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# TÜRKİYE'DE HANEHALKI TÜKETİMİ VE HARCAMA ANKETLERİNDE GIDA TÜKETİMİ VE HARCAMALARININ ÖLÇÜLMESİ

FOOD CONSUMPTION AND EXPENDITURE IN TURKEY AS TO HOUSEHOLD CONSUMPTION AND SPENDING STATISTICS

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## ABSTRACT

Nutrition is one of the basic necessities of humans bearing vital importance . In recent years, food expenditures in household consumption expenditures have changed. To reveal the changes, household consumption expenditures between 2007-2017 were studied and the changes in food expenditures as to years have been investigated according to data from The Turkish Statistical Institute. Many relations were searched such as the correlation of food expenditures with other expenditures, changes in food expenditures according to the income groups and comparison with other expenditure groups. Interesting results were found and interpreted. It was found that food and non-alcoholic beverages consumption expenditures had a strong positive relationship with housing and rent and communication expenditures items. One of the other interesting result was that the share of Food and non-alcoholic beverages expenditures in the first 20% income group did not decrease between 2007-2017 but this share decreased in the other income groups.

Key words: Consumption, Consumption expenditure, Food expenditure

## ÖZET

İnsanların hayatta kalması zorunlu ihtiyaçların karşılanmasına bağlıdır. Beslenmenin, hayati öneme sahip insanların temel ihtiyaçlarından biri olduğu açıktır. Son yıllarda hane halkı tüketim harcamalarındaki gıda harcamaları yıllara göre değişmiştir. Değişiklikleri ortaya çıkarmak için, 2007-2017 yılları arasında hanehalkı tüketim harcamaları araştırılmış ve TUİK verilerine göre yıllara göre gıda harcamalarındaki değişiklikler incelenmiştir. Gıda harcamalarının diğer harcamaları korelasyonu, gıda harcamalarındaki gelir gruplarına göre değişim ve diğer harcama gruplarıyla karşılaştırılması temel alınarak birçok parametre incelenip yorumlanmıştır. Gıda ve alkolsüz içecekler tüketimi harcamalarının Konut ve kira ve haberleşme harcama kalemleriyle güçlü bir pozitif ilişkiye sahip olduğu bulunmuştur. Elde edilen ilginç sonuçlardan biri, Gıda ve alkolsüz içecekler grubu harcamalarının ilk % 20 gelir grubundaki payının 2007-2017 yılları arasında düşmediği, ancak bu payın diğer gruplarda azaldığıdır.

Anahtar kelimeler: Hanehalkı Tüketimi, Tüketim Harcamaları, Gıda harcamaları

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Consumption is the final use of goods and services to meet human needs (Unluoren,1999:20). Consumption is a life-long process starting from the existence of mankind. In this process, human beings must continue to consume the goods and services they need. (Seyidoglu,1992:1888). Consumption is the aim of all economic activities. One of the most important indicators of the increase in the living standard of individuals in the economy is the increase in consumption level (Botcuoglu et al,2000:10).

Food is a must to be able to survive. Every individual wants to feed, socialize and have fun and can never ignore this. (Rigaud, 2004:33). Food consumption is an action that provides the intake of nutrients necessary for a certain amount of energy measured by calories (Requier-Desjardins, 1989).

The individual needs to take the necessary food for growth, development, healthy and productive life.<sup>1</sup>. In a society that does not have sufficient and balanced nutrition, it is not possible for individuals to live healthy, to be able to work for a long time and to be able to increase economic and social wellbeing. (Baysal,1995:9). Adequate nutrition and well-being are not only a problem of people but also an important problem for the development of the whole society. The reasons such as the positive effects of adequate and balanced nutrition on mental development and work efficiency, increasing the life expectancy and decreasing the health risks improve the conscious and balanced consumption habits instead of consuming more (Topuzoglu et al,2007:253). Food consumption and production for this purpose do not only have the function of maintaining human life, but also appear as a very comprehensive action with historical, geographic and social structures, climate, resources, culture and lifestyles of the population. According to Baudrillard, food, food types and consumption habits make the consumer culture of a society and are the result of many years of socio-cultural structure.

