad | No, my nephew (sister’s brother) is very nice and handsome. |  |
| Ayesha | I wonder, she is still saying this. |  |
| Afshan | Laughing.) |  |
| Ayesha | Irshad, at least now you should not say like this. |  |
| Afshan | If he was so nice then why he divorced your daughter. |  |
| Irshad | She too contributed in that, it was their both mistake. |  |
| Afshan | Hmm… |  |
| Ayesha | What is her mistake? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Let me tell you my mistake, I got angry and came back here to my parent’s home. They came to take me back. My daughter was five days old, so I asked them I will come back when she will grow a little more. Actually all my sisters here they used to carry my daughter whole day, I used to get tired after waking whole night for her (my daughter). So this was my mistake. |  |
| Afshan | So, they sent you divorce papers then? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Then after four to five years, they took us to police station. My daughter was so young, they took her. After that our fight got severe and my father asked them that he would send me there if they would give one of their daughters (to wed with my brother), actually she is nice and have a fair complexion. But they asked first to send me there and later they will think about the wedding of their daughter to my brother. So my father got angry and asked them that if they don’t want to give their daughter in our home so he would not send his daughter (me) there. |  |
| Afshan | Why did they take you to police station? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | They had taken the daughter, so we involved the police. |  |
| Afshan | They had taken your daughter? (surprised) |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Yes. |  |
| Afshan | Ok. |  |
| Irshad | They had taken the daughter. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | They asked us that they would not return my daughter but then we went to police station. How could they do all that? My daughter was so young; she was not taking any other thing except breast feed. They took her there at the other kiln, put her there inside the room and locked the room. I don’t understand why they did all that. |  |
| Afshan | So they took (abducted) the daughter? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Who? |  |
| Afshan | Your husband? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Yes, he came here to my father’s home and snatched my daughter. Can a wise person do something like that? Then she (my mother-in-law) asked him to divorce me at that time to avoid all problems later. My mother did not listen this at that time; otherwise she must have sent me (forcibly) there. |  |
| Irshad | Their step was not so bad. She would have cried there and now too she is crying. (sad) |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | No, I don’t care about that. I remember all those fights (protests) that I did with you to avoid this marriage. (angry) |  |
| Irshad | Now I also think that I would have not wedded you there. (sad) |  |
| Afshan | Of course you mother has not done all this with pleasure. Parents always think well for their children, but then what can we do with our fate. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | No. Sometimes people house (living standard) is not good but their house was nice. |  |
| Afshan | Of course you had to see all that. |  |
| Irshad | Yes. |  |
| Afshan | What happens next is according to the fate then… |  |
| Irshad | Yes (sad sigh). |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Our engagement remained for a long time and couples talk and come close in that period. But during all that engagement period he never talked with me and I never even looked at him. |  |
| Ayesha | For how long did your engagement continue? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | For almost five to six years. I was very young when they engaged us. |  |
| Ayesha | Ok. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Other people were asking for my hand (to marry with their son) but to stop that they (in-laws) asked my mother that they wanted to marry their son with me. They did not have any affection with me, they just fulfilled their desire. |  |
| Afshan | So they came and put engagement ring in your hands? |  |
| Irshad | No, nothing. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | They did not give me anything of gold. They did engagement without anything, just by giving new dress. |  |
| Afshan | They just gave dress as engagement symbol? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Yes. Even at that time, she (mother) said that people do whatever they want. Now think, would your own relatives do that? |  |
| Afshan | Yes (sad sigh), you are right. But if it is about your family (*biradari*) then you have strong pressure from everyone too. There is a social pressure to wed your children within family. |  |
| Irshad | Yes, usually people don’t marry out of family. In our native villages, they wed one home’s daughter to the next home and next home’s daughter to the nearby home and like this. We don’t wed our daughters out of family. |  |
