

A Ballad for Çanakkale

During Ottoman times, Çanakkale was a small town for soldiers who are officers in Çanakkale fortifications. After the heroic battles in Dardanelles and Gallipoli, the city became a sacred place for Turkish people. For 100 hundred years, Anatolian people sang songs about it . This is one of them. Although this song is about Çanakkale, its origin is from Middle Anatolian town of Kastamonu. It was arranged by Muzaffer Sarısözen (folk songs compiler) by the lyrics which are referred by a local bard Ihsan Ozanoğlu of Kastamonu.

Here are the lyrics.

Lyrics[[edit](#)]

Lyrics in Turkish	English translation
<i>Çanakkale içinde aynalı çarşı Ana ben gidiyom düşmana karşı, off, gençliğim eyvah!</i>	<i>In Çanakkale stands the Mirror Bazaar. Mother I set forth against the enemy, oh, my youth, alas!</i>
<i>Çanakkale içinde bir uzun selvi Kimimiz nişanlı, kimimiz evli, off, gençliğim eyvah!</i>	<i>In Çanakkale there's a cypress tree. Some of us are engaged, some of us married, oh, my youth, alas!</i>
<i>Çanakkale içinde bir kırık testi Analar babalar ümidi kesti, off, gençliğim eyvah!</i>	<i>In Çanakkale there's a broken jug. Mothers and fathers abandoned hope, oh, my youth, alas!</i>
<i>Çanakkale üstünü duman бүрүdü On üçüncü fırka harbe yürüdü, off, gençliğim eyvah! Çanakkale elinde toplar kuruldu Vay bizim uşaklar orda vuruldu, off, gençliğim eyvah! Çanakkale köprüsü dardır geçilmez Al kan olmuş suları bir tas içilmez, off, gençliğim eyvah! Çanakkale'den çıktım yan basa basa Ciğerlerim çürüdü kan kusa kusa, off, gençliğim eyvah! Çanakkale'den çıktım başım selamet Anafarta'ya varmadan koptu kıyamet, off, gençliğim eyvah!</i>	<i>Çanakkale's heights are shrouded with smoke. The thirteenth division marched to war, oh, my youth, alas! In Çanakkale the cannonballs landed. Ah, our comrades fell wounded together, oh, my youth, alas! Çanakkale's bridge is narrow, impassable. Its waters have become red blood, not a cup can be drunk, oh, my youth, alas. From Çanakkale I barely escaped My lungs rotted from vomiting blood, oh, my youth, alas! From Çanakkale I escaped, my head is safe Doomsday came before I reached Anafarta, oh my youth, alas</i>
<i>Çanakkale içinde vurdular beni Ölmeden mezara koydular beni, off, gençliğim eyvah! Çanakkale içinde sıra söğütler Altında yatıyor aslan yiğitler, off, gençliğim eyvah!</i>	<i>In Çanakkale they shot me. They buried me before I died, oh, my youth, alas! In Çanakkale are rows of willows Brave lions rest beneath them, oh, my youth, alas.</i>