

Story 1429 (1976 Tape 33) Narrator: Arif Sevgin

Location: Hıdırlar village,
Beypazarı kaza,
Ankara Province

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Dream Communications of Cafer Sadık

There was an officer named Cafer Sadık who was killed in battle during the era of the Horasan dedes.¹ They built a tomb for him not far from the Sakarya River. His flag and his sword were placed in the tomb with him, and it was always guarded.

A few years ago, however, when the Sarıyar Dam was being built, this officer appeared to many people of this area in their dreams. Each time he appeared this way, he told the dreamer that his tomb should be moved. He was afraid that when the water rose behind the dam, his tomb would be inundated. Finally, even the kaymakam² saw Cafer

¹Horasan, now called Khurasan, is a province of Iran. During the Seljuk period, Horasan was an area where Moslem mysticism flourished. Many of the Horasan mystics were backtrackers in that they moved against the tide of İslam moving east. Many of them moved west into Anatolia. Seemingly, wherever one settled he attracted a following of students and/or admirers, and often such a mystic would reinvigorate Moslem enthusiasm in the area where he settled. Dede means grandfather or old man--and many of these westerning mystics were old--but the word can, by extention, suggest dervish or saint.

²A kaymakam is the top federal official in a kaza town or city. The kaymakam referred to here was probably stationed at Beypazarı, the nearest kaza center.

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Sadık in his dream. The kaymakam was a young man. As soon as he awoke in the morning, he went to take a look at Cafer Sadık's tomb. The water was already quite close to the tomb, and so the kaymakam ordered that the tomb be moved at once. They moved it up to a place on the Kozlu Plateau.