

Pamiri interview transcription

Karz zekhtow	to borrow
karz dakchidow	to lend
dakchidow	to give
moshin darchidow	to give a car

i borrow my friends car - uzum khu okhno moshin zokht
He says it is both for the present and the past.

to eat – khidow (sounds like regular X, he says, not the weird one we have in “to borrow”)

water – khas

i ate bread yesterday - uzum gartha biyor khud (biyor: yesterday)

*uz gartham khud.

we – mash

masham gartha biyor khud

I am eating bread - uz gal gartha kham
(gal apparently means currently)

We are eating bread - mash gal gartha kharam

(the letter g in /gal/ is the uvular trill)

uzum tu biyor wint

uz shich tu winum

uz gal tu winum

I'm seeing you right now. The first sentence is better.

shich: currently

niwdow: to cry

zulik nud: the baby is crying.

Zulike niwd: the baby was crying.

Uz nawum: I'm crying

Uzum biyor niwd. I cried yesterday.

Tut biyor biwd. You cried yesterday.

Uz jozum: I am running.

Uzum jekht: I raz. (the j is zh, as in "vision")

Uzum we num rinukht: I forgot his name.

For future you get "che" before the verb.

uzum we num che renikht

I'm about to forget his name.

pero solum uz rusi kheyd: Last year I learned Russian

pero sol uzum rusi kheyd: also OK, but the previous one better.

Ellipsis:

Uzum gartha xurd: I ate bread.

Uzum gartha xud, ata Muhammade nakhud.

The letter "e" at the end of Mohammad, refers to mohammad.

Uzum gartha khudat, Muhammade nakhud

Same meaning.

Muhammade gartha khudat, uzum nakhud.

Mohammad ate bread, but I didn't.

Uz gartha kham.

I am eating.

Uz gal de kham.

I am eating this.

("de" is kinda like "this" and "that" apparently)

uz gal az we kham

I am eating that.

Muhammad gartha khirtat, uz nay

Mohammad is eating bread, but I'm not.

"at" at the end of "khirtat" means "but".

Mohammad ziven khoyd.

Mohammad is learning languages.

Muhammad-e ziven kheyd.

Mohammad learned languages.

Mohammad learned the languages.

(I specifically gave him a context for "the languages")

Muhammade ziven az khu chud

Here the emphasis is that he's finished studying and he knows the languages by heart now.

Ziven is plural. Singular is ziv.

Muhammad-e ziven kheyd.

He says the meaning for this is that “He learned some languages”. But apparently he says you can’t do anything else if you want “the”. This means “the” too.

Muhammade ziv az khu chudat, Ahmade nachud (also Ahmad nay. But not ahmad-e nay!)

Mohammad learned the languages, but Ahmad didn’t.

*Muhammade ziv az khu chudat, Ahmade ziv [] nachud

Muhammade ziv az khu chudat, Ahmade [] az khu nachud

He says it’s fine. He repeats it several times for himself but he says it’s fine.

Muhammad-e ziven kheyd at Ahmade [] nakhheyd.

Muhammad-e ziven nakheyd at Ahmade [] khheyd.

The most natural translation into English according to him: Mohammad learned languages, but Ahmad didn’t. But when I ask him if it can mean “the languages”, he says it is determined by the context.

Mohammad ketaab xaand:

Muhammade ketob kheyd.

uzum biyor kitob karz zokht

I borrowed a book yesterday.

Uzum biyor kitob karz zokht at Muhammad nay.

Uzum biyor kitob karz zokht at Muhammade [] [] nazokht

He actually gave me the second version himself.

Uzum biyor kitob karz zokht at Muhammade kitob [] nazokht

Works, but I’m not sure whether hea means the second sentence means “borrowed” or “got”.

Uzum biyor kitob karz zokht at Muhammade [] karz nazokht
This is also fine.

Invite: kiwdow

Yet chid: to open

I am about to open the door:
uzum dive yet chechid

uz dive yetum
I am opening the door.

I'm cleaning the table.
Uz stol toza kinum.

Uzum stol toza chud.
I cleaned the table.

I cleaned the table, but I didn't clean the window.
uzum stol toza chudat, toq nay
uzum stol toza chud at, toqum toza nachud
uzum stol toza chud at, toqum [] nachud

I cleaned the table, but Mohammad didn't.
Uzum stol toza chudat, Muhammade [] nachud
Uzum stol toza chudat, Muhammad nay

I am eating bread - uz gal gartha kham

The bread is being eaten.
Yu gartha gal khuchak sud
Yu: that

Khuchak: eaten

Sud: be

Grammatically correct, but not used in practice.