It gives pain and sadness when the needs are not met, and when it is met it gives pleasure and enjoyment (request, wants). Needs are divided into four groups: economic, compulsory, cultural and luxury. Necessities such as feeding, dressing and shelter are closely related to human life and which are called vital needs. According to the importance, Maslow lists needs as eating, drinking, sleeping and housing as physiological needs(Mucuk, 1977:85). Therefore, the most important and compulsory need of the individual is seen as food and nutrition needs.

Household is a community of one or more persons, with or without kinship, living in the same house, participating in the service and management of the household, and not allocating their earnings and expenses(TUIK). Household consumption expenditure is one of the indicators of individual and social welfare (Varlamova& Larionova:2015:727). Household spending positively affects the growth performance of the economy while determining the standard of living. Because when households create a demand to consume hundreds of goods in need, companies also contribute to economic growth by increasing production by demand.

Considering the geographic location and socio-economic structure of our country, it is seen that household consumption expenditures are affected by many factors such as income level, socio-economic structure and population (Dolekoglu,2002:2). Today, the increase in income, social and cultural changes, the increase of education level, the increase of communication opportunities, new goods offered to the market in various quality, the increase of transportation possibilities, new nutrition styles, can also change the types of food expenditures.

"Household Consumption Expenditures Survey, covering all settlements located within the borders of the Republic of Turkey is applied to the selected households each year. The scope of the survey includes the monetary and non-monetary expenditures of households under the following headings:

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1710



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> According to Bricas, food consumption fulfills three main functions of the individual: nutritional function, identity function and hedonic function(Bricas, 1998).

- Purchases,

- value of the products they produce and consume,

- The value of the products brought by entrepreneurs from the workplace to households,

- The value of the goods and services provided to the employees by their employers,

- The value of goods or services purchased by the household as gifts or assistance to private persons or organizations,

- Relative rent (rent calculated on the basis of the rent of the house in the same neighborhood or settlement and having similar properties),

- Monthly average of expenditures on durable consumer goods such as cars, white goods, computers, televisions purchased in the last year (TUİK,2017).

## **2. LITERATURE**

Consumption was dealt with by economists such as Keynes (1936), Pigou (1941), Duesenberyy (1949), Friedman (1957), Ando and Modigliani (1963), Davidson (1978), Hall (1978). Classical economists were more interested in the sharing of income and production issues than consumption. According to classics, the most important factor determining consumption is the interest rate, there is a negative relationship between interest rate and consumption; As the interest rate rises, consumption decreases, savings increase, as the interest rate decreases, consumption increases, savings are reduced.

Adam Smith, in his book titled "The Wealth of Nations" provides the following opinions about consumption: *The main objective and direction of production is consumption. National wealth is measured according to the size of the stock allocated for emergency consumption, wealth depends on the quantity of consumer goods in society* (Smith, 1937: 823).

Keynes explains his views on consumption with the "Absolute Income Hypothesis". Accordingly, the consumption of a period is a function of that period's (current) income. Consumption and savings increase as real available income increases in the current period (Keynes, 1936:57). This relationship between consumption and income is explained by consumption function. Keynes's consumption function is considered as the function that establishes the relationship between consumption expenditures and real usable income ( $C = C_0 + cYd$ ) of all individuals in society. Here, C = Consumption,  $C_0$ : Consumption to be made in case of zero income, i.e. autonomous consumption, c: Marginal consumption trend, Y: Income (Unsal,2011:164).

According to J.Duesenberry's Relative Income Hypothesis, the consumption of the individual depends not only on the current period income but also on the relative income. Relative income is defined as the place that a consumer occupies in the distribution of all consumers' income in the society. According to Duesenberry, the consumption behavior of the individual depends not only on the income of the individual as Keynes stated, but also on the consumption of the individuals in his / her immediate surroundings and consumption of the individual also depends on the highest income level of him or her in the past (Aslan,2011: 76).

