

Story 993 (1975 Tape 1) Narrator: Mehmet Kara (Koruk)
Muhtar

Location: Nasreddin Hoca vil-
lage, formerly Hortu
(supposedly the birth-
place of N. Hoca),
Sivrihisar kaza,
Eskişehir Province

Date: September 27, 1975

all Nasreddin Hoca and the Lecherous Blind Judge *keci all*

There was a blind judge that lived in this area in the time of Nasreddin Hoca. This judge had a great fondness for women, and a particular prostitute used to come to his house very often. Several people went to the Hoca and complained to him about the immoral behavior of this judge.

"Don't worry about that any longer," said the Hoca "I shall cure him of that."

The Hoca took some meat to the marketplace where he fed it to a blind dog. "Enjoy your food!" he said to the blind dog. "I'll collect the money for it a little later." He then took the dog and went with it to the judge's house. Fortunately, the judge was at home. Leading the dog into the house, the Hoca began shouting, "Come out of there, you blind dog, and pay me the money that you ought to!"

Story 993

When the judge, who was also blind, heard this, he asked his attendants, "In the name of God, who is that man shouting so?"

"It is Nasreddin Hoca, Kadı Efendi,¹ and he is shouting at a blind dog that he followed to your house. He insists that some money is owed to him."

Calling Nasreddin Hoca into his office, the judge asked him, "How much money is it that you want?"

"Don't you know, you whoremaster? It is 450 kuruş!² Does one have to sleep here in order to get money from you?"

¹Kadı was the term for a judge of canon law in pre-Republican Turkey. Efendi was an honorific added to the names of distinguished men. The honorific value of Efendi has so eroded in the late twentieth-century that it is applied now only to the names of servants and children.

²A kuruş is 1/100 of a lira. Until the early 1960s it was a negotiable coin. When in the late 1980s the lira had been devaluated to the level of 1/100 of a dollar, the kuruş became quite meaningless.