| Afshan | Why? |  |
| Irshad | They say that their daughters and sisters will not be in difficulty if married in family. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | They do not consider that person must be fine, even if out of family. |  |
| Afshan | So they live fine and happy? |  |
| Irshad | Yes. |  |
| Afshan | Daughters from your own family…(married outside) |  |
| Irshad | They don’t live happily. |  |
| Afshan | They are in difficulty. That is why people don’t wed them out of family. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | She (my aunt) is not happy now after getting her new daughter-in-law. She is worried. What can she do if the husband is strict? |  |
| Afshan | So she brought her from a strict family? |  |
| Irshad | Yes. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | No, her husband is very strict. He never agrees with her, so what can she do. |  |
| Afshan | So from where did they bring their new daughter-in-law? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | They married him there; we don’t know anything about that. |  |
| Afshan | Did they bring girl from her (your aunt’s) husband’s family? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Now first she gave her own daughter and then they gave their daughter to them. |  |
| Afshan | So now they wedded them in interchange (*watta satta*). |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Yes. |  |
| Irshad | Baji I wedded one of my daughters in family of my husband’s sister. He is my real uncle (chacha). |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Till now, final decision is not done. |  |
| Irshad | When I gave daughter to them, their (kids’) mother died. So they (kids) are with us now in this home. But if we had married her outside, and we went to meet them, they would have said that there is no need for that. They would ask us why we miss these girls and that we have no relation with them since our daughter has died. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Should I bring meat and cook lunch for you? |  |
| Irshad | So outsiders are like this. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Leave it mother please. Those people are very lucky who have nice husbands. |  |
| Irshad | What should I do, if wedded one there it was stressful for me and if wedded other here (within family) even then it was painful for me. This is the truth. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | So where should I go now? |  |
| Irshad | If she has some happy or sad times there, I have to manage that. Now she is here even then I have to manage everything. So I have nothing else to talk. |  |
| Afshan | Of course, a mother is mother. No one can feel the same sadness as she feels. |  |
| Irshad | Yes. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Yes, strangers don’t care. |  |
| Afshan | Of course they have no interest. The way your own parents feel your pain, no one can feel. But it is ok, some life has past and the rest will also pass. |  |
| Ayesha | Whatever had to happen has happened. |  |
| Afshan | You have one daughter, so you can nicely bring her up. Things will be fine. Is she going to school or not? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | No, she does not go to school yet. But when she will get a bit mature, I will admit her in school. |  |
| Afshan | You should admit her in school now, otherwise when will you? When she will be an adult? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | No I will put her in school. She is taking her Quran lesson from the second basic book. |  |
| Irshad | Now, schools are closed (for summer vacations). When they will open, we will admit her in school. She will study like her uncle (mamu). |  |
| Afshan | Where do they go to School? In Malyal? |  |
| Irshad | Yes, here in school. |  |
| Afshan | Here in this Raja’s schools. But that is not for girls, so they have to go farther in Narra. |  |
| Irshad | No, girls too study there. |  |
| Afshan | Ok. |  |
| Irshad | Both girls and boys study there. One class is for boys and other is for girls there. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | How many sisters do you have? |  |
| Ayesha | No, I don’t have sister. I am alone with one brother. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Just one. |  |
| Ayesha | Yes, one (smiling). |  |
| Irshad | Me too, I have one brother. |  |
| Ayesha | Ok. |  |
| Irshad | Yes, brother and sister; both are angry with me. |  |
| Afshan | Why your brother is angry at you? |  |
| Irshad | Actually he is asking for a girl to marry his son, and I am also asking for the same girl to marry my son. |  |
| Afshan | (Laughing.) You want to marry Tassawar? |  |
| Irshad | Yes. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | We are asking to wed with those girls because we are obliged, otherwise those girls do not have a match with our brothers. |  |
| Afshan | Why? |  |
| Irshad | Because those girls have dark complexion. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Before they (my parents) were not asking for that girl. But now they (the girl’s parents) are saying they will give their daughter if we want to ask for her. (Confused) I don’t know, about all these matters. (Smiling) |  |
