

Story 1658 (Dictated)

Narrator: Okan Akin, 21

Location: Ankara (but recorded in Houston, Texas)

Date: April 23, 1994

Nasreddin Hoca and Allah's Blessed Rain

It was raining very hard one day in Nasreddin Hoca's village. The Hoca stood by the window of his house watching the rain. Soon a man appeared on the street below. This man was running in order to get where he was going before he became soaked by the rain. Nasreddin Hoca opened the window and called to that man, "Shame on you! You should not be ungrateful for the blessed rain of Allah!"

A few days later the Hoca was returning from the marketplace when it began to rain. He began running in order to reach home before he was completely drenched. It happened that he ran past the house of the man he had earlier rebuked for fleeing the rain. That man stuck his head out the window and shouted, "Shame on you, Hoca! Why are you running from the blessed rain of Allah?"

"I am not running away from it," answered the Hoca. "It is such blessed rain that I am trying not to offend Allah by stepping on it!"