Act I

Chorus
This beautiful nature, this delightful view
Won't give us happiness again.
Won't give happiness,
Won't give happiness,
Won't give happiness to us,
To us,
To us.

Our beautiful village is in mourning,
It looks like we have no fortune in this world.
We have never known freedom,
Beys and khans have oppressed us.
Oppressive khan, oppressive khan, oppressive khan.

Vali: (agitated)
Our times have turned into hell,
And my soul is buried in grief.

Nadir: Hasan khan is destroying and tearing apart the world,
He's plundering the villages
And oppressing the people.

Chorus 1: It's true that khans have no mercy.
Chorus 2: It's true that khans have no mercy.
Chorus 1: The country has been ransacked, it has been burnt down.
The khan doesn’t know any mercy,
He’s oppressing people.
(To Nadir) Nadir, tell us what's happening.

**Nadir** (All gather around Nadir and listen to him):
Hasan khan sent his people.

**Vali:** His people.

**Nadir:** And they plundered the villager Allahyar’s barn.

**Vali:** They plundered his barn.

**Nadir:** And took away all his barley, wheat,
Sheep, lambs, cocks, hens and chickens.
He had nothing else besides these.
**Vali:** What tyranny! What torture!

**Chorus:** What tyranny! What torture!

**Vali:** I wonder what misfortune will come upon us tomorrow,
If our khans keep doing these kinds of things.

**Nadir:** If every week a khan or a pasha,

**Vali:** A khan or a pasha.

**Nadir:** Comes as a guest to these ruins,
**Vali:** To these ruins.

**Nadir:** Then everything that we have will go for the guests
And our children will remain hungry that day.
We enjoy nothing else besides torture!
**Vali:** What tyranny! What torture!

**Chorus:** What tyranny! What torture!

**Vali:** I wonder what misfortune will come upon us tomorrow,
If our khans keep doing these kinds of things.
**Nadir:**
Our khans,
Our khans,
Our khans.

(Nadir and Vali leave.)

**Chorus:** This beautiful nature, this delightful view
Won’t give us happiness again.
Won’t give happiness,
Won’t give happiness,
Won’t give happiness to us,
To us,
To us.

Our beautiful village is in mourning,
It looks like we have no fortune in this world.

**Chorus 2:** Khan.

**Chorus 1:** We haven’t seen freedom for a long time,
Beys and khans have oppressed us.
Oppressive khan, oppressive khan, oppressive khan.
(A little while later, Nadir and Vali enter, gripped by fear.)

**Nadir:** Hasan khan, Hasan khan, Hasan khan’s people!
**Vali:** Hasan khan, Hasan khan, Hasan khan’s people!
Nadir: Hasan khan, Hasan khan, Hasan!
(Ibrahim khan enters.)

Ibrahim khan (to the villagers): Thieves, brigands, Who has the right to make dusty The roads through which the khan passes? You thieves! Beat them, turn them out, beat them, turn them out! (The footmen whip and lash the villagers and they disperse. Hasan khan enters with his entourage.)

Hasan khan: It’s the whips and lashes that keep them as subjects, The khan’s power couldn’t exist without the whip. Those who are used to tyranny don’t like mercy, Our country wouldn’t exist without tyranny. If you don’t beat them, if you don’t swear at them, If you don’t take their belongings away, If you don’t hang them, if you don’t put them in jail, The subjects won’t obey the khan again.

Hamza bey: Won’t obey the khan again.
Hasan khan: They won’t call him the master of their wealth and souls.
Hamza bey: Won’t call him master.

Hasan khan: If you want power, oppress the subjects. Our fathers said this testament, ah! It’s the whips and lashes that keep them as subjects, The khan’s power wouldn’t exist without the whip. Those who are used to tyranny don’t like mercy, Our country wouldn’t exist without tyranny.

Hamza bey: If you don’t beat them, if you don’t swear at them, If you don’t take their belongings, If you don’t hang them, if you don’t put them in jail, The subjects won’t...
Hasan khan: Obey the khan again.
Hamza bey: Obey the khan again.
Hasan khan: They won’t call him the master of their wealth and souls.
Hamza bey: Won’t call him master.

Hasan khan: If you want power, oppress the subjects. The fathers said this testament, This testament.

Ibrahim khan, go and prepare the herd right away, And, of course, you must choose such a horse from the herd That whoever sees him says: “Bravo! Good for you!” And such that no human being has ever seen such a horse before.

Ibrahim khan: I’ll make the arrangements right away.

Hasan khan: I’m the khan of khans, I am a great khan.
I have 7,000 villages under my control.
My fame, my power has no limits.
I've built a realm, my wealth is boundless.
I've built a realm, my wealth is boundless.
(Hasan khan and those around him look towards the place where the herd is.)

Chorus: The herd has run to the pasture.
The herd has run to the pasture.
(Ibrahim khan comes back without anything.)

Ibrahim khan: There remains no sign of the herd here.
There’s just five or ten pair of young female horses left.
The herdsman drove the herd to the pasture.
That mean creature needs to be punished severely.

Hamza bey: That swindler must have done it deliberately!
Hasan khan: That swindler must have done it deliberately!
Ibrahim khan: That swindler must have done it deliberately!
Hasan khan: That swindler must have done it deliberately!
Hamza bey: That swindler must have done it deliberately!
Ibrahim khan: That swindler must have done it deliberately!

Hasan khan: Bring him here!
Ibrahim khan: Right now, may I sacrifice myself to you!
Hasan khan: I’ll order that old fox killed!
Five or ten pair of young female horses have been separated from the herd,
I won’t pay any heed to them.
I want such a horse, whose origin is known,
It must either be a Dagestani or an Arabian horse.
(Ibrahim khan brings Ali to Hasan khan.)

Hasan khan: Say, you old fox, what trick is this?
What was your intention in driving the herd away?

Ali: I had no intention to do it,
I just wanted to render service to the khan.
I chose all the thoroughbred horses from the herd and kept them.
By God, I had no intention to do it.
By God, I had no intention to do it.

Hasan khan: False words don’t mean anything.
Take him away and put out his eyes!
Be quick, take him away, don’t let him stay here!

Ali: Hasan khan, don’t do this to me!
(They take Ali away.)

Hamza bey (joined by the tenors) and Hasan khan (joined by the basses):
If you don’t beat them, if you don’t swear at them,
If you don’t take their belongings away,
If you don’t hang them, if you don’t put them in jail,
The subjects won’t obey the khan again.
They won’t call him the khan of their wealth and souls.
If you want peace, oppress the subjects.
Our fathers said this testament,
This testament.
(Everybody leaves.)

(A frightened Nigar enters the stage.)

**Nigar:** Malicious Hasan khan, cruel Hasan khan.
He ordered the hangman to sacrifice
Meek, innocent, humble Ali.
They blinded poor Ali,
They ransacked all that he had.
My heart burns. It’s on fire because of these sighs and wails.
A day will come, a day will come
When the oppressed people will punish
These cursed, brutal khans.

(Ali’s moans are heard in the distance.)

(Nigar looks towards the mountains – the direction from which Rovshan is supposed to come.)

I’m wounded by this fire of love.
Rovshan is in my eyes, he is in my words,
Rovshan, Rovshan, Rovshan!

(Nigar falls into thinking, remembering Rovshan.)

