

Green Card Voices Atlanta: HM Sakib Story

Editing Sample from Allyson Brooks

Raw Transcript from video

[00:00:49] Prachi Well you know there are a lot of people from Russia here. I think I'm the only one here. Hey everybody everybody else is from oxalate and stuff and they have their own little I guess the way they speak dubbing alius. [00:01:03][14.0]

[00:01:03] It's not the same as mine sound and what they're saying. I'm like yeah. [00:01:08][4.5]

[00:01:08] Mine is more like the proper way. They're just like he's like slangs and stuff like oh. [00:01:15][7.1]

[00:01:16] I'm I'm like I am more like the minimum we are more like the chill ones we're like the ones that don't get anyone's business. We're just like living every day life is like chill. [00:01:28][12.1]

[00:01:29] Everybody is fighting about Arabic like like are the one thing right is like like you know we speak. We like all those others. [00:01:56][27.8]

[00:01:57] Doesn't that isn't that we're like Arabic started like so. [00:02:01][3.1]

[00:02:01] I mean everybody you know actually had to learn how to read it because I am Muslim so I learned how to read Arabic. Yeah I learned how to read it I don't know what it says. I can read that though that's about it. [00:02:15][13.7]

[00:02:27] A fake one. [00:02:28][1.5]

[00:02:30] That's somewhat what you were like oh goodness me just some of the things about me. All right. [00:02:50][20.1]

[00:02:52] I've got almost start of the good thing first how much am I not like 16 Barbie turning 17 in like a few days. I'm from watching Bangladesh. It's a small little town. [00:03:03][11.2]

[00:03:04] People like yeah we know our neighbors we know who's who. We know everybody's business. Everything's going as we know what's going on where it gets how fast. So pretty pretty cool. Neighborhood it's like when I when I was a kid there I had like you know on my friends and my childhood friends and when I would go play in this like a big field like ride them house because my dad owned like all the land over there is like a ride pumphouse is like a big field. We would go there and play every afternoon and stuff. It's pretty it's pretty fun. [00:03:38][33.5]

[00:03:39] My family yeah most of my family lived there too from my mom's side and my dad's side. [00:03:43][4.0]

[00:03:44] MEYER Yeah my mom said it was just like five minutes away walking by like yeah I would slow walk over there to my grandma's house sometimes it's like she had a little pond. And in Bangladesh people fish a lot. [00:03:58][13.7]

[00:03:59] So I would be fishing sometimes there. And I remember when I was like 7 o'clock a big fish is like I almost broke. The fishing rod almost broke. But like I somehow still caught it. [00:04:13][14.1]

[00:04:13] It was like a pretty huge fish and I feel like about that you know like a balloon. Yeah it was pretty cool. I was. I stayed at home was like 9 years old. I went to all boys school. It was it was actually funny because like in Bangladesh once you go to first grade you have to give this test. It's like an admissions test to see what high school you go to high school

Allyson's Re-Writes & Edits

I'm from [Ranchi \(India?\)](#). There are not a lot of people from [Russia](#) here. I think I'm the only one here. Everybody here ([in the US?](#)) is like from [Sylhet](#), and [they have their own little...](#) The way they speak Bengali is not the same way as mine. So, I don't know what they're saying. Mine is more like the proper way to say ([speak?](#)) it. Theirs is more like slang. It makes no sense to me. But, we ([we who?](#)) are more [like the chill ones](#). We're the ones that don't get in anyone's business. We're just living everyday life; it's like, ahh, chill. [Everybody is fighting about this](#).

I mean, everybody had to learn how to read Arabic. Because I am Muslim, I learned how to read Arabic. Even though I learned how to read it, I don't know what it says. But, I can read it. That's about it.

I'm going to start with the good things about Bangladesh first. I'm 16 and I'll be turning 17 in like a few days. I'm from [Ranchi](#), Bangladesh. It's a small little town. People know their neighbors; we know who's who. We know everybody's business. We know what's going on. Word gets out fast. It's a pretty cool neighborhood.

When I was a kid there, all my childhood friends were there. I would go play in this big field right behind my house. My dad owned a lot of the land there. We would go there and play every afternoon. It was pretty fun. ([Did your dad own the big field?](#))

Most of my family lived in [Ranchi](#) too, from both my mom's side and my dad's side.

