Accountability for Family

There was a Laz named Temel who was the captain of a ship on the Black Sea. He had been sailing the Black Sea for so many years and he had become so well known to residents in all of the towns and cities along the Turkish coast that one day he was interviewed by a newspaper reporter.

The reporter asked Temel many questions about his work on the Black Sea and about himself. At one point he asked, "Captain Temel, how many children do you have?"

"I don't know."

Surprised, the reporter asked, "How can that be? What do you mean by saying that you do not know how many children you have?"

"Well, I am always traveling," answered Temel, "and I not been back to my village for four years. How should I know how many children I have? Such matters are in the hands of Allah."
made their livings on the Black Sea in the whole range of maritime pursuits—fishing, shipbuilding, and shipping. Most of the Turkish ships on the Black Sea are manned and commanded by Lazes.