

Story 1681 (1993 Tape 5)

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A Laz¹ Reshapes His Name in English Fashion

One day a Laz and an Englishman were seated together as they rode along on a train. After a while the Laz asked the Englishman, "What is your name?"

"My name is Bond--James Bond. Tell me now--what is your name?"

The Laz gave a very clever response: "My name is Tafa--Mus Tafa."

¹The Laz people are an ethnic minority who live primarily in extreme northeast Turkey in Rize and Trabzon provinces. They are usually stereotyped as being stupid or very naive, though in fact they are no different from others. When Lazes tell Laz anecdotes, they sometimes follow the stereotyped image, but they sometimes show the Laz as being clever rather than stupid.