

## Story 7: Goha and the Donkey



Story shared by: *Anonymous*

Representing: *Egyptian/ MENA*

### The Story:

Once upon a time, an old man named Goha was traveling with his young son and their donkey, passing through several villages on their way to a distant place. At first, the young boy sat on the donkey while Goha walked alongside.

As they entered the first village, the villagers criticized the boy, saying, "Look at that selfish child! How can he let his old father walk while he comfortably rides the donkey?" Hearing this, Goha decided to switch places. Now, the father rode the donkey, and the son walked beside him.

But as they passed through the next village, the people there scolded the father: "What kind of man is this? How could he make his poor young son walk while he sits on the donkey?"

Frustratedly trying to avoid further criticism, Goha decided that both he and his son would ride the donkey together. But as they trekked through the next village, the gossip only continued. "Look at these two fools! They're both sitting on that poor donkey, burdening it with their weight. How cruel!"

So, Goha and his son got off the donkey and decided to walk alongside it instead. As they passed through yet another village, the people mocked them, saying, "How ridiculous! They have a donkey, but neither of them is riding it! What a waste." At the end of the journey, Goha turned to his son and said, "No matter what you do, people will always find something to criticize. You can't please everyone, so it's better to do what you think is right."

**Story Moral:** "No matter what you do, people will always find something to criticize. You can't please everyone, so it's better to do what you think is right."



