

Story 1858 (1984 Tape 6)

Narrator: Ali Çiftçi, farmer; by this time he must have been in his late 60s or early 70s

Location: Çıkırıkçı village, Sarıkaya kaza, Yozgat Province

Date: March 1984

Every Human Being's Two Angels

Each human being has two angels who are with him at all times. The one who sits constantly at his left side writes down all of the sins that the person commits. The one who sits on his right side records all of his good deeds. When a person commits a sin, the angel on the left asks the other angel, "Should I write down this sin? What do you think?"

The angel on the right usually says, "No, not right now. Wait for a while, for there may soon be a good deed that will balance this bad one." Therefore the angel on the left waits one full week before recording any sin.

When we say the salavatı şerife,¹ regardless of what time it may be, a small bird carries that news to Mohammed. These little birds are like postmen.

¹Salavatı is a form of salat, an Arab word for prayer; şerif can refer to three or four different things, one of which is Mohammed and his descendants. The salavatı şerife is a prayer that asks Allah to bless Mohammed and his heirs.