

Story 2147 (1999 Tape 5)      Narrator: Hüseyin Yozgun, 29

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The Questionable Kazak<sup>1</sup>

A padishah who had a large staff of aides, advisors, and wise men decided to build two palaces in order to accommodate all of them. One palace was to house men who were kazak, and the other one to house men who were kılıbık.<sup>2</sup>

When these two buildings had been completed, there was a rush of staff members to the kılıbık palace. Only one of the padishah's employees moved into the kazak palace. He became an object of much curiosity. Several people went to him and asked, "Are you not afraid of your wife? Are you truly kazak?"

He answered, "No, I am not. I moved into this building because my wife told me to avoid crowded places.

<sup>1</sup>A man who completely dominates his wife and makes all of their domestic decisions is known in Turkey as being kazak. The term kazak is equivalent to the Spanish macho, a term widely used in America.

<sup>2</sup>Kılıbık refers to a henpecked husband. There is much Turkish humor in trying to decide just who is really kazak and who is actually kılıbık.