

Story 1144 1974 Tape 11 Narrator: Necip Görpele, 46

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kaza, Yozgat Province

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Biology Lesson

A caravan leader stopped at the home of a hospitable man on the road between Basra and Baghdad. He had his camel drivers tie their animals near their host's house, and then they all went inside. After they had all eaten and drunk to their satisfaction, the host asked the caravan leader, "Son, where are you coming from, and where are you going?"

"We are on our way from Asia to Europe, and when we get there, we shall turn around and go back from Europe to Asia.

"You have visited a great many places and seen many, many people. What have you learned that is most important from all your travels?"

"For years I have been studying all the creatures of this world in order to determine which reproduce by giving birth and which reproduce by laying eggs. After all those years of work, I wrote a book on the subject."

"My son, it is a pity that you have spent so much time to discover something as simple as that. Those creatures whose ears grow outward give birth, while those whose ears grow inward lay eggs."