

## Anecdotes

Anecdotes in Tajik called *latifa* refer to short humorous sayings that usually are exchanged and shared in cultural events and in casual conversations among people. Today it is one of the most productive humor genres and by popularity surpasses the other form of folk traditional stories or fairy tales.

Anecdotes portray almost any aspect of real life in the light of humor. It contains smallest details about various events witnessed or thought about and that is normally based on real observation of people.

The famous figures in Tajik anecdotes are Nasriddin Afandi, Mushfiki and Kali Zirak. These anecdote heroes are usually portrayed to solve, confront and discuss various moments lived. The heroes of anecdotes present situation in which they had masterfully responded to a challenge solved a difficulty faced by them or the happy life that was granted to a kind people after suffering. The anecdotes also depict negative characters in the face of unjust and mean persons and those who take advantage of the poor and disadvantaged people.

One day Afandi's wife was doing laundry and suddenly a raven comes and snatches the soap and flies away. She cries to her husband and says:

- What sort of man are you that seeing the raven taking away my soap did not do anything about it?

Afandi replies to her by saying:

-Why are you crying so loud about this? Cannot you see that raven's clothing is much darker and dirtier than ours! Let her go and wash her clothes.

Anecdotes are usually brief and contain short humorous reaction to a certain situation or silly questions. For example:

Afandi was asked why people walk to different directions?

Afandi answers: Because if everyone walked

or went to one direction that side of the earth would become heavy and would tip over.

Anecdotes are composed almost instantly and the inspiration comes from daily situations and involve humorous about famous people, such politicians, artisans and in sum represent a reaction of human mind to its sociological context.

Anecdotes are published in collections and different daily papers and in their context are much wider than being folklore genre. Some, of the anecdotes are products of prose writers or comedians. There are also television shows containing humor and anecdotes either by comedian or from folklore. For example television shows such as «Lahzahoi guvoro», «Khandinkamon», «Shakarkhand» and some on a comedy shows where anecdotes are played and demonstrated.

In addition anecdotes are also found and shared across different social media platforms that facilitate them to be widely popularized.