| Afshan | When you have to plan marriages, then things are like this. Is your brother also asking for the same girl to marry his son? |  |
| Irshad | Yes. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | So brother is also like that; he wants to wed his son in that house. |  |
| Afshan | Your brother does not have any daughters? |  |
| Irshad | He has two daughters. |  |
| Afshan | So you are not planning to marry your son with them? |  |
| Irshad | My husband does not want that. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Actually we don’t do weddings, if our homes are like that. |  |
| Irshad | They say that it would be stressful for our mother. Actually our homes are just attached, so they say if there will be even a little thing, if my brother or mother will say something, then more problems will arise. |  |
| Afshan | So whose daughter you want to wed with your son? Are they your relative? |  |
| Irshad | Yes, they are. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | But now we will not do wedding in their family. |  |
| Irshad | Yes, we will not. |  |
| Afshan | Ok, you were planning to marry your sister-in law (husband’s sister)? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Yes. But now we will search from some nice girls. |  |
| Afshan | Ok. |  |
| Irshad | Now we have to do Tassawar’s marriage soon. |  |
| Afshan | Ok, when? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | We will do his engagement first; we have to look for the girls too. |  |
| Afshan | Ok, you have to select the girl yet? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Yes, but these days it is hard to find nice girls. |  |
| Ayesha | What kind of girl do you want for your brother? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | A nice girl… |  |
| Afshan | What do you mean by a nice girl? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | I don’t understand? |  |
| Afshan | I mean what qualities do you mean when you say a nice girl? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | She should be some wise and sensible girl, and not someone stupid (*chawal*). |  |
| Afshan | Stupid. (Laughing.) |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Now you understand? |  |
| Afshan | Yes. |  |
| Ayesha | Yes now we understand. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | She should be able to manage a home, now she will be the one who will manage the home. |  |
| Afshan | Yes. |  |
| Irshad | You know that daughters are others property (sad). We have to marry them and they will go to their husbands’ homes. |  |
| Ayesha | Do you ask your daughters-in-law to work at kiln? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | No, we don’t. Just a little bit here. |  |
| Irshad | Now what is the advantage of bringing a girl (daughter-in-law) if she keeps on sleeping whole day and we keep waiting for her? |  |
| Ayesha | So it is not compulsory for her to work? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Yes. But if there is need, then people do work for that. |  |
| Ayesha | Hmm… |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Now my elder sister used to work at kiln too here. But after her marriage she is not even doing household chores. (smiling) |  |
| Irshad | She lives there at her in-laws home and says that she is sick. She was very fine here but there usually remains unwell. |  |
| Afshan | You should tell her that she is unwell because she does not work at home. |  |
| Irshad | (Laughing.) |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | I swear, she used to work so much here but there she does not even do the household chores. |  |
| Irshad | She used to nicely work here. But now she tells that she does not want to do anything being alone there. |  |
| Afshan | Yes, it is hard to manage alone. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | They have a very big house there that is why she is tired of it. Actually she is living separately from her in-laws. |  |
| Irshad | Her son and daughter are so nice. |  |
| Ayesha | So she is happy at her home? |  |
| Irshad | Yes, she is happy. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Her husband is nice. |  |
| Afshan | He is working that is why. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Yes, he is nice. He is not addict or has any other bad habit. |  |
| Irshad | They have one drawing room, nice corridor, taps, motor, and gates each costing fifteen thousand rupees. (emphasizing impressively) |  |
| Ayesha | Really (surprised). |  |
| Irshad | Yes. |  |
| Afshan | They are quite well off. |  |
| Irshad | The locks in their house cost eleven thousand rupees. |  |
| Ayesha | Is she talking about that lady whom we met during our last visit? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | She has not come here during your stay. |  |
| Irshad | She has not come. |  |
| Ayesha | You are talking about the one elder than that one. |  |
| Irshad | No, she is younger. She has not come here during your stay in this area. |  |
