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Story #352 (Collected orally and then in
written form; not taped.)

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The Donkey Who Wanted Horns

Once upon a time there lived a donkey who had come of age. He was quite wise, and the younger donkeys would often come to him, when in trouble, to ask his advice.

One day a worried young donkey came to him. He was greatly confused, for that day he had met an ox in the meadow. He was right to be astonished, because he had never seen an animal with two horns before. He described the ox to the old donkey as a strong, well-fed animal which bore a crown on its head. He thought it the right of donkeys to have a crown because they did more work than the ox.

The old donkey answered, "When Allah made the ox, He made it so that it could be useful to mankind for producing food. They eat wheat, but they are full of meat. We were made to carry loads. If you ask me, we should be thankful that we have ears and a tail!"

The envious young donkey turned away in despair. On his way back he came to a field. He couldn't resist the temptation, and he started to eat the wheat, full of appetite. Happy, he began to sing; of course, his voice brought the farmer to the place where he was enjoying himself. One can guess the anger of the farmer when he saw his wheat being eaten by a donkey! No, his anger did not cool even when he hit the donkey. He pulled out his knife and cut off the donkey's ear and tail.

