

Story 1076 (1980 Tape 1

Narrator: Hasan Çelik, formerly
barber, now cosmetics
salesman

Location: Elazığ, Elazığ Province

Date: 1980

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The Barber and the Customer Not Quite from Bolu¹

One day there was a barber who was doing two different things at the same time. He was shaving a customer and he was also talking. He said, "People who come from Bolu are tall, handsome, and very brave men."

As the barber was saying this, another customer entered shop. After hearing what the barber had said, that second customer said, "Yes, and people from Bolu also shave without using any water

The barber responded, "All right. Then let me shave you without water."

When it was the second customer's turn, the barber began to shave him without using any water on his beard. The barber shaved one part of his face without water and soap. This of course caused the customer quite some pain. He said, "Hold on there a minute, barber!"

The barber asked, "What is the matter? You are from Bolu, aren't you?"

The customer answered, "I am from the outskirts of

¹Bolu is the name of both a province and its capital in Northwest Anatolia.

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Bolu!"²

²After completing this brief anecdote, the narrator (perhaps imitating or contending with the narrator of the previous tale) mentioned that Selma Pak was the founder and patron saint of barbering.