

Cite as: *Kon dyez khakhamímes kazí yo – I was married by ten Rabbis*; performer: Lüsi Yafet, camera/ interview: Ioana Aminian, transcription/ translation: Ioana Aminian, Deyvi Papo, Imane Sghiouar, editor: Deyvi Papo, retrieved from www.oeaw.ac.at/VLACH, ID-number: ladi1251TRV0036a.

Metadata Participant

family name		Yafet
birth name if different		
given name		Lüsi
Other family members interviewed		Sara Galimidi (daughter), Jüdit de Taranto Deventero (granddaughter)
sex (M – F – O)		F
year of birth		1934
ethnic/we group		Sephardim
✡ ✠ ✞ ✟ ✠ ✡ religion		Jewish
🗨 mother tongue		Judeo-Spanish
🗨 🗨 further languages		Türkisch, Greek
📖 education		Primary School
👩 profession		Housewife
👤 born in	location	Istanbul (Balat)
	country/region	
🏠 grew up	location	Istanbul (Balat)
	country/region	
👨 👩 origin/parents		Istanbul (Sirkeci)
👨 👩 👨 👩 origin/grandparents		Mother's side: Edirne; Father's side: Istanbul
family status		Married
location(s) where living		Istanbul (Şişli, Burgazada)

Subtitles

Judeo-Spanish

1

00:00:12,440 --> 00:00:14,920
Morávamos en Bałat.

2

00:00:14,920 --> 00:00:18,720
La mamá míya moráva en úna akí káza.

3

00:00:18,720 --> 00:00:22,360
En frénite teníyamos úna tíya.

4

00:00:22,360 --> 00:00:24,120
I por akí ótra tíya.

5

00:00:24,120 --> 00:00:26,760
Teníyan ízos, teníyan ízas.

6

00:00:26,760 --> 00:00:31,600
De sóрте ke no avíya luyár de ir -- a baylár,

7

00:00:31,600 --> 00:00:33,400
a faltá--, no avíya náđa.

8

00:00:33,400 --> 00:00:34,760
Kwál aziya yo?

9

00:00:34,760 --> 00:00:36,320
Yo éra číka.

10

00:00:36,320 --> 00:00:39,680
Si. De sóрте ke éste móďo,

11

00:00:39,680 --> 00:00:41,240

English translation

1

00:00:12,440 --> 00:00:14,920
We used to live in Balat.

2

00:00:14,920 --> 00:00:18,720
My mother used to live in a house like this one.

3

00:00:18,720 --> 00:00:22,360
My aunt lived across the street.

4

00:00:22,360 --> 00:00:24,120
And there, another aunt.

5

00:00:24,120 --> 00:00:26,760
They had sons, they had daughters.

6

00:00:26,760 --> 00:00:31,600
We had no place to go dancing,

7

00:00:31,600 --> 00:00:33,400
nowhere to pass our time; there was nothing.

8

00:00:33,400 --> 00:00:34,760
What did I do?

9

00:00:34,760 --> 00:00:36,320
I was small.

10

00:00:36,320 --> 00:00:39,680
Yes, like this,

11

00:00:39,680 --> 00:00:41,240

VLACH Transcriptions

ayá tomávamos las síyas,

and we took chairs,

12

00:00:41,240 --> 00:00:45,440

metíyamos en la pwérta de la káye i ayá,

12

00:00:41,240 --> 00:00:45,440

we put them in front of the gate and there,

13

00:00:45,440 --> 00:00:49,720

káđa un i úno ken kontáva éra, yo éra la číka de tódos.

13

00:00:45,440 --> 00:00:49,720

we used to meet, all of us. I was the smallest of all.

14

00:00:49,720 --> 00:00:51,640

Ma tódos ya éran grándes.

14

00:00:49,720 --> 00:00:51,640

All of the rest had already grown.

