

IGNORANCE

C

Once the two men decided to take a walk together. While passing the three, they heard cuckoo singing. One of them told the other, "The cuckoo is known to be the oracle among birds. It saw me and wants to foretell that I will come into great wealth in near future."

"The cuckoo's foretelling is not for you, but for me. It's me who shall become wealthy very soon," the other replied.

"You are stupid dog, for what shall you be rewarded with great wealth?" the first man said angrily.

"You are the dog, not me," answered the other sharply.

Thus they got into quarrel and after that — into fight. They stopped when noses and faces of both were bleeding and went to see the doctor. While doctor was curing them, they told him about the reason for the fight.

And this is what the doctor said, "You are the fools, two of you! That cuckoo was foretelling wealth for neither of you but for me. If it hadn't, sang you wouldn't have fought, so you wouldn't have come to me and I wouldn't have got money for curing you both."

IGNORANCE

D

This is the story a friend of mine had once told me.

It happened in 1985. I was travelling and stopped in one aul. When I was talking to my hosts, the little boy came, his eyes red from crying. He sat silent and didn't play with other kids. He didn't even eat. I felt sorry for little boy and asked men sitting next to me "Why is this boy always crying? Why doesn't he eat or play?"

Then the residents of aul told me, "Yesterday morning the mother of this boy had died. Soon after her death we took the body, brought it to the kurgan atop the hill and buried near the other graves. On evening, the boys, who were bringing cattle home, approached that kurgan and heard some voice from the tomb of that woman. Boys left the calves and run to aul to tell us that news. Then we, the adults, decided to go and see what was going there. When we approached the tomb, we clearly heard somebody moaning from kurgan. We decided the best was to leave this place and when the morning came whole our aul travelled to different site — the site we are staying now.

The boy you are asking about is the son of that woman. He kept crying and saying 'My mother is alive, please take her out of that tomb!', but neither of us had listened to him. Not only we do not approach the kurgan ourselves, but also we do not let the boy go there."

Then boy cried again, addressing to me that time, "It is true, mister, my mother is alive! Please, only you may be so kind to..." I studied the boy carefully and came to conclusion that he looked really shrewd. I was also surprised that, no matter how fiercely the adults were convincing him he was wrong, he was still standing his ground and was sure his mother had been buried alive. I told him to come up and said, "Dear boy, no matter if you mother is alive or not, I still intend to go and see what is happening with her."

IGNORANCE

The others seemed quite scared by those words of mine.

"Mirza, don't do that!" they told me. "It is not allowed to break the tomb in hope that dead man can be alive again. This woman is being punished for her sins she made during her life, do not go there or you too may suffer in underworld because of her."

I just told the boy to go home and take his cloths, because he was coming with me, and then replied to the people who told me things like that, "It is true, the men who died never rises again. But you have found unconscious women, decided that she is dead and buried her alive. When you heard her crying for help you didn't took her out the grave. Thus you have made a great sin. Nowhere in Koran is it said that living people has heard the cries of dead suffering in hell from their graves.

The boy was back very soon. I borrowed spades and ketmens from people of aul, took my fellow travelers and together we went to kurgan. None of aul residents went with us for they still were very scared.

When we reached the kurgan we listened carefully, even lain on the ground to hear better, but there were no sounds from there. Then we dug the grave up. Two of us descended there and saw that poor woman had scratched her face and hands, and all her clothes were torn as well. Her body still was warm. We pulled the woman from the grave, set the tent around her and cared for here during the all day. At the moment we took her from the grave, it seemed to me that she really could recover, however before the evening her body became cold and then she was dead indeed.

I have my reasons to think that that clan was not the only that came across such incident. Seasoned doctors say that during some diseases the patients can stay alive but lose their consciousness for very long. This is why when someone dies others must not hurry with burring him. It is required to wait and to observe before digging the body into the ground.

IGNORANCE (C)

Are the sentences T (true) or F (false)?

TRUE FALSE

The men got into a fight after hearing the cuckoo sing.

☐	☐
--------------------------	--------------------------

Both men believed that the cuckoo's song was a foretelling of their future wealth.

☐	☐
--------------------------	--------------------------

The doctor mentioned that if the cuckoo hadn't sung, the two men would not have fought and he wouldn't have made any money from treating their injuries.

☐	☐
--------------------------	--------------------------

The men's injuries were severe enough to require them to visit the doctor.

☐	☐
--------------------------	--------------------------

IGNORANCE (D)

The little boy's mother had died and was buried in a tomb on a hill.

☐	☐
--------------------------	--------------------------

The adults refused to listen to the boy's smiles that his mother was still alive in the tomb.

☐	☐
--------------------------	--------------------------

The narrator believed that the adults had made a grave mistake by burying the woman alive based on the boy's claims.

☐	☐
--------------------------	--------------------------

The villagers were supportive and accompanied the narrator and the boy to the tomb to investigate.

☐	☐
--------------------------	--------------------------

The woman's body showed signs that she had been struggling and trying to escape from the tomb.

☐	☐
--------------------------	--------------------------

The woman was able to regain consciousness briefly after being pulled from the grave but ultimately passed away.

☐	☐
--------------------------	--------------------------

IGNORANCE (C)

Fill in the gaps with the words from the box

I will come into great wealth
me / dog/ cuckoo

- 1- While passing the three, they heard _____ singing.
- 2- "The cuckoo is known to be the oracle among birds. It saw me and wants to foretell that _____ in the near future."
- 3- "The cuckoo's foretelling is not for you, but for _____. It's me who shall become wealthy very soon," the other replied.
- 4- "You are the _____, not me," answered the other sharply.

IGNORANCE (D)

aul/ he was mourning and distressed/woman in the tomb
moaning or some voice/struggled and tried to escape /help take her
out of the tomb

- 1- In 1985, while traveling, my friend stopped in one _____.
- 2- The little boy, whose mother had died, didn't eat or play because _____.
- 3- The residents of the aul decided to move to a different site because they heard _____ from the tomb of the woman.
- 4- The boy insisted that his mother was alive and asked the storyteller to _____.
- 5- Despite the villagers' warnings, the storyteller decided to go and see what was happening with the _____.
- 6- The woman in the tomb had scratched her face and hands, and her clothes were torn, indicating that she had _____.

IGNORANCE (C)



Match the words with their definitions.

1

Oracle

2

Making someone healthy again by giving them medical help.

3

Foretell

4

An angry argument between people.

5

Quarrel

6

Someone wise who people think can predict the future.

7

Curing

8

People who make unwise decisions or lack good judgment.

9

Fools

10

To say or know what will happen in the future.

IGNORANCE (D)



Match the words with their definitions.

1

Aul

2

Doing something morally wrong or against religious rules.

3

Underworld

4

Smart and good at making judgments; clever.

5

Sin

6

A small village or settlement found in Central Asia.

7

Shrewd

8

A place in stories where dead people are believed to go after death.

9

Moaning

10

Making a sad sound, often showing pain or suffering.