It’s Rovshan who is keeping me alive in this world.
Rovshan loves me and I love him.
Rovshan loves me and I love him.
I don’t like wealth.
I’ll keep my love even if I die.
I won’t exchange Rovshan for thousands of souls,
I won’t exchange him for a thousand beys, pashas and khans.
I love,
I love, I love, I love,
I love, I love, I love, I love you,
My dear Rovshan!
I love you, I love you, I love you more than my soul.
Rovshan,
Rovshan,
Rovshan,
My dear, I’m wounded by this fire of love.
Rovshan, I love you.
Rovshan!

(The villagers appear, dancing.)
(Nigar becomes impatient.)

Rovshan hasn’t come.
I'm tired of waiting.
Ah, here they come, here they come, here comes my brave Rovshan.

(The villagers fill the stage, playing music and dancing.)
(Nigar to them): But where's Rovshan?

Rovshan (from behind the curtain): I saw you, hey!
Everybody: It's Rovshan, Rovshan, Rovshan!
Rovshan: I saw you, hey!
I saw you and fell in love with you.
You put me into sorrow.
Gray eyes, sweet words,
Black eyebrows, airs and graces,
And the sweet one who takes my breath away
Shed my blood unjustly.
My beauty, come and ask how I am, have mercy.
My capricious sweetheart, my garden of flowers, my little flirt, hey!
What's your order, your Majesty, my queen?

(Rovshan comes up to Nigar.)
Ah, my Nigar,
My sweetheart, my capricious beauty,
My sweetheart,
My sweetheart,
I was separated from you,
Come here!

Nigar: Malicious Hasan khan, cruel Hasan khan.
He ordered the hangman to sacrifice
Meek, innocent, humble Ali!
They blinded poor Ali.

Chorus 1 and 2: Poor Ali!
Nigar: They ransacked all that he had.
Chorus 1 and 2: Poor Ali!
Nigar: When will the tyrant be revenged for their tyranny?
Nigar and Rovshan: Ah revenge, ah revenge!

Nigar, Rovshan, Chorus 1 and 3:
We must start a riot today!
We must take vengeance on that khan!

Chorus 2 and 4: We have to take vengeance today,
We must start a riot today!
We must take vengeance on that khan!
Vengeance on that khan! Vengeance!

Nigar and Rovshan: Ah revenge, ah revenge!
Nigar, Rovshan, Chorus 1 and 3:
We must start a riot today!
We must take vengeance on that khan!
Chorus 2, 4: We must take vengeance today,
We must raise a riot today!
We must take vengeance on that khan!
Vengeance on that khan! Vengeance!

Nigar and Rovshan: Ah revenge!
Ali (from behind the stage): Rovshan, Rovshan!
Nigar and Rovshan: Ah revenge!
Ali: Rovshan, Rovshan!
Nigar and Rovshan: Ah revenge!
Ali: Rovshan, Rovshan!
Nigar and Rovshan: Ah revenge!

Nigar, Rovshan, Chorus 1 and 3:
We must take vengeance on that khan!
We must take vengeance on that khan!

Chorus 2, 4:
We must take vengeance on that khan! Vengeance!
We must take vengeance on that khan! Vengeance!

Nigar and Rovshan: My poor dad!
Rovshan: Your blood will be revenged!

Chorus 2 and 4: He became unhappy, he became unhappy,
He became unhappy, he became unhappy, unhappy!

Chorus 1 and 3: Poor Ali became blind,
He became unhappy, he became unhappy, unhappy!

Rovshan: Does this mean you were at fault then?
Ali: I had no intention of doing it,
I just wanted to render a service to the khan.
I chose all the thoroughbred horses from the herd and kept them.
By God, I had no intention of doing it.
He cries: Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!

Chorus 1, 2: No matter how much service you render,
Chorus 3, 4: No matter even if you sacrifice yourself,
Chorus 1, 2: At the end, neither bey nor khan nor pasha,
Neither a merchant nor the courtiers
Will be pleased with you!

Ali: You have become Koroghlu [literally, the word means “blind man’s son”],
You have become Koroghlu,
Koroghlu, Koroghlu, Koroghlu, the blind man’s son!

Rovshan: We are sick and tired, we have no more patience left.
The brutal khan has oppressed us.
We didn’t see a happy day,
Instead we have been totally ruined.
Bey, khan, pasha, landlord.
Let them all burn and sink away.
Let the fire of riot rise.
Down with the brutal bey and khan.
I’m the eternal enemy of khans,
Enemy, enemy.
Let the blood flow from everywhere like floods,
Like floods, like floods, floods.
We have to riot, we have to riot!
We have to annihilate,
We have to annihilate the khan,
We have to annihilate him.
The only way out that will rescue the poor people
Is riot, riot alone!

Chorus 1, 2: Let the riot rise from everywhere,
From the mountains, from the rocks, from the forests, from every man.
Let the riot rise from every country, from everywhere.
Down with them, to hell with beys, khans, tyrants.
Down with them, to hell with brutal and treacherous killers!

Koroghlu: We must dig trenches in the mountains and rocks,
And from there we must attack and destroy, knock down, knock down, destroy,
Annihilate the khans!
Chorus 1, 2: Down with, down with khans!
Nigar and Koroghlu: Riot, riot!

Nigar: The only way out is to riot, the only way out is to riot,
The only way out is to riot, the only way out is to riot,

Koroghlu: There’s no way out other than the riot, there’s no way out other than the riot,
There’s no way out other than the riot, there’s no way out other than the riot.

Chorus 1, 2: Riot, riot, riot, riot, riot, riot, riot, riot, riot, riot, riot, riot, riot!
Koroghlu and Nigar: The way out is the riot! The last way out is the riot, the riot!
Chorus 1, 2: Riot, riot, riot, riot!

Koroghlu: Whoever wants to come with me,
Let’s go to the mountains.
My Nigar, you stay here.
I’ll need you here
So that you can make me aware of what the khan is doing.
I’ll come and rescue you very soon.
You are my beloved!
Whoever wants to come with me,
Let’s go!

Chorus 1, 2: Down with them, to hell with khans, beys and tyrants,
Down with them, to hell with brutal and treacherous killers.
Killers, brutal traitors.
Rovshan, let’s go!
(Everybody, Koroghlu leading them, says goodbye to Nigar and leaves.)
Act II

Stage setting:
Hasan khan’s reception hall, which is very richly decorated. Hasan khan is sitting thoughtfully, waiting for Ehsan pasha’s arrival.

Hasan khan: I’ll hang with my own hands the one who initiated this revolution!
(Falls into thinking.)
I must reconcile with Ehsan pasha,
I must enter an alliance with him and work together.
(The servant Polad enters.)

Polad: Ehsan pasha is coming, he’s halfway here.
Hasan khan: Get ready, be quick, go and meet him!
(He becomes happy and addresses the servants one by one.)
Fill the tumblers with wine!
Fill the tumblers with wine!
Fill them with wine!
Fill them with wine!
Wine, wine,
Wine, wine, wine!
Wine!

Cover the roads, over which he’ll pass, with red carpets.
Let the women get dressed up,
Let the dancers wear their new clothes.
Show the wealth of the country to the pasha.
Call everybody and inform them!

