<u>LEŠI</u> Yugoslavia

(Povin Krušcit - the wedding party is coming)
This dance is a recreational dance among the Albanians in the vicinity of the town of Kacanik, in the Kossovo region of Yugoslavia. It used to be a men's dance, but today women do it also, in their own lines separate from that of the men. The song Leši is about a famous Albanian captain. It was the most popular song among the Shiptars after World War II. The dance at one time was done to zurli as well as to an orchestra, but today is done by orchestra.

RECORD: AK 004, Side 2, Band 4

FORMATION: A line dance, M and W separate. Hand hold for M: Hands on neighbor's shldrs. Hand hold for W: the "W" formation (shldr ht, slightly fwd.).

STYLING: The body is kept straight except when L leg is swung fwd and the body tilts bkwd; and when the knee is bent, the body bends fwd from the waist up.

RHYTHM: 7/16: $\frac{1.2.3}{5}$ $\frac{1.2}{9}$ $\frac{1.2}{9}$

METER: 7/16

STEPS

Meas.

1-5 INTRODUCTION - No Action

PART I

Facing LOD, step R fwd (ct 1), lift on heel of R, bending L knee with L ft behind R knee (ct 2-3).

Facing LOD, step L fwd (ct 1), lift on heel of L ft, bending R knee with R ft behind L knee (ct 2-3).

3 Step R fwd (ct 1), step L fwd (ct 2), step R bkwd (ct 3).
4 Still facing LOD, step bkwd on L and lift R (ct 1), R ft

Still facing LOD, step bkwd on L and lift R (ct 1), R ft swing behind L knee, R knee bent (ct 2-3).

5 Step R in place (ct 1), step L in place (cts 2-3).

PART II

- Facing LOD, step R fwd (ct 1), step L fwd (ct 2-3). (3 walking steps.)
- Step R fwd (ct 1), lift and swing L fwd (still facing LOD) (cts 2-3).
- 3 Step L bkwd (ct 1), bending R knee, swing R behind L knee (cts 2-3).
- 4 Step R fwd (ct 1), step L fwd (ct 2), step R fwd (ct 3).
 (3 running steps).
- Step with slight plie fwd on L with R bent behind L knee (cts 1-3).

6 Step with slight plie back on toe of R with L bent behind R knee (ct 1-3).

Facing diag R, step L to L (ct 1), step R bkwd (cts 2-3).

Facing LOD, step L in place (ct 1), step R in place (ct 2), step L in place (ct 3). R ft is free, R knee bent.

Presented at the 1977 San Diego State University Folk Dance Conference by Atanas Kolorovski

Presented by Maria Reisch