

PT: TT: Archive of  
Turkish Oral  
Narrative

# The Archive of Turkish Oral Narrative:

a Window on Turkey,  
a Resource  
at Texas Tech



Archive creators Dr. Walker and Dr. Uysal began the collection of tales as early as 1961.

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The Archive, attractively housed at the Library of Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas, was created in 1971 to further a better understanding of Turkish history, folklore, and culture.

Created through the donations of extensive oral narratives collected over a 20-year period by Dr. and Mrs. Warren S. Walker and Dr. Ahmet E. Uysal, the Archive has grown in importance as a regional depository and is now one of the largest such collections in the United States.

Researchers, students and others interested in Turkey are granted open access to the material. Duplicate cassettes, cassette players, and an electric typewriter with Turkish characters are available for in-house use. Four indexes based on the tapes and a subject index based on the translations facilitate study. The translations, the Jansen Collection and other printed materials are available for use.

The Archive is supported by the University Library, Texas Tech University, small research grants and individual donations. Tax-deductible donations to further the work of this unique Archive are always appreciated. Contributions should be made payable to the Texas Tech University Foundation, Archive of Turkish Oral Narrative, and mailed to the Archive in care of the University Library, Lubbock, Texas 79409.

### SERVICES OF THE ARCHIVE

*For Local Use:* Lectures and storytelling for school and civic groups and programs for Continuing Education in the Archive Room; orientation for Turkey-bound military personnel and tourists; Library and Museum exhibits; aid in Turkish research projects; speakers/storytellers for off-premises Turkish-related programs; paid apprenticeship in translation and in indexing; and continued processing of field-collected tales.

The Archive is open to users Mondays through Fridays (except during the University holidays) and at additional times by arrangement. On an average, 300 visitors use the Archive each month. All inquiries are welcomed.

*For Nonlocal Use:* Research, reference, and duplication of taped and translated materials requested by letter or telephone by those at too great a distance to allow in-person use of the Archive resources. Nearly 1000 long-distance users have been served since September 1980.

The holdings and services of the Archive are on record with the National Referral Service, Library of Congress.

### AVAILABLE IN TURKISH

More than 800 fully indexed reels of library-weight tape, recorded on one side only, constitute the basic tape collection. Reels are added continuously through field-work by the archivists and their colleagues.

Secondary materials include scholarly studies, bound periodicals, collections of folktales and folk speech, and out-of-print paperbound tales and anthologies.

The 1951 Wolfram Eberhard Field Collection of folk minstrel tales is also held by the Archive through the courtesy of the field collector himself.

### AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH

600 of the present 3000 narratives are contained in 16 quarto volumes, subject-indexed and fully annotated. Another 900 tales have been translated and await further processing.

Among secondary materials are basic tools for folktale research and standard works on the Near East. Audiovisual materials and art albums open windows on Turkey.

Photocopies of Turkish holdings from the Wm. Hugh Jansen Collection (1951-53) are also present, courtesy of the University of Kentucky Libraries.

### TURKEY, STOREHOUSE OF ORAL ART

Informants were drawn from all walks of life and from most of the 67 provinces of Turkey.



*Auşar woman relating an early Turkish folktale, Pınarbaşı, 1963.*



\*Province from which Archive derived tales