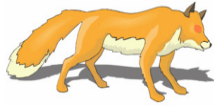


فِي بَيْتِهِ يُؤْتَى الْحَكْمُ

قَالُوا : إِنَّ الْأَرْتَبَ التَّقَطَّتْ تَمْرَةً، فَاخْتَلَسَهَا الثَّعْلَبُ فَأَكَلَهَا، فَانْطَلَقَا يَخْتَصِمَانِ إِلَى

الضَّبِّ،



فَقَالَتِ الْأَرْتَبُ : يَا أبا الْحَسَلِ!



فَقَالَ : سَمِيعًا دَعَوْتُ.



قَالَتْ : أَتَيْنَاكَ لِنَخْتَصِمَ إِلَيْكَ.

قَالَ : عَادِلًا حَكْمْتُمَا.

قَالَتْ : فَاخْرُجْ إِلَيْنَا.



قَالَ : فِي بَيْتِهِ يُؤْتَى الْحَكْمُ.

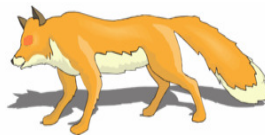


قَالَتْ : إِنِّي وَجَدْتُ تَمْرَةً.

قَالَ : حُلْوَةٌ فَكُلِيهَا.



قَالَتْ : فَاخْتَلَسَهَا الثَّعْلَبُ.



قَالَ : لِنَفْسِهِ بَعْى الْخَيْرِ.

قالتُ : فَلَطَمْتُهُ.

قال : بِحَقِّكَ أَخَذْتُ.



قالتُ : فَلَطَمَنِي.

قال : حُرُّ انْتَصَرَ.

قالتُ : فاقضِ بَيْنَنَا.



قال : قَدْ قَضَيْتُ.

فَذَهَبَتْ أَقْوَالُهُ كُلُّهَا أَمْثَالاً.

(مجمع الأمثال للميداني)



التَّقَطَّ التَّقَاطاً (viii), to pick up.

أَرْنَبٌ, rabbit. The word is feminine even though it is applied to both the masculine as well the feminine animal. Pl أَرَانِبُ.

اخْتَلَسَ اخْتِلاَساً (viii), to snatch.

تَعَالَبٌ, fox. Pl تَعَالِبُ.

انْطَلَقَ انْطِلاقاً (v), to set out.



اِخْتَصَمَ اِخْتِصَامًا (viii), to quarrel.

ضَبَّ, spiny-tailed lizard. Pl ضِبَّانٌ, ضِبَّابٌ.

Its young one is حَسِلٌ (pl حَسِلَانٌ). Therefore, the *kunyah* of the dabb is:

أَبُو الْحَسِلِ.

عَادَلَ, just.

حَكَّمَ, arbiter. (ii) حَكَّمَ فُلَانٌ فُلَانًا تَحْكِيمًا, to choose someone to be the arbiter.

بَغِيَ الشَّيْءَ بَغِيَةً (a-i), to seek. The form most frequently used in this sense is: ابْتَغَى ابْتِغَاءً (viii).

لَطَمَ لَطْمًا (a-i), to slap.

أَحْرَارٌ, free man (as opposed to عَبْدٌ, a slave). Pl أَحْرَارٌ.

انْتَصَرَ انْتِصَارًا (viii), to take revenge.

قَضَى قَضَاءً (a-i), to decide, to rule, to pronounce judgment.

أَمْثَلُ, proverb, pl أَمْثَالٌ.



This Arabic proverb is presented as a fable with the participation of animals.

It is said that the rabbit picked up a date, but the fox snatched it and ate it. So both of them set out to the spiny-tailed lizard for arbitration.

The rabbit said, 'O Father of Hisl'!

The dabb said, 'You have called a good listener'.

The rabbit said, 'We have come to you for arbitration'.

The dabb said, 'You have chosen a just judge for arbitration'.

The rabbit said, 'Come out to (hear) us.'

The dabb said, 'The arbiter is visited in his house'.

The rabbit said, 'I found a date.'

The dabb said, 'A sweet thing. Eat it.'

The rabbit said, 'The fox snatched it.'

The dabb said, 'He sought for himself what is good'.

The rabbit said, 'I slapped him'.

The dabb said, 'You have taken your right'.

The rabbit said, '(The fox) slapped me'.

The dabb said, 'A free being has avenged himself'.

The rabbit said, 'Pronounce your judgment'.

The dabb said, 'I have already done so'.

All his statements became proverbs.

This proverb emphasizes the importance of the arbiter, and that he should be honored and respected.



Note that the proverb **فِي بَيْتِهِ يُؤْتَى الْحَكْمُ** is *mawzuun* (versified), and its feet are:

مُسْتَفْعَلُنْ (dan dan da dan) which equals to: **Come, come to me.**

This foot is repeated twice.

فِي بَيْتِهِ : **Come, come to me.**

يُؤْتَى الْحَكْمُ : **Come, come to me.**

الضَّبُّ