Let’s see, maybe we can cheat him somehow.
Yes, we are enemies, but what can I do?
Now it’s advisable to make my peace with him,
It’s advisable, it’s advisable...
I have to put an end to these riots.
Every day a misfortune happens to the khans.
Call everybody and inform them!

Let’s see, maybe we can cheat him somehow.
Yes, we are enemies, but what can I do?
Now it’s advisable to make my peace with him,
It’s advisable, it’s advisable...
I have to put an end to these riots.

Every day a misfortune happens to khans.
Fill the tumblers with wine!
Fill the tumblers with wine!
Fill them with wine!
Fill them with wine!
Wine, wine,
Wine, wine, wine!
Wine!

Cover the roads over which he'll pass with red carpets.
Let the women get dressed up,
Let the dancers wear their new clothes.
Show the wealth of the country to the pasha!

(The khan’s people are dressed up and have gathered together to meet the pasha.)
(The servant enters.)

Polad: Ehsan pasha is coming. What’s your order?
Hasan khan: Show the guest in with great respect!
(The servant leaves.)
(Ehsan pasha enters with his courtiers.)

Chorus 1, 2:
You are welcome to our place, pasha.
May you live as long as the world exists.
Live splendidly for long years,
Live splendidly like this.
Live splendidly for long years,
Live splendidly for long years.
You're very welcome to our country.
Live splendidly like this.

Hasan khan:
You're very welcome! Your Excellency, Ehsan bey!
I esteem such respect.

Ehsan pasha: Greetings to you, dear khan.
I have always been sympathetic towards you!

Hasan khan: As long as our friendship is sincere!
Ehsan pasha: As long as it’s sincere!
Hasan khan: There won’t be any disagreement between us.
Ehsan pasha: No disagreement.
Let my one or two villages not be removed.
Hasan khan: Let the subjects live in peace.
Ehsan pasha: I liked this word.
Hasan khan: I liked this word.

Hasan khan and Ehsan pasha: I liked this word.
Let’s see, maybe we can cheat him somehow.
Yes, we are enemies, but what can I do?
Now it’s advisable to make my peace with him,
It’s advisable, it’s advisable...

Hasan khan, Chorus 1 and 2: Let’s raise a toast to honor this.
Hasan khan: Let the dancers come, let the dancers come.
Let them come, play music and dance!

(Dance.)
Hasan khan: Order the clown to come and amuse us,
Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha.
(Everybody laughs. A detachment of the troops enters.)
Chorus: Your Majesty, khan, Your Excellency!
Koroghlu, Koroghlu, Koroghlu!
We collected the taxes from the villagers,
But Koroghlu took them away from us.
He beat us, he knocked us down, he smashed us, he hit us,
He did all these—Koroghlu!
We had collected the taxes for four or five years
From the villagers by force, beating them,
Punishing them, putting them in jail.
We hit them on the head, we took all their belongings away,
We plundered their gold, silver and jewelry,
But all of these things have been taken away from us, they’re all destroyed now,
Destroyed now, destroyed now, destroyed now, destroyed now, destroyed now!
Whatever we had for the khan, all the presents, all the gifts for him
Are all destroyed now.
Koroghlu attacked the troops and defeated them.
He smashed us, he knocked us down, he—Koroghlu.
He destroyed us, he left us without anything.
He knocked us down so badly.
Show us a way out, we are in this sorrow now.
Show us a way out, show us a way out, show us a way out,
Show us a way out, show us a way out, show us a way out,
Show us a way out, show us a way out, show us a way out,
Show us a way out, show us a way out, show us a way out,
Show us a way out, show us a way out, show us a way out!
(The clown enters and asks who called him.)

Hasan khan: That’s enough!
Hasan khan (aside): Koroghlu!!!
Koroghlu’s actions need drastic measures.
Ehsan pasha: Koroghlu’s actions need drastic measures.
Hasan khan and Ehsan pasha: A way out, a way out!

Hasan khan (to the soldiers): Leave now! (To the women): You too!
Let only beys and courtiers remain here!
(Everybody leaves, only beys and courtiers remain.)

Hasan khan: This is a very complicated issue.
The brigands and outlaws are all over the country.
Koroghlu is their leader.
Those rascals are not afraid of the khan.
He has gathered brigands and thieves around himself
And there is a terrible danger indeed.
We need to find a way out very soon.
We have to kill Koroghlu, we have to annihilate him!
Ehsan pasha: Let's send a thousand people to take Koroghlu!
To cut the long story short, let them go take that rascal and bring him here.
The first courtier: I think there's no need for a thousand people,
Five hundred will do.

The second courtier: There isn't anything complex here.
We have to annihilate Koroghlu!

The clown (laughs): Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha.
Hasan khan: Clown!

Ehsan pasha: We have to do these things carefully.
We have to send strong troops.
We have to annihilate Koroghlu, we have to kill him!
Ibrahim khan: Let the warlords go and annihilate him.
Let it be a lesson for the people.
Let them go and knock the enemy down
So that there remains no sign of him.
The first courtier: We have to hurry to take and annihilate him.
The first and second courtiers, Ehsan pasha and Hasan khan:
We have to kill him, we have to annihilate him,
Annihilate him, kill him!

The clown (laughs): Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha.
Hasan khan: Clown, what are you laughing at?
The first courtier: You, tell us.
Ehsan pasha: What are you laughing at?
Ibrahim khan: What kind of irony is this?

The clown: How can I not laugh at such stupid words?
Koroghlu has driven you crazy, he has left you out in the desert.
You are sending a thousand soldiers to take Koroghlu,
But one person is enough to take him.
Everybody: One person?
The clown: One person.
Everybody: One person?
The clown: One person.

Koroghlu has a horse.
Koroghlu has a horse.
It's called Girat.
It's called Girat.
Girat will come to rescue
Girat will come to rescue
Koroghlu when he's in trouble.
Koroghlu when he's in trouble.
Koroghlu when he's in trouble, hey!
Koroghlu when he's in trouble.
Koroghlu when he's in trouble!
It needs one brave man
It needs one brave man
To go and steal that horse.
To go and steal that horse.

If Girat comes, he'll come
If Girat comes, he'll come
To Girat's rescue.
To Girat's rescue.
To Girat's rescue, hey!
To Girat's rescue.
To Girat's rescue!

Take him as soon as he comes here.
Take him as soon as he comes here.
Handcuff him.
Handcuff him.
This is a good trick.
This is a good trick.
Good for its author.
Good for its author.
Good for its author, hey!
Good for its author.
Good for its author!
Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha.

Ehsan pasha: The clown has no shame,
But his words are reasonable.
If one person goes, that'll be enough.
If Girat is brought, then there will be no need for the battle.
The first courtier: The clown has spoken very true words here.
If the horse comes, Koroghlu will come too.
The second courtier: Koroghlu won't live without that horse even for a moment.
For sure, he won't give up his Girat.

Hasan khan: Whoever brings Girat here
Taking him out of Koroghlu's trench,
Will get a great reward from me!
Who is that going to be?
Who wants to do it?

Hamza: I'll go and bring the horse under one condition.
Hasan khan: I'll give you whatever your heart wants.
Hamza: I am ready for all of your orders.
I'm not afraid, I'll go if you give Nigar in marriage to me.
I've been in love with Nigar for a long time,
And I haven't found a remedy for this sorrow.
I'm ready for all of your orders.
Girat will come if you marry Nigar off to me!
Hasan khan: I agree, I'll keep my promise.
The wedding will start as soon as Girat comes.
Call Nigar here!
(They bring Nigar.)

