

The wife returned to her town and noticed that the bundle of alfalfa was growing again. As for the husband, he returned to his wife immediately after he was cured. The wife received her husband with open arms. She also held a big feast to celebrate her husband's safe return and invited all people in the town to it. The husband related to his wife his story with the Bedouin woman and how she managed to cure him. He even told her how she refused all the gifts and only took an old brass vase.

"Oh my dear husband! I can't wait to meet her", the wife said. "Although I know that you are not a Bedouin and that you were at home, there is a remarkable resemblance between you", the husband said.

"Oh dear! you are just exaggerating", the wife replied. As the husband missed his home he began to check every corner in it. When he entered the kitchen he saw on a shelf the same vase that the Bedouin took. He immediately ran and kissed his wife's hands. She realized that he had seen the vase and told him that what she did was nothing compared to his kindness and generosity. They lived happily ever after and had many boys and girls.



Source: This story is from the book "My Granmother Told Me" by Fatima Qalam Al Hinai





Suliaman Bin Aafi (2)

The wife watched the bundle of alfalfa day and night and noticed that it was withering day after day. So she decided to follow her husband and father. As she didn't have any idea about their whereabouts, she carried some provisions, disguised herself as a Bedouin woman, and rode a horse. After some time, she arrived at her husband's town. She was very tired and decided to take some rest under a tree. As she fell asleep, three pigeons perched on the ground and started to eat from the bread crumbs left from her provisions. "Look at this poor woman how far she travelled for the sake of her husband", the first pigeon said.

"This is all because of her two sisters' jealousy", the second pigeon said. "How rude of them to take advantage of their sisters' illness and pierce the needles into her husband's bed", the third pigeon said. "The first needle will come out if she takes me, slaughters me, adds garlic to me, and fries me for her husband", the first pigeon added. "The second needle will come out if she takes me, slaughters me, adds all spices to me, fries me, and feeds me to her husband", the second pigeon added.

"The third needle will come out if she takes me, slaughters me, adds salt to me, fries me, and feeds me to her husband", the third pigeon said. The wife overheard what they were saying. So she covered them under her scarf and took them to her in-laws house. No body recognized her. She told them that she had heard about their son's illness and hoped she could cure him. The wife asked for a knife, after which she slaughtered the three pigeons and fed them to her husband as they had described. The three needles came out immediately. The wife stayed there for two days in order to check on her husband. The husband and his parents thanked her and were generous to her. When she decided to leave they asked her to stay for a few more days. She apologized to them and explained that she had to offer her help to other patients. As she was about to leave, they offered her money, and silk clothes to reward her for her great help. She refused to take any of them but her mother-in-law insisted that she should take something. The wife spotted a box in one of the corners on which there was an old brass vase. The wife asked if she could take it and her mother-in-law gave it to her

BLAH

Traditional Game

Text and pictures by: Alia Al Numani

The Stick

This game is played in a farm with the aim to train boys on climbing palm trees without any fear.

Number of players: unlimited

One of the players will be picked by casting lots. Then, another player will throw a stick as far as he could. The player who has been selected should run fast and pick the stick. Before the stick touches the ground, the other players will climb a palm tree. He will try to touch them with the stick or beat them if they try to climb down. The player he manages to touch will take his place. Any player who succeeds in climbing down without being touched should scream, "For me and on behalf of my friends". Then the game is played again in the same manner.



AL SAE

Text and pictures by Sergeant: Salim Al Shahi

Fish Cage



The fish cage is made of a base and an opening through which fish enter so they can be caught. First, the raw silk is imported from abroad and untied in straight lines. Then, it is measured by hand depending on the size of the fish cage. After that, the silk pieces are intertwined and formed into a circular shape and the opening is made. Finally, the different components of the fish cage are put together. The fish cage is sold on the market for a price between 15 and 20 Omani riyals.