His father was killed.

we tat-en zid

en=was

zid= killed

His father is being killed.

We tat gal zinen.

Sounds very weird in practice.

Literally means "they are killing his father"

The soldier is killing his father.

Yu soldat az we tat zint.

uz aray zulik ghula kinum

I raise three children.

uzum khu zuliken botarbiyat gula chud

I raise the children polite.

uzum khu zuliken botarbiyat nasihat chud

I raise the children polite.

uz tar khu mala tazhum

tar=inside

I'm painting (inside) my room.

uz khu malate tazhum

I'm painting "above" my room.

I'm painting the house. (from outside)

uz tar hu mala nile rang-kate tazhum

??uz tar hu mala nile rang tazhum

kate=with

I'm painting (inside) my room blue.

****Third day****

Uzum hu okhno kate biyor bozi chud

I mine friend with

I played with my friend yesterday.

OR: uzum biyor hu okhno kate bozi chud

Tut hu okhno kate biyor bozi chud

You played with your friend yesterday.

uz gal boziyum

I'm playing right now

OR: uz boziyum

I want to play with my friend.

Uz khoikhum hu ohno kate bozi chid

Wath khoikhen yakdigar kate bozi chidow

They want to play together.

Wath bazi kinen.

They are playing together.

Wathen bozi chechid.

They will play together.

Wath vs. wathen: he says probably “they” vs. “they are”

wathen che khefd

They will sleep

Wathen khofjen/ wathen khovd

They are sleeping

wathen khefzin

They are sleeping

They slept early last night

Wathen biyor tezath khofd/khovd

yu zulik hu put khekirt

The child is looking for her ball.

Yu=that

I'm looking for the child.

uz we zulik khikarum

we somehow referring to the child.

uz wef zuliken khikarum

I'm looking for the children.

We're looking for the child.

mash we zulik khikaram

mash tu khikaram

We're looking for you.

I'm looking at you.

uz tar tu chisum.

I'm looking at the people.
uz tar mardum chisum

ya hu nanard yordam kikht
She is helping her mother.

They are helping us.
wath mashard yordam kinen

He is helping me.
yu murd yordam kikht

He helped me.
yuye murd yordam chud.

uz khoikhum hu karz turd dakchidow
I want to return the borrowing to you.

uz ikshech hu pul turd dakum
uz shich hu pul turd dakum
I'm currently returning the money to you.

yata solga mirt
She will die next year.

If you say "ya solga mirt" it sounds as if you want her to die. He says "ta" means "will" in "she will".

ya ye sol tar pero mod.
She died one year ago.
Pero = before

ya parvos mod

She died last year.

uzta stol toza kinum

I will clean the table.

uzum dam stol toza chechid

I will clean that table.

uzum dam stol toza chud.

I already cleaned that table.

Muhammade ziven az hu chud-at, harfene [] nachud

Mohammad learned the languages, but he didn't learn the alphabets.

This is how he gave me the sentence as the default form. So he seems to be totally ok with ellipsis.

Also: Muhammade ziven az hu chud-at, harfene az hu nachud.

Muhammade ziv az hu chudat, harfene az hu nachud

Mohammad learned a language, but he didn't learn an alphabet.

Muhammade ziv az hu chudat, harfen nay

Muhammade ziv az hu chudat, harfene [] nachud

Muhammad ziv az hu kikhtat, harfen nay

Muhammad ziv az hu kikhtat, harfen [] nakikht

Mohammad is learning a language, but he's not learning an alphabet.

Kikht: doing, present

Chud: doing, past

Wurj: wolf

They say a wolf.

Wathen wurj wint.

They saw the wolf.

Wathen we wurj wint.

They saw the wolves.

Wathen wef wurjen wint.

They saw you.

Wathen tu wint.

We saw you.

Masham tu wint.

We saw them.

Masham wef wint.

I saw them.

Uzum wef wint.

They laughed.

Wath shanden.

I laughed

Wath shandum.

I died.

Uzum mud.

Yu mud.

He died.

Wathen mud.

They died.

We ate the bread.

Masham gartha khud.

I ate the bread.

Uzum gartha khud.

yu garthe chekhid.

He's about to eat the bread.