

Story 1302 1988 Tape 8)

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Ürgüp kaza,
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Jay

From Tursun to Dursun

People who live along the Black Sea coast often have difficulty pronouncing the letter d. Instead of making it sound like a d, they make it sound like a t. This confusion is sometimes carried over into writing. Sometimes instead of writing a d, they write a t, because that is the way they say it.

The incident I want to tell you about occurred at Akçaabat, a kaza town in Trabzon Province. A man who lived there had been given the name Dursun, but the person who registered his name put it down as Tursun. The child grew up and went to school, where he became a very good student. After he finished school, he got a very good job. He was happy in every way except that he did not like to have his given name as Tursun, and so he decided to go to court ^{of law} in order to have his name changed legally. In order to have this done, however, he had to take a witness to court with him. He asked one of his friends to be his witness, a man who was even better educated than he was.

When the two of them arrived at the court, the judge asked

Story 1302

the witness, "Is this man's name Dursun or Tursun?"

"It is Tursun."

"But in his application, this man says just the opposite. He says that his name should really be Dursun. Witness, let me ask you once again. Is this man's name really Tursun or is it Dursun?"

"Sir, it is the second name you gave."