

The Kettle Gives Birth

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This book belongs to:



Print and Binding:

Seçil Ofset

100. Yıl Matbaacılar Sitesi 4. Cad. No: 77 Bağcılar / İSTANBUL

Telephone: +90 (0212) 629 06 15

2014



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In this book, elements from more than one of Nasreddin Hodja's stories have been combined to make a single story.

NASREDDIN HODJA



When we hear his name, we immediately think of a long white beard, a big turban, a flowing robe and a smiling face. Then a big smile spreads across our own faces.

He is full of witty remarks and he has something clever to say in every situation.

We laugh when we think of his stories.

Nasreddin Hodja was born almost 800 years ago in the 13th century, in what is today the city of Konya in Turkey and lived much of his life in a place called Akşehir.

WHAT WE WILL LEARN

When we read this book we will:

- Improve our ability to read.
- Improve the strength of our imaginations.
- Learn how to express our positive and negative ideas in the proper way.
- Improve our vocabulary and our control of the language that we use.
- Learn important cultural values such as hospitality and neighborliness.
- With time, learn how to use these concepts in our own lives.
- Understand the relationship between the causes and effects of things that happen.
- Learn how to follow social rules.
- Grasp the importance of being tolerant and patient in our relations with others.

And last but not least, we will get to meet Nasreddin Hodja!

CONCEPTS:

When we read this book we will learn concepts such as:

- Numbers 1-10
- Meals (breakfast, lunch dinner)
- Emotions (joy, sadness, shame, anger, wonder)
- Concepts of time (before, after, early, late, yesterday, today, tomorrow, week)
- Opposites (Dirty – Clean. Young – Old. New – Old.)

One day Nasreddin Hodja went to the market to do some shopping. While he was shopping he bumped into a friend whom he had not seen for a long time. Nasreddin Hodja invited the man and his family to come to his house for dinner.



When Nasreddin Hodja came home, he asked his wife to prepare all types of food for their guests who would come later. But when she was cooking, she realized she needed another kettle.





Nasreddin Hodja went right away to his neighbor's house.

"Dear neighbor, would you be so kind as to lend me a kettle?"



When the neighbor gave him the kettle, he said to Nasreddin Hodja,

"Oh Nasreddin, take good care of my kettle! I just polished it."

Nasreddin Hodja took the kettle, and as he turned to go, the man said,

"Nasreddin Hodja, today I am leaving and I will be traveling for a week. I will get my kettle when I come back."



Nasreddin Hodja went home. His wife cooked the food while he set the table. He hosted his guests very well when they arrived, and they were very pleased.





A week passed. Late one night someone knocked on the door. It was the neighbor who Nasreddin Hodja had borrowed the kettle from.



The man said,
“Nasreddin Hodja, I have returned from my trip. I have come to get my kettle.”

Nasreddin Hodja put a smaller kettle inside of the bigger one, and showed the kettle to his neighbor. Pointing to the smaller kettle, the man said,

“What’s this?”