According to "Intertemporal Consumption Function " developed by İ.Fisher, consumption is defined according to the two life periods of the individual: The first one is the period of his / her youth and the second is the period of old age. The individual may consume the whole of the current income by not thinking about the future in the first period and may even make consumption above the current income level by borrowing. In the second period, he/she may prefer future consumption to the current consumption. In this case, he/she saves money to get interest reducing consumption. In the second period, the consumption to be made by the individual will be as much as the interest obtained from the income and savings in that period (Mankiw;2010:517).

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1711	

According to the "Lifetime Income Hypothesis " developed by Franco Modigliani, Albert Ando, Richard Brumberg the income of the individual is low in the early stages of life, increases in the middle ages where he gained experience and decreases again in the last period of his life (Ando and Modigliani, 1963). However, the individual normally tends to maintain a constant or increased consumption throughout life. In the mature period where the individual income is high, he/she makes a positive saving to maintain a stable consumption throughout his/her life. Therefore, changes in income do not affect the level of consumption (consumption flattening). Therefore, consumption depends not only on the current income but on the income it expects to achieve for life. The basic starting point of this approach is that people prefer a stable consumption pattern instead of a variable consumption pattern (Paya,2013).

The first study on food expenditures was made by the statistician Ernst Engel in 1895 for the Prussian government. Engel has shown with an empirical study that the share of food expenditure in the household budget declines with rising income. Engel's Law is an economic theory introduced in 1857 by Ernst Engel, a German statistician, stating that the percentage of income allocated for food purchases decreases as income rises. As a household's income increases, the percentage of income spent on food decreases while the proportion spent on other goods (such as luxury goods) increases (Engel 1895). Low-income households spend a large portion of their total expenditure on food consumption.

The allocation of a high proportion of household budgets to food may be a sign of poverty, so a quantitative analysis of the share of food in total expenditure is a very important problem. In the absence of a universally accepted method of calculating poverty, household expenditure can be used to serve as an indicator of the inequality of wealth distribution (Dudek,2011).

In the study of içinde Household Income and Consumption Expenditures Surveys conducted by Yukseler in 1994, 2002 and 2003, it was determined that the share of food expenditures in consumption expenditures decreased gradually (Yukseler, 2005).

Altunç et al. (2016), by analyzing the household expenditures in Muş province in Turkey with the Engel Curve has found that the share of food expenditures decreases as income level increases and it is concluded that Engel Law is valid in Muş province.

## **3. METHOD**

In the study, "Household Budget Survey" of Turkey Statistics Institute data covering 2007-2017 period was used. COICOP is the system used in the classification of all goods and services expenditures made by the household during the survey month. There are three different versions to be used in the COICOP classification, Purchasing Power (PPP), Consumer Price Index (CPI) and Household Budget Survey (HBS). The COICOP classification used in the Household Budget Survey (HBS) is collected on the basis of 12 expenditure groups. These:

Group 1: Food and non-alcoholic beverages

Group 2: Alcoholic beverages and tobacco

Group 3: Clothing and footwear

Group 4: Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels

Group 5: Furniture, home appliances and home care

Group 6: Health

Group 7: Transportation

Group 8: Communication

Group 9: Entertainment and culture

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Group 10: Education services

Group 11: Restaurants, catering and hotels

Group 12: Various goods and services(TUİK,2017).

The table below shows the distribution of household consumption expenditure as to groups by years between 2007-2017.

