

Story #410 (Tape #4, 1972)

Narrator: Necmi Okur, 20

Location: Narlı Köyü, Silifke, İçel;
narrator from Ark Asarı,
another village

Date: October 13, 1972

How Karakaya Got Its Name

Ahmet Uysal: I understand that there is a story in circulation about how Karakaya came to be named.]

This is a very old village. One day two peasants from this area were working in a field. Some distance from where they were, there was a large boulder. The first peasant said, "Do you see that black rock over there?"

"Yes," said the second, "I see it. It dates from the time of my grandfather, and it was known then as Black Boulder [Kara Kaya]."

"No," said the first, "it dates back to the time of my grandfather's father, and it was known as Black Eagle [Kara Kartal]."

They started to fight about this, one claiming it should be called Kara Kaya and the other that it should be called Kara Kartal. Other peasants who had heard the fighting arrived, and the relatives of the two men supported their own relatives, joining the fight. The two groups fought for hours until finally the group supporting Kara Kaya won. Later, when a village was built there, it was, as a result of the outcome of this fight, called Karakaya.