

Story 1436 1971 Tape7)

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Silifke kaza,
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Was the Karakaya Man Headless After All?

There was a very large rock on a hill overlooking Karakaya. Inasmuch as a landslide or something else might loosen rock, there was a possibility that it might roll down the hill and do severe damage to the people of Karakaya. This possibility became a serious concern to three friends, and so they discussed the matter.

One of them asked, "How can we prevent that rock from ever coming loose and rolling down upon our village?"

A second of the friends said, "Perhaps we can startle that rock and cause it to roll in a different direction than toward our village. One of us can startle the rock after the other two loosen it and start it rolling."

One of these men had a large beard, and they decided that he would be the one most likely to frighten the rock. He therefore stood a short distance below the rock on the steep hillside. The other two men loosened the rock and started it rolling. When it reached the bearded man, the rock was not at all startled by his appearance. It rolled right over him, and in doing so, it tore off his head. But when the other two looked at

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head, they wondered if it was their friend's head. They therefore went to their friend's house and asked his wife, "Did your husband have a head on his shoulders?"

She answered, "I noticed that he had a big beard last night, but I don't really know whether he had a head on shoulders or not."