

Story 1162 (1988 Dictated)

Narrator: Hâlil İbrahim Delikan,
postmaster

Location: Trabzon, capital city
of Trabzon Province

Date: October 1988

Black Sea Cold

There were once two friends who were working together on a job in İstanbul. One of those men was from that city, and the other was from the Black Sea coast. One day the İstanbul man heard that there was a big construction project at Trabzon, he decided to go there to work, for he had been told that the wages there were higher than he was receiving in İstanbul

This İstanbul native traveled to Trabzon and worked there for two years. When he returned to İstanbul, the Black Sea man asked him, "How many colds did you have during the time that you were at Trabzon?"

"I had just one cold," his friend replied.

"What? You had just one cold in two years?"

"Yes."

"How did you manage to have just one cold in two years in such a place?"

"Well, that cold started the day I arrived there, and I still have it!"¹

¹This is humor at the expense of the climate along the Black Sea coast: Often rainy and almost always damp.