Once there was a mahalle school attached to a mosque where a hoca used to teach the children of the village. Among the pupils in that school were the children of several ağaś and there was one handsome boy who was the son of an ağa and a very beautiful woman. The hoca had seen this woman and had admired her beauty very much. Each day when the lessons were finished, the hoca said to this boy, "My child, take my greetings to your mother, and tell her, 'My hoca says Hanvo to you.'"

The child forgot all about this for a while, but one day he remembered that he had a message for his mother. "Mother, my hoca sent his greetings, but he also asked me to say 'Hanvo' to you."

When the woman heard this, she was quite puzzled, for she did not know what it meant. Later she told her husband about this. He told her that she should return the hoca's greetings and say "Hinyo" to him. So,

1 Hanvo ya as two words can mean, "Where is that?" Hanvıyok mı means, "Do you know what I mean?" Does the hoca say hanıyok or hanıyok mı here? Either would be a suggestive overture. What is the meaning of the response "Hinyo"?
the woman instructed her son to carry a message to his hoca: "My mother sends her greetings and says 'HİMYO' to you."

The next day when the lessons were finished, and the boy was ready to go home, the hoca said to him, "My child, take my greetings to your mother and say, 'My hoca says HİMYO to you.'"

"Hoca Frende, I just remembered that my mother sent her greetings to you. She said to say 'HİMYO' to you."

"Is that so, my child? Where does she want me to visit her, then? Go, if you will, and find out and let me know."

The child went home and told this to his mother. After talking this over with her husband, the woman set the time as 2 o'clock the next evening.

The next day the hoca went to a jewelry store and bought a ring. He also bought some sweets. Then, at 2 o'clock in the evening, he went to the woman's house, and there he saw that she was busy grinding bulgur. She had a large sack of bulgur to be ground.

The hoca said, "What are you doing there?"

2 It is possible that 2 o'clock here means the afternoon, just as the word evening in the American South means any time after noon; or, it could mean 2 A.M. In rural (and usually more religious) areas, the reference could be to time alatürk (literally, a la Turk) or Moslem prayer-schedule time, as opposed to alafiranga time (a la Frank or French), the regular European time used in Turkish cities and in the government.

3As noted elsewhere, bulgur is boiled wheat, dehusked, dried, and coarsely ground. It is then a chunky, precooked cereal food which needs only reheating. It is then often called bulgur pilav.
"I am grinding bulgur. Our cow is missing, and my husband is searching for it in the forest. Before he left, he told me to finish grinding this sackful of bulgur. That is what he told me to do. He is very bad tempered, and so I had better do this before he returns."

"Is that so?" asked the hoca. "In that case, let me grind it for you." The hoca sat down and started grinding, hoping to finish the work as soon as possible. He kept grinding and grinding, and finally he finished the work at dawn. Then the hoca went to bed, taking off all of his clothes, as was then the custom in the country areas.

Just after the hoca had gotten into bed, there was a knock on the door. Outside someone was swearing and saying, "I've searched for that cow all night and have been unable to find her. Where could she have gone?"

The woman said, "Efendi, the cow returned shortly after you had gone to search for her, but I had no way of telling you this. She is back now, so do not worry.

Before the woman had opened the door for her husband, however, she had taken the hoca to the stable below and had tied him there like a cow. As the husband continued knocking, she said to the hoca, "You just stand here in the stable this way on all fours."

The husband was still angry and cursing the cow when he entered the house. "That damned cow! I'll screw that damned cow! I'll rape her thoroughly!" He went to the stable and returned in a short time.4

4The narrator omitted most of the obscene language on this taped version that she had told in an untaped version.

5In the earlier and untaped telling of this tale, the narrator had described the rape of the hoca in some detail.
A few days later they sent a message to the hoca with their son.

"Hoca Efendi, my mother says 'Hürro' to you."

"Is that so, my son? I owed your mother an umik (ring) and your father a büzük (anus), but I thought I had paid these debts. What else do they want from me? Did you run out of bulgur?"

6Many humorous Turkish tales end with a play on riming words, as does the nikte quite often. The fikra, of course, is shorter than a tale, being a special kind of anecdote.