

Story #588 (1963 Tape #4)

Narrator: Yaşar Gezer

Location: Pazarören village  
Pınarbaşı kaza  
Kayseri Province

Date: Summer 1963

Battal Hoca in Jail<sup>1</sup> #588

Battal Hoca once committed an offense for which he and several of his followers had been thrown into jail. There Battal Hoca wanted to conduct a bayram<sup>2</sup> service, but one of his followers objected. "I do not want to stand in this row and be led in prayer by you. I want to stand behind Süleyman Hoca, the son of Hızır in the village of Emirüski."

"Why is this?" asked Battal Hoca.

"Well, we followed you before, and see where we are now!"

<sup>1</sup> This is an Avşar anecdote.

<sup>2</sup> A bayram is a religious holiday.