15

00:00:51,640 --> 00:00:53,800

Kontaván de úno, de ótro

15

00:00:51,640 --> 00:00:53,800

And we were talking about the others,

16

00:00:53,800 --> 00:00:56,640

éran ken de la spóza, ken de la káza, de tódos.

16

00:00:53,800 --> 00:00:56,640

about the wives, about the house, about everything.

17

00:00:56,640 --> 00:00:58,600

Éste módo, muy ermóso.

17

00:00:56,640 --> 00:00:58,600

Like this, very beautiful.

18

00:00:58,600 --> 00:01:02,000

I pasímos años fin a ke me íze gránde

18

00:00:58,600 --> 00:01:02,000

And that's how we whiled away the years until I grew up,

19

00:01:02,000 --> 00:01:03,920

de kínze, diséž años.

19

00:01:02,000 --> 00:01:03,920

15, 16 years old.

20

00:01:03,920 --> 00:01:08,360

Teníya yo dospwés ermánas de -- de mi pádre.

20

00:01:03,920 --> 00:01:08,360

I also had sisters from my father's side.

21

00:01:08,360 --> 00:01:13,360

Si. Teníya, e kazáron éyas i yo tamyén kon éyas.

21

00:01:08,360 --> 00:01:13,360

Yes. I had sisters and they got married, and me too.

22

22

VLACH Transcriptions

00:01:13,360 --> 00:01:17,520
I dospwés víno síra de -- de mi i yo me kazí.

00:01:13,360 --> 00:01:17,520
My turn also came and I got married too.

23
00:01:17,520 --> 00:01:20,280
- La dóta, kómo se desidíya de dar la dóta?

23
00:01:17,520 --> 00:01:20,280
- The money paid to the family, what is it called?

24
00:01:20,280 --> 00:01:21,600
Kómo se avláva?

24
00:01:20,280 --> 00:01:21,600
How do you say that?

25
00:01:21,600 --> 00:01:22,520
- A, dóta.

25
00:01:21,600 --> 00:01:22,520
- Oh, dowry.

26
00:01:22,520 --> 00:01:24,440
E, éso éra éntre laz dos pádres

26
00:01:22,520 --> 00:01:24,440
Yes, this was arranged between the two fathers

27
00:01:24,440 --> 00:01:28,120
i laz dos mádres ke éran laz eswéyras,

27
00:01:24,440 --> 00:01:28,120
and the two mothers, the mothers-in-law,

28
00:01:28,120 --> 00:01:29,960
las koswéyras enğúntos, si.

28
00:01:28,120 --> 00:01:29,960
the mothers-in-law together, yes.

29
00:01:29,960 --> 00:01:31,840
- Ke se dáva entónses?

29
00:01:29,960 --> 00:01:31,840
- What used to be given back then?

30
00:01:31,840 --> 00:01:33,800
- Daván -- se dáva ke -- asegún teníyan.

30
00:01:31,840 --> 00:01:33,800
- They used to give according to what they had.

31
00:01:33,800 --> 00:01:35,960
Káđa úno, no, lo ke pòsodáva.

31
00:01:33,800 --> 00:01:35,960
Each of them according to what they owned.

32
00:01:35,960 --> 00:01:38,080
Dávan ał mansévo.

32
00:01:35,960 --> 00:01:38,080
They gave [money] to the bridegroom.

33
00:01:38,080 --> 00:01:39,720

33
00:01:38,080 --> 00:01:39,720

VLACH Transcriptions

I el mansévo aziya tódo.

And he did everything.

34

00:01:39,720 --> 00:01:41,320

Enderečáva la káza,

34

00:01:39,720 --> 00:01:41,320

He arranged the house,

35

00:01:41,320 --> 00:01:42,760

enderečáva el éčo, tódo.

35

00:01:41,320 --> 00:01:42,760

set up his work,

36

00:01:42,760 --> 00:01:48,320

Por módo de mirár a -- la mužér deréča i byen pasáda.

