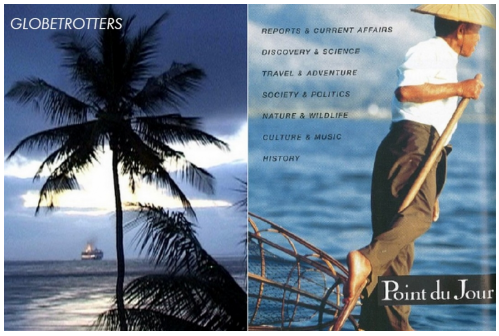

TURKEY: CAMEL FIGHTING

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Selçuk, a few kilometres from Ephesus on Turkey's Aegean coast, was an important staging post on the Silk Route from Asia. The great caravans from India and China stopped there for a feast. Among other festivities, they organised camel gladiator fights. The Silk Route has disappeared but the camels remained. Every year camel owners from all over Turkey gather in the town's ancient stadium to try their luck or risk their reputation. With his specially trained and fed combat camel - weighing twice the normal weight of a camel - Bekir Yasac has come to take on the best fighters.

Categorie(s): Collections - Series
Tag(s): Traditions, Reports

Producer(s): POINT DU JOUR
Length: 1x12 / Format: One-off
Original version: French
Versions available: International
Nationality: France, 1993
Rights: tv worldwide

http://www.pointdujour-international.com/catalogueFiche.php?idFiche=29769&lang=en