Ahmet, Mehmet and the Stone Tree

Ahmet and Mehmet had grown up in a mountain village. They had never been anywhere else, and they knew very little about life. They were still very ignorant.

One day they paid a visit to the town nearest their village. There they saw a minaret for the first time. Mehmet said, "Ahmet!"

"What is it, Mehmet?"

"You see that stone poplar tree?"

Ahmet said, "Yes! And did you see that fellow yelling at the top of the tree? Then did you see him crawl back into the hollow trunk of the tree?"

"Yes, I saw all that too."

They did not understand that what they saw was the muezzin chanting the ezan from the minaret of a mosque.

\(^1\) The ezan is the call to prayer made for each of the five daily Moslem prayer services. The ezan is sung and chanted from a balcony near the top of the minaret, the tall, very slender tower that stands alongside the mosque.