36

00:01:42,760 --> 00:01:48,320

all in order to be able to take good care of his wife.

37

00:01:48,320 --> 00:01:49,320

Ésto si, teníyamos.

37

00:01:48,320 --> 00:01:49,320

Yes, we had this.

38

00:01:50,120 --> 00:01:52,320

Ayóra la -- los pádres i laz mádres,

38

00:01:50,120 --> 00:01:52,320

Now, the parents,

39

00:01:52,320 --> 00:01:57,080

éyos tódo ya -- akeyávan. Kómo se díze?

39

00:01:52,320 --> 00:01:57,080

they put everything together. How might you say that?

40

00:01:57,080 --> 00:01:58,040

- Areglávan.

40

00:01:57,080 --> 00:01:58,040

- Arranging.

41

00:01:58,040 --> 00:02:00,360

- Si, areglávan tódos, éyos.

41

00:01:58,040 --> 00:02:00,360

- Yes, they arranged everything.

42

00:02:00,360 --> 00:02:04,680

I mozótros -- i mozótros mos ívamos ---

42

00:02:00,360 --> 00:02:04,680

And we were going ---

43

00:02:04,680 --> 00:02:07,000

- Kwéntame de tu vóda. Tu vóda kómo fwe?

43

00:02:04,680 --> 00:02:07,000

- Tell me about your wedding. How was your wedding?

44

00:02:07,000 --> 00:02:09,400

44

00:02:07,000 --> 00:02:09,400

VLACH Transcriptions

- Kómo te konosíteš? Kómo pasó?

- How did you meet? How did it happen?

45

00:02:09,400 --> 00:02:12,040

- Si, la bódá míya pasó muy ermósa.

45

00:02:09,400 --> 00:02:12,040

- Yes, my wedding was very beautiful.

46

00:02:12,040 --> 00:02:19,360

Porké yo íva kazár en -- ántes sež mézes.

46

00:02:12,040 --> 00:02:19,360

Because I was supposed to get married 6 months earlier.

47

00:02:19,360 --> 00:02:22,520

Mi marído aviya kayído, éra mi'spózo.

47

00:02:19,360 --> 00:02:22,520

Until my husband fell ill. My fiancé.

48

00:02:22,520 --> 00:02:26,080

Kayó dezrepozádo, kon un tifo.

48

00:02:22,520 --> 00:02:26,080

He fell ill with typhus.

49

00:02:26,080 --> 00:02:27,680

I pasó sež mézes dospwés.

49

00:02:26,080 --> 00:02:27,680

And he recovered six months later.

50

00:02:27,680 --> 00:02:29,720

Keđo la bódá, restó.

50

00:02:27,680 --> 00:02:29,720

That's why the wedding was postponed.

51

00:02:29,720 --> 00:02:32,240

I kwándo hwe la bódá míya,

51

00:02:29,720 --> 00:02:32,240

And, at my wedding,

52

00:02:32,240 --> 00:02:37,000

viñéron tódos los khakhamímes de Balát. I de Khaskóy.

52

00:02:32,240 --> 00:02:37,000

all the Rabbis from Balat and Hasköy attended.

53

00:02:37,000 --> 00:02:40,040

Kon dyez khakhamímes kazí yo.

53

00:02:37,000 --> 00:02:40,040

I was married by ten Rabbis.

54

00:02:40,040 --> 00:02:42,640

Muy ermózo úna bódá, aléyre.

54

00:02:40,040 --> 00:02:42,640

It was a very beautiful merry wedding.

55

00:02:42,640 --> 00:02:45,640

55

00:02:42,640 --> 00:02:45,640

VLACH Transcriptions

I, dospwés de ayá, morí en Khasköy.

And from then on, I lived in Hasköy.

56

00:02:45,640 --> 00:02:48,840

Viní, ánde mi marído.

56

00:02:45,640 --> 00:02:48,840

I moved to my husband's house.

