


Story 1375 (1989 Tape 4) Narrator: Memduh Derin, 59, a graduate of a technical school

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The ~~Curse~~ on Nasreddin Hoca

When Nasreddin Hoca was a boy attending school, he had as his teacher a man who was not only well educated but also gifted with some supernatural ability. While at that school, Nasreddin Hoca and a classmate had a lamb. One day without asking their teacher's permission to do so, the boys slaughtered this lamb, cooked its meat, and ate it.

Annoyed by the discourtesy that the boys had shown him, the teacher gathered together all of the lamb bones. Then he prayed over the heap of bones, and by doing so, he restored the lamb to life. It looked exactly as it had originally.

One day shortly after that, the teacher was called away briefly to another town. While the teacher was absent, the boys again slaughtered the lamb, cooked its meat, and ate it. After they had finished their meal, they gathered together all of the bones except one, which they had somehow managed to lose. Then they repeated over the bones exactly the same prayer that their teacher had used. The result was almost the same, for the lamb was restored to life. Lacking one

*Resurrection*

*Rem. 100*

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important bone, however, it was misshapen.

When the teacher returned, he looked at the lamb and realized at once what had happened during his absence. Quite angry now at the two boys, the teacher cursed them. To Nasreddin Hoca's classmate he said, "May you be skinned!"

to Nasreddin Hoca he said, "May you be laughed at all life!" The curse on the Hoca worked, for he has been laughed at ever since.