

KAZANLŮŠKO HORO

(Bulgaria)

This is a men's form of the well-known Thracian *Pravo horo* as done in the area around the town of Kazanlŭk in Bulgaria's Valley of the Roses, northern Thrace.

Recording: Any good *Pravo trakijsko horo*; a good one is XOP0 323.

Meter: 2/4 (some melodies are in 6/8, but bass is usually 2/4)

Formation: Men in short line with belt hold.

MEAS

ACTION

CHORUS STEP - *Na mjesto* or *Tropoli*

This figure is the "basic step" of the dance, performed between the various figures described below. The leader determines the number of repeats.

(Upbeat) Preliminary scuff of R heel in place.

- 1 Step full Rft in place, with very slight turn to R (1); scuff L heel in place (&); step full Lft in place, with very slight turn to L (2); the step on ct 2 is more strongly accented than ct 1, with a slightly deeper flex of L knee. Scuff R heel in place (&).
- 2 Step Rft in place with slight turn to R (1); tap ball of Lft lightly near Rft very quickly, preparing to raise L knee high (&); come down sharply on R heel in place, simultaneously raising L knee rather high, bringing Lft up high beside R leg (2); scuff L heel beside Rft, beginning a slight turn to L (&).
- 3 Step Lft in place, turning slightly L (1); tap ball of Rft lightly near Lft, taking wt on Rft momentarily (&); step on Lft in place again, this time with more accent, with deeper flex of knee (2).

Note: This step is done with very relaxed legs. The accented ct 2's in meas 1 and 3 are quite marked, as is the free-and-easy style of lifting the L knee and foot on ct 2 of meas 2.

FIGURE 1 - *Daj go živo*

(Upbeat): Preliminary scuff of R heel moving fwd, then:

- 1 Step full Rft fwd (1); scuff L heel fwd (&); step full Lft fwd, simultaneously kicking R lower leg out to side Charleston-style, keeping knees close (2); pause (&).
- 2 Swinging R lower leg across in front, place it on floor in front and to L of Lft, the outer edge of Rft touching the floor, R knee straight, wt entirely on Lft (1); moving Rft to R of its above position, step onto it in front of its own normal position, simultaneously kicking L lower leg out to side Charleston-style, knees close (2).
- 3 Bring feet together in place, knees straight (1); chug, with feet together, to L, having turned to face a bit L, knees bent (2).
- 4 Leap back onto Rft, twisting a bit R as you land, with L knee up and bent a bit inward (1); scuff L heel, etc., as in meas 1 of Chorus Step (&); step on Lft (&); scuff R heel (&)

Note: Meas 4 is actually the 1st meas of the Chorus Step, and dancers continue right into same.

(continued)

MEAS

ACTION

FIGURE 2 - Vodi

- 1 Without bending fwd, step Rft fwd (1); shift wt back onto Lft in a position slightly fwd from where it was before (2); scuff R heel fwd (&).
- 2 Step Rft fwd again (1); hop on Rft (2).
- 3 Turning body to R sharply, take a step diag fwd/L with Lft, fwd from previous position, but at an angle, since body is now turned R (1); chug on both feet apart (2).
- 4 Straightening out from turn so you are again facing straight fwd, take two steps backward, R-L (1, 2).
- 5 Step Rft straight back.
- 6 Step Lft straight back.

FIGURE 3 - Do lu

- 1-4 Same as meas 1-4 of Fig. 2.
- 5 Step Rft straight fwd (1); slight hop on Rft as you raise L knee high in front (2).
- 6 Go into deep knee-bend (squat) on both feet.

Note: This figure is usually followed immediately by a regular Fig. 2 before proceeding into the Chorus Step again.

FIGURE 4 - Skokni

- 1-2 Same as meas 1-2 of Chorus Step.
- 3 Step Lft fwd, leaving Rft off floor behind (1); close feet together as you chug fwd on both heels, bending knees (2).
- 4 Jump backward onto both toes together, knees straight (1); chug fwd on both feet again as in meas 3, ct 2 (2).
- 5 Turning body slightly R, step back on Rft, leaving Lft in its previous position (1); shift wt back onto Lft in its place, swinging R knee up and around in front high (2).
- 6 Hop on Lft, R knee held high, turning L (1); stamp R heel down to L and bring knee back up again right away (2).
- 7 Hop on Lft, R knee held high, turning R (1); stamp R heel down to R and bring knee back up again right away (2).
- 8 Step back on Rft, extending straight Lft fwd (1); step back on Lft, extending Rft fwd (2). This is a low, simple scissors, knees straight.
- 9 Step backward on Rft, Lft is held out in front, gently bent at knee (1); hop on Rft, bringing L knee a bit further forward (2).
- 10 Do meas 3 of Chorus Step, and then proceed with repetitions of Chorus Step until leader signals a change in figure.

Notes by Dick Crum

Presented by Dick Crum
Federation Culver City Institute
April 25, 1981