

671 The Three Languages.

A young man learns the languages of dogs [B215.2], birds [B215.1], and frogs [B215.4]. His father, angry at such useless knowledge, drives him out and orders him to be killed. A compassionate servant lets him escape and substitutes an animal's heart as proof for the murder [K512.2].

By means of his knowledge of the dogs' language the boy discovers a treasure (he cures a sick princess and marries her later). Through his knowledge of the frogs' language he learns that he will be elected pope [H171.2]. When he arrives in Rome, two doves come to sit on his shoulders and he is recognized as a man worthy of being pope (birds indicate his election as pope [H171.2]). The two doves tell him what to do so that he will be elected pope, and give him advice on how to act. Cf. Types 517, 725.

Remarks: Often combined with the Types 517 and/ or 725. BP call the Types 517, 671, and 725 "three forms" of one tale. Delarue/Tenèze call the three types a "cycle de la prédiction réalisée". Oriental origin (Seven Wise Men). Documented in Europe, see Johannes Gobi Junior, *Scala coeli* (No. 520).