Respected pasha, now, just look at those eyes and eyebrows!
Ehsan pasha: Bah, bah! There’s spring in this girl’s face.
She’s worth being sacrificed for.
Bah, bah! Bah, bah!

Hasan khan: Hamza bey is a great hero himself.
He’s going to bring Girat tomorrow.
He wanted you, and I have agreed.
If he brings Girat, you’ll marry him!
Merciful pasha, this way please.
Let’s go and eat something for our friendship!
(Everybody leaves. Only Nigar and Polad remain.)

Nigar (to Polad): Polad! Find Eyvaz and bring him here!
Please, be quick!
Be quick, I’m in such a bad condition!

Polad: Just a second.

(Polad leaves.)

Nigar: I’m in torment,
I’m in torment.
I’m in misery.
We have to cut off those shameless khans’ hands
So one day the human being will be free.

Nigar’s Aria:
Where are those days of mine?
Where are those happy moments of mine?
Poor Nigar, poor Nigar.
You have been in this house as a captive all spring,
There’s neither love, nor lover!
There’s nobody who could carry my sighs and wails
To my lover.
The life I’m leading
Is as black as my nights.
I thought spring would come
And my lover would be with me.
But fortune has separated me from my lover.
Nigar is in a cage.
Nigar is in a cage.
There’s nobody who helps me,
Who talks to me, who has mercy on me!
This love, this affection
Is held captive in the trap of darkness.
This sorrow, this grief, this torment,
This separation, this parting,
This worry, this longing
Has fallen as poor Nigar’s lot.

(Eyvaz and Polad enter.)

Nigar (to Eyvaz): Eyvaz! Please, Eyvaz, don’t stand there,
Go to Rovshan.
Go and let him know right away
That the bald Hamza is coming to steal Girat,
So that the khan marries Nigar off to him instead!

Eyvaz: I'm heading there right away,
I'll take wing and fly there.

Nigar, Eyvaz and Polad: The victory is ours! The victory is ours!
Let the victory be ours! Let it be ours!

Act III
Koroghlu’s fortress. Everybody—women and men—are waiting for Koroghlu to come back from the trip and are getting ready to meet him.

The elderly:
Chanlibel is my country,
It’s strong and stable everywhere.
Not even a bird can fly over these trenches.
No enemy can invade these places.

Chanlibel is my country,
It’s strong and stable in all parts.
Not even a bird can fly over these trenches.
No enemy can invade these places.

The girls: Chanlibel is my country,
It’s strong and stable in all parts.
Not even a bird can fly over these trenches.
No enemy can invade these places.
The heroes.

Chorus 1, 2, 3, 4: The land of heroes, Chanlibel!
An invincible army, Chanlibel, Chanlibel, Chanlibel!
The land of heroes, Chanlibel!
An invincible army, Chanlibel.
Chorus 2, 4: Chanlibel, Chanlibel!

Chorus 1, 3: We have settled in Chanlibel, hey!
Chorus 2, 4: In Chanli, Chanli, Chanlibel, hey!

Chorus 1, 3: We have defeated the enemy in Chanlibel, hey!
Chorus 2, 4: In Chanli, Chanli, Chanlibel, hey!

Chorus 1, 3: We have become united in Chanlibel, Chanli, Chanli, Chanli, Chanli, Chanlibel, Chanlibel, Chanlibel, hey!
Chorus 2: Hey, hey!
Chorus 4: In Chanlibel, in Chanlibel.
Chorus 1, 3, 4: In Chanlibel, in Chanlibel.
Chorus 1, 3: Hey!
Chorus 4: In Chanlibel.
Chorus 1, 3, 4: In Chanlibel.
Chorus 1, 3: Hey!
Chorus 4: In Chanlibel.
Chorus 1, 3: In Chanlibel, in Chanlibel, in Chanlibel, in Chanli, Chanli, Chanlibel, hey! Koroghlu!
Beat, knocked down, destroyed, defeated khans and pashas.
He set free.

Chorus 4: Free.
Chorus 1, 3: The poor.
Chorus 4: The poor.
Chorus 1, 2, 3: He freed the poor
Chorus 1, 2, 3, 4: From grief.
Chorus 1, 2, 3: From sorrow.
Chorus 1, 2, 3, 4: From grief.
Chorus 2, 4: Hey!

Chorus 1, 3: From the tyranny of brutal khans,
From the tyranny of brutal khans, hey!
Chorus 4: Chanlibel is my country.
Chorus 2: It's Chanlibel.
Chorus 4: It's strong and stable in all parts.
Chorus 2: It's Chanlibel.
Chorus 1, 3, 4: Not even a bird can fly over these trenches.
Chorus 4: No enemy can invade these places.
Chorus 2: It's Chanlibel. It's Chanlibel.
Chorus 3: Chanlibel is my country.
Chorus 2, 4: It's Chanlibel.
Chorus 3: It's strong and stable in all parts.
Chorus 2, 4: It's Chanlibel.
Chorus 3: Not even a bird can fly over these trenches.
Chorus 2, 4: It's Chanlibel.
Chorus 2: Hey!
Chorus 4: Chanlibel is our dwelling.
Chorus 3: No enemy can invade these places.
Chorus 2, 4: Chanlibel is our dwelling.
Chorus 4: Our dwelling.
Chorus 1: Chanlibel is my country.
Chorus 2: It's Chanlibel.
Chorus 1, 3: It's strong and stable in all parts.
Chorus 2: It's Chanlibel.
Chorus 4: Chanlibel.
Chorus 1, 3: Not even a bird can fly
Chorus 4: Chanlibel.
Chorus 1, 3: Over these trenches.
Chorus 2: Chanlibel is our dwelling.
Chorus 4: It's our dwelling.
Chorus 1, 2, 3, 4: No enemy can invade these places.
The land of heroes, Chanlibel!
An invincible army, Chanlibel, Chanlibel!
The land of heroes, Chanlibel!
An invincible army, Chanlibel!
Chorus 2, 4: Chanlibel, Chanlibel!
(Those that went with Koroghlu.)
Chorus 1, 3: We settled in Chanlibel, hey!
Chorus 2, 4: In Chanlibel, in Chanlibel!
Chorus 1, 3: We defeated the enemy in Chanlibel, hey!
Chorus 2, 4: In Chanlibel, in Chanlibel!
Chorus 1, 3: We united in Chanlibel, in Chanlibel, in Chanlibel,
In Chanlibel, in Chanlibel, in Chanlibel, hey!
Chorus 2: Chanli, Chanli!
Chorus 4: In Chanli, Chanli, Chanlibel.
Chorus 1, 2, 3, 4: In Chanlibel.
Chorus 1, 2, 3: Hey!
Chorus 4: In Chanlibel.
Chorus 1, 3: In Chanlibel, hey!
Chorus 4: In Chanlibel.
Chorus 1, 3: In Chanlibel, in Chanlibel, in Chanlibel,
In Chanlibel, in Chanlibel, hey!

