

**Cite as:** *Un piškádo es berekét – The fish is a sign of prosperity*; performer: Soli Avigdor, camera/ interview: Ioana Aminian, transcription/ translation: Ioana Aminian, Deyvi Papo, Imane Sghiouar, editor: Deyvi Papo, retrieved from [www.oeaw.ac.at/VLACH](http://www.oeaw.ac.at/VLACH), ID-number: ladi1251TRV0047a.

## Metadata Participant

family name	Avigdor
birth name if different	Sol
given name	Güneş Soli
Other family members interviewed	–
sex (M – F – O)	F
year of birth	1941
ethnic/we group	Sephardim
✠ ✡ ✛ ✞ ✟ ✠ religion	Jewish
🗨 mother tongue	Judeo-Spanish, Turkish
🗨 🗨 further languages	French, Italian English
📖 📖 education	French Highschool
👩 profession	Housewife
👤 born in	Edirne
	location
	country/region
👦 grew up	Edirne (until 11 years old)
	location
	country/region
👨 👩 origin/parents	Edirne
👨 👩 origin/grandparents	Edirne
family status	Married
location(s) where living	Istanbul

## Subtitles

### Judeo-Spanish

1  
00:00:12,920 --> 00:00:16,080  
I kwándo tu te -- kwéntame un póko,  
  
2  
00:00:16,080 --> 00:00:18,320  
kómo se asíyan laz bódas ántes?  
  
3  
00:00:18,320 --> 00:00:20,360  
- A: laz bódas éra muy, muy enteresánte!  
  
4  
00:00:20,360 --> 00:00:23,960  
Éra únaz bódas maz ermózas d'akí.  
  
5  
00:00:23,960 --> 00:00:26,080  
De ke, te va a dizírte.  
  
6  
00:00:26,080 --> 00:00:30,440  
Siýuro, en káda sivdáđ -- ayá ay úzos diferéntes.  
  
7  
00:00:30,440 --> 00:00:33,440  
En Iderné, la, la nóvya venía al --  
  
8  
00:00:33,440 --> 00:00:36,640  
a la sinagóga ke es ayóra la sinagóga gránde  
  
9  
00:00:36,640 --> 00:00:38,200  
ke se abríyo en Edirne,  
  
10  
00:00:38,200 --> 00:00:41,000  
duspwés de star seráda múčos años,

### English translation

1  
00:00:12,920 --> 00:00:16,080  
When you got -- tell me  
  
2  
00:00:16,080 --> 00:00:18,320  
how would people do weddings before?  
  
3  
00:00:18,320 --> 00:00:20,360  
- Oh, the weddings were very interesting!  
  
4  
00:00:20,360 --> 00:00:23,960  
They were more beautiful than the ones in Istanbul.  
  
5  
00:00:23,960 --> 00:00:26,080  
Why? I will tell you.  
  
6  
00:00:26,080 --> 00:00:30,440  
Of course, every city has its unique customs.  
  
7  
00:00:30,440 --> 00:00:33,440  
In Edirne, the bride came to --  
  
8  
00:00:33,440 --> 00:00:36,640  
to the synagogue which is now the Grand Synagogue  
  
9  
00:00:36,640 --> 00:00:38,200  
which reopened in Edirne  
  
10  
00:00:38,200 --> 00:00:41,000  
after having been closed for so many years.