57

00:02:48,840 --> 00:02:52,120

- Tu mádre -- tu pádre organizáron

57

00:02:48,840 --> 00:02:52,120

Did your parents organize

58

00:02:52,120 --> 00:02:54,080

ke te kasáteš kon este ižíko

58

00:02:52,120 --> 00:02:54,080

the wedding with your husband?

59

00:02:54,080 --> 00:02:55,960

o tu t'enamóriste?

59

00:02:54,080 --> 00:02:55,960

Or did you fall in love?

60

00:02:55,960 --> 00:02:56,880

No, me propozó,

60

00:02:55,960 --> 00:02:56,880

No, he proposed to me,

61

00:02:56,880 --> 00:02:59,720

me propozáron, en úna bóđa mos vímos,

61

00:02:56,880 --> 00:02:59,720

they suggested me. We only saw each other at a wedding,

62

00:02:59,720 --> 00:03:04,280

i me propozáron a ése mansévo i yo díše ke séya.

62

00:02:59,720 --> 00:03:04,280

and they proposed me this young man and I said, so be it.

63

00:03:04,280 --> 00:03:08,720

I teníya dísež áños. Éra číka.

63

00:03:04,280 --> 00:03:08,720

I was 16 years old. I was young.

64

00:03:08,720 --> 00:03:10,480

- I kómo éra?

64

00:03:08,720 --> 00:03:10,480

- And how was it?

65

00:03:10,480 --> 00:03:15,040

Kómo se organizáva kwándo -- se azíya éste karár de ---

65

00:03:10,480 --> 00:03:15,040

How would they arrange this kind of ---

66

00:03:15,040 --> 00:03:17,640

66

00:03:15,040 --> 00:03:17,640

- Éste karár -- viniyan loz pádres

- This kind -- the parents would come

67

00:03:17,640 --> 00:03:19,880

i laz mádres kon los ížos.

67

00:03:17,640 --> 00:03:19,880

with their son.

68

00:03:19,880 --> 00:03:23,920

Traíyan un po-- dútse i bukéto de rósas:

68

00:03:19,880 --> 00:03:23,920

They would bring some sweets and a bouquet of flowers:

69

00:03:23,920 --> 00:03:26,480

<Kéros, si pwéde ser

69

00:03:23,920 --> 00:03:26,480

<Would you like, if possible

70

00:03:26,480 --> 00:03:28,640

kéro a tu íža ke le dez a mi ížo.>

70

00:03:26,480 --> 00:03:28,640

we would like to ask for your daughter's hand in marriage.>

71

00:03:28,640 --> 00:03:31,320

Éste módo s'azíya.

71

00:03:28,640 --> 00:03:31,320

That's how they did it.

72

00:03:31,320 --> 00:03:33,000

I dospwés azíyamos espozóryo.

72

00:03:31,320 --> 00:03:33,000

And afterwards, we were engaged.

73

00:03:33,000 --> 00:03:35,440

Kómo se díze? Metíyamos aníyos. Si.

73

00:03:33,000 --> 00:03:35,440

What do you call it? We gave each other rings to put on. Yes.

74

00:03:35,440 --> 00:03:36,160

- Aníyos se metíyan.

74

00:03:35,440 --> 00:03:36,160

- You put on the rings.

75

00:03:36,160 --> 00:03:38,480

- Si se metíya. I dospwés la bóđa.

75

00:03:36,160 --> 00:03:38,480

- Yes, we put them on. And the wedding followed.

76

00:03:38,480 --> 00:03:40,440

- Kwánto tyémpo duró la bóđa?

76

00:03:38,480 --> 00:03:40,440

- How long did the wedding last?

77

00:03:40,440 --> 00:03:42,120

77

00:03:40,440 --> 00:03:42,120

VLACH Transcriptions

Duráva, kwánto tyémpo?

How long?