Years	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5	Group 6	Group 7	Group 8	Group 9	Group 10	Group 11	Grou 12
2007	23,6	4,3	5,9	28,9	5,9	2,4	11,1	4,5	2,1	2,5	4,5	4,2
2008	22,6	3,8	5,4	29,1	5,8	1,9	14,1	4,4	2,5	2,0	4,4	4,1
2009	23,0	4,1	5,1	28,2	6,2	1,9	13,6	4,2	2,6	1,9	5,2	4,0
2010	21,9	4,5	5,1	27,1	6,3	2,1	15,1	4,1	2,8	2,0	5,4	3,7
2011	20,7	4,1	5,2	25,8	6,4	1,9	17,2	4,0	2,7	2,0	5,7	4,3
2012	19,6	4,2	5,4	25,8	6,7	1,8	17,2	3,9	3,2	2,3	5,8	4,2
2013	21,9	4,2	5,3	24,0	6,6	2,1	17,4	4,0	3,1	2,4	5,9	4,3
2014	19,7	4,2	5,1	24,8	6,8	2,1	17,8	3,7	3,0	2,4	6,0	4,3
2015	20,2	4,2	5,2	26,0	6,1	2,0	17,0	3,7	2,9	2,2	6,4	4,3
2016	19,5	4,4	5,2	25,2	6,3	2,0	18,2	3,7	2,8	2,3	6,4	4,2
2017	19,7	4,5	5,0	24,7	6,3	2,2	18,7	3,4	2,7	2,3	6,2	4,4
Mean	21,13	4,23	5,26	26,33	6,31	2,04	16,13	3,96	2,76	2,21	5,63	4,18

Table 1 - Distribution of household consumption expenditure	es 2007-2017 (%)
<b>Tuble I</b> Distribution of nousehold consumption experiature	<u>5 2007 2017 (70)</u>

Source: TUİK, Household Budget Survey, 2018

As seen in Table 1, Group 4: Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels expenditures are the highest among household consumption expenditures with an average share of 26,33 percent. It is also seen that an average of 21,13% of expenditures are made to food and non-alcoholic beverages. Health (2.04%) and education (2.21%) shares are close to each other and these shares are less than the share of communication (3.94%).

Pearson Correlation analysis was used to determine the relationships between the data in the table. The correlation values calculated between expenditures were interpreted as to the criteria given by Evans in 1996. Evans gave the following comments for Pearson's correlation coefficient:

Correlations between 0,00 and 0,19 are quite weak

Correlations between 0,20 and 0,39 are weak

Correlations between 0,40 and 0,59 medium

Correlations between 0,60 and 0,79 are strong

Correlations between 0,80 and 1,0 are very strong

Using these criteria, strong correlations in the table below are shown in yellow, very strong correlations are shown in red.

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Corelations	Years	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5	Group 6	Group 7	Group 8	Group 9	Group 10	Group 11	Group 12
Years	1,000	-0,863	0,481	-0,600	-0,853	0,475	-0,018	0,901	-0,970	0,585	0,343	0,937	0,544
Group 1	-0,863	1,000	-0,331	0,525	0,767	-0,605	0,284	-0,905	0,895	-0,675	-0,251	-0,855	-0,473
Group 2	0,481	-0,331	1,000	-0,221	-0,418	0,252	0,529	0,283	-0,498	0,100	0,363	0,485	-0,089
Group 3	-0,600	0,525	-0,221	1,000	0,517	-0,413	0,372	-0,676	0,685	-0,527	0,429	-0,622	0,048
Group 4	-0,853	0,767	-0,418	0,517	1,000	-0,781	0,030	-0,911	0,826	-0,757	-0,421	-0,880	-0,539
Group 5	0,475	-0,605	0,252	-0,413	-0,781	1,000	-0,216	0,664	-0,533	0,817	0,300	0,603	0,235
Group 6	-0,018	0,284	0,529	0,372	0,030	-0,216	1,000	-0,295	0,062	-0,497	0,604	-0,146	0,114
Group 7	0,901	-0,905	0,283	-0,676	-0,911	0,664	-0,295	1,000	-0,900	0,769	0,170	0,889	0,488
Group 8	-0,970	0,895	-0,498	0,685	0,826	-0,533	0,062	-0,900	1,000	-0,593	-0,250	-0,921	-0,496
Group 9	0,585	-0,675	0,100	-0,527	-0,757	0,817	-0,497	0,769	-0,593	1,000	0,103	0,704	0,157
Group 10	0,343	-0,251	0,363	0,429	-0,421	0,300	0,604	0,170	-0,250	0,103	1,000	0,248	0,565
Group 11	0,937	-0,855	0,485	-0,622	-0,880	0,603	-0,146	0,889	-0,921	0,704	0,248	1,000	0,436
Group 12	0,544	-0,473	-0,089	0,048	-0,539	0,235	0,114	0,488	-0,496	0,157	0,565	0,436	1,000

**Table: 2 -** Household consumption expenditure correlations(2007-2017)

The following are some of the major relationships between consumption groups in the table and related comments:

Food and non-alcoholic beverages consumption (Gr.1) share; has very strong relation between Communication (Gr.8) consumption. Housing, water, electricity, gas etc.(Gr.4) consumption, has very strong negative relation between Transportation (Gr.7). Restaurants, catering and hotels (Gr.11) consumption shares has strong negative relation between Furniture, home appliances and home care.