I would take a slow walk to my grandma's house sometimes. My mom said it was five minutes away walking. Grandma had a little pond. So, in Bangladesh, people fish. *A lot*. So, sometimes, I would be fishing at Grandma's pond. I remember when I was seven, I caught a big fish that almost broke the fishing rod I had. But I somehow still caught it. It was a pretty huge fish and I felt really proud of that, like, "Hey, I'm the man!" It was pretty cool.

[I stayed at home when I was nine years old](#). I went to all boy's school. It was actually funny because, in Bangladesh, once you get to first grade, you have to take this test. It's an admissions test to see what high school you go to. In high school, it goes from first grade to tenth grade in

Final

I'm from Rajshahi. There are not a lot of people from Rajshahi. I think I'm the only one around here. Everybody here is from Sylhet, and they have their own dialect. The way they speak Bengali is not the same way as mine. So, I don't know what they're saying. Mine is more like the proper way to speak it. Theirs is more like slang; it makes no sense to me. I'm just teasing of course. Sylhetis are cool.

I also learned how to read Arabic because I am Muslim. Even though I learned how to read it, I don't know what it says. But, I can read it. That's about it.

I'm going to start with the good things about Bangladesh. I'm seventeen now, and I'm from Rajshahi, Bangladesh. It's a small town. People know their neighbors; we know who's who. We know everybody's business. We know what's going on. Word gets out fast. It's a pretty cool neighborhood. When I was a kid there, all my childhood friends were there, too. I would go play in this big field right behind my house. My dad owned a lot of the land there, including the field. We would go there and play every afternoon. It was fun.

Most of my family lived in Rajshahi, too, from both my mom's side and my dad's side. I would take slow walks to my grandma's house sometimes. My mom said it was five minutes away walking. Grandma had a little pond. In Bangladesh, people fish. A lot. So, sometimes, I would fish at Grandma's pond. I remember when I was seven, I caught a big fish that almost broke the fishing rod I had. But I somehow still caught it. It was a pretty huge fish, and I felt really proud of that, like, "Hey, I'm the man!" It was pretty cool.

I was still in Rajshahi when I was nine years old. I went to an all-boys school. It was actually funny because, in Bangladesh, once you get to first grade, you have to take this test. It's an admissions test to see which high

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[00:17:24] mom another guy and they got married soon after.
[00:17:29][4.7]

[00:17:29] While I was still there. And yeah that was my new stepdad. I was a oh that's pretty cool I guess. Now I have seven and we're going to you know have some financial support or whatnot. And I guess things my uncle at that time my uncle left. I don't know what have been some kind of family fight or something. So he doesn't really support us and when he doesn't give us anything like any money or anything. [00:17:51][22.1]

[00:17:52] So that relationship there isn't really there. So he's not like. [00:17:57][4.8]

[00:19:54] It's it's pretty good it's I'm a pretty good place financially too. Like. [00:20:00][6.2]

[00:20:01] We pulled it together like after I left Bangladesh. I felt what it's like to be like near like almost near poverty even though I probably don't know what it feels like to be one of the like kids in Africa and saying something like I know what it's like to not have money and struggle. [00:20:17][16.9]

[00:20:18] So that kind of mean more humble but like stealth or life right now was pretty good. I'm working at publix silico for those who don't like a local grocery store like the southern U.S. or whatnot. So I work at a Publix and I help out sometimes my new. He helps out. My mom. She she has a pretty good job to the public just like she works in the deli. We get pretty good pay like life is pretty good. Like school school is going pretty good. I'm trying to be MCCC not mechanical civil engineer. I want to graduate and yeah I love Stanford I'm trying to go to Stanford. I think that's right. That's what my goal is to go to

Stanford and taking classes. Hobbies hobbies or sock. I mean I love I love playing soccer. I grew up with Hispanics to Lake Lake points ahead. It was like the soccer culture was always soccer soccer even when I was in Bangladesh was a soccer culture was like it it's beautiful. I love the game. It's like when I play slate. My mind is cleared. So I love soccer of engineering. Life is life is good right now. And also when I went back this last summer when I went back to Bangladesh I saw how the conditions were there and I see it from a perspective because like now I'm at a better place I can see it in the perspective back there and it's like when I see them in that lake how they are there the state they're in it's like terrible and I. [00:21:52][1:33.5]

[00:21:52] I really want to do something about them. I get older like how I can get bag if I become a civil engineer maybe make better designs about something to better preserve the environment or better build the roads maybe in Bangladesh some day. I don't know. But like I really want to help out for the countries that don't get the attention from the bigger countries that I think deserve more attention because they have people there too. [00:22:18][25.3]

Allyson's Re-Writes & Edits

After all that, my mom met another guy. They're married now! This guy is a pretty good, good, good guy. He's got enough to... (want to finish this thought?) I guess he's my new step-dad.

