

**Turkish transcript:**

Mersinde tarihi eserler var mı?

Mersin’de tarihi eser, çok da bilemiyorum. Ama sarkıt ve dicitlerden oluşan Cennet, Cehennem Mağaraları ve Astım Mağarası var. Aynı zamanda denizin ortasında Kızkalesi var. Kızkalesi’nin hikayesi nedense Kızkulesi ile aynı. Bir falcı krala diyor ki, kızınız ölecek onun için bir kale yaptırın. Kral da Kızkalesi’ni yaptırıyor. Sonra kıza bir gün, kızını ziyaret ederken bir gün üzüm götürürken üzüm sepetinin içine yılan giriyor, ne tesadüfse. Sonra kız sokuyor bu yılan ve kız ölüyor. Yani buradan çıkartacağımız sonuç kaderimize karşı gelemiyoruz. Kaderde var...[incomplete sentence]

Evet kader bizim kültürümüzde çok önemli bir konsept. Biraz bahsetmek ister misin?

Aslında kadercilik gerçekten hem iyi yanı hem de kötü yanı olan birşey, çünkü kötü birşey olduğunda, problemi üzerinden atabilmek için hani kaderde vardı diyip geçiştirmek iyi olabiliyor bazen ya da her işte bir hayır vardır diyip kötü olayın içinde hayır arayabiliriz, kaderimizi sorgulamıyoruz. Ama aynı zamanda hani bu benim kaderim diye körü körüne bağlanma gibi şeylerde görülüyor toplumumuzda, hani hem iyisi hem kötüsü olan birşey, pek yorum yapamıyacağım açıkcası.

**English translation:**

Zeliha: Are there historical sites in Mersin?

Mine: Historical sites in Mersin? I don’t know much [about them]. There are the Heaven and Hell caves, composed of stalactites and stalagmites, and there is the Asthma Cave. There is also Kızkulesi [Girls’ Tower] in the middle of the sea. Who knows why, but the stories of Kızkulesi and Kızkalesi [Girls’ Castle] are the same. A fortune-teller tells the king that his daughter is going to die, and that he should build a castle for her. So the king has the Kızkalesi built. Then one day, his daughter . . . when he is visiting his daughter, one day when he is bringing her grapes, a snake gets in the grape basket. What a coincidence . . . Then this snake bites the girl and the girl dies. I mean, the lesson that we learn from this story is that we cannot stand against our destiny. It’s in our destiny...Zeliha: Yes, destiny is an important concept in our culture. Would you talk about it a little bit?

Mine: Actually, fatalism is both a good thing and a bad thing, because when something bad happens, in order to make sense of the problem, it can be good if you can let it pass easily by saying that it was in your destiny. Sometimes we can say that there is some good in everything, and then we can search for something good in everything bad; we

would not question our destiny. But at the same time, there can be situations in which people stick blindly to their situations because they say, “That is my destiny.” I mean, it’s something that has both a good side and a bad side.

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