

Story 1003 (1975 Tape 1 Narrator: Mustafa Kayhan

Location: Nasreddin Hoca village, originally Hortu (supposedly N. Hoca's birthplace), Sivrihisar kaza, Eskişehir Prov.

Nasreddin Hoca Lends a Kazan

day Nasreddin Hoca lent a kazan to one of his neighbors. After a few days the Hoca himself needed to use his kazan, and so he asked to have it returned.

Before the neighbor returned the kazan, he bought a small pot and placed it inside the kazan. When the Hoca saw the small pot, he asked, "What is this?"

"Well, while your kazan was at my house, it gave birth to a baby. The baby is rightfully yours."

Hoca was very pleased with this turn of events. A short while later, when the neighbor again

¹ A very large kettle, often made of copper or brass. Its edges flare outward on the bottom in order to give it greater stability.

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Story 1003

asked to borrow the kazan, the Hoca was glad to let him take it.

This time the neighbor kept the kazan for a much longer period of time. When the Hoca finally asked to have it returned, the neighbor said, "Alas, I cannot return it, for your kazan died a week ago.

"Died?" asked the Hoca. "How could a kazan die?"

"A kazan that can give birth to a baby can also die."

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