## VLACH Transcriptions

11	00:00:41,000 --> 00:00:43,520	ke se rënovoló.	11	00:00:41,000 --> 00:00:43,520	It was [recently] renovated.
12	00:00:43,520 --> 00:00:46,680	E: vinía kon payitó, porké no avía otomobíl del tódo.	12	00:00:43,520 --> 00:00:46,680	And they arrived in a phaeton because there were no cars,
13	00:00:46,680 --> 00:00:48,280	Kómo íva vinír la nóvya?	13	00:00:46,680 --> 00:00:48,280	How else was the bride supposed to come?
14	00:00:48,280 --> 00:00:49,320	En enveráno éra muy ermózo	14	00:00:48,280 --> 00:00:49,320	In the summer it was very beautiful
15	00:00:49,320 --> 00:00:50,800	en akél payitó avyérto la nóvya,	15	00:00:49,320 --> 00:00:50,800	in that open phaeton
16	00:00:50,800 --> 00:00:54,680	ma en invyéno ya, ya se entezáva entéra.	16	00:00:50,800 --> 00:00:54,680	but in the winter, the bride would be freezing.
17	00:00:54,680 --> 00:00:56,600	Y ya la kuvríyan kon úna mánta	17	00:00:54,680 --> 00:00:56,600	She would be covered with a blanket
18	00:00:56,600 --> 00:00:58,560	pára ke no s'entéze.	18	00:00:56,600 --> 00:00:58,560	so that she would not freeze.
19	00:00:58,560 --> 00:01:02,560	I éra insíma i laz iñéves.	19	00:00:58,560 --> 00:01:02,560	And to be protected from the snow.
20	00:01:02,560 --> 00:01:04,200	Vinía ał kał,	20	00:01:02,560 --> 00:01:04,200	She would come to the synagogue,
21	00:01:04,200 --> 00:01:06,480	ántes de la nóvya vinía el nóvyo,	21	00:01:04,200 --> 00:01:06,480	the groom would arrive earlier,
22			22		

## VLACH Transcriptions

00:01:06,480 --> 00:01:08,080  
kon el pádre i la mádre,

00:01:06,480 --> 00:01:08,080  
with the father and the mother,

23  
00:01:08,080 --> 00:01:09,840  
se metían delante de la pwérta.

23  
00:01:08,080 --> 00:01:09,840  
they were waiting in front of the gate.

24  
00:01:09,840 --> 00:01:13,760  
Resivían a los envitádos éyos,

24  
00:01:09,840 --> 00:01:13,760  
They would welcome the guests

25  
00:01:13,760 --> 00:01:15,720  
i los envitádos s'asentávan.

25  
00:01:13,760 --> 00:01:15,720  
who would then sit.

26  
00:01:15,720 --> 00:01:18,400  
(No) es kómo akí, el ómbre apárte i la mužér  
apárte,

26  
00:01:15,720 --> 00:01:18,400  
It is not like here where the men and women are  
separated.

27  
00:01:18,400 --> 00:01:21,520  
Tódos mos asentávamos, marído, mužér, las  
kriatúras,

27  
00:01:18,400 --> 00:01:21,520  
We would all sit, husband and wife, the children,

28  
00:01:21,520 --> 00:01:23,640  
mos asentávamos en el luyár.

28  
00:01:21,520 --> 00:01:23,640  
we would sit in one place.

29  
00:01:23,640 --> 00:01:27,800  
Despwés venía el pádre,

29  
00:01:23,640 --> 00:01:27,800  
Afterwards the father would come

30  
00:01:27,800 --> 00:01:30,360  
se la dáva a la nóvya a la,

30  
00:01:27,800 --> 00:01:30,360  
and bring the bride to the groom,

31  
00:01:30,360 --> 00:01:33,400  
al espózo, a, al su marído ke va ser,

31  
00:01:30,360 --> 00:01:33,400  
to the fiancée, to her future husband,

32  
00:01:33,400 --> 00:01:35,440  
i vinía el khakhám.

32  
00:01:33,400 --> 00:01:35,440  
and the Rabbi would also arrive.

33

33

## VLACH Transcriptions

00:01:35,440 --> 00:01:36,920

I se mitía el aníyo

34

00:01:36,920 --> 00:01:40,040

i veníyan el kortéš a ---

35

00:01:40,040 --> 00:01:43,120

Después la fyésta éra muy ermóza

36

00:01:43,120 --> 00:01:44,640

porké se azía siyúro la fyésta en káza,

37

00:01:44,640 --> 00:01:47,800

no éra, ez kómo los salónes ke se áze ayóra akí.

38

00:01:47,800 --> 00:01:50,920

I éra el úzo de aprontár un piškádo.

39

00:01:50,920 --> 00:01:53,360

Un piškádo es berekét

40

00:01:53,360 --> 00:01:56,000

ke va a traér kozás bwéna a káza.

41

00:01:56,000 --> 00:02:01,480

El piškádo se metía en úno, úna tab-- un tivsín ke,

42

00:02:01,480 --> 00:02:04,000

byän dekorádo kon óžas védres,

43

00:02:04,000 --> 00:02:07,240

i papéles de -- amariyos.