The data above has been interpreted as follows: Between 2007 and 2017, household consumption expenditures behavior has changed. Dining out, accommodation and traveling habits have increased, so there has been a decrease in food expenditures. The increase in household average income by years have resulted in an increase in welfare level.

The share of alcoholic beverages, cigarette and tobacco expenditure has no strong positive or negative relationship with any consumption share but there is a moderate positive relationship with the share of restaurants and hotel expenditures and Health expenditures. These data indicate that alcoholic beverages, cigarette and tobacco consumption expenditures are mostly made outdoors. The increase in spending on alcoholic beverages, cigarette and tobacco increases health expenditures (or vice versa).

Clothing and footwear share has very strong relation between Communication, but has very strong negative relation between Transportation (Gr.7) and Restaurants, catering (Gr.11) consumption shares. These data shows that the increase in clothing and footwear expenditures reduces the frequency of travel, accommodation and dining out(or vice versa).

Entertainment and culture share; has strong negative relation between Food and non-alcoholic beverages consumption(Gr.1) share. Housing, water, electricity, gas etc. share, has a positive strong relationship with Transportation share and Restaurants, catering and hotels share.

The strong negative relationship mentioned in (i) has been interpreted as food and housing expenditure share make a constraint in spending on Entertainment and culture share. The relationship in (ii) has been interpreted as the possible increase in leisure and cultural expenditures couses an increase in Transport and Restaurants and hotels (or vice versa).

Health expenditure share and Education expenditure share is only in a strong positive relationship with each other. This means that health and education expenditures increase or decrease together. It also shows that households regard health and education as equally important.

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Furniture, home appliances and home care share; has very strong relations with Entertainment and culture share, has strong relations with Transportation and Restaurants, catering and hotels share, has strong negative relations with Food and non-alcoholic beverages consumption share and Housing, water, electricity, gas etc. share

The relations mentioned in (i), (ii) and (iii) interpreted as the increase in expenditures of vital need of households makes a limitation on luxury consumption of households. As a result, Communication expenditures, Food and non-alcoholic beverages, Housing, water, electricity, gas etc. expenditures shares have strongly positive relations. It was interpreted that households' time to participate in activities outside the home changed accordingly. It is interpreted that the increase in expenditures of households' activities outside the home decreased in food and communication costs (or vice versa).

In the period from 2007 to 2017, the share of basic expenditures decreased, Transport share and Restaurant, hotel expenditures share increased. Considering this data, it has been interpreted that households have increased their habit of eating outdoors over the years and therefore families have developed socially. Secondly, the share of food expenditure among the income groups was examined.

	Total	First %20	Second %20	Third %20	Fourth %20	Fifth %20
2007	23,64	34,78	29,17	26,02	22,61	18,28
2008	22,64	33,71	27,26	25,21	22,23	17,17
2009	23,00	33,97	28,35	25,43	22,48	17,43
2010	21,85	31,85	26,78	24,13	21,22	16,72
2011	20,72	30,90	24,90	22,70	20,17	16,01
2012	19,60	28,95	24,48	21,98	19,94	14,38
2013	19,87	28,84	25,56	22,13	19,96	14,57
2014	19,71	28,78	24,33	22,13	19,30	15,05
2015	20,20	30,24	26,27	22,58	20,54	14,58
2016	19,52	28,91	24,86	21,96	19,52	14,19
2017	19,73	28,55	24,89	22,56	19,31	14,61
Mean	20,95	30,86	26,08	23,35	20,66	15,73

 Table: 3 - Change in the share of spending on food and non-alcoholic beverages by income groups 2007-2017

From 2007 to 2017, food expenditure share of all income groups decreased. The biggest decrease was in the first 20% income group with an average of 3.92%. In order to investigate the cause of this decline in the share of food expenditures, the share of expenditures of the first 20% income group was examined.

