

Story 1437 (1971 Tape 7)

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Location: Karakaya village,
Silifke kaza,
İçel Province

Date: October 16, 1971

Some Karakaya Men Die in Quest of Honey

One day some Karakaya men noticed a wild beehive on a ledge a number of meters below a cliff. They wanted to get the honey out of that hive, but it was much too far below the edge of the cliff for any of them to reach it.

They finally decided to make a human chain down from the cliff in order to get the honey. The strongest of these Karakaya men stood on the cliff and grasped the feet of a second man. That second man grasped the feet of a third man until soon several of them were dangling down the cliff. The man on the bottom was just about to seize the honey when the grip of the strong man on the top began to slip, for he was holding a great weight. He called out, "Wait just a minute, friends! I have to spit on my hands."

Of course, when he let loose of the second man in order to spit on his hands, the whole human chain tumbled far down to the ground below. All of them except the strong man on the top of the cliff were killed.