78

00:03:42,120 --> 00:03:44,160

Un díya, dos, tres ---

78

00:03:42,120 --> 00:03:44,160

One day, two, three ---

79

00:03:44,160 --> 00:03:47,800

- La bódža ? Un díya.

79

00:03:44,160 --> 00:03:47,800

- The wedding? One day.

80

00:03:48,960 --> 00:03:51,560

- Las kásas, kómo éran las kásas?

80

00:03:48,960 --> 00:03:51,560

- The houses, how were the houses?

81

00:03:51,560 --> 00:03:53,240

Las eskaléras?

81

00:03:51,560 --> 00:03:53,240

The stairs?

82

00:03:53,240 --> 00:03:55,000

- Laz eskaléras éran de távla, tódas.

82

00:03:53,240 --> 00:03:55,000

- The stairs were made of wood. All of them.

83

00:03:55,000 --> 00:03:58,360

Éran kázás de távlas i tavánes de távlas.

83

00:03:55,000 --> 00:03:58,360

There were wooden houses with wooden ceilings.

84

00:03:58,360 --> 00:03:59,400

Syémpre.

84

00:03:58,360 --> 00:03:59,400

Always.

85

00:03:59,400 --> 00:04:01,960

- Tavánes, kómo ansí číkos o grándes?

85

00:03:59,400 --> 00:04:01,960

- High or low ceilings?

86

00:04:01,960 --> 00:04:04,160

No, grándes. Grándes, sí.

86

00:04:01,960 --> 00:04:04,160

No, high ones. High ones, yes.

87

00:04:04,160 --> 00:04:11,120

I -- i en -- ãntré gránde ayá teníyan las kuzínas,

87

00:04:04,160 --> 00:04:11,120

And, large entrances, with kitchens,

88

00:04:11,120 --> 00:04:12,960

ke gizávan tódos, sí.

88

00:04:11,120 --> 00:04:12,960

where they cooked everything.

VLACH Transcriptions

89
00:04:12,960 --> 00:04:16,040
I dospwés estuviya kon úna skaléra maz aríva

90
00:04:16,040 --> 00:04:17,800
ayá se akeyávan.

91
00:04:17,800 --> 00:04:20,440
Áma avíya kazás ke éran réгла en un lugwár.

92
00:04:20,440 --> 00:04:22,560
Ma avíya ótras kázás ke éra abášo

93
00:04:22,560 --> 00:04:24,160
las kozínas i tódo,

94
00:04:24,160 --> 00:04:27,520
i las kamarétas d'ečár aríva.

95
00:04:27,520 --> 00:04:30,000
- I káda úno teníya su kamaréta de ečár?

96
00:04:30,000 --> 00:04:32,960
- No. Kwándo doz ermaníkos en un luyár,

97
00:04:32,960 --> 00:04:35,960
doz ermaníkos un luyár. Depénde de la famíya.

98
00:04:35,960 --> 00:04:36,840
- Depénde.

99
00:04:36,840 --> 00:04:37,640
- Si.

100

89
00:04:12,960 --> 00:04:16,040
And [the houses] had stairs leading up

90
00:04:16,040 --> 00:04:17,800
where [the family] would gather.

91
00:04:17,800 --> 00:04:20,440
But there were also houses with only one floor .

92
00:04:20,440 --> 00:04:22,560
But there were other houses

93
00:04:22,560 --> 00:04:24,160
with the kitchen and everything else downstairs

94
00:04:24,160 --> 00:04:27,520
and the bedrooms upstairs.

95
00:04:27,520 --> 00:04:30,000
- And everyone had their own bedroom?

96
00:04:30,000 --> 00:04:32,960
- No. Sometimes there were two siblings in one bedroom,

97
00:04:32,960 --> 00:04:35,960
two brothers in one bedroom. Depending on the family.

98
00:04:35,960 --> 00:04:36,840
- It depends.

99
00:04:36,840 --> 00:04:37,640
- Yes.