| Ayesha | Ok. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | She is living towards Gujrat side. She comes to live for few days after a month or so. |  |
| Ayesha | Is she married out of family? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | No she is married at her aunt’s (*Phupho*’s) home. That aunt is not nice but her husband is very nice. |  |
| Ayesha | Ok. |  |
| Afshan | And it is easy to live if the husband is good. Moreover, how long can the aunt (*phupho*) live? |  |
| Irshad | Yes, her aunt is nurse. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | She is fat like you. Or may be fatter than you. |  |
| Ayesha | When you will see her after two months, she will not be fat *inshallah*. |  |
| Afshan | (Laughing.) |  |
| Ayesha | She is taking some medicine and has reduced her diet too. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | No, she looks nice this way. |  |
| Afshan | (Laughing.) |  |
| Ayesha | She will look more beautiful. |  |
| Irshad | She is normal; neither too fat nor too lean. Her body is nice, firm and you are weak. |  |
| Ayesha | (Laughing.) |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Are you married? |  |
| Afshan | No. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | And she? |  |
| Ayesha | No. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | It is good like this. |  |
| Afshan | Is it good to live without getting married? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | It is fine. |  |
| Afshan | Or marriage is essential? What do you think? |  |
| Irshad | She is saying that it is good to be unmarried. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | After marriage tensions get increased. |  |
| Afshan | And people get thin; what do you think it is good way to reduce weight? (Smiling) |  |
|  | (All laughing.) |  |
| Ayesha | No this is wrong method, very risky. |  |
|  | (All laughing.) |  |
| Afshan | See they want to marry me so that I lose my weight. |  |
|  | (All laughing.) |  |
| Ayesha | She is also your daughter? |  |
| Irshad | Yes, she is younger one. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Yes, these three, this one and another too. |  |
| Ayesha | Ok. |  |
| Afshan | You have not done their weddings yet? |  |
| Irshad | No, they say that they are young. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Actually they are afraid after seeing my experience. (smiling) |  |
| Nighat/Afshan | But it does not happen to everyone. (in light mood) See your elder daughter is happy. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Yes, actually it does not happen with everyone (like happened to her). |  |
| Afshan | So what is your plan now about giving your daughter and bringing daughter-in-law? |  |
| Irshad | Now in family. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Now they will call from home and then we will see if the girl is nice or not. After that we will decide about marriage. |  |
| Irshad | If we will like the girl then we will do their marriage otherwise we will leave it. If it will be an easy home then we will do wedding if not then we will leave it. |  |
| Afshan | Ok. |  |
| Ayesha | How many siblings do you have? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | We are six sisters. |  |
| Ayesha | And two brothers? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | And two brothers have died. |  |
| Ayesha | How did they die? |  |
| Irshad | If we do marry within family then girl’s life is in hardship but it is easy if we bring one from outside. |  |
| Afshan | Who? |  |
| Ayesha | I was asking about her siblings and she told that they are six sisters and five brothers, and two have died? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Two brothers have died in their early age when we were very young. |  |
| Ayesha | Ok. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Actually she (my mother) got married when she was quite young. |  |
| Ayesha | (Smiling.) |  |
| Afshan | Yes, it used to be like that in early times, there were early marriages. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | They should not marry young girls. They should marry grown up girls so that they have two to three children and then (no more kids are born). |  |
| Afshan | Otherwise there will be a long queue of children. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Yes. |  |
|  | (All laughing.) |  |
| Afshan | See how much you are laughing (enjoying this talk). |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | I swear that I think one should not have many children like these old ladies; few kids are good. This keeps people worried. |  |
| Irshad | Now if I had three sons and two daughters, then I would have not gone to others homes to work there. |  |
| Afshan | (Smiling.) |  |
| Irshad | I am telling you the truth baji; you have to do your own household chores too. Now I go in morning and come back in evenings. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | You go with your own willingness. |  |
| Irshad | I cannot enjoy life, there is no enjoyment. |  |