Koroghlu!
(Koroghlu enters on his horse.)
Beat, knocked down, destroyed, defeated khans and pashas.
Chorus 4: Khans and pashas.
Chorus 1, 3: He set the poor free.
Chorus 4: He knocked down the khans, he knocked down the khans,
He knocked down the khans, he knocked down the khans!
Chorus 1, 3: He freed the poor from grief and sorrow,
He freed them from grief and sorrow.
Chorus 4: He knocked down the khans, he knocked down the khans,
He knocked down the khans, he knocked down the khans,
He knocked down the khans, he knocked down the khans!
Chorus 1, 3: He freed the poor people from the tyranny of brutal khans,
From the tyranny of brutal khans, hey!

Koroghlu: I've destroyed the khan's troops,
I've ruined his country,
I've taken away all that he had.
I've destroyed his buildings
And haven't left one stone unturned.
Hasan khans will never get Koroghlu's head!
Let the brave men roar in the battle!

Chorus (everybody screaming): Hey! Hey!
Koroghlu: Let them take their prey in the air like hobbies!
Chorus: In the air, in the air, in the air, in the air.
Koroghlu: Let the Misri Sword go round in the battle!
Chorus: In the battle, in the battle, in the battle.
Koroghlu: Intestines need to be wrapped around the bodies!
Chorus: Hey, hey! Hey, hey!

Koroghlu: Let the Misri Sword go round in the battle!
Intestines need to be wrapped around the bodies!
It's Koroghlu who has no mercy on enemies.

Chorus: Hey, hey!
Koroghlu: He's known by his roar in battle.

Chorus: He's known, he's known, he's known.

Koroghlu: Kill the viziers, take the khans hostage!

Chorus: The khans, the khans, the khans.

Koroghlu: The corpses must be piled on each other!

Chorus: Hey, hey! Hey, hey!

Koroghlu: Kill the viziers, take the khans hostage!
The corpses must be piled on top of each other!

Chorus: You are Koroghlu,
You are a brave man's son.
You are Koroghlu,
You are a brave man's son.
You are the friend of the oppressed people,
And the violent enemy of the khans.
Thank you very much!

(Koroghlu goes up to the group of poor Georgian and Armenian people that he brought with himself and introduces them to his people.)

Koroghlu:
The Armenians and Georgians who are suffering
Because of the tyrannies of their khans,
Have started a riot and have come to us for help.
Armenians, Georgians, Kurds, these poor Lezgins,
I brought these people here to be your companions.
Let those who ran away from the tyranny of their khans join us.
Let these poor people unite with us forever,
So we defeat the enemies by joining forces.
Those bloodthirsty enemies,
Those killing enemies,
Those oppressing enemies.

Chorus 1, 3: Whoever is from the poor,
Chorus 4: Whoever is from the poor,
Chorus 1, 3: And has run away from either bey or khan,
Chorus 4: And has run away from either bey or khan,
Chorus 1, 3: Let him come and join us.
Let all the oppressed people join us.
Chorus 1, 3, 4: Let them join us!
Chorus 1, 3: They have their places in Chanlibel.
Chorus 1, 3, 4: Let them come and join us!
Let all the oppressed people join us.
Chorus 1, 3: Let them come.
They have their places in Chanlibel, hey!
Koroghlu: There can be no tyranny in Chanlibel. Neither khan nor bey can live here. Whoever wants to be free, Let him come here. Whoever wants to be comfortable, Let him come here. Whoever wants to be free, Let him come here. Whoever wants to be comfortable, Let him come here.

Koroghlu, Chorus 1 and 3: We are all brothers here. Chorus 2, 4: Hey, we are all brothers, brothers, hey. Koroghlu, Chorus 1 and 3: We are all friends here. Chorus 2, 4: Hey, we are all friends, friends. Koroghlu, Chorus 1 and 3: We promised so, We vowed so, Against the landlords, tyrants and tricksters, hey! Chorus 1, 2: We have to attack, we have to knock them down! Koroghlu: Knock them down. Chorus 1, 2: We have to knock down all the landlords, tyrants and tricksters!

(Hamza bey enters the stage wearing shabby clothes like a beggar. Everybody looks at him.)

Hamza bey: God, I'm burning up, God, I'm burning up. Give me a sip of water! Chorus 1: Who is this? Chorus 2: Who is this? Chorus 1: Who is this? Chorus 2: Who is this? Hamza bey: I'm poor, please have mercy on me. I'm humble, please have mercy on me. I have nobody, please have mercy on me. Please, come have mercy on me, have mercy on me.

Chorus 1, 2: Be off! Hamza bey: I'm a poor man! Chorus 1, 2: Be off! Hamza bey: I'm a poor man! Chorus 1, 2: You sly and mean man! Be off! Hamza bey: I'm a poor man! Chorus 1, 2: Be off! Hamza bey: I'm a poor man! Chorus 1, 2: You ugly-faced mean man! Hamza bey: I'm a poor man, have mercy on me. Please, come have mercy on me. I'm a humble... (They want to hit Hamza.)

Koroghlu: Stop! Who are you? What do you do for a living? What's your purpose in coming here?
Hamza bey: I look after horses.
I'm very skillful at this.
I've come to you, running away from the tyranny of the khans.
I need you.
Koroghlu: Take him to the stable,
And let him do his job there in peace.
Let him look after Girat all day and all night
And make him comfortable.

Chorus 1, 2: Rovshan, you shouldn't have accepted this.
You never do things like this.
It was careless of you.
How do you know?
Maybe he's been sent by the khan?

Koroghlu: If he were a spy sent by the khan,
Nigar would already have let me know.
If he were dangerous,
Nigar would have let me know.
My beloved is waiting for me,
Nigar is waiting for me.
I remember Nigar,
And have lost my control.
You are living with so many troubles there,
And we are having fun here.
Ah, Nigar!

Koroghlu's Aria:
I loved you, my Nigar,
My beauty, my joyous spring.
I loved you, my soul.
But the brutal khan,
The violent enemy of the people
Has made you a captive.
Separation is harder than this,
But it's so difficult to meet.
I became my own enemy in this way,
I was separated, I was separated from you,
From you, hey,
From you, hey,
From you, hey,
From you...
I won't stray from this path,
I won't be afraid of the khan,
I'll die, I'll give up my soul,
But I won't give up my aim.
Let the enemy die of this riot,
Let him not be able to run away.
Let the universe turn upside down, let it collapse!
It has neither delight, nor life.
Let this world create love and affection, hey!
I loved you, my Nigar.
My beauty, my joyous spring.
I loved you, my sweetheart,
You are my soul.
I won’t have any other beloved besides you.
I was separated from you, Nigar!

**Chorus:** Let the fife players come,
Let the dancers show up!
Let’s have fun today,
All the people in Chanlibel.

(Dance.)

(It gets dark. People get together to make a vow.)

**The anthem of vow:**
**Koroghlu, Chorus 1 and 3:** We kept our vows,
We became brothers here.
We worked out the plan of riot against the khans,
We worked it out, we worked it out!

Lightning. It thunders more loudly. Hamza bey comes out secretly.)

**Hamza bey:** Girat is mine, let Koroghlu grieve!
And Nigar is mine, let Koroghlu grieve!
Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!
(He mounts Girat and speeds away.)

(The people who have become aware of what has happened fill the stage. They’re worried.)

**Chorus 1:** Girat has been stolen!
**Chorus 2:** Girat has been stolen!
**Chorus 1:** Girat has been stolen!
**Chorus 2:** Girat has been stolen!
**Chorus 1, 2:** You mean, treacherous creature!

