Narrator: Bozkurt Güvenç, retired army officer, now Secretary of Hacettepe University

Location: Ankara

Date: Summer 1966

Pumpkins, Walnuts, and the Wisdom of Allah

One summer day Nasreddin Hoca was working in his garden. When noon arrived, the Hoca lay down under a walnut tree to take a short nap. As he lay there, he gazed up into the branches over his head and thought, "What a strange world this is. Allah has given this huge tree such small fruit as these walnuts, but the large pumpkins that I have just been cultivating grow on a small, low plant. The small fruit should be on the small plant, and the large one should be on the large plant."

Shortly after this, one of the walnuts fell and hit him on the head. Startled, Nasreddin Hoca quickly said, "O Allah, forgive me. I have intruded into what is your business, not mine. What if I had been hit on the head by a large pumpkin?"