

## Turkish Proverbs & Old Turkish Sayings

A heart in love with beauty never grows old.

No rose without a thorn, or a love without a rival.

A white day sheds light, and a black day sheds darkness.

Do not dock the donkey's tail in a crowd, some will say it's too long, others it's too short.

A lion sleeps in the heart of every brave man.

A good man will appear when talked about

A dog that intends to bite does not bear its teeth.

A worthy man is still worthy even penniless, a donkey is a donkey even if he is finely saddled.

An open mouth remains no hungry.

Two cocks won't crow on the same dunghill.

He who does evil to others, does it to himself.

Whoever the heart loves, she is the beauty.

No matter how tall a tree grows its leaves always fall to the ground.

He who borrows gets sorrows.

A heavy stone is not easily moved.

There is an uphill for every downhill, and a downhill for every uphill.

A nail will come out, but its hole remains.

Gold does not rust on the ground, and rocks don't get soaked in the rain.

A twig is bent while it is green.

**He who sends a child on an errand must go after him as well.**

**Either drive this camel to pasture or leave the country.**

**White clothes soon get dirty.**

**They asked the Turkmen whether he wants to buy bees, he said  
Why should I have all that buzz with my money?**

**Tell me who your friend is, and I'll tell you who you are.**

**In a flat country a hillock thinks itself a mountain.**

**Kiss the hand which you cannot wring.**

**Remain hungry but do not start begging.**

**He who sleeps with a blind man will wake up cross-eyed.**

**Every one is a lord in his own home.**

**If the insolent man is strong, the one in the right is considered  
guilty.**

**A cup of coffee commits one to forty years of friendship.**

**A fool dreams of wealth; a wise man, of happiness.**

**A full purse is one's best companion.**

**A good companion shortens the longest road.**

**A heart in love with beauty never grows old.**

**A hungry stomach has no ears.**

**A kind word warms a man throughout three winters.**

**A knife-wound heals, but a tongue wound festers.**

**A man is as wise as his head, not his years.**

**A man is judged by his work.**

**A neighbor's hen looks as big as a goose, and his wife as young as a girl.**

**A pound is sixteen ounces wherever you go.**

**A red apple invites stones.**

**A small key opens big doors.**

**A thousand friends are too few; one enemy is one too many.**

**A tribulation is better than a hundred warnings.**

**A wise man does his own work.**

**A wise man remembers his friends at all times; a fool, only when he has need of them.**

**Ability has no school.**

**Activity breeds prosperity.**

**An illness comes by the pound and goes away by the ounce.**

**An open door invites callers.**

**At table keep a short hand; in company keep a short tongue.**

**Beauty Passes, wisdom remains.**

**Better a calf of one's own than a jointly owned cow.**

**Better a wise foe than a foolish friend.**

**Do what your teacher says but not what he does.**

**Eat and drink with your friends but do not trade with them.**

**Even the highest tree has an axe waiting at its foot.**

Every **'bad'** has its **'worse.'**

Every sheep is hung by his own leg.

Fear an ignorant man more than a lion

Fear him who fears not God.

For every wise man there is one still wiser.

Give nine, save ten

God finds a low branch for the bird that cannot fly.

God has created us brothers but has given us separate purses.

Guests bring good luck with them.

Habit is worse than rabies.

He beats his breast who does not beat his child.

He bites his tongue who speaks in haste.

He gives twice who gives quickly.

If a dog's prayers were answered, bones would rain from the sky.

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If skill could be gained by watching, every dog would become a butcher.

If you are an anvil, be patient; if you are a hammer, be strong.

If you give him cloth, he'll ask for the lining.

If you wish to do a good deed, consult no one.

It is easier to make a camel jump a ditch than to make a fool listen to reason.

**It is easy to catch a serpent with someone else's hand.**

**It is easy to say "Come," difficult to say "Go."**

**It is more difficult to contend with oneself than with the world.**

**Kind words will unlock an iron door**

**Listen a hundred times; ponder a thousand times; speak once.**

**Many will show you the way once your cart has overturned.**

**No matter where you go, your destiny follows you.**

**Of everything else the newest; of friends, the oldest.**

**Once a friend, always a friend.**

**One can never repay one's debt to one's mother.**

**One does not burn a blanket to get rid of a flea.**

**One is equally indebted to one's teacher and to God.**

**Part with your head, but not with your secret.**

**Patience is bitter, but it bears sweet fruit.**

**Roses grow where a teacher hits.**

**Stairs are climbed step by step.**

**Stretch your feet according to your blanket.**

**Study from new books but from old teachers**

**The devil takes a hand in what is done in haste.**

**The granary is at the point of the plowshare.**

The miser and the open-handed spend the same in the long run.

The rich man's wealth tires the poor man's jaw.

The sage speaks of what he sees; the fool, of what he hears.

Thorns and roses grow on the same tree.

Those who know do not talk; those who talk do not know.

Who buys cheap buys dear.

Whoever digs a pit for his neighbor should dig it his own size.

Whoever is fond of cream should take the cow around with him.

Whoever speaks evil to you of others will speak evil of you to others.

Wish well, be well.

With patience, mulberry leaves become satin.

Work as if you were to live forever; live as if you were to die tomorrow.

No rose without a thorn, or a love without a rival. Turkish Proverb

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