

Story #70 (Tape 19)
1961-1962

Narrator: Osman Dayı
Location: Akdere
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#70
The Chivalrous Bandit -- Chivalrous

One night some bandits raided the caravan of a tribal āğa. There were twenty-five or thirty camels in the caravan and several drivers. The bandit chief said to the savran, the caravan leader, "Go and tell the āğa that his caravan has been raided and that he should come and rescue it." The bandit leader planned to trap the āğa himself. tribal
of course

The savran went to the āğa and told him what had happened, and he asked him to mount his horse and go to rescue his camels from the bandits. The āğa had his horse saddled and he rode off in the direction of the caravan. The bandits were waiting for him, and they were watching his approach with their binoculars. When the āğa realized that he had been abushed, he released his horse and sang the following song to him: ambush

Try, ¹Kir At, ¹try; try to reach the hilltop. Kirat (gray horse)
The caravan is waiting at the top of the road.
You can't shoot a Circassian with a rusty pistol, ~~rusty~~
And I'll protect you, Kir At, until they take my head.

The bandit chief heard the āğa sing this to his horse, and when the āğa was surrounded and captured, the chief said to him, "Sing again that song which you sang to your horse. Do this and I shall set you, your horse, and also your camels free once more. If you do not, I shall have all of you slaughtered."

The āğa was very surprised at this proposal, but he did as he was directed and sang the song again. Shortly after that, the bandit chief had the āğa and his whole caravan released.

¹Kir At means, literally, Gray Horse.