Hopefully, he isn't... I don't know. All this has made me not trust people so much. At an early age, it was terrible. Now, things are going pretty good. This relationship has been pretty stable. I can't complain about my life currently. My life right now is pretty good. I'm in a pretty good place. Financially, too!

We pulled it together after we left Bangladesh. I felt what it's like to be like near poverty, even though I probably don't know what it feels like to be one of the kids in Africa. But, I know what it's like to not have money and struggle. That made me more humble.

Life right now is pretty good. I'm working at Publix. For those who don't know, it's a local grocery store in the southern U.S. Sometimes, I help out my new step-dad (how?). He helps out (how?). My mom has a good job at Publix, too. She works in the deli. We get pretty good pay.

School is going pretty good. I'm trying to be a civil engineer. Once I graduate high school, I'll try to get into Stanford. I love Stanford! That's what my goal is. To go to Stanford and take classes. I used to want to go to Oxford for college. But now, I like Stanford. Stanford is actually pretty cool. It's got some cool perks. (What are they?)

Hobbies? I like... no, I mean, I love playing soccer! I grew up with Hispanics (relevance?). Once I heard about soccer, the soccer culture became a way of life. It was always soccer, soccer, soccer. Even when I was in Bangladesh, the soccer culture was beautiful! I love the game! When I play it, my mind gets cleared. I love soccer, I love engineering. Life is good right now.

When I went back this last summer to Bangladesh, I saw how the conditions were there. I see it from a new perspective; now, I'm at a better place. I can see it in the perspective back there, and when I see them in that... lake (clarify). How they are there, the state they're in—it's terrible! I really want to do something about it once I get older. How can I give back? If I become a civil engineer, maybe I can make better designs to better preserve the environment, or build better roads in Bangladesh someday. I don't know. But like I really want to help out for the countries that don't get the attention from the bigger countries that, I think, deserve more attention. They have people there too! I really want to help out the communities of other countries. This how my life has been.

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After all that, my mom met another guy. They're married now. This guy is a pretty good, good, good guy. I guess he's my new stepdad. Hopefully, he isn't . . . I don't know. All this has made me not trust people so much. When I was younger, it was terrible. Now, things are better. This relationship has been stable. I can't complain about my life currently. My life right now is pretty good. I'm in a good place, financially too.

We pulled it together after we left Bangladesh. I felt what it's like to be like near poverty, even though I probably don't know what it feels like to be as poor as one of the kids in a third-world country. But, I know what it's like to not have money and struggle. That has made me more humble.

Currently, I'm working at Publix. For those who don't know, it's a local grocery store in the southern US. Sometimes, I help out my new stepdad financially or help look after my little brother. My stepdad helps out with the bills and takes really good care of my mom. My mom has a good job at Publix too. She works in the deli. We get pretty good pay.

School is going well. I'm trying to be a civil engineer. Once I graduate high school, I'll try to get accepted into Stanford. I love Stanford. This is one of my goals to go to Stanford and take classes. Stanford is actually pretty cool. It's got some cool perks. They have out-of-this-world labs and research facilities.

As for hobbies, I like . . . no, I mean, I love playing soccer. I grew up with Hispanics, and they taught me a lot of their culture: the food, the music, the dancing. Soccer was a big part of their culture; the soccer culture became a way of life for me. Even when I was in Bangladesh, the soccer culture was beautiful! I love the game! When I play it, my mind is cleared. I get really focused. Life is overall good right now.

When I went back this last summer to Bangladesh, I saw how the conditions were there. I saw it from a new perspective, now that I'm in a better place. How the people are there, the state they're in—it's terrible! I really want to do something about it once I get older. How can I give back? If I become a civil engineer, maybe I can make better designs to better preserve the environment or build better roads in Bangladesh someday. I don't know. But I also really want to help out the small countries that don't get attention from the bigger countries. I want to help out their communities. I think the smaller countries deserve more attention. They have people there too! This is how my life has been.