

Story 1550 (1992 Tape 1)

Narrator: Mustafa Aytekin, 30

Location: Derinkuyu, kaza town  
of Nevşehir Province

Date: 1992

Nasreddin Hoca<sup>1</sup> Denies His Wife's Alleged Wandering

Nasreddin Hoca's wife had a habit of visiting her neighbors very frequently. In fact, she visited them so often that she made a nuisance of herself among them. The neighbors met and tried to think of some way to solve this problem. They finally decided to go to Nasreddin Hoca and explain the situation to him. They said to him, "Hoca, your wife visits us very frequently. She spends most of her time wandering from one house to another

When Nasreddin Hoca heard this complaint of his neighbors, he assumed an air of great confusion. "I do not think that my wife visits you very often. I cannot believe that she wanders from one house to another, for if she did that, she would surely stop at our house, too!"

<sup>1</sup>A hoca is a preacher and the religious leader of a community. In pre-Republican times the hoca was also the community teacher. Separation of church and state in the Republic required that teachers be people of secular rather than of religious training. Nasreddin Hoca is Turkey's most popular comic folk character.