# TRADITIONAL SPORTS IN TURKEY



### **MOUNTED ARCHERY**

Horseback archery, also known as mounted archery, is a type of archery where an archer shoots from a bow while riding a horse. A horse archer is a person armed with a bow and who can shoot while riding from horseback.

Only traditional curved and recurved composite bows can be used for competitions. However, since they are shorter than many other bow styles, they were commonly used on horseback. In addition, the recurve form generally allows them to hold more power than a bow of comparable size.

Bows can not be compound nor have a mechanical trigger or arrow shelf. It would help if you shot off of your hand like it was done a hundred years ago.

While doing horseback archery, you need to be coordinated enough to sit on top of a horse and shoot simultaneously. Turkish mounted archers in history are known for their mastery of hitting the target by turning back on the saddle and throwing arrows back.

Since using a bow requires the rider to let go of the reins with both hands, horse archers need excellent riding skills if they are the shoot on the move. If one is coordinated and balanced enough on the horse, they could also successfully do mounted archery.



**Ayse Nihan DELİALİOGLU** 

# "OIL WRESTLING"



\* It's a trendy sport among the Turkish people.

### RULES OF OIL WRESTLING;

- \*First of all, wrestlers spread the oil all over their bodies.
- \*Because of the oil, it gets harder to hold each other for wrestlers.
- \*They wrestle in a place named "er meydanı" in Turkish
- \*Kırkpınar Yağlı Güreşleri is an traditional oil wrestling tournament.
- \* A wrestler is named "pehlivan" in Turkish. These are some Turkish wrestlers:
  - Kel Aliço
  - Molla İzzet
  - Koca Yusuf
  - Adalı Halil
  - Nakkaş Eyüp

Elif Hazal Bilgen

## TURKISH ARCHERY



Traditional Turkish Archery is a pretty old Turkish sport that has great importance for Turks.

The bow and arrow were essential tools used in hunting and wars. For this reason, it was important for Turks to learn Archery at a young age.

Various meanings were attributed to the bow and arrow. Arrow and bow were the symbols of domination. The Turks never left arrows and bows by their side. If a ruler were going to send a

message to another ruler, the message would be sent with an arrow wrapped around it. There were also stamps of an arrow.

Among the meanings attributed to the arrow, there is also the meaning of friendship and being sure. It is known that the arrow is used as a gift with this aspect in the Turks. The arrow

means that the sender trusts the receiver, and it is a symbol of friendship. The use of bow and arrow as symbols of friendship is also reflected in Chinese and Byzantine sources.

Turks are masters of bow and bow making. Turkish bows sometimes appear in the form of tulips. An archer's ring called "zihkir" is also worn on the thumb of the hand from Turkish archers used to shoot their arrows. This is a fundamental feature of Turkish archery. The arrows and bows of the Turks also have a unique form. Turkish archery, which has a traditional structure, is very different and durable according to both production techniques and shooting techniques



Traditional Turkish archery has different rules performed on foot and horseback. There are types of conventional archery such as range shooting, battering shooting, idol shooting, and demonstration shooting. There are also types of horse-drawn arrow shots such as Kıgaç, Kabak, Tabla

shots. Mounted archery requires strength, concentration archery, and horsemanship skills, as well as horse care knowledge. Traditional shooting and training techniques learned from the

masters are used to shoot on foot and horseback.

Traditional Turkish archers are known as Okçu, Kemankeş, Tîrendâz, and Kavsî. The masters who teach the element are called "masters," and the archers who are in it are called Talip or

Kepazakeş. The masters who make the Combined Turkish Bow are called Kemanger, and the masters who make the arrow are called Tîrger.

Equipment used in the execution of traditional archery; is produced with craftsmanship that requires material knowledge, skill, patience, and mastery. In addition, these types of equipment are decorated with conventional ornamental arts. To make equipment produced with raw materials such as trees grown in certain climatic conditions and heights, organic glues,

The builder must have advanced natural knowledge of plants, animals, and climate by horns, tendons, silk, leather, reed, and bird feathers.

Even though archery is known as a martial art of hunting globally, it became a sport at a time. Turkish Archery never harms nature or animals. For centuries Turkish Archery gets played by

everyone regardless of their social life, culture, economy, ethnic origin, religion, or gender



Ayşe Zülal Bağcı

# RAHVAN RIDING

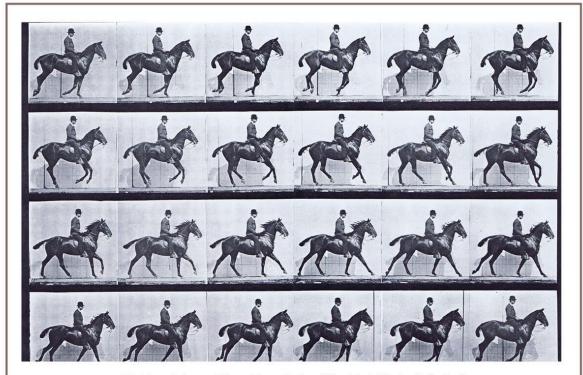


# **OUR TRADITIONAL SPORT**

Horses are animals with unique gait patterns.

The natural gait style of horses is divided into three common steps, trot and gallop.

Also, the gait style that is unique to some horses or that can only be taught to some horses is the pacing gait.



Elektro-fotografik çekim yöntemi ile binicili at yürüyüşü

The Rahvan horse is an ancient breed.

It is the most agile horse globally; in ambulatory horses, the steps are short. However, it is also quick to take steps to close this vulnerability.

It is so fast that you can not see its steps when a good horse runs at full speed.









Although the pacing horse is taught with later training, there are also congenital pacing horses.

For a horse to be able to walk, it must have at least fifty percent of the blood of the ambulatory; otherwise, the probability of the horse learning to pacify is very low.

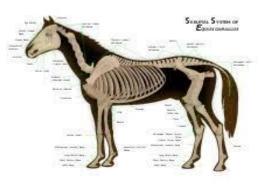
If a horse does not have at least the P-rahvan genes in its blood, that horse cannot walk from birth; Even if it walks with training, it does not show a quick and soft gait.



The body skeleton of rahvan horses is developed in such a way as to be able to walk in pacing.

The wrists are short and flexible, the wrist and knee transplants are large and robust, the chest is deep, and the shoulders are incredibly flexible. The respiratory systems and blood circulation systems are highly developed. Its nails are complex and high, and its waist is short.

It also has a highly superior metabolic system.







Our centuries-old ancestral sport horse riding is also mentioned for the first time as "Yorga Yarış" on the south side of the Şine-Usu Inscription, which was erected in memory of Bilge Kagan of the Orkhon Monuments, which was written in 745 BC.

In the Ottoman period, great importance was given to pacing horse breeding. The reason for this is undoubted that the Rahvan horse travels a long distance, with more load, in the shortest time compared to other horses, and besides, the Rahvan gait does not tire the rider.



F. Roubau, Kökpar oyunu, XIX. yüzyıl.

Today, the tradition of raising pacing horses continues in Anatolia, and pacing horse races are organized within the body of the Turkish Traditional Sports Branches Federation.

In all races held in our country, drums and zurna are played; Köroğlu beats the beat. Rahvan Riding, Kars, Ağrı, Erzurum in the East; Izmir, Manisa, Balıkesir, Bursa, Denizli in the West; Artvin, Trabzon, Ordu, Zonguldak, Samsun in the North; It is widely performed in Antalya in the south.





Asya Akçe