

Story #281 (Tape #14, 1961-62)

Narrator: Ayşe Abla (Neriman Hızır)

Location: Ankara

Date: April 1962

The Learned Turban

A man came to Hoca with a letter in his hand, and he wanted Hoca to read it for him.

Hoca opened the letter and saw that it wasn't written in Turkish. It was in Arabic, and Hoca didn't know any Arabic. And he said, "I can't read this."

The man said, "Why?"

"Because it's not in Turkish."

And the man didn't understand why Hoca shouldn't be able to read in Arabic, and he said, "Oh, Hoca, aren't you ashamed of yourself? If you are not ashamed of me, aren't you even ashamed of the turban you carry on your head?"

Hoca was angry at this remark, and he presently took his turban off his head and put it on the head of the man with the letter and said, "All right. You have the turban on your head. You read it."

*Petat*