

Story #256 (Tape #19, 1961-1962)

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Location: Akdere village, kaza of  
Gülnar, Province of Içel

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The Yuruk and the Unfaithful Wife

*Charity - not mentioned*

About two hundred years ago a man of our tribe [Yürüks here settled for fifty years] was married to a girl of the same tribe. When their child grew to four or five years of age, the husband and wife decided to visit their parents, who lived far away. On the way they saw a cave and decided to spend the night in it. When they looked inside, they saw that a savage-looking man had killed a young ox and was busy cooking and eating kebab from its meat. After the husband spoke his "Greetings" to *Belam* you," the man said, "Greetings to you, oh, man with a beautiful wife."

The husband of the woman did not like the way the man greeted him, but under the circumstances he preferred to say nothing. The savage-looking man finished eating the ox before their eyes without even offering them any of it. After he finished eating, he tied the hands of the husband behind his back and raped his wife. But the man reached the fire and putting his hands over it burned the ropes which tied them and freed himself. He went over to the man sleeping with his wife and killed him by kicking at his head. With this noise, his wife woke up. "How did you do this?" he asked her, and he hit her. He took the child from its mother, got a horse, and left.

After going some distance, he was tired and decided to stop for the night at another cave. After a short sleep he got up and saw a man standing between the legs of his horse. Very frightened, he struck the man dead. But what he thought was a stranger was his own child.

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The next day, he reached his father-in-law's house, where he explained to him what had happened. His father-in-law said, "Well, done, son! Take my second daughter as your wife."