**Chorus 1:** Girat has been stolen!
**Chorus 2:** Girat has been stolen!
**Chorus 1:** Girat has been stolen!
**Chorus 2:** Girat has been stolen!
**Chorus 1, 2:** You wild animal!

**Chorus 1:** Girat has been stolen!
**Chorus 2:** Girat has been stolen!
**Chorus 1:** Girat has been stolen!
**Chorus 2:** Girat has been stolen!
**Chorus 1, 2:** You mean, treacherous creature!

**Koroghlu, Chorus 1 and 2:** You wild and stupid animal!
Chorus 1, 2: Animal!

Koroghlu, Chorus 2 and 4: Sorry for Girat!


Koroghlu, Chorus 2 and 4: This can never be forgotten.


Koroghlu, Chorus 2 and 4: The merciless enemy!


Koroghlu, Chorus 2 and 4: Took you away.


Koroghlu, Chorus 2 and 4: You merciless enemy!


Koroghlu, Chorus 2 and 4: Girat!

Chorus 1, 3: Pity!

Koroghlu, Chorus 1 and 3: Girat! Girat!

Act IV
Hasan khan’s hall. Hasan khan, Ehsan pasha, all the courtiers and court ladies are there. They have organized a feast on the occasion of Hamza bey’s abduction of Koroghlu’s horse, Girat.

The singer girl (in Persian): Wine-waiter!
Lighten our glasses with the light of wine.
Wine-waiter!
Lighten our glasses with the light of wine.
Minstrel! Say that the world is going in the way that we want it to,
The way that we want it to.
Aman ey, aman ey, aman ey!

Chorus: Oh, my sweetheart, oh, my sweetheart, oh, my sweetheart!
Girl: Aman ey, aman, aman.
The way that we want it to, the way that we want it to.

Chorus 1: Good for the black hair,
Black eyebrows,
Black moles.
The sweetheart made me wander in the deserts like Majnun,
She set a rumor afloat about me,
She put me in such a bad situation, such a situation, such a bad situation.

Girl: Mother! We have seen the beloved’s image on the wine’s surface in the glass.
You are unaware! You don’t know the pleasure of joy and happiness in our hearts.
You are unaware! You don’t know the pleasure of joy and happiness in our hearts.
In our hearts!
Aman ey, aman ey, aman ey!

Chorus: Oh, my sweetheart, oh, my sweetheart, oh, my sweetheart!
Girl: Aman ey, aman, aman,
The way that we want it to.
The way that we want it to.

Chorus: Good for the black hair,
Black eyebrows,
Black eyes,
Black moles.
The sweetheart made me wander in the deserts like Majnun,
She set a rumor afloat about me,
She put me in such a bad situation, such a situation, such a bad situation.

(Dance. The dancers enter the stage.)

Chorus 1: Beautiful lady.
Chorus 2: Come here, beauty.
Chorus 1: Please, I beg by my soul.
Chorus 2: Come here, beauty.
Chorus 1: Don’t be a tease.
Chorus 2: Come here, beauty.
Chorus 1: Come and speak sweetly with us.
Chorus 2: Have a sweet talk with us.
Chorus 1: Have mercy, don’t deprive us of your charm.
You are a flower, come and turn my autumn to spring.
Chorus 1: Beautiful lady.
Chorus 2: Come here, beauty.
Chorus 1: Please, I beg by my soul.
Chorus 2: Come here, beauty.
Chorus 1: Don’t be a tease.
Chorus 2: Come here, beauty.
Chorus 1: Come and have a sweet talk with us.
Chorus 2: Have a sweet talk with us.
Chorus 1: Have mercy, don’t deprive us of your charm.
You are a flower, come and turn my autumn to spring.
(The women leave.)

(Koroghlu enters the stage, having disguised himself.)

Hasan khan: Who’s he? What’s he?
Ehsan pasha: Looks like a minstrel.
Hasan khan: You entered without asking permission.
And why didn't you say “salam” to us?
Koroghlu: I said “salam,” but nobody replied.
(Aside.) Let “salam” be a curse for both beys and khans.
Hasan khan: If you are a minstrel, then show us your ability.
Koroghlu: I’ll demonstrate it, with your permission.
Now when you’ve become a miller,
Then call for wheat, Koroghlu!

(Koroghlu plays his saz.)
I saw you and fell in love with you.
You put me into sorrow.
Gray eyes, sweet words,
Black eyebrows, airs and graces,
And the sweetheart who takes my breath away
Shed my blood unjustly.
What’s your order, your Majesty, my queen?
My capricious sweetheart, my garden of flowers, my capricious one, hey!
What’s your order, my slender beauty?

I burned in the fire of longing day and night because of separation!
If I see you, my unpredictable sweetheart,
I’ll lose control over myself.
If I see you, my garden of flowers, my pride, my unpredictable beauty, hey!
A lover shouldn’t worry about his soul when doing something for his beloved!
Gray eyes, sweet words,
Black eyebrows, airs and graces,
And the sweetheart who takes my breath away
Sheds my blood unjustly!
What’s your order, your Majesty, my queen?
My capricious sweetheart, my garden of flowers, my capricious one, hey!
What’s your order, my slender beauty?
Day and night, hey!
I burned in the fire of longing day and night because of separation!
I burned in the fire of longing day and night because of separation!
If I see you, my capricious sweetheart,
I’ll lose control over myself.
If I see you, my garden of flowers, my pride, my unpredictable beauty, hey!
The lover shouldn’t worry about his soul when doing something for his beloved!

Gray eyes, sweet words,
Black eyebrows, airs and graces,
And the sweetheart who takes my breath away
Shed my blood unjustly!
What’s your order, your Majesty, my queen?
My unpredictable sweetheart, my garden of flowers, my unpredictable one, hey!
What’s your order, my slender beauty!

Chorus: Good for you!

Hasan khan: He’s a minstrel as far as his job is concerned.
Ehsan pasha: He’s a minstrel as far as his job is concerned.
Chorus 1: Say gozallama!
Chorus 2: Say gozallama!

Koroghlu: I do glorify Koroghlu's horse a lot.
(Aside.) I wonder if Girat is here or not.

Hasan khan: Do you know Koroghlu?
Koroghlu: Yes, I do.
Hasan khan: Do you know his Girat?
Koroghlu: Yes, I do.
Hasan khan: Now if you know him, tell us a gozallama!

Koroghlu: Let the khans and pashas hear!
Let the beys and aghas hear!
Let the khans and pashas hear!
Let the beys and aghas hear!
Let the wise fathers hear!
Let them hear Girat's fame,
Let them hear Girat's fame,
Let them hear, let them hear, let them hear Girat's fame!
He's a winged bird, he's not a horse.
He's like lightning.
He has a mane on his forehead.
Let them hear Girat's fame,
Let them hear Girat's fame,
Let them hear, let them hear, let them hear Girat's fame!

Hasan khan: Minstrel, Girat, which you are glorifying
Has been taken away from Koroghlu and presented to us.
He has been sleeping in my stable for several days.
He eats, drinks, sleeps and kicks.
(Laughs.) Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha.

Koroghlu: It can't be so. You have been cheated.
Because Girat won't get separated from Koroghlu.

