

Story #477 (Tape #11, 1970)

Narrator: Mehmet Şengül, 60

Location: Pazar Köy, kaza of Mengen

Date: July 1970

Behlül Dane Consults the Toilet

Once when Baghdad was in a state of political confusion, people told Behlül Dane that they wished to make him Caliph so that he could restore order and put everything to rights. He refused to accept the office, but the people persisted in their demands that he accept it.

"Well, let me first consult with someone. Then I shall give you my answer," said Behlül.

"All right," they said. "While the people wait here, go and consult with whom you will and then return with your decision. We know that you do not really have to consult anyone, for you follow your own judgment."

Behlül Dane arose and went to the toilet. After a while he came out and returned to where the group of people was waiting. They said to him, "You did not go very far. With whom did you consult?"

"Do you know what they told me in the toilet?" asked Behlül. One said this: 'I was once very good wheat. I was turned into flour and then baked into a snow-white loaf of bread. Then I was eaten by the son of man. Passing into him and out of him, I became something stinking.' The dung advised me, 'Do not go into society, or this will

happen to you                      them there agreed      that, and      shal follow  
their advice and not accept any position      society

