Narrator: Cevdet Uğuz, veterinarian
Location: Taşkale village, Karaman (provincial capital but formerly kaza merkezi), Karaman Province
Date: March 1994

Nasreddin Hoca's 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.