Hasan khan: Polad, go and take Girat out of the stable,
And let's see who is the cheater.
If Hamza has cheated on me,
I'll cut him into pieces.

Ehsan pasha: Minstrel, sing a shikasta!

Koroghlu: I'll sing it, just a minute.

My unpredictable sweetheart, I met you, the days of longing are past now!
My unpredictable sweetheart, I met you, the days of longing are past now!
I am a lover, I want my beautiful sweetheart, I want to meet my beloved.
I want to meet my beloved, I want to meet my beloved.
The sorrow of longing is past, I want to meet my beloved
Whose hair is black and whose heart is broken.
The days when the heart was sorrowful are past now!
I'm a wingless nightingale,
I'm a sorrowful flower!
I'm a wingless nightingale,
I'm a sorrowful flower.
I am a lover, I want my beautiful sweetheart, I want to meet my beloved.
I want to meet my beloved, I want to meet my beloved.
The sorrow of longing is past, I want to meet my beloved
Whose hair is black and whose heart is broken.
The days when the heart was sorrowful are past now!

(At this moment, Hamza bey enters and recognizes Koroghlu, who is singing, disguised as a minstrel. He immediately tells the khan about it. They take Koroghlu and handcuff him.)

Hasan khan, Ibrahim khan and the Chorus: Handcuff him tightly, handcuff him tightly!
Ehsan pasha, Hamza and the Chorus: Block the ways tightly through which he could escape!
Hasan khan, Ibrahim khan and the Chorus: Take away whatever he has, disarm him!
Ehsan pasha, Hamza and the Chorus: Take his hatchet and shield away!
Chorus: Take away whatever he has!
Set five persons to watch him!

Hasan khan: I was looking for you in the sky,
I found you on the earth.
I'll order you to be cut into pieces!
(Triumphantly.) Miserable subjects, wretched villagers,
I'll leave no sign of you, I'll kill you.
Even if there are a thousand traitors like him,
I'll decapitate them all!
Koroghlu, Koroghlu, Koroghlu, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!
Koroghlu, Koroghlu, Koroghlu, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!
Keep this in mind that I am the khan of the country.
I'm the villager's enemy if he goes against me.
Neither can the son of a man who is blind, deaf, crippled, nor mute
Spoil my fun!
I was looking for you in the sky,
I found you on the earth.
I'll order you to be cut into pieces!

Ehsan pasha, Hasan khan, Ibrahim khan and the Chorus:
Good for you, Hamza bey, your words turned out to be right, good for you!
This trouble will be finished, it will disappear forever, leaving us in peace!
Hasan khan: I gave Nigar to you, Hamza.
Nigar is yours, marry her.
She is your acquired bride.
Nigar is beautiful
With her airs and graces.
Nigar is yours, marry her.
That sweetheart is yours.

Koroghlu and the chorus: Nigar is beautiful
With her airs and graces.
Chorus: Nigar is yours, marry her.
That sweetheart is yours.
Koroghlu: Nigar is yours, marry her!
Chorus: Nigar is yours, marry her.
Koroghlu: Nigar is yours, marry her!
Chorus: Nigar is yours, marry her.
Koroghlu: Nigar is yours, marry her!
Chorus: Nigar is yours, marry her.
Koroghlu and the chorus: My beautiful capricious beloved!

Chorus: Let Nigar come quickly, let Nigar come!
Let Nigar come quickly, let Nigar come!

Nigar (enters): Ah! What a disaster!
Koroghlu: You betrayed me!

Hasan khan: Nigar, the glorious valor that Hamza bey showed made us happy,
And gave you an honorable happiness.

The clown (enters): Nay, nay, nay, nay, nay,
Nay, nay, nay, nay, nay,
Nay, nay, nay, nay, nay,
Nay, nay, nay, nay, nay,
Nay, nay, nay, nay, nay,
Nay, nay, nay, nay, nay,
Didn’t I tell you that one person was enough to bring him?
I told you that either Omar or Safar would be enough to do that.
Whatever I said happened at the end,
I’m happy, I’m happy, I’m happy!
They wanted to send ten thousand tigers to him,
But I said it was enough if bald Hasan bey went alone.

The footman (enters): Long live the khan!
They have brought someone from the district
Who was taking a message to Koroghlu from us.
Ehsan pasha: Who sent him?
The footman: He won’t say, he’s withholding it.
No matter how much you torture him,
He remains silent, he doesn’t say anything.
(They bring Eyvaz. Nigar screams, recognizing her brother.)
Nigar: Ah!
Hasan khan: Who sent you, tell me, you miserable creature?
Eyvaz: Beat me, kill me, but I won’t say.
Hasan khan: Call the hangman!

(The hangman enters. Nigar runs to her brother and defends him.)
Nigar: Let me say it.
Let me tell you who sent him.
Chorus: Who sent him?
Nigar: It was me who sent him!
Understand this,
I am your enemy.

Chorus: Say so, say so, say so, say so!

Nigar: A bunch of tyrants,
A bunch of hangmen,
See what else I’ll tell you!
So many wails...
Won't affect you.
So many wails, wails
Won't affect you!
You're drunk
From the delight of tyranny.
The wails of the oppressed
Won't concern you.
The wails of the oppressed
Won't concern you.
A day will come
When vengeance will hang over the tyrant's head.
One day the oppressed will oppress you
And free us from the tyranny of the khan.
Free us!

Chorus: Be off with the traitor, let her be killed.
Let the traitor be punished, she has betrayed us!

Hamza bey: Ah! The love in my soul has turned into hatred
For that traitor! Ah!

(Hamza bey takes out his dagger and runs towards Nigar.
At that moment, Koroghlu tears the ropes down, sets himself free and takes the cudgel from the guard who was guarding him. He hits Hamza bey over the head and kills him. A commotion arises, and everybody is confused. Koroghlu takes advantage of the situation, rushes out, mounts Girat and speeds away.)

The courtiers: Hey, stop him! Don't let him go!
Hey, stop him! Don't let him go!
Hey, stop him! Don't let him go!
Hey, stop him! Don't let him go!
Hey, stop him! Don't let him go!

Hasan khan: Hey, stop him! Don't let him go!
Stop Koroghlu! Be quick! Hey!

Chorus: Hey! Be quick!

Hasan khan: Hey, stop him! Don't let him go! Kill him!

Chorus: Be quick!

Chorus: Hey, stop him! Don't let him go!
Hey, stop him! Don't let him go!
Hey, stop him! Don't let him go!
Hey, stop him! Don't let him go!
Hey, stop him! Don't let him go!

Ehsan pasha: Hey, stop him! Don't let him go! Stop Koroghlu quickly!
Everybody: Be quick! Be quick!

Ehsan pasha: Be quick! Stop him! Don't let him go!
Kill him!

(Ibrahim khan brings Polad in, pulling him by the arm.)

**Ibrahim khan:** Let the khan live long!  
It was Polad who gave Girat to Koroghlu.  
He helped Koroghlu get on his horse and run away.

**Hasan khan:** Decapitate these three traitors!  
**Nigar and Polad:** Long live Koroghlu!  
**Chorus:** Let their relatives be punished, too!

---

**Act V**  
Dawn. The main square. Messengers announce the decapitation of three persons. People slowly gather in the square.

