

Story #564 (1963 Tape #1)

Narrator: Abdi Mirzalıoğlu, oldest member of prominent family

Location: Üçem village, Balâ kaza, Ankara Province

Date: 1963

The Saint of This Village

Soldiers stopped here once to cook some food. Water gushed from the place where they desired water. When the food was cooked and served, it kept replenishing itself. The water from that fountain still runs.

"Let the soldiers stay here and rest, but let us go to the top of that hill." They [the officers?] thought that the hill was very pleasant, but they said, "It is too bad that there is no shade here." He had a staff in his hand, and when he struck the ground with this staff, mulberry trees grew there. People still go there to pick mulberries.

"Make a wish," he said [to some unidentified person].

"I have no wish but your health."

"You can see twelve villages from this hill. You will become the tax collector for those villages."

This is the account we heard.