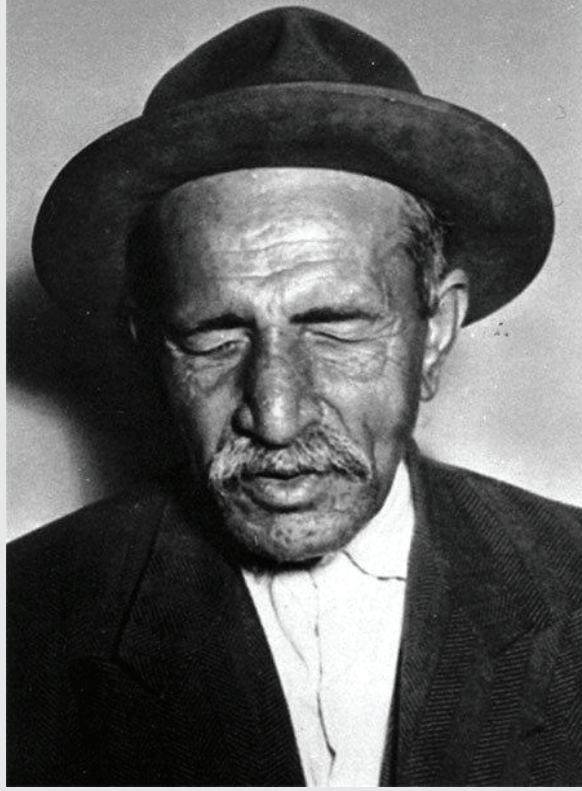


## AŞIK VEYSEL\*



*\*Türkiye's great folk poet Aşık Veysel was born in 1894 as a farmer's child in the village of Sivrialan, in the Şarkışla district of Sivas. He died in his own village in 1973. The great poet lost his sight after contracting smallpox at the age of seven. The great saz poet Aşık Veysel, who matured over time, started to produce works with his fighting and socialist spirit, connected to the Turkish Revolution. He became famous with his poem "Atatürk is Türkiye's Resurrection" written in the 10th anniversary of the Republic. Veysel, who sang his works in the presence of Turkish Revolutionary Leader Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, processed the idea of unity and solidarity of humanity from tradition to the future with his immortal works produced one after another. The Presidency of Türkiye and UNESCO declared 2023 the World Year of Aşık Veysel, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his death.*

Artun, E. (2009). Aşıklık Geleneği ve Aşık Edebiyatı (p.367). Cağaloğlu, İstanbul: Kitabevi Publishing House.

## IF THIS LOVE DID NOT EXIST\*

Aşık Veysel

Your beauty wouldn't be worth a penny  
if my love for You did not exist.  
Never would I found a place of rest  
if this throne in my soul did not exist.

If I wrote my troubles out, I'd run out of ink.  
My love for you is the only cure.  
Your name would never had spread so far  
if love in lovers' hearts did not exist.

For one person to read, another must write.  
Who among us can untie this knot?  
The lamb might even befriend the wolf  
if opposite purposes did not exist

Your beautiful face would not be seen,  
This love would never take shape in my breast,  
The rose would have no special place  
if love and the lover did not exist.

I received this suffering from Your hand.  
It turns out to be taste of the world.  
Veysel's name wouldn't be remembered  
if this love for You did not exist