44

00:02:07,240 --> 00:02:09,840

00:01:35,440 --> 00:01:36,920

And they would put on the rings

34

00:01:36,920 --> 00:01:40,040

and the procession would go on to ---

35

00:01:40,040 --> 00:01:43,120

Afterwards, the party was very beautiful

36

00:01:43,120 --> 00:01:44,640

as it was organized at home,

37

00:01:44,640 --> 00:01:47,800

not like today, in the saloons.

38

00:01:47,800 --> 00:01:50,920

And there was the custom with preparing the fish.

39

00:01:50,920 --> 00:01:53,360

A fish means prosperity,

40

00:01:53,360 --> 00:01:56,000

it brings good things to the house.

41

00:01:56,000 --> 00:02:01,480

The fish was placed in a tray

42

00:02:01,480 --> 00:02:04,000

nicely decorated with green leaves,

43

00:02:04,000 --> 00:02:07,240

and yellow paper.

44

00:02:07,240 --> 00:02:09,840

## VLACH Transcriptions

Me akódro i el piškádo byän gránde ke éra un sazán.	I remember, the fish was quite big, a carp.
45 00:02:09,840 --> 00:02:12,200 El sazán éra el piškádo ke salía sólo en Edirné,	45 00:02:09,840 --> 00:02:12,200 The carp was only available in Edirne,
46 00:02:12,200 --> 00:02:14,200 éra piškado de áywa dúlse,	46 00:02:12,200 --> 00:02:14,200 as it is a fresh water fish,
47 00:02:14,200 --> 00:02:18,280 porké en Edérne no avía mar, avía -- río.	47 00:02:14,200 --> 00:02:18,280 because Edirne was not near sea and there were only rivers.
48 00:02:18,280 --> 00:02:20,680 I el s-- piškádo ke salía del río éra el sazán,	48 00:02:18,280 --> 00:02:20,680 And the fish in those rivers was carp,
49 00:02:20,680 --> 00:02:22,040 éra un sazán byän gránde.	49 00:02:20,680 --> 00:02:22,040 they used to be quite big carp.
50 00:02:22,040 --> 00:02:26,400 Lo metían en la ta-- en la -- ke te va dízir,	50 00:02:22,040 --> 00:02:26,400 People would put it on the tray, just like I told you about,
51 00:02:26,400 --> 00:02:30,760 el tisín, kómo te dizé a-- sta en un luyár ke --	51 00:02:26,400 --> 00:02:30,760 on the tray, how can I explain it to you, a place over which
52 00:02:30,760 --> 00:02:34,840 gránde, ánde ívan a saftár ensíma, kon la múzika,	52 00:02:30,760 --> 00:02:34,840 they would jump, accompanied by music,
53 00:02:34,840 --> 00:02:37,480 la tomávan a la nóvya de los dos brásos.	53 00:02:34,840 --> 00:02:37,480 they would hold the bride's arms.
54 00:02:37,480 --> 00:02:40,240 Los paryéntes, amígas, amígos	54 00:02:37,480 --> 00:02:40,240 The parents, the friends,
55	55

## VLACH Transcriptions

00:02:40,240 --> 00:02:42,680  
i ampesávan a sáhtar del piškádo

00:02:40,240 --> 00:02:42,680  
would jump over the fish

56  
00:02:42,680 --> 00:02:44,920  
i en sáhtan(do) ečávan las parás.

56  
00:02:42,680 --> 00:02:44,920  
and throwing money while doing so.

57  
00:02:44,920 --> 00:02:46,640  
Menúdos, sögúro.

57  
00:02:44,920 --> 00:02:46,640  
Coins, of course.

58  
00:02:46,640 --> 00:02:50,040  
Ésto éra ke traíga-- berekét kómo es múčo ---

58  
00:02:46,640 --> 00:02:50,040  
To bring prosperity, as it is much ---

59  
00:02:50,040 --> 00:02:51,280  
- Si.

59  
00:02:50,040 --> 00:02:51,280  
- Yes.

60  
00:02:51,280 --> 00:02:52,960  
- Kózas bwénas a la famíya,

60  
00:02:51,280 --> 00:02:52,960  
- Good things to the family,

61  
00:02:52,960 --> 00:02:54,920  
de parás, de mantimyénto,

61  
00:02:52,960 --> 00:02:54,920  
money, possessions.