100

VLACH Transcriptions

00:04:37,640 --> 00:04:41,440

- Los ğudíos de Istanbúl en tu tyémpo, tenían parás?

101

00:04:41,440 --> 00:04:44,240

Éran ansína ríkos o mas byen póvres?

102

00:04:44,240 --> 00:04:46,040

- I aviya, i aviya byen ríkos.

103

00:04:46,040 --> 00:04:48,400

I aviya i byen próbes aviya.

104

00:04:48,400 --> 00:04:52,560

Ke tomávan -- si del akél --

105

00:04:52,560 --> 00:04:55,080

de la komunitá si syémpre loz mirávan.

106

00:04:55,080 --> 00:04:58,040

- I los ríkos mas byen avlávan ke léngwa?

107

00:04:58,040 --> 00:04:59,040

I los pro--?

108

00:04:59,040 --> 00:05:01,800

- En españól ansína, en ladíno avlávan, akél tyémpo. Si.

109

00:05:01,800 --> 00:05:03,160

- O mas byen frãnsé?

110

00:05:03,160 --> 00:05:05,080

- I frãnsé múnčo, syémpre.

00:04:37,640 --> 00:04:41,440

- Were the Jews in Istanbul well off in those times?

101

00:04:41,440 --> 00:04:44,240

Were they rich or comparatively poor?

102

00:04:44,240 --> 00:04:46,040

- There were all kinds of families, some were very rich.

103

00:04:46,040 --> 00:04:48,400

And there were some who were very poor.

104

00:04:48,400 --> 00:04:52,560

There were some that were being helped -- yes, by that --

105

00:04:52,560 --> 00:04:55,080

by the community who always took care of them.

106

00:04:55,080 --> 00:04:58,040

- And the rich ones, which language did they speak?

107

00:04:58,040 --> 00:04:59,040

And the poor?

108

00:04:59,040 --> 00:05:01,800

In Spanish, in Ladino. That's what they were speaking. Yes.

109

00:05:01,800 --> 00:05:03,160

- Or did they speak French instead?

110

00:05:03,160 --> 00:05:05,080

- French was also spoken a lot.

VLACH Transcriptions

111 00:05:05,080 --> 00:05:07,200 Yo, de mi čikéz, ez en vedrá en el orfelína	111 00:05:05,080 --> 00:05:07,200 When I was a little child, in the orphanage,
112 00:05:07,200 --> 00:05:09,480 syémpre éra en franséz. Syémpre.	112 00:05:07,200 --> 00:05:09,480 French was always spoken. Always.
113 00:05:09,480 --> 00:05:11,520 -Kã tũ a aprí frãnsé, vu zavé aprí frãnsé a ---	113 00:05:09,480 --> 00:05:11,520 - When did you learn French in the ---
114 00:05:11,520 --> 00:05:15,400 - E:, ansí. Le dizíyamos:	114 00:05:11,520 --> 00:05:15,400 - Like this, we were telling them:
115 00:05:15,400 --> 00:05:18,160 <Döné mwa ãn kreyó.>	115 00:05:15,400 --> 00:05:18,160 <Give me a pencil.>
116 00:05:18,160 --> 00:05:20,880 <Döné mwa ---> hep bóyle si. Ansína.	116 00:05:18,160 --> 00:05:20,880 <Give me ---> always like this.
117 00:05:20,880 --> 00:05:24,520 E áma, dospwés de, ayóra ya pasó sessénta años,	117 00:05:20,880 --> 00:05:24,520 But 60 years have passed since then,
118 00:05:24,520 --> 00:05:28,080 ya me l'olvidí. Se'skapándo la memórya.	118 00:05:24,520 --> 00:05:28,080 I have forgotten. My memory eludes me.
119 00:05:28,080 --> 00:05:30,000 Kómo éstas kózas -- pasáva.	119 00:05:28,080 --> 00:05:30,000 That's is how it was.