

During the days of Great War, when Turkey declared mobilization, many young Turks enlisted to the army. After long years of fight with their neighbors, Turkish army and people was poor and weak. So, there weren't many people suitable for fighting. For that reason, even very young boys were called upon. In Eastern city of Erzurum, there was a woman whose husband had already died in the war. The only thing that she had in life was her young boy. She dedicated her life to the boy. In 1914, he went for fighting but didn't come back. This song was sung by local bards afterwards for all the mothers who sent their sons to the war.

Eledim Eledim Höllük Eledim 1

Eledim eledim höllük eledim
Aynalı beşikte canan bebek beledim
Büyüttüm besledim asker eyledim
Gitti de gelmedi canan buna ne çare
Yandı ciğerim de canan buna ne çare

Bir güzel simadır aklımı alan
Aşkın sevdasını canan serime salan
Bizi kınamasın ehl-i din olan
Gitti de gelmedi canan buna ne çare
Yandı ciğerim de canan buna ne çare

Muharrem Erkuş
ERZURUM

I Sifted Höllük

I sifted and sifted Höllük
And I bundled my baby into the mirrored cradle
I brought him up and sent for the army
He went but didn't come back, a cure to my heart
My heart burned, a cure to this my beloved

A beautiful visage taking my mind off
Flowing the words of love into my head.
Don't condemn us, you faithful people
He went but didn't come back, a cure to my heart
My heart burned, a cure to my beloved

(Höllük is type of white sand-like soil which is used instead of diapers.)