

Inner Call Podcast #108 How Many Crows? March 30 2021

This is a story about the great Emperor Akbar and his counsellor Birbal. If you wish to become wise, you could not find a better example than Birbal to follow.

It happened once that Akbar was strolling through his gardens, accompanied by Birbal, and they saw some crows in a tree. Akbar, always curious, said, "Birbal, how many crows would there be in my kingdom?"

When you are the counsellor of an emperor, the last answer to give is, "I don't know." Without hesitation, Birbal replied, "Nine hundred and forty nine thousand three hundred and twenty seven, Majesty."

Akbar gave Birbal a suspicious look. "Are you sure?" he demanded.

"If your majesty will give orders to have them counted, you will see that I am right."

"And if we count them and there are fewer?"

"In that case, Majesty, it only means that some of the crows have gone to visit their relations in other kingdoms."

"I see. And if it turns out there are more?"

"Majesty, that would be because the relations, having heard of the glories of your kingdom, have come here to visit."