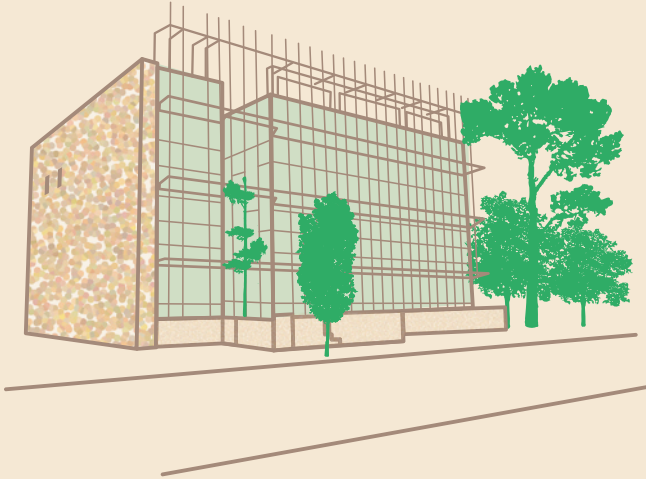




Commagene Culture Center
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NIGHT EVENTS

Commagene

sing and dance

**Welcome to the lands of
Commagene, the Forgotten Kingdom!**

Listen to the old songs of love and happiness, and sorrow, with words as ancient as the world. Feel the music rhythm where the drum echoes your heartbeat. Follow the male voices. Start dancing.



*On these nights, when folk songs
from the heart of the region are
performed with saz
accompaniment, people who attend
Harfane are allowed to reveal their virtues.
**Mustafa Çiftçi, Founder of Harfane
Community in Adıyaman***





NIGHT EVENTS

*I planted pomegranate in the field,
I did it right.
This Nemrut beauty
I gave my love to.*

*Ah amman, ah amman
This is our Adiyaman*



Traditional music is highly cherished in the modern lands of Commagene. The way for you to really experience it, is to join a Harfane night event. There are, of course, various options, but this is how it goes:

You put on your best clothes because you're going out, or your most comfortable ones because you are going to dance.

You are welcomed with strong Turkish tea and a selection of nuts, as is the tradition. The band arrives dressed in white shirts, colourful belts and old-style trousers called Shalvar. There is a mandolin, a violine and drums, sometimes more than one of each. One lead singer and back vocals, all male. The songs tell tales of love. They often start with a broken heart and sorrow, slowly, voices heavy with emotion. Local people say that you must first cry before you rejoice. That is why, all of a sudden, the

drums erupt and the rhythm speeds up making your blood boil. This is where you either whirl into dance or pay tremendous efforts to sit still on your chair. At Harfane, the latter is nearly impossible.



Then the band takes a break and just when you think you've seen it all, plates of Çiğ Köfte and vegetables arrive on the table. It's the favourite spicy treat of the area, made of bulgur, hot chilly peppers and tomato paste. Don't worry, they thoughtfully bring Ayran with it, the famous cool yoghurt drink, to smother the fire in your mouth. If it is not enough, soon come the tasty local fruits. And the finale of a memorable evening.

