

Story 1749 (1994 Tape 3)

Narrator: Cevdet Uğuz,
veterinarian

Location: Taşkale village,
Karaman (provincial
capital but former-
ly kaza merkezi),
Karaman Province

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Nasreddin Hoca's¹ Ugly Wife

Nasreddin Hoca married a woman whose appearance was quite ugly. As most Moslem women do, she asked her husband, shortly after they were married, "Before which of your relatives and friends am I permitted to uncover my face?"

Nasreddin Hoca answered, "Oh, Wife, just so long as you do not uncover your face in my presence, what you do before others does not really matter!"

¹Nasreddin Hoca is Turkey's most popular comic folk character. In tales about him, Nasreddin Hoca is sometimes wise, sometimes foolish. Some scholars will argue heatedly in support of his historicity, but there is no hard evidence for his actual existence. Some of the stories about him are universal folktale types.