

Story 884 (1964 Tape 2)

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Giresun Province

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The Immoral Hoca¹ from Of²

There was once a hoca from Of who went to a large village and opened a school there. All of the younger children of that village, both boys and girls, attended that school. This hoca was an oversexed man, and he earmarked one of the girls in the school for his affection. One day after classes had ended, he took this girl on his lap to fondle her. The door of the room they were in had not been locked, and it just happened that a peasant workman walked into the room and caught the immoral hoca caressing the child

The hoca from Of started chanting, as if he were reciting a verse from the Koran:

"O girl, didn't I ask you to lock the do-o-o-or?"

O girl, didn't I ask you to lock the do-o-o-or?"

¹ A hoca is a Moslem priest

² Of is a port on the Black Sea in Trabzon Province, extreme northeastern Turkey. Of is said to produce more hocas than any other town its size, and these hocas are known for their religious strictness. They are sought by communities

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The peasant was confused, not knowing what to think. He finally concluded that the hoca was teaching the student to read from the Koran in Arabic.³

all over Turkey. The Of hoca in this tale is not, therefore to be considered typical of clergymen from that town.

³ In pre-Republican Turkey much of a child's education consisted of memorizing and reciting passages from the Koran.