

Story #648 (1974, Tape #50)

Narrator: Bayram Şahin, 73, retired farmer

Location: Limonlu village, kaza of Mersin, Province of İçel

Date: January 8, 1974

Treasure -- burial

Buried Treasure

Ahmet Uysal: "Are there people who come here looking for buried treasures?"

Narrator: "I don't know. I have never seen anyone who came to look for buried treasures."

Uysal: "I've heard that people come here looking for something called 'The three hearths'" hearth -- three

Narrator: "I don't know."

Uysal: "There is a place around these parts that has drawings on the rocks etchings of birds, fish and scales, and wolves. Some villagers say these are signs of hidden treasures. I have met villagers who carry pictures of such etchings, and they believe they will find a treasure. Are there such seekers here?"

Narrator: [after a long pause] "There is no use believing if one cannot find anything. There is a drawing of a bird, and a hoca with his family who just sits there. But that is no treasure, neither far up above nor here below."

Uysal: "Any fish etchings or a hen with chicks?"

Narrator: "No, no such etchings. Of course there are other places where we have not been--at [unintelligible place name], for example, there are many signs, they say. But that is not our territory, so

we would not really know."

Uysal: "Do they search for the lame bear here?" *bear -- lame*

Narrator: "Yes, many seek the lame bear."

Uysal: "The lame bear is searched for all over Turkey."

Another voice: "There's a place called 'Nine Hearths' *heards -- mine* There are many signs there, and there is said to be buried treasures. The lame bear and other historical artifacts are also said to be there There are treasures dating back to the B.C. period."

Uysal: "Well, that is interesting, but it is off the subject. Do you have another tale?"

Narrator: "Yes, but it is too long. It would take a long time to tell you that story."

Uysal: "That is all right."