"Let Us Not Go Too Deeply into That"

Once a farmer went to a kadi to have a contract signed. The kadi said that he did not have time to sign it just then, but that he would sign it on the following day. When the farmer appeared at court on the following day, however, the clerk told him that the kadi was still too busy and that he should return again on the next day. After this had continued for some time, the farmer finally realized that the kadi wanted a bribe.

This angered the farmer, but he needed the kadi's signature on his contract, and so he decided to give him a present. He took a large jar and filled it most of the way with ox dung. Then on top of this he spread a layer of white cheese. Taking this jar to the court, he presented it to the kadi with his compliments. At once the kadi found time to sign the contract. After the farmer had the contract safely in his hands, he could not resist asking, "Kadi efendi, do you think it was proper for you to take that jar of cheese for signing this paper?"

The kadi smiled at him and said, "My friend, let us not go too deeply into that." Then he scooped some cheese from the jar and put it into his mouth. "What a fine jar of cheese."

"Well, as you said, let us not go too deeply into that," answered the farmer and left the court.