62  
00:02:54,920 --> 00:02:56,840  
de vestimyénta, de éčos bwénos.

62  
00:02:54,920 --> 00:02:56,840  
clothes, good things.

63  
00:02:56,840 --> 00:02:57,800  
I tóda akéyas páras

63  
00:02:56,840 --> 00:02:57,800  
And all the money

64  
00:02:57,800 --> 00:02:59,360  
ke s'ečáva ensíma del piškádo

64  
00:02:57,800 --> 00:02:59,360  
that was thrown over the fish

65  
00:02:59,360 --> 00:03:01,880  
se divía de dar a los próves.

65  
00:02:59,360 --> 00:03:01,880  
was supposed to be given to the poor.

66  
00:03:01,880 --> 00:03:04,080

66  
00:03:01,880 --> 00:03:04,080

I éra kon música suyúro,

And the whole ceremony was accompanied by music,

67

00:03:04,080 --> 00:03:06,520

música dizyéndo ke ken ġuyáva akordeón,

67

00:03:04,080 --> 00:03:06,520

music, meaning they were playing accordion,

68

00:03:06,520 --> 00:03:08,400

ken ġuyáva ótra a --

68

00:03:06,520 --> 00:03:08,400

or other instruments,

69

00:03:08,400 --> 00:03:10,440

porké no avía orkéstra, no avía náđa.

69

00:03:08,400 --> 00:03:10,440

because there was no orchestra, nothing.

70

00:03:10,440 --> 00:03:13,160

Ma m'akódro de éstas bódas múčo ke te --

70

00:03:10,440 --> 00:03:13,160

I remember these weddings when we --

71

00:03:13,160 --> 00:03:15,560

ke sałtímos de los piškádos, ke sałtáron.

71

00:03:13,160 --> 00:03:15,560

used to jump over the fish.

72

00:03:15,560 --> 00:03:17,160

Yo éra muy číka ma ke lo víđe,

72

00:03:15,560 --> 00:03:17,160

I was very small, but I saw it

73

00:03:17,160 --> 00:03:19,960

ke me keđó en el tíno.

73

00:03:17,160 --> 00:03:19,960

and I remember it well.

74

00:03:19,960 --> 00:03:21,200

Éste, ésto éra un úzo,

74

00:03:19,960 --> 00:03:21,200

This was the custom,

75

00:03:21,200 --> 00:03:23,200

ab-- absolutaménte kalía k'uvyéra el piškádo

75

00:03:21,200 --> 00:03:23,200

the fish was an absolutely necessary part

76

00:03:23,200 --> 00:03:26,320

i sałtár d'ensíma del piškádo.

76

00:03:23,200 --> 00:03:26,320

as well as jumping over it.

77

00:03:28,040 --> 00:03:32,200

Despwés-- ke ámpesi a azérme mas gránde,

77

00:03:28,040 --> 00:03:32,200

After I grew up



78  
00:03:32,200 --> 00:03:35,440  
yo pasáva lo maz del tyémpe akí en Estambót.

78  
00:03:32,200 --> 00:03:35,440  
I spent most of my time here in Istanbul.

79  
00:03:35,440 --> 00:03:37,840  
Sólo me fwí a Edírne

79  
00:03:35,440 --> 00:03:37,840  
I went to Edirne

80  
00:03:37,840 --> 00:03:39,520  
al tadó de mis paryéntes a pasár el enveráno

80  
00:03:37,840 --> 00:03:39,520  
to be with my parents during the summers

81  
00:03:39,520 --> 00:03:41,480  
i el enveráno éra doz mézes, trez mézes.

81  
00:03:39,520 --> 00:03:41,480  
and the summers were two or three months.

82  
00:03:41,480 --> 00:03:43,560  
Úna sezó muy kúrta

82  
00:03:41,480 --> 00:03:43,560  
A very short time,

83  
00:03:43,560 --> 00:03:46,080  
ke múčas kózas yo despwés no me akódro,

83  
00:03:43,560 --> 00:03:46,080  
and I don't remember many things.

84  
00:03:46,080 --> 00:03:47,680  
kómo éra los úzos ayá.

84  
00:03:46,080 --> 00:03:47,680  
about the customs there.