**First Messenger:** Hey! People!  
Hey! People!  
Today three heads will be cut off in the square!

**Second Messenger:** Hey! People!  
Hey! People!  
Today three heads will be cut off in the square!

**Third Messenger:** Hey! People!  
Hey! People!  
Today three heads will be cut off in the square!

**Chorus 1:** You can’t cut off heads every day!  
**Chorus 2:** You can’t cut off heads every day!  
**Chorus 3:** You can’t cut off heads every day!  
**Chorus 4:** You can’t cut off heads every day!  
**Chorus 1:** You can’t cut off heads every day!  
**Chorus 2:** You can’t cut off heads every day!  
**Chorus 3:** You can’t cut off heads every day!

**Chorus 1, 2:** Be off, down with the tyrant khan!  
Down with bey, down with khan,  
Down with bey, down with khan,  
Down with bey, down with khan!

(Hasan khan, Ehsan pasha, Ibrahim khan and the courtiers enter.)

**Hasan khan, Ibrahim khan and the courtiers:**  
Whoever betrays the khan,  
His end will either be death or jail!  
Let them be killed!

**People 1, 2:** You cut off heads every day.  
You shed blood every day.  
You killers, tyrants,  
People are sick and tired of this.
They have been plundered.

Hasan khan, Ibrahim khan and the courtiers:
Whoever betrays the khan,
His end will either be death or jail!
And you, keep your mouths shut,
You whose sons are non-believers!

People 1, 2: You cut off heads every day.
You shed blood every day.
You killers, brutal men,
People are sick and tired of this.
They have been killed,
They have been plundered.

Hasan khan, Ibrahim khan and the courtiers:
Bring those rascals here!
Decapitate them!
It’s the excitement that does this to them!
Let them be punished!

People 1: Khan, please, have mercy on these youngsters.
Chorus 2: Please, have mercy. Please, have mercy.
Chorus 1: Have mercy on them. Don’t kill them.
Chorus 2: Please, have mercy. Please, have mercy.

Chorus 1: Forgive these poor youngsters.
Chorus 2: Don’t kill them. Please, have mercy on them.
Chorus 1: Have mercy on them. Don’t kill them.
Chorus 2: Have mercy on them. Don’t kill them.

Chorus 1: Khan, please, have mercy on these youngsters.
Chorus 2: Have mercy on them. Don’t kill them.
Chorus 1: Have mercy on them. Don’t kill them.
Chorus 2: Please, have mercy. Please, have mercy.

Chorus 1: Forgive these poor youngsters.
Chorus 2: Please, have mercy on them. Don’t kill them.
Chorus 1: Have mercy on them. Don’t kill them.
Chorus 2: Please, have mercy on them. Don’t kill them.
Please, have mercy on them. Don’t kill them.

Chorus 1: Khan, please, have mercy on these youngsters.
Chorus 2: Please, have mercy. Please, have mercy.
Chorus 1: Have mercy on them. Don’t kill them.
Chorus 2: Have mercy, have mercy on them!

Chorus 1: Forgive these poor youngsters.
Chorus 2: Don’t kill them. Have mercy on them.
Chorus 1: Have mercy on them. Don’t kill them.
Chorus 2: Please, have mercy. Please, have mercy.
Chorus 1: Khan, please, have mercy on these youngsters.
Chorus 2: Don’t kill them. Have mercy on them.
Chorus 1: Have mercy on them. Don’t kill them.
Chorus 2: Please, have mercy, have mercy on them!

Chorus 1: Forgive these poor youngsters.
Chorus 2: Please, don’t kill them. Please, have mercy on them.
Chorus 1, 2: Have mercy on them. Don’t kill them.

Hasan khan, Ibrahim khan and the courtiers:
Whoever rebels against the khan,
Let him be killed! That’s it!

People 1, 2: Let the day come when the crowd will rise up
And take their revenge on you!

Ehsan pasha: From now on, even if one person
Rebels against the khan,
His end will be either death or jail.
A traitor will never be forgiven.
We’ll never let the riots happen again!
Let the traitors, thieves,
Ignorant and impudent people
Be killed, be annihilated!
Whoever betrays us again
Either by his hand, or by his tongue,
Let him be killed, be killed, be killed.

Hasan khan, Ibrahim khan and the courtiers:
Whoever rebels against the khan,
Let him be killed! That’s it!

People 1, 2: Let the day come when the crowd will rise up
And take their revenge on you!

Ibrahim khan: From now on, even if one person
Rebels against the khan,
His end will be either death or jail.
A traitor will never be forgiven.
We’ll never let the riots happen again!
Let the traitors, thieves,
Ignorant and impudent people
Be killed, be annihilated!
Whoever betrays us again
Either by his hand or by his tongue,
Let him be killed, be killed, be killed.

Hasan khan and the courtiers:
Whoever betrays the khan,
His end will be either death or jail.
Let them be killed!
Hasan khan, Ibrahim khan and the courtiers:
So that they don’t raise a riot again!

People 1, 2: You cut off heads every day! You cut off heads every day!
People are sick and tired of this.
They have been killed,
They have been plundered.
Tyrant!
Tyrant, tyrant, killer khans, brutal khans, bloody khans!

Hasan khan: Ibrahim khan, I’m ordering you
To empty the square right now!
Disperse all the people that are here!
Let the troops make a wall of steel!
Let the court of justice be built today!
Let the traitors be decapitated today!
Decapitate Nigar first!
Let the world know about the khan’s justice.

Chorus: Tyrant!
Tyrant, tyrant, killer khans, brutal khans, bloody khans!
Ibrahim khan: You, head hangman, be quick, carry out the sentence!
Start with Nigar first!

Chorus: Ah! Poor, unhappy Nigar!
Nigar, Nigar, Nigar,
Nigar, they have taken her to be decapitated.

Koroghlu: Hey, hey!
(Koroghlu’s roar is heard from behind the stage. Suddenly Koroghlu enters the stage with his people and sets Nigar, Polad and Eyvaz free after a short battle. The people are happy.)

Chorus 1, 2:
Good for you! Good for you! Kill them!
Kill them! Kill them! Kill them!
Let the enemy die!
Let the enemy die! Die!
Let them die! Let them die!
Let them die! Let them die!
Victory is ours!
You rescued Nigar!

Koroghlu: My beloved, my sweetheart.
You were separated from me,
Ah, my Nigar, my garden of flowers.
The bloody enemy wanted
To take his vengeance on you.
I flew like a bird
And arrived here.

Nigar: You set these people free, free.
You have become the people’s dear hero, hero!
Koroghlu: It was this heroic nation of mine
That kept me alive,
That brought me up!
Let my heroic nation, long live my heroic nation!

(Dance.)

Chorus: What a joyous holiday! What a joyous holiday!
What joyous times!
Long live, long live, Koroghlu!
You hero, you hero!

The End

1  Misri Sword - Koroghlu’s sword’s name. Literally means “sword made of copper.”
2  Gozallama - is one of the types of minstrels’ poetry that is used to glorify somebody or something. Literally means “beautifying.”
3  Agha - literally means master. It was a noble title like bey and khan in the past in Azerbaijan.
4  Shikasta - is an eastern melody.
5  Chanlibel - is the highland where Koroghlu and his people were dwelling and defending themselves when fighting against the tyranny of khans. It literally means “hazy part of the mountain which is a little lower than its peak.”