

Story 1728 (1974 Tape 17)

Narrator: Mehmet Büyükler

Location: Belekçehan Kavağı
village,
Akdağmadeni kaza,
Yozgat Province

Date: August 1974

Abraham and the Fire

It was decided to burn Abraham.¹ They built a huge fire, and they placed Abraham upon a catapult which would hurl him into the center of the blaze. The catapult, however, did not work at first. Satan appeared and advised the executioners that if they could have a brother and sister commit incest, the catapult would function properly. After this act had been committed, the catapult began to operate again.

As they were preparing to hurl Abraham into the fire, a breeze came and spoke to him. It said, "O Abraham, if you wish me to blow out that fire, I shall do so."

Abraham answered, "No, my Creator will help me. Depart!"

Then Rahmet Melek² came and said, "I shall help you

¹It does not say in this tale who ordered Abraham's destruction by fire. In some accounts this order came from Nimrod.

²The Angel of Mercy.

Story 1728

of this difficulty, Abraham."

But again Abraham answered, "No, my Creator will help me. Depart!"

Allah smothered the fire and put in its place a wide lawn of long green grass. Thus Abraham was never actually thrown into the fire.³

The father of Abraham was an Azeri.⁴ He used to make idols, and his wife used to sell these idols. Abraham's father was the leader of the workers who built the Kaaba.⁵

At one point Allah sent a message to Abraham saying, Abraham, you should be circumcised." Abraham took ablutions and then proceeded to circumcise himself. That is where our practice of circumcision began. Our Prophet Mohammed was born already circumcised.

³In most accounts he is actually thrown into the fire and saved by Allah's making the flames cool instead of hot.

⁴The Azeris are Turks living east of the present state of Turkey. Many live in northern Iran and in Azerbaijan. Their Turkic language differs from the Turkic language spoken in Turkey. Just how the father of Hebraic Abraham could be an Azeri Turk is quite inconceivable.

⁵The Kaaba (pronounced Kabe by the narrator) is the small square building, within the enclosure of the Great Mosque at Mecca, which houses the sacred black stone, most revered of all Moslem icons. --In the Bible the father of Abraham is Terah (neither an idol maker or builder of the Kaaba), who died at Harran in southern Turkey.