

Rice(Summary)

A daughter of Indian migrant in London and raised and educated in America, Jhumpa Lahiri in this autobiographical essay has talked about her father (Amar Lahiri) and the special dish-pulao - prepared by her father. At the beginning of the essay, the writer has described her father. According to her, her father is methodical- a person doing things in the right manner, following all the procedures. For 39 years he has been working cataloguing books in the library of a university. Her father is very good at estimating that he knows exactly how many cups of rice is needed for four or forty or hundred and forty people. He starts his day with fresh two glasses of water every morning, then walks for an hour every day and before bed, spends lots of time flossing his teeth. The writer also describes her father's special dish- pulao. Her father is very good at preparing pulao. It is baked rice eaten mostly on festive occasions. The writer says that her father has prepared pulao for her. The writer also describes her father's special dish- pulao. Her father is very good at preparing pulao. It is baked rice eaten mostly on festive occasions. The writer says that her father prepared pulao on her "annaprasans"- rice feeding ceremony when she was 7 months old, and her father prepared same kind of pulao at the time of writer's children's "annaprasans".

In this essay, by talking about her father's daily routine and his special abilities to prepare pulao, the writer has shown huge respect to his father. Next the writer has also highlighted the process of cultural transmission. Pulao has travelled all the way from Bengal of India to London to Brooklyn of the USA along with the migration of the writer's parents to London and writer and her children to the USA.