| Afshan | What can one do, one has to work. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | We never let her (mother) work at home and we don’t ask her to go there to work too. |  |
| Irshad | And sit idle at home. |  |
| Afshan | If she will sit idle at home, then you will realize (her worth). |  |
| Irshad | Yes. But they will throw me away from home then. They will say what your worth is; you are eating without doing anything. |  |
|  | (All Smiling.) |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Do you want to smoke a bit? |  |
| Ayesha | Yes sure (joking). |  |
| Afshan | Smoke what? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | *Huqqa*. |  |
| Afshan | Do you smoke *Huqqa*? |  |
| Irshad | No. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Sometimes I do smoke a bit, willingly. |  |
| Ayesha | Willingly? (Surprised) |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Yes. |  |
| Irshad | My husband has brought this *huqqa,* costing one thousand rupees. (emphasizing on cost) |  |
| Afshan | Really? |  |
| Irshad | Yes, they say that *huqqa* represents the respect of a person. |  |
| Afshan | Ok, so *huqqa* is symbol of respect. |  |
| Irshad | If a man has *huqqa* then he is not alone, one is him and other *huqqa.* |  |
| Afshan | So this is the reason that *huqqa* is symbol of respect. |  |
| Irshad | Yes it is sign of respect. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | These household chores never end. |  |
| Afshan | Is it not bitter (the *huqqa*)? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | No, it is not, you can taste it. |  |
| Afshan | No, I don’t even know how to smoke huqqa. How can I do that? |  |
| Ayesha | Take a small *soota* of huqqa… |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | (Smiling.) |  |
| Afshan | Do it in front of us, so that we can see how you do it. I really don’t know how to take it. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | (Smiling.) |  |
| Ayesha | It is kind of sheesha? It is just that sheesha is flavored but … |  |
| Afshan | Have you ever tasted sheesha? |  |
| Ayesha | Never. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | You don’t know how to smoke huqqa? (smiling) |  |
| Ayesha | But I have a desire to do that. |  |
| Afshan | Do you puff it towards inside? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | What (laughing)? |  |
| Ayesha | Do it in front of us (curious). |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | I can’t help laughing. (then she blows huqqa) |  |
| Ayesha | Are you blowing it inside or outside? |  |
| Afshan | Towards inside. Is it? |  |
| Ayesha | Yes. Then how will you make the smoke? |  |
| Afshan | Then she will stop blowing inside. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | (Laughing.) |  |
| Ayesha | Ohh, it is so hard to do. |  |
|  | (All laughing.) |  |
| Afshan | I cannot do it, I will start coughing. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | (Laughing.) |  |
| Ayesha | Yes, I will have severe cough. |  |
| Afshan | Yes very severe cough. Which kind of tobacco do you use in huqqa? Bitter or sweet one? |  |
| Irshad | Bitter one. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | No, it is not that much bitter. |  |
| Irshad | No it is not bitter as such. |  |
| Afshan | Some women put solid brown sugar (*gurr*) in it. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | You can put either *gurr* or sugar. None of you smike *huqqa*? (surprised) |  |
| Ayesha | No. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Both men and women? |  |
| Ayesha | No. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | Where do you live? |  |
| Afshan | Islamabad. |  |
| Ayesha | See she is asking where we live if we don’t smoke *huqqa*. (smiling) |  |
| Afshan | Islamabad. |  |
| Irshad | If my son gets some job, it would be easy for us. It is hard for him to go to Malyal. |  |
| Afshan | I wish he get job in army by Allah’s grace. |  |
| Irshad | Otherwise he has to go to kiln. May Allah give him job. |  |
| Afshan | If he gets job there then it is the best thing for him. Otherwise he has to do labor work. |  |
| Irshad | They were asking him to come to Jhelum for six months on some job. But he is saying that this is very temporary/short duration job. So what is the need to go? |  |
| Afshan | He should go for six months, maybe he will get permanent too. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | They have told him that they would get permanent job for him. |  |
| Afshan | Then why is he not going? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | There are some persons, who can get a job for him. |  |
| Irshad | It is just six months. |  |
| Afshan | But he should go there, may be they will extend his contract based on his good performance. |  |
| Ayesha | Is *munshi* happy or bothered that your son is going for a job? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | *Munshi* himself is sending him. |  |
| Afshan | And the contractor? |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | He has not told the contractor that he is sending him (for job). |  |
