Once there were two Lazies who were fishing in the [Black] sea. When a storm arose, one said to the other, "Oh, Hürşit, what shall we do? Our ship will sink, and our children will be left orphans. What shall we do?"

The other said, "Hey, Allah! Let me give you a hamsı, for which you should take us safely to the shore."

Nothing happened.

Later the same Laz said, "O Allah! Let me give you another hamsı to help us land safely on the shore." Still later, he called out for a third time, "Hey, my great Allah! Let me give you one more hamsı to help us land safely."

When his companion heard this, he said, "Stop! You have almost finished the hamsı!"

1 The hamsı is a small fish, somewhat like a herring, that lives in the Black Sea. They are a staple food for the Laz people, who prepare them according to numerous recipes.