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Chart 4: Consumption expenditure shares of the first 20% income group in 2007-2017



According to the chart, it is seen that the Housing, Transportation and Restaurants and hotels expenditure shares decreased (or vice versa) in the years when food expenditures increased. The following correlation table supports this relationship and shows other strong correlations and inverse strong correlation with Food and non-alcholic beverages share.

 Table: 5 - Correlation of the First 20% income groups share of food and non-alcoholic beverages with other expenditure shares (2007-2017)

	Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	Transportation	Restaurants, catering and hotels		Furniture, home appliances and home care	Entertainment and culture	Clothing and footwear
Food and non- alcoholic beverages	-0,890	-0,851	-0,866	0,960	-0,694	-0,680	0,637

When these two data were interpreted together, the increase in Housing, water, etc. expenditures and the decrease in Food and non-alcoholic beverages expenditures of the households in the first 20% income group led to an increase in Transportation and Restaurant and hotel expenditures. This suggests that the decline in Food and non-alcoholic beverages expenditures was due to the increase in travel and accommodation habits rather than the increase in housing and related items.

Finally, the correlations between the Food and non-alcoholic beverages expenditure share and other expenditure shares for 5 income groups were analyzed according to the data of The Turkish Statistical Institute between 2007-2017. The correlation analysis is given in the table below.

 Table: 6 Correlation table between Food and non-alcoholic beverages expenditure shares and other expenditure shares of income groups (2007-2017).

	Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	Clothing and footwear	Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	Furniture, home appliances and home care	Health	Transportation	Communication	Entertainment and culture	Education services	Restaurants, catering and hotels	Various goods and services
First %20	0,566	0,637	-0,890	-0,694	0,446	-0,851	0,960	-0,680	0,012	-0,866	-0,050
Second %20	-0,279	0,142	0,823	-0,337	0,439	-0,957	0,704	-0,714	-0,078	-0,818	-0,728
Third %20	-0,490	0,232	0,935	-0,768	0,146	-0,961	0,726	-0,780	0,534	-0,849	-0,537
fourth %20	-0,784	0,004	0,957	-0,667	0,118	-0,944	0,814	-0,675	0,006	-0,904	-0,063
fifth %20	0,204	0,655	0,882	-0,455	0,229	-0,920	0,859	-0,771	-0,440	-0,875	-0,050

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As seen from the table, there is a strong positive correlation in the second %20, third %20, fourth %20 and fifth %20 income groups between Food and non-alcoholic beverages expenditure share and Housing, water, etc. share. On the other hand, there is a strong negative correlation between Food and non-alcoholic beverages expenditure share and the expenditure share of Transportation and Restaurants and hotels.

From this point of view, it was interpreted that income groups that were outside the first 20% were the groups that benefited most from prosperity in these years. The increase in the share of Entertainment and cultural expenditure in these years is another data that supports this interpretation.

# 4. CONCLUSION

As a result of analysis of the data obtained from the study: 2007 to 2017 up to the time during the last 11 years, the share of household spending in Turkey was mainly in Housing, water, heating, etc. and Food and non-alcoholic beverages. Transportation and Restaurants, hotels spending have been found to be particularly noticeable in recent years.

The households in the first 20% income group experienced a decline in food expenditures during the years in question; this data did not mean that this group did not benefit from the prosperity increase in the country. With the increase in expenditures of Housing, water etc. there have been significant increases in Transportation and Restaurants, hotels shares. Because of this, these data were interpreted as the households in the first 20% income group has also improved their social lives by taking part in welfare.

It was concluded that, second %20, third %20, fourth %20 and fifth %20 income groups benefited the best from prosperity during mentioned 11 years.

It has been observed that household consumption expenditures have experienced significant changes during 11 years, Transport expenditures have reached 11% to 18% and the share of spending in Restaurants and hotels has increased significantly.

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