| Afshan | That is what I am asking, about contractor’s concerns. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | No, he (munshi) has asked us that we should not tell the contractor, we keep it secret. He has asked Munnawar not to mention *munshi’s* name in his job decision. |  |
| Irshad | They need only their work, and nothing else from a person. And that work we will do like now. But it will be good for him (his son). He (munshi) says that he has pity on him (Munawar). |  |
| Afshan | It is good, may Allah give him job. Why is she laughing? |  |
| Irshad | She is laughing because you are talking. |  |
| Afshan | Ok, does she imitate me when I go from here? |  |
| Irshad | No. |  |
| Afshan | My own relatives who live in village, their younger daughter mimics me. You know I sit like this, and she was also sitting like this and they told me that she was copying me. |  |
|  | (All laughing.) |  |
| Afshan | Kids do like this, they do copy things they like. |  |
| Irshad | No she never does it. Our young girls ask me to take to your home whenever I have to go there. |  |
| Afshan | No, I am not saying this in a bad sense. But otherwise children do it of their own will, because they like it. |  |
| Irshad’s daughter | No our kids don’t do it. |  |
| Ayesha | But our older ones also do it. |  |
| Afshan | My cousin’s daughter is very young; she says that she wants to be like me. So she copies me. When I go there, my cousin laughs. She says that her daughter sits like me and imitates me. |  |
| Ayesha | She must like you. |  |
| Afshan | Yes, she says that she wants to study like me and do everything. She has some kind of inspiration from me. |  |
| Ayesha | That is why she imitates you. |  |
| Afshan | I was checking her inspiration level now. |  |
| Ayesha | Ok. Older ones imitate during jokes but kids don’t do like that. They copy only those things they like. |  |
| Irshad | Yes, true. |  |
| Afshan | It is different in kids, if they like something then they copy it. In my own family all kids copy my father saying that they are grandfather Bhatti now. |  |
| Woman 1 | Kids are always like this. (Laughing) |  |
| Irshad | They are asking you to marry, so that you get lean and smart. |  |
| Afshan | They are saying that I will get smart after getting married. |  |
| Woman 1 | But even after marriage, those who are fat remain fat. They don’t lose weight. |  |
| Afshan | Ok, but they are saying tensions will increase with marriage so that due to tensions I will lose weight. |  |
| Ayesha | Yes, tensions can lead to weight reductions. |  |
| Afshan | Shall we leave now? |  |
| Ayesha | Yes. |  |
| Woman 1 | Is she married? |  |
| Afshan | No, none of us is married. |  |
| Ayesha | We have to get married yet. |  |
| Afshan | We will first finish this job, then we will marry. |  |
|  | (All laughing.) |  |
| Afhsan | First we will finish one project then we will start next. (smiling) |  |
| Woman 1 | There is nothing wrong in getting married. |  |
| Afshan | See Irshad also says this. |  |
| Irshad | If you say then I can do one more marriage (joking). |  |
|  | (All laughing.) |  |
| Afshan | Can you control one husband that you want one more? (smiling) |  |
| Irshad | My husband is strict. |  |
| Afshan | That is why I am asking. |  |
| Irshad | My husband is strict. I am just managing/compromising now. |  |
| Woman 1 | It is good this way to live a tension free life. If you get married then you have many tensions. |  |
| Afshan | What happened? You are continuously laughing. |  |
| Nighat | I am thinking that she is saying the truth. |  |
| Irshad | She is saying if you get married then there are many tensions. |  |
| Afshan | Are you warming the oven? |  |
| Irshad | Yes, it is lunch time now. You should eat lunch with us and then go to home. |  |
| Afshan | No, we have to go back home. They are counting every minute. (smiling) |  |
| Ayesha | What is the time now, Nighat? (smiling) |  |
| Afshan | Actually her home is far and it takes long to reach there. |  |
| Ayesha | We have some kind of mixed feelings; we feel both sad and happy. Happy to go home and sad to leave each other. (smiling) |  |
| Afshan | Now we are happy to be with each other too. |  |
| Ayesha | Yes, true. |  |
| Afshan | Now we are used to living with each other, so we live happily. |  |
| Ayesha | Yes. |  |
| Irshad | True. |  |
| Afshan | When you live together then you develop affection for each other. |  |
| Irshad | True. |  |
| Afshan | Even if one person is not there, then you start missing her. I was so close to her (Dr. Zubia) so I have been missing her for many days. Actually she was my friend that is why I feel her absence more. Actually we are old friends. Ok, let’s go now. We will check you when we get back here and come to meet you if you are here still by then. We will be back on Tuesday now. |  |
| Ayesha | They are happy on going back. |  |
| Irshad’s Daughter | Aren’t you happy that you are going back home? |  |
| Afshan | Everyone is happy on going home. |  |
| Irshad | You did not take any drinks. |  |
| Afshan | You are always worried about that. Don’t worry about it. |  |

Transcribed by Saadia